

SOHO GARBAGE: FINAL REPORT

By the time you read this, your garbage will have begun to be picked upon a regular basis by the NYC Dept. of Sanitation. The collection program began on November 1st.

On October 27 an implementation meeting was held at the Sanit headquarters at 125 Worth Street. For the record, the following people were in attendance: Miss Rochelle Wall (Planning Board #2), Deputy Commissioner Frank Duval (Sanitation), Assistant Chiefs Maulella and Paterno (Sanit.), Frank Valentino (General Counsel, Sanit.), Hugh Marius and Michael Harbert (Env. Prot. Admin.), Marty Hechtman and Mark Gabor (Soho residents).

The following conditions were discussed and agreed upon:

Household garbage: The Sanit. Dept. will collect all conventional household garbage on a regular basis. (See attached map/schedule.) Most of the Soho area will have 5 pick-ups per week. The two sections east of Lafayette Street will have 6 pick-ups per week. In weeks containing official holidays, the schedule will be altered somewhat, but no one will lose more than one day's pick-up.

Heavy emphasis is placed on bagging our garbage in standard (trash-can size) plastic bags. The other choice -- acceptable, but not preferred -- is the 30-gallon (metal or plastic) lidded trash cans. Garbage left out in paper bags will not be picked up.

Bulk garbage: will be picked up one day a week. (See map/schedule for the day in your particular area.) Bulk comprises strictly household items -- not commercial or renovation waste. Typical bulk items are: sofas, stoves, beds, cabinets, bureaus, etc. Any refrigerator put out on the street must, by law, have the door removed.

Note: household bulk may be voluntarily carted by residents to the Gansvoort Street Sanitation Depot. See below for details.

Renovation waste, even when you are doing your own renovation, is no longer picked up by the Sanit. Dept. This is now a city-wide policy. However, any such waste, in small amounts, that can be broken up and put in standard plastic bags (or trash cans) will be accepted as part of the regular household pick-up. One other condition: each bag should be capable of being lifted and handled by one man.

If your renovation waste is extensive (large, heavy, or in quantity), you still have two alternatives: one, obviously, is to pay for a commercial dumpster; the other is to cart the material yourself to the Gansvoort Street Depot (on the Hudson River). This facility is designed as a voluntary bulk dump for NYC residents. It is open 24 hours a day, ^{every} day. [^]

The ~~the~~ only limitation is that vehicles with commercial plates are not permitted to enter. The Gansvoort facility is easy to get to: just head west, from any place in Soho, to West Street (which is beneath the West Side Highway; then turn north and look for the signs directing you to the Gansvoort Street Sanitation Depot.

Discarded artists' materials are subject generally to the same conditions as renovation waste. If the items are large, heavy, or in quantity, the artist is responsible for their disposal, either via private collection service or self-carting to the Gansvoort Street dump. But if the items can be put in plastic bags or trash cans -- in moderate amounts -- the Sanit. Dept. will pick them up more or less as household refuse.

Any questions about the above categories or conditions, call Mark Gabor at 966-2897 (evenings). Any special pick-up problems, requests, complaints, or the like, call the 13th Street Sanitation Inspection Headquarters: 477-8112.

The map/schedule for regular and bulk pick-ups is attached to this Newsletter. Please save it, since it contains your particular Sanitation District and Section -- and this info may be useful to you if you ever run into special problems relating to your collection service.

Daily pick-up begins at 7am. Your garbage should therefore be put out (at the "building line") either early in the morning, or late the night before. Please do not put out your garbage during business hours of the day. There are many reasons for this (such as ugly, illegal, and likely to get crushed and dispersed by truckers). But another reason is that which was stressed by the Sanit. Chiefs more than anything else: certain local merchants and commercial manufacturers will probably try to combine their trash with ours in order to gain free garbage collection. This is verbotten, and we must not let it happen lest we jeopardize our own pick-up service. Every resident must take some responsibility for observing and reporting any such opportunistic activity on the part of local businessmen. All commercial firms are required by law to pay private sanitation companies to pick up their waste. Violations of this law should be reported to the 13th Street Inspection Headquarters (477-8112)

By the same token, any Soho residents who seem to be ignoring (or balking at) the above guidelines should, in the interest of the community, be advised of what they ought to be doing. If this tack fails, they should be reported to the above Headquarters, or to Gabor (966-2897).

Finally, if you know of anybody who has moved into the Soho area in the last six months, and is not already receiving the Soho Newsletter, please have them call one of the following two numbers for garbage pick-up:

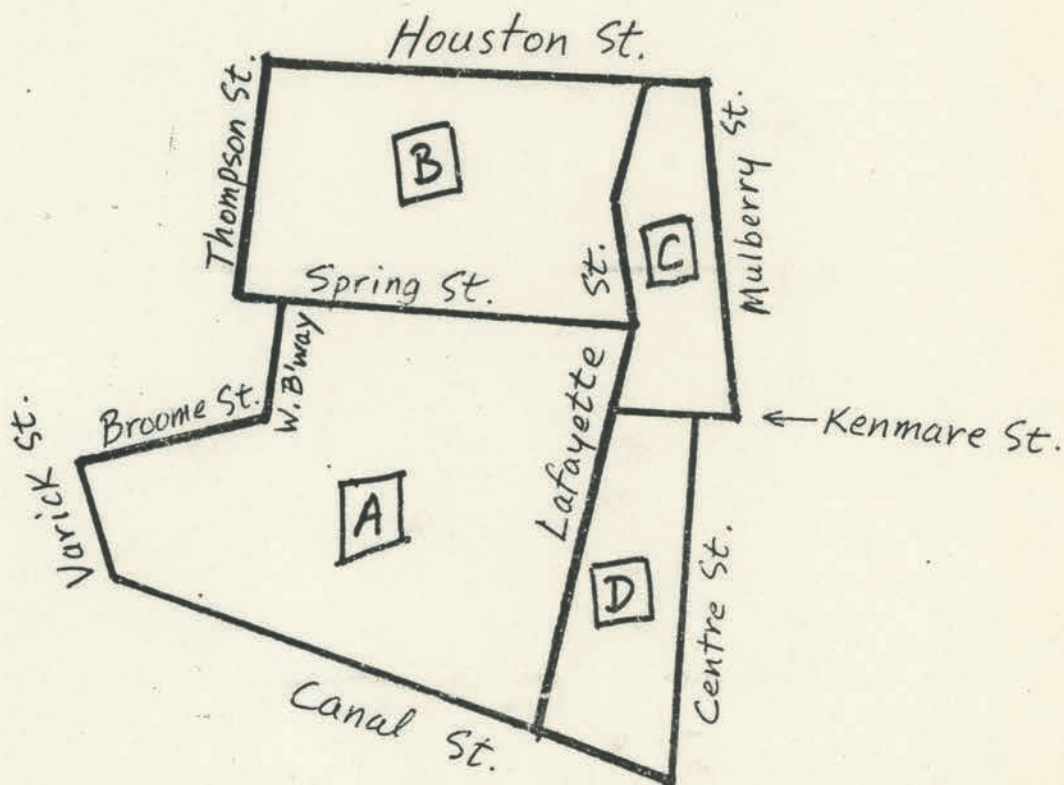
925-5870, if the new resident lives in areas A or B (District 1), as indicated on the map
or 673-5958, if the resident lives in areas C or D (District 2), on map.

The data needed by the Sanit. Dept. is not the names or number of individuals living in a building, but only the address of the building and number of living units within. Please remember that if you have been receiving the Soho Newsletter, you are already on the Sanit. Dept's list -- so do not call the above numbers.

A program like this is never 100% efficient, particularly in its initial stages. It is hoped that all contingencies were anticipated at the recent Sanit. Dept. meeting. If there are slip-ups here and there, depending on what they are, you have several phone numbers to call. Certainly, if your garbage is not being collected by the time you read this (assuming you've been putting your garbage out for collection, and assuming also that you live in the areas outlined on the map), then you should immediately call your District Sanitation office to add your building to their pick-up list.

Mark Gabor
November 1971

MAP/SCHEDULE FOR SOHO GARBAGE COLLECTION



<u>Living Area</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Pick-up Days for Regular Garbage</u>	<u>Bulk Pick-up Day</u>
A	1	12	Mon thru Thurs; and Sunday	Saturday
B	1	13	Mon thru Weds; Fri and Sat	Wednesday
C	2	24	Mon thru Sat	Wednesday
D	2	22	Mon thru Sat	Thursday

Telephone number to call for technical questions or special problems:
477-8112 (13th Street Sanitation Inspection Headquarters)

Telephone numbers to call for buildings to be added to collection list:
District 1 (Areas A and B on map): 925-5870
District 2 (Areas C and D on map): 673-5958

Note: if you already receive the Soho Newsletter, you are automatically on the Sanit Dept's current list -- so please do not call, unless they fail to pick up your garbage.