

women's city club
of new york, inc.

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STATEMENT OF THE WOMEN'S CITY CLUB OF NEW YORK, INC.
Re Application For Certificate of Appropriateness to
Construct A Tower Atop The New York Historical Society
Building As An Addition To the Museum
Before The
Landmarks Preservation Commission
Tuesday, January 24, 1984

I am Henriette B. Nathan, Vice Chairman of the Arts and Landmarks Committee of the Women's City Club of New York.

The Women's City Club of New York is a nonpartisan, non-profit, civic and educational organization which, for over sixty-five years, has been dedicated to improving the quality of life in New York City.

The home of the New York Historical Society is a designated landmark and is also part of the Central Park West - 76th Street Historic District. The building is surrounded by Landmarks - Central Park, American Museum of Natural History; and with distinguished buildings of the Deco Era: the San Remo Apartments, the Beresford Apartments. All of these architectural elements create a remarkable vista of good design.

Last November, the Women's City Club urged the City Planning Commission and the Landmarks Preservation Commission to take into consideration the importance of vistas enhancing buildings, parks or open spaces. We also took a position last September which urged the Landmarks Preservation Commission to deny the granting of a certificate of appropriateness for the construction of an apartment tower extending over the Shearith Israel Synagogue (on Central Park West).

We would for the same reasons urge the Landmarks Commission to deny the application for a certificate of appropriateness to the New York Historical Society.