

**Alida Camp**  
**Chair**

**Will Brightbill**  
**District Manager**



**The City of New York**  
**Community Board 8 Manhattan**

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September 22, 2020

Honorable Sarah Carroll, Chair  
NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Municipal Building  
One Center Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, New York 10007

**RE: 49 East 68<sup>th</sup> Street (between Park and Madison Avenues) – Upper East Side Historic District –**  
*Greg Hitler, JG Neukomm, Architect* – A neo-Federal building originally constructed between 1913-14 by Trowbridge & Livingston. Application is to replace the existing double entry doors.

Dear Chair Carroll,

At the Landmarks Committee meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on August 17, 2020, the board unanimously approved the following resolution by a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

**WHEREAS** 49 East 68th Street is a 25-foot wide, five-story red brick and limestone townhouse neo-Federal style house originally constructed in 1913-14 and designed by Trowbridge & Livingston;

**WHEREAS** Trowbridge and Livingston were also the architects responsible for the landmarked B. Altman and Co. building and the New York Stock Exchange;

**WHEREAS** 49 East 68th Street is part of an outstanding group of Federal Revival red-brick townhouses known as the Pyne-Davison Row which extends along Park Avenue and between 68th and 69th Streets;

**WHEREAS** 49 East 68th Street is distinguished by an unusual arcaded first story loggia;

**WHEREAS** the applicant is proposing to replace the existing double entry doors which now present as steel framed with a painted black finish and with brass knobs;

**WHEREAS** the proposed replacement entry doors would present as solid bronze with a almost black bronze finish and a bronze lever and escutcheon (flat piece of metal around a door handle);

**WHEREAS** the applicant also proposes replacing the transparent glass in the existing entry doors with semi-transparent glass to be located behind the decorative metal work; the decorative metal work will match in-kind the decorative metal work on the now existing entry doors;

**WHEREAS** the applicant proposes the semi-transparent glass in order to provide additional privacy since the ground floor slab/floor plate will be lowered as part design changes on the interior;

**WHEREAS** the existing front doors are not original;

**WHEREAS** the proposed new doors will match the existing doors with only slight modifications; a lever will replace the knobs, the glass will now be semi-transparent and the bronze will have a practically black finish;

**WHEREAS** the proposed changes to the existing double entry doors are contextual and appropriate within the historic district.

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

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Alida Camp*

Alida Camp  
Chair

*David Helpern and Jane Parshall*

David Helpern and Jane Parshall  
Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

cc: Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor of the City of New York  
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Representative  
Honorable Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President  
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District  
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Honorable Ben Kallos, NYC Council Member, 5<sup>th</sup> Council District  
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4<sup>th</sup> Council District