

Jacqueline Ludorf
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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

June 17, 2010

Hon. Robert B. Tierney, Chair
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission
Municipal Building
One Centre Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10007

Re: 1 East 70th Street) – INDIVIDUAL LANDMARK (The Frick Museum) - Upper East Side Historic District

Dear Chair Tierney:

At the Full Board meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, the board adopted the following resolution regarding **1 East 70th Street) – INDIVIDUAL LANDMARK (The Frick Museum) - Upper East Side Historic District- Mr. Robert Goldsmith, The Frick Museum, Mr. Bill Higgins Higgins and Quasebarth, Mr. Carl F. Krebs, Architect** – Application is to enclose a loggia.

WHEREAS 1 East 70th Street is a Louis XVI style mansion designed by Carerre & Hastings and constructed in 1913-1914.

WHEREAS 1 East 70th Street was altered as a public museum by John Russell Pope in 1931-35 and a garden addition was constructed in 1977 (Van Dyke, Bayley and Poehlor, architects and Russell Page, landscape architect).

WHEREAS the applicant proposes enclosing a loggia that faces south over the lawn along Fifth Avenue and is at the north part of the building that extends from 5th Ave. along 71st Street.

WHEREAS the loggia space (660 sq. ft.) has never been open to the public; an enclosed loggia would provide additional space for works of art, including sculptures, would allow an underutilized part of the museum to be used and would provide views to the garden/lawn.

WHEREAS the applicant proposes transparent glazing for the colonnade of the loggia so that the primacy of the architecture is maintained.

WHEREAS at the end bay where the masonry opening more resembles a large arched window, there will be a multipaned wood French door with an arched transom. [There is a large arched masonry opening that faces south and is at the 5th Avenue end of the building. To the east of this opening, the loggia begins].

WHEREAS the infill between the columns will be 14' high glass units with dark bronze frames on the glass units to hold the glazing together.

WHEREAS the applicant will retain the character of the interior space and will use large lanterns to light the space (the lanterns will replicate an existing lantern in the portico).

WHEREAS the footprint of the museum will remain exactly the same.

WHEREAS the loggia is one of the most important architectural features on one of the most important buildings in New York City and should be retained as open space.

WHEREAS there must be another solution to utilize the loggia space to show the museum's art.

WHEREAS using the space to exhibit the museum's art should be subordinate to preserving the architecture of this important individual landmark.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this application is approved as presented.

This resolution was approved by a vote of 34 in favor, 3 opposed 4 abstentions and 1 not voting for cause

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Ludorf
Chair

Jane Parshall and David Liston
Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York
Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Liz Krueger, NYS Senate Member
Hon. Jonathan Bing, NYS Assembly Member
Hon. Micah Kellner, NYS Assembly Member
Hon. Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member
Hon. Jessica Lappin, NYC Council Member
Carl F. Krebs, Architect