



## *Honoring Margot Gayle: A Centennial Celebration*

January 15, 2008

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

On May 14, Margot Gayle will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday! To honor one of our founders, as well as one of New York City's eminent preservationists, the Metropolitan Chapter of the Victorian Society is throwing her a birthday party. The event will be held at 6:00 p.m. on her birthday at the Century Association 7 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street. We want you to be part of this special occasion as a member of the benefit committee!

As many of you know, it was around Margot's kitchen table that the Victorian Society in America was formed in 1966. Recognizing that the United States was rapidly losing its Victorian architecture, Margot Gayle rose to the challenge and established an organization that today boasts 16 chapters and over 1300 members.

Margot's commitment to historic preservation reaches far beyond her work with our organization. Her preservation efforts extend from the 1960s when she successfully campaigned to save the Jefferson Market Courthouse in Greenwich Village to a drive in the 1990s to restore the Yorkville sidewalk clock on Third Avenue near 85th Street.

A founder of the Friends of Cast Iron Architecture, she is credited with raising public awareness nationwide of the significance of iron-fronted buildings of the Victorian era. In addition to serving on the founding board of Friends of Terra Cotta, Margot is a widely accredited author and columnist.

This year, as a special centennial birthday present to Margot, the Metropolitan Chapter of the Victorian Society is asking the Landmarks Preservation Commission to designate the SoHo historic district expansion so that she may witness the culmination of her life's work.

Please join us on May 14 at the Century Association to wish Margot a happy birthday and honor a woman who has devoted her life to preserving the rich architectural legacy of New York City and the Victorian heritage of our country.

Sincerely,

Jeff Sholeen  
President

All but \$100 of your donation is tax deductible. Please keep this for your records.  
Names of attendees will be at the door.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY IN AMERICA  
c/o The Neighborhood Preservation Center  
232 East 11th Street, New York, NY 10003