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York
Landmarks
Conservancy

30 years of
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protecting
New York

June 23, 2006

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Chairman
N.Y.C. Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building, 9th Floor
1 Centre Street
New York, New York 10007

Subject: **Horn & Hardart Building**

Dear Bob:

I am writing on behalf of the Landmarks Conservancy to support the designation of the Horn & Hardart Building at 2710-14 Broadway in Manhattan. I regret that I cannot attend your hearing on June 27, but I wanted to make sure the Conservancy is on record in favor of this action.

This 1930 Art Deco-style building is distinctive for its spacious show windows and its terra cotta detail. Architecturally, it is significant and intact.

However, it is what happened here that really distinguishes this place. Joseph Horn and Frank Hardart had their finger on the pulse of an ever-busier nation and responded with the invention of what has now become internationally ubiquitous -- the fast food restaurant. The last automat closed in 1991 and this is but one of two extant buildings in New York City which housed this once-popular chain.

Therefore, because of its significance on both architectural and cultural history grounds, we urge the Landmarks Preservation Commission to add this building to the inventory of designated landmarks.

As always, thank you for the opportunity to express the Conservancy's views.

Sincerely,

Roger Lang
Director of Community Programs and Services
NEW YORK LANDMARKS CONSERVANCY

Via Facsimile and Mail