



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
100 West 72nd Street
September 28, 2010**

LANDMARK WEST! is a not-for-profit community organization committed to the preservation of the architectural heritage of the Upper West Side.

The Certificate of Appropriateness Committee wishes to comment on the application to install rooftop acoustical panels at 100-102 West 72nd Street, aka 248-256 Columbus Avenue, a Renaissance Revival style store building designed by McKim, Meade and White and built in 1892-93.

For rooftop additions, our committee consistently advocates that materials and finishes keep within a rooftop vernacular. That is to say, rather than propose an addition that distorts the original architecture by extending a cornice line without any delineation of old and new, or attempt to cloak rooftop space in wood siding, we recommend using materials customarily found in utilitarian rooftop environments.

Our Committee found the proposal for acoustical panels at 100 West 72nd Street to appropriately mask the unsightly rooftop mechanical equipment by playing off the party wall of its westerly neighbor. The panels do not call undue attention to themselves, nor do they attempt to portray themselves as something more architecturally significant than they are. Just the right balance of aesthetic care and practicality has been achieved.

LANDMARK WEST! recommends approval of this application.