



**Testimony by NYC Council Member Erik Bottcher,  
NYS Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick and State Senator Brian Kavanagh  
Regarding 131 and 131 ½ Charles Street Before the Landmarks Preservation Commission**

**January 10, 2023**

We are pleased to present this testimony as the City and State elected officials representing the West Village neighborhood of Manhattan. We would like to thank the Landmarks Preservation Commission for holding this public hearing today and giving residents an opportunity to testify about this property.

Application # [LPC-22-06302] seeks to alter the individually landmarked 1834 house and rear house at 131 and 131 1/2 Charles Street. 131 Charles Street is one of the most intact examples in New York City of a modest Federal Style house and was one of our city's very first individually designated structures.

The new owner is seeking to alter the rear roof and façade of the main structure, eliminate the historic rear "horse walk," significantly alter the rear structure, and dig a subterranean space connecting the two structures.

We support Manhattan Community Board 2's recommendation of denials of permission to alter the windows in the rear façade, and rear ground floor, as well as their recommendation that the windows be instead wooden with small panes, as historically referenced. We also support their recommendation that the tripartite design in the parlor and the second floor of the main house remain the same, and the recommended denial of permission to change the window in the horse walk, as well as the alteration of the aforementioned.

We do not believe these changes are appropriate or reflect the integrity of this historic structure in the heart of Greenwich Village, and we are hopeful that the Commission agrees.

We would like to thank the Landmarks Preservation Commission for their careful consideration of this application.

Thank you