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# White Horse Tavern closes for renovations amid fears about its future



1010 WINS NEWSROOM

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**NEW YORK (1010 WINS)** – The 139-year-old White Horse Tavern, known for its popularity among bohemian artists in the 1950s and 60s, has temporarily closed for renovations.

Curbed New York [reports](#) that the historic bar shuttered earlier this week as lawmakers and activists called for its interior to become a city landmark.

The property was recently purchased by notorious landlord Steve Croman, who has served time for tax fraud.

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May 1, 2019

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

Dear Chair Carroll:

We are writing to follow up on our March 20th letter to the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) requesting designation of The White Horse Tavern's interior spaces as New York City landmarks as soon as possible. In light of the recent purchase of 567 Hudson Street by ill reputed landlord Steve Croman and yesterday's news accounts of the Tavern's temporary closing to begin renovations, we must urge LPC to act more quickly in this case.

As noted in our March letter, it is our hope that Mr. Croman will act responsibly in preserving The White Horse's magnificent interiors; however, without the firm protections of an interior landmark designation, and given Mr. Croman's longstanding reputation as a property owner with a history of conducting extensive and harmful renovations, we have no confidence whatsoever that care will be taken to protect the historical aspects of the Tavern.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent request and for LPC's ongoing commitment to preserving our city's history.

Sincerely,

**Senator Brad Hoylman**

@bradhoylman

The White Horse Tavern is one of NY's most historic businesses. But notorious landlord Steve Croman now owns the building, & he could destroy it.

We can't let that happen. [@NYCSpeakerCoJo](#) [@DeborahJGlick](#) & I wrote [@nyclandmarks](#) today urgently calling for its preservation.

55 7:22 PM - May 1, 2019

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The tavern also has a new operator, Eytan Sugarman, who said at a community board meeting that the bar's historic "spirit" would remain, [according to Patch](#).

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...year, we have no intention of changing any of the historical elements that make White Horse Tavern the landmark that it is."

Landmarks spokesperson Zodet Negrón told Curbed New York that preservation officials are considering the requests for landmark status.

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