220 East 138th Street = Bronx, NY 10451 = 212.491.3000 = Fax 212.491.5630 www.skylinewindows.com
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission
One Centre Street
New York, NY 10007
RE: 51 West $81^{\text {st }}$ Street, Master Plan Application
January 20, 2016
Under advisement from the LPC, the board members of the Galaxy, 51 West $81^{\text {st }}$ Street, voted to apply for a Master Plan covering window replacements in the building. Below I outline a brief history of the building and the windows and then the proposed Master Plan for windows. Attached are current and historic photos along with detailed building elevations and window detail drawings.

## The Galaxy (general history and designation):

The building was designed in the Beaux-Arts style by architect Frederick C. Browne (active from 1890-1925), and built between 1903-1905 as the Hotel Colonial for the owner Manhattan Square Realty Company. It was then converted into residential apartments in 1979.
The designation report, from when the Upper West Side District was Landmarked in 1990, notes that the windows were "one over one double-hung/wood", and that the building included store-fronts on the lower floor, with some additional details about the construction of the building but no additional information about the windows.

## The Windows

Attached are historic photos that show the historic windows as:
Single one over one double-hungs.
Paired one over one double-hungs.
And then each of those with top fixed transoms.
It also appears that at some point the paired windows were changed to a single double-hung in the center with side lites, and then changed again in 80 s in a building wide replacement back to pairs.
Note that there is a unique condition likely created when the building was converted in 1979. If you look closely (attachment \#11) you will see that there is a South facing window opening bifurcated by the wall separating the H \& J apartment lines. This window was modified during the 1979 conversion to allow for each apartment to get about half of the window opening. It is possible that when the building was converted this was either necessary to meet air and light requirements and/or was done to achieve a certain range of apartment sizes to allow for a more varied price range on units being offered in the building. Whatever the reason, the decision was made and that is reflected in the building today.
Note that the proposed single and paired double-hung windows, to be painted on the exterior in a dark brown finish, are to be installed to the brick, removing the entire aluminum replacement window. The exception is the unique window split by the H\&J apartment lines. It is not possible to do this bifurcated window brick to brick and it must be installed within the existing frames. This means that the "site-lines", or the visible metal sections of the windows on the exterior, will be slightly thicker on the windows straddling the $\mathrm{H} \& \mathrm{~J}$ lines. Instead of the frame going all the way to the brick, the new frame will sit inside the existing frame, and add to the thickness of the visible metal. This detail is reflected in the attached drawings.
Other buildings by Frederick C. Browne with paired double-hung windows:
The Hargrave, 104 West $72^{\text {nd }}$ Street
The Collect Pond House, 366 Broadway, 1908-1909
684 Broadway, 1905
652 Broadway, 1906
Croisic Building, 218-220 5th avenue, 1912
Hotel Maryland, 104 West 49 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Street, 1905

Cordially,


Ian Carlevarini



Note cars on Columbus and no elevated train - later image than previous:
3 Window configuration - see zoomed view next slide
separate apartments, both F Windows
Large




This is the oldest most original image - note green space in front no trees
Zoomed view next slide







MTM MT



81ST STREET SOUTH ELEVATION
PROPOSED BUILDING ELEVATIONS





## colombia avenue west elevation EXISTING BUILDING ELEVATIONS



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& 11 T H F L
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& 9 T H F L
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6TH FL
5TH FL

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\phi^{1 \mathrm{ST} \mathrm{FL}}
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目

## colombia avenue west elevation <br> PROPOSED BUILDING ELEVATIONS




## BUILDING REAR NORTH ELEVATION

## EXISTING BUILDING ELEVATIONS




BUILDING REAR NORTH ELEVATION
PROPOSED BUILDING ELEVATIONS



## BUILDING REAR EAST ELEVATION

EXISTING BUILDING ELEVATIONS



BUILDING REAR EAST ELEVATION
PROPOSED BUILDING ELEVATIONS










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EXISTING WINDOW ELEVATIONS












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EXTERIOR


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