

How will you make appropriate improvements to landmark sites?

When I was on the Board of Landmark West, I worked extensively on landmark protection. Landmark rules are designed to protect our historic buildings and allow our neighborhood to grow in a way consistent with its past. We need a careful balance to ensure that we can move forward as a community while preserving the character and history that makes the Upper West Side the best neighborhood in the country.

The reason we have a landmark preservation commission is because each landmark is unique and important in its own way. Each needs to be considered in its own historical and neighborhood context. That's why we examine each one independently. Some projects warrant more scrutiny than others. For instance, we sometimes over-enforce minor infractions by small businesses—which we desperately need to keep in our community—while letting a condo undergo a massive construction without a strong-enough response.

