

**Hearing Date: 10/11/2005**  
**LPC Docket Number: 058953**  
**Manhattan, Block: 1165, Lot: 36**

**2112 Broadway - Individual Landmark Historic District**

An Italian Renaissance Palazzo style bank building designed by York and Sawyer. Application is to modify the West 74th Street entrance.

**HDC Testimony**

HDC is very familiar with this building as it happens to be the home branch of our bank. We are very pleased to see restorative work proposed for these wonderful iron gates, however, we would like to see them preserved in an operable position rather than what is proposed. The fixing of these gates, one in a closed position, and one open, will have an awkward effect on this entrance and HDC does not believe that this proposal is acceptable as proposed. We encourage the applicant to review all possible options to find a better solution; the door is far too important of a feature to be treated in this manner.

**Hearing Date: 10/11/2005**  
**LPC Docket Number: 057762**  
**Manhattan, Block: 1229, Lot: 34**

**450 Amsterdam Avenue - Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District**

A Romanesque Revival style flats building designed by Gilbert A. Schellenger and built in 1891. Application is to replace a storefront installed without Landmarks Preservation Commission permits.

**HDC Testimony**

It is always problematic to consider legalizations and we are pleased to see that the applicants are apparently making a greater attempt to correct the illegal work by proposing a new, more appropriate storefront. However, we are deeply concerned about the choice of materials. Frankly, mahogany is not an appropriate choice for a material in a historic storefront or along a historic streetscape. HDC's Public Review committee was hard-put to cite one example of mahogany being used historically in a storefront and it should not be used now. We urge the Commission to instruct the applicants to choose a more appropriate material for this application.

**Hearing Date: 10/11/2005**  
**LPC Docket Number: 061440**  
**Manhattan, Block: 1897, Lot: 19**

**Riverside Park - Scenic Landmark Historic District**

An English-Romantic-style park built in 1873-75, designed by Frederick Law Olmstead, with modifications and additions built in 1934-37. Application is to install new pathways.

**HDC Testimony**

HDC does not object to the pathways or the paving material proposed in this application. However, we feel that the installation of Belgium block edging on the pathways is too formalized and creates a structured look to the new paths that is at odds with the natural, Romantic character of the original design of the park. Allowing the paths to edge off into the green space would be much more appropriate to this park, and if some kind of retaining walls are structurally necessary for the paths, we urge them to be as invisible and non-obtrusive as possible.

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