



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
127 West 88th Street
October 11, 2016**

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 an areaway fence without Landmarks Preservation Commission Permits (s) at 127 West 88th Street, a Renaissance Revival style rowhouse designed by Alonzo Kight and built in 1898 that is part of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee is generally against legalizations because they short-circuit the process and often reward applicants who do not follow the rules in the first place.

In the case of 127 West 88th Street, we understand the interest in protecting one's private property, and are not against a fence, or even a fence erected above a knee wall as shown in the majority of precedents from this block. Our Committee's concern lies with the height of the fence which is easily a foot taller than necessary.

In our Committee's view, while the material and style of the fence are appropriate and might well have been approved had this gone before the full commission, we feel strongly that the height would have been amended. The Commission has the opportunity to make this correction, or at least not endorse this infraction.

Thank you for your time.