172 West 79th Street, Apartment 18F Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District

Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District



Source: NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission

LPC Designation Report

172-174 West 79th Street (a/k/a 383-391 Amsterdam Avenue)

LPC Designation Report Description:

Facade(s): Number of Stories: Window Type/Material: Brick 18 Six-over-one double-hung/Wood Paired six-over-one double-hung/Wood



Primary façades: West 79th street (North) & Amsterdam avenue (West)



Secondary façade (South) window replacement petition

Petitioning for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of two double-hung windows on the South facing secondary façade (green box - apartment 18F). *Secondary façade with no relationship to the primary façade.*



Proposed window modification

Current window configuration:

EXISTING DOUBLE HUNG WINDOW TO BE REPLACED SOUTH ELEVATION EXISTING DOUBLE HUNG WINDOW TO BE REPLACED DINING DINING KITCHEN RM. RM. 18th FL EXTERIOR BRICK FACADE EXISTING EXTERIOR WALL ELEVATION: SOUTH 3 SCALE: #" = 1'-0" NEW CASEMENT WINDOW @ KITCHEN SOUTH ELEVATION KITCHEN DINING RM. NEW PICTURE WINDOW TO REPLACE EXISTING 2x DOUBLE HUNG WINDOWS

EXTERIOR BRICK FACADE

Proposed new window configuration:

- Picture window to replace 6-over-1 double hung window in kitchen
- Picture window to replace 6-over-1 paired double hung window in dining room
- Finish will match existing materials (black aluminum & double glazed window)

Exterior visual



EXISTING WINDOW TO APT 18f- THESE WINDOW TO BE REPLACED

Related LPC approvals & communication

- 1. Per LPC staff email communication, we are not required to maintain the double-hung function of the windows (Docket # LPC-22-11138)
- 2. The Landmarks Preservation Commission has already approved a through-wall louver installed through plain brickwork on the south courtyard facade (CNE-22-11138)
 - "The Commission finds that the work is in accordance with [...] Section 2-21(d)(2) for through-wall HVAC equipment on visible secondary facades"
 - "The Commission [...] finds that the work will have no effect on significant protected features of the building"



Windows have limited visibility from the streets

Photo taken from the double window opening, red circles indicate *unobstructed* visible street sections:



Map view - street areas where the windows can be seen (*including with tree obstruction for West 77th street*):



West 78th street

Photo taken from the location where one of the two windows is visible, an 8 ft opening between 173 and 169 West 78th street:



West 77th street

The windows are visible without tree obstruction in front of 154 West 77th street and 160 West 77th street:



West 77th street (alternate views)

Sunny morning in winter:



Summer with leaves:



West 77th street - view from rest of the block

Views from South side of West 77th street walking West (excluding two sections shown on slides #11-12)



Precedents - floor below and next-door building

LPC permit issued for new windows on the same façade on the floor below in 2014 (LPC-16-4449):



EXISTING WINDOW TO APT 18f- THESE WINDOW TO BE REPLACED

• WINDOW FOR APARTMENT BELOW-17F HAS ALREADY BEEN CONVERTED TO PICTURE WINDOW-SIMILAR TO OUR PROPOSAL Four picture windows on two different floors of 164 West 79th street, all visible from same area on West 77th street:



Precedents - West 79th street, secondary facades

Green: our application

Red: Twenty-seven 6-over-1 windows previously replaced with picture windows for buildings on the South side of West 79th street (secondary facades facing South - all identified walking on West 77th street between Amsterdam & Columbus Avenues)



Petition rationale

We kindly petition the Landmarks Preservation Commission to consider our request for a Certificate of Appropriateness based on:

- There is only limited visibility of the windows
- The visibility is only from a far distance (two blocks away) and mostly obstructed by trees
- The configuration change isn't always noticeable depending on sunlight/shadows and season
- The windows are located on a visible secondary façade with no relationship with the primary façade
- There are nearby precedents: on the floor below and nearby buildings

Our windows do not meet the "minimally visible" LPC definition, but we hope the Commission considers some of the similarities: "A window is considered minimally visible if it is seen at such an angle that its configuration cannot be recognized, or only a small portion of the facade can be seen through a gap in the street wall and is visually disconnected from the building's primary facade".

Appendix

Application - second window

Our request includes our kitchen window, which is even less visible

View from kitchen window:



Relative placement vs. single window approved on 17th floor:

