

# JEREMIAH'S VANISHING NEW YORK

A.K.A. THE BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS:  
A BITTERLY NOSTALGIC LOOK AT A CITY IN THE PROCESS OF GOING EXTINCT

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2019**

## White Horse Tavern Sold

The [White Horse Tavern](#) is one of the oldest, most storied and beloved drinking spots left in New York City. It opened in 1880, hosted the likes of Jack Kerouac, Jane Jacobs, Bob Dylan, and of course Dylan Thomas, who drank his last whiskey there before collapsing and dying at St. Vincent's Hospital. [Literary pilgrims](#) still visit the place, which retains much of its 150-year history.

The White Horse seems permanent, impossible to erase, like so many New York institutions of this magnitude, but it is not bulletproof. The building is landmarked, but the bar is not. And now we hear things are about to change.

**UPDATE: JANUARY 2019**

After more than a decade, this blog seems to be coming to an end. I've said most of what I had to say in my book and it's time to move on to other things. I'll probably post here and there, as the mood strikes, but not much. Comments will be approved intermittently (I'm no longer getting comment notifications, but I am getting a lot of spam comments). Thank you.

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A dependable tipster writes in to say that he spoke to upstairs tenants and White Horse workers who informed him that **the building has been sold for an estimated \$14 million -- to the notorious landlord Steve Croman**, who recently [spent time in Rikers](#) and has frequently been accused of harassing rent-regulated tenants.

Also, on March 14, Community Board 2 will be [hearing an application](#) for a new liquor license at the space:

"Eytan Sugaman [sic] or LLC to be formed, d/b/a White Horse Tavern, 567 Hudson St. 10014 (OP – Bar/Tavern with sidewalk cafe)"

Sugarman does not open low-key places. He ran the BBQ restaurant Southern Hospitality with Justin Timberlake (who later [stepped back](#); [Steve Bannon held a Republican fundraiser](#) there), and he had a club called Suede, frequented by the likes of Britney Spears, Cameron Diaz, and Leonardo DiCaprio.

More recently, Sugarman opened the Hunt and Fish Club, the opulent, hedgefunder-heavy Times Square steakhouse that the [Post](#) called "the city's latest haunt for bigwigs hunting for new deals and beauties fishing for rich husbands." **One of Sugarman's co-owners in that project is Anthony "the Mooch" Scaramucci, Trump's former White House Director of Communications.** The exclusive Wall St.



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#### **JEREMIAH MOSS**

THE BOOK:

"We should all buy Jeremiah Moss's book, Vanishing New York." --Sarah

restaurant has also [hosted Republican fundraisers](#) -- and it serves Scaramucci's homemade limoncello.

**So will the Mooch be helping to run the new White Horse--or whatever takes its place?** It's impossible to say just yet. Maybe we'll see a high-end re-do, like the ones that destroyed and/or excluded [Bill's Gay 90s](#), [Minetta Tavern](#), [Rocco's](#), [Fedora](#), and so many other beloved--and once democratic--classic spots.

My tipster predicts, "White Horse will become Don Trump Jr and Company's FratBro/WhiteBro hang out." Plus Limoncello.

**\*UPDATE:** [Eater](#) confirmed the rumors: "Sugarman is insisting that he's paying attention to the historic aspects of White Horse Tavern. Infrastructure will be updated, though other plans are still to-be-announced. He also did not comment on his landlord's reputation, responding to an inquiry with 'We are only focused on preserving the rich history and legacy of this iconic institution for New Yorkers.'"



*Sugarman and The Mooch, via the [Post](#)*

This is unsettling news for the great White Horse Tavern, which has been run lovingly and non-exclusively for many years by native New Yorker and former Longshoreman [Eddie Brennan](#), who [bought the place](#)

## Jessica Parker

"Essential reading for fans of Jane Jacobs, Joseph Mitchell, Patti Smith, Luc Sante, and cheap pierogi." --

**Vanity Fair**

"a vigorous, righteously indignant book that would do Jane Jacobs proud." --**Kirkus Reviews**

THE BLOG:

"the go-to hub for those who lament New York's loss of character." --

**Crain's**

"No one takes stock of New York's changes with the same mixture of snark, sorrow, poeticism, and lyric wit as Jeremiah Moss." --**Village Voice, Best of NY**

"Jeremiah Moss...is the defender of all the undistinguished hunks of masonry that lend the streets their rhythm." --**Justin Davidson, New York Magazine**

"One of the most thorough and pugnacious chroniclers of New York's blandification." --**The Atlantic, Citylab**

"Hyperbolic and combative, tireless and passionate." --**Salon**

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in 1967, when he was a worker there. He hung the painting of Dylan Thomas in the middle room, and poets still sit beneath it to drink--and drink in the spirit of the place. I did that, too, years ago as a young poet. I wonder if we'll still be able to get in, and if Dylan Thomas will remain.

In the words of that poet, dear White Horse, "Do not go gentle into that good night / Rage, rage against the dying of the light."

*If you want to give your two cents and hear Sugarman's plans, **show up for the liquor license hearing: Thursday, March 14, 6:30 PM, at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 151-155 Sullivan St., Lower Hall.***



POSTED BY JEREMIAH MOSS AT [9:45 AM](#)

LABELS: [GREENWICH VILLAGE](#)

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#### 1 COMMENT:



[timmyk](#) said...

SUEDE was next door to my apartment building and was a complete and utter nightmare every single night. My apartment is on 23rd Street and we endured a mind boggling array of noise, violence and filth. Complete disregard for the sanctity and peace of every single resident of 23rd Street between 6th & 7th Avenues.

[MARCH 6, 2019 AT 12:05 PM](#)

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#### RECENT COMMENTS

[Bjs](#) commented on [Left Bank Books](#):  
*"It was the Landlord from Hell on West 4th St--the Mendler family, HM Village Realty. They kicked me..."*

[Timmyk](#) commented on [White Horse Tavern Sold](#): *"SUEDE was next door to my apartment building and was a complete and utter nightmare every single..."*

[James](#) commented on [Moishes](#): *"I happened to get a job at NYU late in the Fall and early Winter. I discovered Moische's still..."*

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[Unknown](#) commented on [Mrs Stahls Knishes](#): *“My mentor Dr. Edward Goldberg, from Cal State, Los Angeles, was born and raised in Brooklyn. May he...”*

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[Gregoire Alessandrini](#) commented on [Dive Bar To Bubble Tea](#): *“This one hurts ! One of the first spots where I hung out when discovering the East village in the...”*

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[Fox5 News](#)

[NY1 News](#)

[New York Times, 8/11/17](#)

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