REVIVING HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE THROUGH REDEVELOPMENT: An Adaptive Reuse Proposal for the Former Childs Restaurant Building on Coney Island, New York

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The former Childs Restaurant on Coney Island was designed and built in 1923 by architects Dennison & Hirons and designated a New York City Landmark in 2003. The former restaurant will be preserved and reinvented for the redevelopment of Coney Island through a proposal for an adaptive reuse program and subsequent design response. Reprogramming the building into a skate park seeks to preserve both the architectural integrity of the landmark and the flavor of Coney Island as an amusement park for the world. The result is a hybrid form of preservation and contemporary design that reinforces Coney Island's sense of place. A desirable sense of place is one that celebrates the present while making connections with both the past and future. The goal is to not compromise the building's original authenticity, but to enhance it by confronting it with a bold new program.