



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
381 West End Avenue
June 19, 2018**

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 381 West End Avenue, a Flemish Renaissance Revival apartment house designed by Frederick B. White and built in 1885-86. The application is to restore the façade, modify windows, and construct a rooftop addition.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee wishes to extend our appreciation to the applicants for their thoughtful and thorough work on this restoration project, which is one of the most careful and considered that we have seen as of late.

The applicants' in-depth research revealed a number of non-original elements at this landmark, and their restoration plans include numerous measures to rectify past disruptions to the 1885 design. From their restoration of arches to the primary façade windows, to their magnificent plans to restore a two-story bay, the applicant is going to significant measures to return this landmark to its original glory.

We had intended to commend the applicants further for the subtlety of their rooftop addition. However, it has been brought to our attention that a restrictive covenant exists which forbids such an addition in order to preserve the light and air of the neighboring homes in this ensemble of eight buildings. As the proposed addition would violate this covenant, we request the rooftop addition portion be removed from any commissioners' approval.

Overall, we look forward to seeing the restoration of this gem of West End Avenue, and we wish that other applicants would look to this proposal as an example of how to beautify and honor our historic landmarks and their legacy, while judiciously bringing them into the 21st century.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee recommends approval of this application, providing that such approval excludes the rooftop addition.