



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
333 West End Avenue
February 1, 2011**

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 legalize the installation of AC condensers without Landmarks Preservation Commission permits at 333 West End Avenue, a neo-Venetian Gothic-style apartment building, designed by Emery Roth and built in 1925.

In just a few months' time—on March 22nd, to be exact—the Landmarks Preservation Commission will hold the first of three Public Hearings to consider the extension of two historic districts on West End Avenue (the Riverside West-End Historic District Extensions I and II slated for March 22 and October 25, respectively; the West End Collegiate Historic District Extension slated for June 28). These imminent public hearings mean that it is more important than ever for the Commission to protect the integrity of its *Rules* and set a positive example for property owners in both existing historic districts and proposed historic district extensions.

With so many business owners and residents of the proposed district extensions wondering aloud, "What does designation mean for our neighborhood and for our building in particular?", the Commission's action today is poised as a tangible response. By denying this inappropriate application to legalize mounted AC condensers to the façade of Emery Roth's 333 West End Avenue—visual pollutants, to be sure—the Commission sends a clear message. Landmark designation does have meaning, and your denial of this application will underscore the important function of this agency, the seriousness of its regulations, and the fairness of its administration.