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June 23, 2014

Dear Chairman Tierney,

I write to you to express my deep objections regarding an application before the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) for a Certificate of Appropriateness for a two-story rooftop addition at the Apthorp, located at 2211 Broadway. In testimony presented by concerned community members, elected officials and documented in resolutions submitted by Manhattan Community Board 7, the plan fails to meet the basic test of appropriateness for rooftop additions by not sufficiently masking the additional floors from the streetscape below. The applicant has also shown no consideration for the input of owners at the Apthorp by pursuing a condominium offering plan through the New York State Attorney General's office prior to obtaining the necessary community approval for the dissolving of communal public space.

In addition to the reasons above for denying the proposal, the application lacked a thorough public review for the successive changes presented to the LPC by the applicant after the initial plan was presented. The blocking of public testimony after the initial public commenting period creates a space for applicant's to submit entirely different proposals free of careful scrutiny by the community. If any further revisions are made, I respectfully request that the Commission acknowledge the essential role of the Community Board in reviewing such proposals and to remand the application for review by Manhattan Community Board 7.

The applicant's proposal is a not an appropriate addition to the Apthorp, and if allowed, it would be detrimental to the building's identity as a cultural and iconic fixture of the Upper West Side. I ask that the Commission protect the Apthorp from the ill-advised addition and deny this application in full. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Helen Rosenthal'.

Helen Rosenthal  
New York City Council Member, 6<sup>th</sup> District