



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission
780 West End Avenue
September 28, 2021**

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 780 West End Avenue, an Arts & Crafts style apartment building from within the West End-Collegiate Historic District Extension II. This landmark was designed by George & Edward Blum and built 1912-1914. The application is to replace windows.

The Landmark West Certificate of Appropriateness Committee appreciates this resident's interest in replacement windows. When reviewing this application, we couldn't help but think of Matthew McConaughey as he accepted his best actor Academy Award for *Dallas Buyers Club*:

“Alright, alright, alright”

While replacing these windows in kind might be alright in itself, it is eyes wide open, not the original 3 over 3 and 2 over 2 double hung windows of the original plan, thus it is the wrong design—*not alright*.

While the rationale is that “to revert to the historic configuration would result in an interruption of the façade's aesthetic continuity” that thinking is *not alright*.

If these windows truly need to be replaced, their neighboring windows are likely not far behind. Will each of these repeat the mistakes until the façade is forever *all wrong, all wrong, all wrong*?

Correcting this façade will undoubtedly take time; why not let these windows be the start of something all right.

Alright?

Thank You.