



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
2 West 67th Street
April 21, 2020**

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 2 West 67th Street, a neo-renaissance style building built in 1919 and altered prior to designation, now within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. The application is to replace windows.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee praises the efforts of all applicants to install more energy efficient fenestration in historic buildings. The values that inform environmentally sustainable practices in architecture align with those of the greater architectural preservation community. However, in doing so, it is imperative that the historic integrity of these window assemblies is retained. In the case of this full frame replacement at 2 West 67th Street, an acceptable level of historic accuracy is not being retained or aspired toward. The LANDMARKWEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee does not support this application as presented.

LANDMARK WEST promotes the return to historic window configurations in the case of full frame replacements. Including the 1940 tax photographs from the New York City Municipal Archives in their presentation, this applicant is clearly aware of the historic window configurations at 2 West 67th Street. Rather than retaining the lowest picture window, which was added after 1940, they should feel inclined to return to the 1919 configuration of four sashes. Additionally, the return to a symmetry of four functional casement windows per bay would be preferable. The confusing and crowded diagrams provided make the functionality of the replacement unclear.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee appreciates this application for its efforts to implement an environmentally sustainable window treatment, however, we cannot legitimize further deviation from the original fenestration. This applicant is perpetuating inaction concerning the retention of the lower picture window, despite self-expressed understanding of the historic configuration. We cannot support this application for approval.