

THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

Testimony of LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission 600 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 600 West End Avenue, a Neo-Renaissance apartment building designed by Schwartz and Gross and built in 1910-11. The application is for the installation of wall condensing units.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness is concerned with this application to make yet another incision into this historic façade. Yes, this building is pitted, in places, by similar intrusions—but does that mean we give up on it? The large proposed openings are located on the fourth floor—much lower than the majority of the existing units and highly visible from street level, and disruptive to the beauty of this landmark façade.

Just because bad decisions were made elsewhere does not mean they need to be repeated. We urge the applicant to seek a less obtrusive solution.