

WEST 136 ST

2024 Annual Preservation Conference

The Good, the Bad, the Ugly:

Government's Impact on Historic Neighborhoods

9:00 am - 3:00 pm
March 9, 2024

Location:

The City College of New York
North Academic Center {NAC} Building
NAC Ballroom [NA 1/104]. 1st floor
160 Convent Avenue [@ 138th Street]
Hamilton Heights, West Harlem



ORGANIZED BY

Harlem One Stop and West Harlem
Community Preservation Organization
info@harlemonestop.com | 212-939-9201
Yuien Chin, Executive Director

Historic Districts Council
hdc.org | 212-614-9107
232 E 11th Street New York, NY 10003
Frampton Tolbert, Executive Director

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Schedule

AM

8:45 **Coffee & Registration**

9:00 **Welcome Remarks: Marta Gutman, PhD**
Historian and licensed architect,
Dean and Professor of Architecture,
Spitzer School of Architecture, City College of New York

9:30 **Panel #1: Current Campaigns, Challenges,
and Perspectives on Preservation**

11:00 **Panel #2: Government's Role in Preserving
Historic and Cultural Assets**

PM

12:15 **Lunch, Preservation Fair Continues**

12:50 **Panel #3: Aligning Preservation Goals**

2:15 **Conference Ends**

2:15 **Preservation Fair Continues
Tours on Campus and Off-Site**

Opening

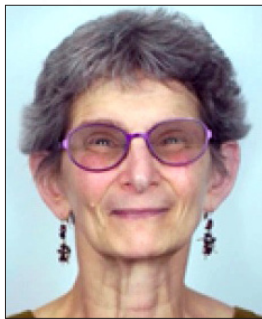
A day-long conference bringing together legislators, housing, community planning, and preservation experts to discuss available resources and tools for community empowerment and creating a sustainable and livable environment for all.

From designating historic districts to altering zoning regulations and executing major infrastructure projects, each neighborhood in the city has experienced both advantageous and adverse impacts resulting from government-led endeavors. HDC's 2024 Preservation Conference, jointly organized with the West Harlem Community Preservation Organization, explores how communities have effectively collaborated with government bodies to safeguard their historical assets. Conversely, it will also scrutinize instances where communities have endured detrimental effects due to such undertakings over several decades.

The conference will feature examples of community-driven projects, illustrating various approaches undertaken. Additionally, discussions will center around the preservation strategies and mechanisms available to support these often-prolonged battles.

WELCOME REMARKS

HAMILTON TERRACE

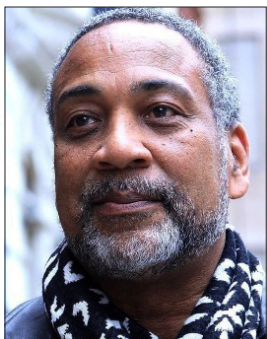


Marta Gutman, PhD
Historian and licensed architect
Dean and Professor of Architecture
Spitzer School of Architecture,
City College of New York

Marta Gutman, an architectural and urban historian, is dean of the Spitzer School of Architecture at the City College of New York | CUNY, the city's premier public school of architecture. Expert in the history of public architecture for children and in repurposing architecture as a strategy for city-building, she studies ordinary places in cities. Through this work, she tackles power and culture in all walks of life, emphasizes the activism of women especially on behalf of children, and ties local stories to national and international histories. Gutman's commitment to social justice has been manifest since she started her career as an architect designing housing for the New York City Housing Authority and shelters for battered women, abused children, and homeless New Yorkers.

Gutman's *A City for Children: Women, Architecture, and the Charitable Landscapes of Oakland* won the Kenneth Jackson Award for Best Book (North American) in urban history (2015) and the Spiro Kostof Book Award (2017). A Distinguished CUNY Research Fellow in 2018, Gutman is a founding coeditor of *PLATFORM*, and a former coeditor of *Buildings & Landscapes: Journal of the Vernacular Architecture Forum*.

CONFERENCE MC



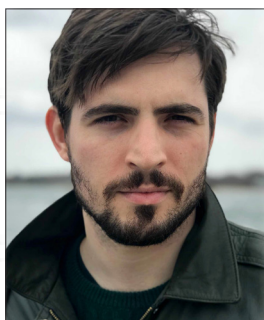
John Reddick
Curator
Cooper-Hewitt Design Center

John Reddick currently serves as a curator and discussion leader for the Harlem Focus series at the Smithsonian Institution's Cooper-Hewitt Design Center. Reddick has applied his knowledge of Harlem's culture and architecture towards work he has done with the Heritage Health & Housing: Heritage Heights Village Business Improvement, the Apollo Theater and the Harlem One Stop. He has worked on public art & space projects at a number of Harlem-based organizations including Abyssinian Development Corporation, the Ralph Ellison Memorial Committee, Harriet Tubman Square and Frederick Douglass Circle, among others. Reddick also served as President of Cityscape Institute and held leadership positions at the Central Park Conservancy. Reddick received a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from Ohio State University and a Master of Architecture from Yale University.

Current Campaigns, Challenges, and Perspectives on Preservation

This session highlights significant successes and challenges within the preservation community, offering valuable insights for future campaigns. We'll examine the durability of city rezonings, assess the relationship of preservation and new housing construction, and explore how major infrastructure projects impact our neighborhoods. Additionally, we will discuss whether substantial successes tied to specific projects have a lasting positive impact on preservation efforts and communities in the long term.

MODERATOR



Barry Weinberg
Community Board 9, Vice-Chair

Barry Weinberg is a West Harlem resident and community leader residing in Hamilton Heights. A member of Manhattan Community Board 9 since 2013, he has been a member of the Housing, Zoning, and Land Use Committee for over a decade. He currently serves as co-chair of CB9 and leads CB9's efforts to rezone Morningside Heights, protect HDFC Co-ops, and compel HPD to allow conversion of the remaining TIL buildings into HDFC Co-ops owned by the current tenants.

PANELISTS



Debby Hirshman
Executive Director
Center at West Park

Debby Hirshman began her tenure as Executive Director of the Center at West Park in May 2023. Debby has throughout her career been a vision and values driven Entrepreneurial CEO as was evidenced from 1990-2003 being the founding CEO of the JCC in Manhattan. She took it from a concept with 8 volunteers to the 137,000 sq ft, \$95,000,000 building on the corner of 76th and Amsterdam. She has a proven track record as both a CEO and consultant in organizational & strategic planning, master planning, business and real estate development as well as extraordinary success and expertise in multimillion-dollar capital and annual fundraising, while maximizing human and economic resources and insuring a diversified portfolio of revenue sources. She is a relationship builder known for building strong and long-lasting staff, conceptualizing, and actualizing a vision and road map with board, staff, community, and strategic alliances, collaborative partnerships and strong neighborhood involvement resulting in greater opportunities, resources and achievement of goals.



Shawn L. Rickenbacker
Associate Professor & Director
J. Max Bond Center for Urban Futures,
City College

Shawn L. Rickenbacker is Associate Professor and Director of the J. Max Bond Center for Urban Futures, City College of New York where he leads a multidisciplinary team of design researchers, professionals, industry leaders and community members who are dedicated to identifying, understanding, and solving some of the unique challenges of urbanization. Previously he was Favrot Chair of Architecture at Tulane University, Gensler Distinguished Professor at Cornell University and Lead Researcher at Futures Lab, a Motorola Solutions funded research lab at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design. Rickenbacker is a published and award-winning designer, entrepreneur and educator, in the design, technology and real estate fields. As an experienced creative and technologist, he continues to work at the convergence of urban data and physical space, leveraging their power to to inform policy and design.



Samuel Turvey
Chairperson, ReThinkNYC &
Co-Coordinator Empire Station Coalition

Samuel Turvey has been Chairperson of ReThinkNYC, a not-for-profit organization since 2020. ReThinkNYC is an organization dedicated to applying innovative thinking to the future of the Greater New York region. ReThinkNYC focuses integrally on transportation infrastructure, land use, governance and socio-economic issues. Sam is also Co-Coordinator of the Empire Station Coalition, a group of over 15 civic and neighborhood organizations and think tanks engaged in issues related to Penn Station. He is an attorney and longtime community activist and board member in the not-for-profit community. Sam majored in Urban Studies at Fordham University and also graduated from Fordham Law School where he served as an Associate Editor of the Urban Law Journal. Sam has commuted at one point or another from Morris, Essex, Westchester and Fairfield Counties. He is a native of Staten Island and has lived and worked in each of New York City's five boroughs.



Liz Waykus
Executive Director
Docomomo US

Liz Waykus is the Executive Director of Docomomo US, the nation's advocate for the preservation of Modern architecture, landscapes, and design. In her ten plus years at Docomomo US, Ms. Waytkus is responsible for the development of new programming including the annual Docomomo US National Symposium and the Modernism in America Awards. Ms. Waytkus manages Docomomo US' advocacy efforts throughout a vast network of allied organizations and likeminded individuals. She spear-headed successful efforts to designate the UN Plaza Hotel and Ambassador Grill and the AT&T Building as New York City Landmarks. She is known for her work to save the Marcel Breuer designed Geller House and 60 Wall Street's privately owned public space. She is co-chair of Manhattan Community Board 9's Housing Land-Use and Zoning Committee and has called West Harlem home for two decades. Ms. Waytkus received her Master of Science in Historic Preservation from Pratt Institute.

Government's Role in Preserving Historic and Cultural Assets

This session will delve into how government actions and policies can affect the economic vitality of our city's cultural richness. In today's political climate, the panel will ask the question of whether communities genuinely have a voice in deciding what's worth preserving. Panelists will also explore how legal interventions shape government strategies concerning our built environment and discuss the government's duty to ensure transparency and accountability to the public.

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MODERATOR



Jahmel Martin joined MAS as the Ralph C. Menapace Fellow in September 2022. Jahmel graduated from Rutgers Law School in May 2022. As a Fellow, he is conducting independent research on affordable housing in NYC. The ongoing research will cover the legal, policy, and environmental issues surrounding this critical challenge. The Fellow researched and advised on matters concerning Penn Station/MSG operating permit renewal, installation of 5G towers, parkland alienation, public authority legislation, adverse possession regarding community gardens, Large Scale Developments, and transfer of development rights; as well as drafting testimony concerning DCP's "City of Yes" proposed zoning text amendments.

Jahmel Martin

Ralph C. Menapace Fellow in Urban Land Use Law, Municipal Art Society

PANELISTS



Kathy Howe is Director of the Community Preservation Bureau at the Division for Historic Preservation of the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (State Historic Preservation Office), where she oversees policies and programs related to the statewide inventory of historic resources, State/National Registers of Historic Places, state and federal historic preservation grant incentives, the Historic Homeownership Rehabilitation Credit program, the Certified Local Government (CLG) program, special events, and community outreach opportunities. Kathy holds a Bachelor of Arts in Art History and French from the University of Rochester and a Master of Arts in Architectural History and a certificate in Historic Preservation from the University of Virginia, and worked at Bero Architecture in Rochester, the Peak District National Park in the U.K., and the Landmark Society of Western New York prior to coming to SHPO.

Kathy Howe

Community Preservation Bureau
NY State Historic Preservation Office

NICHOLAS TERRACE



John Mangin
Director of Housing Division
NYC Department of City Planning

John Mangin is Director of the Housing Division at the NYC Department of City Planning. Prior to that, he was a teaching fellow at Georgetown University Law Center and worked in affordable housing development and litigation for Fair Share Housing, an organization that grew out the Mount Laurel exclusionary housing suits in the 1970s and '80s. He is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Urban Planning of NYU's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. He also is the author of "The New Exclusionary Zoning" and "Ethnic Enclaves and the Zoning Game" and is a graduate of Yale Law School.

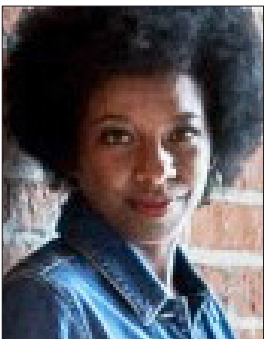
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Mark Silberman
General Counsel
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

Mark Silberman has been General Counsel to the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission since 1998. Prior to working for the Commission he was a litigation associate in the Environmental Law Group at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, and, in the 1980s he was a lobbyist, organizer, writer and editor in Washington, D.C. for various environmental and public interest groups. He is a co-editor of the historic resources chapter of Environmental Law and Regulation in New York, William R. Ginsberg & Philip Weinberg, Eds. (West Publishing 2001; update 2023).

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Shelley Worrell
Founder & CEO
I AM CARIBBEING

Shelley Worrell A cultural entrepreneur born in NYC and raised between Brooklyn & the Caribbean, Worrell created I AM caribBeing, spearheaded the designation and development of Little Caribbean, and recently served as the head of Caribbean Partnerships for the US Department of Commerce. Worrell has produced 500+ immersive experiences in partnership with top corporations and cultural institutions including Diageo, Vox Media, Humana, Chase Sapphire, DoorDash, James Beard Foundation, Google Arts & Culture, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, Brooklyn Museum and others. Her multi-platform & cross-cultural activations have been featured by Black Enterprise, NBC, National Geographic and Hyperallergic; and she has been personally profiled in The New York Times and Good Morning America. Worrell holds a BA in Cultural Studies from CUNY, Brooklyn College and a MA in Media Studies from the New School.

Aligning Preservation Goals

In an ideal situation, the preservation objectives of the public should harmonize with the missions of federal, state, and city agencies, as well as related organizations in conservation and housing. This alignment creates a unified strategy to protect and uphold our vital historic and cultural treasures. However, is it realistic for all parties to adopt a shared framework and process, where the key difference lies primarily in resource accessibility?

MODERATOR



The Honorable Gale A. Brewer
Council Member, 6th Council District
Chair, Committee on
Oversight and Investigations

The Honorable Gale A. Brewer represents the 6th Council District and chairs the Committee on Oversight and Investigations. The committee has a far reaching mandate to examine the mayoral administration, its policies, and delivery of city services. Under her leadership, the committee held oversight hearings on costs of the migrant crisis, responses to climate emergencies, proliferation of unlicensed cannabis shops, operational challenges in family court, maintaining the municipal workforce, and many others. Council Member Brewer is a member of the Budget Negotiation Team as well as the Committees on Finance, Higher Education, Immigration, Consumer and Worker Protection, Governmental Operations, and Rules, Privileges, and Elections. She recently passed bills to prevent lithium-ion battery fires, expand the city’s tree canopy, and protect hourly workers.

PANELISTS



Olivia Brazee
Coordinator, Technical Services Unit
NY State Historic Preservation Office

Olivia Brazee is Senior Historic Site Restoration Coordinator at the Division for Historic Preservation of the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (State Historic Preservation Office), where she supervises the Technical Services Unit and administers the Barn Tax Credit program. In her free time she serves as President of the Board of TAP, Inc., a community design center, and as a member of the Troy, NY Historic Review Commission. Olivia holds a Bachelor of Arts in Art History and Latin American Studies from Johns Hopkins University and a Master of Science in Historic Preservation from Columbia University, and worked at the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission prior to coming to SHPO.



Peg Breen
President

The New York Landmarks Conservancy

Peg Breen is President of The New York Landmarks Conservancy. Over its 51 years, the Conservancy has provided some \$62 million in loans and grants to preservation projects throughout New York. This has contributed to \$1 billion in total restoration costs. The State Department has sent Peg to St. Petersburg Russia on several occasions and to Tbilisi, Georgia and Vancouver and Victoria Canada to discuss preservation. She also was keynote speaker at an international preservation conference in Havana, Cuba.

She is on the boards of Save Ellis Island, Inc., Preservation Action, and the Carey Institute and recently finished nine years as a board member of the International African American Museum in Charleston, South Carolina.

Before joining the Conservancy, she worked in public television and at City Hall.



Dr. Malcolm A. Punter
President & CEO of Harlem
Congregations for Community Improvement

Dr. Malcolm A. Punter earned and was awarded the Doctorate in Education (Ed.D.), holds a Master of Science Law (JSM) degree, a M.B.A in Management & Operations, and a B.S. in Behavioral Science.

As President & CEO for Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement, Inc. (HCCI), he provides day to day oversight for all aspects of HCCI and manages the financial and operational sustainability of over \$550 million in real estate assets comprised of mixed use and commercial buildings and a myriad of social service programs. He also drives the affordable housing initiatives of HCCI which currently has several new construction projects in production including 135 units of senior housing, and 250 cooperative homeownership units.

Prior to joining HCCI, Dr. Punter worked in the affordable housing industry on other Central Harlem real estate development projects monitored by NYC HPD, Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. and LISC, the current partners of HCCI in housing development. Dr. Punter created and managed his own family real estate investments with holdings in NY, PA and CT.

He teaches courses at universities such as the College of New Rochelle, the City College of New York, and New York Theological Seminary. Dr. Punter served as an Adjunct Professor of Social-Science and business management at the College of New Rochelle from 2005 - 2019.

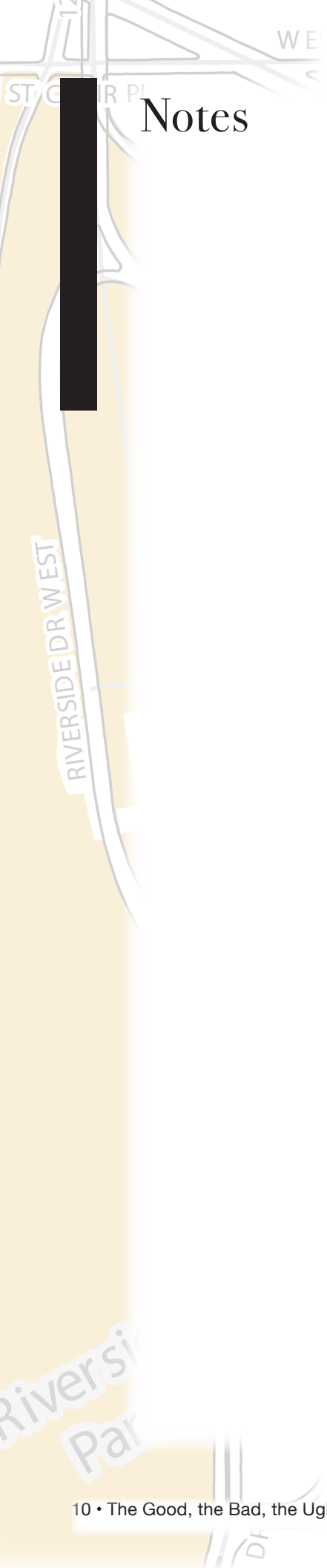


Valerie White
Senior Executive Director
Local Initiatives Support Corp (LISC) New York

Valerie White Senior Executive Director of Local Initiatives Support Corporation, LISC NY, is responsible for leading the expansion strategy to promote LISC's statewide efforts to create an economic and community development ecosystem that addresses deep rooted systemic inequities.

Through the usage of capital investment, policy and legislative advocacy, and programmatic initiative design and delivery, she elevates LISC's role as a key voice among legislative, government, private sector, philanthropic, and nonprofit/community partner stakeholders across New York. Valerie also oversees the LISC NYC and LISC WNY local offices.

Valerie has more than 30 years of experience across private, public, and non-profit sectors. Before joining LISC NYC in April 2020, Valerie was Executive Vice President at Empire State Development (ESD), as well as Executive Director of the New York State Division of Minority and Women's Business Development. Previously, she was Vice President at the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation and managing director at Standard & Poor's Global Ratings (S&P). In addition to her extensive professional experience, Valerie also serves as an advisory board member for the Fordham Urban Law Center and a director of the Fordham Law Alumni Association.



Notes

Notes

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Acknowledgements

The West Harlem Community Preservation Organization and the Historic Districts Council are especially thankful to all participants and volunteers for giving of their time and generosity of their spirit to make this event possible.

The Conference is generously supported by Harlem One Stop and in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature. Additional FY23 support is provided by New York City Council Members Erik Bottcher, Gale Brewer, Christopher Marte, Keith Powers, and Lincoln Restler.

Special Mention

Anthony Achille, Office of Institutional Advancement,
Communications, and External Relations, City College;
AIA Brooklyn
The City College of New York

About

The Historic Districts Council (HDC) is the advocate for all of New York City's historic neighborhoods. Our mission is to ensure the preservation of significant historic neighborhoods, buildings and public spaces in New York City, uphold the integrity of New York City's Landmarks Law, and further the preservation ethic. www.hdc.org

Harlem One Stop (HOS) is a 501(c)3 community-based arts services and destination marketing organization for upper Manhattan-Harlem & Washington Heights-Inwood, advocate for the arts and committed to preserving Harlem's cultural and historic assets while contributing to the area's economic development. www.harlemonestop.org

West Harlem Community Preservation Organization ("CPO") Founded in 1996, the CPO's mission is to inform, educate and advocate on issues that impact the quality of life in West Harlem. We seek to celebrate the diverse people, culture and communities of West Harlem and to preserve its unique architecture and historic places. www.westharlemcpo.org



THE ADVOCATE FOR NEW YORK CITY'S HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS



Council on
the Arts

