

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. ALL Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/4/11

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jenny Fernandez

Address: 1 Centre Street 9th Floor N.

I represent: LPC

Address: SPAA

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 4/4/11

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Simon Bruck

Address: 232 E 11 St., NY 10003

I represent: Historic Districts Council

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

TESTIMONY OF THE LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITING AND MARITIME USES ON THE DESIGNATION OF THE ALDERBROOK HOUSE IN THE BRONX.

April 4, 2011

Good morning Council Members. My name is Jenny Fernández, Director of Intergovernmental and Community Relations for the Landmarks Preservation Commission. I am here today to testify on the Commission's designation of the Alderbrook House in the Bronx.

On December 15, 2009, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a hearing on the proposed designation as a Landmark of the Alderbrook House. Two people spoke in favor of designation, including a representative of the Historic Districts Council. There were no speakers in opposition to designation. The LPC had several conversations with the owner who chose not to attend the public hearing. On February 9, 2010, Bronx Community Board 8 voted in favor of designation. On December 14, 2010, the Commission voted to designate the building a New York City individual landmark.

Overlooking the Hudson River in the Riverdale neighborhood of the Bronx, the Alderbrook House is a rare example of a mid-19th century Hudson River villa in New York City. Probably built by Oscar C. and Ada Woodworth Ferris between 1858 and 1859, Alderbrook is one of the two oldest villas in The Park-Riverdale, an exclusive residential development begun in 1856, and the only one of Park-Riverdale's early villas to remain in use as a single-family residence. Alderbrook fell into disuse until its purchase in 1921 by Viola Nadelman, the wife of the renowned sculptor Elie Nadelman, to serve as the couple's summer home. Born in Poland in 1882, Elie Nadelman moved to New York in 1914 and in the early 1920s, began amassing a folk art collection that was one of the finest in the world. He committed suicide at Alderbrook in 1946, but his wife, Viola, who played a key role in promoting her husband's legacy, continued to live at Alderbrook until her death in 1962. Alderbrook is a picturesque residence, exhibiting both Italianate and Gothic Revival characteristics. Remarkably well-preserved, this Hudson River villa retains its many distinguishing features.

The Commission urges you to affirm this designation.

**TESTIMONY OF THE LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION BEFORE
THE CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITING
AND MARITIME USES ON THE DESIGNATION OF THE CHILDS
RESTAURANT BUILDING IN BROOKLYN.**

April 4, 2011

Good morning Council Members. My name is Jenny Fernández, Director of Intergovernmental and Community Relations for the Landmarks Preservation Commission. I am here today to testify on the Commission's designation of the Childs Restaurant Building in Brooklyn.

On March 23, 2010 the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation as a Landmark of the Childs Restaurant Building in Brooklyn. There were 10 speakers in favor of designation, including representatives of Councilmember Dominic Recchia, Save Coney Island, Coney Island History Project, the Municipal Art Society, the Landmarks Conservancy, the Historic Districts Council, and the architect for the building. There were no speakers opposed to designation. Building owner Coney Island USA, which operates a museum in the building, testified in support of designation. The Commission has received more than 60 letters and emails in support of designation. On January 11, 2011, the Commission voted to designate the building a New York City individual landmark.

The Childs Restaurant Building on Surf Avenue in Coney Island was the first restaurant built for this well-known chain in Coney Island. The Childs Restaurant chain, begun in 1889, developed as small luncheonettes that catered to working people, where one could find decent meals for a reasonable price in a clean environment. This building was constructed in 1917 in West Brighton near the terminus of the Prospect Park and Coney Island Railway line and close to many of the most famous amusements of the area. As the area prospered, a second and larger Childs was built at 21st Street facing the new Boardwalk. This first restaurant continued to operate at this location until 1943 when the property was leased to the Blue Bird Casino and restaurant. During the following years, the building continued to house restaurants, clubs and other activities related to Coney Island's amusements. It was the site of David Rosen's Wonderland Circus Sideshow and, since 2007, has been the location of Coney Island U.S.A. and the Coney Island Museum, which documents the history of this famous New York City neighborhood. Originally designed by John C. Westervelt who worked for the Childs chain for many years, the building displays elements of the Spanish Revival style, seen in its overhanging red tile roof, round-arched openings and white facade. This building is a rare survivor of Coney Island history, when amusements and the sea air attracted thousands of pleasure-seekers escaping from the hot city; a tradition that continues today.

The Commission urges you to affirm this designation.

**TESTIMONY OF THE LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION BEFORE
THE CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITING
AND MARITIME USES ON THE DESIGNATION OF THE HASKINS & SELLS
BUILDING IN MANHATTAN.**

April 4, 2011

Good morning Council Members. My name is Jenny Fernández, Director of Intergovernmental and Community Relations for the Landmarks Preservation Commission. I am here today to testify on the Commission's designation of the Haskins & Sells Building in Manhattan.

On June 22, 2010, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation as a Landmark of the Haskins & Sells Building in Manhattan. One speaker, a representative of the Historic Districts Council, was in favor of the designation. There were no speakers in opposition to the designation. On January 11, 2011, the Commission voted to designate the building a New York City individual landmark.

The Haskins & Sells building, designed by architect Frederick C. Zobel, was originally constructed in 1912 as a speculative venture of the Brunswick Realty Company. From 1920 to 1930, the building served as the principle location for the accounting firm of Haskins & Sells, recognized as the first major auditing firm founded by American accountants. Haskins & Sells was started in 1895 by Charles Waldo Haskins, nephew of Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Elijah Watt Sells. Although the company owned the building for only five years, an indelible reminder of their presence has been left in the form of a first-story frieze bearing the inscription 'Haskins & Sells', the years of the firm's founding and acquisition of the building, and the name of the architect. The 12-story Renaissance Revival-style building is an imaginative and graceful combination of architectural elements and details.

Architect Frederick C. Zobel was particularly active in the first decade of the 20th century and was considered an expert in the field of building engineering, particularly with respect to skyscraper construction techniques.

The Commission urges you to affirm this designation.