

**Hearing Date: 1/13/2004**

**LPC Docket Number: 043001**

**Manhattan, Block: 1119, Lot: 50**

**50 West 67 Street - Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District**

A neo-Renaissance style apartment building built in 1916-17 designed by Shape and Brady. Application is to replace the arch-headed windows.

**HDC Testimony**

The Historic Districts Council stands firm in its belief that historic wooden windows should only be replaced when they are deteriorated beyond repair. The existing multi-paned, wooden windows are an essential characteristic of this neo-Renaissance style apartment building. In this instance, the eight windows that are to be replaced appear to be in good condition and could be easily repaired if they present any problems. We object strongly to the introduction of aluminum windows in the building's façade, as they are unnecessary and are incompatible with this historic district.

**Hearing Date: 1/13/2004**

**LPC Docket Number: 042003**

**Manhattan, Block: 1144, Lot: 7501**

**105 West 72nd Street - Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District**

A neo-Renaissance style apartment building with Churrigueresque style elements designed by George and Edward Blum and built in 1913. Application is to legalize the removal of a balcony on the 11th floor without Landmarks Preservation Commission permits.

**HDC Testimony**

As always, the Historic Districts Council objects to work done without the permission of the Landmarks Preservation Commission. The owners of 105 West 72nd Street did not have permission to remove the terra cotta balcony when they were doing façade restoration work in the early 1990's. The Landmarks Preservation Commission did not permit them to remove the balcony then, and therefore should not legalize the work now. If the Commission were to legalize the stripping of the wonderful terra cotta balcony from this George and Edward Blum building, it would be rewarding these applicants who flouted the Landmarks Law with a lower standard of review. The Landmarks Law should be applied evenly to all applicants.

In this case, the terra cotta balcony with the wonderful small window openings was an integral part of this building. In their book on George and Edward Blum, Susan Tunick and Andrew Dolkart write, "Unlike other apartment house architects in New York, the Blums did not generally purchase stock terra-cotta designs in catalogues; rather, they commissioned pieces with a distinctive aesthetic." Without a doubt, this balcony was a unique design that added a distinctive character to this 1913 building. We urge the Commission to deny the application for legalization and require the applicant to replicate the wonderful terra cotta balcony.

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.  
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.