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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2006

#### **NEW-YORK CAB COMPANY STABLE ON MANHATTAN'S UPPER WEST SIDE DESIGNATED AS AN INDIVIDUAL NEW YORK CITY LANDMARK**

*Romanesque Revival-Style Building Housed One of New York  
City's First Livery Stables, among the First to Paint Its Cabs  
Yellow*

The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission today unanimously voted to grant landmark status to 318-330 Amsterdam Ave., the former site of the New-York Cab Company stable, one of the City's largest stables during the final decade of the 19th century, when horses served as the primary means of transportation for New Yorkers.

"The New-York Cab Company pioneered many of the practices we see in our present-day taxi industry, from the color of the cabs to timed fares," said Commission Chairman Robert B. Tierney. "At the end of the 19th century, there were an estimated 4,600 stables across the City and 74,000 horses crowding our streets. And hundreds of them were kept in this remarkably intact and well-preserved stable building on the Upper West Side."

Located at the northwest corner of Amsterdam Avenue and 75th Street, the five-story structure featuring handsome red brickwork, a prominent cornice and three giant arches was designed by the New York-based commercial architecture firm of C. Abbot French & Company and completed in 1890.

The building, constructed at a cost of \$45,000, was commissioned by William T. Walton, a dry goods merchant and neighborhood resident who leased it to the New-York Cab Company from 1891 to 1909. The company was formed in 1874 with the goal of improving the City's transportation system.

At its peak, the company managed stables at as many as 10 locations in Midtown Manhattan and employed nearly 200 drivers. It was formed in 1874 and backed by several prestigious New Yorkers to accommodate the City's growing population. But the demand for horse-drawn vehicles rapidly declined with the introduction of the gasoline-powered engine in the first decade of the 20th century, and the New-York Cab Company eventually vacated the 75th Street stable, which later served as a garage for automobiles.

The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission is the largest municipal preservation agency in the United States. Since its creation in 1965, the Commission has designated nearly 23,000 buildings in all five boroughs, including 1,146 individual landmarks, 107 interior landmarks, nine scenic landmarks and 85 historic districts.

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