

## **BACKGROUND on the W 69th St Tower (AKA 200 Amsterdam)**

**How the 66 story Tower at West 69th Street and Amsterdam Avenue Came to Be and Who in the Community Currently Leads the Fight to Reduce the Height.**

Very simply put the tower's developers accumulated a large amount of land and development rights from adjoining properties. The map below shows the accumulated area, which some have called "gerrymandered".

Initially, the community group Committee for Environmentally Sound Development inaugurated a challenge at the NYC Building Department arguing that much of the land accumulated could not be applied to the tower height. The building department has accepted the merits of their argument and pending further review issued a stop order for any work beyond excavation and foundation. The map below is extracted from their challenge.

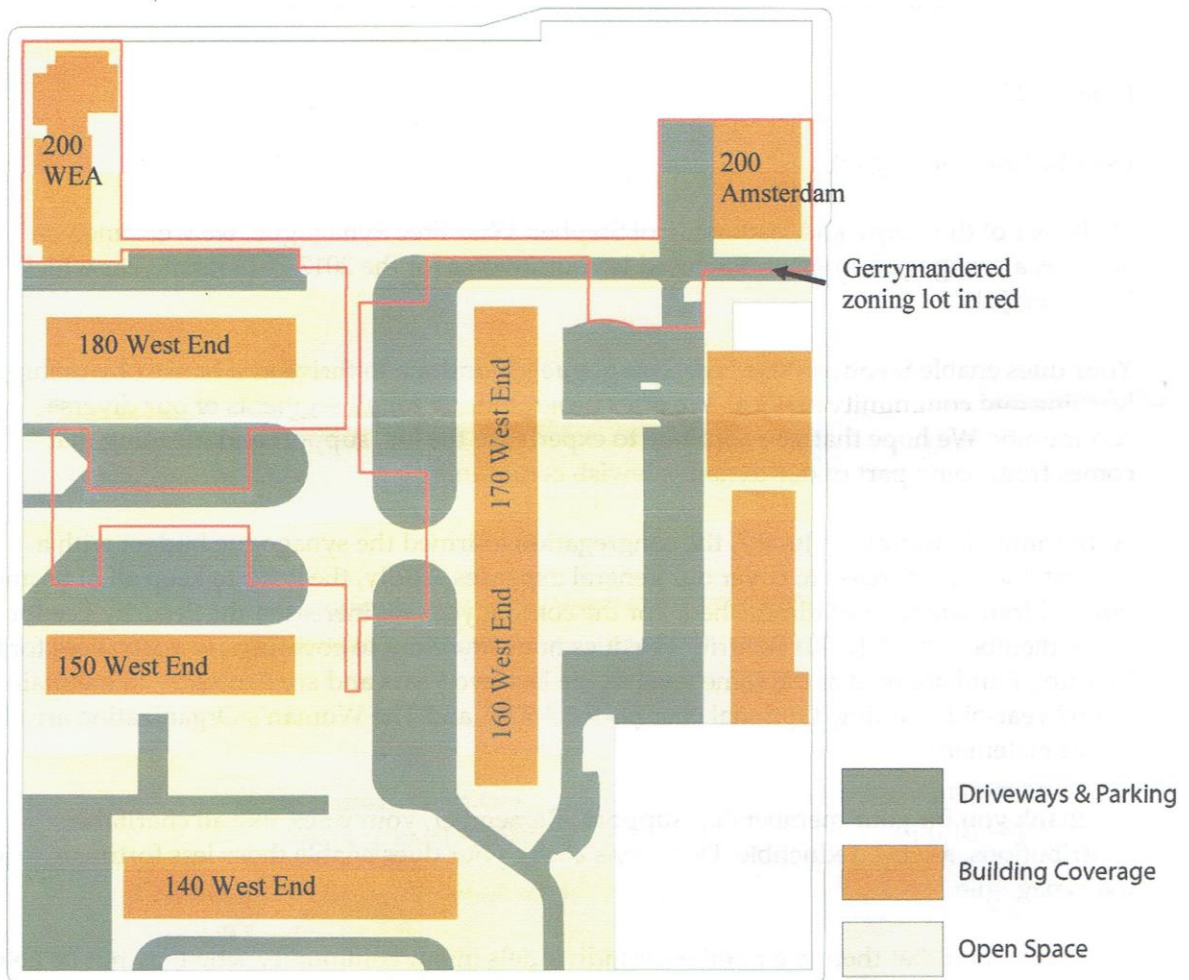
Co-signatories to the challenge at the building department are Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer, City Council Member Helen Rosenthal and Landmark West! -- the Committee to Preserve the Upper West Side's Historical Districts, Kate Wood, President. Furthermore, Landmark West! is actively fundraising to mount additional legal challenges to 200 Amsterdam.

The Landmark West! website is rich in information pertaining to the Committee for Environmentally Sound Development's challenge and further expands on its activities and recommendations pertaining to 200 Amsterdam. In addition, readers may find their presentation on other "Supertalls" as informative. The following links may be helpful, but readers are encouraged to fully explore their site:

[http://www.landmarkwest.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/200\\_amsterdam\\_zoning\\_challenge.pdf](http://www.landmarkwest.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/200_amsterdam_zoning_challenge.pdf)

<http://www.landmarkwest.org/speaking-out-against-200-amsterdam-supertall/>

<http://www.landmarkwest.org/>



*Areas covered by the 1987 zoning lot classified by use of land (with 200 Amsterdam shown as constructed).  
Gerrymandered zoning lot of 200 Amsterdam and 200 West End Avenue shown in red*