Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
311 West 90th Street
May 19, 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 311 West 90th Street, a Renaissance-Revival style rowhouse designed by Thomas J. Sheridan and built in 1890-1891 from within the Riverside-West End Historic District. The application is to alter entry doors.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee found the configuration of the applicant’s currently installed, non-original doors to be more closely suited to the landmark than a substitute in different material, configuration and dimension as is proposed. Further, while the neighbor has repurposed some decorative ironwork, what is proposed at this landmark (#311) does not match in scroll pattern nor sidelite configuration to the historic precedent from its Thomas J. Sheridan-designed neighbor.

With any restoration, when information is not available, liberties must be taken. In this instance, #315, a B of an ABABA pattern, remains true to its tax photo, and lights the way with its double wood framed glass doors to the parlor entry and ornate iron gate at the basement entrance. This proposal further distances itself from the original design intent.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee suggests disapproval of this application.