

ARCH 3640

HISTORIC PRESERVATION: THEORY AND PRACTICE

FINAL PROJECT

For your final project, you will research a building that typifies a significant alteration, adaptive reuse, or intervention in the historic fabric of a New York City block. A list of appropriate building and sites will be provided by the professor. You will analyze the building using the theoretical framework established in class readings, lectures and discussions to determine whether it is a good example of preservation. There is no right answer – your conclusion is subjective. However, your evaluation should be based on principles of historic preservation theory and practice.

The final project represents a culmination of the written assignments and presentations you submitted as part of the course. These should serve as an aid in your research, analysis, and final product. Your deliverables for the final project will comprise a 5-6 page paper about your chosen site, and a 20-minute in-class presentation (group or individual – see instructions in Final Project email).

In examining your chosen site, you should strive to address the following questions:

- 1) What problem does this alteration/reuse/intervention seek to address?
- 2) How does this alteration/reuse/intervention respond to the pre-existing context of the building and/or site?
- 3) Does the alteration/reuse/intervention respect and enhance the historic fabric of the building or site, or does it appear incongruent?
- 4) Does the alteration/reuse/intervention demonstrate evidence of a thought process about existing fabric, historic context, and design guidelines?
- 5) How would you define a successful modification to a historic building or site? Does the selected alteration/reuse/intervention live up to these standards?
- 6) What are impacts (positive or negative) of this alteration/reuse/intervention on its immediate and wider surroundings? Do you think this building or site will be retained in the future?