Russell Squire Chair

Will Brightbill District Manager



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The City of New York Community Board 8 Manhattan

December 15, 2022

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

RE: 16 East 79th Street (Metropolitan Museum Historic District) - Design Primitives LLC - A Neo Georgian style building designed by Warren & Wetmore and constructed in 1901-03. Application is for window replacement at the front elevation.

Dear Chair Carroll,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on December 14, 2022, the board unanimously approved the following resolution by a vote of 41 in favor, 2 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause.

WHEREAS16 East 79th Street is a neo-Georgian style town house designed by Warren & Wetmore and constructed in 1901-1903;

WHEREAS Warren and Wetmore was one of the most successful and prolific architectural practices in America during the first three decades of the twentieth century, whose major commissions included the design for Grand Central Station;

WHEREAS the applicant proposes to change the existing windows at the front elevation to 6 over 6 and 9 over 12 double hung windows made of aluminum clad with wood so that the windows present as neo-Georgian; multipaned windows are more typical of the neo-Georgian style;

WHEREAS at the basement, 3rd and 4th floors, the windows are now double hung; with casement windows on the 1st and 2nd floors;

WHEREAS the historic windows present as casement windows;

WHEREAS the applicant presented a very thoughtful set of window details as part of the applicant's premise that since the house is "neo-Georgian", it needs "neo-Georgian" style windows;

WHEREAS the original casement windows better serve the Warren and Wetmore design for the house;

WHEREAS the introduction of "historical" elements where they have not existed or the dividing up of the windows into small panes goes against the historical nature of the building;

WHEREAS 16 East 79th Street with its original casement windows speak to the "Modern French" antecedents so characteristic of the design and so much of Warren and Wetmore's work;

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

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

David Helpern and Jane Parshall

Russell Squire Chair David Helpern and Jane Parshall Co-Chairs, Landmarks Committee

cc: Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York

Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative

Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President

Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District

Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District

Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District

Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District

Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District