

Testimony of LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission 201 West 81st Street April 19, 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 install awnings and a barrier-free access ramp at 201 West 81st Street, a Renaissance/Romanesque Revival style flats building designed by Gilbert A. Schellenger and built in 1894, which is part of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee agrees that buildings are for people and is happy to support this application, which will quite literally make this building easier for more of the public to access.

We recognize that there are limitations in accommodating the disabled in existing buildings that adhere to different codes. This modest ramp, which would be situated along the secondary facade on a side street, would not interfere with the newly installed storefront and should ease transition to the threshold. This will be achieved while still allowing the avenue frontage to host what is expected to be lively sidewalk dining accommodations.

Our committee welcomes our new neighbor and feels this is an appropriate alteration. As long as this meets code, we would support approval of this certificate of appropriateness.

Thank you for your time.