



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!  
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee  
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission  
473 West End Avenue  
June 7th, 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 a rooftop bulkhead with canopy at 473 West End Avenue, a Renaissance Revival style apartment house designed by Gaetan Ajello and built in 1923-24. It is part of the Riverside-West End Historic District Extension I.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee carefully reviewed this application and found it to be "refreshingly anonymous".

Given the building's existing infrastructure, we understand the reasoning of the stair placement and subsequently how the volume of the enclosure was governed by the limitations of basic code requirements for function. Despite its simple recipe for creation, it does not leave one with an institutional bureaucratic aftertaste, but functions as a hearty staple.

The material choices with glass-faced southern exposure are unique to this assembly but commiserate with existing bulkhead syntax; and that the glass canopy is a clear silhouette extension of the proposed volume. Based on the range of precedents provided, this is a benign option that could hopefully swing the pendulum of precedents for future such additions within the district.

We are in support of this C of A.

Thank you for your consideration.