

Testimony of LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission 222 West 79th Street February 11, 2025

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 222 West 79th Street, a Renaissance Revival style rowhouse built in 1894 by Thom & Wilson from within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. The application is to construct a rooftop addition and install signage.

The LANDMARK WEST! Certificate of Appropriateness Committee finds it difficult to imagine a scenario where the kind of sign proposed in this application is appropriate for a landmark building. The presentation materials do not clearly define the existing dimensions of the sign and frame and what the "proposed dimensions" are. Our Committee believes the proposed floral perimeter of the sign is not appropriate aesthetically or in terms of maintenance. No dimensions are given for that either. Committee members noted that as a protrusion, attention should also be given to the reverse side, visible to anyone walking west.

Our Committee agrees the rooftop addition is fine as it will not be visible, however, we recommend that a simple railing be proposed for the perimeter of the bulkhead area as is code-compliant for non-occupiable roofs. The railing dimensions are not clear from the presentation materials but seem oversized in the renderings provided.

Thank you.