

THE REAL DEAL

Bowery recognized in State Register of Historic Places

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The Bowery

The Bowery has been included in the State Register of Historic Places, DNAinfo reported, giving support to neighborhood groups who seek the street's inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

But unlike historic districts in the city, the designation carries no weight in protecting buildings from alteration.

"The Bowery nomination is unique -- it not only recognizes the architecture and cultural history of the street, but it acknowledges the earliest planning history of New York," historian Kerri Culhane, who wrote the Bowery's 171-page nomination, said in a statement.

"By extension, the Bowery nomination should be used as a planning tool to help guide better planning, zoning... on this vibrant and dynamic thoroughfare, which continues to make history today."

Most recently, efforts to landmark buildings such as 135 Bowery have run into obstacles.

The Two Bridges Neighborhood Council and Bowery Alliance of Neighbors, which sponsored the designation and have been advocating for more preservation efforts in the historic entertainment district, stated that more than 10 percent of the street's current buildings, which are "out of scale and character with the historically low-rise Bowery," were constructed in the last decade.

