

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

SoHo-Cast Iron Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West Broadway, West Houston, Crosby and Canal Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

17th

New York

VICINITY OF

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

New York

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple (See continuation sheet).

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

New York County Hall of Records

STREET & NUMBER

31 Chambers Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

New York

New York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New York City Landmarks Commission

DATE

1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

305 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

STATE

New York

New York 10007

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The following information is extracted from the New York City Landmarks Commission report. The individual buildings are listed with brief comments.

BROADWAY

The section of Broadway that runs through the Historic District was extended north of Canal Street to Astor Place in 1775 and was known as **George Street**. Its name was changed to Broadway in 1794. The roadway was paved and sidewalks were laid in 1809 thus facilitating the development of the District. Broadway was primarily a residential street until the late 1820s and early 1830s when many residences were converted into small retail shops. Rapid commercial development soon followed and continued into the early 20th century. Today the street still retains a commercial character.

Canal to Howard Street

The three northern most buildings in this block give one a picture of the range of types of architectural development which took place on Broadway. No. 423 is typical of the modified Federal style of building which lined Broadway in the 1820s. Nos. 425 and 427-429 were built only a year apart, but the two styles of cast-iron facades utilize iron for ornamental details in quite different ways.

West Side only in District: Block 231 (south part), Nos. 419-429

No. 425, a relatively simple five-story, three-bay building erected in 1869, is probably one of the first that Griffith Thomas designed with a cast-iron facade.

No. 427-429, Broadway (43-45 Howard) designed for A. J. Dittenhoffer by Thomas Jackson in 1870, uses cast-iron in a highly ornate manner.

231-12
#419, 421
Restaurant and shop
1 story

231-11
#423
Completed: 1823
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Benjamin Lord

231-10
#425
Completed: 10/18/1869
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Builder: John T. Conover
Original Owner: LeBouillier Bros.

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Howard to Grand Street

Most buildings on the west side of this block on Broadway date from the 1860s. None of them have complete cast-iron facades. However, there are several interesting examples of the use of iron and stone in combination, most notably from the Architectural Iron Works of Daniel Badger. This is not surprising considering this early date--before cast iron reached the height of its popularity.

The east side is flanked by two sumptuous buildings typical of the 1890s commercial style. Most notable are the four cast-iron buildings in the center of the block done in 1876. Nos. 444 and 452 use cast iron in an especially interesting way. D. H. Valentine's Manual of the Common Council of New York, 1865, shows views of Broadway from that year; five buildings are depicted which are still standing on the block.

West Side: Block 231 (north part), Nos. 431-461

No. 443-445, is a handsome five-story building, six bays wide, done in an Italianate manner. Built in 1860 for N. Ludlum by Griffith Thomas, the building is aesthetically very successful.

No. 447, completed in 1860 for William and Edward E. Mitchell, forms a harmonious composition with its neighbors. Daniel Badger's catalog for his Architectural Iron Works lists the store front as a commission done for Mr. Collamore, the proprietor of the store.

231-14
#431-439
(46 Howard, northwest corner)
Listed on Howard

231-40
#441
Completed: 9/11/1876
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Builder: John T. Conover
Original Owner: William B. Lawrence

231-38
#443-445 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Original Owner: N. Ludlum

231-37
#447 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owners: William & Edward Mitchell

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East Side: Block 232, Nos. 432-458

Nos. 444 and 452 have identical five-story, three-bay cast-iron facades. Designed by Schweitzer & Greve for Edward Mathews, the two buildings were built together and are joined on the Crosby St. side.

Nos. 446-448 and 450 were built at the same time by J. B. Snook for the Lorillard Estate and share a common facade. Both are five-stories high; No. 446-448 is six-bays wide and No. 450 is three-bays wide.

232-1
#434-438
(#38-42 Howard, northeast corner)
Completed: 5/20/1896
Architect: Ralph S. Townsend
Original Owner: Abraham Boehm &
Lewis Coon

232-3
#440
Completed: 1938
Original Function: Store

232-4
#442
Completed: 9/5/1876
Architect: W. P. Anderson
Builder: Charles E. Hadded
Original Owner: Edward Mitchell

232-5
#444 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 7/30/1877
Architect: Schweitzer & Greve
Original Function: Warehouse
Original Owner: Edward Mathews

232-6/7
#446-448
Completed: 5/25/1877
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Lorillard Estate

232-8
#450
Completed: 5/25/1877
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Lorillard Estate

232-9
#452 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 7/30/1877
Architect: Schweitzer & Greve
Original Owner: Edward Mathews

232-10
#454
Completed: 1863
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Peter Goelet

232-11
#456
Completed: 1854
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Thomas Woodruff

232-12
#458 (southeast corner Grand)
Completed: 3/19/1896
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Charles A. Baudonino

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Grand to Broome Street

This block provides good examples of the changing taste that characterizes American commercial architecture. Four cast-iron buildings remain from the late 1860s and 1870s; a number of others from both earlier and later periods retain their original iron trim. Several buildings of the 1890s display the ornate use of iron in combination with brick and other materials.

West Side: Block 474 (east part), Nos. 469-487

No. 477-479, is a five-story cast-iron building built for William Rhinelanders by H. W. Smith and Sons in 1869-70. While the buildings forms are derived from classical sources, much of its ornament is quite fanciful.

No. 483-485, is the other cast-iron building on this side of the street. Built in the same years as No. 477-479, it was designed by Robert Mook for Helen Langdon as a store and lofts. It is also derived from classical sources but the ornamental details are simple, almost sparse in treatment.

474-38 to 45
#469
(Northwest corner Grand)
Original building destroyed by fire,
now a parking lot; site of Griffith
Thomas's Lord & Taylor store.

474-37
#471
Completed: 1855
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Margaret Duffie

474-36
#473 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 2/25/1895
Architect: Ralph Townsend
Original Owner: J. J. Little

474-35
#475 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 2/25/1895
Architect: Ralph Townsend
Original Owner: Harvey Chaffee

474-33/34
#477-479 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 3/31/1870
Architect: H. W. Smith & Sons
Original Owner: William Rhinelanders

474-32
#481 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1855-56
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: John DeWolfe

474-30
#483-485 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 3/31/1870
Architect: Robert Mook
Builder: Tucker
Original Owner: Helen Langdon

474-29
#487 (through to Mercer)
(Southwest corner of Broome)
Listed on Broome Street
3 bays on Broadway

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East Side: Block 473 (west part), Nos. 464-486

Nos. 462-464 and 466-468 Broadway (120-132 Grand) form an impressive corner building which runs along Grand Street to Crosby Street. Designed by John Correja for George Bliss and J. Cossitt in 1879-1880.

No. 478-482 is a unique statement in cast-iron designed by Richard Morris Hunt in 1873-74. The nine bays of this five-story building are subdivided into groups of three by Ionic orders extending three stories from the second to the fourth floors.

Hunt also designed an adjoining building at 476 Broadway in 1871-72 which is no longer standing.

473-1/3
#462-464, 466-468 (through to Crosby)
(#120-132 Grand northeast corner)
Completed: 5/31/1880
Architect: John Correja
Builder: P. Hermann
Original Owners: George Bliss &
J. Cossitt

473-5
#470
Completed: 1858
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Pacific Bank as a bank

473-6
#472 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 8/27/1878
Architect: William H. Cauvet
Builder: Van Dolson & Arnott
Original Owner: Levy Bros. & Co.

473-7
#474
Completed: 1863
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Jane McNevin

473-8
#476 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 2/28/1903
Architect: Robert Maynicke
Original Owner: Henry Corn

473-10
#478-482 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 1/31/1874
Architect: Richard M. Hunt
Original Owner: Roosevelt Hospital

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473-13
#484
Completed: 12/20/1879
Architect: J. Weber & Sons
Builder: J. Weber & Sons
Original Owner: J. J. Astor

473-14
#486
(#437-441 Broome, southeast corner)
Listed on Broome
2 bays on Broadway

Broome to Spring Street

This block also illustrates the changing character of Broadway. A number of early buildings, dating from the 1850s and 1860s still remain, especially on the east side of the street. They make a strong contrast to the taller, more ornate late 19th-century and early 20th-century commercial buildings they adjoin. Only two buildings have complete cast-iron facades, but one of them, the Haughwout store, is perhaps the best known building in the District.

West Side: Block 484, Nos. 489-527

Nos. 503-505, 507-509, and 511 are three separate buildings with a single homogeneous facade, designed by J. B. Snook for Joseph Loubat in 1878-79, these five-story buildings have divisions of six, six, and three bays respectively.

No. 513-519 is a six-story high, thirteen-bay wide store building, designed by Samuel Warner in 1884. It is a commercial adaptation of the popular Queen Anne architectural style of the period, incorporating floriated terra-cotta details into the overall design in a vibrant polychromatic fashion.

No. 521-523 is the remaining portion of the old St. Nicholas Hotel which once extended up to Spring Street. A pamphlet issued by the hotel in 1856, The St. Nicholas Hotel, Its Plan and Arrangement, describes the massive complex which stood at 507-527 Broadway. The plan and designs for the central portion of the building were prepared by the owner D. H. Haight. Daniel Badger's catalog of 1865 attributes the design to J. B. Snook. Badger's foundry supplied a 470 foot cast-iron storefront which may have been used on both the Broadway and Spring facades. Kennion's Architects and Builders Guide lists the architect as Griffith Thomas (of Thomas and Son).

The glory of the St. Nicholas was short-lived; the southern wing was replaced by the Snook-designed Loubat store (No. 503-511) in 1878, and Samuel Warner's store and warehouse (No. 513-519) replaced the central portion in 1884. Only a portion of the north wing remains at 521-523 Broadway.

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484-28
#489
(#442-444 Broome, northwest corner)
Listed on Broome
2 bays on Broadway

484-26
#491-493
Completed: 2/24/1897
Architect: Buchman & Deisler
Original Owner: Jeremiah C. Lyons

484-24
#495-497
Completed: 3/30/1893
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Augustus D. Julliard

484-23
#499 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1869
Architect: William T. Beer
Original Owner: C. J. & A. D. Oppenheim

484-22
#501 (through to Mercer)
Parking lot, site of c. 1865
cast-iron building from Badger's
Architectural Iron Works

484-20
#503-505 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 2/26/1879
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: William Vanderhof
Mason: Richard Deeves
Original Owner: Joseph F. Loubat

484-18
#507-509
Completed: 2/21/1879
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: William Vanderhof
Mason: Richard Deeves
Original Owner: Joseph F. Loubat

484-17
#511
Completed: 2/26/1879
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: William Vanderhof
Mason: Richard Deeves
Original Owner: Joseph F. Loubat

484-16/15/1
#513-517-519
Completed: 2/28/1885
Architect: Samuel A. Warner
Carpenter: John Sniffin
Mason: Masterton & Harrison
Original Owner: D. H. Haight Estate

484-12/11
#521, 523
Completed: 1854
Architect: J. B. Snook or Griffith Thomas
Original Owner: D. H. Haight

East Side: Block 483, Nos. 488-528

No. 488-492, the E. V. Haughwout Building, designed by John Gaynor in 1857 with its cast-iron components from Daniel Badger's Architectural Iron Works, this building is the most notable of the many cast-iron buildings in the District. (See significance #8).

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No. 502-504 is a fine example of what was known as a "sperm candle" building, so called because of the distinctive window-bay treatment which was reminiscent of the shape of candles made from sperm whale oil.

The building built in 1860 by Kellum and Son for Homer Bostwick, is five-stories high.

The ground floor store-front, although much altered, was made of cast-iron from Badger's Architectural Iron Works.

483-1
#488-492
Completed: 1857
Architect: John Gaynor
Original Owner: Eder V. Haughwout

483-3
#494
Completed: 1866
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Thomas Wells

483-4
#496
Completed: 1866
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Edward Gillilan

483-5
#498-500
Completed: 1859
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: W. B. Lawrence

483-7
#502-504 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Kellum & Son
Original Owner: Homer Bostwick

483-8
#506
Completed: 1856 (possibly 1854)
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Eugene Langdon

483-9
#508
Completed: 1854
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: J. L. Post

483-10
#510
Completed: 9/12/1878
Architect: William Bloodgood
Builder: Freeman & Bloodgood
Original Owner: Heymann & Sons

483-11, 13
#512-516
Completed: 8/31/1882
Architect: Lamb & Wheller
Original Owner: Livingston,
DeForest & Perkins

483-14
#518
Completed: 1855
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Delancy Kane

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483-15
#520-522
Completed: 1/31/1901
Architect: Buchman & Fox
Original Owner: Jeremiah C. Lyons

483-17
#524-528
(#80-86 Spring, southeast corner; 68 Crosby)
Completed: 5/28/1903
Architect: Arthur H. Bowditch
Builder: George H. Fuller Co.
Original Owner: Baynard Realty Co.

Spring to Prince Street

This block is notable, both for the early buildings of 1850s and 60s which remain standing and its fine commercial buildings of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. While only two buildings have complete cast-iron facades, cast-iron storefronts enhance several of the early buildings. No. 563, the Singer Building, uses iron to create a style that is unique to the 20th century.

West Side: Block 498, Nos. 529-567

Nos. 537-539 and 541 are two picturesque cast-iron buildings with a common facade designed by Charles Mettam in 1868 for Gilsey and Beekman.

No. 549-55 is a grandiose statement to the glory of Charles Broadway Rouss, a self-made millionaire.

No. 561-563 is an excellent example of the new architecture made possible by 20th-century technology. This twelve-story building sometimes known as the "little" Singer Building designed for the Singer Company in 1903 by Ernest Flagg who had designed another building for them at Broadway and Liberty Street in 1897.

498-23
#529-533
(Northwest corner Spring)
1936 2-story warehouse
Site of the Prescott House,
1852

498-21
#535
Completed: 1852
Builder: Probably George Sutton
Original Owner: Seabury Brewster

498-20, 18
#537-539, #541 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 4/30/1869
Architect: Charles Mettam
Original Owner: Gilsey & Beekman

498-17
#543 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 6/15/1903
Architect: John W. Stevens
Mason: John W. Stevens Bldg. Co.
Original Owner: John W. Stevens

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498-16
#545 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 12/13/1885
Architect: Samuel A. Warner
Original Owner: Samuel Inslee

498-15
#547
Completed: 12/29/1888
Architect: O. P. Hatfield
Carpenter: McGuire & Sloan
Mason: Amos Woodruffs' Sons
Original Owner: Lucretia F. Post

498-11
#549-555 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 5/31/1890
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Charles B. Rouss

498-9
#557-559
1-story garage, 1954

498-7
#561-563
Completed: 7/30/1904
Architect: Ernest Flagg
Original Owner: Singer Manuf. Co.

498-5
#565-567
(#86 Prince, southwest corner)
Completed: 1860
Architect: John Kellum
Original Owner: John May, leased to
Ball, Black & Co.

East Side: Block 497, Nos. 530-566

No. 540 is a striking five-story, three-bay classical building designed in white marble in 1867 by D. and J. Jardine.

No. 542-544 has an interesting building history. Two five-story buildings erected in 1864 for Edward Robinson, were joined in 1901.

No. 552-554 is a six-story, six-bay building, originally built as two buildings for Richard French in 1855. The two buildings were joined in 1897 and also connected internally with 556 Broadway (which is stylistically different).

497-1
#530
(#87 Spring, northeast corner)
Completed: 2/27/1898
Architect: Bronner & Tryon
Original Owner: Joseph L.
Buttenweiser

497-2
#532-534
Completed: 1/27/1897
Architect: Ralph S. Townsend
Original Owner: Commercial Realty &
Improvement Co.

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497-4
#536-538
(Connected to 85 Spring)
Completed: 1/31/1902
Architect: Delemos & Cordes
Original Owner: Rose & Putzel

497-6
#540 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 1867
Architect: D. & J. Jardine
Original Owner: Charles Knox

497-7
#542-544
Completed: 1864
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Edward Robinson

497-9
#546
Completed: 10/10/1874
Architect: John Correja
Builder: Amos Woodruff
Original Owner: F. H. Possitt

497-9
#548
Completed: 1866
Architect: John Correja
Original Owner: Stethar Nichols

497-11
#550
Completed: 1854
Architect: R. G. Hatfield
Original Owner: Charles F. Moulton
Building was used by Tiffany & Co.
when built.

497-12
#552 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 1855
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Richard French

497-13
#554 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 1855
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Richard French

497-14
#556
Completed: 1855
Architect: Unknown

497-15
#558
Completed: c. 1860
Architect: Unknown

497-18
#560-566
(#72-78 Prince, #98-104 Crosby)
Listed and described on Prince
10 bays on Broadway

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Prince to West Houston Street

This Broadway block displays a wide variety of building styles from several of the periods of its development; however, none of them have complete cast-iron facades. The west side of the block displays the greatest variety with buildings dating from as early as 1860 to as late as 1917. The east side of the block is lined with extravagant large commercial buildings of the 1890s.

West Side: Block 512, Nos. 569-601

No. 569-575 (85-91 Prince, 142-146 Mercer) is a quietly handsome and substantial six-story brick and stone building.

No. 591 is a six-story, three-bay building whose original structure dates from 1859-60 and which once shared a common facade with No. 593. However, extensive alterations were made to the building about 1900, and the effect is very handsome.

No. 593, a five-story, three-bay marble building, is a handsome classical composition of 1860.

No. 597, designed by John Kellum in 1867 with a marble facade, bears the closest resemblance to work being done in cast-iron at that period.

512-23
#569-575
(#85-91 Prince, northwest corner;
through to Mercer)
Completed: 3/29/1882
Architect: Thomas Stent
Builder: James Webb & Sons
Carpenter: John Downey
Original Owner: J. J. Astor

512-22
#577 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Estate of Mrs. Astor
Langdon

512-21
#579 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Estate of
Mrs. Astor Langdon

512-20
#581 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Estate of
Mrs. Astor Langdon

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512-18
#583-587 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 4/5/1897
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: Weil & Mayer

512-16
#591 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1859
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Alfred Wagstaffq

512-14
#595 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1866
Architect: James Pirsson

512-11
#599-601 (through to Mercer)
(Southwest corner W. Houston)
Completed: 9/5/1917
Architect: J. Odell Whitenach
Original Owner: Frederick Ayer

East Side: Block 511, Nos. 568-602

511-1
#568-578 (through to Crosby)
(Northeast corner Prince)
Completed: 2/24/1897
Architect: George B. Post
Original Owner: H. O. Havermeyer

512-17
#589 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1833
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Judah Hammon

512-15
#593 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Edward Jones

512-13
#597 (through to Mercer)
Completed: 1867
Architect: John Kellum
Original Owner: John Lawrence

511-6, 8, 10
#580-582, 584-586, 588-590 (through
to Crosby)
Completed: 6/17/1897
Architect: Buchman & Deisler
Original Owner: Henry Corn

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511-12
#594-596 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 5/4/1898
Architect: Buchman & Deisler
Original Owner: Jeremiah C. Lyons

511-15
#598 (through to Crosby)
Completed: 2/27/1898
Architect: Robert Maynicke
Original Owner: Henry Corn

511-16
#600-602 (through to Crosby)
(Southeast corner E. Houston)
Completed: 1/31/1884
Architect: Samuel A. Warner
Carpenter: McGuire & Sloan
Mason: John H. Masterton
Original Owner: Elizabeth W. Aldrich

BROOME STREET

Broome Street, named in 1806 after the Lieutenant Governor of New York State, had been laid out sometime after 1767. Before it acquired its present name, it was known as Bayard's Lane, Bullock, Hevins, and "Orchard Street west of Broadway" at various times. Building began on Broome about 1806 which made it one of the first streets in the District to be developed. Partially because it was developed early and was wider than other east-west streets, it served as a principal east-west artery within the District, offering an alternate route from the Canal Street ferry on the Hudson River. Consequently Broome Street was more prominent than the north-south cross streets it intersected with the exception of Broadway.

Crosby Street to Broadway

This block still has two buildings which date back to c. 1825. Other early buildings were replaced by new structures in the 1850s, 60s, 70s, 80s, thus providing a wide variety of styles. The architectural quality of the buildings is generally high, no doubt due to their proximity to Broadway. The elegant Haughwout Building, described on Broadway, occupies a large portion of the block on the north side.

South Side: Block 473 (west part), Nos. 429-441

No. 433 is a four-story, three-bay building with an ornate modified French Renaissance cast-iron facade which appears to date from approximately 1870. However, tax assessments for the building indicate that the structure actually date from 1827, about the same time as the adjoining building, No. 431.

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No. 435 is built in a modified Victorian Gothic style which was not commonly used in commercial cast-iron construction. This five-story, four-bay building was built for Catherine Wilkins in 1873 by W. A. Potter.

No. 437-441 Broome (486 Broadway) is one of the latest buildings on this block, dating from 1882-83. It was designed by Lamb and Rich with a combination of Romanesque and Moorish elements for William DeForest, although it was leased to the Mechanics and Traders Bank by 1885 or before.

473-18
#429
Completed: 1859
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Euphraise Poisier

473-17
#431
Completed: c. 1825
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: William J. Robinson

473-16
#433
Completed: 1827
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Lambert Suydam

473-15
#435
Completed: 10/24/1873
Architect: W. A. Potter
Builder: Richard Deeves
Original Owner: Catherine Wilkins

473-14
#437-441
(486 Broadway, southeast corner)
Completed: 4/30/1883
Architect: Lamb & Rich
Carpenter: John Brown
Mason: Joseph Smith
Original Owner: William DeForest

North Side: Block 483, Nos. 432-440

483-38
#438
Completed: 11/20/1885
Architect: E. Kilpatrick
Original Owner: Jane Major

483-1
#440
(488-492 Broadway, northeast corner)
HAUGHWOUT STORES
Listed on Broadway
14 bays on Broome

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Broadway to Mercer Street

This block is largely dominated by development in the 1890s, and contains three examples of skyscraper architecture. However, the two remaining earlier buildings are interesting stylistic examples from their periods.

South Side: Block 474 (east part), Nos. 443-449

No. 443-449 Broome (487 Broadway, 60 Mercer) is a late 19th-century extravaganza in stone, brick, terra cotta and iron, stretching along the entire blockfront of Broome Street for an impressive 29 bays.

474-29

#443-449

(487 Broadway, southwest corner, 60 Mercer, southeast corner)

Completed: 4/25/1896

Architect: John T. Williams

Original Owner: John T. Williams

North Side: Block 484, Nos. 442-452

No. 442-444 Broom (489 Broadway) was built for Louisa Hepburn in 1860, except for the last three bay sections on Broome Street built in 1863.

This classical Italianate building is five-stories high, two-bays wide on Broadway and twelve-bays wide on Broome.

No. 448 was designed by Calvert Vaux of Vaux, Withers Co. in 1871-72 and is an imaginative creation in cast-iron. Five-stories high and four-bays wide, this building uses iron in a rather unusual ornamental fashion, although the forms are derived from French Renaissance sources.

484-28

#442-444

(489 B'way, northwest corner)

Completed: 1860

Architect: Unknown

Original Owner: Louisa Hepburn

484-26

#446

(491-493 connected to Broadway)

Completed: 2/24/1897

Architect: Buchman & Deisler

Original Owner: Jeremiah Lyons

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484-31
#448
Completed: 7/28/1872
Architect: Vaux & Withers
Builder: James Stewart
Original Owner: Mrs. A. G. Ullman

484-31 (originally lot 32)
#450-452
(62 Mercer, northeast corner)
Completed: 2/28/1895
Architect: John T. Williams
Original Owner: John T. Williams

Mercer to Greene Street

This block, developed in the 1860s and 70s, is one of the finest on Broome Street. The building facades are harmonious in appearance, due to the common use of building materials--stone and iron simulating stone--and common designs stemming from various Renaissance styles.

South Side: Block 474 (west part), Nos. 453-467

No. 453-455 Broome Street (57-59 Mercer Street) is a fine Griffith Thomas design of 1872-73.

No. 457-459, also designed by Griffith Thomas in 1871, creates a harmonious composition with its corner neighbor, although it uses somewhat simpler detail.

474-12
#453-455
(57-59 Mercer, southwest corner)
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Carpenter: Martin E. Dujan
Mason: John T. Conover
Original Owner: Julia Billings

474-11
#457-459
Completed: 12/31/1871
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Mason: Marc Eidlitz
Original Owner: William Moser

474-10
#461
Completed: 12/31/1871
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Builder: Marc Eidlitz
Original Owner: William Moser

474-9
#463
Completed: 1867
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: Arthur Levy

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474-7
#465-467
(54 Greene, southeast corner)
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: J. F. Duckworth
Builder: J. T. Conover
Original Owner: R. H. L. Townsend

North Side: Block 485, Nos. 454-468

No. 454 Broome (65-67 Mercer) and 456 Broome appear to be one building. But the records of the Department of Buildings show that No. 456 was built in 1867 for Elliott Cowdin by B. W. Warner. The identical design was used by Samuel Warner in 1879 when he built No. 454 for Cowdin. (Benjamin W. Warner was Samuel Warner's younger brother, and they were partners in an architectural firm.)

No. 458 is a five-story, three-bay stone building, built in 1867. It appears to have been built strictly between the party walls of the two adjoining buildings (and its internal structure would be supported on these walls), for it has no flanking pilasters.

No. 464-468 Broome (56 Greene) is a handsome addition to this corner site. It was built in 1860 for Aaron Arnold of the Arnold and Constable families, the wealthy New York merchants, of Arnold, Constable fame.

485-34
#454
(65-67 Mercer, northwest corner)
Completed: 2/28/1880
Architect: Samuel Warner
Original Owner: Elliot Cowdin

485-35
#456
Architect: B. W. Warner
Original Owner: Elliot Cowdin

485-36
#458
Architect: D. & J. Jardine
Original Owner: Hyams & Bamburger

485-37
#460
Completed: 1862
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Henry J. Newton

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485-38
#462
Completed: 1866
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Aaron Arnold

485-39/40
#464-468
(56 Greene, northeast corner)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Aaron Arnold

Greene to Wooster Street

This block is another of Broome Street's finest. Four of the seven buildings on it were designed by Griffith Thomas in the short span of six years, 1867-1873, which contribute greatly to its overall harmonious composition. One other dates from 1872, and the remaining two are from the early 1880s. Again the design source is various Renaissance sources.

South Side: Block 475 (east part) Nos. 469-481

No. 469-475 Broome Street (55 Greene Street), the Gunther Building, is one of Griffith Thomas' finest designs, built in 1871-72. Magnificently adapted to its corner site, its only rival in the District in this respect is J. Morgan Slade's building at 119 Greene Street, built in 1882-83.

No. 477-479, a handsome classical composition very French in feeling, designed by Elisha Sniffen for Jacob Weeks, was begun shortly after the Gunther Building was completed:

475-44/45/46/47
#469-475
(55 Greene, southwest corner)
Completed: 5/30/1872
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Builder: John T. Conover
Owner: William Gunther

475-43/41
#477-479 (originally #477-481)
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: Elisha Sniffen
Original Owner: Jacob Weeks

North Side: Block 486, Nos. 470-482

No. 470 Broome Street (northwest corner of Greene Street) dating from 1867, is an early example of Griffith Thomas' work in the District.

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No. 476-478 Broome Street is a Griffith Thomas design of 1872-73 executed in iron. Built in an L-shape with the other facade at 62 Wooster Street, this building wraps around the two corner structures.

486-32
#470
(Northwest corner of Greene)
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Original Owner: Dickinson & Hurlbut

486-34
#472-474
Completed: 8/10/1869
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Builder: Moore & Bryant
Original Owner: Estate of Moses Morrison

486-36
#476-478
(connected to 62 Wooster)
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Carpenter: John Downey
Mason: John Conover
Original Owner: C. H. Garden

486-38
#480
Completed: 1/30/1885
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: Sleurman & Casper

486-39
#482
(60 Wooster, northeast corner)
Completed: 1/31/1884
Architect: John McIntyre
Carpenter: John H. Morse
Mason: Alexander Brown

Wooster Street to West Broadway

This block was developed early. Two buildings of a group dating from c. 1825 still remain standing. The others were largely replaced in the 1880s and 90s by the present structures. Consequently the block has a less harmonious appearance than the two blocks to the east.

South Side: Block 475 (west part), Nos. 483-499

No. 489-493 Broome is an early work of J. Morgan Slade, dating from 1872-73. While strongly classical in its forms, it does not exhibit the same refinement as the work he did in the early 1880s shortly before his death. Compare, for example, his building at 119 Greene Street.

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No. 497 is a simple four-story brick building dating from c. 1825 and originally owned by Alfred S. Pell. It may have been first used for a store with living quarters above, but in 1868 it was altered into a saloon and boarding house.

No. 499 Broome (361 West Broadway) also dates from c. 1825 and was also owned by Pell.

475-16
#483-487
(55 Wooster, southwest corner)
Architect: P. Giller
Original Owner: Ge. Louis Season-
good

475-15
#489-493
Completed: 1/31/1874
Architect: Jarvis Morgan Slade
Builder: Richard Shapter
Original Owner: Martin Bates

475-14
#495 (connected to 359 W. Broadway)
Completed: 8/17/1896
Architect: G. F. Pelham
Original Owner: Louisa Friedline

475-13
#497
Completed: c. 1825
Original Owner: Alfred Pell

475-12
#499
(Southeast corner West Broadway)
Completed: c. 1825
Original Owner: Alfred Pell

North Side: Block 487, Nos. 484-500

No. 484-490 Broome Street (59 Wooster Street), designed by Alfred Zucker in 1890, is a fine example of the Romanesque style adapted to commercial purposes.

487-1
#484-490
(59 Wooster, northwest corner)
Completed: 3/31/1891
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Simon Goldenberg

487-4
#492-494
Completed: 2/29/1892
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: H. & S. Corn

487-6
#498
Completed: 2/27/1885
Architect: Ernest Greis
Original Owner: Jacob Bleyer

487-7
#500
(Northeast corner, West Broadway)
Completed: 12/21/1874
Architect: Charles Mettam
Carpenter: David Hepburn
Mason: Van Dolson & Armoth
Original Owner: George Marchand

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CANAL STREET

The course of Canal Street, first proposed in 1796, was in part determined by an irregular ditch that ran between the Collect Pond and the Hudson River. The construction of the street was begun after Trinity Church and private citizens ceded portions of their properties to the City in 1808. The one-hundred-foot wide street, reportedly completed in 1810, was divided by an eight-foot wide open ditch or canal, built in 1811. In 1819, work was near completion on converting this ditch into a covered sewer.

Broadway to Mercer Street

A striking contrast of architectural styles is immediately evident when observing the buildings on this block. Chronologically, the buildings range from a three-story Federal house at No. 303 dating back to about 1808 to the two mid-20th century taxpayers located on the eastern corner. The two remaining structures on the block, the 1856-62 Arnold Constable store and an impressive marble building from 1863, fall between the two extremes stylistically as well as chronologically. Although both of the mid-19th century five-story buildings are constructed primarily of stone, they both incorporate cast-iron storefronts which are typical of their period.

North Side Only in District: Block 231 (south part), Nos. 291-311

No. 305, which extends through to No. 47 Howard, was built around 1863 for L. Brutillier. The iron storefront on this five-story building consists of a cornice, terminal blocks and fluted colonnettes that are missing their capital ornaments. The remainder of the three-bay wide facade retains its highly classical Italianate stone facing.

No. 307-311 is the main entrance to the large, impressive Arnold Constable & Co. store that also faces Mercer and Howard Streets. City tax records indicate that the first four floors of the six-bay wide corner section were built in 1856, while the fifth floor of this section and the five-floor, three-bay addition were completed in 1862.

Although the Canal Street facade is faced with stone while those on Mercer and Howard Street are brick, the formula for bays and varying window shapes is repeated on all three sides. None of the original iron storefront remains on the Canal Street side.

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231-12
#291-299
(#419 Broadway, northwest corner)
One-story Nedicks

231-1
#301
Completed: c. 1955

231-2
#303
Completed: c. 1808
Original Owner: Thomas Duggan
Architect: Unknown

231-3
#305
(#47 Howard)
Completed: c. 1863
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: L. Brutillier

231-4
#307-311
(#2-12 Mercer, northeast corner,
#49-53 Howard)
Completed: #307 in 1862
#309-311 in 1856
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Aaron Arnold

Mercer to Greene Street

North Side Only in District: Block 230, Nos. 313-331

With the exception of the 1883-84 six-story building at the northeast corner of Greene Street, all of the buildings on the north side of this block are brick Federal houses that were converted into commercial buildings during the mid-19th century. These eight Federal structures, six of which were developed and owned by an Isaac Lawrence, were all erected during the period around 1820 and originally had a consistent height of three stories plus an attic with dormers. Five of the houses, however, had their attic stories removed in the 1860s or 1870s, at which time they were replaced by an additional brick floor with a cast-iron cornice.

The J. B. Snook building on the corner of Greene Street, No. 329-331 Canal, presents a strong contrast to the other eight buildings on the block. This brick building is only six stories high and four bays wide, which may be considered small for a commercial building of the 1880s. It is its scale rather than its size, however, that makes it dominate its Federal neighbors.

230-1
#313
(Northwest corner Mercer)
Completed: 1821
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Isaac Lawrence

230-2
#315
Completed: 1821
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Isaac Lawrence

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230-3
#317
Completed: 1821
Original Owner: Isaac Lawrence
Architect: Unknown

230-4
#319
Completed: 1821
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Isaac Lawrence

230-5
#321
Completed: c. 1821
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Isaac Lawrence
Samuel F. B. Morse lived here
in 1825

230-6
#323
Completed: c. 1821
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Isaac Lawrence

230-7
#325
Completed: prior to 1820
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: John Dyer

230-8
#327
Completed: prior to 1820
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Michael Quinn

230-9
#329-331
(#2-6 Greene, northeast corner)
Completed: 1/31/1884
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: W. Gennind & Co.
Mason: Robinson & Wallace
Original Owner: Lorillard Spencer

Greene to Wooster Street

A strong diversity is felt on this block, characterized by a modern two-story taxpayer and a 1927 garage positioned between two outstanding cast-iron structures. The incongruity is further heightened by the large vacant lot at the Greene Street corner, the former location of a recently demolished 1868 building designed by J. B. Snook.

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North Side Only in District: Block 229, Nos. 335-355

No. 343 is an Isaac F. Duckworth design that was built in 1868 for P. R. Francis. Although the architect superbly combined various neo-Grec and French Renaissance elements, the composition of the cast iron is far less complex than other designs by Duckworth within the Historic District. The strong sense of verticality conveyed by this five-story building is due to its narrow three-bay width, its slender columns and pier panels and, most appreciably, its isolation.

No. 351-355 is a five-story corner building, fronted by cast iron, that was designed by W. H. Gaylor and built in 1871-72. The nine bays on Canal Street, which are identical to the eleven bays on the Wooster Street facade, are handled in a crisp, rhythmic manner, in a style closely related to the neo-Grec.

229-1
#335-341
(#9-13 Greene, northwest corner)
Parking lot

229-3
#343, 1868
Architect: Isaac F. Duckworth
Original Owner: P. R. Francis

229-4
#345
Function: Taxpayer
Facade: Concrete

229-5
#347-349
Completed: 3/23/1928
Architect: Julius Echmann
Original Owner: Augustus B. Fleck

229-6
#351-355
(#2-4 Wooster, northeast corner)
Completed: 2/29/1872
Architect: W. H. Gaylor
Builder: W. Lamb, Jr.
Original Owner: S. Middlebrook

Wooster Street to West Broadway

An interesting combination of buildings from the early, mid and late-19th century are seen on this block, which is divided in the center by a vacant lot. The buildings begin chronologically with two 1824 structures on the western corner, both of which were converted in the mid-century from three-story dwellings to four-story commercial buildings. The commercial period of the Historic District is represented by a simple five-story stone building of 1855 (fifth floor added in 1866,) a five-story brick and tenement of 1871, a cast-iron structure of 1883, also five stories high, and two masonry buildings dating from 1891 which are five and six stories high.

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North Side Only in District: Block 228, Nos. 357-375

No. 365-367, a predominantly stone building sparsely ornamented on its four upper floors, is strongly accented by an elaborate cast-iron storefront, executed in an ornate French manner. This storefront is supported by intricate Corinthian columns which separate the six individual bays. It is interesting that these bays are not of equal width.

No. 371 is a five-story building with a three-bay wide cast-iron facade that was designed by Samuel Warner in a modified neo-Grec manner. Nearly all of the cast-iron elements on this 1883-84 structure remain intact, including the unusually high storefront.

228-1
#357
(#1-5 Wooster, northwest corner)
Completed: 1855
Architect: W. T. Beers
Original Owner: William Banta

228-2
#359
Completed: 1855
Architect: W. T. Beers
Original Owner: Asher Rosenblatt

228-3
#361
Completed: 1/31/1892
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Nancy Banta

228-4
#363
Completed: 10/31/1891
Architect: Leicht & Harrell
Carpenter: Peter Roberts
Mason: Peter Roberts
Original Owner: Charles Moelich

228-5
#365-367
Completed: 12/31/1871
Architect: William Waring
Original Owner: J. Watson Webb

228-7
#369
Vacant lot

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228-8
#371
Completed: 6/31/1884
Architect: Samuel Warner
Mason: A. C. Walbridge
Original Owner: O. J. Walbridge

228-9
#373
Completed: 1824
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: John R. Murray

228-10
#375
(#301-305 West Broadway, northeast corner)
Completed: 1824
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: John R. Murray

CROSBY STREET

According to an 1797 map of Lower Manhattan, the portion of Crosby Street that is within the Historic District had already been laid out as far as Houston Street at that time. In about 1808, Crosby Street was extended north to Bleecker Street.

Howard to Grand Street

West Side Only in District: Block 232, Nos. 10-18

None of the four facades on this block contain a main entrance; the two center buildings are entered from Broadway while the corner buildings face Howard and Grand, respectively. The Crosby Street facades have been handled in a straight-forward, utilitarian manner. They are all five stories high and faced with brick. The most distinctive features are the decorative treatment of the window lintels.

At the southern end of the block is a building, constructed in 1868. Its eleven bays of segmental-arched windows are each topped by a drop-lintel with a keystone.

Next come the two buildings at Nos. 10-12 and 14-18 which were built simultaneously in 1876-77 and share a common facade.

The building at the corner of Grand Street also utilizes a combination of stone and cast-iron on a predominantly brick facade. Due partially to its early construction date of 1861, however, the treatment is different from its southern neighbors.

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232-21
(#30 Howard, northwest corner)
Listed on Howard; 11 bays on Crosby

232-5
#10-12
(#444 Broadway)
Completed: 7/30/1877
Architect: Schweitzer & Greve
Original Owner: Edward Mathews

232-9
#14-18
(#452 Broadway)
Completed: 7/30/1877
Architect: Schweitzer & Greve
Original Owner: Edward Mathews

232-15
(#129-131 Grand, southwest corner)
Listed on Grand
7 bays on Crosby

Grand to Broome Street

West Side Only in District: Block 473 (west part), Nos. 30-40

The facades on the west side of this block all serve as secondary entrances to buildings facing Broadway or Broome Street. With the exception of the iron facades at the corner of Grand Street and of No. 40 Crosby Street which is the back of the Richard Morris Hunt Building, the facades on this block are executed in brick and handled in a simple, functional manner.

The cast-iron facade at the northwest corner of Grand and Crosby is the rear of a building that also faces Broadway (Nos. 462-464 and 466-468) and Grand Street (No. 120-132). The French Renaissance character of this 1879-80 John Correja design, discussed in connection with the Broadway facade, is retained, though simplified, on the Crosby side.

473-1/3
(#462-464 and 466-468 Broadway,
#120-132 Grand, northwest corner)
Completed: 5/31/1880
Architect: John Correja
Builder: P. Hermann
Original Owner: George Bliss &
J. H. Cossitt

473-6
#30-36
Completed: 8/27/1878
Architect: William Cauvet
Builder: Van Dolson & Arnott
Original Owner: Levy Bros.

473-8
#38
(#476 Broadway)
Completed: 2/28/1903
Architect: Robert Maynicke
Original Owner: Henry Corn

473-19
#40
(#478-482 Broadway)
Completed: 1/31/1874
Architect: Richard Morris Hunt
Original Owner: Roosevelt Hosp.

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473-18
(#429 Broome, southwest corner)
Listed on Broome; 8 bays on Crosby

Broome to Spring Street
West Side Only in District: Block 483, Nos. 44-72

All of the buildings on this block are handled in a simple, utilitarian manner, with the exception of the 1902-03 eleven story building at No. 68-72 that combines stone, terra cotta and brick in a rather elaborate fashion. Most of the other buildings combine simple cast-iron ground floors and cornices with a brick facade whose high loft windows are topped by plain lintels. The earliest of these buildings was constructed in 1868, while the other five were built in the early 1880s.

483-35
(436 Broome, northwest corner)
Gas station

483-7
#44-46
(#502-504 Broadway)
Completed: 1868
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: C. G. Gunther

483-32
#48
(#502-504 Broadway)
Completed: c. 1880
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: N. S. Edwards

483-31
#50
(#502-504 Broadway)
Completed: c. 1880
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: John Jackson

483-30
#52
(#502-504 Broadway)
Completed: c. 1880
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Nancy Edwards

483-29
#54
1-story shed

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483-11
#56-58
(#512-514 Broadway)
Completed: 8/31/1882
Architect: Lamb & Wheeler
Original Owner: DeForest & Perkins

483-13/23
#60-66
(#516 Broadway)
Completed: 8/31/1882
Architect: Lamb & Wheeler
Original Owner: Livingston, DeForest & Perkins

483-17
#68-72
(#524-528 Broadway, #80-86
Spring, northwest corner)
Listed on Broadway
4 bays, 8 windows on Crosby

Spring to Prince Street

West Side Only in District: Block 497, Nos. 78-104

The construction dates of the buildings on this block span the four decades from the 1850s through the 1880s, the period during which the District experienced its greatest rate of growth. Although the buildings vary widely in date as well as height (they currently range from one to six stories), they still form a cohesive unit.

497-31
(#79-81 Spring, northwest corner)
Listed on Spring
14 bays on Crosby

497-7
#78
(#540 Broadway)
Completed: 1886
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Thomas Lewis

497-9
#80-88
(#548 Broadway)
Architect: John Correja
Original Owner: Stethar Nichols
Built: 1866

497-12
#90
(#552 Broadway)
Completed: c. 1878
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Unknown

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497-13
#92
(#554 Broadway)
Completed: 1853
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Gardner A. Sage

497-15
#94-96
(#558 Broadway)
Completed: c. 1870
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: John Lawrence

497-18
#98-104
(#560-566 Broadway, 72-78
Prince, southwest corner)
Listed on Broadway
12 bays on Crosby

Prince to East Houston Street

West Side Only in District: Block 511, Nos. 106-140

When looking north along this block, the first four buildings strongly overpower the remaining two. This is due both to their twelve-story height and the fact that they occupy 84 per cent of the block frontage. A wide spread in construction dates is also apparent on this block, in that these twelve-story skyscrapers were all built between 1895 and 1898 while the six-story office building at No. 134-136 was constructed in 1883-84 and the one-story garage at No. 138-140 dates from 1964.

511-1
#106-110
(#568-578 Broadway, 69-83
Prince, northwest corner)
Listed on Broadway
6 bays, 12 windows on Crosby

511-6/8/10
#112-122
(#580-590 Broadway)
Completed: 6/17/1898
Architect: Buchman & Deisler
Original Owner: John Ames

511-12
#124-130
(#594-596 Broadway)
Completed: 5/4/1898
Architect: Buchman & Deisler
Original Owner: Jeremiah Lyons

511-15
#132
Completed: 2/27/1898
Architect: Robert Maynicke
Original Owner: Henry Corn

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511-16
#134-136
(#600-602 Broadway)
Completed: 1/31/1884
Architect: Samuel Warner
Carpenter: McGuire & Sloan
Mason: John Masterton
Original Owner: Elizabeth Aldrich

511-19
#138-140
(Southwest corner, East Houston)
Completed: 10/7/1964
Architect: Jacob and Donald Fisher
Original Owner: Clara Golden

GRAND STREET

Grand Street, previously known as "Road to Crown Point," was laid out prior to 1766. Although the name of the original portion of the street was officially changed to Grand in 1767, the section west of Broadway was frequently referred to as Meadow Street up to 1799. In 1804, the Common Council of New York gave their approval to have the street regulated and developed.

Unlike the other cross-town streets of the District, the building numbers on Grand Street run from west to east rather than from east to west.

West Broadway to Wooster Street

The construction dates for buildings on this block span nearly three-fourths of the nineteenth century, ranging chronologically from the two Federal houses at Nos. 57 and 59 (later altered for commercial purposes to four stories), to the seven-story neo-Classic office building complex at Nos. 60, 62 and 64 that dates from 1895-96. Although this latter building is not unusually tall for its date, it is the highest on the block. The remaining structures, which range from two to five stories, were all built in the 1880s in the neo-Grec style.

South Side: Block 228, Nos. 53-69

228-22
#53
(#331-335 W. Broadway,
southeast corner)
Listed on West Broadway
2 bays on Grand

228-23
#55
Completed: 10/28/1882
Architect: William Jose
Carpenter: J. Daly
Mason: Mathew Powers
Original Owner: Grant Levy

228-24
#57
Completed: 1826
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Ferris Pell

228-25
#59
Completed: 1826
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Ferris Pell

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228-30
#61-69
(#27 Wooster, Southwest corner)
Parking Lot

North Side: Block 475 (west part), Nos. 54-70

Nos. 60, 62 and 64 form an impressive three-building unit that was designed by Cleverdon & Putzel and erected in 1895-96. These three structures, which are each seven stories high and four bays wide, are constructed of brick with iron and terra-cotta ornamentation in a manner typical of the neo-Classical commercial towers of the 1890s.

No. 68-70 is an impressive neo-Grec cast-iron building located at the northeast corner of Grand and Wooster. This 1886-87 structure is the work of George DaCunha who was also the architect for the buildings at Nos. 72 and 74 Grand Street and 31 Greene Street. Of the four works by DaCunha remaining in the District, only No. 68-70 has a unique design.

475-1
#54-58
(#337 W. Broadway,
northeast corner)
Listed on West Broadway

475-33
#60
Completed: 4/29/1896
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: John Clark

475-32
#62
Completed: 4/29/1896
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: John Clark

475-31
#64
Completed: 4/29/1896
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: John Clark

475-30
#66
Completed: 1/30/1885
Architect: W. H. Hume
Original Owner: Helina Asinare

475-28
#68-70
(#29 Wooster, northwest corner)
Completed: 1/24/1887
Architect: George DaCunha
Original Owner: Morris S. Hermann

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Wooster to Greene Street

The buildings which line the two sides of this block date primarily from the 1870s and 1880s, the period during which the area was at its peak of development. The only other structures are the 1907 building at No. 75-77 and a mid-20th century taxpayer at No. 76. Although three large buildings on the south side of the block have masonry facades, cast-iron is still the predominant building material to be seen in this block.

South Side: Block 229, Nos. 71-87

No. 71-73 Grand Street, in conjunction with No. 28-30 Wooster Street, form an impressive and powerful corner facade interpreted in a neo-Grec manner. Although the three-bay section of the building, which is numbered No. 73 Grand, was built in 1879, the corner section was not added until 1888.

No. 83-87 is the Grand Street side of the 1872 building at the southwest corner of Greene Street that was designed by William Hume for James Fisher. The nine-bay cast-iron facade on Grand Street of this five-story building is handled in a modified neo-Grec manner, identical to that on the Greene Street facade.

229-20
#71-73
(#28-30 Wooster, southeast corner)
Completed: 7/29/1879
Architect: Mortimer C. Merritt
Original Owner: M. Eisemann

229-22
#75-77
Completed: 1907
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: F. Schircharth

229-24
#79
Completed: 1/31/1890
Architect: Oswald Wirz
Builder: J. G. Wallace
Original Owner: S.F. & T.S. Shortland

229-25
#81
Completed: 7/9/1885
Architect: Schwazmann & Buchanan
Carpenter: John F. Moore
Mason: J. & L. Weber
Original Owner: George Theiss

229-26
#83-87
(Southwest corner Greene)
Completed: 10/30/1872
Architect: William Hume
Builder: Louis Scudder
Original Owner: James Fisher

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North Side: Block 475 (east part), Nos. 72-88

475-61
#72
(#36-38 Wooster, northeast corner)
Completed: 5/22/1886
Architect: George DaCunha
Original Owner: William W. Winans

475-60
#74
Completed: 1/28/1886
Architect: George DaCunha
Original owner: Ambrose Kingsland

475-59
#76
Completed: 1955

475-58
#78
Completed: 12/30/1882
Architect: Robert Mook
Original Owner: F. A. Kursheedt

475-56
#80-88
(#33-35 Green, northwest corner)
Completed: 12/23/1873
Architect: B. W. Warner
Builder: Weeks Bros.
Original Owner: Alexander J. Cotherl

Greene to Mercer Street

Six of the nine buildings on this block date from the 1860s, which is an unusually high percentage for that decade on Grand Street. Two of these early buildings, Nos. 91 and 93 which were designed jointly by J. B. Snook in 1869, have the only fully cast-iron facades on the block. All others, however, incorporate small amounts of cast iron. Nos. 95 and 104, dating from the early 1880s, are Romanesque in character, while the buildings from the 1860s reflect a French Renaissance flavor and the building from 1877 located at No. 89 echoes the neo-Grec mode.

South Side: Block 230, Nos. 89-105

Nos. 91 and 93, though two separate buildings, share the same four-story cast-iron facade divided merely by a break in the roof cornice. They were both designed in 1869 by J. B. Snook.

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230-25
#89
(#36 Greene, southeast corner)
Completed: 10/25/1877
Architect: William Hume
Builder: G. W. DaCunha
Original Owner: Rosalie Steinhardt

230-26
#91
Completed: 11/30/1869
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: S. Childs

230-27
#93
Completed: 11/30/1869
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: John D. Wendel

230-28
#95
Completed: 1882
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: W. Boyd

230-30
#97-105
(#35 Mercer, southwest corner)
Completed: 1867
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Amos Eno

North Side: Block 474 (west part), Nos. 90-104

No. 90-94 is a handsome five-story stone structure located on the northeast corner of Grand and Greene Streets. This 1867 building, which incorporates a cast-iron storefront supported by Corinthian columns, is an outstanding example of the transitional style from the Italianate to French modes that was typical of the period as a whole and specifically of Griffith Thomas, the architect for this building.

474-26
#90-94
(#38-40 Greene, northeast corner)
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Original Owner: Ann Howard, leased
to D. Appleton & Co.

474-22
#96-98
Architect: B. W. Warner
Original Owner: Elliot Cowdin

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474-22
#100-102
Architect: B. W. Warner
Original Owner: Elliot Cowdin

474-21
#104
(#37 Mercer, northwest corner)
Completed: 1/31/1884
Architect: Julius Kashner
Original Owner: James Bears

Mercer Street to Broadway

Currently, the only two buildings on this block of Grand Street are those which occupy the entire south side; the north side is a gigantic parking lot with a depth of over one hundred feet. The block still commands one's attention, however, through the power of the facades on the south. The 1881-82 building at the corner of Mercer, executed in a modified French Classical style, covers 87 feet, while the remaining 113 feet of the block are occupied by the Grand Street facade of a five-story corner building executed in 1860-61.

South Side: Block 231 (north part), Nos. 107-119

No. 115-119, the Grand Street side of a building which also faces No. 459-461 Broadway, is an impressive late Italianate stone structure which was designed by Thomas Suffein and erected in 1860-61.

231-26
#107-113
(#32 Mercer, southeast corner)
Completed: 5/32/1882
Architect: Thomas Stent
Builder: Marc Eidlitz
Original Owner: William Astor

231-30
#115-119
(#459-461 Broadway, southwest corner)
Completed: 1861
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Thomas Suffein

North Side: Block 474 (east part), Nos. 106-118

The vacant lot which fills the north side of this block is the previous location of the elegant 1858-59 Lord & Taylor store designed by Griffith Thomas which remained standing until November 19, 1960, when it was destroyed by fire.

474-38 to 45
#106-118
(Northeast corner Mercer,
northwest corner Broadway)
Parking Lot

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Broadway to Crosby Street

This block is characterized by diversity. Its oldest building, No. 125, dates from the Federal period, while its immediate neighbor, No. 123, was completed in 1896. Another early structure, No. 127, was built in 1835-36 in a modified Greek Revival manner and is one of only two Greek Revival structures left within the Historic District. The remaining buildings on the block date from 1861 and 1879-80.

South Side: Block 232, Nos. 123-131

No. 129-131 is a stately five-story French Renaissance structure, completed in 1861, located at the southwest corner of Grand and Crosby that was designed by an unknown architect. The six-bay width of the Grand Street facade utilizes cast-iron for the storefront and stone facing for the four upper floors, while the seven bays on the Crosby Street side are simply executed in brick except for the first bay from the corner which is a continuation of the main facade.

232-12
#123
(#458 Broadway, southeast corner)
Listed on Broadway
21 bays on Grand

232-13
#125
Completed: 1826
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Thomas T. Woodruff

232-14
#127
Completed: 1835
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: James Vincent

232-15
#129-131
(#20 Crosby, southwest corner)
Completed: 1861
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Henry Cruger

North Side: Block 473, (west part) Nos. 120-132

473-1
#120-132
(#462-468 Broadway, northeast corner,
northwest corner Crosby)
Listed on Broadway and Crosby
24 bays on Grand

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GREENE STREET

Greene Street, originally surveyed in 1787, was named after the Revolutionary War hero, General Nathaniel Greene. It begins in what was originally the Anthony Rutgers and Abijah Hammond Farms and continues through the Nicholas Bayard West Farm and then out of the District. It was opened for development in the first decade of the nineteenth century.

Canal to Grand Street

In all but a few instances, the buildings on both sides of the block have cast-iron facades and, without exception, there are cast-iron details on every building. The dominant influences seen in these buildings originate in various French styles. Almost half of the structures were erected in the early 1870s; most of the rest in the late 1870s and early 1880s. One building is as early as 1869 and one as late as 1894-95.

West Side: Block 229, Nos. 15-31

No. 23-25 is a striking five-story building, executed in a derivative French Renaissance manner crowned by a pediment set directly over the two central bays.

The architect, I. F. Duckworth, was responsible for two other buildings (Nos. 28-30 and 32) across the street. He created for each building an atmosphere worthy of a great commercial palace, but in this specific case it was achieved with fewer elaborations.

No. 31 is a building that is of interest not only for its fine detailing in the neo-Grec manner, but also for its documentation. The February 24, 1877 issue of American Architect and Building News carried two plates showing the elevation and details for this cast-iron facade.

229-1
#7-13
Original building demolished,
now a parking lot.

229-36
#15-17
Completed: 7/25/1895
Architect: Samuel A. Warner
Carpenter: Samuel McGuire
Mason: Richard Dervas & Son
Original Owner: Presbytery of New York,
Warren Van Norden, Treasurer

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229-34
#19-21
Completed: 4/29/1872
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Joseph Thompson
Original Owner: Simon Strahlheim

229-32
#23-25
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: I. F. Duckworth
Original Owner: J. E. Hyams

229-31
#27
Completed: 4/8/1871
Architect: William Jose
Original Owner: N. Grari

229-30
#29
Completed: 3/23/1878
Architect: J. Webb & Son
Carpenter: J. Webb & Son
Mason: J. Webb & Son
Original Owner: Mrs. Gibbons

229-29
#31
Completed: 10/12/1876
Architect: George W. DaCunha
Original Owner: A. C. Kingsland & Sons

229-26
(#83-87 Grand - southwest corner)
Listed on Grand
12 bays on Greene

East Side: Block 230, Nos. 8-34

No. 28-30, also by Duckworth, and the most powerful building on the block derives its force from the projecting central bays and mansard roof.

No. 32, which is also in the French manner and the third Duckworth design on the block, complements its southern neighbor.

230-9
#2-6
(#329-33 Canal - northeast corner)
Listed on Canal
9 bays on Greene

230-12
#8
Completed: 4/30/1884
Architect: J. B. Snook
Mason: John Demarest
Original Owner: Trustees of Louis Lorillard

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230-13/14
#10-12-14
Completed: 12/20/1869
Architect: J. B. Snook
Builder: Moon & Bryant
Original Owner: T. Lewis & B. H. Day

230-15
#16
Completed: 4/30/1883
Architect: Samuel Warner
Builder: John Masterton
Original Owner: Henry Adams

230-16
#18
Completed: 4/30/1883
Architect: Samuel A. Warner
Carpenter: John Masterton
Builder: John Masterton
Original Owner: William Gill

230-17/19
#20-26
Completed: 12/31/1880
Architect: Samuel Warner
Carpenter: John Sniffen
Mason: Richard Deeves
Original Owner: Samuel Inslee

230-20
#28-30
Completed: 8/29/1873
Architect: I. F. Duckworth
Builder: J. Conover
Original Owner: Picaut, Simon & Capel

230-22
#32
Completed: 9/29/1873
Architect: I. F. Duckworth
Builder: John Masterton
Original Owner: Isaac W. How

230-23
#34
Completed: 8/29/1873
Architect: Charles Wright
Carpenter: J. J. Riceman
Mason: J. C. Springsted
Original Owner: Julius Leopold

230-25
#36
(#89 Grand - southwest corner)
Listed on Grand
7 Bays on Greene

Grand to Broome Street

One can visualize the chronological development of various early commercial architectural styles found in the Historic District by looking down this block with its twelve stores and warehouses, seven of which were built during the 1860s or before. Eight of the buildings have masonry facades with iron detailing, while the remaining four have complete iron facades.

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West Side: Block 475 (east part), Nos. 33-55

No. 45 combines neo-Grec details in the repetitive manner typical of the cast-iron architecture of the District. With minor exceptions on the first and second floors, all of the three-bay units on each of the six floors are identical. This type of architectural solution reduced the time and effort expended by the architect, enabling him to utilize stock pieces and extend his buildings to nearly any length without designing them around a focus. This practice not only saved time but also money - two major advantages of the cast-iron technique.

475-56
#33-35
(#80-88 Grand, northwest corner)
Listed on Grand
8 bays on Greene

475-53/54
#37-43
Completed: 2/28/1884
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: Nathan, Schwab & Kayser

475-52
#45
Completed: 12/30/1882
Architect: J. Morgan Slade
Original Owner: Edward W. Tailer

475-50
#47-49
Completed: 1866
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: H. J. Howard

475-49
#51
Completed: 1854
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Homer Bostwick

475-48
#53
Completed: 1867
Architect: Louis Burger
Original Owner: Wm. H. Gunther

475-47
#55
(#469-475 Broome, southwest corner)
Listed on Broome
6 bays on Greene

East Side: Block 474 (west part), Nos. 38-54

No. 42-44, built in 1868-69 for H. J. Howard, is a stone building with restrained French Renaissance detailing.

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No. 46-50, unlike its southern neighbor with whom it shares a common ground floor facade, emerges flamboyantly with complex detailing that borders on the baroque.

474-26
#38-40
(#90-94 Grand, northeast corner)
Listed on Grand
11 bays on Greene

474-1
#42-44
Completed: 7/19/1869
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Builder: Marc Eidlitz
Original Owner: H. J. Howard

474-1
#46-50
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Ann Howard

474-6
#52
Completed: 1867
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: H. J. Howard

474-7
#54
(#465-467 Broome, southeast corner)
Listed on Broome
9 bays on Greene

Broome to Spring Streets

The height of the development of cast-iron architecture is represented in this block by the large number of buildings dating from the 1870s as well as the frequent appearance of the work of Henry Fernbach, one of the leading architects working in cast iron at this time. Out of the twenty-one individual facades on the block, thirteen are completely of iron, and all but one of the remaining masonry facades have some iron detailing.

West Side: Block 486, Nos. 56-85

Nos. 65 and 67 present a phenomenon found occasionally in the District. The two buildings form a cohesive unit; they are identical except for their cornices. They were also commenced and completed on exactly the same dates. Yet, they are attributed to two different architects, J. B. Snook and Henry Fernbach, both of whom were well known and highly respected. This degree of coincidence may be explained by the fact that iron works had stock pieces which could be combined at will by the architects as well as pieces which were made specifically for one building.

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No. 79 was built by Alexander McBurney as a dwelling house in 1838, a period when this was a residential district. As the area began to change character in the 1860s and 1870s, however, many former residences were altered to satisfy the needs of a commercial center -- a process that is being reversed today when many former commercial buildings are being converted into artists' studio-residences. When No. 79 was altered in 1874, not only was an additional brick fronted floor added but also an iron cornice and ground floor facade.

486-32
(#470 Broome, northwest corner)
Listed on Broome
10 bays on Greene

486-28
#57-63
Completed: 1/31/1877
Architect: Edward H. Kendell
Original Owner: E. Oelbermann & Co.

486-27
#65
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: George L. Ronalds

486-26
#67
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Carpenter: George Springstead
Mason: Amos Woodruff
Original Owner: Archer & Penobscor Co.

486-25
#69-71
Completed: 1/31/1877
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Amos Woodruff & Sons
Original Owner: Rothchild

486-23
#73
Completed: 1/31/1877
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Amos Woodruff & Sons
Original Owner: Rothchild

486-22
#75
Completed: 1/31/1877
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Amos Woodruff
Original Owner: M. & S. Sternberger

486-21
#77
Completed: 11/30/1878
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Amos Woodruff
Original Owner: H. & S. Meinhard

486-20
#79
Completed: 1838
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Alexander McBurney

486-19
#81
Completed: 11/21/1877
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Carpenter: McGuire & Sloan
Mason: Amos Woodruff & Sons
Original Owner: D. L. Einstein

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486-17
#83-85
(#128-132 Spring, southwest corner)
Listed on Spring
Stephen C. Foster lived with his
family in an earlier building at
No. 83 in 1860.

East Side: Block 485, Nos. 56-86

No. 62-64, one of nine buildings by Fernbach on this block, is one of his finest in the entire District. The facade combines several impressive classical French elements into a very stately, open composition. Although the size of the bays is relatively constant, variety and emphasis is achieved through the use of panels, balustrades, projecting side bays and a curved pediment.

When considering this building it is also interesting to note the cast-iron goose-neck street light directly in front of it. This is one of the few such lights installed in the late 19th century that are left in the City.

No. 72, one of Duckworth's masterful iron "commercial palaces," has affectionately been referred to in recent times as "the king of Greene Street." The architect combined French Second Empire motifs and conventions to create the most complex, three-dimensional building remaining today in the District.

485-39/40
#56
(#464-468 Broome, northeast corner)
Listed on Broome
8 bays on Greene

485-1
#58-60
Completed: 12/31/1871
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Samuel Cochran
Original Owner: L. & S. Seasongood

485-3
#62-64
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Carpenter: John J. Riceman
Mason: Samuel Cochran
Original Owner: John Henderson

485-5
#66
Completed: 11/22/1873
Architect: J. B. Snook
Builder: J. Pernerest
Original Owner: Lorillard Estate

485-6
#68
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: George Ronalds

485-7
#70
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Catherine M. Jones

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485-8/10

#72-76

Completed: 4/30/1873

Architect: I. F. Duckworth

Builder: John T. Conover

Original Owner: Gardner Colby

485-11

#78

Completed: 8/31/1901

Architect: George H. VanAuken

Original Owner: Sol Cohen

485-12

#80-82

Completed: 2/28/1873

Architect: Griffith Thomas

Builder: John T. Conover

Original Owner: C. Henry Gardiner

485-14

#84-86

Completed: 12/3/1883

Architect: Henry Fernbach

Original Owner: W. Blackston

Spring to Prince Street

Two handsome brick buildings at the corners of Spring Street by J. B. Snook immediately set a high-quality tone to the general appearance of this block. Most of the buildings date from approximately the same period, the late 1870s and early 1880s. However, several low buildings of more recent date disrupt the continuity of the west side of the block. The east side is more harmonious with only two gaps at vacant lots. Certainly much of this general continuity can be attributed to Henry Fernbach, the architect who designed all but one of the cast-iron buildings. There are more brick-facade buildings in this block than in other Greene Street blocks. The dominant style in the cast-iron buildings is derived from French Renaissance and neo-Grec sources. The brick buildings tend to be simpler, although their ornamental details are predominantly neo-Grec.

West Side: Block 500, Nos. 87-117

Nos. 93-95, 97, and 99 are three attached buildings handsomely done in the neo-Grec manner, all utilizing the same facade, designed by Henry Fernbach for David Einstein in 1881.

No. 103-105 is a handsome five-story building, five bays wide, incorporating neo-Grec elements, which was built in conjunction with No. 101 in 1879. (No. 101 was rebuilt after a fire in the 1950s.) The owner of these buildings was David Einstein who also owned Nos. 93-99. Fernbach was also the architect.

500-34

#87-89

(#127 Spring, northwest corner)

Listed on Spring

9 bays on Greene

500-32

#91

Original building demolished, now a parking lot.

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500-31
#93-95
Completed: 12/20/1881
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: David Einstein

500-30
#97
Completed: 12/20/1881
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: David Einstein

500-29
#99
Completed: 12/20/1881
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: David Einstein

500-28
#101
Garage - Built in 1957

500-26
#103-105
Completed: 9/24/1879
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Frank Lowden
Original Owner: David Einstein

500-25/24/23
#107-111
Alteration: 1923
Alteration Architect: Lewis C. Patton
Owners in 1923: Greenwich Savings Bank

500-22
#113
Completed: 3/31/1883
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: Lippman & Toplitz

500-21
#115-117
(#110 Prince, southwest corner)
Original building demolished, one-story
building erected in 1966.

East Side: Block 499, Nos. 90-122

Nos. 98 and 100 are two buildings, each five stories high, and each three bays wide, done in a classical manner with very stylized details which are neo-Grec in character. The architect, Charles Mettam, designed these identical buildings for two different owners, Michael Byrne and H. Wilson. They were begun and completed at the same time, and both were used as stores. These two buildings by Mettam are set between two designed by Fernbach at approximately the same time and are stylistically very similar to Fernbach's work, particularly in their massing and fenestration. But Mettam's detail is more imaginative and lighter in its overall quality.

No. 114-120 is an impressive double-front building, six stories high and ten bays wide, designed in a stylized classical manner by Henry Fernbach in 1881.

499-43
#90
(#121 Spring, northeast corner)
Listed on Spring
9 bays on Greene

499-1
#92-94
Original building demolished, now a
parking lot.

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499-3
#96
Completed: 12/22/1879
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Marc Eidlitz
Original Owner: Chichester Estate

499-4
#98
Completed: 2/25/1881
Architect: Charles Mettam
Original Owner: Michael Byrne

499-5
#100
Completed: 2/25/1881
Architect: Charles Mettam
Original Owner: H. Wilson

499-6
#102
Completed: 2/25/1881
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Amos Woodruff & Sons
Original Owner: Isaac Guggenheim

499-7
#104-110
(#123-125 Mercer)
Completed: 3/31/1908
Architect: William J. Dilthey
Original Owner: C. B. Rouss Estate

499-11
#112
Completed: 1/31/1884
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: VanDolsen & Arnott
Original Owner: Stillwell & Goldenberg

499-12
#114-120
Completed: 5/31/1882
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Carpenter: McGuire & Sloan
Mason: Amos Woodruff & Sons
Original Owner: Frederick Loeser

499-15
#122 (106-108 Prince, Southeast corner)
Completed: 1868
Architect: W. E. Waring
Original Owner: G. H. Eckhoff

Prince to West Houston Street

The buildings on this block are of a generally uniform, harmonious character dating from the 1880s. Most have cast-iron fronts. Exceptions are the late (1910) post office on the northeast corner of Greene and Prince, and the two very early buildings (1825) which remain on the west side of Greene near Houston. Once again the dominant style is derived from French Renaissance and neo-Grec sources.

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West Side: Block 514, Nos. 119-145

No. 119 Greene (No. 109-111 Prince Street), designed by J. Morgan Slade for C. H. Woodbury in a very elegant French Renaissance style, takes powerful advantage of its corner site. (Slade died at the age of 30, about two months after the building was begun.)

No. 121-123 is also a Henry Fernbach design, and visually the most ornate building on the block.

Nos. 125 and 127 are identical buildings employing a stylized classicism with neo-Grec motifs, five stories high and three bays wide (although now painted different colors) executed under the supervision of two different architects for two different owners. No. 125 was designed by Henry Fernbach, and its commencement and completion dates are the same as No. 121-123. No. 127 was designed by William Baker one year later (1883-84) than No. 125. However, the explanation for this duplication seems somewhat simpler than that for Nos. 65 and 67 Greene Street. Henry Fernbach died in November, 1883; it seems likely that Baker was an associate of his.

Nos. 139 and 141 are notable for their early date of 1825. One would assume that the entire block once was lined with similar houses before the street was developed with commercial buildings in the late 1870s and early 1880s.

No. 139 was built for Anthony Arnoux. It is a simple brick two-story house in the Federal style with two dormers in the attic story.

No. 141, built in 1825 for D. H. Schmidt, must have originally looked like No. 139. In 1886 the building was altered for use as a store and lofts.

514-35
#119
(#109-111 Prince, northwest corner)
Completed: 1/31/1883
Architect: J. Morgan Slade
Original Owner: C. H. Woodbury et al.

514-33
#121-123
Completed: 3/31/1883
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: Lewishone Brothers

514-32
#125
Completed: 3/31/1883
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Christie & Dyhes
Original Owner: Sylvester Bench
Estate

514-31
#127
Completed: 2/28/1884
Architect: William Baker
Original Owner: Patrick Dickie Estate

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514-29
#129-131
Completed: 2/26/1881
Architect: Detlef Lienau
Carpenter: H. M. Smith & Son
Builder: Freeman Bloodgood
Original Owner: John C. Barrow

514-28
#133-135
Completed: 3/31/1883
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Terence J. Duffy
Original Owner: Henry & Isaac Meinhard

514-26
#137
Completed: 3/31/1883
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Terence J. Duffy
Original Owner: Henry & Isaac Meinhard

514-25
#139
Completed: 1825
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Anthony Arnoux

514-24
#141
Completed: 1825
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: D. H. Schmidt

514-23
#143
Completed: 2/29/1888
Architect: DeLemos & Cordes
Original Owner: Lippman Toplitz

514-14
#145
(Southwest corner of W. Houston)
Gas Station

East Side: Block 513, Nos. 124-152

No. 130, designed by Richard Berger for L. Sachs and Brothers in 1888, is six stories high and three bays wide. It initially appears modest in comparison to its more imposing neighbor on the north. But one is struck by the precise and careful use of neo-Grec detail which characterizes this building.

513-39
#124-128
(#103-107 Prince, northeast corner)
Listed on Prince
10 bays on Greene

513-2
#130
Completed: 1/26/1889
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: L. Sachs & Brothers

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513-3
#132-134
Completed: 1/30/1886
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Simon Goldenberg &
L. Scoolers

513-5
#136
Completed: 1/30/1886
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Simon Goldenberg &
L. Scoolers

513-6
#138-140
Completed: 1/30/1886
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Goldenberg & Scoolers

513-7
#142-144
Completed: 4/29/1871
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: John Conover
Original Owner: James Kent

513-9
#146
Completed: 7/21/1877
Architect: W. E. Worthen
Carpenter: W. C. Miller
Mason: Joseph Smith
Original Owner: John Althouse

513-10
#148-150
Completed: 7/31/1884
Architect: William Worthen
Original Owner: John Althouse

513-12
#152
(Southeast corner of W. Houston)
Vacant Lot

HOUSTON STREET

Houston Street was named either after Nicholas Bayard's son-in-law, or the name is derived from the Dutch "huis tuijn," which means house garden. It was laid out prior to 1797, and the section from Broadway west to Hancock was regulated in 1817-18. The street was extended and regulated from Broadway to the Bowery in 1825. Only the south side of the street lies within the District. The buildings on the south side of the street were demolished in 1963 when Houston Street was widened. Houston Street is divided at Broadway into East Houston and West Houston. House numbers run to the east on East Houston Street and to the west on West Houston Street.

EAST HOUSTON STREET

Broadway to Crosby Street
South Side Only in District: Block 511, Nos. 1-17

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511-19
#1-17
Parking lot and Gas station

WEST HOUSTON STREET

Broadway to Mercer Street
South Side Only in District: Block 512, Nos. 1-17

512-10
#1-17
Vacant lot

Mercer to Greene Street
South Side Only in District: Block 513, Nos. 19-35

513-12
#19-35
Vacant lot

Greene to Wooster Street
South Side Only in District: Block 514, Nos. 37-59

514-14
#37-59
Gas station

Wooster Street to West Broadway
South Side Only in District: Block 515, Nos. 65-83

515-16	515-15
#65-77	#79-83
Vacant lot	Vacant lot

All street numbers on Houston Street are transposed from Bromley's Atlas of the City of New York, 1899.

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HOWARD STREET

The section of Howard Street which lies within the Historic District was known as Clermont Street prior to c. 1767, at which time its name was changed to Hester Street. The section of the street between Broadway and Mercer Street was regulated in 1809, facilitating its development. In 1825 the name was changed to Howard Street.

Crosby Street to Broadway

The buildings on the north side of this block, present a visual record of the progression of French stylistic influences upon commercial architecture in New York City. This progression is represented by three buildings which include the 1868 structure at No. 30-32, executed in a classic French Renaissance manner, No. 34, also from 1868, which projects an early though definite neo-Grec aura and No. 38-42, the Howard Street side of the 1895-96 building at No. 434 Broadway, which reflects the influence from the Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Paris upon architectural styles of the 1890s. Though none of these buildings have full cast-iron facades, the two 1868 structures, each five stories high, incorporate iron storefronts, typical of the period. The one remaining building is a simple four-story brick structure built in 1876.

North Side Only in District: Block 232, Nos. 30-42

No. 30-32 is the Howard Street facade of a five-story corner building, located at the northwest corner of Crosby Street, that was designed by J. B. Snook and erected in 1868. The Howard Street facade, which has a width of six bays, exemplifies the stylistic reliance upon simple, classic French forms that was frequently followed on contemporary buildings in the Historic District.

No. 34 is an unusually distinguished structure to have been erected on such a short side street as this. The effectiveness of this 1868 five-story facade, only three bays wide, is explained by the fact that it was designed by the renowned architect James Renwick and his associate Joseph Sands.

232-21
#30
(#2-8 Crosby, northwest corner)
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: Blackstone & Ryerson
Mason: John Demarest
Original Owner: Trustees of M. Barbey

232-22
#32
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: Blackstone & Ryerson
Mason: John Demarest
Original Owner: Trustees of P. Lorillard

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232-23	232-4
#34	#36
Architect: James Renwick & Joseph Sands	(#442 B'way)
Original Owner: Edward Mathews	Listed on Broadway
	3 bays on Howard

232-1
#38-42
(#434 B'way, northeast corner)
Listed on Broadway
10 bays on Howard

Broadway to Mercer Street

With the exception of the neo-Georgian garden bank built in 1967, all of the buildings on this block date from the 1860s and 1870s. All of them have cast-iron ground-floor facades, though only No. 43-45 has cast-iron upper stories.

North Side: Block 231 (north part), Nos. 46-54

No. 48 Howard Street dating from 1860, is built primarily of stone and utilizes the same round-arched Italianate detailing that appears on early cast-iron facades. It was masonry buildings such as this, in fact, that inspired many of the first prefabricated cast-iron facades.

No. 50-52, also completed in 1860, combines simple classical stone and iron members with a directness similar to that of its contemporary eastern neighbor. Unlike No. 48 however, this facade incorporates French segmental-arched windows rather than round-arched Italianate ones.

231-14	231-15
#46	#48
(#431-439 B'way, Northwest corner)	Completed: 1860
Completed: 1/4/1967	Architect: Unknown
Architect: Eggers & Higgins	Original Owner: Aaron Arnold
Builder: Koren-DiResta Construction Co.	
Owner: Bank (Franklin National)	

231-16	231-18
#50-52	#54
(#16 Mercer)	(#14 Mercer, northeast corner)
Completed: 1860	Completed: 1860
Original Owner: A.W. Spies	Original Owner: Amos Eno
Comments: Used during Civil War as temporary home for soldiers.	

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South Side: Block 231 (south part), Nos. 43-53

231-8

#43-45

(#427-429 B'way, Southwest corner)

Listed on Broadway

12 bays on Howard

231-3

#47

Completed: c. 1863

Architect: Unknown

Original Owner: L. Brutillier

231-4

#49-53

(2-12 Mercer, southeast corner)

Completed: #49 in 1862

#51-53 in 1856

Architect: Unknown

Original Owner: Aaron Arnold

MERCER STREET

Mercer Street, known originally as First Street or Clermont Street, was laid out prior to 1797. In 1799, its name was permanently changed to Mercer Street. The section of the street which lies within the Historic District was opened for development in 1809.

Canal to Grand Street

This block contains the largest concentration of early buildings in the District. With the exceptions of No. 32 built in 1881-82 and No. 15-17 dating from 1885-86, no building on this block dates later than 1870-71. Eleven of the seventeen separate facades, in fact, date from 1861 or before. Due largely to these early dates, only three facades are executed completely in cast iron, yet almost all originally had cast-iron storefronts and cornices.

West Side: Block 230, Nos. 1-35

No. 9-13, a five-story commercial building by F. C. Graef, was built in 1870-71 for use by the India Rubber Company. Its full iron facade, one of three on the block, is composed of French and Italian elements from the Cornell Iron Works.

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No. 19, designed by an unknown architect and built in 1860-61, is an unusually impressive and sophisticated building for Mercer Street. Although similar stone buildings were erected in the city, they were primarily located on more notable and prosperous streets. The iron storefront seems relatively simple when compared to the stone facade above.

230-1
(#313 Canal, northwest corner)
Listed on Canal
72.2 feet on Mercer

230-44
#1-3
Completed: c. 1821
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: I. Lawrence

230-42
#5-7
Completed: 1861
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: J. J. Phelps

230-40
#9-13
Completed: 1/2/1871
Architect: F. C. Graef
Builder: James Hume
Original Owner: Adolph Poppenhusen

230-38
#15-17
Completed: 11/20/1886
Architect: Samuel A. Warner
Original Owner: Samuel Inslee

230-37
#19
Completed: 1861
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: S. B. Althaus

230-36
#21-23
Completed: 1861
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Amos Eno and Wm. B. Lawrence

230-34
#25
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Amos Eno

230-33
#27
Architect: Ritch & Griffiths
Original Owner: William Desendorf,
Trustee for Estate of Charlotte Gomez

230-32
#29
Architect: Louis Burger
Original Owner: Henry Cardoza

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230-31
#31-33
Completed: 1867
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Amos Eno

230-30
#35
(#97-105 Grand, southwest corner)
Completed: 1867
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Amos Eno

East Side(Canal to Howard): Block 231, No. 2-12

No. 2-12 is the longest of the three sides of the Arnold Constable store. Although sections of the Canal Street and Howard Street facades were added in 1862, the first four floors of the section facing Mercer were built in 1856. (The fifth floor was added at the time of the 1862 construction.) The main facade on Mercer is brick with stone lintels, as is the Howard facade, while the main entrance on Canal Street is entirely of stone.

The iron and masonry ground floor appears to have largely retained its original character when comparing it to the contemporary lithograph of Charles Parson's drawing of the store.

231-4
#2-12
(#307-311 Canal, #49-53 Howard)
Completed: 1857
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Aaron Arnold

East Side (Howard to Grand): Block 231, Nos. 14-32

231-18
#14
(northeast corner Howard)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Amos Eno

231-16
#16
(#50-52 Howard)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Adam W. Spies

231-19
#18
Architect: John Kellum
Original Owner: A. T. Stewart

231-38
#20-22 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Original Owner: N. Ludlum

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231-37
#24 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: William & Edward
Mitchell

231-36
#26 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 1855
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Matthew Morgan

231-35
#28-30 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 12/10/1869
Architect: J. B. Snook
Builder: W. E. Lambert
Original Owner: Lorillard Estate

231-26
#32
(#107-113 Grand, southeast corner)
Completed: 10/2/1900
Architect: William Napier
Original Owner: Est. of James R. Roosevelt

Grand to Broome Street

A full spectrum of the development of commercial architecture in the Historic District can be observed on this block, with buildings dating from 1855 to the mid-20th century. This hundred year span is even more significant because the block contains at least one building built in each decade from the 1850s to the 1890s. Because so many of the buildings were erected at a time when cast iron was not in vogue, only four of the fifteen facades are entirely metal, though six others have some cast-iron ornament. Another interesting characteristic of the block, also related to the wide span of construction dates, is the variation of building heights. In addition to the normal range of three, four, five and six-story buildings, this block also includes examples of buildings with one and two stories as well as eight and twelve stories.

West Side: Block 474 (west part), Nos. 37-59

No. 47-49 is an iron building, six stories high and six bays wide, that combines stylized classical elements in a basically French manner.

No. 55, a Griffith Thomas building completed in 1872, is an interesting example of how a single cast-iron facade can coherently combine Italianate balustrades, neo-Grec capitals and a French Second Empire broken pediment atop an elaborate cornice.

474-21
#37
(#104 Grand, northwest corner)
Listed on Grand
4 windows on Mercer

474-20
#41
GARAGE

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474-19
#43
Completed: 1868
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: Arthur Levy

474-18
#45
Completed: 1868
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Ira Campbell Estate

474-16
#47-49
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: Joseph M. Dunn
Carpenter: W. B. Pettit
Mason: W. B. Pettit
Original Owner: Alexander Roux

474-15
#51
Completed: 1940
Function: Garage
2 stories

474-14
#53
Completed: 1868
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Alexander Roux

474-13
#55
Completed: 3/27/1872
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Builder: William Pettit
Original Owner: William Moser

474-12
#57-59
(#453-455 Broome, southwest corner)
Listed on Broome
11 bays on Mercer

East Side: Block 474 (east part), Nos. 34-60

No. 50-52, built between 1869 and 1870, is a five-story iron building that is six bays wide. Although the building extends through to No. 477-479 Broadway, the Mercer Street facade is different from that on Broadway.

474-42/43/44/45
#34-42
(northeast corner Grand)
PARKING LOT

474-37
#44
(#471 Broadway)
Completed: 1855
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Margaret Duffie

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474-36
#46 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 2/29/1895
Architect: Ralph Townsend
Original Owner: J. J. Little

474-35
#48 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 2/25/1895
Architect: Ralph Townsend
Original Owner: Harvey Chaffee

474-33/34
#50-52 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 3/31/1870
Architect: H. W. Smith & Sons
Original Owner: Wm. Rhineland

474-32
#54 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 10/24/1868
Architect: William T. Beer
Builder: David Carpenter
Original Owner: C. J. Oppenheim

474-30
#56-58 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 3/31/1870
Architect: Robert Mook
Builder: Tucker
Original Owner: Helen Langdon

474-29
#60
(#487 Broadway, #443-449 Broome, south-
east corner)
Listed on Broome
3 bays on Mercer

Broome to Spring Street

A vast majority of the buildings on this block date either from the 1870s or the period between 1892 and 1900. The nearly equal distribution between the two periods provides a contrast between the restrained symmetry of the 1870 facades and the sumptuous buildings of the latter period.

West Side: Block 485, Nos. 65-99

No. 85-87, designed by Robert Mook in a free classical manner, combining Italianate and neo-Grec elements, is one of four buildings on the block that has a complete cast-iron facade. The storefront retains much of its original character as does the rest of the 1872-73 facade.

No. 95-99, located on the southwest corner of Mercer and Spring Streets, was designed by G. A. Schellinger and built between 1895 and 1896. Although the building is only six stories high, it assumes the stature of a much taller building.

485-34
#65-67
(#454 Broome, northwest corner)
Listed on Broome
10 bays on Mercer

485-33
#69
Completed: 9/11/1876
Architect: Theo. A. Tribet
Builder: Robinson & Wallace
Original Owner: Edward C. Eliot

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485-32
#71
Completed: 1/30/1901
Architect: Geo. F. Pelham
Original Owner: Robert Smith

485-30
#73-77
Completed: 5/20/1876
Architect: Jesse W. Powers
Builder: Joseph W. Smith
Original Owner: John Ruszits

485-29
#79
Completed: 1/31/1893
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Carpenter: E. F. Haight
Builder: P. Gallagher
Original Owner: Louis Friedman

485-28
#81
Completed: 8/8/1940
Architect: R. Rappaport
Engineer: R. Rappaport
Owner: Philomena Pasquale

485-27
#83
Completed: 11/29/1872
Architect: J. B. Snook
Builder: George Springsted
Original Owner: George Lorillard

485-25/26
#85-87
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: Robert Mook
Mason: Amos Woodruff
Original Owner: Amos Eno

485-24
#89
PARKING LOT

485-22
#91-93
Completed: 1/30/1901
Architect: Hill and Turner
Original Owner: Jacob Bartscherer

485-21
#95-99
(#106-112 Spring, southwest corner)
Completed: 1/30/1896
Architect: G. A. Schellinger
Original Owner: Boehm & Coon

East Side: Block 484, Nos. 62-98

No. 66-68 combines restrained and simplified Romanesque characteristics in a classic, symmetrical manner, similar to that used in the early skyscrapers. The lack of elaborate ornament on this building is unusual considering that it was built in 1892-93--a time when massive terra-cotta embellishments were popular and this particular architect, Alfred Zucker, normally worked in a more ornamental style.

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484-31
#62-64
(#450-452 Broome, northeast corner)
Listed on Broome
6 bays on Mercer

484-24
#66-68 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 3/30/1893
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Augustus D. Juillard

484-23
#70 (through to Broadway)
Architect: Wm. T. Beer
Original Owner: C. & A. Oppenheim

484-22
#72
PARKING LOT

484-20
#74-76 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 2/26/1879
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: William Vanderhof
Mason: Richard Deeves
Original Owner: Joseph Loubat

484-18
#78-80
Completed: 2/26/1879
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Joseph Loubat

484-17
#82 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 2/26/1879
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Joseph Loubat

484-16/15/13/1/2
#84-94 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 2/28/1885
Architect: Samuel A. Warner
Carpenter: John Sniffin
Mason: Masterton & Harrison
Original Owner: Estate of D. H. Haight

484-3
#96-98
(#96-104 Spring, southeast corner)
Listed on Spring
3 double bays on Mercer

Spring to Prince Street

A full century of growth and development can be witnessed in a single glance when looking down this one block of Mercer Street. The earliest extant building on the block, as well as in the District, is No. 101, built c. 1806-08 on the corner of Spring and Mercer Streets. Jumping exactly a century, one finds that the most recent building of any importance is the "new" Rouss Building at No. 123-125, built between 1906 and 1908. Between these two extremes, there are both iron and masonry buildings dating from each decade between the 1850s and 1900s, as well as one Federal house begun in 1819.

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West Side: Block 499, Nos. 101-137

No. 105 was built in 1819-20 as a residence for Mary Boddy, a seamstress. Although this Federal brick house has had its pitched roof and dormers removed and its ground floor window replaced, it is amazing that so many of its original elements remain considering the commercial character of the District for over one hundred years.

No. 111, built between September 1878 and January 1879, is one of only two buildings designed by Henry Fernbach on the portion of Mercer Street that lies within the District. It is interesting that Fernbach, who dominated the development of Greene Street, is hardly represented on this street, just one block away.

No. 113-115 is a building by Julius Boeckell that was constructed in 1872. Although the use of two broken pediments above the roof line and a heavy rusticated central pier give the impression of two matching facades, each three bays wide, the new building application filed by Boeckell indicates one building and one owner.

499-36
#101
(#107 Spring, northwest corner)
Listed on Spring
30 feet on Mercer
Comments: There are two windows on
the 2nd floor, 3 on the 3rd floor

499-36
#103
Completed: c. 1810
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Conrad Brooks

499-35
#105
Completed: 1820
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Mary Boddy

499-37
#107
Completed: 11/30/1878
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: C. L. Wolfe

499-33
#109
PARKING LOT

499-32
#111
Completed: 1/22/1879
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Charles Eberspacher
Original Owner: M. & S. Sternberger

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499-30/31
#113-115
Completed: 11/25/1872
Architect: Julius Boekell
Original Owner: C. F. Richards

499-28/29
#117-119
Completed: 12/31/1891
Architect: George Provot
Original Owner: Annie Romel Lecout

499-27
#121
Completed: 11/28/1879
Architect: D. & J. Jardine
Original Owner: N. Y. Eye and Ear
Infirmary

499-7
#123-125
(#104-110 Greene)
Completed: 3/31/1908
Architect: William J. Dilthy
Original Owner: Charles B. Rouss
Estate

499-23
#127-131
Completed: 1869
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Gustave Herter

499-22
#133
Completed: 9/28/1901
Architect: Harry A. Jacobs
Mason: Roger Organ
Original Owner: Charles Smith

499-21
#135
Completed: 1854
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Herman Gerkan

499-20
#137
(#94 Prince, southwest corner)
Listed on Prince
4 windows on Mercer

East Side: Block 498, Nos. 100-132

Nos. 108-110 and 112 were both designed by Charles Mettam and built with iron facades, combining French and Italian elements, between 1868 and 1869. Although these buildings, which continue through to Broadway, have always been considered to be two separate structures, they were commenced and completed on exactly the same dates and were listed together on one building application. More importantly, the two buildings share the same facade on Mercer Street, as well as on Broadway.

498-27
#100-106
(#101 Spring, northeast corner)
Listed on Spring
10 bays on Mercer

498-20
#108-110 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 4/30/1869
Architect: Charles Mettam
Original Owner: Gilsey & Beekman

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498-18
#112 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 4/30/1869
Architect: Charles Mettam
Original Owner: Gilsey & Beekman

498-17
#114 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 6/15/1903
Architect: John W. Stevens
Mason: John W. Stevens
Original Owner: John W. Stevens Building
Company

498-16
#116 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 12/13/1885
Architect: Samuel A. Warner
Original Owner: Samuel Inslee

498-15
#118 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 12/29/1888
Architect: O. P. Hatfield
Carpenter: McGuire & Sloan
Mason: Amos Woodruff's Sons
Original Owner: Lucretia F. Post

498-11
#120-126 (through to Broadway)
Completed: 5/3/1890
Architect: Alfred Zucker
Original Owner: Charles B. Broadway

498-93
#128
GARAGE

498-1
#132
(southeast corner Prince)
PARKING LOT

Prince to West Houston Street

This block is lined by buildings that range in date from a late Federal house built in 1826-27 to a twelve-story commercial tower erected in 1917. The other buildings on the block, for the most part, represent typical iron and masonry mercantile styles from the 1860s to 1880s. There are also two 20th-century garages and an 1867 building with a modern facade, as well as the 1854 Fireman's Hall, erected by the New York Volunteer Fire Department.

West Side: Block 513, Nos. 141-173

No. 153 is a five-story masonry and cast-iron building that was designed by Henry Congdon and built in 1879.

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513-35
#141-147
(#93-99 Prince, northwest corner)
Listed on Prince
10 bays on Mercer

513-33
#149
Completed: 1826
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Robert Schuyler

513-31
#151
GARAGE

513-30
#153
Completed: 10/8/1879
Architect: Henry Congdon
Builder: Van Dolsen & Armoth
Original Owner: H. & E. Strange

513-28
#155-157
Completed: 1854
Architect: Field & Correja
Carpenter: James L. Miller & Co.
Mason: Platt & Fisher
Original Iron: Cornell Iron Works
Painting: James Gilmore
Carved Works: Dewitt Mott
Original Owner: City of New York
Original Function: Fireman's Hall

513-26
#159-161
Completed: 1854
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: James Swan

513-25
#163
Architect: G. Van Nostrand
Original Owner: Wheller & Wilson

513-23
#165-167
Completed: 5/24/1871
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: John Conover
Original Owner: James Kent

513-22
#169
Completed: 6/1/1896
Architect: John Prague
Original Owner: Adam Tucker

513-21
#171
GARAGE

513-12
#173
(southwest corner West Houston)
VACANT LOT

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East Side: Block 512, Nos. 142-172

Nos. 148, 150 and 152, erected around 1860, are actually three individual buildings, though they share a common facade. The architectural treatment is very simple and direct, due to the fact that the three Mercer facades are merely rear entrances to Nos. 577, 579 and 581 Broadway. The utilitarian handling is very successful, however, due largely to the one-and-a-half stories of iron shutters.

512-23
#142-146
(#569-575 B'way, #85-91 Prince,
northeast corner)
Listed on Broadway and Prince
10 bays on Mercer

512-22
#148
(#577 B'way)
Completed: 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Mrs. Astor Langdon

512-21
#150
(#579 B'way)
Completed: c. 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Estate of Mrs.
Astor Langdon

512-20
#152
(#581 B'way)
Completed: c. 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Estate of Mrs. Astor
Langdon

512-18
#154-158
(#583-587 B'way)
Completed: 4/5/1897
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: Weil & Meyer

512-17
#160
Completed: 1855
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Ward & Hammond

512-16
#162-164
(#591 B'way)
Completed: c. 1859
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Alfred Wagstaff

512-15
#166
(#593 B'way)
Completed: c. 1860
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Edward Jones

512-14
#168
(#595 B'way)
1866
Architect: James W. Pirsson
Original Owner: C. D. Fredericks & Co.

512-13
#170
(#597 B'way)
1867
Architect: John Kellum
Original Owner: John Lawrence

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512-11
#172
(#599-601 B'way, southwest corner)
Completed: 9/5/1917
Architect: J. Odell Whitenach
Original Owner: Frederick Ayer

PRINCE STREET

Prince Street was laid out and named by 1797. It probably acquired its name after another Prince Street, further south in Manhattan, that had its name changed to Rose Street in 1794. However, the development of the street within the District seems to have started fairly late in comparison to many others.

Crosby Street to Broadway

This block is lined by two large buildings, one built in 1883, the other in 1895-97. The latter (on the north side of the street) is typical of the massive commercial structures of that period incorporating Beaux-Arts elements, in which classical details are blown up to a very large scale to fit the size of the building. The 1883 building, which is only half as tall, is somewhat more human in its scale and qualities.

South Side: Block 497, Nos. 72-78

No. 72-78 (98-104 Crosby, 560-566 Broadway) is six stories high, ten bays wide on Broadway, and fourteen bays wide on Prince. The Broadway side which is more prominent has heavy brick piers flanking the ends and the two center bays.

On the Prince Street side the three corner end bays are treated in the same way as those on the Broadway facade. The remainder of the Prince Street facade is entirely of brick.

497-18
#72-78
(#98-104 Crosby, southwest corner,
#560-566 Broadway, southeast corner)
Completed: 1/31/1884
Architect: Thomas Stent
Original Owner: William Astor

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North Side: Block 511, No. 69

511-1

#69

(106 Crosby, northwest corner,
568-578 Broadway, northeast corner)

Completed: 2/24/1897

Architect: George Post

Original Owner: H. Havermayer

Broadway to Mercer Street

This block displays some interesting contrasts in architectural styles. Especially noteworthy are Nos. 86 and 90, built almost forty years apart, yet employing similar classical forms and motifs. No. 86 (which faces Broadway) is typical of the popular Italianate style of the 1860s. No. 90 is a manifestation of the Eclectic Classicism of the turn of the century. In contrast to these is the completely non-traditional Prince Street facade of the Singer Co. Building, which is almost identical, although somewhat narrower, than the Broadway side. The north side of the block is entirely occupied by the imposing brick facade of the Thomas Stent-designed building of 1881-1882 which is described on Broadway.

South Side: Block 498, Nos. 86-92

No. 90, eight stories high and four bays wide, displays its use of classical forms in an interesting manner.

498-5

#86

(565-567 Broadway, southwest corner)

Listed on Broadway

6 bays on Prince

498-7

#88 (connected to 561-563 Broadway)

Completed: 7/30/1904

Architect: Ernest Flagg

Original Owner: Singer Manufacturing Co.

498-2

#90

Completed: 5/29/1899

Architect: Neville & Bagge

Original Owner: Harrison Realty

498-1

Southeast corner Mercer

Parking lot

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North Side: Block 512, Nos. 85-91

512-23
#85-91
(569-575 Broadway, northwest corner,
142-146 Mercer, northeast corner)
Described on Broadway
Completed: 3/29/1882
Architect: Thomas Stent
Carpenter: John Downey
Builder: James Webb & Sons
Original Owner: J. J. Astor

Mercer to Greene Street

This block was developed largely in the 1880s. The three Henry Fernbach buildings are from the early years of that decade. There are also two brick and iron buildings, one from the 1850s and one from the 1860s. Finally, there are two early 20th-century buildings designed by Thomas Lamb.

South Side: Block 499, Nos. 94-108

No. 94 (137 Mercer) is a rather simple five-story brick building with elegant iron details.

499-20
#94
(137 Mercer, southwest corner)
Completed: 1858
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Herman Gerkan

499-18
#96-98
Completed: 7/1/1882
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Robinson & Wallace
Original Owner: A. B. Strange

499-17
#100
Completed: 10/31/1882
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Mason: Robinson & Wallace
Original Owner: A. B. Strange

499-12
#102-104
Completed: 5/31/1882
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Carpenter: McGuire & Sloane
Mason: Amos Woodruff & Sons
Original Owner: Fred Loeser

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499-15
#106-108
(122 Greene, southeast corner)
Completed: 1866
Architect: W. E. Waring
Original Owner: G. H. Eckhoff

North Side: Block 513, Nos. 93-107

No. 93-99 (141-147 Mercer) is a handsome late 1880s "Romanesque" commercial design. This six-story brick building is twelve bays wide on Prince and ten bays wide on Mercer.

513-35
#93-99
(141-147 Mercer, northwest corner)
Completed: 1/30/1888
Architect: Wm. Schickel & Co.
Original Owner: J. J. Astor

513-36
#101
Completed: 1/12/1911
Architect: Thomas W. Lamb
Original Owner: Charles Lane

513-39
#103-107
(124-128 Greene, northeast corner)
Completed: 10/27/1910
Architect: Thomas W. Lamb
Original Owner: Charles Lane

Greene to Wooster Street

This block has several fine cast-iron facades, all of which date from 1890. It is interesting to note that Nos. 116 and 118 were built as tenements in 1877, an indication that this block was still being used for residential purposes at this late date.

South Side: Block 500, Nos. 110-126

No. 112-114 is a late cast-iron building dating from 1889-90, designed by Richard Berger; he was also responsible for designing several other cast-iron buildings in the District at a somewhat earlier time.

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500-21
#110
(115-117 Greene, southwest corner)
Garage and Parking lot

500-19
#112-114
Completed: 1/29/1890
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: Louis & Samuel Sachs

500-18
#116
Completed: 7/26/1877
Architect: John G. Prague
Builder: B. Schaaf & Son
Original Owner: S. Ellery Anderson

500-17
#118
Completed: 7/30/1877
Architect: John G. Prague
Original Owner: S. Ellery Anderson

500-16
#120-124
Completed: 5/21/1893
Architect: Fred S. Schlesinger
Original Owner: James H. Sillcocks

500-15
#126
Completed: 5/21/1893
Architect: Fred Schlesinger
Original Owner: James Sillcocks

500-15 (originally lot 14)
Southeast corner Wooster & Prince
Listed on Wooster
3 bays on Prince

North Side: Block 514, Nos. 109-125

Nos. 113-115, 117-119 and 121 are three separate cast-iron buildings with a common facade; all were designed at the same time by Cleverdon and Putzel for Frank Seitz in 1890-91. This is a very late use of cast iron for a complete facade, but the material is well suited to the florid French Renaissance motifs which decorate the facade.

514-35
#109-111
(119 Greene, northwest corner)
Completed: 1/31/1883
Architect: Jarvis Morgan Slade
Original Owner: C. H. Woodbury et al.

514-37
#113-115
Completed: 3/31/1891
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: Frank Seitz

514-39
#117-119
Completed: 3/31/1891
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: Frank Seitz

514-40
#121
Completed: 3/31/1891
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: Frank Seitz

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514-41 #123 Completed: 2/29/1892 Architect: Albert Wagner Original Owner: John Kehoe	514-42 #125 (130-132 Wooster, northeast corner) Completed: 1/31/1893 Architect: Buchman & Deisler Original Owner: Henrietta Hecht
--	---

Wooster Street to West Broadway

The buildings in this block which date mostly from the 1890s were used primarily for industrial purposes. Consequently they are much more utilitarian in appearance than the commercial structures of the 1890s which line sections of Broadway. Nonetheless, these utilitarian structures are trimmed with stone, terra cotta, or iron decorations. Some facades are also enhanced with patterns in the brickwork.

South Side: Block 501, Nos. 128-142

No. 138 and No. 140-142 (435 West Broadway) are two buildings done in a modified Romanesque style.

No. 138 is six stories high and three bays wide.

No. 140-142 (345 West Broadway) is five stories high, five bays wide on Prince.

501-19 #128 (127 Wooster, southwest corner) Vacant lot	501-15 #130-136 1925 Garage
501-14 #138 Completed: 6/30/1894 Architect: Henry M. Congdon Original Owner: Edward Abbott	501-12 #140-142 (435 W. Broadway, southeast corner) Completed: 8/27/1879 Architect: Henry M. Congdon Builder: Jeans & Taylor Original Owner: Edward Abbott

North Side: Block 515, Nos. 129-145

No. 129 (131-133 Wooster) is seven stories high with five bays on Prince and twelve bays on Wooster.

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No. 137-141 is seven stories high and nine bays wide.

515-37
#129
(131-133 Wooster, northwest corner)
Completed: 1/31/1894
Architect: Buchman & Deisler
Original Owner: John Kehoe

515-39
#131-135
Architect: W. Pigueron
Original Owner: W. Buffet

515-42
#137-141
Completed: 2/19/1897
Architect: Jardine, Kent, & Jardine
Original Owner: Cyprien Gousset

515-45
#143-145
(445-449 W. Broadway, northeast corner)
Completed: 5/20/1899
Architect: Franklin Baylies
Original Owner: Edward E. Edwards

SPRING STREET

Although Spring Street was known by that name within most of the Historic District in 1797, it was called Oliver Street from the Bowery to Broadway and Brannon Street west of Sullivan (outside the District). The street was "marked out and built upon" in 1806, and the name of the entire length was changed to Spring Street in 1807.

Crosby Street to Broadway

This block contains several large ornate commercial buildings from the early 20th century, two of which face onto Broadway. The two Richard Berger-designed buildings of the 1880s are much more simple in design and decoration.

South Side: Block 483, Nos. 80-86

483-17
#80-86
(68-72 Crosby, southwest corner, to 524-
528 B'way, southeast corner)
Completed: 5/28/1903
Architect: Arthur H. Bowditch
Builder: George Fuller Co.
Original Owner: Bayard Realty Co.

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North Side: Block 497, Nos. 79-87

The five-story, four-bay building now to be seen at No. 83 Spring Street, is an 1886 alteration by Richard Berger of an earlier structure. The complete cast-iron facade was erected at that time.

497-31
#79-81
(74-76 Crosby, northwest corner)
Completed: 4/30/1885
Architect: Richard Berger
Mason: A. L. Walbridge
Original Owner: O. G. Walbridge

947-33
#83
Completed: 1886
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: William Bemsker

497-4
#85
(536-538 B'way)
Completed: 1/31/1902
Architect: DeLemos & Cordes
Original Owner: Rose & Putzel

497-1
#87
(530 B'way, northeast corner)
Listed on Broadway
14 bays on Spring

Broadway to Mercer Street

This block exhibits buildings from several different periods in the development of the District. The two most recent date from the 1920s; the others date from the 1870s and from 1900. The two 1870s buildings are fine examples of their types--one is all of cast iron and the other is brick with a cast-iron store-front and trim.

South Side: Block 484, Nos. 92-104

484-9
#92-94
(525-527 B'way, southwest corner)
Listed on Broadway

484-3
#96-104
(96-98 Mercer, southeast corner)
Completed: 10/31/1900
Architect: Clinton & Russell
Carpenter: George H. Fuller Co.
Original Owner: Mercer St. Building Co.

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North Side: Block 498, Nos. 91-101

No. 99, built in 1871 by D. and J. Jardine, is a six-story, three-bay brick front building with very handsome and somewhat unusual iron ornament.

No. 101 (100-106 Mercer) is an extremely light, handsome cast-iron building dating from 1870-71 which exhibits the structural merits of the material in a very pleasing way.

498-23
#91-97
(529-533 B'way, Northwest corner)
Completed: c. 1935
Architect: Unknown

498-26
#99
Completed: 11/28/1871
Architect: J. & D. Jardine
Builder: John Sinclair
Original Owner: Charles Knox

498-27
#101
(100-106 Mercer, northeast corner)
Completed: 1/28/1871
Architect: N. Whyte
Builder: S. B. & J. T. Smith
Original Owner: Wm. Seton

Mercer to Greene Street

Two very early buildings remain in this block although one has been resurfaced. No. 107 (101 Mercer), dating from 1806-08, is the oldest surviving building in the District. With the exception of this one building, everything on the north side of Spring Street dates from 1878. Most of the buildings on the south side are from the 1890s.

South Side: Block 485, Nos. 106-124

No. 122-124 (84-86 Greene) is an 1883 design by Henry Fernbach, and it is interesting to contrast it with his other designs from the same period on Greene Street.

485-21
#106-112
(95-99 Mercer, southwest corner)
Listed on Mercer
9 bays on Spring

485-18
#114-116
Completed: 12/30/1895
Architect: Louis Korn
Original Owner: Charles Harrell

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485-17
#118
Completed: 5/15/1900
Architect: A. Rothermel
Carpenter: A. Rothermel
Original Owner: George J. Jetter

485-16
#120
Completed: 1825
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: John Stansbury

485-14
#122-124
(84-86 Greene, southeast corner)
Completed: 12/3/1883
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: W. Blackton

North Side: Block 499, Nos. 107-121

No. 113, 115-117 is a Henry Fernbach cast-iron building of 1878 with a double facade.

No. 109-111 (which is connected to 107 Mercer) and No. 121 (90 Greene) were both designed by J. B. Snook for C. L. Wolfe and were also built in 1878.

499-36
#107
Completed: prior to 1808
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Conrad Brooks

499-37
#109-111
Completed: 11/30/1878
Architect: J. B. Snook
Mason: John Demarest
Original Owner: C. L. Wolfe

499-39
#113
Completed: 12/24/1878
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Original Owner: M. S. Sternberger

499-41
#115-117
Completed: 12/24/1878
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Amos Woodruffs & Sons
Original Owner: M. & S. Sternberger

499-42
#119
Completed: 1/22/1879
Architect: Robert Mook
Builder: J. Rogers
Original Owner: F. A. Kurshuelt

499-43
#121
(90 Greene, northeast corner)
Completed: 11/30/1878
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: McGuire & Sloan
Mason: Benjamin Blackledge
Original Owner: C. L. Wolfe

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Greene to Wooster Street

The majority of the structures on this block date from the 1890s; because they were used for mercantile purposes, their decorative treatment is quite elaborate. One of the best-preserved Federal houses in the District also survives in this block. The contrast between it and the elaborate late 19th-century buildings is striking.

South Side: Block 486, Nos. 128-140

486-17
#128-132
(83-85 Greene, southwest corner)
Completed: 2/7/1880
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Saul Lowden
Original Owner: J. & L. Seasongood

486-11
#134-136
(80-84 Wooster)
Completed: 5/27/1896
Architect: Albert Wagner
Original Owner: Albert Wagner

486-14
#140
(90 Wooster, southeast corner)
Completed: 12/31/1890
Architect: Cyrus Eidlitz
Carpenter: Bogart Bros.
Mason: Robert Darragh
Original Owner: Metropolitan Tel. Co.

North Side: Block 500, Nos. 127-141

No. 127 (87-89 Greene) is a J. B. Snook design of 1886 done for the trustees of the C. L. Wolfe estate; it is interesting to note that the design is very similar to those Snook did for Wolfe eight years earlier in the adjoining block.

No. 129 dates from 1817 and was originally a residence. It is three stories high and is characterized by some fine surviving Federal features.

No. 131-133, 135-137 is a handsome, restrained six-story twelve-bay brick building of 1891-93.

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500-34
#127
(87-89 Greene, northwest corner)
Completed: 1/29/1887
Architect: J. B. Snook
Carpenter: Martin & Berry
Mason: A. A. Andress & Son
Original Owner: Trustees for C. L. Wolfe

500-35
#129
Completed: 1817
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Wm. Dawes

500-36
#131-133
Completed: 3/31/1893
Architect: Franklin Baylies
Original Owner: J. & P. Goerlitz

500-38
#135-137
Completed: 3/31/1893
Architect: Franklin Baylies
Original Owner: John & Philip Goerlitz

500-40
#139-141
(94-98 Wooster, northeast corner)
Completed: 3/2/1896
Architect: Cleverdon & Putzel
Original Owner: Bernhard Mayer

Wooster Street to West Broadway

This block is one of the most intriguing within the Historic District. The south side was developed about 1819 by a George Wragg and remains essentially intact despite subsequent alterations.

South Side: Block 487, Nos. 144-162

The original early buildings remaining on this side of the street are Nos. 146, 152, 156, 158, 160, and 162. Built as dwellings, all of them have undergone a certain number of alterations; nonetheless, they remain in good condition.

No. 152 is unique among the Federal buildings in the District. It is the surviving section of a house that has been cut in half.

487-29
#144
(southwest corner of Wooster)
PARKING LOT

487-28
#146
Completed: 1819
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: George Wragg

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487-27
#148
Completed: 1910
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Est. of J. C. Bubbell

487-26
#150
Completed: 1909
Architect: Otto Spannhake
Original Owner: H. Mankin

487-25
#152
Completed: 1819
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: George Wragg

487-24
#154
Completed: 5/15/1911
Architect: Louis Sheinart
Original Owner: H. Mankin

487-23
#156
Completed: 1819
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: George Wragg

487-22
#158
Completed: c. 1819
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: George Wragg

487-21
#160
Completed: 1819
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: George Wragg

487-20
#162 (southeast corner W. B'way)
Completed: c. 1819
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: George Wragg

North Side: Block 501, Nos. 143-157

No. 147 is a handsome iron composition of 1870 by Robert Mook; it is five stories high and three bays wide. Mook used many popular French-design motifs of the day on his cast-iron facade.

501-32
#143
(93-95 Wooster, northwest corner)
Completed: 1818
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Josiah Purdy

501-33
#145
Completed: 10/15/1910
Architect: Frank Ward
Original Owner: Estate of Mary Post

501-34
#147
Completed: 9/30/1870
Architect: Robert Mook
Builder: Michael Gehegan
Owner: Agent-Richard Williamson

501-35
#149
Completed: 10/29/1898
Architect: G. F. Pelham
Original Owner: George Saward

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501-36
#151
Completed: 1/24/1890
Architect: J. B. Snook & Sons
Original Owner: Carrie Gans

501-37
#153-155
Completed: 2/29/1888
Architect: Robert Mook
Original Owner: Amos Eno

501-39
#157
(407-409 W. B'way, northeast corner)
Completed: 1/31/1901
Architect: Small & Schumann
Original Owner: Arthur Hodges

WEST BROADWAY

West Broadway was laid out prior to 1797 and had been named Laurens Street by 1799--the name it retained through much of the period of development in the District. It was regulated in 1818 and development began at that time. The name of the section north of Canal Street was changed to South Fifth Avenue in 1870, and changed again by 1899 to West Broadway to correspond with the portion of the street south of Canal. West Broadway forms the western boundary of the District, and its nature is quite different from that of Broadway on the east. While Broadway has long been important as a commercial artery, West Broadway was important as an industrial street. The warehouses and factories that line it reflect this difference.

Canal to Grand Street

The buildings remaining on this block are concentrated at both ends. That at the corner of Canal Street and West Broadway is the most striking with its mansard roof. Other buildings date largely from the 20th century.

East Side Only in District: Block 228, Nos. 301-335

Nos. 301, 303, and 305 West Broadway (375 Canal) are three early Federal buildings whose facades were joined in a mid 19th-century remodelling.

No. 307-309 is a seven-story, six-bay building of 1892 employing classical Beaux-Arts formulas.

228-10
#301-305
(#375 Canal)
Completed: 1824
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: John R. Murray

228-11
#307-309
Architect: Douglas Smyth
Original Owner: Alonso Kimball

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228-18
#323
Completed: 7/30/1923
Architect: Herbert O. Weigand
Original Owner: American Railway
Express

228-19
#325
1968
Garage

228-20
#327-329
Completed: c. 1960
Architect: Unknown

228-22
#331-335
(53 Grand, southeast corner)
Completed: 10/28/1882
Architect: Charles Mettam
Carpenter: Jeans & Taylor
Mason: B. Weeks
Original Owner: Ellen O'Brien

Grand to Broome Street

This block shows a pattern of late development (or redevelopment). Most buildings date from 1885 to 1895 and are stylistically typical of that period. In strong contrast to this are several early Federal period buildings. As is typical in this section of the District, the buildings were used for light manufacturing and warehouse purposes, hence their exteriors are relatively restrained.

East Side Only in District: Block 475 (west part), Nos. 337-361

No. 349, a seven-story, four-bay building is of a type not commonly found in the District. It was originally built as a tenement with a store on the ground floor.

Nos. 357 and 361 are two Federal period buildings remaining in the block; both date from about 1825.

No. 361 is three stories high and four bays wide, and it has a flat roof.

475-1
#337
(#54-58 Grand, northeast corner)
Completed: 4/29/1886
Architect: Peter V. Outcault
Carpenter: Peter V. Outcault
Original Owner: Joseph J. West

475-2
#339
Completed: 4/29/1886
Architect: Peter Outcault
Original Owner: Joseph West

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475-3
#341
Completed: 10/6/1929
Architect: Louis Chapas
Original Owner: Sarah Guth

475-4
#343
Completed: 1825
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Andrew Surrey

475-5
#345
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Wm. Prager

475-6
#347
Completed: 7/24/1896
Architect: G. F. Pelham
Original Owner: Charles S. Sentell

475-7
#349
Completed: 10/24/1900
Architect: George Pelham
Original Owner: Benedict A. Klein

475-8
#351-353
Completed: 4/25/1889
Architect: F. S. Barns
Original Owner: Frank A. Seitz

475-9
#355
Completed: c. 1880s
Architect: Unknown

475-10
#357
Completed: c. 1830
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Thomas Rutter

475-14
#359
Completed: 8/17/1896
Architect: George Pelham
Original Owner: Louisa Friedline

475-12
#361
Completed: 1825
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Alfred Pell

475-12
#363
(499 Broome, southeast corner)
Listed on Broome

Broome to Spring Street

East Side Only in District: Block 487, Nos. 367-401

Between 1867 and 1890 most of this block was developed by the Lorillard family for use in their tobacco industry replacing earlier buildings they had occupied since 1852.

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The Lorillard buildings served a variety of functions: stores, warehouses, and factories for the various tobacco manufacturing processes. Throughout this period the Lorillards retained the same architect, J. B. Snook, for all their buildings on this block.

No. 391-393, dating from 1889-90, is also brick, but here Snook's composition is somewhat Romanesque in feeling.

487-7
#367
(#500 Broome, northeast corner)
Listed on Broome
7 bays on West Broadway

487-8
#375-377
(#61-63 Wooster)
Completed: 11/10/1876
Architect: J. B. Snook
Builder: Edwin Harlow
Original Owner: Lorillard Estate

487-10
#379-381
(#65-67 Wooster)
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: P. & G. Lorillard

487-12
#383-385
(#69-71 Wooster)
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Pierre Lorillard

487-14
#387-389
(#73-75 Wooster)
1929
GARAGE

487-16
#391-393
(#77-81 Wooster)
Completed: 1/24/1890
Architect: J. B. Snook & Sons
Original Owner: Jacob Lorillard Trustees

487-18/19
#395-397
1937
GARAGE

487-20
#399
Completed: c. 1860

487-20
#401
(#162 Spring, southeast corner)
Listed on Spring

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Spring to Prince Street

The buildings in this block range in date from the 1870s to as late as 1948; most date from the 1880s and 90s. The later buildings are relatively utilitarian in appearance, and they served as warehouses and lofts. Robert Mook's 1872 stores for Amos Eno, however, are of very high quality.

East Side Only in District: Block 501, Nos. 407-435

No. 413-415, a six-story, six-bay building dating from 1892, is typical of the utilitarian buildings of the period; it is non-ostentatious yet impressive.

Nos. 427, 429 and 431 are an interesting composition by Robert Mook for Amos Eno. The Building Department records indicate that all three structures were built at the same time in 1872, but No. 431 is quite different stylistically from the others.

Nos. 427 and 429 form a double cast-iron five-story facade; each section has four bays.

No. 431 is built of marble above a cast-iron storefront.

501-39
#407-409
(#157 Spring, northeast corner)
Completed: 1/31/1901
Architect: Small & Schumann
Original Owner: Arthur A. Hodges

501-37
#411
Completed: 2/29/1888
Architect: Robert Mook
Original Owner: Amos Eno

501-1
#413-415
Completed: 5/21/1893
Architect: C. E. Hadden
Original Owner: James Fitzgerald

501-3
#417
1948
GARAGE

501-4
#419
Completed: 1/31/1884
Architect: J. M. Grinell
Builder: O. E. Perrine
Original Owner: Dunigunde Ode

501-5
#421
Completed: 3/31/1905
Architect: Thomas Lamb
Original Owner: Adolph Ode

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501-6
#423
Completed: 6/30/1905
Architect: Bernstein & Bernstein
Original Owner: Mrs. M. Wimpie

501-7
#425
Completed: 6/30/1905
Architect: Bernstein & Bernstein
Original Owner: Mrs. M. Wimpie

501-8
#427
Completed: 12/20/1872
Architect: Robert Mook
Builder: James Rue
Original Owner: Amos Eno

501-9
#429
Completed: 12/20/1872
Architect: Robert Mook
Builder: James Rue
Original Owner: Amos Eno

501-10
#431
Completed: 12/20/1872
Architect: Robert Mook
Builder: James Rue
Original Owner: Amos Eno

501-11
#433
(#115-119 Wooster)
Completed: 2/18/1897
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: Henry Brunner Estate

501-12
#435
(140-142 Prince, southeast corner)
Completed: 8/27/1879
Architect: Henry Congdon
Builder: Jeans & Taylor
Original Owner: Edward & A. Abott

Prince to West Houston Street

The majority of buildings on this block date from the 1880s and were predominantly used for storage and as warehouses. One building dating from as early as 1878 was built as a tenement. Despite the functional nature of these buildings, the architects still decorated their brick facades with handsome details in stone, iron, or terra cotta.

East Side Only in District: Block 515, Nos. 445-479

No. 465-469 is a handsome, six-story, nine-bay building of 1889-90, tastefully decorated with neo-Grec ornament. The iron storefront is notable for its supporting piers, decorated with panelling and neo-Grec foliation.

No. 471 is a four-story, four-bay building rebuilt in 1907. The original iron storefront, also from that date, appears to be intact.

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No. 475, a five-story, three-bay building was built as a tenement in 1878-79. It is, nonetheless, a handsome building.

515-45
#445-449
(#143-145 Prince, northeast corner)
Listed on Prince
8 bays on West Broadway

515-1
#451
Completed: 4/30/1884
Architect: James Dubois
Builder: O. E. Perrine
Original Owner: Cyprine Gousset

515-2
#453
Completed: 2/16/1907
Architect: Jardine, Kent & Jardine
Original Owner: Louise Darrow

515-3
#455
PARKING LOT

515-4
#457-461
Completed: 3/28/1889
Architect: John H. Whitenach
Original Owner: Amos Eno

515-7
#463
Completed: 5/14/1936
Architect: Wm. Sommerfeld
Original Owner: Solomon and Jacob Berkman

515-8
#465-469
Completed: 1890
Architect: John H. Whitenach
Original Owner: Amos Eno

515-11
#471
Completed: 1907
Architect: Henry J. Weisner
Original Owner: Charles Chesebrough
Estate

515-12
#473
Completed: 1884
Architect: James E. Ware
Original Owner: B. M. Martin

515-13
#475
Completed: 2/24/1879
Architect: Frederick H. Gross
Builder: Marc Eidlitz
Original Owner: Frederick H. Gross

515-14
#477
Vacant lot

515-15
#479
(Southeast corner Houston)
Vacant lot

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WOOSTER STREET

Wooster was laid out by 1797, but did not acquire its name until 1799. The street was regulated from Spring to Prince in 1813.

The street served as a backup for development along West Broadway and Greene Street much as Mercer and Crosby Streets did for Broadway. Architecturally it tends to reflect its secondary status; the buildings which were erected as back sections for those on West Broadway and Greene Street tend to be unpretentious and simple. But some very fine free-standing structures are also to be found on Wooster Street.

Canal to Grand Street

The building dates on this block vary widely, ranging from 1855-1903. Especially interesting are the buildings of the 1860s and 70s which are handsomely designed in a combination of brick and iron.

West Side: Block 228, Nos. 1-27

228-1
#1
(#35 Canal, northwest corner)
Listed on Canal
9 bays on Wooster

228-34/40/41/42/43
#3-21
Parking lot

228-33
#23
Brick
Completed: c. 1920-30

228-32
#25
Completed: 10/4/1894
Architect: W. G. Jones
Builder: Jones & Co.
Original Owner: Gerolamo Cella

228-30
#27
Vacant lot

East Side: Block 229, Nos. 2-30

No. 24-26, a five-story, six-bay building, dates from 1866-67. Although now connected internally with Nos. 22 and Nos. 28-30 (71-73 Grand), the building was built at a different time.

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No. 28-30 (71-73 Grand Street) is described on Grand, but its Wooster facade is worthy of mention. This section of the building dates from 1883.

229-6
#2-4
(351-357 Canal, northeast corner)
Listed on Canal
11 bays on Wooster

229-7/11
#6-10
1931
GARAGE

229-12
#12
Completed: 6/31/1884
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: C. L. Wolfe

229-13
#14-16
Completed: 11/13/1903
Architect: W. G. Pigueron
Original Owner: George Pigueron

229-15
#18-20
Completed: 1/31/1890, altered 1964
Architect: S. Brunner & Tryon
Mason: H. D. Powers
Builder: W. D. Robinson
Original Owner: S.E. Cohen & Bros.

229-20
#22
Completed: 2/9/1869
Architect: Louis Dunkle
Builder: Welcher
Original Owner: Wm. H. Gray

229-20
#24-26
Completed: 1866-67
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Lewis King

229-20
#28-30
(#71 Grand, southeast corner)
Completed: 1888
Architect: Mortimer C. Merritt
Original Owner: M. Eisemann

Grand to Broome Street

This is a very diverse block, containing buildings dating from 1822 to 1945. Several of those from the 1860s and 1880s display interesting uses of iron in combination with brick or stone. Also to be noted are the two buildings, Nos. 51 and 53, dating from the 1820s. Built originally as dwellings, they were converted into stores and lofts, and the ground floor facades and cornices were added at the time of these conversions. However, it is very apparent from the brickwork and the fenestration, that the buildings are of an early date. No. 51 retains its original window lintels on the second floor.

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West Side: Block 475 (west part), Nos. 29-55

No. 35-37 is a handsome five-story, six-bay building, whose elements are derived from French Renaissance sources.

While No. 53, a three-story, three-bay building, was originally built about 1825 as a dwelling, it was drastically altered for use as a store and loft in 1870.

475-28
#29
(#68-70 Grand, northwest corner)
Listed on Grand
8 bays on Wooster

475-26/27
#31-33
Architect: Wm. Shears
Original Owner: N. Gavia

475-24
#35-37
Architect: S. Curtiss Jr.
Original Owner: J. & W. Lyall

475-23
#39
Completed: 8/31/1885
Architect: Joseph M. Dunn
Original Owner: Wm. Collins

475-22
#41
Completed: c. 1860
Facade: Brick, iron storefront,
stone trim

475-21
#43-45
Completed: 2/27/1885
Architect: Joseph Dunn
Original Owner: W. H. Gray

475-19/20
#47-49
Completed: 4/30/1945
Architect: Joseph Furman
Original Owner: Pearl Yoffe

475-18
#51
Completed: 1822
Original Owner: Thomas F. Popham

475-17
#53
Completed: c. 1825
Original Owner: Samuel Dobbin

475-16
#55
(484-487 Broome, southwest corner)
Listed on Broome
2 bays on Wooster

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East Side: Block 475 (east part), Nos. 36-52

No. 46-50 is a six-story, nine-bay building of 1894-95, somewhat Romanesque in general appearance but employing French decorative motifs.

475-61 #36-38 (72 Grand, northeast corner) Listed on Grand 10 bays on Wooster	475-34 #40 Completed: 6/19/1896 Architect: Buchman & Deisler Original Owner: Wm. Burke
---	--

475-35 #42-44 Completed: 3/31/1883 Architect: Jarvis Morgan Slade Carpenter: A. G. Bogert & Son Original Owner: Edward Tailer	475-37 #46-50 Completed: 2/26/1895 Architect: F. S. Baldwin Original Owner: Wm. Purdy
--	---

475-40
#52
(481 Broome, southeast corner)
Parking lot

Broome to Spring Street

The west side of the block is almost entirely taken up by the Snook-designed buildings for the Lorillard tobacco business.

The buildings on the east side of the block date from the 1860s to the 1890s. The brick and terra-cotta buildings of the 1890s are good examples of Beaux-Arts Classicism adapted to commercial use.

West Side: Block 487, Nos. 59-91

487-1 #59 (484-490 Broome, northwest corner) Listed on Broome 8 bays on Wooster	487-8 #61-63 (through to West Broadway) Completed: 11/10/1876 Architect: J. B. Snook Original Owner: Lorillard Estate
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487-10
#65-67 (through to W. Broadway)
1867
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: P. & G. Lorillard

487-12
#69-71 (through to W. Broadway)
1868
Architect: J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Pierre Lorillard

487-14
#73-75
1929
Storage

487-16
#77-81
Completed: 1/24/1890
Architect: J. B. Snook & Sons
Original Owner: Jacob Lorillard Trustees

487-30
#83-85
Completed: 1876
Architect: Presumably J. B. Snook
Original Owner: Mary Barbey (possibly
a Lorillard heir or Trustee)

487-29
#87-91
(Southwest corner Spring)
Parking lot

East Side: Block 486, Nos. 60-90

No. 80-82 is a massive seven-story, six-bay example of Beaux-Arts Classicism.

In its use of Beaux-Arts Classical formulas, No. 84-88 is very similar to No. 80-82. It is also seven stories high and has nine bays divided into three groups.

486-39
#60
(482 Broome, northeast corner)
Listed on Broome
9 bays on Wooster

486-1
#62
(Connected to 476-478 Broome)
Completed: 2/28/1873
Architect: Griffith Thomas
Carpenter: John Downey
Mason: John Conover
Original Owner: C. Henry Garden

486-2
#64-68
Completed: 7/10/1899
Architect: E. H. Kendall
Original Owner: Louis Dommerick

486-5
#70-72
Completed: 9/10/1869
Architect: Charles Mettam
Builder: J. J. Riceman
Original Owner: Archer Pancoast & Co.

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486-7
#74
Completed: 9/10/1869
Architect: Charles Mettam
Original Owner: Archer Pancoast & Co.

486-8
#76
Completed: 9/1/1871
Architect: Henry Fernbach
Builder: Sam Cochran
Original Owner: M. & S. Sternberger

486-9
#80-82
Completed: 12/28/1894
Architect: G. A. Schellinger
Original Owner: Boehm & Coon

486-11
#84-88
Completed: 5/27/1896
Architect: Albert Wagner
Original Owner: Albert Wagner

486-14
#90
(140 Spring, southeast corner)
Listed on Spring

Spring to Prince Street

Both sides of this block contain buildings dating largely from the 1890s. Of special interest are the buildings designed by Richard Berger. His use of brick in combination with iron is interesting to compare with his use of cast-iron alone in buildings from about the same period. Because of its stylistic consistency this block has a more homogeneous quality than some of the others in this section of the District.

West Side: Block 501, Nos. 95-127

No. 99 Wooster Street, a three-story, three-bay building, was originally used as a firehouse. Although an earlier firehouse had occupied the site from the 1850s, in 1881 Napoleon LeBrun undertook alterations so extensive that they, in fact, constituted a new building.

Stained glass panels are set at the top of the ground floor under the entablature. The two stories above this are of red brick banded with stone.

No. 115-121 and No. 120-126 are both brick and iron buildings designed by Richard Berger for Henry Brunner.

501-32
#93
(143 Spring, northwest corner)
Listed on Spring
3 windows on Wooster

501-32
#95
Completed: c. 1920-1930
STORE

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501-31
#97
Completed: 11/29/1897
Architect: G. F. Pelham
Builder: S. A. Friedline
Original Owner: Louisa Friedline

501-30
#99
Completed: 1881
Architect: Napoleon Le Brun
Original Owner: City of New York
FIREHOUSE

501-28
#101-103
Completed: 1/24/1894
Architect: Buchman & Deisler
Original Owner: Leon Tannenbaum

501-27
#105-113
Completed: 9/30/1892
Architect: Charles Behrens
Original Owner: The Fiske Associated Co.

501-20
#115-121
(433 W. Broadway)
Completed: 2/18/1897
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: Henry Brunner Estate

501-19
#127
(Southwest corner Prince)
Parking lot

East Side: Block 500, Nos. 98-128

No. 120-126 has an iron storefront. Set above this, brick piers break the facade into four bay divisions similar to those across the street on No. 115-121.

On both of these facing buildings, the iron work shows the same delicacy and refinement that Berger exhibited on his cast-iron facades. In the case of these structures, however, the ironwork is in strong contrast with the heavy, bold nature of the brickwork.

500-40
#98
(139-141 Spring, northeast corner)
Listed on Spring
12 bays on Wooster

500-1
#100
Completed: 10/31/1890
Architect: Richard Berger
Carpenter: Henry Weiler
Builder: J. L. Mercha & Son
Original Owner: Wm. Menkoff

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500-2
#102-106
Completed: 7/31/1891
Architect: De Lewis Hordes
Original Owner: D. & E. Einstein

500-5
#108-110
Completed: 10/31/1890
Architect: D. & J. Jardine
Original Owner: Amos Eno

500-7
#112-114
Completed: 10/11/1890
Architect: D. & J. Jardine
Original Owner: Amos Eno

500-9
#116-118
Completed: 1/17/1908
Architect: Frederick Fabel
Original Owner: John E. Olson

500- 11
#120-122
Completed: 5/30/1894
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: Henry Brunner

500-13
#124-126
Completed: 5/30/1894
Architect: Richard Berger
Original Owner: Henry Brunner

500-15 (Originally lot 14)
#128 (Southeast corner Prince)
Completed: 1853
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: Nathaniel Sillcocks

Prince to West Houston Street

As with other blocks in this section of the District, many of its buildings date from the 1890s. Since many of them were used as stores, however, their facade treatments tend to be elaborate. Tucked away between these large and late buildings are a J. Morgan Slade design of 1876 and an even earlier building of 1857. They provide a pleasant contrast with their more ornate neighbors.

West Side: Block 515, Nos. 131-157

No. 147, a four-story, three-bay building of 1876, is a handsome composition derived from French Renaissance sources with neo-Grec detailing by J. Morgan Slade. Although carried out in marble (with the exception of the cornice) the elaborate detail is of the sort one would expect to find on a cast-iron facade.

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515-37
#131-133
(129 Prince, northwest corner)
Listed on Prince
12 bays on Wooster

515-36
#135
Completed: 1/30/1894
Architect: Buchman & Deisler
Original Owner: M. & D. Feigel

515-3
#137-139
Empty lot

515-31
#141-145
Completed: 7/10/1897
Architect: Louis Korn
Original Owner: Leopold R. Trew

515-30
#147
Completed: 10/1/1876
Architect: Jarvis Morgan Slade
Builder: J. C. Hoe & Co.
Original Owner: Jarvis Slade (maybe
the architect's father)

515-27
#149-153
Completed: 6/2/1898
Architect: Neyille & Bagge
Original Owner: Daily & Carlson

515-25
#155-157
Completed: 12/31/1898
Architect: George F. Pelham
Original Owner: George A. Seward

515-16
(Southwest corner W. Houston)
Vacant lot

East Side: Block 514, Nos. 130-160

No. 152-156, a six-story, twelve-bay building, is a rather restrained composition in the Beaux-Arts Classical mode.

514-42
#130-132
(125 Prince, northeast corner)
Listed on Prince
10 bays on Wooster

514-1
#134-136
1947
GARAGE

514-3
#138
Completed: 1857
Architect: Unknown
Original Owner: David Jacobus

514-4
#140
One-story Garage

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514-5
#142-144
1889
Architect: Jordan & Giller
Original Owner: Mary E. Haight

514-7
#146-148
Parking lot

514-9
#150
One-story garage

514-10
#152-156
Completed: 12/31/1891
Architect: J. Averit Webster
Original Owner: Patrick H. McManus

514-13
#158
One-story garage

514-14
#160
(37-61 W. Houston, Southeast corner)
Gas Station

In the original New York City Landmarks Commission Report there is also a detailed survey of iron vault covers and cast iron sidewalk elements throughout the district--a remarkable number of these fixtures are extant.

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A brief history of the district indicates that the SoHo district was the first free Black settlement on Manhattan Island. Agricultural at first, it later became a residential area until it was commercialized in the middle of the 19th century. Successively owned by the Dutch West India Company in the 17th century, the land passed to Nicholas Bayard. During the Revolution the area was fortified and as late as the first decade of the 19th century the area contained a cast-iron foundry and a tannery. In the early 1800's the marshy land was filled and residential development began--two early houses still stand--one at 107 Spring Street (1807) and the other at 129 Spring (1817). Some Federal houses on Spring Street and Canal Street remain from the residential boom that took place after the war of 1812. Between 1820 and 1850 it was stable, then began the change rapidly.

"The transformation at this time was due in no small part to the new development that had begun to alter Broadway. The decade of the 1850s saw the metamorphosis of Broadway from a street of small brick retail shops into a boulevard of marble, cast-iron and brownstone commercial palazzos. Lord & Taylor, Arnold Constable & Co., Tiffany & Co., E. V. Haughwout and others established their stores on or near Broadway. Major hotels joined them: the Union Hotel, the City Hotel, the Prescott House, the Metropolitan and the magnificent St. Nicholas Hotel. The famous music halls and theaters soon opened: Brougham's Lyceum, the Chinese Rooms, Buckley's Minstrel Hall, the Olympic, Lafayette Hall, the American Art Union, the American Musical Institute and many more, made Broadway between Canal and Houston Streets the entertainment center of the City.

The decade also saw a radical change in the small cobbled streets behind the splendid facades of Broadway. They, too, became an entertainment center and were as famous for their diversions as was Broadway. There were even guide books and directories specifically published for the area. It had become the red light district. Crosby, Mercer and Greene Streets, West Broadway and Houston Street all had their "ton" houses, houses of assignation and ladies' boarding houses that catered to every taste. A lonely traveller could visit Mrs. Hathaway and "view some of her fair Quakeresses" or Mrs. Everett whose "beautiful senoritas are quite accomplished" or Miss Lizzie Wright and her "French belles" or Madame Louisa Kanth's which was run "on the German order" or Miss Virginia Henriques' where "its lady, its boarders, its fixins and fashions" were on the Creole order.

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But pleasure was not the only business of the Historic District during the 1850s. As the middle class families began to leave the area, small manufacturing companies took their place. Brady's Iron Foundry, Althouse Iron Works, a number of copper and brass shops, locksmiths, and China and glass manufactories made and sold their products here. There were cabinet makers producing pianos, chairs and tables, together with the lumber yards to supply the wood they needed. Lorillard's Snuff Manufactory occupied most of the block between Broome, Spring, Wooster and West Broadway and Appleton & Co., book publishers, used the Howard building on Greene Street as their warehouse.

The 1860s brought another change in the character of the area. The Eighth Ward, in the five year period between 1860 and 1865, lost 25% of its population, the highest rate of loss for any of the Wards below 14th Street. This loss was due in part to the increasing sordidness and danger that developed around the brothels but the major cause of the exodus was the movement of factories and warehouses into the Ward. Despite this shift in land use, the value of the real estate actually decreased during the Civil War but the trend was dramatically reversed in 1868. This was the first year of one of the greatest speculative eras in the City's history. At the close of the War, the value of the property in the Eighth Ward had been assessed at a little over \$18,000,000, but in 1868 it was assessed at nearly \$26,000,000--an increase in three years greater than the increase over the twenty-year period between 1845 and 1865. This increase and the fact that the Ward was strategically located close to the largest business markets in the City and near the docks along the North River did not go unnoticed. Boss Tweed and his Ring began to make plans for the section but before their schemes could be carried out the Ring was broken and the Panic of 1873 hit the country.

It took six years to recover from the effects of the Panic but, beginning in 1879 and continuing into the 1890s, large factories and stores were built along the streets parallel to Broadway. The District was no longer the City's entertainment center but had now become a center for the mercantile and dry-goods trade. Some of the most important textile firms in the country were located here and conducted world-wide trade worth millions of dollars."¹

Mass movement of industry and merchandizing moved northward at the end of the 19th century leaving a number of small commercial firms and general decay was evident until the 1960's when a group of artists were attracted by the large lofts and low rents. With new imaginative zoning, residential activities are flourishing in this old commercial area.

¹New York City Landmarks Commission Report, pp. 6-7.

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Two of the outstanding emporiums within the District are the Haughwout Building and the Arnold Constable & Co. store; both use cast iron. Although cast in traditional styles such as Italianate or French Renaissance the iron fronts and ornamental details were transferred from masonry to the lighter more easily cast material. Since merchants wished to advertise their affluence, the more ornamental the facade the better. These structures required little maintenance, they could be prefabricated and erected quickly, they were cheaper than carved masonry, and it has a reputation for being relatively fire proof--it was not, especially since most of the interiors were of wooden construction and the iron will buckle at high temperatures and crack when subjected to the shock of cold water.

It is the finest collection extant of this innovative structural style.

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Primary Sources

Conveyance records, survey and estate maps and tract reports (Office of the Register).

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Credits

The bulk of this report is based on the SoHo district study done by the New York City Landmarks Commission---

The preliminary research for this report was begun in 1966 by Nancy Steinke, of the staff of the Landmarks Preservation Commission. A search through through records of the Department of Buildings and the Municipal Archives and a recording of all relevant data was undertaken by students of Pennsylvania State University in the summer of 1971, under the direction of Winston Weisman, Research Professor of Art History at the College of Arts and Architecture of Pennsylvania State University, with the assistance of Vaughn Glasglow and Regina Kellerman. Their work was supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation which the Commission assisted in obtaining. The tabulated factual information on individual buildings in the District is largely based on the work of this group.

The Pennsylvania State University students--David Albert, Robert Bantens, Nurith Bornstein, Theodore Dannerth, Dallas DiLeo, Mark Greenburg, Margaret Hamer, Gale Harris, John Burton Harter, Karl Henry, Debra Israel, Christine Kosmark, Julia McLaughlin, Richard Porter, Mary Ann Smith, Linda Vandergrift, Barbara Wentz, and James Yucas--were assisted by five architectural students from the University of Milan--Daniella Canali, Andrea Casati, Franco Perfetti, Mario Presutto, and Giuseppe Villa--who had been sent to join them at the expense of the Italian Government. The participation of these exchange students in an architectural and historical research project in New York City gave tangible proof of the international recognition of the importance of the City's cast-iron heritage; in addition the presence of these students provided a welcome opportunity to return, in small measure the hospitality that Italy has shown to generations of architectural students from the United States.

The research was completed and the final text prepared by Karen Graham Wade, Marjorie Pearson and James T. Dillon, consultants to the Commission, whose work was made possible by a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts. The report was typed in its final form by Sarah Slade and Steven Williams.

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BOUNDARIES

The SoHo-Cast Iron Historic District in lower Manhattan is nearly rectangular in shape and is bounded by Canal Street, Broadway, Howard Street, Crosby Street, East Houston Street, West Houston Street and West Broadway. It consists of 26 city blocks and contains about 500 buildings.

The hyphenated name, "SoHo-Cast Iron" was chosen for the designation of New York City's twenty-third Historic District in order to suggest some of the diversity of the area. The "Cast Iron" portion of the name refers to the unique collection of cast-iron structures located within the District. "SoHo," meaning "South of Houston," is the acronym adopted by a group of artists who moved, in the 1960s, into what then seemed to be a doomed neighborhood. They have given it a new life, making feasible the preservation of an irreplaceable part of our cultural heritage. The use of the double name is also intended to suggest that, even architecturally, the District contains more than just cast-iron buildings, important though they are. Indeed, the District contains some of the City's most interesting extant examples of brick, stone and mixed iron-and-masonry commercial construction of the post-Civil War period.