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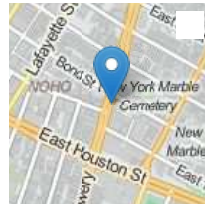
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Inside The Bowery's Decrepit, Iconic Amato Opera House

Thursday, June 20, 2013, by Hana R. Alberts



AMATO OPERA
319 Bowery, New York
NY

GIANT MAP

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[All photos via Bowery Boogie <<http://www.boweryboogie.com/2013/06/inside-the-decaying-amato-opera-house-on-the-bowery-exclusive/>> . Click through for more.]

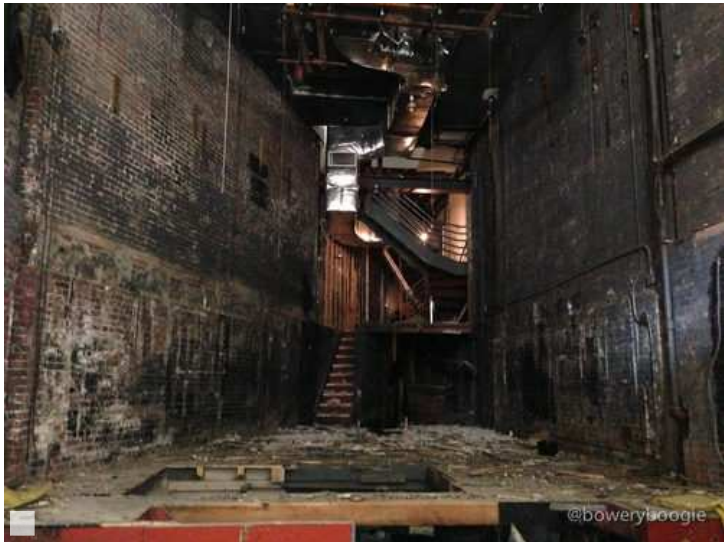
Built in 1889, the [Amato Opera](http://ny.curbed.com/tags/amato-opera) house operated for more than half a century as an intimate performance space, often for student actors and singers. It shuttered in 2009 and was sold off, and though [there was hope](http://ny.curbed.com/archives/2009/01/27/after_amato_curtain_will_rise_once_again_on_the_bowery.php) that another arts group would take it over, it's now destined for a residential conversion http://ny.curbed.com/archives/2013/03/19/bowerys_amato_opera_might_soon_

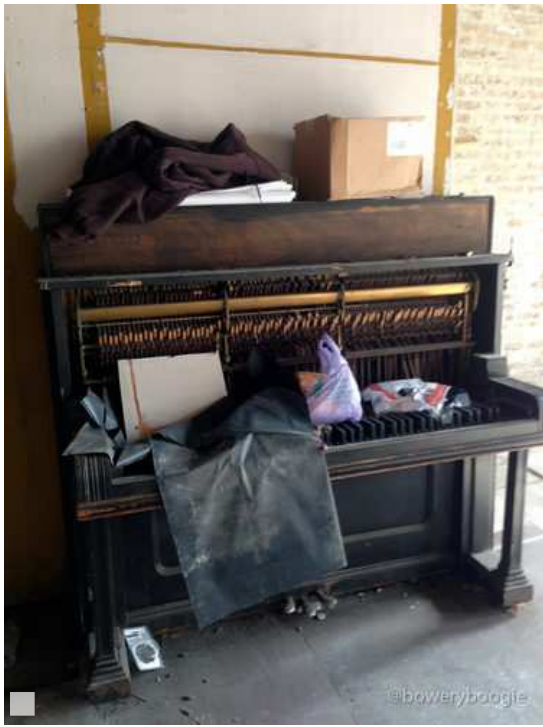
[include_apartments.php](#) . Until that fate befalls **319 Bowery**, it's an abandoned, falling-apart mess?and those lucky ducks at Bowery Boogie [got an exclusive peek inside](#) <http://www.boweryboogie.com/2013/06/inside-the-decaying-amato-opera-house-on-the-bowery-exclusive/> . It's as sad as you'd expect, from a wrecked piano to an old sign for intermission concessions that hawked fudge for 25 cents. Oh, the memories.

A rather notorious landlord <http://croman-realty-sucks.blogspot.com/2009/08/our-experience-with-croman.html> , Steven Croman, is at the helm, [planning](http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/JB2ScheduleAServlet?requestid=3&passjobnumber=121368251&passdocnumber=01&allbin=1006538) [http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/JB2ScheduleAServlet?](http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/JB2ScheduleAServlet?requestid=3&passjobnumber=121368251&passdocnumber=01&allbin=1006538)



[requestid=3&passjobnumber=121368251&passdocnumber=01&allbin=1006538](http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/JobsQueryByNumberServlet?requestid=2&passjobnumber=121368251&passdocnumber=01) > a retail store to replace the 67-seat theater with three full-floor apartments above, including a duplex penthouse. The proposed changes [are awaiting approval](http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/JobsQueryByNumberServlet?requestid=2&passjobnumber=121368251&passdocnumber=01) <http://a810-bisweb.nyc.gov/bisweb/JobsQueryByNumberServlet?requestid=2&passjobnumber=121368251&passdocnumber=01> from the DOB. Bittersweet comparisons: here's what the sweet cultural refuge [used to look like](http://vanishingnewyork.blogspot.com/2008/01/amato-opera.html) <http://vanishingnewyork.blogspot.com/2008/01/amato-opera.html> .







- [Inside the Decaying Amato Opera House on the Bowery \[EXCLUSIVE\]](http://www.boweryboogie.com/2013/06/inside-the-decaying-amato-opera-house-on-the-bowery-exclusive/) http://www.boweryboogie.com/2013/06/inside-the-decaying-amato-opera-house-on-the-bowery-exclusive/ [BB]
- [Bowery's Amato Opera Might Soon Include Apartments](http://ny.curbed.com/archives/2013/03/19/bowerys_amato_opera_might_soon_include_apartments.php) http://ny.curbed.com/archives/2013/03/19/bowerys_amato_opera_might_soon_include_apartments.php [Curbed]
- [All Amato Opera House coverage](http://ny.curbed.com/tags/amato-opera) http://ny.curbed.com/tags/amato-opera [Curbed]

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