



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
3 Riverside Drive: The Kleeberg Residence
August 7, 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 3 Riverside Drive (the Kleeberg Residence), a French Renaissance Revival/Renaissance Revival rowhouse designed by G.P.H. Gilbert and built in 1896-1898. The application is to construct rooftop and rear yard additions, alter the areaway, install new window openings, and replace windows.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee reviewed this application with a rising sense of trepidation. We were disturbed by the sheer volume of proposed changes have been piled on, one after another, resulting in a cluttered accumulation that would mar this individual landmark.

The jumble of rear yard additions and alterations proposed would obscure and alter this landmark home significantly. Furthermore, the proposed rooftop addition is an example of how a truly egregious and bulky addition can take away from a gorgeous piece of architectural history. This intrusive, bland block does not match the rich and elaborate style of this landmark, and detracts from the “elaborately decorative roofline” described in this landmark’s designation report as one of its distinctive features.

LANDMARK WEST’s Certificate of Appropriateness Committee recommends denial of this application, and hopes the Commission will act to ensure the continued protection of this beautiful and storied individual landmark.