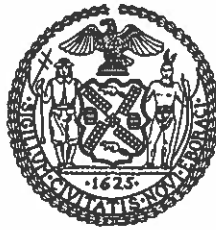


James G. Clynes
Chairman

Latha Thompson
District Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

May 19, 2016

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

Re: 30 East 68th Street-(between Madison and Park Avenues)-Upper East Side Historic District

Dear Chair Srinivasan:

At the Full Board meeting on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, the board adopted the following resolution regarding **30 East 68th Street-(between Madison and Park Avenues)-Upper East Side Historic District-Martin Hero**, architect-Neo-Renaissance style apartment building designed by F.B. & A. Ware and constructed in 1924-25. Application to install windows.

WHEREAS 30 East 68th Street has a two story limestone base with 10 stories above sheathed in brick;
WHEREAS the first floor is currently retail and the upper floors are residential;
WHEREAS there are two stores facing Madison Avenue, with Ralph Lauren occupying the corner store;
WHEREAS many second floors on Madison Avenue contain retail;
WHEREAS space on the second floor is to be added to the Ralph Lauren space;
WHEREAS the existing storefronts on Madison Avenue are to remain the same;
WHEREAS there are four windows in alignment from the second floor up facing Madison Avenue;
WHEREAS the northerly and southerly windows are multi-pane, six over six and the two center windows, which are at bathrooms, are two over two;
WHEREAS the two bathroom windows are to be replaced with windows of the same size as the northerly and southerly windows to create four windows of equal size in alignment with the windows above on the Madison Avenue façade;
WHEREAS the windows for the retail on the second floor are to be similar to the storefront windows in that they will be undivided, single sheets of glass;
WHEREAS the first floor of 30 East 68th Street has no openings at the westerly end of the north wall;
WHEREAS there are three lines of six over six windows starting at the second floor at the westerly end of the north wall;
WHEREAS two storefront openings are to be cut into the westerly corner of the ground floor of the north wall to match the height and look of the storefronts on Madison Avenue;
WHEREAS a new window will be inserted between the second and third windows from the corner on the second floor of the north facade to create three abutting windows within a single masonry opening;
WHEREAS the four windows on the second floor on 68th Street will match the four windows on the second floor on Madison Avenue in that they will be undivided, single sheets of glass;
WHEREAS the westerly show window on the corner of 68th Street will be 7'-0" wide and will align on the east side with the line of windows above and will be 2'-2" from the Madison Avenue wall thereby creating what appears to be a square limestone column at the corner;
WHEREAS the easterly show window on the north wall will be 10'-0" wide and will align with the east and west edges of the triple window above;

WHEREAS the proposed arrangement of windows on the 68th Street façade detracts from the residential character of the building;

WHEREAS the windows on the second floor without mullions are not compatible with the six over six windows in the building;

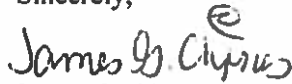
WHEREAS the westerly show window eliminates limestone that changes the architectural composition in that the visual expression of the limestone wall supporting the building is eroded;

WHEREAS the composition of display windows as presented is not contextual and appropriate within the historic district;

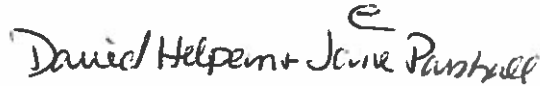
THEREFORE this application is disapproved.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 45 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

Sincerely,



James G. Clynes
Chairman



David Helpern and Jane Parshall
Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 26th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District