



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

1 Centre Street, 19th floor, New York, NY 10007  
(212) 669-8300 p (212) 669-4306 f  
431 West 125th Street, New York, NY 10027  
(212) 531-1609 p (212) 531-4615 f  
[www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov](http://www.manhattanbp.nyc.gov)

**Gale A. Brewer, Borough President**

January 28, 2021

Erik Kulleseid  
Commissioner  
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation  
Albany, NY 12238

Re: Support of Paddy's Market Historic District Designation

Dear Deputy Commissioner Mackay:

I write in support of the effort to designate Paddy's Market as a New York State Historic District.

The proposed District is part of the stretch of Ninth Avenue from West 35 to West 40 Streets, which was home for half a century to the legendary Paddy's Market. Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4), at their January 6, 2021, has passed a resolution in support of the proposed District. The long and distinguished history of Paddy's Market meets two State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO) criteria for designation, A (commerce and social/ethnic history) and C (architecture).

Regarding criterion A: the market was a central feature of the neighborhood, supported and operated by those living in neighboring tenements, and embodied how working-class New Yorkers bought and sold food on Manhattan's West Side in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The proposed District also reflects larger national trends including the late 19<sup>th</sup> century influx of immigrants and turn-of-the-century developments in infrastructure and transportation that radically altered New York City.

Regarding criterion C: the proposed District is a collection of flats and old-law tenements with storefronts typical of development in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The buildings are predominantly of the same height, materials, and style and form a largely uniform, intact streetscape.

In March 2019, MCB4 retained the services of a noted architectural historian to study the architecture and history of Hell's Kitchen in order to identify potential historic districts. The resulting study proposed two separate historic districts within Manhattan Community District 4, including the Paddy's Market Historic District. 2019 also saw New York City's Historic Districts Council select Hell's Kitchen as one of their "Six to Celebrate" neighborhoods, and to advocate specifically for the creation of Paddy's Market as a historic district.

I ask that you support and approve of the creation of the Paddy's Market Historic District. Please contact Brian Lewis, my office's Community Liaison for Community Board 4, at 212-669-8774 or [blewis@manhattanbp.nyc.gov](mailto:blewis@manhattanbp.nyc.gov) with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gale A. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Gale A. Brewer

cc: Daniel Mackay, Deputy Commissioner, New York State Historic Preservation Office  
Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor, New York City  
Hon. Corey Johnson, Speaker, New York City Council  
Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Representative, US Congress  
Hon. Brad Hoylman, Senator, New York State Senate  
Hon. Richard Gottfried, Member, New York State Assembly  
Hon. Linda Rosenthal, Member, New York State Assembly  
Hon. Helen Rosenthal, Member, New York City Council  
Lowell Kern, Chair, Manhattan Community Board 4  
Sarah Carroll, Chair, Landmarks Planning Commission  
Marisa Lago, Chair, City Planning Commission  
Edith Hsu-Chen, Manhattan Director, Department of City Planning Historic Districts Council  
Joe Restuccia, Executive Director, Clinton Housing Development Company