



June 26, 2006

Robert Tierney, Chair
Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building, One Centre Street, 9th Floor N.
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chair Tierney:

Bob:

I understand that you are conducting a hearing in relationship to the preservation of a Horn & Hardart Automat building. Horn & Hardart's is certainly an important part of New York's history and collective culture. In fact, in November of 2002, the Museum of the City of New presented an exhibition, *Horn & Hardart's Automats*, which portrayed the beginnings of fast food and the revolution in the way New Yorker's ate in the twentieth century. The exhibition was created to mark the 100th anniversary of the first Automat and documented the importance of Horn and Hardart's in New York life and culture. The story of Horn & Hardart's is the story not only of food habits but of the city's changing patterns of work, commerce, and residence and how they gave rise to a culture of convenience whose legacy we still live with today.

I hope that this is useful in your considerations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sarah".

Sarah M. Henry, Ph.D.
Deputy Director and Chief Curator