

**THE NEW YORK  
LANDMARKS  
CONSERVANCY**

October 28, 2008

**STATEMENT OF THE NEW YORK LANDMARKS CONSERVANCY BEFORE THE  
N.Y.C. LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION REGARDING THE  
PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF MUSEUM BUILDING, FOUNTAIN OF LIFE AND  
TULIP TREE ALLEE AT THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN, BRONX RIVER  
PARKWAY AT FORDHAM ROAD, BRONX AS AN INDIVIDUAL LANDMARK**

Good afternoon, Chair Tierney and Commissioners. I am Andrea Goldwyn, speaking on behalf of The New York Landmarks Conservancy. The Conservancy strongly supports the historic district designation before you today.

A true oasis in the midst of the City, the New York Botanical Garden provides respite through its lush gardens and stately buildings. Joining its neighbor, the Enid Haupt Conservatory as an individual Landmark, the Library Building, and its associated Fountain of Life sculpture and Tulip Tree Allee, is another splendid example of civic architecture. The brick and terra cotta building was designed by Robert W. Gibson and completed in 1901; it features hallmarks of the Beaux-Arts style in its light colored façade, symmetrical massing and classical ornament including the triangular pediment and pilasters flanking the entrance. The 1903 double-row Tulip Tree Allee and 1905 bronze Fountain of Life sculpture in front of the Museum building complete this early 20<sup>th</sup> century classical complex.

The Conservancy has been a long-time supporter of the Botanical Garden and this building. The restoration of the Museum Building received a 2004 Lucy G. Moses award, and now we enthusiastically support this designation. Thank you for the opportunity to present The Landmarks Conservancy's views.