

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

May 16, 2019

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

**RE: National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York, 215-217 East 71<sup>st</sup> Street (between Second and Third Avenues) – Proposed Individual Landmark.** *Sarah Kamillatos presenting for Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts; Sarah Hewitt presenting as a member of the Colonial Dames in the State of New York Board of Governors. Clint Allen, Property Manager for 215-217 East 71st Street.*

Dear Chair Carroll:

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on May 15, 2019, the board voted to **approve** the proposal in accordance with the following resolution by a vote of 39 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting for cause:

**WHEREAS** 215-217 East 71st Street is a neo-classical house designed by Richard Henry Dana, Jr. and completed in 1930;

**WHEREAS** the architect based his design, meant to reflect the National Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York's colonial ties, on the Colonel John McCever house, a 1750 structure that once stood on Wall Street;

**WHEREAS** the design was also influenced by the architect's extensive knowledge of English and Dutch colonial architecture;

**WHEREAS** the resulting house resulted in a "Georgian reproduction so perfect that only its date of construction demands the 'neo' prefix to the style". (Quote from "Daytonian in Manhattan," Friday, August 4, 2017);

**WHEREAS** Richard Henry Dana, Jr. was a member of a distinguished American family: his mother was the former Edith Longfellow, daughter of the famous New England poet and a grandson of Richard Harry Dana, Jr., the author of Two Years Before the Mast;

**WHEREAS** Richard Henry Dana, Jr. is identified with a number of notable public buildings including the Dalton School on East 89th Street;

**WHEREAS** 215-217 East 71st Street is adjacent to John Russell Pope's Junior League Club of New York (now Marymount Manhattan College); the Colonial Dames site was purchased the year after the Junior League purchase;

**WHEREAS** 215-217 East 71st Street deserves an INDIVIDUAL LANDMARK designation.  
**WHEREAS** its contribution to our streetscape is especially noteworthy because of its architectural significance and because it provides a glimpse into the evolution of early 20th century architecture in our great city;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Community Board 8 Manhattan supports INDIVIDUAL LANDMARK designation for the Headquarters of the Society of Colonial Dames in the State of New York.

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

*Alida Camp* <sup>(wr)</sup>

Alida Camp  
Chair

*David Helpen and Jane Parshall* <sup>(wr)</sup>

David Helpen 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