



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!  
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee  
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission  
200 West 83<sup>rd</sup> Street  
May 14, 2019**

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 200 West 83<sup>rd</sup> Street, a Neo-Grec style flats building designed by Thom and Wilson and built in 1880-81. The application is to modify an existing one-story addition, install new entrance infill, signage and doors.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee discussed this proposal at length. While there is general consensus that this is an improvement over the spaghetti-western bank stage set it seeks to replace, there were concerns over the sculptural architectural elements and façade restoration.

Regarding the façade restoration, everyone agreed that repairing the through-wall air conditioner aperture would best be done now with the completion of the façade work, otherwise it may never be repaired.

As for the new intervention of the package room/entry, the committee found this to be a smart solution to a modern problem that will help consolidate services for this row and unite them in a 21<sup>st</sup> Century context. Especially as bricks and mortar retail spaces give way to online shoppers, this new amenity space will add to the life of the street.

Concerns over the protruding metal features were quelled with the understanding that this façade is further recessed than the current one, and that no original fabric is being lost in the rebuild.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee supports the proposed modifications.