



THE COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE THE UPPER WEST SIDE

**Testimony of LANDMARK WEST!  
Certificate of Appropriateness Committee  
Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Riverside Park - Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument  
June 11, 2024**

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 Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument designed by Charles W. and Arthur A. Stoughton and Paul E.M. Duboy and built in 1900-1902 within the English Romantic-style Riverside Park built in 1873-1875 and designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, with modifications and additions built in 1934-37 and designed by Clifton Lloyd and Gilmore Clarke. The application is to remove two balustrades to install ADA pathways to the monument, remove curbing, relocate cannon balls, and regrade the site.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee applauds this artful approach to the complex problem of making a landmark monument accessible while maintaining its character. We are delighted to see this monument getting the attention it deserves. As a memorial site and a place of gathering and admiration for many Upper West Siders, its restoration is vital for the community.

The return of the original herringbone brick pavers, the intended design by Stoughton, Stoughton & Duboy, is equally important to the character of the historic monument, and we are glad to see them returned almost 90 years later.

Our Committee would like to know if any attempt could be made to alter the material of the handrails. These pipe railings are seen in abundance at historical sites, and we understand they are a cost-effective and minimalistic choice, however, another material, perhaps bronze would read better with the overall monument. Bronze features elsewhere on the monument and it's an easy material to maintain over time. Further, while we understand the significance of symmetry in the original monument, we wonder if double handrails are code-necessary at the newly introduced ADA paths.

The LANDMARK WEST Certificate of Appropriateness Committee recommends approval.  
Thank you.