



DHCA

July 23, 2020

Sarah Carroll, Chair
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission
One Centre Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Re: Angel Guardian Home, 6301 12th Avenue, Brooklyn

Dear Chair Carroll,

Thank you for calendaring the Angel Guardian Home for consideration as an Individual Landmark on June 30, 2020. The Angel Guardian complex is a fixture of the Dyker Heights neighborhood, and its preservation is a priority of the community.

The original Request for Evaluation submitted by the Guardians of the Guardian in 2018 requested landmark protection for the whole Angel Guardian complex, which comprises an entire block. This request was supported by Brooklyn Community Board 10, Dyker Heights Civic Association, elected officials, and the Historic Districts Council. Since 2018, nearly all the buildings and landscape features have been demolished on this block.

The proposed landmark site is a lot in part, which carves out the convent building on 63rd Street. This carve out is unacceptable. There is simply no architectural or aesthetic basis for this omission, as this building is designed in the same high style as the main orphanage building.

LPC lists the meritorious features of the main building as:

- Ornate, carved limestone door surrounds
- Corner quoins
- Arched windows
- Copper cornices
- Mansard roofs

All of these features appear on the convent building and are documented in the image appendix sent along with this letter. Unlike the main building, the convent building has four designed facades, including a striking, pedimented copper bay on the rear elevation. There are no simplified architectural elements on any non-street facing façade of this building. The presence of four designed facades speaks directly to the architect's intended prominence of this building, individually and as a part of this complex.

We urge you to include and designate this elegant structure. It will be destroyed if you do not act to expand the landmark site, which is an unfortunate beginning for Dyker Heights' first landmark.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carlos A." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carlos Menchaca
Member of the NYC Council, 38th District

Lori Willis

Lori Willis
Chairperson, Brooklyn Community Board 10

Fran Vella-Marrone

Fran Vella-Marrone
President, Dyker Heights Civic Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Simeon Bankoff" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Simeon Bankoff
Executive Director, Historic Districts Council

Guardians of the Guardian