



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
72 West 69th Street
August 8, 2017**

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 72 West 69th Street, a Renaissance/Romanesque Revival style flats building designed by Gilbert A. Schellenger and built in 1892-93. The application is to install a barrier-free access lift.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee feels very strongly that our landmarks (and city) should be made accessible and appreciates the applicant's efforts to accommodate all New Yorkers. We believe this is a strong project.

While the closure of Bill Telepan's restaurant is still very raw, we welcome "Billy's Bootcamp" and increased accessibility. Our hope is that the new lift will not impinge upon or disturb the bas relief masonry, although it will unfortunately block it under this proposal.

Ideally the intricacy and effort extended to this amenable intervention would improve the lives not only of patrons of this storefront, but also the contiguous residences. Minor modifications seem to be possible to allow this lift to service the residential lobby as well; a laudable goal we would encourage all landmark owners to consider when retrofitting for accessibility.

Landmark West! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee recommends approval of this application.