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HEADLINE: Metro Briefing New York: Manhattan: Judge Rules Against Preservationists

BYLINE: By Sabrina Tavernise (NYT); Compiled by John Sullivan

BODY:

Landmark West,

a preservation group fighting to obtain landmark status for 2 Columbus Circle, suffered a setback yesterday, when Justice Michael D. Stallman of State Supreme Court in Manhattan ruled against the group's petition to block the Museum of Arts and Design from buying the building.

Landmark West

had accused the museum, currently known as the American Craft Museum, of improperly trying to influence the commission. The judge also dismissed the group's claim that the city should have to pass special legislation to sell the building. **Landmark West**

said it would appeal the ruling. A spokeswoman for the Museum of Arts and Design, Cheri Fein, said it planned to proceed with the purchase. Sabrina Tavernise (NYT)

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