

# FRIENDS

of the UPPER EAST SIDE  
HISTORIC DISTRICTS

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May 13, 2014

Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Municipal Building  
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Re: Park Lane Hotel, 36 Central Park South

Mr. Chair and Honorable Commissioners:

FRIENDS of the Upper East Side Historic Districts writes in support of the campaign to designate the Park Lane Hotel as an individual landmark in the City of New York.

Built in 1971 as the flagship property in the Helmsley hotel empire, the Park Lane stands as a significant example of the postwar architecture of Emery Roth & Sons. The hotel has remained an iconic part of the Central Park skyline for nearly half a century. Following the 1968 zoning regulations which preserved the area around Grand Army Plaza as a luxury hotel district, the Park Lane was the first new hotel in the area to be constructed. Not only was the Park Lane one of the earliest "skyscraper hotels" built in New York City, but the building boasts a high level of unaltered historic fabric on both the interior and exterior.

The Preservation Committee at FRIENDS respectfully asks the Commission to consider the Park Lane Hotel for designation as an individual New York City landmark — it stands as a beautiful example of modern elegance on Central Park South.

Sincerely,

  
Tara Kelly  
Executive Director