

## Taconic Investment Partners and Thor Equities break ground on 837 Washington; Project designed by Morris Adjmi Architects

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Co-developers Taconic Investment Partners and Thor Equities have begun construction on 837 Washington, a new office and retail building that will redefine the standard of the Meatpacking District's architectural, aesthetic, and commercial offerings. Situated on the corner of Washington and 13th Sts., the existing landmark structure will be restored and integrated within a brand new 55,000 s/f space envisioned as a flagship location for market-leading companies from the fashion, technology, entertainment and media industries.

"837 Washington will be an example of best-in-class design and the highest quality new construction on one of the hottest blocks in the city," said Paul Pariser, co-CEO of Taconic Investment Partners. "The neighborhood has become a hotbed for global companies; it's the ideal location for a visionary corporate and retail flagship looking to brand their identity with a central position in the heart of the Meatpacking District."

837 Washington's three retail levels will total 28,000 s/f anchored by a corner presence on Washington and 13th Sts. near the Standard Hotel and the High Line. The office portion will measure 27,000 s/f, serviced by two elevators via a private lobby on Washington St., and have 12 ft. ceilings with full height divided light window walls affording natural light and views in every direction. In addition, the building offers private terrace spaces of 500 s/f on the 2nd floor, 3,500 s/f on the 3rd floor, and 3,000 s/f on the roof, with some of the Meatpacking District's best vantage points of the High Line, Hudson River, Midtown, and Lower Manhattan. Occupancy is slated for fall 2013.

"Located on one of the busiest corners in all the Meatpacking District, 837 Washington will be a premier high-street hot-spot for New Yorkers and tourists alike," said Joe Sitt, CEO of Thor Equities "We fully expect that numerous luxury brands will be interested in the retail space, and look forward to working with Taconic to develop a fantastic property in one of New York City's most dynamic and growing neighborhoods."

Taconic and Thor Equities selected Morris Adjmi Architects (MA) for its ingenuity in crafting distinguished buildings that complement the context of their surroundings.

"MA is pleased that the groundbreaking of this dynamic building is underway, and that our firm's vision for this historic and increasingly popular destination neighborhood is being realized by the developer," said architect Morris Adjmi.

The project has been designed to receive a LEED Gold rating from the U.S. Green Building Council. Located at the center of gravity in the Meatpacking District, 837 Washington is on a path well worn by foot traffic from both locals and visitors alike who frequent neighborhood icons including: Diane Von Furstenberg, Theory, Alexander McQueen, La Perla, Jeffrey New York, Apple; and renowned restaurants like The Standard Grille, Catch, STK, Fig & Olive and Scarpetta, among others. The

Whitney Museum of American Art, located to the immediate south, is set to debut in 2015 and will further solidify the neighborhood's position as a global lifestyle and cultural destination.

Since 1997, Taconic Investment Partners has acquired, redeveloped and repositioned over 12 million square feet of commercial office and mixed-use space, as well as 3,000+ units of luxury and workforce housing in the New York metropolitan area, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and Atlanta. As a fully integrated real estate operating company with a keen eye for uncovering value, its diverse capabilities are evidenced by its multifaceted success with luxury properties, as well as adaptive reuse and urban revitalization projects. In New York City, Taconic is currently co-developer of 837 Washington in New York's Meatpacking District, 71 Laight Street in TriBeCa and has assembled significant land holdings in Coney Island for residential development. The firm also manages various real estate funds on behalf of institutional and pension fund investors.

Thor Equities is a leader in urban real estate development, leasing and management, pursuing premier retail and mixed-use assets in high-density areas. Thor Equities provides the best possible "High Street" retail and mixed-use building environments throughout the urban landscape across the United States, LatinAmerica and Europe - all while delivering attractive, risk-adjusted returns to investors. The Thor Equities team delivers optimum results - assessing the most efficient way to operate a property to generate returns for investors by recognizing potential, reducing operating expenses, increasing tenant satisfaction, and leveraging market trends to maintain a property's long-term competitive edge. The goal is to provide an unmatched "lifestyle" experience for the end user, whether it be living, working or shopping. Simply put, Thor Equities matches the people, the capital and the expertise to achieve unparalleled results.

Morris Adjmi Architects is known for its ability to create architecture composed of clear contemporary forms that are inspired by context and history. MA is a New York City based architecture and interior design firm providing comprehensive design services to corporate, commercial and residential clients.

Recent buildings designed by the firm include Theory in the historic Meatpacking District of Manhattan, 837 Washington Street directly across from The Standard, Wilf Hall at New York University, Wythe Hotel in Brooklyn, the iconic Scholastic Building in Soho, and multiple visionary mixed-use and residential projects in world cities, including New York, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C. and Milan. Morris Adjmi established MA in 1997 following a successful 10-year partnership with the renowned Italian architect Aldo Rossi. The firm continues to draw upon this rich history while looking toward the future to make buildings that are both modern and timeless.

**Project Team:** 

Architect: Morris Adjmi Architects Construction Manager: Sciame

Exterior Envelope Consultant: Frank Seta & Associates

MEP Engineer: Icor Associates

Owner/Developer: Taconic Investment Partners

Owner/Developer: Thor Equities

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