Beyond Stonewall: Recognizing Historic and Cultural Sites in New York State Related to the LGBT Community

Friday, May 6 - 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.
The New York City
LGBT Historic Sites Project
Organization of Lesbian & Gay Architects + Designers (OLGAD) 1994
Apollo Theater
253 West 125th Street, Harlem
171 West 12th Street Apartment Building

Roosevelt
Dickerman
Cook
Stonewall Inn, 51-53 Christopher Street
Greenwich Village Historic District

Stonewall Inn 1969
Stonewall is nationally significant because it is associated with events that outstandingly represent the struggle for civil rights in America. The nominated sites encompasses several block area in Greenwich Village that was the location of a series of events, collectively known as Stonewall, that occurred between June 28 and July 3, 1969. Stonewall is regarded as the single most important event that led to the modern movement for gay and lesbian civil rights.

"The Stonewall Rebellion that began on June 28, 1969, at the Stonewall Inn, is the watershed moment in the history of the modern gay and lesbian civil rights movement. Stonewall marked the first time that gays and lesbians as a group forcefully and vocally asserted their rights to equality under the law. The events of Stonewall opened the door for millions of gay and lesbian Americans to begin pressing for full and equal civil rights. Indeed, within a few short years of Stonewall, thousands of gay and lesbian civil rights organizations had sprung up all across America. This historic site, which is commemorated annually in thousands of parades and festivals around the world, must be recognized as a truly significant place in the history of the modern civil rights movement. In June 1999, the Stonewall Inn was listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its historic significance to gay and lesbian history.

The event was significant from the day it occurred - creating changes in gay people's lives immediately. On the one-week anniversary, there was a gay march. On the first year anniversary, the first gay pride march was held in New York City, as well as in other cities. The name "Stonewall" has been used very widely - even internationally - to mark gay pride events. The 15th anniversary saw a post office commemoration of the event. An estimated crowd of more than 500,000 people participated in the 25th Anniversary Stonewall March in New York City." At 30 years, in June of 1999, Stonewall was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and then as a National Historic Landmark, recognizing the significance of the events that took place in 1969."
Gay Pride Month 2013

Among New York City's designated Landmarks and Historic Districts, there are many sites pertaining to the history of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community. A number of the Landmarks Preservation Commission's designation reports in more recent years document this history, though earlier reports do not. This slideshow, in honor of Gay Pride Month, is a sampling of some of New York City's historic LGBT sites.

Names highlighted in lavender indicate people who have been embraced by the LGBT community, based on historic evidence of their personal histories, affectional preferences, friendships, and relationships. It is necessary to take into account cultural and historical context—for instance, the fact that some of these people were named but research indicates involvement in same-sex relationships. In addition, it was not until the early 20th century that Americans categorized and stigmatized people according to their sexual preference.

For further information about the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission visit our website at nyc.gov/landmarks

This presentation was prepared by Christopher Breeze, Gale Harris, and Jay Stockley. Photographs are from the LPC except where noted.

150 Years of LGBT History

For over a century and a half, New York City has been a major center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) life.

Although the rebellion at New York City's Stonewall Inn in 1969 was a turning point in the modern gay rights movement, numerous other sites that played a role in LGBT history before and after Stonewall are designated landmarks or located in historic districts. This slideshow, in honor of LGBT Pride Month, presents a decade-by-decade sampling of some of these buildings and sites.

Names highlighted in pink denote individuals where scholarship has indicated them as LGBT. Many of the sites included in this slideshow are privately-owned and not open to the public. LPC asks that readers please respect the privacy of the current owners and occupants.

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Elsie de Wolfe & Elisabeth Marbury
1892-1911
122 East 17th Street (1843-70)
East 17th Street/ Irving Place HD
Alice Austen House (c. 1700-50; 1846-78)
2 Hylan Boulevard., Staten Island
James Baldwin Residence
81 Horatio Street

Lorraine Hansberry Residence
337 Bleecker Street

1957-63

1953-60
Pfaff’s, 647 Broadway
NoHo Historic District
South Village Historic District

The Slide, 157 Bleecker Street

129 MacDougal Street

206 Thompson Street
Webster Hall, 119-125 East 11th Street
Louis N. Jaffe Art Theater
181-189 Second Avenue
Caffé Cino, 31 Cornelia Street
Greenwich Village Historic District Extension II

Joe Cino with Edward Albee

1958 to 1968
Bethesda Fountain, Central Park

Emma Stebbins
Bayard Building (1897-99), 67 Bleecker Street

Louis Sullivan
Paul Rudolph Apartments and Penthouse
23 Beekman Place

Guthrie McClintic and Katharine Cornell

Paul Rudolph
Gay Activists Alliance (GAA) Firehouse
99 Wooster Street, SoHo – Cast Iron Historic District

1971-74
Westbeth Artists' Housing
Congregation Beit Simchat Torah

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum
Beyond Stonewall: Recognizing Significant Historic Sites of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community
Press Release

Secretary Jewell, Director Jarvis Announce $500,000 in Matching Grants to Support Diversity in National Register of Historic Places

Hold Meeting with American Latino Scholars Expert Panel

10/02/2014

Contact us
Kathryn Warnes (NPS), kathryn_warnes@nps.gov

WASHINGTON - On the heels of a meeting of the American Latino Scholars Expert Panel and in honor of National Hispanic Heritage Month, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis announced $500,000 in matching grants to help fund 13 projects across the country to increase the number of listings in the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) associated with Latinos and other underrepresented communities including African Americans, Asian Americans and LGBT Americans.

“Our American heritage is a tapestry made up of threads from many nations and communities, and we are working with public and private partners to help ensure that our National Register of Historic Places reflects this remarkable diversity,” Jewell said. “These matching grants will enable us to add important sites that haven’t yet been recognized and more fully tell the story of our country.”

“As America’s storyteller through place, the National Park Service is using the leadership of groups like the Latino Scholars and resources like grants to develop and share more deeply the stories of underrepresented groups,” said Jarvis. “Looking ahead to the National Park Service’s Centennial in 2016, we are committed to telling a more complete and diverse story of America’s history in our second century.”

The Historic Preservation Fund is supported by revenue from federal oil leases on the Outer Continental Shelf, providing assistance for a broad range of preservation projects without expending tax dollars. The survey, inventory and nomination grants announced today are paid for with 60 percent federal and a match of at least 40 percent state or other nonfederal funds. The $500,000 federal investment is expected to leverage more than $150,000 in nonfederal funds.
National Park Service LGBT Initiative

Dept. of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell at the Stonewall, June 2014
Two National Register Listings:
Stonewall
And
Julius’
Stonewall Inn, 1969
51-53 Christopher Street
Stonewall Rebellion

Photos by Fred McDarrah
Julius’ Bar
159 West 10th Street
Julius’ in the 1930s
New York Unexpurgated
1966
Dick Leitsch, Craig Rodwell, and John Timmons
First Stop: Ukrainian-American Village Restaurant, 12 St. Mark’s Place
Second Stop: Howard Johnson’s at Sixth Avenue and Eighth Street

Weegee circa 1965
Third Stop: The Waikiki, 432 Sixth Avenue between 9th and 10th Streets
Fourth Stop: Julius’
3 deviates invite exclusion by bars

But they visit four before being refused service, in a test of S.L.A. rules.

Civil Liberties

Three homosexuals in search of a drink.
Julius’ Sip-In: 50th Anniversary Announcement of Listing on the National Register
NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project

Project Directors
Andrew Dolkart, Ken Lustbader, & Jay Shockley

Project Manager
Amanda Davis
NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project

Goals:

• Place-based history: Document existing sites significant to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, and Staten Island

• Create online map with historic images and descriptive text of each site

• Nominate five sites to the National Register of Historic Places

• Educate the public about LGBT historic sites in New York City

Angel of the Waters, Central Park
Project begins August 2015

171 West 12th Street Apartments
1 photo

669-685 Hudson Street Building
1 photo

Aaron Copland Apartment (Hotel Empire)
20 photos

Andy Warhol Studio
1 photo

Ansonia Hotel
1 photo

Audre Lorde House
2 photos • 1 view
Walt Whitman Residence, 99 Ryerson Street
Wallabout, Brooklyn
Manford Residence, 33-23 171st Street
Flushing, Queens

PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) founded 1973
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Headquarters
80 Fifth Avenue

1973-86
Billy Strayhorn Residence, 315 Convent Avenue

Building becomes part of Hamilton Heights Historic District in 1974; no mention of Strayhorn (focus of report is architecture)

Aaron Bridgers, Billy Strayhorn, Billie Holiday at Manhattan’s Cafe Society Uptown
Reinterpreting Sites for LGBT Cultural Significance

Alice Austen House, 2 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island (becomes NYC Landmark in 1971)
LGBT Community’s Impact on the Arts

Andy Warhol House,
57 East 66th Street (1972-87)

Halston plaque (installed in 2000), Fashion Walk of Fame
LGBT Rights Movement & Gay Liberation

Barbara Gittings
Daughters of Bilitis Office, 26-32 Charlton Street (1963-?)

Sylvia Rivera
Site of STAR’s first permanent home, 213 East Second Street (demolished)
Finding Sites in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island
Partnering with Institutions/Organizations with LGBT Archives and Resources

Mabel Hampton, Joan Nestle, Judith Schwarz and Deborah Edel
(source: Lesbian Herstory Archives)

Marsha P. Johnson handing out flyers in support of gay students at New York University, 1970.
Photo by Diana Davies
(source: NYPL LGBT collection)
Historic sites will reflect the diversity of NYC’s LGBT communities and convey its influence on American history and culture.
Please contribute to the inventory by making your own submissions:

info@nyclgbtsites.org

NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project
www.nyclgbtsites.org
LGBTQ Contributions to Revitalize Buffalo's Allentown Historic Preservation District
By the 1960s, gay bars in Buffalo migrated from east of Main Street (red) to be concentrated in the Allentown neighborhood (blue).
Allentown & Allen Street was a visibly gay district by the 1960s.
1972
Mattachine Society
Demonstration
Delaware Ave. at North St.

1973
Gay Community Services Center
45 Allen St.

Political activism in Buffalo & Allentown increased after Stonewall

JOIN US AT THE
GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER
45 ALLEN ST, BUFFALO PHONE:(716)381-5335
OPEN: 1PM-10PM MON-FRI, 1PM-6PM SAT.
• VISIT & SOCIALIZE
• USE THE LIBRARY
• COFFEE HOUSE EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT
• MON 1-4 CRAFT PERIOD
• PUBLIC RELATIONS NIGHT EVERY THURSDAY

Remember THE CENTER IS FOR YOU

villa capri
926 MAIN STREET
(Red Jacket)

The GAYEST SPOT in Town
A 1981 North St. proposal to undercover policeman Steve Nicosia led to a Supreme Court overthrow of NYS harassment laws.
Visible LGBTQ community & house renovations pivotal to Allentown reclamation
Fargo Estate area contains former Benedict House & Life Memorial Park
The Landmark Society of Western New York

Affinity Groups
WHERE THE #@% AM I?

Learn more about this community project at where.landmarksociety.org
Factoids
This bar was originally built on Andrews St., not Liberty Pole Way. While the map looks different today, this 19th century building hasn’t changed a bit.
Before Abilene moved in, a gay bar, called Tara Cocktail Lounge, was here. Beloved by many, memories of Bobby the piano player and Mike the bartender live on.
Former patrons of Tara’s still get together; Abilene hosts yearly reunion parties. These customers insist that before Tara, 153 Liberty Pole spent some time as a brothel.
Shoulders To Stand On: The LGBT History of Rochester, NY Documentary World Premiere (played before the night’s movie *The Celluloid Closet*)
ImageOut Tuesday, Oct. 9 at 7pm at the Dryden Theatre

One key point in the film is the gay rights movement’s place in the larger social justice current in the city. “Rochester as a whole has a lot of history as far as being at the forefront of social justice issues,” Indovino said. “This isn’t just about the gay community in Rochester. It’s about Rochester as a whole.”
The LGBT Giving Circle is delighted to inform you that you have been awarded a grant of $1000 to support Identification and Recognition of LGBT-historically significant buildings in the community for the Landmark Society! Thank you for being part of our fourth Grant Making Cycle.