

## Former Horse Stables Become High-end Manhattan Real Estate



"Barnlike" may not be the first quality that comes to mind when describing high-end Manhattan housing, but two properties that included former horse stables have recently closed.

The newest closing to gallop across our path is at 136 W. 24th St., built in 1898 and a former horse stable for the Ladies Mile district, which housed some of New York's most illustrious department stores between the Civil War and World War I. Now the area is referred to as Flatiron, after the Flatiron building.

The loft sold within three weeks of the first viewing for \$100,000 above the asking price of \$2.35 million, said Core's David Beare, who shared the <u>listing</u> with his sister Elizabeth Beare. The 2,700-square-foot three-bedroom loft has a gas-burning fireplace as well as original features that include pressed tin ceilings, exposed brick and wooden beams.

The loft also has a manual elevator, which Beare realized could be a turnoff for some buyers, but said that the feeling as if you were in the country attracted interest. The buyer flew from the English countryside, right outside London, after hearing about the property from her sister.



Last week we reported on the sale of the Allan Stone Gallery in the upper East Side for \$9.9 million, a building that had been a firehouse with its own horse stables.

So while many may move here for bright lights, big city, some high-end home buyers also want to add big country to the list.

