



April 20, 2021

**STATEMENT OF THE NEW YORK LANDMARKS CONSERVANCY BEFORE THE NEW YORK CITY LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF THE HARLEM BRANCH OF THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, 9 WEST 124TH STREET, MANHATTAN AS AN INDIVIDUAL LANDMARK**

Good morning Chair Carroll and Commissioners. I am Andrea Goldwyn, speaking for the New York Landmarks Conservancy. The Conservancy is pleased to support designation of the NYPL's Harlem Branch as an individual landmark.

This Library is one of the 67 Carnegie Libraries in New York. It is one of the 12 that McKim Mead and White designed. This alone is enough to merit designation. In addition, the low-scale, Classical Revival-style building features an austere limestone façade, with arched openings and pilasters, which maintains much historic integrity. Modifications include an ADA-accessible ramp and associated changes to the stoop. The Library has been a center of Harlem cultural life for decades and continues to play an important role in the community. With a prominent location facing Mount Morris Park, it is a neighborhood landmark that should receive this formal recognition.

We thank you for bringing this designation forward, and thank you for the opportunity to express the Conservancy's views.