

STATEMENT FOR SUBMISSION TO
LANDMARKS COMMISSION AT NOVEMBER 27, 1973 HEARING

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that it would make for

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Since its meetings with the Commission last May, the Frick Collection has decided to abandon its long-range plans for a wing covering the three vacant lots (Nos. 5, 7 and 9 East 70th Street), thus enabling the proposed garden to become a permanent feature instead of the interim garden previously submitted to the Commission. The Trustees have now decided to install a permanent architectural garden on these lots and at the same time provide for long-range space needs by using the basement and sub-basement of the Widener house coupled with the construction of a narrow one-story wing extending out from the east wall of the Frick Collection building. While this extension would decrease the size of the terrace previously proposed, it will not diminish the size of the garden.

Preliminary plans and sketches for this extension and for the proposed permanent treatment of the east wall of the Frick Collection building, as well as certain refinements in the design of the garden, now that it is to be a permanent rather than a temporary feature, will be submitted in December to the Commission so that the designation of the site can incorporate the concept of a permanent garden and east wall treatment.

The Collection understands that the Commission wishes to combine consideration of the extension of its landmark site with the proposed designation of the rest of the buildings on the North side of the block. The Collection agrees with this objective even though the Collection obligated itself to apply for the extension of its site only after installation of the garden. However, it suggests that the Commission close the hearing as to the three vacant lots at this time. Tentative plans and sketches will be submitted to the Commission in December in order that any subsequent designation of the site will incorporate the concept of a permanent garden and east wall treatment.