RESOLUTION (PROPOSED FOR ADOPTION AT A LATER DATE)
DESIGNATING FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY DESIGNATED HISTORICAL LANDMARKS AS A LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PURSUANT TO SECTION 235-5 OF THE TOWN CODE OF THE TOWN OF GREENBURGH

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 235-5 of the Code of the Town of Greenburgh, Establishment of Historic Districts and Landmarks, in order to promote the general welfare through the preservation and protection of buildings, structures, sites, objects and areas of historical or architectural interest, historic districts and landmarks shall be designated as set forth in Section 235-5; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 235-5B, the Historic and Landmarks Preservation Board (H&LPB) may recommend that the Town Board designate an individual structure, building, object or site as a landmark if it possesses one or more of the following characteristics:
1. Is associated with persons or events of historic significance to the Town, region, state or nation;
2. Is illustrative of historic growth and development of the Town, region, state or nation;
3. Embodies distinctive characteristics of an architectural type, period or method of construction;
4. Is the work of a designer whose work has significantly influenced an age;
5. Contains unique architectural, archaeological or artistic qualities;
6. Has been duly included on the National Register;

AND, WHEREAS, the Town of Greenburgh H&LPB has undertaken a Historic Resource and Reconnaissance-Level Survey (the “Survey”) which includes a database and details of basic architectural information about every property identified to have been built on or before 1900 and on selected properties dating between 1901 and 1961 so that the town can begin to manage information about its historic resources, assemble intensive-level records on them, and track actions they have taken to protect them; and

WHEREAS, sites in the unincorporated area of Greenburgh have received federal, state and county designation, with the exception of No. 10 (Pine Tree Corners), which has received county designation but not federal and state designation, include but are not limited to:

1. **John A. Hartford House** (NY 100, Valhalla P.O., NY): John Hartford was the founder of A&P (Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company) chain-stores. He and his wife built this home in 1930 as part of their idyllic “Buena Vista Farm” property. This name was derived from the beautiful view made possible by the home’s location on an exceptionally high point close to Manhattan. When the Hartford’s lived here in the 1930’s the Empire State Building, George Washington Bridge and the Long Island Sound could all be seen from the property. The luxurious Hartford Hall contained greenhouses, an indoor polo ring, blacksmiths shop, boat house and private 9-hole golf course. Westchester County purchased the 360-acre estate in 1957 and it now functions as part of the Westchester Community College campus. It was listed as a National Historic Landmark in 1977.

2. **Leo Friedlander Studio** (825 West Hartsdale Road, White Plains P.O., NY): Constructed in 1908 by Roman Bronze works, this property was originally built for sculptor Henry Merwin Shrady. Shrady is best known for his sculpting of the Ulysses S. Grant Memorial in Washington, D.C. The property was later the home and studio to another American sculptor, Leo Friedlander, in the 1930's. Friedlander is best known for his work on the
Washington Memorial Arch and the main central pediment of the Museum of the City of New York. Both of these works were designed and begun within this Westchester studio. The house functions today as a sort of private museum, which contains many original sketches and tools of the late sculptor. The home was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1982.

3. **Bronx River Parkway Reservation** (adjunct to the Bronx River Parkway): Known as the first linear park in Westchester and totaling 807-acres, the Reservation runs 13.2 miles from New York City north to the Kensico Dam Plaza in Valhalla. The establishment of the Reservation was inspired by a 1906 bill which sought to explore pollution of the Bronx River Parkway. Opened in 1925, it was the first public parkway designed expressly for automobile use. Plans for the preserve were suggested as early as 1895 and in 1906 the Bronx Parkway Commission was appointed. Establishment was a slow moving process as funding for the project was not received until late 1913. The Reservation was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1991.

4. **Church of St. Joseph of Arimathea--Worthington Chapel** (2172 Saw Mill River Road White Plains P.O., NY): Constructed in 1883, the church was originally commissioned as a private burial chapel for Henry Rossiter Worthington by his wife. Worthington was a prominent Westchester resident and renowned hydraulic engineer whose contributions revolutionized the water pumping industry. The building was designed by architect Richard M. Upjohn in a Victorian Gothic Revival style. In 1896 the family gave the chapel to the Episcopal Diocese of New York and it was opened as a public chapel that same year. The church was listed on the National Register of Historic Sites in 2002, and recognized as a county and state registered landmark in 2001.

5. **East Irvington School** (50 Taxter Road, Irvington P.O., NY): In the mid 19th-century, Irvington was a community of mainly Irish immigrants and so the hamlet of East Irvington was known simply as Dublin or Little Dublin. The East Irvington School was established to meet the educational needs of the fast-growing community. It was originally a one-story structure when it was designed in 1891, but a second story was added in 1925. Interestingly, the school remained in use until the 1970’s and is the area's oldest extant school. The interior is almost entirely original in nature. The school was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983, listed on the state register of historic sites in 1983, and recognized as a county landmark in 1988.

6. **Odell House** Odell House (425 Ridge Road, Greenburgh, NY) This former tenant farmhouse served as the headquarters from July 6th to August 19th for French General Rochambeau during the Philipsburg Encampment of the American War for Independence. During this six-week period that the French and Continental armies were encamped on opposite sides of Sprain Brook, the Franco-American alliance between Rochambeau and George Washington was reinforced and various strategies to attack the British, who controlled the New York City area, were explored. The key factor that was responsible for their decision to move their armies south against the British in the Virginia area occurred here on August 14th when a message was received by Count de Rochambeau from French Admiral de Grasse that his French fleet could provide support at the Chesapeake Bay area and not New York City. The sudden, strategic march south trapped British General Cornwallis at the siege of Yorktown, which became the decisive battle of the American Revolution. The Odell House is so named in honor of Col. John Odell, a local hero, who served General Washington as a member of the Westchester Guides and who purchased the property in 1785. The House remained in the Odell family until 1965, when Elizabeth Odell deeded the property to the New York Chapter of the Sons of the American
Revolution to be preserved for historical purpose. The center portion of the house dates back to 1732, whereas the east (right) wing was constructed in 1765 as a one and one-half story structure, later raised to a full two stories in 1785. The stone west (left) wing was built between 1853-55. The house and property are expected to be an important stop along the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route-National Historic Trail (W3R-NHT) to Yorktown, Virginia, now being developed by the National Park Service. The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973, recognized as a local landmark in 1988, and as a state-registered historic site in 1980.

7. **Romer-Van Tassel House** (2121 Saw Mill River Road, White Plains P.O., NY): Constructed in 1690, the Romer-Van Tassel home is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Westchester County. The stone section of the home dates back to 1750 with the wood frame portion added in the 19th century. Jacob Romer’s son John was said to have played a role in the capture of British Major John Andre on his way to pass intelligence on the fortification of West Point to the British. John Romer and Andre's other captors are said to have spent time at the Romer homestead before and after the infamous seizure of the British informant. Beginning in 1793, the home served as the first town hall for the village. The home was recognized as a county landmark in 1991 and was added to the National Register of Historic Places as well as the state register in 1994.

8. **Hartsdale Railroad Station** (1 E. Hartsdale Ave., Hartsdale P.O., NY): The original structure was built by Warren and Wetmore, architects of Grand Central Station, and contains a pedestrian overpass completed in 1911. Opened in 1914, the station played an integral role in the development of Hartsdale from a primarily rural area to one of commercialization. This shift was proliferated by a rather significant population increase at the turn of the 20th century. On a local level, the train station functioned as the reporting station for soldiers during World War I. The interior of building is largely original, including the bronze chandelier, stucco walls as well as the wooden wall benches and windows. The station was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2011.

9. **Spanish American War Monument to the 71st Infantry Regiment** (Jackson Ave., Hastings-on-Hudson P.O., NY): Resembling one of the stone blockhouses the Spanish erected to defend San Juan Hill, the 1901 structure was commissioned to commemorate the 109 lives lost by the regiment during the war.

10. **Pine Tree Corners** (5 Old Knollwood Road, White Plains P.O., NY): The Pine Tree Corners name comes from bride and bridegroom white pines planted at the corner entry to the property. They were 200 years old when cut down in 1927. The original part of the house was built in 1680's. The east wing was constructed in 1685. The family room (originally the kitchen) features a massive fireplace with swinging crane for cooking pots and original beamed ceilings that display blackened bark and the timber floor of the bedroom above. It was the dower house of the Philipse family – owners of Greenburgh and Yonkers. It was built as a wedding present for the daughter of the first Frederick Philipse. The Bare family sold the property in 1906 to the Shrady family. Dr. Shrady was a renowned cancer specialist who treated President Grant and the Czar of Russia. Dr. Shrady's father was a schoolmate of Washington Irving and his grandfather fought on the American side during the Revolution. His son, Henry, sculpted the equestrian statue of General Grant that stands in Washington D.C. on the west side of the Capitol facing the Lincoln Memorial. The house is listed on the Westchester County Inventory of Historic Places (no owner restrictions) and believed to be the 4th oldest house in Westchester County.
AND, WHEREAS, the H&LPB, by resolution, found that the above named designated places comply with the criteria set forth in Section 235-5B for local landmark designation; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board referred the proposed action to the Planning Board for recommendation and advice as the proposed landmarks’ compatibility with the Town's Comprehensive Plan, the Town's Open Space Plan, Urban Renewal Plans and/or any other relevant reports and documents, as required by Subsection 235-5J of the Code of the Town of Greenburgh; and

WHEREAS, following the Planning Board finding that the Historic and Landmark Preservation Board’s recommended designations warrant further consideration, the Town Board held a duly noticed Public Hearing, pursuant to Subsection 235-5K of the Code of the Town of Greenburgh, providing an opportunity for all interested persons to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has considered its options, as specified in Subsection 235-5L of the Code of the Town of Greenburgh, which states that the Town Board, after holding a duly noticed public hearing, may:

1. Accept the report of the Historic and Landmark Preservation Board and designate one or more landmarks or historic districts;
2. Remand the report to the Historic and Landmark Preservation Board, outlining its concerns and its reasons for the remand; and
3. Reject the report of the Historic and Landmark Preservation Board and refuse to designate one or more landmarks or historic districts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Greenburgh, having considered the proposed landmarks’ compatibility with the Town's Comprehensive Plan, the Town's Open Space Plan, Urban Renewal Plans and/or any other relevant reports and documents, and having considered the comments of the Town’s Planning Board, and the public at the Public Hearing, hereby designates ______ (list of sites approved) ________, as local historic landmarks.

Document for 07/25/2012 Public Hearing Comment