



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
100 West 80th Street, the Orleans
January 19, 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 to construct a rooftop addition at 100 West 80th Street, the Orleans, a Beaux-Arts-style hotel and boarding house designed by Buchman & Deisler and built in 1898-1900.

The roofscape of 100 West 80th Street, the Orleans, serves as host to two earlier rooftop additions, one constructed prior to the designation of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District in 1990 and another constructed with Commission approval in 1997/1998. Viewed from West 80th Street, midblock between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues—the thoroughfare from which the proposed addition is most visible—the hodge-podge quality of the roof is plainly seen. A veritable pyramid of accretions mars the Orleans' roof, and the proposed addition only exacerbates this problem.

Glomming on another rooftop addition merely for the purpose of maxing out buildable area is not responsible landmark stewardship. The Commission must defend the Orleans from inappropriate accretions such as this. We urge you to deny this application.