



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!  
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee  
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission  
225 West 99<sup>th</sup> Street – St. Michael’s Episcopal Church – Individual Landmark  
June 7, 2022**

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 the individually landmarked 225 West 99<sup>th</sup> Street, a complex of three Romanesque Revival style ecclesiastical buildings combined with other stylistic motifs, including a Church designed by Robert W. Gibson and built in 1890-91; a Parish House designed by F. Charles Merry built in 1896-97, and completed by Robert W. Gibson in 1901; and a Rectory designed by Robert W. Gibson and built in 1912-13. The application is to alter entrances, install a canopy, construct barrier-free access ramps, and enclose an interior courtyard.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee was very eager to see this series of interventions that will make this quintessential complex more accessible to the public. From ramps to pathways, to walls to door alterations and fence modifications, the Committee was in agreement.

The greatest discussion came from the glass canopy. Some members believed it should match the building’s ironmongery. Painted metal as shown seems to be the most cost-effective option but there was concern over the glazed infill. Although not distracting from the landmark, these have a habit of becoming maintenance headaches. Our committee questioned if a more solid canopy with integrated lighting might be considered.

On the whole, the LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee finds the proposed work to be an improvement and suggests approval of this application.