

2015-J4933

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating the Lady Moody-Van Sicklen House in Gravesend, Brooklyn, upon the occasion of its designation as a New York City Landmark by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend the preservation of historical landmarks that served to enhance the growth of this great State, ensuring that the complete history of our State and Nation is shared with present generations of citizens; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Lady Moody-Van Sicklen House in Gravesend, Brooklyn, upon the occasion of its designation as a New York City Landmark by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, After more than a half-century of waiting, Gravesend's historic Lady Moody-Van Sicklen House has finally achieved landmark status; and

WHEREAS, On Tuesday, April 12, 2016, the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) unanimously granted the prestigious designation to the early 18th-Century Dutch-American farmhouse, which was built on land that once belonged to Gravesend founder Lady Deborah Moody; and

WHEREAS, Lady Deborah Moody, an English baronet's widow, was an Anabaptist who arrived in New Netherland, a 17th-century colonial province of the Seven United Netherlands, in 1643; the Dutch granted her freedom to practice her religion in North America; and

WHEREAS, The house, named in Lady Deborah Moody's honor, was expanded in the mid-18th Century and altered in 1905; an engineers' evaluation found evidence of structural material possibly dating from the 17th

Century; and

WHEREAS, This designation gives the home protected status which prevents it from being demolished or altered without the commission's approval; and

WHEREAS, An indispensable part of Gravesend's history and character, the Lady Moody-Van Sicklen House is located at 27 Gravesend Neck Road; it is one of a few remaining Dutch Colonial homes in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Mostly unchanged since it was built, the grand home's original floors, beams, and fireboxes remain in the structure; the initials of Thomas Hicks, who lived in the house in the 1800s, are still carved on a beam in the living room; and

WHEREAS, Today, Gravesend's most famous house is owned by Anita and Justin Anderson, who purchased it in 2005; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for the historic Lady Moody-Van Sicklen House, and for all of the individuals who have worked to bring proper attention to a place and time which merits recognition in the grand panorama of the history of our State and Nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to the Lady Moody-Van Sicklen House in Gravesend, Brooklyn, upon the occasion of its designation as a New York City Landmark by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Anita and Justin Anderson, Owners, the Lady Moody-Van Sicklen House and Joseph Ditta, Gravesend Historian.