



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
661 West End Avenue
January 8, 2008**

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 construct a rooftop addition on this Jacobean Revival style rowhouse, built in 1900-01, designed by Clarence True and designated as part of the Riverside-West End Historic District.

Credited with popularizing the American basement plan for rowhouse design, Clarence True began his professional training in 1881 when he joined the offices of Richard Upjohn. Building his career by working with speculative developers on the Upper West Side, True is credited with the design of at least 270 houses in the neighborhood, many of which are located proximate to 661 West End Avenue.

Proposed Rooftop Addition

With respect to this application, we are not in favor of the design of the proposed addition nor the removal of the dormer window, but since this proposed change is not visible from West End Avenue or West 92nd Street, we are not opposed. It would be more appropriate to clad the addition in roofing materials—metal or slate—than in stucco.