James G. Clynes Chairman

Latha Thompson District Manager



505 Park Avenue Suite 620 New York, N.Y. 10022 (212) 758-4340 (212) 758-4616 (Fax) info@cb8m.com - E-Mail www.cb8m.com - Website

The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

February 23, 2015

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

Re: New Business- St. Thomas More Church Complex, 65 East 89th Street (Carnegie Hill Neighbors/Mary Dierickx)

Dear Chair Srinivasan:

At the Full Board meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2015, the board adopted the following resolution regarding New Business- St. Thomas More Church Complex, 65 East 89th Street (Carnegie Hill Neighbors/Mary Dierickx): Applicant is seeking designation for the church complex as an individual landmark by the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

WHEREAS St. Thomas More Church was designed in the Gothic Revival Style by the highly regarded architectural firm, Hubert & Pirsson.

WHEREAS Hubert & Pirsson were active during New York City's "Gilded Age" (1870s to about 1900) and produced many of the city's finest buildings, including hotels, churches, and residences. Individual landmarks include the Chelsea Hotel and (in Carnegie Hill), 6 Queen Anne style row houses at 146-156 East 89th Street. WHEREAS the church was originally built as the Church of the Beloved Disciple as a house of worship for residents of St. Luke's Home for Indigent Christian Females

WHEREAS the four-building complex was built in stages between 1870 and 1892.

WHEREAS the church, including its prominent signature bell tower (said to be modeled on Tour de St Jacques in Paris) is an outstanding example of Gothic Revival ecclesiastical architecture and the whole group is largely intact as originally built.

WHEREAS St. Thomas More Church is the second oldest surviving church in the Upper East side and is the oldest building in the Carnegie Hill community west of Park Avenue.

WHEREAS the Landmarks Committee of Community Board 8M urges the Landmarks Preservation Commission to act without delay in calendaring the Carnegie Hill Neighbors Request for Evaluation ("RFE") for this site.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Landmarks Committee of Community Board 8M enthusiastically supports the Carnegie Hill Neighbors Request for Evaluation for St. Thomas More Church.

This recommendation was approved by a vote of 35 in favor, 1 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