Nicholas Viest Chair

Latha Thompson District Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

October 18, 2013

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

Re: 48 East 73rd Street (between Madison and Park Avenues) – Upper East Side Historic District

Dear Chair Tierney:

At the Full Board meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2013, the board adopted the following resolution regarding 48 East 73rd Street (between Madison and Park Avenues) – Upper East Side Historic District – Ronnette Riley Architect – A brick building designed, with a neo-Grec style, by Richard W. Buckley in 1885-86 and altered by S. Edson Gage, with a neo-Federal style, in 1916. Application is to restore the street façade and reconstruct the rear façade, roof, and interiors.

WHEREAS the drawings did not fully explain the design intent as the drawings were diagrammatic and without details;

WHEREAS the alterations to the front façade of this townhouse predating the proposed additional alterations had included a top floor with a modernist glass façade with modernist clerestory windows above:

WHEREAS the reconfiguration of the top floor, with a glass railing and sliding glass doors, was unresolved in its design and lacked details explaining the design;

WHEREAS the overbuilt portion of the house in the rear yard was to be removed;

WHEREAS the new rear façade was to have been rebuilt with an all glass façade subdivided in an asymmetrical pattern with accordion-type, roll-up mesh screens on the exterior of the glass;

WHEREAS the screens would have projected two feet from the glass in the open position;

WHEREAS the proposed new design elements were not appropriate to the house or the historic district; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this application is disapproved as presented.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 35 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Viest

Chair

David Helpern 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. Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member

Hon. Micah Kellner, NYS Assembly Member

Hon. Daniel Garodnick, NYC Council Member

Hon. Jessica Lappin, NYC Council Member