March 6, 2023

The Honorable Sarah Carroll, Chair
The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
One Center Street, 9th Floor North
New York, NY 10007

Re: 60 Wall Street

Dear Chair Carroll,

We, the undersigned, urge the Landmarks Commission to designate 60 Wall Street as an individual and interior landmark.

Completed in 1989, 60 Wall Street is highly regarded by the architectural community and the public as a vibrant representation of the Postmodern style. It was designed by the Pritzker Prize winning architect Kevin Roche of KRJDA whose firm designed two other highly notable landmarks in New York City: the Ford Foundation and the UN Plaza Hotel and Ambassador Grill. The iconic design of 60 Wall Street retains a high degree of integrity on the exterior and appropriately complements the architectural fabric and rhythm of its neighbor at 55 Wall Street. The recently approved facade restoration proposal to preserve the colonnade and the essential nature of the building, speaks to its merit.

The interior, which continues to operate as a significant and accessible public amenity, currently retains a high degree of integrity and has been described recently by The New York Times as “one of New York’s most distinctive subway entrances.” The approved facade proposal to open up and bring more light and transparency to the public space will only strengthen the visual relationship of the interior to the exterior design and insist the interior be protected in a similar fashion to the exterior.

60 Wall Street is already recognized as an unofficial landmark and we ask the Landmarks Preservation Commission to now make that official. As your research department stated more than five months ago, the LPC staff have determined 60 Wall Street and the interior privately owned public space merit further study within the context of Postmodern commercial architecture and interiors. We would be happy to offer expertise as well as countless books and articles on the subject.

As the current owner considers plans to significantly alter the interior, this is a pressing matter, and we ask you not to delay. We urge the LPC to move forward now on the designation of 60 Wall Street before this outstanding example of architecture and history is lost.

Sincerely,

Advocates for the designation of 60 Wall Street (list in formation):

- Docomomo US
- Historic Districts Council
- Human Scale NYC
- Manhattan Community Board 1
- Municipal Art Society
- New York Landmarks Conservancy
- Preservation League of New York State
- The Paul Rudolph Institute for Modern Architecture
- Tribeca Trust
- New York City Council Member Christopher Marte (District 1)
- New York State Assemblmymember Grace Lee (District 65)
- New York State Senator Brian Kavanagh (District 27)
- Deborah Berke
- Alice Blank
- Adam Nathaniel Furman
- Paul Goldberger
- Rock Herzog (Cocaine Decor)
- Alexandra Lange
- Eeva-Lisa Pelkonen
- Robert A.M. Stern