UPPER WEST SIDE / CENTRAL PARK WEST HISTORIC DISTRICT
DESIGNATED APRIL 24, 1990
LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

NUMBERS INDICATE BUILDINGS WITHIN BOUNDARIES OF HISTORIC DISTRICT
UPPER WEST SIDE / CENTRAL PARK WEST HISTORIC DISTRICT

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Acknowledgements

The study of a potential historic district along Central Park West and research on the area required the participation of many people over the course of many years. In 1981 Commission Chairman Kent Barwick directed the staff to begin the process of survey and analysis of the entire Upper West Side from 59th Street to 110th Street in order to recommend potential landmarks and historic districts. The Urban Cultural Resources Survey and then the Bronx-Upper Manhattan staff turned its efforts to this area in 1981-82; many community residents, volunteers, and student interns participated in this preliminary survey and research process, which was carried out at the same time and coordinated with a study of the area’s zoning by the Manhattan office of the Department of City Planning. During the summer of 1982 staff member Jay Shockley was assisted by student intern Lisa Schroeder in completing a building-by-building field survey of the Upper West Side. Based on this survey, the Bronx-Upper Manhattan staff (Charles Hasbrouck, Edward Mohylowski, Gina Santucci, Jay Shockley, Marjorie Thau, Jeremy Woodoff) made a set of recommendations to the Chairman. Attention was at first focused on the area west of Broadway in 1983, the first district designation being the West End-Collegiate Historic District in 1984. After the Commission’s staff was reorganized in July 1984, the Research Department (Marjorie Pearson, Anthony Robins, Janet Adams, James T. Dillon, Jay Shockley) made further recommendations which culminated in public hearings and designations of landmarks and historic districts west of Broadway and, later, hearings on individual buildings to the east. The Commissioners began a series of field trips to and discussions on a potential historic district in the area of the Upper West Side east of Broadway in 1985.

In 1983 following study by the New York State Historic Preservation Office, the Central Park West Historic District consisting of the buildings facing on Central Park from 61st to 96th Streets was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Commission wishes to thank its student interns and volunteers of this period, among them: William Bernstein, Patra Cogan, Evelyn Costa, Anita Jacobson, Robert Jaeger, Jonathan Kuhn, Jeanne Martowski, Glenn Naumowitz, Dennis Pidgeon, Thomas Reynolds, Sarah Williams and Albert Winn.

Assisting in the public hearing and public hearing/designation notification process were Research Department staff members Marion Cleaver, Alec Hemer, Lisa Koenigsberg, and Susan Strauss. Alex Herrera, Director of Preservation, and Laura Alaimo, Deputy Director of Preservation, participated in the study of the commercial architecture of the district.

The Commission expresses its appreciation to the residents of the Upper West Side who have assisted the Commission in its efforts to identify and designate those buildings and districts which have architectural, historic, cultural and aesthetic significance. The Commission also thanks Landmark West!, the Historic Districts Council, the New York Landmarks Conservancy, and the New York Landmarks Preservation Foundation for their support, particularly Robert Nieweg of Landmark West! who assisted in the coordination of the photography of the district.
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Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Boundaries

The Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District consists of the property bounded by a line beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of Central Park West and West 96th Street, extending southerly along the western curb line of Central Park West, westerly along the northern curb line of West 62nd Street, northerly along the western property line of 25 Central Park West, northerly across West 63rd Street, westerly along the northern curb line of West 63rd Street, northerly and easterly along the western and northern property lines of 13-15 West 63rd Street, northerly along the southern property line of 3-11 West 63rd Street, westerly along the southern curb line of West 64th Street, northerly across West 64th Street, northerly and easterly along the western and part of the northern property lines of 41 Central Park West, northerly along the western property line of 50 Central Park West, easterly along the southern curb line of West 65th Street, northerly across West 65th Street, northerly along the western property line of 51-53 Central Park West, westerly and northerly along part of the southern and the western property lines of 55 Central Park West, northerly across West 66th Street, westerly along the northern curb line of West 66th Street, northerly along part of the western property line of West 66th Street, westerly along 15 West 66th Street, northerly along the southern property lines of 26-50 West 67th Street, northerly along the western property line of 26-50 West 67th Street, northerly along the southern property lines of 39-41 West 67th Street, northerly along part of the southern property line of 60-66 West 68th Street, westerly along the southern property lines of 68-75 West 68th Street and 171-179 Columbus Avenue, northerly along the eastern curb line of Columbus Avenue, northerly across West 68th Street to the northeast corner of Columbus Avenue, westerly across Columbus Avenue, westerly along the northern curb line of West 68th Street, northerly along the western property lines of 180-188 Columbus Avenue, westerly along the southern property lines of 108-120 West 69th Street and the irregular southern property lines of 122-128 West 69th Street and 2016-2018 Broadway (as determined by the City Surveyor's Map), northwesterly and northerly along the eastern curb line of Broadway, northerly across West 72nd Street, northerly along the eastern curb line of Amsterdam Avenue, easterly along the southern curb line of West 77th Street, northerly across West 77th Street, northerly and easterly along the western and part of the northern property lines of 371-375 Amsterdam Avenue, westerly along the southern property line of 371 Amsterdam Avenue, northerly along the eastern curb line of Amsterdam Avenue to the southeast corner of West 79th Street, westerly across Amsterdam Avenue, westerly along the southern curb line of West 79th Street, southerly...
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Testimony at the Public Hearing

On January 12-13, 1988, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation of this historic district (Item No. 1). The hearing, duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of law, was held at the Universalist Church, Central Park West and West 76th Street, and lasted from 10:45 a.m. to 1:17 a.m. One hundred twenty-four people offered testimony; ninety-four spoke in favor of designation, and thirty spoke in opposition to the designation of the district in whole or in part. The Commission has received over 350 letters expressing support for the district, approximately two dozen against, and several expressing uncertainty.

The Commission voted to designate the district the day Laurie Beckelman's appointment to the Commission was affirmed by the City Council. The vote was taken before she took her place on the Commission.
INTRODUCTION

The Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, encompassing some 2000 buildings, extends from 62nd Street to 96th Street along Central Park West, from 68th Street to 88th Street along Columbus Avenue, from 69th Street to 72nd Street along Broadway, from 72nd Street to 84th Street and the northeast corner of 85th Street along Amsterdam, and includes side street blocks connecting the avenues and portions of two 79th Street blockfronts west of Amsterdam Avenue. Central Park West with its high wall of buildings and dramatic skyline facing Central Park West forms a regular edge at the eastern boundary. The lower portion of Amsterdam Avenue and Broadway, also with high walls of buildings, form a similar regular edge at the western boundary.

The district evokes the distinctive qualities of the Upper West Side, from its powerful iconography of twin towers along Central Park West to its active commerce along Columbus Avenue to its residential side streets. The initial development of the neighborhood reflects a concentrated boom in the city's expansion, supported by transportation improvements on the avenues. Although later construction, particularly in the 1920s and 1930s, replaced some of the original buildings, it has enhanced the vibrant quality of the Upper West Side both socially and architecturally.

The district is defined by its large concentration of architecturally distinctive and high quality buildings which characterize the development of the Upper West Side east of Broadway over a fifty year period from the 1880s to the 1930s. The district encompasses a number of residential building types, as well as related institutional and commercial buildings. The complex historical and architectural interrelationship among these buildings is one of the factors which helps to define the character of the district. Speculatively-built three-, four-, and five-story rowhouses, designed as harmonious groups, were constructed within a relatively short span of years (1880-1910) that ended in the first decade of the twentieth century. These rowhouses, the predominant residential building type in the district, are located on the side streets throughout the district and survive in isolated groups on Central Park West and the cross streets of West 72nd, West 79th, and West 86th Streets. Contemporaneous with the rowhouses are five- and six-story neo-Grec and Romanesque Revival style tenements and flats building which are predominantly located on Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues. Many were built in conjunction with side street rowhouses, and are related to the rowhouses in height, scale, material, and architectural detail. Somewhat taller eight to twelve-story apartment hotels and studio buildings, found on both avenues and the streets, began to be built in the 1890s. Larger twelve- to seventeen-story apartment buildings, which are particularly prevalent along Central Park West and the major cross streets, were constructed during two phases, before and after World War I. These were

1A few rowhouses were constructed in the early 1870s, prior to the Panic of 1873.
designed by a number of prominent architects, among them Rosario Candela, Mulliken & Moeller, Neville & Bagge, George F. Pelham, and Schwartz & Gross. Many of the multiple dwellings, particularly the tenements, flats, and apartment hotels, were designed with commercial space at street level. A few specially designed commercial buildings are located on the avenues and West 72nd Street. Throughout the period of development of the district, a variety of specialized buildings designed by some of the city’s most prestigious architects have been constructed to meet the social, educational, and religious needs of the residents, and these complement the residential buildings and enhance the architectural character of the area.

The development of the district was affected by several factors. Plans for Central Park in the 1850s led to the first wave of land speculation on the Upper West Side, particularly along Central Park West. A small flurry of rowhouse construction which began in the early 1870s, was halted by the financial Panic of 1873. The 1880s were the first major decade of development in the area, signalled by the opening of the Ninth Avenue El in 1879 and the opening of a cable car route along Tenth Avenue. Development of both rowhouses and multiple dwellings tended to cluster around the stations of the El. By the end of the decade, these two building types, which help define the character of the district, had been firmly established.

The unusually long side street block which form the heart of the district were initially built up with long rows of houses which present a picture of the final years of rowhouse construction in Manhattan. These rows unify the streetscapes by consistent height, setback, and overall form, although the rows are stylistically varied and there is often a great deal of variety in form and ornamental detail within each row, thus producing a multiplicity of configurations (for example, ABCDCBA). High stoops and the earth tones of brick and brownstone facades are other qualities which unify the rowhouses. While over 100 architects designed rowhouses within the district, certain of them made a major impact, including Henry J. Hardenbergh, Neville & Bagge, Gilbert A. Schellenger, and Thomson & Wilson and the presence of their work is another unifying characteristic. The avenue ends of the side street blockfronts contain flats and tenements which relate to the rowhouses in height, scale, material, and architectural detail, and were often designed by the same architects. In the years following World War, apartment buildings began to interrupt rows of houses on the side streets. The resultant eight- to ten-story buildings relate to the rowhouses in materials and architectural details even though twice the height of the rowhouses.

The 100-foot wide cross streets of the district, West 72nd Street, West 79th Street, and West 86th Street, are individually distinctive. Like the side streets, the wider cross streets were initially built up with rowhouses, often grander and more elaborate than those on the narrower side streets. Isolated groups of these survive on all three streets. The blockfronts of West 72nd Street and West 79th Street closest to Broadway began to be transformed for commercial use in the early years of the twentieth century. In some instances, extensions containing commercial storefronts were inserted into the lower two stories of existing rowhouses.
and brought out to the building line. In other instances, particularly on West 72nd Street, this transformation resulted in the replacement of rowhouses by small commercial buildings or the complete alteration of rowhouses with new facades at the building line; both types of alterations maintained the rowhouse scale. Taller apartment hotels, often ten or more stories, were introduced in the early years of the twentieth century on the easterly blockfronts of West 72nd Street, West 79th Street, and along West 86th Street, as well as on the commercial blockfronts of West 72nd Street. On the same non-commercial cross-street blockfronts most of the 1880s rowhouses were replaced by tall apartment buildings in the years following World War I, and these buildings, in many ways similar to those found on Central Park West, play an important part in defining the character of these cross streets in the district.

Central Park West developed more slowly and unevenly than the side streets and avenues to the west, although the Dakota (1880-84) at West 72nd Street was the first major residential building constructed in the area. The character of Central Park West is enhanced by such major institutional buildings as the American Museum of Natural History and the New-York Historical Society, begun in the nineteenth century, as well as several turn-of-the-century religious buildings. The Central Park West that we know today as one of New York’s grandest residential streets was largely built in the twentieth century, and its tall apartment buildings fall roughly into three stylistic categories: Beaux-Arts inspired from the first decade of the century and designed by such architects as Clinton & Russell, Robert T. Lyons, and Townsend, Steinle & Haskell; neo-Renaissance from the 1920s and designed by such architects as George & Edward Blum, Emery Roth, and Schwartz & Gross; and Art Deco towers from the late 1920s and early 1930s designed by such architects as Irwin Chanin, Emery Roth, and Schwartz & Gross. Among the latter two categories are the highly characteristic multi-towered buildings, all of which are designated New York City Landmarks. The side street facades of the Central Park West apartment buildings impact on the side street blocks, usually displaying materials and details that are compatible with the rowhouses. Built over the entire development span of the district, the stylistically diverse buildings of Central Park West create a streetscape and a skyline which is exuberant and varied as to scale, height, and form. Its silhouette when viewed from Central Park is a special and unique feature of New York City. Incorporated within this district are two pre-existing districts which focused on Central Park West and the adjacent side street blocks: Central Park West-West 73rd-74th Streets and Central Park West-76th Street.

Columbus Avenue retains a character which reflects its historic nature as a transportation route. It was largely built up with flats and tenements which incorporated commercial storefronts at street level during the same years that rowhouses were being constructed on the side streets. This commercial role has survived to the present, making the avenue a strong spine in the district. Little original storefront fabric survives, but stretches of facades of relatively uniform height and scale give the avenue its distinctive character. In some cases, the flats and tenements have been interrupted by twentieth-century apartment buildings, but these buildings also have storefronts at street level which reinforce the avenue’s
Amsterdam Avenue shares a number of characteristics with Columbus Avenue. Like that avenue, it was built up with tenements and flats over a roughly ten-year period (1885-1895), and these buildings were designed with storefronts at street level. These buildings share a relationship with the rowhouses on the side streets which is similar to that between the flats buildings on Columbus and the side street rowhouses. Along the stretch of the avenue between West 80th and West 84th Streets, this character is retained on both sides. On the east side of the avenue, south of 79th Street, the earlier flats buildings have been interrupted by taller twentieth-century apartment buildings, also with street-level storefronts. Despite the avenue’s consistent commercial character, the storefront fabric has undergone a lesser degree of change than storefronts on Columbus, and shows a greater harmony with the architectural character of the upper stories of the buildings.

South of West 79th Street on Amsterdam, the wall of apartment buildings on the western boundary of the district may be seen as a counterpart to the wall along Central Park West on the eastern boundary of the district. Along both Central Park West and Amsterdam, the apartment buildings are similar in height, scale, and detail, were often designed by the same architects, and were built during the same time period. Here too, the side street facades of the Amsterdam Avenue apartment buildings interact with the rowhouses on the side streets. The portion of Broadway within the district, south of 72nd Street, is effectively a southern continuation of Amsterdam Avenue, and with its twelve-story apartment buildings and nineteen-story hotel building, continues the role of Amsterdam in defining the western boundary of the district.

Thus Central Park West, Broadway, and Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues are linked by the side street blocks and several cross streets. All have a rich variety of interrelated buildings which produce a complex urban area constituting a distinct section of the city.
THE GENERAL HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE
UPPER WEST SIDE/CENTRAL PARK WEST HISTORIC DISTRICT

Prelude to Development

The area of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District developed primarily as a residential neighborhood over a roughly fifty-year period from the 1880s to the 1930s. The appearance of the Upper West Side is a reflection of economic and speculative building patterns and the collaborative efforts of speculators, developers, and architects. The rowhouses within the district, built within a relatively short span of years that ended in the first decade of the twentieth century, present a picture of the final phase of single-family rowhouse construction in Manhattan. Multiple dwellings of various kinds, beginning with tenements and flats and followed by apartment hotels, studio buildings, and apartment buildings, were constructed throughout the period of development in the district. The result, little changed since the 1930s, is a complexly interwoven urban neighborhood characterized by a mix of residential building types.

The documented history of the Upper West Side begins soon after the colonial Dutch settlement of New Amsterdam in the seventeenth century. Prior to its urbanization, the Upper West Side was known as Bloomingdale, or "Bloomendaal" to the early Dutch settlers, in recollection of a flower-growing region of Holland. In the early eighteenth century, Bloomingdale Road (later renamed the Boulevard and finally Broadway in 1898) was opened through the area, following the course of an old Indian trail, and provided the northern route out of the city which was then concentrated at the southern tip of Manhattan Island. Rural lodges and broken-down shanties, interspersed with large outcroppings of rock, dotted the landscape of Bloomingdale. Working farms and colonial estates were established and small hamlets, such as Harsenville near West 72nd Street, were settled on or near Bloomingdale Road during the eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. However, the Upper West Side, including the area within the boundaries of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, remained largely undeveloped until the 1880s.

New York City's population rapidly increased throughout the colonial period and into the nineteenth century. As a result, development in the city expanded northward, with growing commercial interests continuously transforming and displacing residential communities. Neighborhoods were established further uptown away from spreading commercial development. By the 1850s, the city's northern urban limits had reached today's midtown. As development continued to push northward, it was largely concentrated on the East Side, following the transit lines, which included steamboat service on the East River and several horse car lines.

The Upper West Side was included in the Randel Survey (known as the Commissioners' Map of 1811) which outlined a uniform grid plan of broad avenues and narrow cross streets to be imposed upon the rolling hills of Manhattan. Many years elapsed, however, before most of the avenues and
streets in rural Bloomingdale were actually laid out (some streets as late as the 1870s and 1880s) and the land subdivided into standard twenty-five by 100 foot building lots.

The creation of Central Park (a designated New York City Scenic Landmark), begun in 1857, spurred growth in areas around the Park’s perimeter, and set off the first wave of real estate speculation on the Upper West Side. Trading in Upper West Side building lots was active, particularly on the avenues, during an extensive period of New York real estate speculation which lasted from 1868 until the financial panic of 1873.

The opening of avenues and improved public transportation to the Upper West Side (beginning in the 1860s but particularly in the 1870s) contributed to the first wave of growth in the area. In 1864, the horse car line on Eighth Avenue (renamed Central Park West in 1883) was extended from midtown to West 84th Street. In 1865, the Commissioners of Central Park were authorized to complete the laying out of the streets west of the Park. The Boulevard (the main artery of the Upper West Side and the route linking the city to the south with points north) was widened in 1868-71 and designed to receive central, planted malls from West 59th to 155th Streets.

Transportation improvements that were planned and carried out by private companies at the end of the 1870s further enhanced the potential of the area. In 1878, horse car service was started on Tenth Avenue (renamed Amsterdam Avenue in 1890) and Broadway, and the horse car lines on Eighth Avenue were replaced by street rail service up to West 125th Street. In 1879 the Elevated Railway on Ninth Avenue (renamed Columbus Avenue in 1890) was completed with stations at West 72nd, 81st, 93rd, and 104th Streets.

The earliest rows of houses in the district were built in the 1870s, before the panic of 1873, following the initial promise of the great development prospects in the area. These houses were situated in proximity to the El stations already proposed at that time. Two long rows, portions of which still exist, were situated between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue: a thirteen-house row on West 83rd Street (of which six survive) and a twenty-house row on West 92nd Street (two of the surviving seven are within the district). Another five-house row (of which four survive) was built on West 71st Street near Broadway.

The Ninth Avenue El served as the primary impetus to sustained development in the area of the district. There was a direct response on the part of speculative builders to the presence of the El, and between 1879 and 1887 development clustered within a two-block radius of its stations in the blocks between Central Park West and Amsterdam Avenue. The peak of this boom came in 1886; architects, developers, and builders active elsewhere in the city were now focusing their attention on the prime real estate opportunities of the Upper West Side.

Building Types

Single-family houses, the first choice of upper middle-class families locating in the area, were only profitable for their developers on the side
streets, where property prices never rose as high as they did on the avenues during the era of real estate speculation. Built over a relatively short span of years, the rowhouses on the Upper West Side represent the final years of construction of single-family dwellings in Manhattan. Although the majority of these houses were constructed in the 1880s and 1890s, scattered groups continued to be built in the area of the district until as late as 1910. Generally, however, the construction of rowhouses declined after 1895 when the cost of owning and maintaining a private home rose out of reach of the majority of New Yorkers.

Property on the avenues with greater commercial potential was not developed with private houses. The avenues were also too busy and noisy due to the transportation lines to be preferred house locations. Columbus Avenue was an unpaved, undeveloped road before 1879, but with the introduction of the El it was transformed into a bustling thoroughfare. Tenements and flats were built on Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues during the first phase of development in the district and were also initially clustered around the El stations. These buildings were designed to have commercial businesses at street level and residential units above, and catered to less prosperous families than those who could afford single-family houses. Flats without storefronts were sometimes built on the side streets, usually in rows that terminated on the avenue.

Various solutions were attempted in the effort by architects and developers to provide acceptable housing to a growing middle-class population who could not afford rowhouses but who desired many of the features of life in rowhouses. Many of these people had lived in hotels, boarding houses, or subdivided houses and were accustomed to life in multiple dwellings, and all were familiar with the ubiquitous tenements for the working classes. But for various reasons those places did not satisfy the demand for self-contained private quarters that the middle class considered suitable for family life. There were precedents for multiple-family living in Europe, especially in London, Paris, and Vienna, but in New York City its image was tainted by association with overcrowded working-class tenements, and no completely satisfactory model existed.

During the period of the construction of multiple dwellings in the area of the district developers and architects experimented with existing forms: "second-class dwellings" for the working class were recast as "French Flats" for the middle class (called "French Flats" because of their association with Parisian prototypes); a new building type, the apartment building, took various forms including the studio apartment; and the apartment and the hotel were merged into a new type, the apartment hotel. By the turn of the century, the standard, accepted form of housing for the middle class on the Upper West Side and throughout the city was the apartment building.

The district is enhanced by several institutional buildings which display design qualities that complement the residential character of the area. Religious institutions have played an important role in serving the population of the Upper West Side from the time that development began in earnest, and their histories are inextricable from the development of the district. Other institutions also arrived to address the various
intellectual, social, and physical needs of Upper West Side families. Some of these institutions not only provide services to New York City residents, but are also significant on national and international levels, such as the American Museum of Natural History. For more information on the institutional buildings located within the district, see the sections of this report which follow.

Zoning and Tenement Laws

Numerous, sometimes overlapping, conditions and sets of regulations have affected the construction of buildings since the earliest surviving structure in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District was erected. The street plan, the parcelization of blocks into twenty-five by 100 foot lots, and the roughly northeast-southwest orientation of the majority of those lots common to much of Manhattan produced a narrow range of possibilities for orienting densely-built urban dwellings to sunlight and fresh air. Starting in 1867, a series of Tenement House Laws (discussed more fully below in the section of this report on Multiple Dwellings) sought to insure wholesome conditions in all residential buildings for three or more households (applicable to all multiple dwellings but primarily aimed at improving conditions for low and middle income households living in tenements and flats). Two primary concerns of these laws were the provision of light and air through light wells, light courts, and rear yards, and the provision of adequate plumbing.

Later, some of these same concerns were addressed for different types of buildings in a very different way through the Building Zone Resolution of 1916. The Building Zone Resolution, which overlaid but did not supersede the Tenement House Law, was concerned with three issues -- height, use, and area of lot coverage -- in order to minimize congestion, increase light and air, and segregate incompatible uses. The height regulations, established primarily in response to congestion caused by dense construction of office buildings in lower Manhattan involved "setback" rules for buildings which exceeded in height a multiple of the street width. The entire area of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District was within an area where buildings were allowed to be one and one-half times the width of the street (the widest street if on a corner), with an increase in height of three feet for every foot the building set back from the building line above that point. Provisions of the Tenement House Law effectively eliminated setbacks for residential buildings such as apartment buildings, but did not affect hotels or apartment hotels. Thus the roughly uniform height of tall apartment buildings of the 1920s on such streets as West 79th and West 86th Streets was the result of building all to the same multiple of the street width. Throughout the area the same provisions meant higher walls of buildings on relatively wide cross streets like 79th and 86th than on the narrower side streets where some large-scale building also occurred. West 67th Street, narrow in width and developed before 1916 with tall studio buildings which exceed the standards of the Building Zone Resolution, is the

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2 New York City Board of Estimate and Apportionment, Building Zone Resolution, 1916, with amendments 1920, revised 1927.
most canyonlike street in the district. At the same time, the Building Zone Resolution regulated lot coverage, largely through formulas for rear setbacks from the property line, and use, by restricting commerce to Columbus, Amsterdam, and Broadway, with only residences on the side streets.3

Building Laws

Parallel to these regulations, which are intended to maintain "quality of life" standards, are the building laws whose intent is more with safety through sound construction and resistance to fire. At the time that the first buildings were constructed in the area of the district, a basic provision of the building laws was the requirement that buildings within certain areas could not have exterior walls of wood. By 1882, all such buildings were excluded below West 140th Street. In 1885 height limits were established by a separate ordinance4 for residential buildings for the purpose of fire protection (seventy feet maximum on streets up to sixty feet wide and eighty feet maximum on streets over sixty feet wide). Between 1871 and 1885 the principal application of the laws was in the details of the construction of brick buildings, such as the thickness and bonding of walls, the spacing of wood floor joists and roof beams, and the design and height of chimneys. In 1885 the building laws were thoroughly revised; they included the requirement that hotels over thirty-five feet in height be fireproof, that other dwellings up to five stories have a fireproof basement, and that dwellings over five stories (to a maximum of seven stories or eighty-five feet) be fireproof at the basement and first two stories, which meant the substitution of wood floor structures with brick or terra-cotta arches. In 1892, the 1885 laws were revised, for the first time specifying the use of iron and steel skeleton construction.

In 1901, a new, still more comprehensive building law, for the first time called the "Building Code," took effect. Most new buildings constructed in the district after this time had fireproof, steel-skeleton construction and were equipped with a variety of modern technologies: electric light, elevators, gas for light and cooking, sophisticated and extensive plumbing systems, mechanical ventilation systems, and boilers for hot water and steam heat. None of these features were new but now almost every building would be equipped with all of them, and all were regulated by the Building Code. By the time the Code was revised in 1916, advances in fireproofing, the use of new materials and the associated adoption of new technologies, notably reinforced concrete, and the elimination of masonry bearing walls in large buildings all had an impact on the way in which the multiple dwellings were constructed after that time in the district. Later, particularly in the 1920s, the Building Code was applied to the design of

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3 By 1920, amendments to the Building Zone Resolution permitted businesses on 68th, 72nd, 83rd, and 89th Streets within the area of the district.

4 New York State, Law Limiting the Height of Dwelling Houses (Albany, 1885).
curtain walls, including their thickness and means of attachment to steel skeletons.5

Development Patterns6

With the opening of the El in 1879, a pattern of development emerged with rowhouses on the quiet side streets and multiple dwellings of various kinds on the avenues. The pattern was, if not established, given conspicuous and coherent expression in the building campaign around 1879-1882 undertaken by Singer Sewing Machine Company president and Upper West Side promoter, Edward S. Clark, and architect Henry J. Hardenbergh on West 72nd and West 73rd Streets from Central Park West to Columbus Avenue. The Dakota, a large apartment building occupying about twenty house lots, was built on the most desirable site facing Central Park between West 72nd and 73rd Streets; rowhouses were built on the north side of West 73rd Street away from traffic; and less desirable and more densely occupied flats were built on Columbus Avenue with its noisy elevated railroad. Most residential construction in the area followed exactly this pattern through the turn of the century: five-story flats and tenements on the avenues, larger flats and apartment buildings on corner sites, particularly on Central Park West, and three- to four-story rowhouses on the side streets. The rowhouses and the multiple dwellings that date from this period of development relate to one another in terms of overall scale, style, and materials, and it is the interplay between the characteristic building types of the side streets and avenues that gives the district its cohesive quality.

Professional relationships between land-owning speculators, building developers or builders, and architects — like that of Clark and Hardenbergh — resulted in the clustering of rowhouses and flats erected by developers and their associated architects. Elsewhere in the district, businessman and real estate speculator D. Willis James and his architect John G. Prague designed multiple dwellings on the avenues anchoring side street blocks of rowhouses; this can be seen on the north side of West 85th Street which is lined with rowhouses and has the Brockholst, an apartment hotel, on the Columbus Avenue corner and the Sunset, a flats building, on the Amsterdam Avenue corner. Prominent real estate developer Bernard S. Levy collaborated with the Spanish architect, Rafael Guastavino, building rows of houses on opposite sides of West 78th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues in


6 The analysis of development patterns in the district is primarily based upon the examination of records of the Department of Buildings. Statistical data — such as date, building type, architect, original owner, and style — were compiled in databases, sorted, and cross-referenced. The information compiled in the databases serves as the primary component of the row and building entries which follow in this report. (The databases and computer programs were designed by Marion Cleaver of the LPC staff).
the 1880s. The houses built by Francis Crawford in the vicinity of West 72nd Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues (listed in records of the Department of Buildings as owned by Margaret Crawford, presumably his wife) are almost exclusively designed by the architect Gilbert A. Schellenger. This particular architect worked for several developers and his houses and flats are found throughout the district.

Rowhouses and flats designed by the firm of Thom & Wilson from the late-1870s through the 1890s are found in great numbers in the district. Although the firm worked for many developers, Thom & Wilson were the exclusive architectural firm for the various members and partnerships of the Farleys, a family of developers which included John T., James A., Terence, and Patrick Farley. Likewise, the Halls, another Upper West Side real estate dynasty, often retained the firm of Thom & Wilson, although they also commissioned the architectural firm of Welch, Smith & Provot for some of their later building campaigns.

Although less frequent, the clustering of flats and rowhouses designed by one architect for different owners occurs in the district. This can be seen on the block bounded by West 80th and 81st Streets between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues. The firm of Neville & Bagge, and George A. Bagge on his own, designed most of the rowhouses and flats on this block, as well as an apartment building, all constructed between 1890 and 1913 (a total of thirty-four buildings are extant). Here, the architects worked with five different developers.

Development on Central Park West, like Riverside Drive further to the west, lagged behind that on nearby side streets and avenues; during the early years of speculative trading in Upper West Side property, the high cost of Central Park West lots had reflected the desirability of being located on the Park, and ultimately the land was valued too high for speculative development with rowhouses. In addition to the Dakota, there were scattered flats and rowhouses built on Central Park West in the 1880s and 1890s (of which only a few remain), but the bulk of the Central Park West property was not extensively developed until the introduction of electricity into the area in 1896 allowed for the construction of luxury elevator apartment buildings.

Manhattan Square was one of the few parks allocated by the 1811 Commissioners' plan; it is the only park area within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District boundaries. Located between West 77th and 81st Streets, Central Park West and Columbus Avenue, this eighteen-acre park was acquired by the city through condemnation and opened in 1840, and annexed to Central Park in 1864. Its purpose as an open public space superseded by the creation of Central Park, Manhattan Square was provided as the site for the American Museum of Natural History (begun in 1874) and subsequently was landscaped. The museum itself enhanced property values
surrounding the square. In addition to the block between West 72nd and 73rd Streets near Central Park West where the Clark/Hardenbergh development was located, the perimeter of Manhattan Square became a fashionable area in the mid-1880s. Unlike Central Park West, by the late 1880s and 1890s the block-long north and south frontages of Manhattan Square were built exclusively with "large and expensive" rowhouses. Except for a single twenty-five foot wide house at No. 33 West 81st Street (one of an original row of three, 1885-86, Henry L. Harris, architect), all of these houses were later replaced by apartment buildings. However, the multiple dwellings that date from a slightly later period, situated across Columbus Avenue from Manhattan Square (the Evelyn, the Hotel Orleans, the Warwick Arms, and the Endicott), are still extant.

Large-Scale Development and Redevelopment

In 1898, the surface transportation lines on Amsterdam Avenue and Broadway were electrified, and finally, in 1904, the Broadway IRT subway line was completed with stops at West 72nd, 79th, 86th, 91st, and 96th Streets. These transportation improvements, together with the growing population and the rising cost of housing, were factors in bringing about a number of changes in the early years of the twentieth century: the construction of single-family rowhouses, tenements, and flats ended (housing for the upper and lower ends of the social spectrum); the construction of taller elevator hotels and apartment buildings increased, especially on Broadway, Amsterdam Avenue, and Central Park West; and the first development of large elevator buildings occurred on a side street — a group of four studio buildings on West 67th Street — followed after 1910 by the construction of many large elevator buildings on side streets, including a group of apartment hotels on West 72nd Street.

Apart from a few notable early exceptions, such as the Dakota, apartment buildings were not generally constructed on the Upper West Side before 1900. The erection of most apartment buildings had been postponed until the running of electrical lines on the Upper West Side was completed in 1896, which allowed for elevators (the Dakota had its own power source). A relatively new type of multiple dwelling in New York, these buildings were often planned around light courts or a central courtyard (following the 1901 Tenement House Law) and differed from the flats buildings specifically in the luxury of the appointments and in the number of amenities that they offered. Designed for the upper-middle class, the earliest luxury apartment buildings were erected primarily on Central Park West, which was prime for high-profit development, where they could rise to the maximum allowed height of twelve stories or fifteen stories, depending on the height of the

7 "Manhattan Square has taken on a new significance to the adjacent property owners since the new wing [of the Museum] was constructed. No uncertainty now attaches to its future. It will be a popular establishment, the center of fashionable and constantly augmenting interest," in "West Side Number," Real Estate Record & Guide Supplement, 51, no. 1300 (Feb. 11, 1893), 23.
ceilings.\textsuperscript{8}

In anticipation of the increased accessibility and convenience that the IRT would provide to the area, Broadway, which had always been the main artery of the Upper West Side, began to be developed with grand apartment buildings and hotels at the turn of the century, such as the Ansonia and the Apthorpe (both are designated New York City Landmarks and not included within the boundaries of the district). The Spencer Arms (1904-05) and the Embassy (1899-1900) are two examples in the district of this development trend. Most of these buildings, like those on Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues, also accommodated small commercial interests at street level.

The apartment hotel became a moderately popular building type throughout New York City during the 1880s and 1890s and was profitable for investors. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, this building type is generally found on Columbus Avenue, Broadway, and the wide cross streets, such as West 72nd Street, which were most convenient to public transportation. While residential hotels had been a fixture in the lifestyles of some well-to-do families since before the Civil War, apartment hotels were primarily designed for small families who wished to live in a suite of rooms, but to avoid the costs and domestic responsibilities of house ownership. Apartment hotels would invariably have a hotel dining room, but some of the suites might be outfitted with small kitchens, like those of the Endicott at West 81st Street and the Brookholst at West 85th Street, both on Columbus Avenue and dating from 1889. Apartment hotels were built in the district into the third decade of the twentieth century. An example of the later group is the Oliver Cromwell at 12 West 72nd Street (designed by Emery Roth for Washington Square, Inc. in 1927).

During the nineteenth century, a new variation of multiple dwelling, the studio building, was developed to meet the specialized demand for studios to accommodate artists living in New York. Studio buildings contained duplex units incorporating living and working spaces, often oriented toward the north, with large industrial sash windows to allow the maximum natural light into the interior. Frequently conceived as a specialized form of apartment hotel, these buildings often provided dining room facilities for residents. Interestingly, the studio buildings in the historic district are clustered along the north side of West 67th Street (the southern-facing units also have duplex arrangements). It has been suggested that restrictive covenants governing the side streets from West 68th Street northward, allowing only low-scale development in the form of first-class single-family dwellings, may have been the impetus for developing the north side of West 67th Street with studio buildings because

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\textsuperscript{8} The Tenement House Law of 1901 allowed for maximum building heights for multiple dwellings of one and one-half times the width of the street on which they fronted.
interrupted northern exposure at the rear was guaranteed. The first studio building to appear in the historic district was erected in 1902-03 at No. 27 West 67th Street. Unable to find financial backing, this building was organized as a cooperative by the artist residents themselves; it proved so successful that the Real Estate Record & Guide suggested that there was a profit to be made in this sort of venture and that speculators should take heed.

During the period between World War I and the Depression, a wave of redevelopment substantially modified the character of the area. Most noticeable was the huge boom in apartment building construction of nearly-ninety buildings between 1919 and 1931, concentrated on Central Park West; Amsterdam Avenue; the broad streets of West 72nd, West 79th, and West 86th; and West 77th and West 81st Streets around Manhattan Square. These buildings are representative of a much larger development boom in the city, spurred by favorable economic conditions and commercial expansion. Also, many rowhouses were converted to multiple-family dwellings during the 1920s following a 1919 amendment of the Tenement House Law allowing for such conversions (prior to the change in the law, a number of rowhouses in the district were already occupied as rooming houses which had not required substantial interior alterations). In general these changes responded to the need in New York for an increase in housing for the growing number of small middle-class families. The high-density redevelopment that took place in the area also enabled developers to maximize profits.

These apartment buildings were generally larger than those constructed before World War I and contained smaller apartments with lower ceiling heights, and therefore could accommodate many more families. These later buildings were taller (over twelve stories) and occupied more ground area (few sat on less than four standard lots and many occupied more than twice that number) than the twenty- to thirty-year-old buildings they replaced.

Many rowhouses were demolished for the construction of apartment buildings in the mid-1920s. Speculators were buying dwellings on the Upper West Side toward this end, anticipating enhanced property values upon completion of the Eighth Avenue Independent (IND) subway. Whereas the earliest developers in the district tended to be individuals or family-related firms, in the 1920s most development was by real estate companies often formed for the purpose of a single project; the costs of constructing even one apartment building had risen out of reach of the resources or risk-taking ability of all but a very few.

With the onset of the Depression in 1929, construction in the district all but halted with a few exceptions, notably the four twin-towered apartment buildings on Central Park West — the San Remo, the Eldorado, the

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10 Real Estate Record & Guide 72, no. 1865 (Dec. 12, 1903), 1077.
Majestic, and the Century — which benefited from the 1929 Multiple Dwelling Law allowing "skyscraper" apartment buildings for the first time. This law superseded the Tenement House Law of 1901 and supplemented the amended Building Zone Resolution of 1927. Under this law most multiple dwellings, which by this time usually meant apartment buildings, were restricted in total height, including setbacks, to about one and three-quarters times the width of the widest street up to 100 feet. This would result in a building of 178 feet — approximately nineteen stories. Exceptions were made for buildings, such as those mentioned above, occupying very large sites (over 30,000 square feet), in which one or more towers could rise from large bases up to three times the street width.

Although there was a slowdown of new building activity during the Depression it did not have a significant impact upon the development in this district until 1931. In the six-year period between 1931 and 1937 only seventeen buildings were erected in the district, as compared to thirty-three in the two-year period between 1927 and 1929. Significantly, of the buildings constructed in the 1930s, only a few were large apartment buildings, the majority being either service, utilitarian, or public buildings, which included two funeral homes and a school.

The 100 block of West 72nd Street and the 200 block of West 79th Street were subsequently adapted for commercial uses, primarily with one- and two-story alterations and additions to existing rowhouses, and also with the reconstruction of rowhouses extended to the building line and given new facades. The commercial transformation of these streets in the blocks near Broadway was spurred by the proximity to the Broadway IRT subway stations and revisions in the zoning of these streets to allow for changes in use. Along West 72nd Street these alterations figured prominently in the 1920s, whereas the alterations along West 79th Street generally appeared in the 1930s and 1940s. These wide cross streets had initially been developed with the finest class of houses and later with apartment buildings nearer to Central Park. The residential upper stories of these altered rowhouses are still intact above many of the commercial bases.

Activity resumed slowly after the Depression, and although a few large apartment buildings were built in the 1940s changes were reflected primarily in the houses of the side streets. From the 1920s to the 1970s, but mostly after World War II, there were alterations of rowhouses (many of which had been subdivided into rooming houses earlier in the century) into the equivalent of small apartment buildings; these conversions were frequently associated with stoop removals. Another type of post-war alteration that had an impact on the the district was the reconstruction and consolidation of one or more rowhouses into small apartment buildings with new facades and sometimes additional stories.

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Subsequent History and Planning Changes

During the 1960s and 1970s portions of the Upper West Side were the focus of Federal and State Urban Renewal activity. The most famous urban renewal project in this area was the construction of Lincoln Center in the lower West 60s. In 1962 (plan amended in 1966), the area between West 87th and 97th Streets, Central Park West and Amsterdam Avenue was also identified as a West Side Urban Renewal area. This project involved the erection of two public schools; the refurbishing of flats, tenements, and rowhouses; the issuance of federal loans for the refurbishment of apartment buildings on Central Park West; and the demolition of most of the existing flats and tenements along Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues between West 87th and 97th Streets, which were replaced by federally-subsidized low- to middle-income apartment buildings. Encouraged by the 1961 revision to the zoning code, most of these buildings take the form of large towers on open plazas and are a much different size and scale than those in the district. South of West 87th Street, private developers purchased and renovated many of the existing buildings along Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues using J-51 and other incentive programs. The high-rise buildings that resulted from urban renewal are incompatible in height, scale, date, and style with the buildings in the district and the northwestern and southwestern boundaries of the historic district, in particular, are drawn to exclude the areas in which they are located.

In the early 1980s, the buildings that had resulted from the twenty-year old zoning revision were coming increasingly under attack for their non-contextual relationship with the existing Upper West Side building stock. Strong community activism and a growing awareness of the benefits of retaining and enhancing the area's historic fabric were responsible to a large extent for bringing about zoning changes (implemented in 1984 to cover the area from West 59th Street to West 86th Street, Central Park West to the Hudson River) that require new buildings to conform to the street wall and set back above a prescribed height in an effort to retain a contextual relationship with the mostly low-to medium-rise buildings on the avenues and streets of the Upper West Side. These zoning provisions have been important in helping to maintain the scale and character of the area of the historic district.

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Elisa Urbanelli
Central Park West, the northern continuation of Eighth Avenue, runs along the western edge of Central Park. As it extends through the district, the avenue is characterized by a varied skyline rising above a uniform street wall. Constructed over roughly a fifty-year period, 1880-1930, low-scale institutional buildings, medium-scale apartment buildings, and soaring twin-towered apartment buildings designed in a number of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century styles define Central Park West as a grand proscenium to the architectural variety of the district.

Today one of New York's finest residential streets, Eighth Avenue (renamed Central Park West between 59th and 110th Street in 1883) in the mid-nineteenth century was ungraded, unpaved, and led through a rural area spotted with rocky outcroppings, roaming goats, and modest wood-frame houses. As the city's population expanded during this period, demand for a public park increased to ameliorate crowding and benefit all of the people of New York. Land was set aside for a large park between Fifth and Eighth Avenues, extending from 59th to 110th Street. With the creation of Central Park, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux after their "Greensward" plan of 1857-58, as well as a series of transportation improvements such as the Eighth Avenue street rail line, opened from midtown to 84th Street in 1864, and the Ninth Avenue Elevated Railway (1879), the Upper West Side in general experienced a period of intense real estate speculation which lasted into the early 1880s before development began in earnest. Olmsted correctly predicted that the land immediately adjacent to the park would quickly rise in value and that the area would develop into a prime residential neighborhood. Initially, however, the west side opposite Central Park, unlike the more fashionable east side, did not attract the wealthy people who could afford the inflated prices of the land bordering the park. On the other hand, land prices along the park rose to such a degree that most speculative builders shied away from rowhouse and tenement construction, for which they would receive relatively modest returns. While the side streets of the district were built up with rows of speculatively-buit houses during the 1880s and 1890s, Central Park West remained largely undeveloped.

A few of the buildings constructed during this early period of speculation and development remain on the avenue, such as the three surviving single-family houses of an original row of nine at 247, 248, and 249 Central Park West (Edward L. Angell, 1887-88), two houses of an original row of five at Nos. 354 and 355 (Gilbert A. Schellenger, 1892-93), and the Lolita, a flats building at No. 227 (Thom & Wilson, 1888-89). However, the early character of the avenue was really established by two great monuments: the Dakota, the pioneering luxury apartment building at West 72nd Street (Henry J. Hardenbergh, 1880-84), and the American Museum of Natural History between West 77th and 81st Streets in Manhattan Square (first building designed by Calvert Vaux and Jacob Wrey Mould, begun 1874), both designated New York City Landmarks. On the heels of these initial farsighted efforts came a number of low-scale institutional buildings during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Among them were the Synagogue of
Congregation Shearith Israel at 99 Central Park West (Brunner & Tryon, 1896-97), a designated New York City Landmark, and the Church of the Divine Paternity (now the Church of the Fourth Universalist Society) at the southwest corner of Central Park West and West 76th Street (William A. Potter, 1897-98), in the Central Park West - West 76th Street Historic District. Concurrent with this period of development several apartment hotels and apartment buildings were constructed in the 1890s, including the Hotel Beresford at the northwest corner of Central Park West and West 81st Street, the Majestic at West 71st Street, the El Dorado at West 90th Street, and the San Remo at West 75th Street; all later replaced by their towered namesakes of the 1920s and 1930s. Several grand luxury apartment buildings constructed prior to World War I increased the prestige of Central Park West, including the Prasada at the southwest corner of West 65th Street (Charles William Romeyn, 1905-07) and the Kenilworth at the northwest corner of West 75th Street (Townsend, Steinle & Haskell, 1906-08, in the Central Park West-West 76th Street Historic District). This phase of development was effectively halted by the war.

The next and last phase of development to have a major impact on Central Park West accompanied the economic prosperity of the 1920s, and was enhanced by the anticipation of the opening in 1932 of the new Independent subway line (IND) which runs below Central Park West with stops at West 72nd, 81st, and 86th Streets. At roughly the same time, the city widened the avenue bed from forty-eight feet to sixty-three feet. This period saw the construction of large-scale apartment buildings, in particular the towered buildings that give Central Park West its special skyline silhouette. With the enactment of the Multiple Dwelling Law in 1929, which allowed residential buildings of large ground area greater height and the use of towers, it became possible to build skyscraper apartment buildings. (For more information on the Multiple Dwelling Law, see the section of this report on multiple dwellings). The Beresford Apartments between West 81st and 82nd Streets (Emery Roth, 1928-29, a designated New York City Landmark), with its rooftopline animated by the prominent treatment of the water towers at three corners, presages the appearance of the twin-towered apartment buildings that followed in the next three years. These distinctive buildings, all of which occupy entire blockfronts along Central Park West, include the Century Apartments between 62nd and 63rd Streets (Irwin S. Chanin and Jacques L. Delamarre, Sr., 1931), the Majestic Apartments between 71st and 72nd Streets (Irwin S. Chanin, 1930-31), the San Remo Apartments between 74th and 75th Streets (Emery Roth, 1929-30), and the Eldorado Apartments between 90th and 91st Streets (Margon & Holder with Emery Roth as consultant, 1929-31); all are designated New York City Landmarks. With the Great Depression, the heyday of construction on Central Park West came to an end; the dynamic twin-towered buildings serve as a brilliant climax to the last great surge of development activity on the avenue.

The large buildings fronting on Central Park West extend back from the avenue into the side street blocks of the district and have an impact on these streetscapes. The side street facades of these buildings, while displaying materials and details that are compatible with the rowhouses on the side streets, are erected on the building line in contrast to the rowhouses which are set back from the street behind areaways. The interplay...
between the low-scale character of the rowhouse groups which dominate the side streets and the large-scale character of the taller buildings that terminate these blocks on Central Park West reinforces that role of the avenue as an eastern frame of the district.

The buildings lining Central Park West demonstrate the use of exuberant styles and materials as varied and picturesque as the avenue's skyline. As seen from Central Park this distinctive silhouette — composed of buildings of differing scale and style richly clad in brick and stone and punctuated by an assortment of roofline treatments such as gables, mansards, and soaring towers — presents a picture of architectural variety unique in New York City.

The surviving late-nineteenth century buildings, such as the Lolita designed in the Renaissance Revival style with neo-Grec and Queen Anne elements, employ contrasting materials to achieve polychromatic effects. The Queen Anne style rowhouses at 247, 248, and 249 Central Park West, executed in brick and finely-carved stone, are crowned by prominent slate roofs punctuated by gables and chimneys. The first great apartment building in the district, the Dakota, is an unusual example of the German Renaissance Revival style combining a bold massing of forms and a free use of historical detail in contrasting brick, stone, and terra cotta. The Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church at 51-55 Central Park West (Schickel & Ditmars, 1902-03) is an example of the neo-Gothic style in striking rusticated stone, while the Synagogue of Congregation Shearith Israel, faced in smooth stone, is a more formal example of Academic Classicism. A rare example of the Art Nouveau/Secessionist style in the district is the Society for Ethical Culture Auditorium at 33 Central Park West (Robert D. Kohn, 1913, a designated New York City Landmark). This building adds a special note of interest to the variety found in the district.

At first the designs of the apartment buildings of the early twentieth century continued to utilize polychromy and contrasting materials, even as massing became more formal and regularized. An example is the Beaux-Arts style Kenilworth, which is faced in red brick with white stone trim and crowned with a slate mansard roof pierced with dormers. As the neo-Renaissance style proliferated toward the end of the first decade of this century, facade composition and the use of contrasting materials became more restrained. The Brookford, at 315 Central Park West (Schwartz & Gross, 1911-12) reflects this aesthetic; its tripartite composition features a facade faced in brown brick with stone and terra cotta trim concentrated at the base and upper stories. Terra cotta would assume greater importance as a building material during the construction boom of the late 1920s and early 1930s.

The buildings on Central Park West designed in the late 1920s by noted architect Emery Roth illustrate his distinctive aesthetic which combines modern massing with ornament inspired by Italian Renaissance and Baroque sources. The work of this architect reflects the transition from the neo-Renaissance aesthetic, in which classically-inspired ornament is applied to the facade, to the stylized detail and bold massing of the Art Deco style. One of Roth's works, the Beresford, is an example of the large-scale
apartment buildings constructed on Central Park West beginning in the late
1920s. Faced in brick and stone, it is embellished with Renaissance- and
Baroque-inspired elements, while the top stories are stepped back,
influenced by zoning laws, and given emphatic treatment in a manner
characteristic of buildings designed in the current Art Deco style. The
neo-Renaissance style reached a culmination in Roth’s design for the twin-
towered San Remo Apartments, faced in light brick with Italian Renaissance
details executed in monochromatic stone, terra cotta, and metal. As Art
Deco style apartment buildings proliferated, the use of contrasting color
and materials gained a new importance in architectural design, emphasizing
texture, pattern, and stylized motifs from a variety of sources. The
Ardsley (Emery Roth, 1930-31), located at 320 Central Park West, is faced in
brick with bold, linear cast-stone trim derived from Mayan sources. The
Century and the Majestic, both with sophisticated twin-towered designs by
Irwin S. Chanin, are among the most notable residential buildings in New
York that embrace the Art Deco aesthetic.

The character of Central Park West is the result of two major
development phases extending over a period of roughly fifty-five years, from
1880 to 1930. Only two buildings have been constructed on the avenue in the
past twenty-five years, thus Central Park West remains much the same as it
was in the 1930s, and retains the architectural variety and dramatic
silhouette that make it a unique presence in New York City.

Kevin McHugh
The unusually long side street blocks that form the heart of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District have a character which is determined in part by the relatively narrow, sixty-foot street width, and the standard size of the New York City building lot, 25 feet wide by 100 feet deep, arrayed on blocks which are 200 feet wide and 800 feet long. (The short side street blocks between Columbus Avenue and Broadway are a modification of this pattern.) Developers of rowhouses purchased several lots at a time, combining them and then subdividing them into narrower widths so that, for example, five or six houses could be built on a 100 by 100 foot plot. Development in the area initially focused on the side streets which achieved their predominant architectural character between 1880 and 1895, as the blockfronts were built up with long rows of houses that unified the streetscapes by consistent height, setback, and overall form. These houses are usually four stories high above raised basements, approached by straight or box stoops, or less frequently, five stories high with American basements, set back from the building line behind areaways, and faced with brownstone or brick with contrasting stone or terra-cotta trim. The rows are stylistically varied and there is often a great deal of variety in form and ornamental detail within each row, thus producing a multiplicity of configurations (for example, ABCDCBA). While over 100 architects designed rowhouses within the district, the character of the side streets is further unified by the work of several prolific architects and firms. Sometimes this work is concentrated within a few blocks as that of Henry J. Hardenbergh on two blocks of West 73rd Street, John G. Prague on West 85th and West 87th Streets, and Neville & Bagge on two blocks of West 88th Street. George F. Pelham’s houses are found on many side streets, and those of Gilbert A. Schellenger and Thom & Wilson are located on virtually every street of the district.12

While rowhouses are the predominant building type on the side streets, other types are also important. Contemporaneous with the construction of the rowhouses are tenements and flats buildings at the Amsterdam and Columbus Avenue ends of the side street blocks. Built in rows, like the single-family houses, these multiple dwellings could be oriented to either the avenue or the side street. When a row extended to the corner, at least one building in each group had its entrance on the side street. Many flats buildings were constructed in conjunction with side street rowhouses; examples include the flats building designed by Henry J. Hardenbergh at 281-287 Columbus Avenue (a/k/a 67 West 73rd Street) built in 1882-84 with the row at 41-65 West 73rd Street, and three flats buildings designed by Gilbert A. Schellenger at 72-76 West 69th Street (a/k/a 191-199 Columbus Avenue) built in 1892-93 with a row of eight houses at 48-70 West 69th Street. Even when designed as separate projects, these flats buildings have a number of characteristics which relate them to the rowhouses: a uniform height of five

12 For further information on the rowhouses and their architects, see the section on "The Architectural Development and Character of Single-Family Dwellings" and the "Architects' Appendix" below.
stories which is roughly equivalent to the four stories with basement of the rowhouses, a slight setback (not as pronounced as the setback for rowhouses) which serves to make the flats buildings act as pavilions for the rowhouses, and similar materials and ornamental details. This interrelationship is among the qualities which help to establish the character of the historic district.

Apartment buildings and apartment hotels began to be introduced to some of the side street blocks south of West 72nd Street as early as the 1910s. Two apartment buildings, designed by Rouse & Goldstone and built in 1912, 117-121 West 71st Street and 138-140 West 71st Street, are examples. Most apartment buildings on the side streets were built during a second phase of apartment building construction after World War I. While some of these buildings were constructed on lots that had been previously vacant, most replaced existing rowhouses. These apartment buildings generally range in width from fifty to 100 feet and rise from six to twelve stories. Constructed at the building line, rather than set back, the apartment buildings, nonetheless, relate to the rowhouses in use of materials and architectural details. Larger apartment buildings of twelve to fifteen stories fronting onto Central Park West and the avenues impact on the side street blocks with side street facades, which often display materials and details that are compatible with the rowhouses. In some cases the building has an address on the avenue or Central Park West, but has its main entrance on the side street.

Studio buildings represent a more specialized type of multiple dwelling on the side street blocks. While nine buildings of this type, built between 1902 and 1929, are concentrated on West 67th Street, other examples are scattered throughout the district. Similar in height, material, and architectural detail to the apartment buildings, these buildings are distinguished by their double-height studio windows.

Small apartment buildings, converted from existing rowhouses by joining one or more buildings, rebuilding the interiors, extending out the fronts, and erecting new facades, generally of unadorned brick, are less than sympathetic intrusions onto the side street blocks.

Throughout the period of development of the district, religious organizations and other institutions have constructed their buildings on side street blocks. Churches, synagogues, schools, and similar structures, designed by some of the city’s most prestigious architects and scattered throughout the district, enhance the district’s character and relate to the residential buildings in materials, scale, and architectural detail.

13 For further information on tenements, flats buildings, and apartment buildings, see the section on "The Architectural Development and Character of Multiple Dwellings" below.

14 For more information on religious and institutional architecture in the district, see the section on "The Architecture of Religious and Other Public and Private Institutions in the Upper West Side/Central Park West.
Commerce has had a minimal impact on the side streets. A New York Telephone Company office building (1920, McKenzie, Voorhies & Gmelin) is located at 121-139 West 73rd Street. An ABC office building (Kohn Pedersen Fox & Assocs., 1978-79) at 28-32 West 67th Street is located adjacent to the former Durand Riding Academy (Henry F. Kilburn, 1900-01) which has been converted to ABC studio and production use. The predominant building type, rowhouses, have not been commercialized save for the addition of storefronts in a few rowhouses, for example those at 65, 102 and 103 West 73rd Street which are related to commerce on adjacent Columbus Avenue. Of the numerous flats and apartment buildings located on the side streets, only a small number have shops in their bases.

David Breiner
Marjorie Pearson

Historic District" below.

15 The commercial transformation of rowhouses on West 72nd Street and West 79th Street is discussed in the sections on "The Character of the Cross Streets" and "The Commercial Architecture of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District" below.
Residential Cross Streets

The cross streets of the historic district, West 72nd Street, West 79th Street, West 86th Street, and the sections of West 77th Street and West 81st Street between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue, derive their character in part from the greater width of the streets themselves, 100 feet as opposed to the sixty-foot width of the side streets. All had similar initial development patterns. These blockfronts were filled with large and elegant rowhouses which followed the pattern of four stories above a high basement or five stories with an American basement seen elsewhere in the district, although the houses tended to be wider, twenty to twenty-five feet. West 77th Street and West 81st Street fronted onto Manhattan Square, which made houses on those streets particularly desirable. By the turn of the century, apartment hotels and apartment buildings of twelve to fourteen stories began to go up at the Central Park West and avenue ends of the cross street blocks. Changing socio-economic conditions and changes in zoning which allowed buildings to be constructed to the height of one-and-a-half times the width of the street gave impetus to the construction of larger apartment buildings of fourteen to eighteen stories during the 1910s, prior to World War I, and in the 1920s. Today the predominant character of the cross streets is defined by walls of tall apartment buildings interspersed with isolated groups of surviving rowhouses, although sections of West 72nd Street and West 79th Street have taken on more specialized characters relating to commerce in the district.

Commercial Cross Streets

West 72nd Street

Originally part of the Harsen Estate, which was subdivided into 500 lots identified for residential use due to restrictive covenants, West 72nd Street developed into a fashionable street. Its generous width and proximity to an entrance to Central Park gave this street advantages over other streets nearby. Furthermore, as early as 1866, West 72nd Street fell under the jurisdiction of Central Park; its landscaping was planned and maintained by park employees, while commercial traffic was severely limited. Edward S. Clark initiated development on West 72nd Street opposite Central Park with the construction of the Dakota (1880-84) designed by Henry J. Hardenbergh. After a period of real estate speculation, rowhouses were erected here during the mid-1880s in the exuberant styles of the day. So ostentatious were these houses, in fact, that an unappreciative critic writing for the Real Estate Record & Guide called them "positively vulgar and inartistic."16

The opening of the IRT subway station at West 72nd Street and Broadway in 1904 and changing socio-economic conditions of the early twentieth

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16 "West Side Illustrated," Real Estate Record & Guide, Nov. 16, 1889.
century eventually altered the character of West 72nd Street.

The blockfronts east of Columbus Avenue saw the replacement of almost every rowhouse by apartment buildings between 1925 and 1929. The Dakota was joined by facing rows of mid-to-late 1920s apartment buildings and apartment hotels, typically of sixteen stories, and by the side facade of Irwin S. Chanin’s Majestic apartment building (1930-31).

West of Columbus Avenue the street was commercialized. During the first two decades of the twentieth century, three hotels (now with commercial bases) were built on the south side of the street; between 1911 and 1926 several residences were demolished for four apartment buildings with street-level shops. However, the transformation that gave this block of West 72nd Street its distinctive ambiance was the alteration of existing rowhouses for commercial use, beginning in 1909 but most prevalent in the 1920s. On this street there were two methods, equally popular, of converting the four-story rowhouses with raised basements: (1) removing the stoop, extending the lower two stories to the building line, and inserting a shopfront and street-level entrance, thus accommodating businesses on the lower two stories and apartments above and (2) extending the entire front to the building line, erecting a new facade, and inserting commercial space at the first and/or second story with residential units above.

The resultant streetscape, which survives today, is created by the alternation of largely intact nineteenth-century residential facades, set back from the street, above twentieth-century extended two-story commercial bases, and 1920s facades, erected at the building line. Also scattered along the north and south blockfronts are the aforementioned hotels and apartment buildings with storefronts at street level and several small commercial buildings from the 1930s, some of which survive relatively intact. Because of the popularity of West 72nd Street for retail and service functions throughout the twentieth century, storefronts with their attendant signs and awnings have been continually replaced, often without regard to the overall architectural character of the buildings which contain them. The only major alterations of recent years involve three 1930s commercial structures: two buildings (120-122 and 159 West 72nd Street) were refaced in the 1970s and one edifice (143 West 72nd Street) received additional stories in the 1980s. The total effect is a diverse commercial street which contains a mix of surviving historic storefronts from the 1920s and contemporary vernacular storefronts.

17 An amendment to the Building Zone Resolution in 1920 permitted businesses on West 72nd Street.

18 For further information on the characteristics and qualities of these converted rowhouses, see the section on "The Commercial Architecture of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District" below.
West 79th Street

A wide cross-street at the center of the historic district which extends from Columbus Avenue (at Manhattan Square) to Broadway, West 79th Street was developed with rowhouses in the 1880s and, especially, in the 1890s. Proximity to the IRT subway station at West 79th Street and Broadway and altered socio-economic conditions helped bring about a series of changes beginning in the early years of the twentieth century. Between Columbus and Amsterdam avenues on West 79th Street, almost every structure was replaced in two waves of apartment house construction; built from 1909 to 1914 and from 1923 to 1935, they rise from twelve to seventeen stories. There is also an apartment building erected in the 1980s. Few of these buildings have storefronts, and this portion of the street is almost exclusively residential.

The blockfronts between Amsterdam and Broadway saw a different kind of change. The Hotel Lucerne was constructed at the northwest corner of 79th Street and Amsterdam Avenue in 1903-04. The five-story rowhouses with American basements on the northern blockfront had been erected as an ensemble in 1895-97. Some received professional offices at the basement level soon after construction; during the 1930s they all were transformed by the removal of the low stoops (in most cases) and the insertion of one- and two-story shopfronts, some of which protrude to the building line. Despite the varying heights of commercial alterations and the erection of projecting and flush shopfronts, the buildings retain a unified appearance by virtue of projecting bays, continuous stringcourses, and other repetitive architectural features intrinsic to the design of the rowhouses. The four easternmost rowhouses were reconstructed in the 1970s into a small apartment building with street-level shops.

On the south side of the street between Broadway and Amsterdam, a group of eleven rowhouses had been built in 1894. The three-story structures with raised basements were altered for commercial use in the 1930s. The commercial alterations are of several types. Some rowhouses simply had alterations (of different degrees) to the raised basements and businesses inserted at that level. Others had the stoop removed, a street-level entrance inserted, and a storefront erected at the new first story. A third group of rowhouses had two-story commercial extensions that project to the building line. Projecting neon signs have been added to the upper portions of several rowhouse facades. A unified appearance is preserved, however, by the pavilions at the ends of the row, projecting bays, the continuous stringcourses and other architectural details of the surviving portions of

19 The twelve buildings were actually built under two New Building Applications, but the rows were designed by the same architect to complement each other.

20 For further information on the character of these alterations and those on the south side of the street, see the section on "The Commercial Architecture of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District" below.
the residential facades above the commercial bases.

Changes have taken place over time in the infill of the storefronts on both sides of the street, but change generally has not occurred above the storefront level. The storefronts themselves show a degree of regularity in retaining transparency, the modularity of the rowhouses, and the plane of the facade.

David Breiner
Marjorie Pearson
Beginning in 1879, development on the Upper West Side was encouraged and influenced by the Ninth Avenue Elevated Railway (or El) which had stops at West 72nd, 81st, 93rd, and 104th streets, the last one beyond the northern boundary of the historic district. Ninth Avenue (changed to Columbus Avenue in 1890) began to fill up with five-story flats. Often erected in conjunction with side street rowhouses, the flats contain street-level shops which provide goods and services to residents of the neighborhood and residential units above. Averaging five stories, these flats demonstrate a relatively uniform height and scale which combine with continuous commercial storefronts at street level to give Columbus Avenue its character as the neighborhood's main shopping street. As with the single-family houses on the side streets, the flats and tenements, often designed in the neo-Grec and Romanesque Revival styles, were built in rows and a small number of architects were responsible for a majority of the buildings, a characteristic which unifies the avenue and helps establish its relationship to the side streets.

Between 1879 and the mid 1890s, Columbus Avenue largely assumed its present architectural character, which is that of flats interspersed with tenements, apartment hotels, and a handful of small commercial buildings. Several apartment buildings were built in the early years of the twentieth century. These building types share many exterior architectural characteristics, such as street-level storefronts and masonry facades which strongly define the street wall.21

By the time the IRT, New York's first subway line, began service along nearby Broadway in 1904, Columbus Avenue had become a fully developed, bustling thoroughfare. Among Columbus Avenue's famous commercial establishments was the J.M. Horton Ice Cream Company at No. 302 (the name remains on the flats building with a street level store). Founded in 1870, the company became nationally famous, supplying desserts to a number of presidential inaugural balls; by 1893 it furnished three-fifths of all the ice cream consumed in New York City.22 This store, as well as the Horton dairy store at 371 Amsterdam Avenue, were among a city-wide chain. Other notable businesses were Hellman's Deli, originator of the famed mayonnaise (the site is now a school yard just outside the district), and Park & Tilford, purveyors of fancy groceries since 1840 whose large commercial building at the southwest corner of Columbus Avenue and West 72nd Street was designed by McKim, Mead & White and erected in 1892-93. In general, the shops along Columbus Avenue catered to the daily needs of local residents.

21 For more information on the architectural character of these buildings and their commercial aspects, see the sections below on "The Architectural Character and Development of Multiple Dwellings" and "The Commercial Architecture of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District."

22 Moses King, King's Handbook of New York (Boston, 1893), 984.
Regularly throughout the twentieth century, virtually every shopfront on Columbus Avenue (in contrast to Amsterdam Avenue) has been altered to some degree, yet the upper stories of these buildings remain intact, as does the rhythm established by the significant features — the structural columns and supports which, together with the surviving lintels and cornices, define the masonry openings which contain the street-level stores on most of the structures. The appearance of a masonry mass floating above a transparent base, as originally intended, is thereby preserved. The storefront infill has been regularly changed in accordance with the needs of commerce and now displays a wide variety of materials and design. An unusual original basement-level storefront retaining its cornice, window frames, and doors remains at No. 380-384 Columbus Avenue.

The only major intrusions into the avenue’s historic streetscapes are two small commercial buildings at Nos. 211-213 and 215-217 from 1987, two small apartment buildings at No. 324 and No. 386-390, converted in 1971 and 1981 respectively from earlier flats buildings, both with street-level shops, two larger apartment buildings at No. 407-409 and No. 560-568, built in the 1980s with street-level shops, and a commercial building at No. 462 that resulted from a 1961 alteration.

Planned and built as a major transportation route with its elevated train tracks, Columbus Avenue, lined by multiple dwellings and shops, retains its active character as a retail and service artery — although the elevated trains, discontinued and their tracks and structure demolished in 1940, have been replaced by increased vehicular traffic. Although changes have occurred to the street-level storefronts, resulting from the avenue’s ever-changing commercial character, these changes have generally respected the original fabric of masonry-fronted multiple dwellings and apartment hotels, as well as that of the small, exclusively commercial buildings.

David Breiner

23 In a few cases portions of original or historic storefront components survive: a paneled frieze at No. 255; double-height storefronts at No. 260 which retain bandcourses, and second-story window sash and lintels; storefront cornices and transoms at Nos. 483 and 485; a cornice at No. 522; and portions of projecting bulkheads and window-framing members at No. 561-567. Instances of largely unchanged storefronts from the 1920s-1940s survive at No. 273, No. 526, No. 529, and No. 570.
Without the impetus of the El, Tenth Avenue (changed to Amsterdam Avenue in 1890) had a different developmental history than Columbus Avenue. Although the construction of flats on Amsterdam also began in 1879, most of the flats date from 1886 to 1900. Built with street-level shops, these buildings are concentrated in the stretch of the avenue north of West 79th Street. Several groups of tenements, all built in 1894-95 and containing street-level shops, are also located along the upper portion of Amsterdam Avenue within the district. Besides the Hotel Lucerne (Harry B. Mulliken, 1903-04) at the northwest corner of West 79th Street and Amsterdam Avenue and an apartment building (1927) on the east side of the avenue that actually is the terminus of a continuous string of similar buildings along West 79th Street, the uniform street walls created by flats and tenements with street-level storefronts is broken only by a three-story library (1905-06) and an eleven-story warehouse (1922-23).

The southern portion of Amsterdam Avenue, between West 72nd and West 79th streets, is dominated by apartment buildings. Although two, the Van Dyck and Severn between West 72nd Street and West 73rd Street, were erected in 1905, possibly with street-level shops, the majority date from the mid-to-late 1920s and have always had commercial bases. The only exceptions to the characteristic apartment buildings are several four-story rowhouses (1886) with commercial bases added, three five-story flats buildings with shops (late-1880s and early-1890s), a hotel with street-level shops (1911), and a commercial building (1887-88) at No. 371 — described as a stable, store, and flats in its New Building application. This last building was owned by Lorton Horton of the J.M. Horton Ice Cream Company and probably supplied the company's shop on Columbus Avenue. Horton also commissioned the groups of flats buildings immediately to the north of this. Other businesses, too, were established to serve the needs of the immediate community.

Serviced by a horse car line opened in 1878 and then an electric street car line after 1898, Amsterdam Avenue was not subject to the commercial pressures brought to Columbus Avenue by the El. On the other hand, Amsterdam has seen less physical alteration of its historic fabric at street level: shopfronts retain more of their original elements than those on Columbus Avenue and are more closely related to the design of the upper stories of the buildings in which they are found.

David Breiner
THE CHARACTER OF BROADWAY

Although the entire length of Broadway south of the district had always been a major thoroughfare, the blockfronts included in the district remained undeveloped long after other streets in the area because of the uncertain plans for the type of public transportation to be built there. This section of Broadway finally blossomed into a busy street in anticipation of the IRT subway that was eventually completed beneath it in 1904. The three-and-a-half blockfronts of Broadway included within the district contain large buildings (with one exception), all of which were originally constructed with street-level shops or eventually received them. These are three twelve-story apartment buildings dating from the turn of the century — the Dorilton at 71st Street (Janes & Leo, 1900-02), the Embassy, at 70th Street (Robert Maynicke, 1899-1900), the Spencer Arms at 69th Street (Mulliken & Moeller, 1904-05) — and the Coronado from the late 1980s; one seven-story flats building at 69th Street (Ware & Styne-Harde, 1895); and the nineteen-story Hotel Alamac (Maynicke & Franke, 1922). These buildings create a street wall which relates to the diagonal of Broadway; the buildings also relate to the side street blocks (all have major facades on the side streets), and to each other. Of particular interest is the Embassy, built three years later than the adjacent flats building and designed by a different architect, but using the same design elements. A two-story commercial building dating from 1938 is located at the southeast corner of West 72nd Street and Broadway.

David Breiner
Rowhouses
Upper West Side/Central Park West

Numbers are based on analysis of data for existing buildings
Groups of Rowhouses
Upper West Side/Central Park West

Years of Construction: 1870-1910

Number of Groups

Numbers are based on analysis of data for existing buildings.
The year 1868 inaugurated one of the greatest periods of speculation that has ever affected New York real estate. At that time, the Upper West Side was nothing more than a wilderness of rocks spotted with broken-down shanties and sprawling farms. Apart from a few farm houses and rural inns, the area remained largely a vast open space prime for building. When development began in earnest in the early 1880s, spurred by new transportation lines linking the area to developed parts of the city further south and the continuing movement uptown of the rapidly-growing middle class, speculative builders seized the opportunity to develop the side streets of the district with rowhouses designed for middle- and upper-middle class families. While part of the earliest phase of development in the district, these speculatively-built rowhouses actually represent the final years of construction of single-family houses in Manhattan. Although the earliest houses surviving in the district date from 1870 and the latest from 1910, as a whole, this large concentration of rowhouses was built during a short span of years, the 1880s and 1890s; therefore they display a unified and harmonious use of late-nineteenth century architectural styles. Anchored by the multiple dwellings on the avenues, which appeared from the time of original development in the area, the rowhouses create the low-scale domestic character that largely defines the side streets of the district.

The basic pattern of development of these side streets lined with rowhouses was a product of the emerging accessibility of the area to employment and shopping districts downtown brought about by the rapid travel possible on steam railroads. The earliest remaining rowhouses located within the district were begun in 1870 in anticipation of the improved public transportation to be brought to the area by the Ninth (Columbus) Avenue El (eventually opened in 1879) which was in the planning stages. These first rowhouse groups were built in proximity to the proposed El stations at 72nd, 81st, and 93rd Streets: Nos. 159 to 165 West 71st Street (four of an original row of five), Nos. 35 to 39 West 83rd Street and 49 to 53 West 83rd Street (six of an original row of thirteen), and Nos. 47 and 49 West 92nd Street (two of a row of twenty of which a total of seven survive). A financial panic hit in 1873 and by 1874 there was a complete cessation of building operations. Wages and material prices fell. Development stagnated and the building industry did not fully recover until 1879, at which time it was the completion of the El that really spurred Upper West Side development. Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues, with its busy transportation lines, were developed with flats and tenements providing commercial space at street level and the erection of first-class single-family dwellings was reserved for the side streets.

Surviving from this early stage of development is a row of five houses designed by Christian Blinn at Nos. 64 to 72 West 71st Street built in 1878. In other early projects, the architect Henry J. Hardenbergh designed a row of twenty-five houses built in 1879-80 on the north side of West 73rd Street between Columbus and Amsterdam (only one survives) in conjunction with a
flats building on Columbus Avenue. Two years later, Hardenbergh designed another range of rowhouses on the north side of West 73rd Street between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue (a total of seventeen remain). From then on, in the 1880s, rowhouse construction soared from one rowhouse group in 1880, to twenty-one in 1884 to a climactic increase of forty-two in 1886. In the Real Estate Record & Guide in 1884 the optimism could be felt: "...the West Side is going up rapidly; of that there is no doubt...whole blocks of dwellings are occupied by citizens of good social standing." 24 From 1886 to 1890 the number of rows built fluctuated, and after 1890 decreased gradually to zero in 1899 and 1900. From 1900 to 1910 there was a slight increase in rowhouse construction, and the last two existing rows constructed in the district were begun in 1910. These late groups are clustered in the blocks between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue, on West 73rd, 74th, and 86th Streets. 25

During the periods of heaviest construction in the early- to mid-1880s, rowhouse development in the district occurred primarily on the side streets of 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 76th, 82nd, and 83rd obviously clustering around the El stops at West 72nd and 81st Streets. The year 1885 brought the development of twenty-nine rows to the areas near the El stops, as well as construction on West 90th and 94th Streets near the 93rd Street stop. The forty-two rows built in 1886, the apex year of rowhouse construction, continued the clustering pattern. It was not until the late 1880s and 1890s that rowhouse development began to spread throughout the district.

Following the general model existing on the East Side and downtown, single-family houses were built in three- to five-story rows, some with two- to three-story kitchen and stairway extensions at the rear. At the front they were set back from the lot line only enough to accommodate an areaway and a stoop. The houses were set back from the rear lot line according to changing requirements in the building laws and the desired size of the house. These houses were built to the lot lines on the sides, often sharing the party walls of the adjacent houses. Party walls (single walls that straddled the lot line and carried the floors of houses on both sides) achieved an economy of means, a saving of space, and most importantly, lowered costs so that the unit cost of a house in a large row was lower than that of the same house in a small row or alone. Until some of the late rowhouses were built in the district, all were constructed with load-bearing brick side walls and self-supporting brick front and rear walls, with the front walls clad in various facing materials (brick, brownstone, limestone, sandstone, cast stone, and terra cotta). In most cases the side walls supported wood beams with wood joists at each floor level. Some of the late

24 "Some West Side Residences," Real Estate Record & Guide 34 (Oct. 25, 1884), 1080.

25 These statistics are based on an analysis of data on surviving rows found in records of the Department of Buildings; the information was compiled in databases in which it could be sorted, cross-referenced, and further studied.
rowhouses had iron or steel beams with brick or concrete floor arches but virtually none of the houses were considered fireproof. One group of eighteen houses on West 74th Street, designed by Percy Griffin for Frederick Ambrose Clark and built in 1902-04, were steel-frame, fireproof buildings that also contained elevators, an extremely unusual feature in rowhouse construction.  

Developers involved in rowhouse construction on the Upper West Side purchased groups of the standard twenty-five foot by one hundred foot lots; in order to maximize the number of houses built in one row, they often constructed residences narrower than twenty-five feet. Thus, five twenty-foot wide houses could be built on four lots. Another common occurrence was the construction of six houses, each roughly sixteen-and-one-half feet wide, on four lots. Some houses in the district are as narrow as fifteen feet, such as Nos. 6 and 8 West 83rd Street (Christian Blinn, 1881-82).

The middle- and upper-middle class families that choose to live on the Upper West Side were usually those of professionals, such as bankers, merchants, lawyers, manufacturers and other types of well-to-do businessmen. The average home was occupied by approximately three to fifteen people, depending on the number of children, other family members, servants, and boarders to help pay for expenses.

The majority of the rowhouses in the district were designed and constructed with three to four stories above raised basements and the high stoops placed at one side, a characteristic of earlier nineteenth-century houses found in New York. They followed, with some variation, a basic formula for interior planning, accommodating the informal dining room in the front of the basement level with the kitchen and laundry at the back, the

26 A notable exception is the house at No. 122 West 78th Street, designed by architect Rafael Guastavino using his innovative terra-cotta arch vaulting system. A more complete discussion of Guastavino's work in the district is found in Sarah Bradford Landau, "The Row Houses of New York's West Side," Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians 34, no. 1 (Mar., 1975), 24-26. Guastavino is further discussed below.

27 These features were not required by the building code but were evidently the choice of the developer, a member of the prominent Clark family whose real estate activities are further discussed below. See also Landau, 30.

28 LPC, Riverside-West End Historic District Report, report prepared by the Research Department (New York, 1989), 20, and Landau, 21. Few rowhouse groups in the district were built on full twenty-five foot wide lots. These are generally among the latest houses constructed.

29 Based on a survey of portions of West 69th, 73rd, 81st, 85th, and 87th Streets; United States Census, 1900. Landau discusses more fully the income levels of rowhouse buyers. It was also common on the Upper West Side to offer houses as rentals.
front and back parlors on the first floor (the rear one being used as a more formal dining room) along a side hall and the stairs leading to the upper floors which contained the family bedrooms and bathrooms, and the servants and boarders at the top story. An entrance to the basement, which was convenient for accepting deliveries of goods, was located beneath the stoop and accessible by an entryway cut into the side of the stoop. The common straight stoop was widely used, but in the 1880s the box stoop, with a right-angle turn and an intermediate landing, gained in popularity. The box stoop was constructed with a wall at the building line so that one entered the steps from the areaway at the side, allowing for a more private approach to the house. Often rows were designed with a combination of raised and box stoops, enhancing the variety among the houses in the row.

The 1890s witnessed an innovation in interior planning that affected the placement and design of the stoop; the high straight or box stoops were replaced by a low stoop at ground level fronting on an American basement and the entrance was frequently located at the center. Typically, these houses were wider than most of those with raised basements, usually twenty-five feet wide. In the American basement plan, the dining room, which had been at the front of the basement level, was now placed at the second story running the full width of the house. A reception hall at the ground story was created allowing more privacy and elegance for entertaining upstairs. The now more elaborate staircase was placed at the rear of the wider and deeper entrance hall. The whole entrance was not only more spacious but more showy as well. Architectural critic Montgomery Schuyler felt, in 1906, that:

...there is a practical consensus to the effect that the 'American basement,' with the full frontage available on the second floor, is the most convenient arrangement and the most economical in reality in spite of the 'waste' of the entrance hall.\(^{30}\)

The American basement plan was popularized in the 1890s by the architect Clarence True, although it is said to have been introduced at least a decade earlier but not widely adopted.\(^{31}\) True was a prolific rowhouse developer and Upper West Side promoter who concentrated his work in the area near Riverside Drive (only a few rowhouse groups and two other buildings surviving in this district were designed by True).

The rowhouse groups constructed in the district range in number from two to as long as twenty-five in a row. The long blockfronts of rowhouses in the district help to create a strong, harmonious side street character that contributes to the district's special sense of place. The rows vary


\(^{31}\) Landau points to architectural critic Russell Sturgis as an early advocate of this type of interior planning, 28. See Russell Sturgis, "The City House [the East and South]," Scribner's Magazine 7 (June, 1890), 693-713.
stylistically and often incorporate different facade designs within a given row. In these cases, the individual houses within the row were designed to work together as a cohesive unit while featuring certain characteristics to make them individually distinctive and appealing to their owners. Uniformity and variety together were the key to producing the diversified streetscapes found in the district. Unlike the uniformity of design typically found in brownstone-fronted rowhouses of the earlier part of the nineteenth century, the houses in these later rows on the Upper West Side were purposely meant to be distinguished from each other, while together forming picturesque ensembles.

The architects and speculative builders active on the Upper West Side felt the public was tired of the "monotony" characterizing the numerous Italianate brownstones, such as those on the Upper East Side, and wanted to design houses accordingly — using a mixture of materials and revival styles. Schuyler wrote in 1906: "It was the development of the West Side which struck the first blow at the tyranny of the brownstone front." Brownstone was still used, but with a new emphasis on its sculptural and textural qualities and often in conjunction with other materials. Houses were now faced in materials with contrasting colors and textures, brick in various shades, and terra cotta. Brick especially was readily available and proved more economical and more durable than brownstone. Rhythm produced by the often asymmetrical massing of the rowhouses on the Upper West Side also played a role in distinguishing them from their brownstone predecessors which had flat facades. Devices such as projecting bays, orielas, gables, and recessed arches were used to create patterns of light and shadow. Facade designs frequently alternate in a particular rhythm or function as mirror images within the configuration of a given row; in certain instances, the houses which terminate the rows are treated as end pavilions, with projecting end bays that extend almost to the building line and give the row a sense of closure. The building entries in this report address this special aspect of rowhouse design in the category of "Row Configuration." Facade designs are assigned letters which are used to indicate the overall pattern of the row, for example: ABCB'A'. The use of the "prime" (') indicates that the A' design varies slightly or is the mirror image of the A design.

The distinctive patterns, the unusual asymmetrical massing, and the alternation of architectural elements within the rowhouse groups found in the district are features that are intrinsic to the picturesque trends characterizing American architecture of the 1880s and 1890s. The side streets of the district are a remarkable assemblage of diverse architectural styles and provide an inventory of this era of creative experimentation. Patterns, designs, and styles drew on a number of historical sources. The neo-Grec, Queen Anne, Romanesque Revival, and Renaissance Revival styles were freely employed, sometimes eclectically blending features from a variety of sources into the design of one row. This new mixture of


33 Landau, 21.
materials and styles was considered very modern and the Upper West Side of Manhattan was promoted accordingly, with brochures and pamphlets published by developers touting the fashionable newness of the architecture. Architects and builders active in the district, some of whom were also developers, made use of the architectural pattern books and design guides that proliferated in the late-nineteenth century, often mixing and matching elements at will and producing engaging combinations of architectural forms.

The rowhouses which give the side streets of the district their particular character relate in their overall scale and architectural style to the multiple dwellings on the avenues constructed in the same period. These buildings, predominantly flats and tenements, were also frequently constructed in rows, and were sometimes built in conjunction with adjacent rowhouse groups on the side streets. The interplay of the side-street rowhouses and the avenue buildings is a result of the concentrated efforts of architects and developers active on the Upper West Side during the relatively short span of years of the area's initial development. This cohesive quality is one of the factors that gives the district its strong sense of place.

While the earliest rows constructed in the district, dating from around 1870, were designed in the popular mid-century Italianate style, by the time development resumed at the end of that decade taste had turned against the somber brownstone-fronted rowhouses found elsewhere in the city where they create monumental uniform blockfronts with their ornate, classically-inspired window and door treatments and weighty cornices. The first challenge to the Italianate style in the design of rowhouses was the neo-Grec. A reaction to the established tradition of imitating classical forms and adapting classical prototypes to satisfy the programs of modern building types, the neo-Grec style sought to reflect an architectural vocabulary appropriate to the modern, industrial civilization of the nineteenth century through the use of pared-down geometric massing and forms and stylized, almost mechanically precise ornament. As interpreted for the design of rowhouses in New York, the neo-Grec style is characterized by bold, rectilinear window and door enframements in stone with incised ornamental detail of stylized foliate forms and vertical channeling. Neo-Grec rowhouses are often executed in smooth brownstone, maintain a uniform

34 Conceived at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts during the 1840s, the French Neo-Grec style is often associated with the work of the architect Henri Labrouste, who is best known for his designs of two important libraries in Paris: the Bibliotheque Nationale and the Bibliotheque Ste. Genevieve. A more direct source for the neo-Grec style as it developed in America is the mid-nineteenth century vernacular residential architecture of Paris. Landau discusses the influence that Richard Morris Hunt, one of the first Americans to study at the Ecole, had on the popularization of the neo-Grec style for house design in this country, see Landau, "Richard Morris Hunt: Architectural Innovator...," in The Architecture of Richard Morris Hunt, ed. Susan R. Stein (Chicago, 1986), 47-77. See also Charles Lockwood, Bricks & Brownstone: The New York Row House, 1783-1929 (New York, 1973), 227-28. Lockwood provides a useful survey of architectural styles.
cornice line, and are usually unvaried in the design of a given row; in these aspects they do not differ much from their Italianate predecessors. However, some neo-Grec groups, such as a number located in the district, employ projecting bays or rusticated stone commonly associated with the Romanesque Revival style. A highly decorative version of the neo-Grec style is found in rows designed by Christian Blinn which are located on West 71st and West 78th Streets between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue, and on West 78th and West 79th Streets between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues.

During the 1880s, the Queen Anne style emerged in rowhouse design on the Upper West Side and brought with it the fashion for treating houses as individually distinctive components of the streetscape. This style, most often associated with the work of English architect Richard Norman Shaw, appeared in the United States in the mid-1870s. Shaw's work in freestanding suburban villas drew upon eighteenth-century Georgian precedents and was characterized by textured brick, picturesque asymmetrical massing, pitched roofs with gables, prominent chimneys, and white trim. In the United States, the appearance of this style accompanied a growing appreciation for America's colonial heritage that was particularly strong following the celebration of the Centennial in 1876. American architects adapted Shaw's Georgian-inspired aesthetic and incorporated elements derived from American colonial architecture, such as applied pilasters and foliate friezes. Popular Queen Anne features found in rowhouses are recessed archways that form small porches, three-sided bays, bracketed oriel windows, multi-pane window sash and transoms, and ornamental sunflower and sunburst motifs.35 The Queen Anne style rowhouses found in the district very often incorporate neo-Grec, Romanesque Revival, and Renaissance Revival elements. Noteworthy examples include a row of five houses at Nos. 31 to 39 West 84th Street, designed by Henry L. Harris for Anna McDonald, and a group of ten houses (surviving from a row of fourteen) at Nos. 53 to 67, 73 and 75 West 85th Street, designed by George H. Griebel for Alfred C. Clark; both groups were built in 1886-87.

The Romanesque Revival style was also used for rowhouses built in the district dating from the 1880s and shared certain characteristics with the contemporaneous Queen Anne style: the combination of various building materials and textures and picturesque massing. This style in the United States is most often associated with the work of the important architect Henry Hobson Richardson, who drew upon the medieval Romanesque architecture of France and Spain for inspiration and created a highly inventive aesthetic that went beyond the mere imitation of historical forms.36 Although adapted for a number of different building types, the most characteristic feature of the Romanesque Revival style is the use of round arches for door and window openings given emphatic treatment in molded brick and carved stone. Romanesque Revival rowhouses, such as those found in the district, are typically executed in brick, brownstone, and sandstone in various colors and textures, and in many cases make expressive use of robust rusticated

35 Lockwood, 231-32.
36 Ibid., 233-34.
masonry, particularly at the basement level. Another feature of this style is densely carved ornament of interlaced naturalistic forms, often placed to emphasize the structural components of the facade, such as at the springing line of the arches. This style is very often used in conjunction with Queen Anne and Renaissance-inspired elements. A common design solution found in the rowhouses of the district is the blending of Renaissance and Romanesque Revival style features. Examples of Romanesque Revival style rowhouses in the district include a row of five (originally six) located at Nos. 152 to 160 West 76th Street, built in 1883-86 and designed by the firm of Demeuron & Smith with Justus J. Smith acting as the developer, and a pair of houses located at 130 and 132 West 82nd Street, built in 1887 for Nathan W. Riker and designed by the notable firm of Lamb & Rich who often worked in this mode.

The rowhouses dating from the 1890s reflect a predominant use of Renaissance forms and details. American architects in general, influenced by the principles of the French École des Beaux-Arts and the architecture of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, shifted their attention during this period toward interpretations of Renaissance and Baroque prototypes of Italian, French, and German origin that were at the crux of the Beaux-Arts curriculum. The resurgence of neo-classicism in the 1890s had its roots in the broader cultural movement of the "American Renaissance": American architects drew parallels in their design aesthetic between their own society, the American neo-classical past, and the enlightened Greco-Roman and Renaissance civilizations. Leading architects such as McKim, Mead & White had a great influence on the design of residential architecture in this period through their commissions for mansions for the wealthy, in which they turned to these sources for inspiration. These stylistic influences, which symbolically expressed the prestige and affluence of the upper class, soon found their way to more modest speculatively-built rowhouses, such as those found in the district. The facades of these houses were often executed in materials of a lighter color than were previously used, such as limestone, yellow brick, and buff brick, although within the district brownstone is still the prevalent material for the Renaissance Revival style. Rather than display the irregular massing and animated rooflines associated with the Queen Anne and Romanesque Revival styles, these houses are generally flat-roofed or have small mansards, are characterized by a more regular alternation of architectural elements within a row (sometimes the houses are identical), and mark a return to more uniform blockfronts. Applied classically-inspired ornamental details, such as carved friezes, festoons, Ionic or Corinthian pilasters, and balustrades atop projecting oriel windows, add richness to these facades. The work of prolific architect Gilbert A. Schellenger, among the most avid adherents to the Renaissance Revival style for rowhouse design on the Upper West Side, is found throughout the district.

The rowhouses constructed in the district in the first decade of the twentieth century display the continued growth in popularity of the Beaux-

Arts style and the Federal and Georgian Revival styles blended with Renaissance elements. The several groups in the district that date from this late phase of rowhouse development represent the final era of single-family house construction in Manhattan. The row of eighteen houses designed by Percy Griffin for Frederick Ambrose Clark, located at Nos. 18 to 52 West 74th Street, and a number of houses on the south side of West 86th Street designed by the firm of Welch, Smith & Provot for the Halls, a family of active Upper West Side real estate developers, date from this period. All of these houses are large and sumptuous; only wealthy families could have afforded such grand houses in this period, a time when apartment dwelling was becoming the norm for urban life.38

As a whole, the stylistic influences on the rowhouse designs of the Upper West Side were so profuse and varied that, while the old Italianate style had certainly fallen out of favor, this new architecture was accepted with mixed feelings in critical circles. The Real Estate Record & Guide of November 1889 attacked the brownstones of the past:

It is a mark of the advancement that has been made in a very short time that to-day [sic] most of us recognize and also freely admit that there is very little in those miles of brown stone [sic] monotony that even colloquially we dare assert to be mildly, distantly artistic.39

While this same journal declared the architecture of the Upper West Side "sometimes positively vulgar" it proclaimed at the same time that "beyond doubt there is no more charming residential section than the west side in any of the commercial capitals of the world."40 Schuyler initially criticized the eclecticism of the side streets of the Upper West Side and then re-examined its merits. In 1899, he found "this bad architecture...an atrocity — crude suggestions of good things," for in attempting to present variety, designers had sacrificed purity of style for "the wildest of wild work" to the point of making one contemporary architect "seasick."41 By 1906 however, Schuyler applauded the freedom from "the brownstone boredom" when he exclaimed "the wildest of the wild work of the new West Side had its uses in promoting the emancipation [of rowhouse design]."42

38 According to Landau, the houses designed by Percy Griffin contained seventeen to nineteen rooms and had four or five bathrooms each, in addition to elevators; "The Row Houses...," 30.

39 "The West Side Illustrated," The Real Estate Record & Guide, supplement (Nov. 16, 1889), 1.

40 Ibid., 1-2.


A total of over 100 architects and builders are represented in the rowhouse designs within the district, yet only a handful stand out as being particularly prolific. Of the existing rows, George F. Pelham designed eleven and Neville & Bagge designed fourteen, predominantly in the Renaissance Revival style. John G. Prague, an architect/developer, designed eighteen rows, in which he incorporated the Romanesque and Renaissance Revival styles with Queen Anne elements. Gilbert A. Schellenger designed forty-five of the existing rows in the district; his designs are characterized primarily by the Renaissance Revival style, but often blended with neo-Grec, Romanesque Revival, Queen Anne, and Northern Renaissance features. The firm of Thom & Wilson made the largest contribution with fifty-one rows designed in a variety of styles including neo-Grec, Queen Anne, Chateauesque, and Renaissance Revival. Many of the firm's rows are highly inventive in detail, incorporating features from a wide variety of historic sources. Thom & Wilson and Schellenger were also the most prolific architects of flats found in the district.

While certain architectural styles are prominently represented in the district, other unusual design approaches make their appearance as well. In conjunction with the pioneering luxury apartment building, the Dakota, prominent architect Henry J. Hardenbergh conceived of the two aforementioned rows located on the north side of West 73rd Street in an unusual picturesque German Renaissance Revival style. Commissioned by Singer Sewing Machine Company president Edward S. Clark, these buildings were constructed on a large tract of land owned by the Clark family who were instrumental in promoting the real estate potential of the Upper West Side. These houses are characterized by bold massing of geometric forms, gabled roofline treatments, and ornamental detail inspired by German architecture of the second half of the sixteenth century and display on a smaller scale the chateauesque qualities of the monumental design of the Dakota.

Hardenbergh's teacher, European-born and -trained architect Detlef Lienau used a French Rationalist aesthetic incorporating Northern Gothic elements in his designs for four houses at Nos. 48, 50, 52, and 54 West 82nd Street, built in 1886-87. Of the four houses, Lienau acted as the developer of one, Elizabeth Lienau is listed as the owner of another, and the remaining two were built for Mary M. Williams whose family sponsored the construction of two nearby rows designed by Lienau which have been demolished. These houses are characterized by a simple, pared-down facade treatment, prominent gables, and stylized drip moldings at the lintels.

Spanish architect Rafael Guastavino was responsible for two imaginative Moorish Revival style rows on opposite sides of West 78th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues: Nos. 121 to 131 (1885-86) and Nos. 118-134 (1886). Commissioned by prominent Jewish real estate developer Bernard S. Levy, Guastavino adapted a style that was most often associated with the design of synagogues for these unusual rows. The architect was also responsible for the design of the B'nai Jeshurun Synagogue on Madison Avenue.

Landau illustrates plans of these houses and discusses how they vary from common interior planning; "The Row Houses...," 21.
near 65th Street (1884-85, demolished) in which he also drew on the Moorish heritage of his native Spain for inspiration. Guastavino is most often noted as the innovator of a lightweight tile-arch vaulting system that was a breakthrough in fireproof construction. In the house at No. 122 West 78th Street, Levy permitted the architect to utilize his vaulting methods. Levy also lived in a house across the street, at No. 121, for a number of years.44

Most of the single-family houses constructed in the district have been converted to multiple dwellings. These range in occupancy from having one unit per floor to as many as three per floor. Some have been converted for institutional use. These changes in use have been accompanied by alterations to the exteriors of the houses including replacement of original doors and windows, rooftop additions, and painting and refacing of the brick and brownstone. A common alteration associated with conversions of houses to multiple dwellings has been the removal of stoops and the establishment of entrances at the basement level, usually by remodeling the existing basement entrance located beneath the stoop. As a whole, the external character of these rowhouses remains little changed. On most of the side streets of the district, scattered later apartment buildings have interrupted the original rows, but in general the surviving rowhouses present a strong coherency and are a major element in creating a special sense of place particular to this district on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

Lynne Marthey
Elisa Urbanelli

44 Ibid., 24-25.
Multiple Dwellings - Flats/Tenements
Upper West Side/Central Park West

Numbers are based on analysis of data for existing buildings.
Apartment Hotels/Hotels
Upper West Side/Central Park West

Years of Construction 1889-1928

Number of Buildings
Apartment Buildings
Upper West Side/Central Park West

Years of Construction ---- 1900-1930

Number of Buildings
Most of the area of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District was initially built up with the single-family rowhouses which exist in greater numbers than multiple dwellings in the district. However, from the beginning a substantial proportion of the population lived in multiple dwellings and, by 1900 if not well before, the majority of the population lived in multiple dwellings. Although the area was always promoted as a middle-class neighborhood, the initial wave of construction, especially before 1895, provided as well for residents of lower income levels.

Six types of buildings originally constructed as multiple dwellings have been identified within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District: tenements, flats, apartment hotels, apartment buildings, studio buildings, and hotels, all distinctions made in building permit applications. Although New Yorkers had lived in shared and multiple dwellings since well before the 1860s when the Department of Buildings was established and records kept for building construction in New York, their particular forms, in the sense of size, structure, plan, appearance, and organization of space, were the subject of experimentation and debate in the years when the area of the district was developed.

Likewise, the names used to refer to these various types were sometimes imprecise and flexible until the period of experimentation ended. Their use in building permit applications and in the press changed over time and at any given time was subject to interpretation. In practice, these six types are not always completely separate from one another. In particular, there is at times a blurring at the edges among the categories of tenements, hotels, and flats; flats, apartment buildings, and apartment hotels; and hotels and apartment hotels.


46 The first generation of multiple dwellings in the area, scattered wood-frame tenements and lodging houses built before 1879, were completely replaced during the initial phase of the development in the district, and later generations of multiple dwellings, such as many flats and tenements of the period 1879-1900, were subsequently replaced by apartment buildings, especially in the 1920s.


48 Certain criteria, based on an analysis of records at the Department of Buildings as well as contemporary articles in the architectural press, have been used to identify the various types of multiple dwellings found in the district. Tenements date from roughly 1877-1896, are typically twenty-
All multiple dwelling types except hotels and apartment hotels were subject to regulation by the Tenement House laws. Hotels and apartment hotels were excluded because under the building laws they were considered commercial rather than residential buildings.

**Tenements**

Under the Tenement House Laws the term tenement applied to any structure with three or more dwelling units. In common practice the term was used to refer to residential structures without private baths or toilets in individual living units, and which were occupied by low-income residents. The Tenement House laws of 1867, 1879, and 1901 were primarily aimed at improving conditions in these buildings. Such efforts were supported by a variety of civic-minded groups for both sanitary and moral reasons: sanitary because overcrowded conditions were thought to breed disease and endanger public health, and moral because of the absence of privacy.

Before 1879, there were wood-frame tenements built scattered within the area of the district above West 86th Street. These buildings housed a population of low-income residents in the area before the more permanent development of multiple dwellings began in the late 1870s. Although none survive today, they were torn down only as they were replaced by brick buildings over the next thirty years.

The oldest surviving multiple dwelling in the district is a tenement at 460 Amsterdam Avenue, built in 1877 under the original Tenement House law of 1867. This is the only surviving tenement in the district built under that law, which had only minimal requirements: a fire escape, the provision of at least one privy for every twenty residents, and the elimination of horses, cows, sheep, and goats from the premises. In plan, the building probably consisted of two- or three-room suites reached from stair landings or public corridors. As no interior toilet facilities were required, the likelihood is that a privy was probably originally in the back yard. The building was of brick masonry construction with wooden floor joists and had an open stairwell. This is a neo-Grec style building which in height, scale, and general appearance was similar to rowhouses in the neighborhood and was designed by the prolific architect John G. Prague for B. Schaaf &

to twenty-five feet wide, have four to five residential stories above stores at street level, and have more than two families per floor. Flats typically date from 1880 to 1900, range in height from five to eight stories and often have street-level stores, range in width from twenty to 100 feet, and generally have one or two families per residential floor in narrower buildings (averaging twenty-five feet in width) and the same ratio of residential units to building width in wider buildings. Apartment buildings typically post-date 1900, are bigger in scale and plan than flats, have over eight stories, and contain elevators. Apartment hotels, studio buildings, and hotels fit different criteria which are outlined below.
In 1879 a new Tenement House law was passed, later called the "Old Law," which in plan produced "dumbbell" shaped buildings on standard twenty-five by 100 foot midblock sites after proposals by James E. Ware and others. The dumbbell plan was narrower in the middle than at the front and rear due to light courts that brought light and air to every room in the building. For a twenty-five by eighty-nine foot building on a standard lot (with the required rear yard), a tenement at the high end of the scale typically contained two baths with toilets accessible from the public corridor on a four-unit floor, with the baths and staircases situated at the center of the neck of the dumbbell. Most had four residential floors above stores at street level. A typical unit in such a building had three rooms with the "living room" of each unit at the front or rear, and bedrooms opening onto the light court that were reached only by passing directly through the rooms without the benefit of a separate corridor. The living room contained a wash tub and cold water and a chimney or flue for a coal stove. Legally limited to eight stories, none in the present historic district are over six.\textsuperscript{49} The dumbbell plan was not required for tenements but it was the only workable solution for midblock buildings on standard lots, as most were. Corner buildings, with ample light and air from two street frontages, were typically larger than midblock tenements and were not in the dumbbell plan. "Old Law" tenements were of brick masonry construction with wood floor joists, and were not considered fireproof. The majority were built in rows with party walls which brought the cost per building down below individually constructed buildings.

At the low end of the scale two adjoining tenements shared a single rear yard privy, and water was only available in the rear yard. Owners of all tenements were required to clean and whitewash every room twice a year and to report cases of serious disease and deaths.\textsuperscript{50} Within the district, such tenements were occupied by rent-paying households whose heads worked in traditional trades or jobs. For example, in 1900, in a group of tenements on the west side of Columbus south of 83rd Street, the following occupations were represented: tailor, day laborer, stable man, carpenter, janitor, dressmaker, clerk, coachman, porter, servant, meat dealer, cook, watchman, and plumber.\textsuperscript{51}

\textsuperscript{49} This was in part due to the building laws which by 1895, if not before, required buildings over eighty-five feet in height (usually eight stories) to be fireproof. This is an illustration of the overlapping provisions of the Tenement House Law and the building laws and the necessity of a close reading of each to find the more restrictive regulations, which took precedence.

\textsuperscript{50} While "Old Law" tenements were popularly considered undesirable places to live by the middle class, they were better than other kinds of residences in the city such as lodging houses, which were governed by Lodging House Laws, and tenements built under the 1867 Tenement House law.

\textsuperscript{51} United States Census, 1900.
There are nearly forty existing "Old Law" tenements built between 1879 and 1896 in the district. Five of these were constructed as individual buildings, with the remainder built in rows ranging from two to eight structures. Almost all of these were built on Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues, usually adjacent to flats of similar size and appearance from the same period. Indeed, although tenements were at the bottom end of the socio-economic scale for multiple dwellings in the area, and often were less expensively or elaborately embellished than flats, the difference between flats and tenements in the district is not obvious by their exterior appearance.

In style, the earliest tenements in the district are neo-Grec. After 1890, they were all designed in variations of the Romanesque or Renaissance Revival styles. In all cases their designs followed the trends established by rowhouses, presumably to suggest to their renters stylishness and prestige and the image of a New York City middle-class home. Among the more prolific designers of tenements in the area were Gilbert A. Schellenger for the Gordon Brothers, Babcock & McAvoy for Borkel & McKean, and Ernest W. Schneider for Lorenz Weiher.

Under the Multiple Dwelling Law of 1929, owners were required to upgrade Old Law Tenements by replacing outside privies with a minimum of one indoor water closet for every two families, and improving fire safety with sprinklers and alterations to public corridors and stairs. Although some argued that these provisions would prove such a hardship on owners that many buildings would be torn down, it does not appear that such was the case, at least to any great extent, in the area of the district.

**Flats**

The term "flat" was first used in Edinburgh and London early in the nineteenth century to denote living units that were all on one floor in larger buildings, often after those buildings were subdivided. In New York it may have been applied to rowhouses altered in the mid-nineteenth century to contain separate living units on each of its floors. By the time the Department of Buildings began keeping records of new building applications in 1866, a common type of new structure consisting of three or four stories, each with a separate living unit, above street-level stores, was classified on the basis of construction and use as a "second-class dwelling." At some point both these second-class dwellings and the living units within them began to be referred to as flats. The units were larger than those in tenements and each contained baths and toilets. These buildings had fewer tenants per floor than tenements.

These buildings were referred to by the Department of Buildings, at first loosely and after 1874 officially, as "French Flats." In the area of the district, French Flats or, sometimes simply flats, were built for a range of tenants. None of these buildings had elevators and all were limited by the Tenement House Law to eight stories. The more prestigious flats were often named with carved and decorated inscriptions on the buildings. Entered on side streets where there were no storefronts, they
were treated differently from flats at the low end of the scale.

Whereas the low-end flats often occupied midblock avenue frontage, were built adjacent to tenements, and were indistinguishable from tenements in appearance and the level of architectural embellishment, the high-end flats, although built in rows on the same standard city lots, were often treated architecturally as single larger buildings resembling apartment buildings, either with one or several entrances, and were more elaborately embellished. For example, at the low end is a group of three flats at 488, 490, and 492 Amsterdam Avenue built in 1889-1890 for William Bell by the architect Jacob H. Valentine. They are articulated as three separate buildings like the tenement row adjacent to them. They are entered through narrow doors next to storefronts, where a narrow corridor leads back to a stair, and have more than one unit on each of the four upper-level residential floors.

Better classes of flats were built on larger than standard lots on corner sites with more light and air. One such example is 221-223 Columbus Avenue, designed by Arthur Donovan Pickering for George W. Rogers in 1887. Given a prestigious name, "The Tuxedo," and a modest entry hall, its developers hoped to attract middle-class tenants and to distinguish their building from less commodious places. Like less prestigious buildings, however, this was of non-fireproof, brick construction with wood floor joists, and it admitted light to inner rooms by means of narrow rear light courts in conformance with the Tenant House Law.

At the top of the scale were buildings like "The Aylsmere" at 331-333 Columbus Avenue, designed by Henry Andersen for Leopold Kahn in 1892. This was conceptually a different type of building, built on several assembled lots with a central court for light and air instead of narrow side or rear light wells. It was entered through a spacious, ornamented lobby. Structurally this later building was a step up, with a fireproof basement and first floor, as required in the building law, and steel girders on upper floors. In plan, a typical flat might include a parlor, dining room, several bedrooms, a kitchen, one or more bathrooms, and one or more servants' rooms, all linked by private corridors.

At the lower end, flats were occupied by people with such occupations as clerk, salesman, and civil servant, and by retired people and widows, the latter frequently with boarders or lodgers in the household. At the Aylsmere, on the other hand, in 1900 its twenty-five households included people in the occupations of physician, banker, engineer, ship broker, real estate agent, merchant, insuranceman, and salesman. Seventeen of the households had servants.

Of the existing flats in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, fewer than a dozen were built before 1885 and about 185 more were built by 1900, with only two erected after 1900. These buildings were constructed on Columbus Avenue, on Amsterdam Avenue north of West 80th Street, on portions of Central Park West, and on the side streets immediately adjacent to the avenues. The older and more modest flats tend to be north of 80th Street, and the more commodious flats are south of 80th Street, although there are numerous exceptions. Most of the flats
originally built on Central Park West were equivalent in size and character to the Aylsmere; these were replaced by larger apartment buildings in the 1920s.

The two most prolific designers of surviving flats in the district are Thom & Wilson and Gilbert A. Schellenger, also the most prolific rowhouse architects in the district. Thom & Wilson were active for almost the complete period of flat building, from 1880 to 1896, and Schellenger's buildings date from 1886 to 1900. While flats resembled rowhouses in scale and adopted the architectural styles used in rowhouses, such as neo-Grec, Queen Anne, Romanesque, and Renaissance Revival; they were built closer to the lot line and were generally less expensively finished. Unlike contemporaneous rowhouses, which are often designed to be distinguished from one another and whose facades are frequently articulated by projecting bays, orielis, and various picturesque roof treatments, flats are generally regular in their massing and define a uniform street wall, most apparent on Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues. An interesting example of a flats building designed to harmonize with both neighboring flats on the avenue and rowhouses on the adjacent side street is the Greystone at 286-294 Columbus Avenue (southwest corner of West 74th Street), which has a planar neo-Grec facade in brick and limestone on Columbus Avenue and a more robust Romanesque Revival facade in rusticated limestone on West 74th Street.

**Apartment Hotels**

In the effort to develop a suitable middle-class multi-family dwelling, at least for bachelors and newly married couples, an early invention in New York was the apartment hotel which combined features of the new apartment house type and the hotel, an established kind of residence for middle-class living. As discussed in the architectural press, the apartment house was considered to lack the privacy of a house and the amenities of a hotel, whereas the hotel lacked the spaciousness and sense of permanence of an apartment. Filling the gap, the apartment hotel contained suites of rooms including, at first, a parlor, dining room, bedrooms, private baths, and servants' rooms — everything to be found in an apartment house except a kitchen (in some cases there would have been a small "housekeeping" kitchen without a stove). Instead, a dumbwaiter connected a serving pantry in each apartment to a large kitchen on the ground floor or basement for delivery of food to each apartment, or tenants could eat in a restaurant on the ground floor.

The first apartment hotels in the area of the district were: the Beresford, the San Remo, the Majestic, and the El Dorado, all built on Central Park West between 1889 and 1893 and all later replaced in the 1920s.

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52 Described in Cromley, Chapter 5, 150-160.

53 Stoves were not allowed in living units of apartment hotels under the law but the law was not always strictly enforced. This situation became a matter of public controversy in the mid 1920s.
by apartment buildings with the same names;\textsuperscript{54} and the Endicott at 440-456 Columbus Avenue designed by Edward L. Angell, and the Brockholst at 520-526 Columbus Avenue designed by John G. Prague, both built in 1889 and both still standing. The Endicott and the Brockholst were for a distinctly upper middle-class clientele and had very similar features. Both were designed in the Romanesque Revival style and had commercial avenue frontages. At the Brockholst the rest of the ground floor was taken up by a large entrance hall, a reception room, a dining room, a cafe, and a barber shop, all richly embellished and furnished. Both an ornate iron stairway and an elevator led to upper floors where there were suites of rooms of various sizes. The building was planned around a large central court and two smaller courts. It is of load-bearing brick construction with a non-fireproof interior iron frame.

In 1900 there were seventeen households at the Brockholst, including an architect, a manager of a foreign company, a cigar manufacturer, a construction engineer, a railroad supplier, an editor, an accountant, a banker, a doctor, a member of the corn exchange, a shipper, and several widows. Seven of these had live-in servants.

While several such buildings were erected in the district in the nineteenth century, only a few survive. As an article about the Endicott stated at the time it opened,\textsuperscript{55} a new kind of building such as this involved a greater risk on the part of its developer than flats for which there was a proven market.

Subsequent concentrations of apartment hotel construction took place during the periods 1902-1907, 1914-1917, and 1922-1929; this resulted in a group on West 72nd Street and others scattered throughout the area of the district. A wider range of tenants were accommodated than before, in small inexpensive units in most cases and in large and very expensive units in a few cases. These later apartment hotels circumvented the height restrictions of the Tenement House Law, and after 1916, the Building Zone Resolution, under both of which an apartment hotel was considered, like a hotel, a commercial building. A case in point, the Oliver Cromwell, designed by Emery Roth and built in 1927 for Washington Square, Inc., is considered the first "skyscraper" on the Upper West Side. In at least some cases, buildings may have been altered in the process of design from apartments to apartment hotels for this reason. Financial conditions provided a particular incentive for developers to push against the limits of the laws.

In the period 1914-17 three nearly identical apartment hotels were designed by Buchman & Fox for Edward West Browning and built in the area of 72nd Street, and a fourth was designed by Robert T. Lyons for the same developer. The three Buchman & Fox buildings are faced in elaborate terra-

\textsuperscript{54} Like all apartment hotels, the Dakota of 1880 also had a dining room and full hotel services; unlike them, it had full kitchens in each apartment.

\textsuperscript{55} "The Hotel Endicott," \textit{Real Estate Record & Guide} (1889), 44.
cotta sheathing executed in a neo-Gothic style. In the 1920s, Emery Roth
designed three apartment hotels, including the Oliver Cromwell, and the
firms of Sugarman & Berger and Sugarman & Hess also designed a total of
three.

Apartment Buildings

Of the several multiple dwelling types within the Upper West
Side/Central Park West Historic District, apartment buildings, although not
the most numerous, are the most conspicuous by virtue of the size and
location of the buildings. There are about 150 apartment buildings and 200-
flats, but the apartment buildings occupy more area, they are much taller,
and they house many more people. Whereas the flats are concentrated along
Columbus Avenue and portions of Amsterdam Avenue where they are generally
related in scale to both neighboring tenements and rowhouses, the apartment
buildings form a high eastern boundary to the district along Central Park
West and a western boundary that extends from 69th Street along Broadway and
continues up Amsterdam Avenue between 72nd and 79th Streets. They create
several distinct streetscapes, notably on West 72nd, 77th, 79th, 81st, and
86th Streets; and they are scattered throughout the district so that there
is at least one in almost every block of the district.

Only two apartment buildings, the pioneering Dakota of 1880, and La
Rochelle at 321-329 Columbus Avenue of 1895-1898 (designed by Lamb & Rich
for G.H. Merriman), were built in the district in the nineteenth century.
It was after 1900 and especially after World War I that the construction of
apartment buildings transformed the look and character of the district. The
large majority of apartment buildings in the district replaced existing
"permanent" brick buildings, some of them being flats and tenements, whereas
the development of the area up until this time occurred either on vacant
land or replaced small wood-frame structures. In the search for an
appropriate housing form for the middle class, the apartment building was
gaining acceptance in New York City in the 1890s, but it was only in the
decade after the IRT subway along Broadway opened in 1904 that many were
built in the area of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District
— nearly forty being built during that period.

One could reasonably argue that apartment buildings were already common
here in the form of the higher class of flats since around 1890 and that the
distinction is largely semantic. However, changes in the building laws and
the Tenement House Law in 1901 together with other conditions (electricity,
necessary for elevators, was available from a power substation in 1896)
altered the framework in which these structures were built so that, by and
large, different kinds of multiple dwellings were built before and after
1901. Under the Tenement House Law of 1901, a multiple dwelling on a
standard lot was impossible to build, courtyard buildings on multiple lots
being the only alternative. The costs of construction and providing
amenities in a more mechanized building, the introduction of fireproof
buildings mandated by codes and encouraged by insurance companies, and the
change in rent structure that was the result of elevators produced a new
kind of building that became the standard solution.
In the period from 1904 to 1914 most new apartment buildings were U- or H-shaped in plan or had central courts. Typically built to the maximum under the Tenement House Law of about twelve to fifteen stories in height, they were serviced by elevators from large and elaborate public lobbies and were mostly steel-frame fireproof or "semi-fireproof" construction (some exposed steel members). These luxury buildings were intended for upper-middle-class tenants and had living units organized with public rooms grouped together near the entry, private and sleeping rooms grouped separately, and service rooms with separate circulation. Mulliken & Moeller and Schwartz & Gross were the two most prolific architectural firms associated with these buildings in the district. Several of them were built on Central Park West and others on prominent corner sites elsewhere in the district.

In the years just before construction stopped during World War I, apartment buildings began to appear more frequently on midblock sites. Although these were much larger buildings, in plan they recalled the dumbbell and rear light well plans of midblock flats and tenements of the previous twenty years.

The biggest wave of development of apartment buildings took place after World War I, from 1919 until construction stopped in 1931 because of the Depression. In this period there were nearly ninety new apartment buildings constructed in the district, including a number of them substantially larger and taller than anything in the neighborhood before, with several in the range of thirty stories. The largest of these buildings, built after 1929, were shaped by the amended Building Zone Resolution of 1927 and the Multiple Dwelling Law of 1929, and their set-back towers were a new form in the area. In plan, as before, midblock buildings tended to have side and rear light courts, like large dumbbells, and corner buildings, while maintaining the street wall, were U- or E-shaped in the rear. These buildings were intended for a broader range of income levels than the luxury buildings of the pre-World War I years. At the low end living units were smaller and had lower ceilings: "efficiency" apartments (efficient because their rooms were used for multiple purposes) had one or two rooms, and three- and four-room units omitted servants rooms. At the high end they were at least as large and lavish as they had ever been: buildings like the Beresford and San Remo included apartments of sixteen or more rooms on two or three floors (called duplex or triplex apartments) with ceilings of twelve feet and higher and wood-burning fireplaces. Among many prolific architects, George F. Pelham built the largest number of buildings in this period and Emery Roth built several of the largest and most prominent.

When most of the larger buildings were constructed after the turn of the century, a basic compositional format was utilized for almost every building, on which ornamental details derived from different stylistic sources — Renaissance, Baroque, Georgian, and Gothic — could be placed. Most facades of large buildings by 1900 had two- or three-part vertical compositions with a two-story base and an articulated upper section when there were three parts. These compositions might be embellished with articulated end bays, balconies, or other features in the broad midsection. The facades of these buildings were generally brick, embellished with trim.
of stone, terra cotta, and ornamental ironwork. Among the earliest were those most richly ornamented, often in the elaborate Beaux-Arts style, such as the St. Urban at 285 Central Park West (1904-05, Robert T. Lyons, architect) with its prominent mansard roof.

Until 1930, the overwhelming choice of styles for these buildings was neo-Renaissance. In the last few years before construction ended, some of the largest buildings in the district, including a few located along Central Park West, notably, the Century (1931, Irwin S. Chanin and Jacques L. DeLamarre, Sr., architects) and the Ardsley Apartments (1931-31, Emery Roth, architect), were designed in the Art Deco style. These buildings were treated somewhat differently than neo-Renaissance buildings; they have articulated bases and other features that helped relate them visually to their neighbors, but have soaring towers whose designs emphasized verticality rather than visual termination. Typically clad in brick with stone, cast-stone, and terra-cotta decorative trim, the facades of these buildings incorporate stylized, often geometric, and often polychromatic ornamental features that tend to emphasize the massing of the building.

**Studio Buildings**

Studio buildings were a form of apartment building or apartment hotel, initially designed specifically to provide living and working space for artists. The precedent for this building type in New York was set in 1857-58 by Richard Morris Hunt in his Studio Building (15 West Tenth Street, demolished). Because they were expensive to build, many studio buildings were financed as cooperatives.

To accommodate artists, these buildings generally had north-facing, double-height studio rooms with large industrial sash windows, and one or two floors of sleeping and service rooms behind the studio. To utilize the space in the buildings where there were double-height units on the north side, some had smaller, ordinary living units on twice as many floors on the south side. Like the best of other varieties of contemporary apartment buildings, they are of fireproof, steel-frame construction with concrete floor and roof arches.

To obtain adequate light of the right exposure, most studio buildings in New York were built on the south sides of streets facing open spaces. The first of these in the area of the district and the largest concentration of them, on the north side of West 67th Street, are an exception, ensuring northern light to studio units at the rear of the building by virtue of the low-rise rowhouses on West 68th Street. From 1902 to 1907 several studio buildings were erected on West 67th Street by the same developer-architect.

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56 It has been suggested that restrictive covenants initially governed the development of 68th Street and the side streets further north, allowing only single-family rowhouses to be built, conversation with architectural historian Andrew Scott Dolkart, March 22, 1990. Examination of deeds and conveyances, however, has turned up no specific indication of covenants.
team: William J. Taylor and Simonson, Pollard & Steinam (and variations); two others were added on this block in 1915 and 1919. All but two of the twelve studio buildings located in the district were erected by 1915. Apart from West 67th Street, the others were built on scattered locations on and south of 77th Street, including the Studio Building at 44 West 77th Street (1907-09, Hardé & Short, architects) facing Manhattan Square.

Stylistically, these buildings generally stand out among contemporary apartment buildings. Most have an Arts and Crafts era character in the use of clinker brick with polychrome terra-cotta trim and their facades incorporate Gothic, Northern Renaissance, and Tudor details, all of which has an immediate association with the production of art by the tenants. These features are overlaid on conventional two- or three-part compositional frameworks.

Hotels

Within the range of building types called hotels that were built in New York City during the years when the Upper West Side developed, those in the district appear to be all of one general type. Neither the first-class, luxury hotels of midtown near the city's principal visitor attractions, nor the lower end hotels that catered to seasonal laborers or unattached working men, these were middle-priced hotels for middle-class professionals and business people. They provided food and shelter on a temporary or long-term basis for bachelors, traveling salesmen, newly married couples and others who did not want the commitment of a permanent residence with its investment in furniture, costs of servants, and daily responsibilities. At least two, the Orleans at 410-416 Columbus Avenue designed by Buchman & Deisler for the Imperial Construction Company, and 291 Central Park West designed by Clarence True for Eppenstein & Mathews, offered a boarding plan including meals. Although they were open to tourists and other short-term visitors, they were widely considered by the middle class to be a residential option and had been since before the middle of the nineteenth century.

Of the dozen odd hotels built in the area of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, nearly all were built between 1898 and 1913, with a few between World War I and the Depression. Except for one on Central Park West at 89th Street, all were built on West 81st Street or below. The earlier group were generally more richly embellished than contemporary multiple dwellings of other types because they had a more urgent need to attract new guests. In fact five of the earliest hotels in the district were designed in the Beaux-Arts style, both because of its sumptuousness and its associations with cosmopolitan Parisian life. After 1911, the image of most hotels in the district was more restrained, generally in the neo-Renaissance style.

Except for the Hotel Colonial at 441-449 Columbus Avenue (1903-05, Frederick C. Browne, architect) with its central court, generally a sign of higher quality and cost, all of these hotels were built with side or rear light courts where there were lower cost rooms. When they opened, all of these hotels probably had spacious lobbies and restaurants and provided varied services to guests. In the earliest hotels typical living units
probably consisted of rooms with private baths and pairs of rooms with a shared bath. By the post-World War I period, most rooms had private baths.

Commissions for hotels were considered prestigious and developers typically selected well-known architects for these highly visible projects. Almost every designer of a hotel in the area was a prominent member of the profession. Buchman & Fox, Harry B. Mulliken, Schwartz & Gross, Maynicke & Franke, Clarence True, and George F. Pelham all designed hotels in the area.

Unlike most other multiple-dwelling types which before 1916 were regulated by both the building laws and the Tenement House Law, hotels were only regulated by the building laws until 1916 after which they were regulated by the Building Zone Resolution as well. However, in the building laws they were more strictly and specifically regulated than many other building types, and their fire insurance costs were higher because of the nature of their use.

Subsequent History

There has been relatively little new construction of multiple dwellings in the area of the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District in the nearly sixty years since all construction of such buildings came to a halt in the early years of the Depression. The little activity that has occurred has been as follows: conversion of rowhouses into apartment buildings, conversion of non-residential buildings into residential buildings, conversion and remodeling of public spaces such as lobbies and dining rooms of multi-unit buildings, construction of new apartment buildings, and the alteration of the interiors of various buildings to adjust to shifting markets.

Continuing a development that had begun in the 1920s, several groups of rowhouses were joined and remodeled as single apartment buildings in every decade through the 1970s, reaching a maximum of nine such conversions in the 1960s. As part of these conversions the stoops were removed and the facades were usually stripped of original decorative detail and remodeled as single designs. Sometimes the building was extended to the building line and a new facade was constructed, usually Moderne or modern in style. Generally speaking these changes seem to reflect a decline in the economic value of rental property in the neighborhood up to the 1970s. Almost all of the rowhouses in the district, whether or not they have had exterior alterations, are now occupied as apartments. Relatively few are occupied as single-family dwellings.

In at least one case, the old Pythian Temple on West 70th Street, a non-residential building (in this case a clubhouse) has been converted to residential use.

An important behind-the-scenes change has been the remodeling of public spaces such as lobbies, dining rooms, and reception rooms of apartment buildings, hotels, flats, and apartment hotels. Some such spaces have become commercial, reflecting both economic pressure and changing social needs. Others have been remodeled, perhaps in efforts to attract new
business and some have been converted as part of modernization efforts that might include air conditioning and new elevators.

There were very few apartment buildings erected in the district between 1931 and the end of World War II. Then two to four were built in each decade until the 1980s when seven were constructed. Since World War II, modified building codes, improved lighting, heating and ventilating technology, and new zoning regulations (since 1961) have changed the long-time practice of designing buildings around light courts. In this period, most new buildings were designed as solid blocks, and sometimes were set back from the building line, as at 15 West 72nd Street, creating inharmonious streetscapes. In the 1980s, revised zoning has encouraged new construction more sympathetic to its context; an example of this trend is the Coronado at Broadway and West 70th Street.

Some of the biggest changes in the area of the district have been imperceptible from the street. While most buildings have undergone interior remodelings, their basic use has remained constant. In the case of flats and tenements, however, since the 1970s, many have been thoroughly upgraded to modern apartment buildings with full kitchens and baths in every unit. Related to these changes have been the imposition of rent control and rent stabilization laws throughout New York City on the one hand and the conversion of much rental property to cooperatives and condominiums on the other.

Current Conditions

Most street-level stores in multiple dwellings have been remodeled. Doors to upper-level flats and tenements, particularly when they face the avenues, are somewhat less likely to have been remodeled. In apartment buildings, many new entrances have been installed. A significant change to multiple dwellings in the district has been the replacement of original wood- or steel-framed windows with aluminum sash, often in a pattern new to the building which is not as sympathetic to its overall architectural character. Often this alteration has been associated with the conversion of rental property to cooperatives and condominiums. Window replacement has had an impact on substantial numbers of every building type in the district.

Despite these changes, however, the multiple dwellings of the district are in largely original condition. A few cornices have been removed and parapets altered, but the overwhelming character of the buildings is little changed since the 1930s.

Michael Corbett
Individual Building Types with Commercial Uses

Very few buildings in the district were erected purely for commercial purposes; however, many were constructed to contain mixed uses or were residential buildings later altered for commercial use. The relevant building types found in the district are: tenements and flats with street-level shops, apartment buildings and hotels, rowhouses converted to commercial use at the street level, small commercial buildings, and other specialized commercial structures. Although the shopfronts contained in these buildings survive in various states of integrity, the remaining historic features are significant to the character of the streetscapes.

Tenements and Flats with Street-Level Storefronts

In most cases, the masonry upper wall of a tenement or flats building is separated from the street-level storefronts by a cornice or bandcourse of pressed metal, wood, or stone. Often these horizontal elements contained frieze bands designed to accommodate commercial signage. Supporting this feature are masonry or cast-iron piers, normally ornamented, which divide the ground story into storefront modules. Surviving in various states of integrity (sometimes details are missing although the piers remain in situ), these piers and pilasters frame the storefront openings. Cast-iron columns often occurred within the opening and were sometimes placed inside the storefront. These are in most cases visible today; in a few instances the original elements are intact, in situ, but hidden behind modern materials. Nonetheless, they reveal that often the structural divisions of the street-


58 Buildings of this type were constructed on Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues. While little original storefront fabric survives on Columbus Avenue, that on Amsterdam Avenue has undergone a lesser degree of change and shows a greater harmony with the architectural character of the upper stories of the buildings.

59 This description of storefronts is based on a survey of Photographic Views... New York Public Library, and Department of Taxes Photograph Collection, Municipal Archives and Records Center.
level commercial openings did not necessarily align with the bay divisions of the upper facade. This non-alignment was architecturally resolved through the employment of a heavy lintel or architrave which visually acted to support the load of the masonry and which provided a convenient frieze for the inclusion of signage. When the narrow side of the multiple dwelling faced onto the commercial avenue, the one or two shopfront modules per building alternated with the residential entrance. When the long side of the building stretched along the avenue, residential entrances were either located between the more numerous shops, or on the side street, or both. The residential entrances, normally reached by a low stoop (many of which have since been removed) contained a door surmounted by a transom. The typical shopfront designed for these building types was often tripartite in composition: a recessed doorway with a transom flanked by, or in some cases, to the side of, show windows that were bracketed between an upper transom and lower bulkhead. Bulkheads, sometimes elaborately decorated, were built of iron or wood painted in solid colors. Transoms were typically composed of several small glass panes (sometimes several dozen) and were sometimes partially operable. Signs were most often boards or lettering attached to or painted on the frieze of the shopfront cornice; often they were back-painted directly onto the show window glass. Another popular method was projecting signs extended from the upper part of the facade, mounted on metal brackets. Many of the shopfronts were shaded by retractable awnings mounted within the masonry opening and conforming to the shape of the opening; at times the second-story shopfronts also had them.

Two prevalent first-story types were: (1) those attached to the bar between the transom and door or show window, which allows natural light to illuminate the display windows; and (2) those installed above the transoms which often gave the awning a steep slope. Sometimes they also served as additional signage.

Multiple dwellings located along the avenues (with the main entrance on the side streets), typically two per blockfront, were erected with narrow yards between them that opened to the avenue. Over time this short gap between the two buildings was filled in with one or two narrow one-story structures; they normally continue the architectural motifs, in brick or stone, of the adjacent buildings and include shopfronts.

**Apartment Buildings and Hotels**

Along Columbus and Amsterdam avenues are a number of apartment buildings, most of which were designed with street-level shops. The apartment buildings on West 72nd Street between Central Park West and Columbus Avenue, on West 79th Street between Columbus and Amsterdam avenues, on West 86th Street, on Central Park West, and on side streets throughout

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60 While the low stoops have been removed, many original entrance doors and transoms survive on Amsterdam Avenue; others survive on Columbus Avenue at No. 182, No. 188, No. 207-209, No. 244, No. 302, No. 304-306, No. 463, and Nos. 483, 485, and 487.
the neighborhood typically do not have shopfronts. Apartment hotels, found most often on the avenues and West 72nd Street, resemble the apartment buildings in exterior appearance. Typically these were built with storefronts at street level; if not, shops were often added soon after construction.

In general, the facades of these buildings are articulated by large masonry piers; clearly separating the ground-story shopfronts into discrete units, the piers, through their vertical continuity, also allow the shopfronts to be integrated with the arrangement of the facade at the upper stories. Historically, these shopfronts resembled those in the tenements and flats: separated from the masonry wall above by a decorative cornice and/or bandcourse, they often had show windows with bulkheads flanking a central doorway, the entire glassy span surmounted by transoms, a sign, and (often) a retractable awning. In apartment buildings and hotels the residential entrance is normally grand, with decorative treatment or structural piers clearly separating it from commercial fronts.

Rowhouses Converted to Commercial Use

Rowhouses were altered for commercial use on West 72nd Street between Columbus and Amsterdam avenues and on West 79th Street between Amsterdam Avenue and Broadway. A few rowhouses underwent commercial alterations as early as 1909; however, the overwhelming majority of conversions occurred in the 1920s.

In a few cases, the residential entrance remained unaltered and a shopfront was inserted into the front of the raised basement, for example at 104 West 73rd Street, where the areaway with steps leads down to the shopfront. In other cases the basement and first-story levels were raised to permit the shopfront to be at grade. Typically these commercial fronts, surmounted by a pressed metal cornice, contained a doorway, one or two show windows with bulkheads, and transoms.

More commonly, the rowhouse was stripped of its stoop, and shopfronts were inserted into the raised basement, first story (as at 217 West 79th Street), or (in the case of rowhouses with American basements) first and second stories. While these shopfronts vary in detail, they share some common features: commercial and residential entrances are located to the side of wide display windows.

Another common alteration, seen along West 72nd and West 79th streets, was the erection of a one- or two-story extension out to the building line to accommodate commercial tenants. Often the first-story shopfront, its show windows and doors framed in cast iron in the early twentieth century and steel or aluminum later on, consisted of a side doorway and wide show window resting on a low bulkhead. The residential entrance would be on one side of the shopfront, unless two or more contiguous rowhouses had been converted simultaneously, thus permitting one residential entrance to serve all the apartments. The front extension, often originally faced in stone or brick,
also contained businesses at the second story, where large windows, or a fixed central sash flanked by smaller, operable windows and surmounted by transoms, would be installed. (A number of these storefronts, generally added in the 1920s, still survive.)

The most extensive commercial alteration of rowhouses in the district, a popular change on West 72nd Street, involved the erection of a totally new facade at the building line. In these instances, a commercial base with piers and a cornice, often faced in stone or brick, would frame the first-story shopfront (resembling those described above) and the entrance to upper stories, as well as the second-story commercial window arrangement, typically a fixed sash of metal or wood flanked by double-hung or pivoting sash side windows.

Small Commercial Buildings

Scattered along the shopping streets in the district there are a handful of small buildings designed solely for commercial use. Columbus Avenue has two from the 1890s (Nos. 424 and 426), one rebuilt in 1961 (No. 466-468), and two from the 1980s (Nos. 211 and 215). West 72nd Street contains four examples dating from 1909 to 1920 and a few from the 1930s. Typically one or two stories, these buildings have facades composed of large display windows surrounded by frames which reveal their period of construction through bold stylistic references. Except for the most recent examples, these buildings share a common building plane and degree of transparency with their larger neighbors. Today, the design integrity of these small commercial buildings varies, but they are clear examples of vibrant commercial design spanning the history of the district.

Other Commercial Structures

The historic district contains a building related to the livery business, a stable at 2 West 90th Street built in 1906-07 (now converted to residential use). A large complex erected in 1900-01 on West 66th and 67th streets near Central Park West, consisting of a clubhouse and stables (both now demolished), and the architecturally grand Durland Riding Academy, still standing at 8 West 67th Street, attests to the recreational aspect of the horse industry at the turn of the century. One of the largest equestrian schools in the world and home of the New-York Riding Club (organized in 1873), the riding academy was later converted into a television center.

Another specialized building type found in the district is represented by the Riverside Memorial Chapel (1925-26), a four-story building in the Neo-French Renaissance style. Located on Amsterdam Avenue between West 75th and 76th streets, it contains a mortuary chapel, offices, and residential space. The six-story Renaissance Revival edifice erected on the southwest corner of Columbus Avenue and 72nd Street for the firm of Park & Tilford, first-class grocers, was designed by McKim, Mead & White (1892-93); it is

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61 King (1893), 297, 569.
one of the few large buildings in the district intended for purely commercial use. A six-story dry goods store and warehouse (now converted to residential use) in the neo-Renaissance style (George H. Griebel, 1902-03) erected on Columbus Avenue at 73rd Street and the eleven-story Metropolitan Storage Warehouse, designed in the Beaux-Arts style and built at 471-475 Amsterdam Avenue (1922-23), point to further commercial activity in the district. More recently, as part of the American Broadcasting Company Television Center, a fifteen-story office-and-studio building was erected on West 67th Street (1978-79).

David Breiner
Religious Institutions and their Architecture

The rich and varied religious architecture in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District plays an important role in defining the district's character. These buildings are often organized into complexes to serve the various needs of a congregation: a house of worship; a building for congregation functions (called variously a parish house, church house or community center), a school, and living quarters for the minister, priest or rabbi. These varied buildings for a multiplicity of denominations within the Jewo-Christian tradition reflect, in part, the diverse population of the district during its period of major development. A number of distinguished architects have addressed the challenge of designing religious buildings for this densely-built residential neighborhood. Many are located on midblock sites and relate to the neighboring rowhouses in scale and materials. Others, on Central Park West, are grander in scale as befits their more generous sites and the greater width of the street. In responding to this challenge, the architects have employed a broad range of materials in a wide range of architectural styles.

Grace and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, originally St. Andrew's Methodist Church, at 123-125 West 71st Street, built in 1879-80 and designed by Stephen D. Hatch, is a unique essay in the district in the High Victorian Gothic style. Two Romanesque Revival churches survive: St. Andrew's Methodist Church, now the West Side Institutional Synagogue, at 122-138 West 76th Street, designed by J.C. Cady & Co. and built in 1889-90, and renovated after a fire in 1966; and the Church of the Third Universalist Society, now the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, at 140-144 West 81st Street, built in 1892-93 and designed by John F. Capen. The West End Synagogue (Congregation Shaaray Tefila), now the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church of St. Volodymyr, at 160 West 82nd Street, built in 1893-94 and designed by Brunner & Tryon, shares many of the same architectural elements of the two Romanesque Revival buildings, such as the coupled windows and the arcading at the doors and windows, although Sharaay Tefila was cast in the Moorish/Byzantine Revival mode considered appropriate for synagogues. The similarities in form between Capen's church and Brunner & Tryon's synagogue are particularly striking. Both have arcades flanked by towers and are approached by a double flight of steps.

Three religious complexes on Central Park West represent turn-of-the-century stylistic interpretations that occurred within the classical canon. Congregation Shearith Israel Synagogue and Rectory at 99 Central Park West was designed by Brunner & Tryon in the monumental Academic Classical style and built in 1896-97. From colonial times, Congregational Shearith Israel had built houses of worship in the prevailing classical style. Nonetheless, the shift in Brunner & Tryon's work from the Moorish/Byzantine Revival of the West End Synagogue to the classicism of Shearith Israel is striking. The Second Church of Christ, Scientist at 77...
Central Park West was designed by Frederick Comstock in an Academic Classical mode based on Beaux-Arts principles and built in 1899-1901. It is likely that the Christian Scientists wished to establish a palpable presence on Central Park West. The New York Society for Ethical Culture at 2 West 64th Street was designed by Robert D. Kohn in the Secessionist style, a variation of the Art Nouveau, and built in 1909-10. Although Kohn scaled his building to sympathize with the Society’s adjacent school, built in 1902-03 and designed in a variation of the more traditional neo-Renaissance style by Carrere & Hastings with Kohn as associate architect, he chose a contemporary although classicizing style for the new religious sect.

Four churches and synagogues within the district display different facets of the Gothic style. The Church of the Fourth Universalist Society church, at West 76th Street and Central Park West, was built in 1897-98 and designed by William A. Potter in the style of late English Gothic churches. The adjacent school building is contemporary and integral to the design of the church. In the design of the Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church at Central Park West and West 65th Street, built in 1899-1901, Schickel & Ditmars created a church based on late-thirteenth-century northern European prototypes. The Roman Catholic Church of the Blessed Sacrament at 146-150 West 71st Street, built in 1916-17, was designed by Gustave E. Steinback to evoke thirteenth-century French Gothic church architecture. It is constructed of cast stone as are the adjacent rectory and the school, behind the church at 147-153 West 70th Street, both contemporary with the church. The two buildings of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue/ Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion at 28-36 and 38-44 West 68th Street, were begun in 1939-41 and finished in 1948-49. Designed by Bloch & Hesse, they are unified through the consistent use of a neo-Medieval style with Gothic elements and executed in Fordham gneiss and limestone.

The architects of this century have tended to organize the components of the typical religious complex as a single structure. This is seen in three examples in the district. The Jewish Center at 131-135 West 86th Street, built in 1917-20, was designed by Louis Allen Abramson to incorporate a synagogue and educational and recreational facilities within a ten-story neo-Renaissance style structure. Congregation Rodeph Sholom at 7-21 West 83rd Street incorporates a synagogue, community and meeting rooms, and living quarters behind a massive facade with deeply cut arches that evoke Romanesque and Byzantine prototypes. Designed by Charles B. Meyers, the structure was built in 1928-29. The most recent religious structure in the district is the St. Matthew and St. Timothy Church and Center at 26-32 West 84th Street, built in 1967-68 and designed by Victor Christ-Janer and Associates. Behind the high, reinforced-concrete street screen reminiscent of Le Corbusier’s late Brutalist work, Christ-Janer has juxtaposed the sanctuary, parish hall, school and living quarters. The Rodeph Sholom School at 10-16 West 84th Street, built in 1973-77, as designed by William Roper echoes this aesthetic.

The changing demographics of a growing metropolis were responsible for the Upper West Side’s development and religious institutions both anticipated and followed their congregations uptown. The chronology of the construction of religious buildings within the Upper West Side/Central Park

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West Historic District reflects the patterns of development within the area. The earliest religious buildings were constructed near the intersection of Broadway and West 72nd Street, the site of old Harsenville, the hamlet that grew at the intersection of the old Bloomingdale Road (now Broadway) and Harsenville Lane (now West 71st Street) which connected the Bloomingdale Road to the Boston Post Road on Manhattan’s East Side. These include what is now Christ and St. Stephen’s at 124 West 68th Street, first organized in 1879 as the Chapel of the Transfiguration, an uptown branch of the Church of the Transfiguration at 1 East 29th Street ("The Little Church Around the Corner"); Grace and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church at 123-125 West 71st Street, originally built as a chapel for a growing congregation of Methodists by that denomination’s Extension and Missionary Society in 1880; and the Roman Catholic Church of the Blessed Sacrament which established itself at Broadway and West 71st Street in 1887 in a building which preceded the present one.

A second wave of religious buildings further to the north followed in the 1890s. The growing congregation of Methodists on West 71st Street sold its chapel to Grace Lutheran and moved as St. Andrew’s Methodist Episcopal Church to 122-138 West 76th Street in 1890. The Third Universalist Society built its new church at 140-144 West 81st in 1892-93. A second Episcopal congregation left its chapel at Columbus Avenue and West 83rd Street to become the newly organized St. Matthew’s at 26 West 84th Street in 1892-93. The first synagogue in the district was Congregation Shaara Tefila, built 1893-94, at 160 West 82nd Street by a congregation that had moved up from West 44th Street.

As Central Park West was developed later than the side street blocks with residential structures, this was also the case for religious buildings. However, in the 1890s and in the first decade of this century, six religious denominations built places of worship on Central Park West. The Scotch Presbyterian Church moved up to Central Park West and West 96th Street from West 14th Street in 1894. The city’s oldest Jewish congregation, Shearith Israel, moved to Central Park West and West 70th Street from West 19th Street just west of Fifth Avenue in 1897. The Fourth Universalist Society built its Church of the Divine Paternity at Central Park West and West 76th Street in 1896-97. A Lutheran congregation, Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, moved uptown to Central Park West and West 65th Street in 1902. Two sects of relatively recent foundation, the Second Church of Christ, Scientist, and the New York Society for Ethical Culture, joined the more traditional denominations already established on Central Park West: the Christian Scientists at Central Park West and West 68th Street, in 1898-1901, and the New York Society for Ethical Culture at Central Park West and West 64th Street in 1910. Congregation Shearith Israel and the New York Society for Ethical Culture are designated New York City Landmarks.

Following World War I, the prosperity of the 1920s was manifested in the construction of large apartment buildings along the avenues, especially Central Park West. Taking advantage of this trend, in 1928 the Scotch Presbyterian Church, leased its site to a developer on the condition that accommodation be provided for the church in a new sixteen-story apartment building. Other newer houses of worship were constructed on midblock sites.
on the side streets. Some replaced rowhouses, as in the case of the several building campaigns of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue/Jewish Institute of Religion-Hebrew Union at 28-36 and 38-44 West 68th Street and Congregation Rodeph Sholom at 7-21 West 83rd Street. In other cases, rowhouses were refaced and interiors adjusted, as with the Society for the Advancement of Judaism (1937) at 13-15 West 86th Street. In the case of the Romanian Orthodox Church of St. Dumitru at 50 West 89th Street, the interior was renovated in 1940 to accommodate the church but the facade was left essentially intact.

Several denominations have chosen to reuse available religious buildings now located within the district. At least four examples may be cited. Grace Lutheran (now Grace and St. Paul's Lutheran) purchased its chapel from St. Andrew's when the latter moved to West 76th Street in 1890; the West Side Institutional Synagogue purchased this West 76th Street building when St. Andrew's merged with St. Paul's in 1937. Three denominations have been housed in the Church of the Third Universalist Society: the Disciples of Christ in 1910; the Mormons in 1945; and recently the Mount Pleasant Baptists. In 1958 Congregation Sharaay Tefila sold its building to the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church of St. Volodymyr.

Other Public and Private Institutions and their Architecture

The Upper West Side's growing population and increase in residential development during the late-nineteenth century triggered a parallel increase in the construction of a variety of institutional buildings to serve the area. Later, as transportation improved and the reputations of some of these institutions spread, services were made available to a much wider audience. Some have even gained national and international significance. The initial isolation of the area necessitated the construction of schools and libraries to meet educational needs, clubs to meet social and cultural aspirations, and fire and police stations to meet citizens' requirements for protective services within their own self-sufficient neighborhood. The story of the history and development of the institutions in the district is a long one and covers periods of establishment, growth, and reorganization for some major New York City institutions.

Many of the institutions in the district are housed in buildings designed by architects specifically for the institution. In some cases, institutions which were originally housed in pre-existing structures were later moved to such specialized structures. In a few cases pre-existing structures, typically rowhouses, adequately serve the needs of some smaller institutions. Institutions located on Central Park West, including the American Museum of Natural History and the New-York Historical Society, are typically larger and more grandiose in scale and/or ornamental treatment than the institutional buildings located on side streets. This character corresponds to that of the larger apartment buildings and religious institutions located on the avenue. Institutional buildings on the side streets are typically smaller in comparison and often occupy two lots rather than entire blockfronts. In this way they conform to the residential character of the side streets. There are exceptions, however. The
buildings housing the Young Men's Christian Association and the Pythian Temple, located on side streets, are grand structures with exuberant detail. These buildings were erected during a later phase of development and were constructed amidst other larger development. These blocks are not primarily residential in character. Another exception is Junior High School No. 44, whose building program called for an unusually large building on a residential block.

Most of the architects who designed buildings specifically for institutions in the district were not involved in any residential design and development in the area. The only exception is the firm of Lamb & Rich which designed several rowhouses in addition to their school building. In addition to their work at the American Museum of Natural History, the architectural firm of Cady, Berg & See designed St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church (now the West Side Institutional Synagogue) within the district boundaries. Of the architects whose only work in the district was institutional, many were large, well-established New York City firms like Trowbridge & Livingston; Napoleon LeBrun & Sons; York & Sawyer; Babb, Cook & Willard; and Thomas White Lamb. These architects were active throughout the city designing other residential and institutional structures. For more information on the architects represented in the district, see the Architects' Appendix.

PHASES OF DEVELOPMENT

I) The history of institutions in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District began long before the first institutional cornerstone was laid. It commenced in the late-eighteenth century when cultural, educational, and service institutions were being organized throughout the city. Institutions founded during the span between the late-eighteenth and late-nineteenth centuries represent nationally-recognized organizations such as the American Museum of Natural History, the Young Men's Christian Association, and the Knights of Pythias (a fraternal organization), as well as early educational institutions, such as the Columbia Grammar School and Sachs Collegiate Academy for Boys. Most of these organizations were originally housed elsewhere in the city and later moved into the area of the district as they expanded or required new facilities.

The first phase of development in the district includes the earliest construction of institutional buildings. The year 1877 saw the completion of the first building for the American Museum of Natural History, which was the first permanent building on Central Park West and the first institution to be constructed in the district. With little residential development in the area and the inadequate transportation of the time, the museum's exhibits had few visitors in its early years. It would be another five years before substantial residential construction was begun in the area, and an additional six years before another institution was constructed.

Engine Company No. 74, the second institution built in the district, was erected in 1888-89 at 120 West 83rd Street. By this time, a boom in residential construction had occurred in the area. Numerous rows of houses and flats were built and the new residents of the community needed
protection from fire. The construction of this fire station symbolizes the
great growth of the period. Educational needs of area residents were
addressed by the close of the nineteenth century, as well. The Veltin
School at 160-62 West 74th Street was constructed in 1893. The school
building would later be occupied by the Baldwin and Calhoun Schools, the
latter established as the Jacobi School for Girls in 1896. The St. Agnes
Free Circulating Library (originally located at 121 West 91st Street,
outside the district boundaries), was established in 1893, and the New York
Public Library and its branch system was established in 1895. The St. Agnes
Branch would later occupy a building at 444 Amsterdam Avenue, within the
district boundaries. Thus, the first phase of institutional development in
the district saw the establishment of several organizations as well as the
first stages of construction for institutional purposes.

II) The second phase of institutional development in the district was
a more intense period of construction. The first decade of the twentieth
century saw much of this activity. The Progress Club (later occupied by the
Walden School, demolished c. 1987-88), the Central Park West building for
the New-York Historical Society, the Swiss Home, and the St. Agnes Branch of
the New York Public Library were all constructed early in the decade. Also
built at this time were rowhouses at Nos. 20 through 46 West 74th Street,
some of which would later be converted to institutional use.

The second and third decades of the twentieth century saw continued
institutional establishment and construction. The Walden School and the
Jewish Guild for the Blind (which would later have a branch of its services
located within district boundaries) were both organized in 1914. The
Franklin School, the Pythian Temple (a lodge of the Knights of Pythias), and
the West Side Branch of the YMCA were also constructed during this period.

III) The third phase, from the 1950s through the 1980s, was a
transitional period for institutions in the district. Many organizations
merged, expanded, or relocated at this time. The Knights of Pythias vacated
its lodge building, the Columbia Grammar and Leonard Schools merged, the
Stevenson School moved to West 74th Street, the Twentieth Police Precinct
moved to a new building at West 82nd Street, the Walden School expanded with
its Andrew Goodman Building, the Calhoun School moved to West 81st Street
and then expanded to West 74th Street, the Joselow House occupied a rowhouse
on West 74th Street, and a new high school building was constructed for the
Columbia Grammar School. Thus, this period saw the continued growth of
institutions and the welcoming of new organizations to the area.

This three-phase development pattern clearly summarizes the general
history of the institutions in the Upper West Side/Central Park West
Historic District. A long period of establishment, an intense construction
period, and a time of reorganization and expansion has brought to the
district several strong institutions. Some of the organizations have
national reputations and are monumental in design. Smaller institutions are
nonetheless firmly established in the history of New York City and the Upper
West Side, and continue to serve both city and neighborhood. The buildings
which house the institutions of the Upper West Side/Central Park West
Historic District, through both their functions and their architectural
design, complement and enhance the residential character of the area. A more detailed account of the history and architecture of each institution is found below.

Religious Complexes

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 51-53 Central Park West

The Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, designed by Schickel & Ditmars — William Schickel (1850-1907) and Isaac E. Ditmars (1850-1934) — and built in 1902-03, stands on the northwest corner of Central Park West and West 65th Street. A neo-Gothic design based on late thirteenth-century northern European prototypes, the church is faced with rusticated limestone above a rusticated granite base. The stone of the clerestory walls is supported by a steel frame. The cornice is of limestone and copper and is surmounted by a peaked roof, covered with slate. A copper fleche rises above the roof.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity was organized in 1868 by a group seceding from St. James Lutheran Church on Mulberry Street. Holy Trinity first rented St. Paul’s Dutch Reformed Church at 47 West 21st Street, then purchased it the following year. There the congregation remained until relocating to West 65th Street and Central Park West. St. James remained on Mulberry Street until 1891 when it moved to East 73rd Street, but in 1938 St. James merged with Holy Trinity.

Second Church of Christ, Scientist, 77 Central Park West

The Second Church of Christ, Scientist, designed by Frederick R. Comstock (1866-1942), was built in 1899-1901 on the southwest corner of Central Park West and West 68th Street. Comstock’s design for a domed church is in the Academic Classical mode based on Beaux-Arts principles. The basement, as well as the other architectural elements at the building’s base — the twelve steps and cheek walls at the building’s entrance and the Tuscan portico at 10 West 68th Street (entrance to the reading and reception rooms) — are of smooth-faced New Hampshire granite ashlar. The torcheres on the cheek walls are of cast bronze. The walls of the church are of a high-grade New York limestone called South Dover marble. The roof is covered with dark slate; the dome and its cupola are sheathed with copper.

Christian Science was established by Mary Baker Eddy (d. 1910) in 1879. The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston (or Mother Church) was dedicated in 1895. (Frederick R. Comstock was an associate architect on this project.) Mrs. Eddy sent two disciples to New York, Mrs. Laura Lathrop in 1886 and Mrs. Augusta Stetson in 1888. Mrs. Lathrop and a group of her adherents, encouraged by Mrs. Eddy, seceded from the initial Christian Science congregation in New York and formed the Second Church of Christ, Scientist, in 1891. As Christian Science was a new sect, an impressive architectural presence was deemed an appropriate way to further its acceptance. Mrs. Stetson, who had enlarged the initial congregation, turned to Carrere & Hastings to design the First Church of Christ,
Scientist, 1898-1903, a designated a New York City Landmark on the
northwest corner of Central Park West and West 96th Street. The Second
Church of Christ, Scientist, undertook its building at Central Park West and
West 68th Street simultaneously, choosing as its architect, Comstock, who
had worked on the Mother Church. The building activity of the two New York
congregations inspired Mrs. Eddy to enlarge the Mother Church in Boston
(1906).

Congregation Shearith Israel Synagogue (Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue),
99 Central Park West and 8 West 70th Street

The Congregation Shearith Israel synagogue is a striking example in New
York City of the monumental Academic Classical style. Designed by Brunner &
Tryon, it was built in 1896-97 of smooth-faced limestone ashlar. Though a
singular stylistic departure from more conventional synagogue architecture
in New York which had adhered, through 1895, to the mid-nineteenth century
Byzantine-Moorish prototype, it was a choice defended by the architect.
Brunner cited as a prototype the Greco-Roman synagogue ruins in Galilee then
recently discovered by the Palestine Excavation Fund. The architecture of
the Chicago World’s Columbian Exposition (1893) was also an inspiration.
The congregation, with its seventeenth- and eighteenth-century New York
ancestors, had a preference for classical forms as well. The adjacent
Beaux-Arts style rectory to the south of the synagogue is contemporary with
the synagogue and designed by Brunner & Tryon.

Adjacent to the synagogue at 8 West 70th Street is the Polonies Talmud
Torah School. Built in 1949 to the designs of Kahn & Jacobs, the school
received a new facade designed by Cole & Liebman as part of alterations
carried out in 1953-54.

Shearith Israel is the oldest Jewish congregation in the city, tracing
its history back to the immigration of Spanish and Portuguese Jews to New
York in 1654. In 1730 when the bans against public assembly were lifted
they held their first public services on Mill Street, in a synagogue which
was rebuilt to accommodate an enlarged congregation in 1816. With each move
uptown, from Mill Street to Crosby Street in 1833 and from Crosby to West
19th Street off Fifth Avenue in 1860, Shearith Israel commissioned a
classical style edifice. And with each move the congregation took with it
classical interior architectural elements from the first synagogue on Mill
Street. (Today they are contained today within the present building.)
Shearith Israel is a designated New York City Landmark.

The Scotch Presbyterian Church, 360 Central Park West, 2-10 West 96th
Street, and 3 West 95th Street

The Scotch Presbyterian Church, located at the southwest corner of
Central Park West and West 96th Street, is encompassed within the first four
stories of the sixteen-story apartment building designed by Rosario Candela
and built in 1928-29. In 1928 the congregation, which has owned this
block-through site since 1892, leased the site to Vinross Realities, Inc.,
developers, with the condition that the new edifice planned for the site
contain a church. The presence of the church on the site is maintained by
the treatment of the entrance facade at 4 West 96th Street which is distinguished from and not subsumed within the apartment building’s overall design. This entrance takes the form of a smooth-faced heavy neo-Gothic screen of ashlar limestone set along the building line in front of the apartment house’s fourth-story setback. Four buttresses, offset by the truncated octagonal tower on the right, articulate the facade. The pointed arch containing the segmentally-topped portal and the four lancet windows above are flanked by the center buttresses. Attached to the base of the buttress to the right of the portal is a bronze plaque, a World War I memorial removed from the 1893-94 church previously on the site, which also had its entrance on West 96th Street. The Alexander Robertson School, affiliated with the church, is also located within the apartment building.

Founded in 1756 by a group of Covenanters who seceded from the old Wall Street Presbyterian Church, the congregation of the Scotch Presbyterian Church applied to the Associated Presbytery of Scotland and was sent its first pastor, the Rev. John Mitchell Mason, in 1761. Moving from its first home on Cedar Street to Grand Street in 1837, and from Grand to West 14th Street in 1853, the congregation built its fourth home, a stone-fronted lecture hall (which included the Alexander Robertson School) at 3 West 95th Street in 1893 and the stone-fronted church on the West 96th Street corner in 1893-94, both to the designs of William H. Hume (1834-1899).

Vinross — among whose principals was Vincent J. Slattery, former partner in the architectural firm of Horgan & Slattery — had the church and lecture hall demolished and commissioned Rosario Candela to design a building to house the church, a school, a gymnasium, laundry and apartments for 149 families, erected in 1928-29. This solution, while unusual, was employed by several other congregations in the 1920s. Other examples are the Calvary Baptist Church, 123 West 57th Street, located at the base of the Salisbury Hotel (1929-30, Jardine, Hill & Murdock) and the Manhattan Congregational Church, 2162 Broadway, once housed in the base of the former Towers Hotel (1928-1932, Tillion & Tillion).

New York Society for Ethical Culture and School, 2 West 64th Street and 33 Central Park West

The meeting house of the New York Society for Ethical Culture, at the southwest corner of Central Park West and West 64th Street, was designed in the Secession style by Robert D. Kohn (1870?–1953) and built in 1909-10, adjacent to the Society’s Ethical Culture School immediately to the south at the corner of West 63rd Street. The two buildings are compatible in scale and detail. The Society’s main meeting room is on the first story of Kohn’s building; Sunday school rooms and offices are on the stories above. The building is a strong and unusual architectural statement. The base and steps are of granite; the walls are of smooth-faced Indiana limestone ashlar. The entrance facade, with its tall windows of leaded stained glass in wood frames, is on West 64th Street. Two of the lower panels of the blind Central Park West facade carry inscriptions. The light fixtures at the entrance are original. The entrance pediment sculpture is by the sculptor Estelle Rumbold Kohn, the wife of the architect. The New York
Society for Ethical Culture Meeting House is a designated New York City Landmark.

The Ethical Culture School, built in 1902-03, was designed by Carrere & Hastings with Kohn as associated architect. The juxtaposition of brick and limestone in this building, a variation of the neo-Renaissance style, makes a strong architectural statement. The rusticated brick base is punctuated by paired window openings and a pedimented entrance. The facades above are organized into three-story window bays flanked by stylized brick piers. A continuous wrought-iron balcony sets off the fifth story.

Kohn, like many American architects of his generation, had received his training at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. He was a friend and follower of the Society's founder, Dr. Felix Adler (1851-1933), and President of the Society from 1921 until 1944. Adler, a philosopher, religious teacher, educator, and reformer, believed in the concept of functional morality — the sense of duty social and national groups owe one to another. Young Adler was sent to Columbia University, and the universities in Berlin and Heidelberg in his training for the rabbinate (his father had come to New York from Germany to be rabbi of Temple Emanu-El). Upon his return in 1873 he taught at Cornell for three years. He founded the Society for Ethical Culture in 1876, and two years later the Workingman's School (named the Ethical Culture School in 1895) based upon the principles of Friedrich Froebel, the German educational theorist. In 1927 he founded the Fieldston School in the Riverdale section of the Bronx. The Society met at a succession of halls (including Carnegie Hall) until it moved up Central Park West to its present home. Adler was a professor of political and social ethics at Columbia from 1902 until his death.

The Stephen Wise Free Synagogue and Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, 28-36 and 38-44 West 68th Street

Bloch & Hesse's two-part four-story facade along the south side of West 68th Street for the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue and Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion was begun in 1939-41 and finished in 1948-49. Although building was interrupted by World War II, any disparity in appearance is minimized by the architects' consistent use of a neo-Medieval style with Gothic elements and identical materials. The buildings' base is granite, the walls of rough-cut, random, Fordham gneiss and the trim is smooth-faced limestone. Although the pointed entrance arch and projecting bay dominate the otherwise almost blind facade of the synagogue on the left, and the mullioned regularity of the casement windows expresses the seminary on the right, the broad facade is unified by the common base, the continuous lower and upper stringcourses, the continuity of the fourth story fenestration, and the buildings' comparable height. To the lower right of the arched synagogue entrance is a single stone of different origin, a stone from the Holy of Holies in Jerusalem presented to the Free Synagogue in 1922 and consecrated as the new building's corner stone in 1948.

Stephen Wise, the founder of the Free Synagogue, acquired property on the south side of West 68th Street in 1910 in order to establish a place of
worship and a seminary, but it was not until 1922 that Wise could commission Eisendrath & Horowitz, with Bloch & Hesse as associate architects, to design the Free Synagogue House (at 26-36 West 68th Street) for his Jewish Institute of Religion (a training school for rabbis — Reform, Conservative and Orthodox). Subsequently the Bloch & Hesse firm was called upon to renovate and convert the Institute for synagogue use and to extend the building to the west to house the merged Institute and Hebrew Union College (38-44 West 68th Street) giving the two buildings their present appearance. Additional alterations to the ground story of the seminary and its westermmost bay were carried out in 1960-61.

Stephen Samuel Wise (1874-1949), social liberal, ardent Zionist, and champion of the idea of a free synagogue (no mandatory membership, no fees) was a powerful speaker with a compelling presence. He was brought to this country from Germany at the age of fourteen months when his father was made rabbi of Congregation Rodeph Sholom. After studying at the City University, Columbia University, in Vienna, and at Oxford, he returned to New York in 1893 to become rabbi of Congregation B’nai Jeshurun. He went to Portland, Oregon, as rabbi at Temple Beth-El there; in 1906 he refused the rabbinate at Temple Emanu-El on Fifth Avenue, but returned to New York the following year to found the Free Synagogue. Its congregation met first at the Hudson Theater, then in 1908-09 rented the Third Universalist Church on West 81st Street, and then met at Carnegie Hall until 1940 when services were moved to the present site. He founded the Jewish Institute for Religion in 1922 and twenty-six years later realized its merger with the Hebrew Union College of Cincinnati. Bloch & Hesse’s use of Gothic elements may have been at Wise’s request; the pleasure he took in the character of Oxford University’s medieval quadrangles has been recorded. Also, Wise would have been aware of the continuing archaeological research then centered upon the late medieval synagogues in Europe and their interior furnishings.

Christ and St. Stephen’s Protestant Episcopal Church (former) Chapel of the Transfiguration and Rectory, 124 and 124 West 69th Street

The design of Christ and St. Stephen’s Church as seen today reflects a series of changes over time. Initially it was a simple frame building designed by William H. Day and built in 1879; a porch, supporting a diminutive tower, was built against the north side of a western addition in 1887. (The church was widened to the south and a second story built across the rear to the designs of Sidney V. Stratton the following year.) In 1897, in conjunction with a change of congregational ownership, the architect John D. Fouguet changed the shape of the tower above the porch to its present appearance, inserted new dormers, and covered the roof with tiles; it may have been at this time that the exterior walls were rebuilt of red brick. Eleven years later the newer components of the little church’s north facade were stylistically unified through Stratton’s use of the Academic Gothic idiom. Subsequent additions have broadened the northern transept: in 1914 by Rogers & Zogbaum; in 1950 by Moore & Laudseidel; and in 1960 by Adams & Woodbridge. The four-story brick rectory at 120 West 69 Street, built in 1883-84, was designed by George Martin Huss (1853-1941) in an American Neo-Grec style with ornamental brick accents that also reflect the influence of the Romanesque Revival.
The site of Christ and Saint Stephen's Church was purchased in October 1879 by the Rev. George Houghton, founding Rector of the Church of the Transfiguration ("The Little Church Around the Corner") at 1 East 29th Street where he presided from 1848 until 1897. A nephew of George Houghton, the Rev. Edward Clark Houghton, D.D., had organized the uptown congregation in 1876. Day's frame church was consecrated as the Chapel of the Transfiguration in 1880. Like its parent on East 29th Street, the Chapel of the Transfiguration, now Christ and St. Stephen's, is a low building separated from the street by a small garden and greensward.

The history of the Christ and St. Stephen's congregation is one of relocation and consolidation, following the city's population northward. St. Stephen's was organized in 1805 by a group which seceded from the English Lutheran Church of Zion and joined the Episcopal Church. This congregation bought the Chapel of the Transfiguration in 1897 and changed its name to St. Stephen's Church. Christ Church, organized in 1793, moved from five homes until it built a buff brick and terra-cotta Romanesque Revival complex (1889-90) at 211 West 71st Street. Christ Church merged with its neighbor in 1975.

Grace and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, (former) St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church, 123-125 West 71st Street

The building that now houses Grace and St. Paul's Lutheran Church was erected in 1880-81 for St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church by the New York City Extension and Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church to the designs of architect Stephen D. Hatch (1839-94). Hatch's design employs rusticated brownstone ashlar with smooth-faced brownstone sills, trefoliated lintels, imbrication, copings, and horizontal bands binding the facade's vertical elements together. The pointed arches alternate roughcut and smooth voussoirs. Asymmetrical and compact, this High Victorian Gothic style facade contains all of the architectural components one would expect in a church front twice its size. The peaked church and tower roofs were originally covered with slate shingles.

St. Andrew's started in 1864 at Amsterdam Avenue and West 68th Street as a prayer meeting, becoming the Bloomingdale Mission one year later and the Broadway Mission in 1866, the year it was organized as a church by the Methodist Sunday School and Missionary Society. Its new church on West 71st Street, consecrated in 1882, was constructed using the proceeds of the sale of the Free Tabernacle Church at West 34th Street and Eighth Avenue.

Grace Lutheran was organized in 1886 and the congregation had two homes — the first at West 50th Street and Ninth Avenue and the second at West 49th Street and Broadway — before moving to this building which was sold to it by St. Andrew's in 1890. The congregation was incorporated as the Evangelische Lutheranische Gnaden Kirche this same year. In 1933 Grace merged with St. Paul's Lutheran and the present name was adopted.

Roman Catholic Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Rectory, and School, 146-150 and 152 West 71st Street and 147-153 West 70th Street
The Church of the Blessed Sacrament, rectory, and school, constructed in 1916-17, were designed by architect Gustave E. Steinback. The church facade is a thirteenth-century French Gothic tour de force in cast stone which is molded with a sharpness and intricacy as displayed in the pierced gables, the tracery, and the minute details of the niche canopies, the archivolt ornamentation, cusps, and finials. A full program of statuary — cast stone porch figures, tympanum, as well as figures higher up the facade — complements the architectural ornamentation. (Those saints who expounded the doctrine relative to the Sacrament are represented on the facade: St. John Baptist de la Salle; St. John Vianney; St. Francis de Sales; St. Philip Neri; St. Alphonsus Liguori; St. Francis of Assisi; St. Charles Borromeo; and St. Vincent de Paul. In the buttresses below the towers are representations of St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Bonaventure.) The church has a steel-frame structure, and the roof is supported by Guastavino domes and arches. Steinback's design for the four-story rectory, in a domestic Gothic style appropriate to the adjacent church, is also executed in cast stone. The six-story cast-stone school facade on West 70th Street employs the verticality characteristic of the Gothic style to articulate a modern pier and recessed spandrel system of three bays. It is flanked by two stair towers. The tracery of the spandrels and central gable of the school facade remains intact. Most of the terminal pinnacles and finials on the church, rectory, and school are of copper.

Organized in 1887 in the carriage room of the Havermeyer family's stable on the north side of 72nd Street, west of Broadway, by Father Matthew A. Taylor (1853-1914), the Roman Catholic Church of the Blessed Sacrament dedicated its first home on the corner of Broadway and West 71st Street the same year and incorporated the following year. Father Taylor had been sent by Archbishop Corrigan to establish a new parish in this developing sector of the city; the nearest Catholic church was the Church of the Sacred Heart on West 51st Street. The congregation continued to assemble lots until 1916 when it had achieved a block-through site east of its corner location for the present-day church and rectory at 146-150 and 152 West 71st Street and the school at 147-153 West 70th Street. Father Taylor was succeeded by Father Thomas F. Myhan (1864-1916), a scholar, who initiated the present building. His successor, Father William J. Guinan, carried Myhan's plans to completion.

Church of the Fourth Universalist Society (Church of the Divine Paternity), 4 West 76th Street

Designed by William Appleton Potter (1842-1909), the church and adjacent school were built in 1897-98 in an academic revival of the late English Gothic called the Perpendicular style. The design is executed in smooth-faced limestone ashlar. Located at the southwest corner of Central Park West and West 76th Street, the church is dominated by the four-stage pinnacled tower. A gabled nave, pointed-arch openings, and large stained-glass windows with ogival tracery are notable elements of the design. Prototypes for the design include Gloucester Cathedral and the Magdalen College tower, Oxford. A cornerstone on the West 76th Street side bears the dates "1838-1897." The three-story school building on West 76th
Street continues the design of the church with the stories marked by string courses and the window openings by drip moldings.

The Fourth Universalist Society was organized in 1838 and had four different church buildings prior to its move to Central Park West. By 1865, when it located to Fifth Avenue and West 45th Street, it was known as the Church of the Divine Paternity, which name it retained for many years on Central Park West. The Rev. E.H. Chapin, D.D., pastor in the last quarter of the nineteenth century, attracted several loyal members of great wealth, among whom was Andrew Carnegie. The three-story school building is currently occupied by the Winston Preparatory School. The Fourth Universalist Society’s church and school is included within the boundaries of the Central Park West – West 76th Street Historic District.

West Side Institutional Synagogue and Rectory, (former) St. Andrew’s Methodist Episcopal Church, 122-138 and 120 West 76th Street

This church building, designed in the Romanesque Revival style by the architectural firm of J.C. Cady & Co., was constructed in 1889-90 for Saint Andrew’s Methodist Episcopal Church. As originally designed for this midblock site, the complex comprised (from east to west) the rectory, tower, chapel (behind the entrance doors), and church with a gabled front, all built of roughcut, rusticated limestone ashlar laid in alternating wide and narrow courses on a bluestone base. Major portions of the complex were irreparably destroyed in a fire in 1965, resulting in the loss of the limestone gable, peaked roof, dome, and tower roof. The consequent reconstruction was carried out by Emory S. Tabor, a general contractor, and the changes are reflected on the street facade: a flat roof; altered sanctuary windows partially filled with bronze-tinted aluminum grilles; and a new principal entrance marked by a bronze-tinted aluminum screen.

In 1957 the current owners, the West Side Institutional Synagogue, commissioned architect David Moed to reface the rectory and to introduce an entrance into the tower’s base. The rectory facade is now a curtain wall of glass and aluminum trimmed with travertine marble but the original round corner buttresses of roughcut, rusticated limestone are retained. The added fifth story is of yellow brick, and iron basement window grilles incorporate the design of a menorah.

During the course of construction of St. Andrew’s, J.C. Cady & Co., founded by Josiah Cleveland Cady (1837-1919), was renamed as Cady, Berg & See, with Louis de Coppett Berg (1856-1913) and Milton See (1854-1920) as the other partners. The firm is responsible for the impressive complex of Romanesque Revival buildings at the American Museum of Natural History along West 77th Street. St. Andrew’s, previously established at 123-125 West 71st Street sold that building to the Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1890, the same year this larger church building was dedicated. In 1937 St. Andrew’s congregation moved up to West 86th Street and West End Avenue to merge with St. Paul’s Methodist Episcopal Church and sold these buildings to the West Side Institutional Synagogue.
Sisters of St. Ursula, (former Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul), 168-170 West 79th Street

In 1893 the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul purchased a fifty-foot wide lot on West 79th Street and commissioned a pair of four-story brownstone-fronted houses from the firm of Thom & Wilson. Built in 1894-95, these Renaissance Revival style houses appear to have been designed contemporary with the row of houses once to the east of them by the same firm for William Hall. Each house, a mirror image of the other, has a full height quarter bow. The principal entrances as well as their stoops are juxtaposed and share a porch with a screen of three Tuscan columns bearing a continuous frieze of classical motifs which runs the full width of both houses.

Rev. Matthew A. Taylor, the first rector of the Roman Catholic Church of the Blessed Sacrament on West 71st Street and Broadway, represented the Sisters of Charity in the purchase of the West 79th Street property. The Blessed Sacrament School was staffed by the Sisters of Charity. The Sisters occupied both houses as a single unit where they also ran a school for girls. The property was enlarged with the purchase in 1902 and 1907 of two houses on West 78th Street immediately behind the house. The Sisters of Charity sold the school and residence (containing a chapel) to the Sisters of Saint Ursula of the Blessed Virgin of New York in 1944, who ran the Notre Dame School in the buildings. The property has recently been sold to the Fleming School.

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, (former) Church of the Third Universalist Society (Church of Eternal Hope), 140-144 West 81st Street

This Romanesque Revival church building, presently occupied by the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, was built for the Third Universalist Society in 1892-93 to the designs of the architect Jonathan Capen of Newark. Two square stair towers — the taller on the left — flank the gabled facade. A loggia of three arches, protecting the twin flights of entrance steps, links the towers with tile-covered pyramidal roofs. The basement, the window surrounds and sills, the loggia arch voussoirs and spandrels, and the lower stringcourse are of roughcut limestone ashlar; water table, step parapets, loggia columns, upper stringcourse and cornices are smooth-faced limestone. The church’s upper walls are of rough-cast buff brick. Wrought-iron gates open at the base of the twin flights of entrance steps.

Of the six Universalist Societies founded in New York between 1794 and 1852, the Third was organized in 1834 and met at Bleecker and Downing Streets until its move to West 81st Street in 1893. Since then the building has changed owners and tenants several times. The Society leased this building to Stephen Wise’s fledgling Free Synagogue in 1908-09, but sold it to the First Church of the Disciples of Christ in 1910. Thirty-five years later the Disciples moved to Park Avenue and sold the building to the Manhattan Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, its present owner. Mount Pleasant Baptist Church leases it, in turn, from the Latter Day Saints.
What is new the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church of St. Volodymyr was built as the West End Synagogue in 1893-94 by Congregation Shaaray Tefila to the designs of Brunner & Tryon. The buff Roman brick, limestone- and terra-cotta facade rises above a basement and double staircase which spans the facade and is faced with horizontally-channeled smooth-faced limestone ashlar. The building, designed in a Moorish/Byzantine Revival style considered appropriate for synagogues in the second half of the nineteenth century, has a kinship in form and material with contemporary Romanesque Revival religious structures (see, for example, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church). The superimposed arcades of the facade’s central bay are framed by two slightly projecting bays. The walls are laid up so that for every nine courses of brick there is a band of terra cotta bearing a continuous fret design. The columns and arch voussoirs of the lower arcade are of limestone; the upper arcade is constructed of terra cotta. The colonnettes, voussoirs, tracery, spandrels and arched frieze below the cornice are also of terra cotta.

In 1937 a fire damaged much of the synagogue’s interior; S. Brian Baylinson was responsible for the renovation. The congregation was able to purchase the house just west of the synagogue the same year; the firm of Schwartz & Gross was commissioned to rehabilitate it as the congregation’s Community House. When Congregation Shaaray Tefila moved to the Upper East Side in 1958, it sold the synagogue and community house to the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church.

Congregation Shaaray Tefila was organized by a group of English-speaking Jews who seceded from the German-speaking Congregation B’nai Jeshurun in 1845. As this congregation moved uptown, it has consistently employed renowned architects to design its synagogues: Leopold Eidlitz and Otto Blesch designed the synagogue (1847) on Wooster Street; and Henry Fernbach was architect for the synagogue (1869) on West 44th Street, also a Moorish-inspired design. When Arnold Brunner (1857-1925) received the Shaaray Tefila commission, his work on Temple Beth-El (1891) at Fifth Avenue and East 76th Street had just been completed, and the commission for Congregation Shearith Israel’s new home on Central Park West was still to come. Brunner was the grandson of a former president and a great-grandson of a founder and first president of Shaaray Tefila.

St. Volodymyr was organized in 1926, a parish in the Autocephalic Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America and Canada, with a sister church in Toronto. Its first home was a neo-Gothic church at 334 East 14th Street, which is now a synagogue.

Congregation Rodeph Sholom Synagogue, Community House, and School, 7-21 West 83rd Street and 10-16 West 84th Street

The five-story building of Congregation Rodeph Sholom, built in 1928-30, was designed by Charles B. Meyers to contain an auditorium, reception
and dining rooms, offices, classrooms, a board room, and a caretaker’s apartment. The symmetry and mass of the smooth-faced limestone ashlar facade, emphasized by three monumental and deeply-cut arches, are expressive of the academic neo-Romanesque/Byzantine style, and may be inspired by contemporary synagogue excavations at Tiberias, known today in modern Israel as Natanya. The arches contain tall windows with limestone mullions and leaded glass; they are flanked by the arched entrances. The eastern entrance, leading to the synagogue and community rooms, is the more elaborate; the arch is supported by flat archivolts of polished pink and gray granite. The western entrance leads to the private quarters above. The polychromy of the main entrance is repeated higher on the facade in the polished granite colonnettes of the diminutive fifth-story arcades. Every colonnette in each series has a different capital. The Shield of David motifs in the rondels and the decorative lozenges are made up of pink, gray, and blue granite. Prior to the synagogue commission, Meyers had carried out buildings for Yeshiva University in Washington Heights.

The Rodeph Sholom Day School, located through the block on West 84th Street, was designed by the architect William Roper and built in 1973-77. The congregation purchased four rowhouses for renovation as a school. The houses, built in pairs, differed in the number of stories and ceiling heights. Roper kept the existing floor levels but attempted to downplay the disparity by employing the contemporary Brutalist aesthetic, superimposing an asymmetrical pattern of fenestration as well as a system of sympathetic angulation — seen in the entrance stoop, window sills and parapet — to the facade. A reddish-brown brick with joints tinted the same color gives homogeneity across the whole facade and a common parapet is suggested by the white sheet metal sheathing the upper portion of the school’s facade.

Congregation Rodeph Sholom organized by seceding from Congregation Anshe Chesed — which had seceded from B’nai Jeshurun — in 1842. From 1853 until 1858 the congregation worshipped on Clinton Street. In 1891 it moved to the former Temple Beth-El at Lexington and East 63rd Street, and then to West 83rd Street in 1930.

St. Matthew and St. Timothy Church and Center, 26-32 West 84th Street

In 1967 Victor Christ-Janer and Associates was commissioned by the parish of St. Matthew and St. Timothy to design a new building to contain not only a church but also a fellowship hall, meeting and reading rooms, offices, residential units, and a gymnasium to replace the church building that had been severely damaged by fire. Christ-Janer, known for Brutalist designs inspired by the later work of the Swiss-French architect Le Corbusier (1887-1966), erected a massive reinforced concrete screen along the building line of the site. Even the belfry is masked by a wide, upward extension of this screen wall. (The open-air roof was constructed to permit public assembly and recreation.) While horizontal channeling and vertical joints articulate this facade, it is the residual pattern of the wood forms in which the concrete was cast that give the facade its texture. In this broad, windowless and asymmetrical screen there is but one break (the fire doors at the extreme ends excepted). Within this rectangular brick-paved recess other wall planes become apparent: vertically-channeled limestone and
behind it pink brick, as well as the entrance to the church to the left in the eastern soffit, the raised entrance to the community house, and a horizontal range of second-story windows. Only the raised entrance's stoop parapet restate the original plane of the large screen. The rough planar surface not only unifies the several functions of this urban church complex but dramatizes a space arbitrarily defined by the building lines of the city's grid pattern. The resulting monolithic quality of St. Matthew and St. Timothy's places this building among the finest examples of the architecture of the late 1960s in New York City.

The history of this parish is one of many mergers. St. Matthew's Protestant Episcopal Church, organized in 1887, began as Bethlehem Chapel in 1870 at West 83rd Street and Columbus Avenue, a place of worship for German speaking people under the care of St. Michael's Protestant Episcopal Church. St. Matthew's purchased its site on West 84th Street in 1892 and 1893, and commissioned William Halsey Wood (1855-1897) to design a Romanesque Revival style church, executed in limestone. This building was demolished in 1966, after a severe fire. In 1897, the year of its incorporation, St. Matthew's absorbed St. Ann's Church for Deaf Mutes, a congregation founded by the Rev. Thomas Gallaudet in 1852. The parish of Zion and St. Timothy's, merged since 1890, joined St. Matthew's in 1922.

The Society for the Advancement of Judaism, 13-15 West 86th Street

The Society for the Advancement of Judaism purchased two houses at 13 and 15 West 86th Street in 1920 from the Alcuin School. Altered in 1925 by architects Deutsch & Schneider, the buildings were given a new facade designed by architect Albert Goldhammer in 1937. Although the arch Goldhammer inscribed at the building's entrance is an allusion to the earlier Moorish/Byzantine Revival style often used for synagogues, his facade derives its character from the warm tones of brick — red, yellow and orange — and cast stone, resting on a base of concrete-limestone aggregate, producing a statement in the Modern Semitic style.

The Society for the Advancement of Judaism was organized by Dr. Mordecai Kaplan (1883-1947), a religious teacher and philosopher concerned with religion and its application in modern life. He emerged from the ranks of Reformed Judaism to become a founding member of the Federation of American Zionists. Dr. Kaplan was on the faculties of the Jewish Theological Seminary, the Teachers' Institute and Seminary College for Jewish Studies, and the Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

The Jewish Center, 131-135 West 86th Street

The ten-story building of the Jewish Center, built in 1917-20, was designed by Louis Allen Abramson to contain a variety of uses and spaces: synagogue, educational and recreational center, auditorium, meeting rooms, gymnasium, and pool. Occupying a midblock site, the neo-Renaissance style structure was designed to express this multiplicity of functions and to be compatible with its residential neighbors. The rusticated stone base supports a major Ionic order of two stories. The stories above are faced with brick. However the repetition of window shapes and the use of the
stone for the window surrounds and quoins unite the upper and lower portions of this facade. A large tablet bearing the name of this institution is flanked by escutcheons bearing the building’s date in both the Gregorian and Jewish calendars.

Romanian Orthodox Church of St. Dumitru, 50 West 99th Street

Originally one of five rowhouses designed by Thom & Wilson and built for Patrick Farley in 1892, the Romanian Orthodox Church of St. Dumitru was altered for church use by architects John H. Knubel and John Solomon in 1940. A four-story brownstone-fronted rowhouse with a raised basement, the building largely retains its original domestic exterior appearance.

Incorporated in 1939, this was the third Romanian congregation to be organized in New York City but was the only one under the jurisdiction of the National Church of Romania. In a letter to the then Building Commissioner William Wilson, dated March 6, 1940, Andrei Popovici, Consul General at the Royal Consulate of Romania, described St. Dumitru’s, "...a charitable organization to enable those no longer Romanians but not yet Americans to have spiritual and cultural development; to become good citizens of this country."

Museums

**The American Museum of Natural History, 175 Central Park West**

The American Museum of Natural History is one of the world’s finest and largest institutions devoted to the study of the natural sciences and one of New York City’s largest cultural structures. The Museum was founded in 1869 for the purpose of establishing in the city a museum and library of natural history and to encourage the study of natural science. Its founders include distinguished New Yorkers such as J.P. Morgan, Adrian Iselin, Henry Parish, Joseph A. Choate, Charles A. Dana, Morris Ketchum Jessup, and Theodore Roosevelt (father of the President). A gateway to the study of natural history, the museum exhibits more than 2,300 habitat groups, mounted specimens, showcases, dioramas, and scientific exhibits. Subjects covered in these exhibits include birds, reptiles, dinosaurs, fish, geology, meteorites, mammals, and man. The museum is also a research laboratory, a school for advanced study, a publishing house for scientific manuscripts, and a sponsoring agency for field exploration expeditions. The institution contains one of the world’s finest natural history libraries consisting of 175,000 volumes. Over three million people from all parts of the world visit the museum annually.

The Museum first occupied two floors of the Arsenal in Central Park and remained there for eight years. However, within a year of its founding, it had outgrown this space. The Department of Public Parks offered Manhattan Square, an eighteen-acre plot of land bounded by 77th and 81st Streets, Eighth and Ninth Avenues (now Central Park West and Columbus Avenue), to the Museum Trustees for the site of a new, larger building to house their collections and exhibits. The cornerstone of the first building was laid on
this site on June 22, 1874. Designed by Calvert Vaux and Jacob Wrey Mould in the Victorian Gothic style, the five-story red brick and stone structure is now barely visible among the later museum additions. As the museum’s collections continued to grow, plans for expansion were prepared. The architectural firm of Cady, Berg & See presented a master plan in which the museum building was laid out to form a quadrangle with four peripheral structures joined to a central pavilion by four central wings. Initial construction followed this scheme, including the West 77th Street wing designed by the firm, however, the plan was later discarded. The West 77th Street wing, constructed between 1890 and 1899, is today one of the most impressive examples of the Richardsonian Romanesque style in the country.

The firm of Trowbridge & Livingston became involved in the Museum’s expansion early in the twentieth century. Most of the remaining buildings were constructed according to their designs and include buildings in the interior courtyards, the Hayden Planetarium, and a Central Park West wing. (Other buildings were designed by architect Charles Volz.) The Trowbridge & Livingston design for the Central Park West wing called for a monumental entrance section facing the Park. Illustrating an Academic Classical style based on Beaux-Arts principles, the design of the entrance building, the central portion of the Central Park West wing, was the work of John Russell Pope, based on a winning competition entry in 1924. The building (containing a designated New York City Interior Landmark) memorializes Theodore Roosevelt. The 26th President of the United States, Roosevelt was a museum trustee, participated in museum expeditions, and donated his natural science collections to the museum.

Today, the American Museum of Natural History is not a single building but consists of seventeen interconnected units. Nearly a century of development and expansion is reflected in its growth and in the several architectural styles manifested in its facades. The original Vaux & Mould building, the West 77th Street wing, the Central Park West wing, the Columbus Avenue wing, and the Hayden Planetarium were designated New York City Landmarks in 1967. The museum complex was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on June 24, 1976.

The New-York Historical Society, 170 Central Park West

The New-York Historical Society (a designated New York City Landmark), the second oldest historical society in the United States, was organized in 1804 and incorporated in 1809. The Society’s founders were prominent New Yorkers including: Egbert Benson, a judge and the Society’s first president; DeWitt Clinton, then Mayor of New York; Samuel Miller, a clergyman and educator; David Hosack, a physician and later president of the society; Samuel Bayard, a lawyer and jurist; and John Pintard, a merchant and philanthropist and the Society’s first secretary. Over the years, other prominent individuals have occupied seats in the Society’s governing body. Among them were: the artist, John Trumbull; Daniel D. Tompkins, Governor of New York; Cadwallader D. Colden, Mayor of New York City; William Gullen Bryant, poet; J.P. Morgan, banker; and Cornelius Vanderbilt, steamship and railroad promoter and financier. Notable members of the Society have included individuals such as John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Noah Webster,
Washington Irving, and James Fenimore Cooper. The Society was organized to collect and preserve material pertaining to the history of the United States in general, and New York in particular, and today includes extensive collections of seventeenth- through nineteenth-century paintings, prints, furniture, silver, and folk art pertaining to New York. The Society’s research library was created in 1807 with a gift from John Pintard. By 1813 the Society possessed over 4,000 books, documents, almanacs, newspapers, and maps.

The Society’s present building at 170 Central Park West is its eighth home. Previous sites included Federal Hall (1804-09, Wall and Nassau Streets), the Customs House at Bowling Green (1809-16), the New York Institution (1816-32, formerly the city almshouse in City Hall Park), Remsen’s Building at Broadway and Chambers Street (1832-37), the Stuyvesant Institute at 659 Broadway (1837-41), New York University at Washington Square (1841-57), and 170 Second Avenue, a building constructed specifically for the Society and occupied from 1857 to 1908. The Second Avenue building had grown inadequate by the late nineteenth century and the Society began to plan for a new home. They had been offered free land in Central Park, where the Metropolitan Museum of Art now stands, but that plan was abandoned. In 1891 the Society acquired the plot of land along Central Park West between 76th and 77th Streets. As the avenue closest to the park, Central Park West had long been considered a desirable location. With the construction of the American Museum of Natural History several years earlier, the early character of the avenue was established as an acceptable location for institutional structures. The museum’s great rise in success since its opening further encouraged the society to build on Central Park West.

The central section of the society’s present building was designed by the architectural firm of York & Sawyer and was constructed in 1903-1908. A rusticated granite basement supports a colonnade of three-quarter engaged Ionic columns which, together with the pedimented entrance portal, create a noble, formal composition for this distinguished society. Its monumental design illustrates an Academic Classical style based on Beaux-Arts principles. As the society’s collections continued to expand, the north and south wings, viewed as austere end pavilions flanking the monumental colonnade, were added in 1937 by the architectural firm of Walker & Gillette. Their design was so skillfully integrated with the original building that the whole structure appears to have been erected in one campaign.

**Philanthropic Institutions**

**The Jewish Guild For the Blind — The Joselow House, 46 West 74th Street**

The Jewish Guild for the Blind was organized in 1914 to provide care for blind and visually impaired persons, and has been a leader in this field since its inception. At its headquarters at 15 West 65th Street (outside the boundaries of the district), the Guild provides a variety of programs and services to meet the needs of persons of all ages with a variety of handicaps. The Joselow House, one of the Guild’s services, was organized in
1977 as a hostel for mentally retarded, visually impaired, and blind adults. It provides care and services for fifteen residents. The hostel is located at 46 West 74th Street, a building originally constructed as a Georgian Revival style rowhouse in 1902-04 according to the design of architect Percy Griffin. The Joselow House first occupied this building in 1977.

The Swiss Town House, 35-37 West 67th Street

The Swiss Town House located at 35-37 West 67th Street is a division of, and serves as the headquarters for, the Swiss Benevolent Society of New York, a not-for-profit organization. Built in 1904-05 according to the design of John E. Scharsmith, the building was designed to resemble the town hall in Basle, Switzerland. Its steeply pitched roof, gabled dormers, brick facade, and stone trim are characteristics of its Northern Renaissance Revival style. The structure was built on a street which was not primarily residential in nature. Rather, its buildings were larger in scale than the Town House and included primarily studio buildings, but also a factory and warehouses (later replaced), and a riding academy. The Swiss Home, as it was originally called, is somewhat smaller than its immediate neighbors, and its design and detail reflect its distinct function.

The initial purpose of the Swiss Home was to house the elderly. A newspaper article written at the time of its construction indicated that the new structure was equipped "with the latest improvements for the treatment and convenience of the inmates." The building could house eighty individuals. In 1923 the home was rededicated as a residence for girls and women who had recently immigrated from Switzerland and remained in that capacity for approximately fifty years. The 1970s saw a sharp decrease in Swiss immigration, and a new use was found for the building. At that time the society began to offer room and board to local female students, most of whom attended the Julliard School of Music or the Tobe Coburn School of Fashion. The Swiss Benevolent Society operates a social service office on the building's ground floor, and offers these services to its residents. Various Swiss organizations also use the building for their regular meetings. A gallery on the main floor is maintained by the Swiss Institute, a not-for-profit organization separate from the Society, and is used for art exhibits and other social events.

The Pythian Temple, 135-145 West 70th Street

The Knights of Pythias is a fraternal and charitable organization which was organized in Washington, D.C. in 1864 with Justus Henry Rathbone as its head and is the only fraternal organization chartered by the U.S. Congress. Believing that friendship is the strongest bond of union among men, Knights hold it along with charity and benevolence as their cardinal principles. The organization takes its name from Pythias, a mythological character whose story represents true friendship. The order first came to New York shortly after the Civil War.

At the head of the organization is the Supreme Lodge which has jurisdiction over the entire order in the United States and Canada. Each state or district has a Grand Lodge, under which are established Subordinate
Lodges in cities or towns. The building at 135-145 West 70th Street, once known as the Pythian Temple, was one of 120 Subordinate Lodges in New York City at the time of its construction. (Total membership in the organization was nearly one million at that time.) The Temple included thirteen lodge rooms, an auditorium, a gymnasium, bowling alleys and billiard rooms. The building’s cornerstone was laid on November 20, 1926, and was dedicated "on behalf of the greatest and oldest patriotic order in the United States." Today, the cornerstone is still inscribed with the phrase, "Dedicated to Pythianism." (An inscription above the doorway reads "If fraternal love held all men bound how beautiful this world would be.") The structure was completed in 1926-27 according to the design of Thomas White Lamb, best known for his theater designs, and displays an exotic neo-Babylonian style that incorporates imaginative, polychromatic ornamental details inspired by ancient sources. This site no longer functioned as a Subordinate Lodge of the Knights of Pythias by the 1950s. The building was converted to a residential condominium in 1979 at which time a substantial amount of glass was inserted into the masonry facade as part of the alteration.

The YMCA and the McBurney School, 3-11 West 63rd Street and 13-15 West 63rd Street

The Young Men’s Christian Association was first organized in London in 1844 for the purposes of improving the spiritual condition of young men through religion. American visitors to London were impressed by the group and returned to the United States urging the creation of a similar organization. The first American association was created in Boston in 1851. The first New York Association was organized one year later but, by 1862, it was on the verge of dissolution. At that time Robert McBurney (1837-1898), a young man with an interest in Christian service and religious work, joined the organization and with his efforts the New York YMCA prospered. McBurney worked with the "Y" for forty years and concentrated on developing the spiritual, intellectual, social, and physical character of young men.

McBurney realized that in order to offer a substantial "counter-attraction to the vices of the industrial city" the Association required "large, attractive, and specially designed buildings." The first building constructed under McBurney’s aegis appeared at 23rd Street and Fourth Avenue in 1869. For many years McBurney had emphasized the need for a branch to benefit young men on the West Side. His final building effort was the West Side branch located on West 57th Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues which opened in 1896.

A new West Side branch of the YMCA began construction in 1928 and was completed in 1930. Located at 3-11 West 63rd Street, the building was designed to house various social and recreational facilities and provide room and board for young men. Designed by architect Dwight James Baum, it extends through the block to 64th Street and rises fourteen stories in height. Its brick and stone facade, an abundance of towers and corbel tables, and window and door openings in rounded arches combine to form a bold neo-Romanesque design. In 1931 a high school was built adjacent to the main building, designed by Baum to complement the existing structure. Named the McBurney School, it honored the man whose efforts helped the New York
YMCA flourish in its early years. While the scale of the combined structures corresponds with that of the religious structures located to the east and apartment buildings to the south, the YMCA dominates the short block between Central Park West and Broadway.

When the West 63rd Street buildings were constructed, the West 57th Street branch ceased to function for the organization. The McBurney School (for a time joined with the Baldwin School) vacated its structure around 1985, at which time the YMCA expanded its facilities to the former school building. The West 63rd Street building is currently the only branch of the YMCA on the Upper West Side.

Public Buildings

Engine Company No. 74, 120 West 83rd Street

New York City’s paid, professional Fire Department was established in 1865 as the Metropolitan Fire District, serving Manhattan and Brooklyn. At this time, volunteer companies, which were first organized into a department by the colonial legislature in 1783 and to which the responsibility for fire fighting previously fell, were replaced by paid, professional companies below 86th Street. This came about as a result of the rapid urban expansion of the city and the increasing frequency of fires.

In 1853, Marriott Field published City Architecture, a book which advocated a heroic architecture and appropriate symbolic ornament for fire stations so as to architecturally differentiate the firehouse from other building types, particularly the conventional urban stable. The city’s Fire Department contracted with the noted architectural firm of Napoleon LeBrun & Son(s) to design firehouses from 1880 to 1895. The firm’s typical straightforward use of materials — brick, stone, iron, and terra cotta—and sparsely integrated ornament did elevate the basic stable facade and make it more consistent with the purposes of the professional fire company within. The firm’s consistent designs also helped to produce a recognizable idiom for this building type. Engine Company No. 74 was one of the firm’s many New York City firehouses and was built at 120 West 83rd Street in 1888-89. While some fire stations were designed with more exuberant detail, this building exhibits a simple LeBrun design based on Renaissance and Romanesque Revival detailing. The recognizable design elements of a fire station are all visible: symmetrical organization, materials of two colors and textures, a large ground-story vehicular doorway topped by a simple molding, intermediate floors exhibiting tripartite double-hung window arrangement, and a roofline with greater detail, here a round-headed window topped by a decorative molding and a gable dormer in a pitched roof. All these elements clearly characterized the structure as a fire station, an important institution in the district. One of the earliest institutions in the area, Engine Company No. 74 (previously known as Engine Company No. 56) symbolizes the increased construction and rapid urban growth of the Upper West Side in the late nineteenth century.
St. Agnes Branch, New York Public Library, 444-446 Amsterdam Avenue

The New York Public Library, today one of the leading research institutions in the world, was formed in 1895 by the consolidation of three corporations: The Astor Library, the private library of James Lenox, and the Tilden Trust. In order to benefit from a $5,200,000 gift to the city made by Andrew Carnegie for library buildings, the New York Free Circulating Library (organized in 1887 with eleven branches) joined the Astor-Lenox-Tilden consolidation in 1901. It formed the Circulation Department of the New York Public Library — now the Branch Library System. The Carnegie Grant, a philanthropic effort on behalf of popular education in New York City, resulted in the large-scale construction of neighborhood branch libraries during the early twentieth century and is largely responsible for the New York Public Library System as it exists today.

The St. Agnes Free Library was formed in 1893. Trinity Church allowed the library to be located in the parish house of its St. Agnes Chapel at 121 West 91st Street (a designated New York City Landmark). At that time the nearest public libraries were found on West 42nd Street and East 125th Street. (Today, the nearest branches are on West 69th and West 100th Streets, both outside the district boundaries.) In 1897, Trinity dissolved its ties with the library. The collections were moved to other locations on the Upper West Side, generally around Amsterdam Avenue, settling temporarily at West 82nd Street and Broadway.

The building at 444 Amsterdam Avenue was conceived as one of the branch libraries made possible with Carnegie Grant funds. Opened on March 26, 1906, the Renaissance Revival style building began construction in 1905. Built according to the design of Babb, Cook & Willard, its three-story granite and limestone facade displays symmetrical ordering of members and restrained classically-inspired ornament. The use of neo-Classicism in library design was encouraged by McKim, Mead & White's designs for Low Library at Columbia University (1893), Gould Memorial Library at the Bronx campus of New York University (1893-94), and the Boston Public Library (1888-92). The grand style of these monumental buildings was interpreted on a smaller scale for midblock city sites, such as those occupied by the St. Agnes Branch and the earlier Yorkville Branch Library (222 East 79th Street, 1902, a designated New York City Landmark). The Yorkville Branch, designed by James Brown Lord, may have been used as a prototype for the urban branch library and, therefore, influenced the St. Agnes design of Babb, Cook & Willard. This architectural firm was also active in other branch library designs under the Carnegie expansion.

The Twentieth Precinct Station House of the New York City Police Department, 110-124 West 82nd Street

The first police office in New York City was established in 1798 at Federal Hall at Wall and Nassau Streets. In 1844 the State Legislature passed an act which established the Police Department of the City of New York. This law called for the division of the city into precincts. The seventeen wards of Manhattan and portions of the present-day Bronx were thus divided and each patrol district — or precinct — was equipped with a
station house, captain, and sergeant. Before 1970, the Twentieth Precinct served the Upper West Side from 66th to 86th Street and had its station house at 150-152 West 68th Street (outside the boundaries of the district). In the late 1960s the Police Department began closing its older stations and moving to newly-built structures. The Twentieth Precinct was one of fourteen precincts that received new station houses. The precinct currently serves the area from 59th to 86th Streets, from the Hudson River to the western edge of Central Park, and occupies a station house at 120 West 82nd Street. (The northern section of the district is served by the Twenty-fourth Precinct Station House at West 100th Street, outside the district boundaries.) The building was constructed in 1970-72 according to the designs of architects Ifill & Johnson. The severe, unornamented concrete facade illustrates the building's modern style. The station house was officially opened at 12:10 p.m. on March 29, 1972, is currently assigned 140 officers, and is one of seventy-three station houses in the five boroughs.

Schools

The Anglo-American International School (Formerly the Franklin School), 18-20 West 89th Street

In 1872, the Sachs Collegiate Academy for Boys was founded by Dr. Julius Sachs (1849-1934), a prominent educator who held positions in the Schoolmasters' Association of New York and the American Philological Association, and a professor of secondary education at Teachers College, Columbia University. The Academy prepared its students for attendance at Ivy League colleges by following a classic European curriculum. The school changed its name to the Franklin School in 1912, the year in which its current home at 18-20 West 89th Street was constructed. The school was designed by the architectural firm of Dennison, Hirons & Darbyshire. The functional style of the building is reflected in its sparse ornament and large expanses of glass.

The Franklin School became co-educational in 1958. In 1977, it became associated with the International School of London and a curriculum to meet both American and International requirements was developed. Two years later, the school’s Board of Trustees was reorganized, a non-profit corporation was begun, and a new name was taken. Today, the Anglo-American International School continues as a college preparatory school with classes from kindergarten through twelfth grade. There are approximately 5,000 living graduates of the Franklin School and approximately 300 currently in attendance. The school sponsors "The Red and Blue," a literary magazine founded in 1872 which is one of the oldest of its kind in the United States.

The Calhoun School (Formerly the Baldwin School, Formerly the Veltin School), 160-162 West 74th Street

In 1896, the Jacobi School for Girls was founded. Mary Edward Calhoun became the headmistress of the School in 1916, and retained that position for twenty-six years. One year later, the school honored its headmistress by formally changing its name to The Calhoun School. In 1957 a co-
an educational lower school was added to the institution, and the middle and upper schools turned co-educational in 1971.

In 1989, the Calhoun School increased its facilities to include the building at 160-162 West 74th Street. (Previous locations were also on the Upper West Side.) This building was previously occupied by the Baldwin School (which later joined with the McBurney School) and was originally built as the Veltin School, designed by the firm of Lamb & Rich in the Georgian Revival style. While the building is larger than the neighboring rowhouses, its detail is restrained and the design corresponds to the residential context of 74th Street.

The Veltin School, originally established in 1886, formally opened in its West 74th Street home on February 10, 1893. Its purpose was to "establish a permanent West Side private day school affording girls every opportunity for a thorough education from Kindergarten to college preparatories." The New York Times reported that the school building was the "largest and most thoroughly-equipped private educational institution for young ladies" in New York City.

The Calhoun School currently accepts children from pre-kindergarten through high school and enrolls approximately 400 students. Its curriculum is based on progressive educational principles. Its main building, located at 433 West End Avenue (outside the district boundaries), will by 1992 house grades two through twelve. The West 74th Street building will by that time house the pre-school children and the first grade.

The Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School, 4-8 West 93rd Street

The Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School was founded in 1764 as The Columbia Grammar School, a boys' preparatory school for Kings College (later Columbia University). Early instructors at the College complained that its entering students were poorly prepared for their college courses. In 1763 they called for a grammar school annex to the College to remedy this problem. The success of the school was almost immediate; it soon supplied the College with half of its entering freshman class. The Grammar School remained under the College's care for 100 years until, in 1864, Columbia College (as it was then known) terminated the relationship. The school continued to prosper under private care and has been located on the Upper West Side since 1907. In 1909-10 a new building for the school was constructed at 5 West 93rd Street (outside the district boundaries).

In 1941, Columbia Grammar School became a non-profit institution. In 1956, the school merged with the Leonard School, a girls' school founded in 1937 by Florence Leonard and housed in several interconnected rowhouses on West 94th Street which back onto the existing Columbia Grammar School building. With this merger, the institution turned co-educational for the first time. Today, the Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School is a co-educational college preparatory school with an emphasis on art, music, and drama.
The converted rowhouse at 20 West 94th Street, constructed in 1889-90 as a single-family dwelling according to the design of Edward Wenz in the Renaissance Revival style, and those at 22 through 28 West 94th Street, also designed as single family dwellings and constructed in 1888 according to the design of Increase M. Grenell in the Queen Anne style, now serve the lower grades from kindergarten through fourth grade. The building at 5 West 93rd Street is now occupied by the middle school. The high school is located in a recent building at 4 West 93rd Street, constructed in 1987-88 according to the design of Pasanella & Klein.

Junior High School No. 44 — William J. O’Shea Junior High School, 131-149 West 76th Street

Junior High School No. 44 occupies the eastern half of the city block bounded by 76th and 77th Streets, and Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues. The school is named for William J. O’Shea, a lawyer who was sworn in as a member of the New York City Board of Education on January 6, 1955. His father (of the same name) was previously the Superintendent of Schools in New York City. In the late 1940s and ’50s the New York City School Board found itself short of classroom space. The forces behind this shortage were: a growing birth rate, a large influx of immigrants and refugees, and a shifting of the city’s population. Acknowledging that monumental school designs were a thing of the past, the school board boldly confronted these complex social, financial, and educational problems. Forced to devise a new means of economic building and design without compromising structural safety, aesthetic qualities, or educational adequacy, the board set upon a new design strategy: the introduction of sparse, functional designs with simple lines and straightforward planning, assisted by modern building materials including steel, concrete, aluminum, and glass. Additionally, ceiling heights were lowered, stairways reduced, and elevators installed. A focus on functional design was found to be the answer. Constructed in 1955, the modern design of Junior High School No. 44 created by the architectural firm of Gehron & Seltzer, reflects this period of reform in American school design.

The New Walden Lincoln School (Formerly the Walden School), 11-15 West 88th Street

The Walden School was founded in 1914 by Margaret Naumberg. Naumberg was considered an innovator in the field of education and utilized progressive educational principles. By 1933 the school was located at 1 West 88th Street, in a Beaux-Arts building originally constructed for the Progress Club in 1904 according to the design of Nathan Korn. (The Progress Club was a prominent German-Jewish club organized in 1864. Its Central Park home was the third club built in the area. While the trustees thought that a move to the West Side would increase membership, this eventually proved ineffective and the club dissolved in 1932.) The Walden School expanded in 1958 by adding a floor to this structure.

The Andrew Goodman Building at 11-15 West 88th Street was constructed adjacent to the main school building in 1967. The design was by architect Edgar Tafel, a former Walden student. The modern style of the building is
reflected in its unornamented concrete, brick, and glass facade. The structure honors Andrew Goodman, a civil rights activist who attended the Walden School and was murdered in 1964 while seeking to further the cause of voting rights in Mississippi.

The school made plans in 1984 to renovate the former club building and erect a seventeen-story apartment house above it. When this proved unsuccessful, the school trustees decided to demolish the club building and replace it with an apartment tower which would also contain space for the school. The Walden School vacated the club building by the fall of 1987 and a new 23-story apartment building is now nearing completion.

The Lincoln School of Teachers College was founded in 1917 by Abraham Flexner. Like Walden, it was progressive in its curriculum. It was located at West 100th Street and later at 210 East 77th Street, a former YMCA building. Lincoln became independent from Teachers College in 1948 and in 1949 adopted the name New Lincoln. The Walden and New Lincoln Schools merged in 1989 to combat rising costs and shrinking enrollment, forming the New Walden Lincoln School, a co-educational school accepting students from pre-kindergarten through the twelfth grade.

The Robert Louis Stevenson School, 22 West 74th Street

The Robert Louis Stevenson School was established in 1908 by Dr. William Whitney as a school for girls from the elementary grades through high school. The name, that of a famous author of children's stories, was chosen for the popular association of his works with children. The school turned co-educational in the 1940s. When the current director, Lucille Rhodes, arrived at the school in 1960, the aim of the school then became the education of "promising adolescents with unrealized potential." Previously located elsewhere on the Upper West Side, the Stevenson School moved into its current home at 22 West 74th Street in the early 1960s. The building was originally constructed in 1902-04 in the Georgian Revival style according to the design of Percy Griffin as one of a row of eighteen houses. Currently, the Stevenson School is a co-educational high school chartered as a not-for-profit institution and enrolls approximately 100 students.

The Stephen Gaynor School, 22 West 74th Street

The Stephen Gaynor School was organized in 1962. It is a non-profit, co-educational school for children of pre-school age through thirteen years. At the school, children with learning disabilities receive an education based on multi-sensory teaching. In the mid-1960s, the school moved from its home on the Upper East Side to the Georgian Revival style rowhouse at 22 West 74th Street. Designed by Percy Griffin, the building is one of a row of eighteen houses constructed in 1902-04.
NOTE ON BUILDING ENTRIES

For ease of use, the building entries are bound separately in Volumes II and III.
INTRODUCTION TO THE BUILDING ENTRIES IN
THE UPPER WEST SIDE/CENTRAL PARK WEST HISTORIC DISTRICT

The building entries in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Designation Report are organized in numerical order by address: first the avenues (Central Park West, Columbus, Amsterdam, and Broadway), then the streets. On the avenues, the entries alternate between the east and west sides of the avenue for each block. On the streets, the entries alternate between the north (odd numbers) and south (even numbers) sides of the street for each block. Tax map block and lot numbers are also provided in the main heading of each entry. Two kinds of building entries are contained within this report: 1) for individual buildings and 2) for buildings in rows. A row is a group of consecutive houses, tenements, or flats built according to a single New Building application. There are three kinds of rows: straight rows (situated along a portion of a blockfront), rows that turn corners, and split rows (interrupted by later buildings). Entries for all portions of rows of buildings are located in the report under the lowest number in the span of addresses; tax lot numbers are listed in the order of the address numbers. The address numbers within a row are separated by commas, unless tax lots within the row have been merged; here, ampersands "&" are used. For example, address numbers 3 & 5 & 7, 9, 11 may correspond to lot numbers 28, 27, 26. Tax lots which contain more than one building that are listed under separate entries in the report are indicated in the relevant entries as "in part." All of the addresses of buildings in the district, including alternate addresses (A/K/A's), are cross-referenced and indexed. Also indexed in this report are building names, architects, and original owners/developers.

The information contained within each entry falls into two different categories: Original Data, pertaining to the building or row of buildings at the time of construction, and Alteration(s).

ORIGINAL BUILDING DATA/ORIGINAL ROW DATA

Primary information, such as construction date, New Building application number and year, building type, architect, original owner/developer, and style/ornament, is given for each entry. Information pertaining to original physical characteristics is also given, where applicable. This includes row configuration; facade materials (listed in order of predominance, may also include ironwork); number of stories; original window type and material (if known); basement type for rowhouses (either raised or American); stoop type (including straight, box, or low); roof type (other than flat) and material, which also pertains to roofline facade treatments; and method of construction. Note is made if the building or row of buildings was originally constructed with storefront(s). The information given may not reflect current conditions; however, changes in the original characteristics of the buildings are accounted for in the Alteration(s) section.

Substantially altered buildings originally constructed within rows, such as two or more rowhouses which have been consolidated into one building and given a new facade, are treated as separate entries in the report, not as part of the original row. In entries for significantly altered buildings, the information in the Original Data will be applicable to the buildings as altered instead of as originally built.
Date: The date refers to the year(s) of construction. The New Building application number and year are also provided. If only a date is given without an NB number, this indicates that the building in its present exterior form reflects work carried out as an alteration which will be documented below in the Alteration(s) section of the entry.

Type: The most common building types found in the district are rowhouses, tenements, flats, apartment buildings, apartment hotels, studio buildings, hotels, institutional buildings, and churches and synagogues (sometimes in complexes with related structures); more specialized building types also occur. For rows, a numerical indication of how many buildings survive from the original row is given, for example, (2 of 6) or (5 of 5). A rowhouse which has had commercial alterations to its lower stories is identified as a "Rowhouse with commercial base." Other types of buildings that have resulted from alterations to existing rowhouses are identified as well, such as "Small Apartment Building (converted rowhouses)."

Style/Ornament: Given the variety of architectural styles found in the district, and the hybrid stylistic quality that characterizes many of the rows and individual buildings, more than one style may be identified in the entry. If equal proportions of two styles or stylistic sources have been identified in the overall design of a row or individual building, this will be indicated as, for example, "Renaissance/Romanesque Revival." If one style predominates but also incorporates other stylistic or ornamental features, it will be identified as, for example, "Renaissance Revival with Romanesque elements."

Row Configuration: Rows found in the district often incorporate different facade designs that are arranged in rhythmic patterns. For the purpose of identifying the pattern, facade designs are assigned letters, for example, "ABCB'A'." The prime 'A' may be used to indicate that the A' design varies slightly or is the mirror image of the A design. If no two facade designs repeat within a row, it will be identified as "Individualized." A lower-case "x" may be used to indicate that a building has lost its architectural features to the extent that it cannot be identified within the pattern of the row. Split rows will be identified with "and" separating the portions of the row ("AB and CBA"). If the facade designs within a given row are the same, no Row Configuration is given.

Alteration(s)

Alterations documented using records of the Department of Buildings are listed in the building entries, as well as alterations which have been determined through observation only. Major alterations and facade changes are briefly described and documented with Alteration permit number and year, date, architect, and owner at the time of the alteration. Other alterations which are noted may include stripping or refacing of facades or portions of facades, removal of stoops and establishment of primary entrances at basement level, cornice removal, rooftop additions, and addition or replacement of storefronts. Generally, certain types of alterations have NOT been listed in the building entries: window and door replacement, painting, areaway remodeling, change in roof material, repointing, removal or replacement of original ironwork, and addition or replacement of fire escapes.
ARCHITECTS' APPENDIX

This appendix lists all architects who designed buildings within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District as well as those who made substantial alterations to the exteriors of existing buildings.

Each entry lists the name of the architect or firm and the addresses of the buildings in the district which were designed or altered by the architect or firm. Biographical information, including birth and death dates, is provided if known.

Entries have been prepared by Margaret M. Pickart
ARCHITECTS' APPENDIX

LOUIS ALLEN ABRAMSON (b. 1887)

131-135 West 86th Street, 600

Louis Allen Abramson began his architectural career as an office boy, and then draftsman, in the office of John Duncan (see) where he helped design several neo-French Classic townhouses in midtown Manhattan. From Duncan's office he traveled West and worked in and around Seattle for several years. He then established an independent architectural practice in New York in which he received commissions for hospitals and restaurants. Included in his hospital designs are buildings for the Long Island Jewish Hospital. His restaurants, including a Horn & Hardart Automat at West 81st Street, six Longchamps restaurants in Manhattan, restaurants for the Brass Rail including the outlets for the 1939 World's Fair, and Ben Marden's Riviera night club/restaurant perched on the Palisades, were elegant Art Deco and Art Moderne creations designed in the 1930s and '40s. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Abramson designed the Jewish Center, an eleven-story midblock neo-Renaissance structure of 1917 which combined synagogue space with recreational and meeting room facilities.


ADAMS & WOODBRIDGE

Lewis Greenleaf Adams (b. 1897)
Frederick James Woodbridge (b. 1900)

122-128 West 69th Street, 219

Lewis Greenleaf Adams was born in Lenox, Massachusetts and was educated at Yale and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, graduating in 1926. He began his architectural practice as a draftsman with the firm of Delano & Aldrich, and was later associated with the firm of Adams & Prentice (1929-41). Adams joined the American Institute of Architects in 1931.

James Frederick Woodbridge was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota and was educated at Columbia University. Before graduating in 1923, he worked as a draftsman with McKim, Mead & White (see), then studied at the American Academy in Rome until 1925. While there, he served as architect for excavations at Antioch of Pisidea and Carthage, Tunisia. Returning to the United States, Woodbridge worked again for the firm of McKim, Mead & White until 1929, then was associated with the firm of Evans, Moore and Woodbridge until 1942. Woodbridge joined the American Institute of Architects in 1931 and was elected to Fellowship in 1950.
In 1945, Adams and Woodbridge joined in partnership. Buildings constructed according to their design include the Adirondack Museum, New York (1957-69, twelve buildings), the Freshman Dormitory and Infirmary at Hamilton College in Clinton, New York (1958), and the Episcopal Church Center on Second Avenue in Manhattan (1963). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Adams & Woodbridge was responsible in 1960 for enlarging the north transept to St. Stephen’s P.E. Church (now Christ and St. Stephen’s Church).


HENRY ANDERSEN (dates undetermined)

331-339 Columbus Avenue, 86
484, 486 Amsterdam Avenue, 157
39, 41, 43, 45 West 68th Street, 183
130, 132, 134, 136 West 80th Street, 471
41, 43, 45, 47 & 49 & 51, 53, 55, 57 West 89th Street, 652
47, 49, 51 West 90th Street, 663

Henry Andersen was a prolific New York City architect. He began his practice by 1882 and appears to have specialized in residential design. He was particularly active in the 1890s and early 1900s, and is represented in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District by several neo-Renaissance style rowhouses, flats, including the Aylesmere (see the essay on multiple dwellings for more information), and tenement buildings.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 11.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

GEORGE H. ANDERSON (dates undetermined)

161, 163, 165 West 88th Street, 642
167, 169, 171 West 88th Street, 643

Little is known of the life or career of George H. Anderson. His architectural practice was established in New York by 1882 and continued through the early 20th century. In 1890 he held a brief partnership with Adolph F. Leicht. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Anderson designed Renaissance Revival style rowhouses (1890) including the row at 161, 163, 165 West 88th Street which he took over from Albert Huttira (see) when the ownership of the property changed during construction. Anderson also designed two store and loft buildings (1906) in the Ladies Mile Historic District.
continuation of . . . . George H. Anderson

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 11.

WALDEN PELL ANDERSON (dates undetermined)

33, 35, 37, 39 West 95th Street, 699

Little is known of architect Walden Pell Anderson. His New York City architectural practice was established by 1877, and for a short time (1878-79) he formed a partnership with Schuyler Hamilton, Jr., under the firm name of Anderson & Hamilton. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, Anderson designed a row of four Renaissance Revival style houses in 1889.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 11.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

EDWARD L. ANGELL (dates undetermined)

247, 248, 249 [a/k/a 2-10 West 85th Street] Central Park West, 41
341-349 Columbus Avenue, 89
440-444 [a/k/a 101-107 West 81st Street] & 446-456 [a/k/a 100-108 West 82nd Street] Columbus Avenue, 101
311-317 Amsterdam Avenue, 127
133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145 West 74th Street, 352
140 & 142 & 144, 146 West 74th Street, 361
154, 156 & 158 West 74th Street, 362
53, 55, 57 West 76th Street, 398
44, 46 West 85th Street, 569

Edward L. Angell, a prolific New York City architect of the late nineteenth century, established his practice by 1886. From 1887 to 1889 Angell worked in partnership with William Higginson. Throughout his career, Angell designed residential buildings -- typically rowhouses, flats, and apartment buildings, employing a mixture of historical styles including neo-Grec, Queen Anne, Romanesque, and Renaissance Revival. Examples of Angell's work can be found in Greenwich Village and the Upper West Side, including the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District where he designed Renaissance Revival and Queen Anne style rowhouses, as well as Romanesque Revival style flats and apartment buildings. The picturesque gabled houses on Central Park West (1887-88) are survivors of a block-long row and are rare examples of single-family residences on that avenue.
BABB, COOK & WILLARD

George Fletcher Babb (1843-1916)
Walter Cook (1846-1916)
Daniel W. Willard (dates undetermined)

444-446 Amsterdam Avenue, 147

George Fletcher Babb was born in New York City and spent his early childhood in New Jersey. He began his architectural career in 1858 in the New York office of T.R. Jackson. From 1859 to 1865 Babb collaborated with Nathaniel G. Foster. Three years later he served as senior draftsman in the office of Russell Sturgis. Babb was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of its New York chapter. Walter Cook was born in New York and was a Harvard graduate (1869) who had also studied architecture in Munich and Paris. In 1877, Babb and Cook formed a partnership. By the 1890s Cook was the principal designer of the firm. Cook was an early member and Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and was a member of the Architectural League of New York and the Beaux-Arts Society of Architects.

A Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Architectural League, Daniel W. Willard was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He joined Babb and Cook in 1884 to form the firm of Babb, Cook & Willard. The firm was responsible for the DeVinne Press Building (393 Lafayette Street, 1885) and the Andrew Carnegie Mansion (now the Cooper-Hewitt Museum, 2 East 91st Street, 1899-1903), both designated New York City Landmarks. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, Babb, Cook & Willard designed the St. Agnes Branch of the New York Public Library in the Renaissance Revival Style which employs a three-story granite and limestone facade displaying a symmetrical ordering of members and restrained classically-inspired ornament. (See institutional essay for further information.) The firm also designed several other branches for the New York Public Library throughout the city.


Dennis Steadman Francis, *Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900* (New York, 1979), 12, 23, 82.
Babcock & McAvoy

John C. Babcock (dates undetermined)
Thomas H. McAvoy (d. 1887)

180 [a/k/a 101 West 68th Street], 182 & 184, 186 & 188 Columbus Avenue, 59

John C. Babcock was established as a New York City architect by 1868. Thomas H. McAvoy was established in architectural practice by 1874. In 1882 the architects joined to form the firm of Babcock & McAvoy, a partnership which was short-lived, dissolving upon the death of McAvoy in 1887. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Babcock & McAvoy designed one group of five neo-Grec style tenements. Babcock continued to practice architecture after his partner's death.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 13, 53.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

George A. Bagge & Sons

379-381 Amsterdam Avenue, 133
383-391 Amsterdam Avenue, 134
121-127 West 74th Street, 352

(See Neville & Bagge, below)
GEORGE A. BAGGE (dates undetermined)

300 Columbus Avenue, 82
429-437 Amsterdam Avenue, 141
140, 142, 144 West 75th Street, 389
141 West 80th Street, 463
143 West 80th Street, 464
145, 147, 149 West 80th Street, 465
172 & 174 West 81st Street, 495
176, 178 West 81st Street, 496

(See Neville & Bagge, below)

WILLIAM BAKER (dates undetermined)

137, 139, 141 West 69th Street, 213
151, 153 West 76th Street, 407
112, 114, 116 West 78th Street, 437
145 West 81st Street, 485
149 & 151, 153, 155, 157, 159 West 82nd Street, 517

Little is known of architect William Baker. His practice was established in New York by 1882 and concentrated on the design of residential buildings. Baker held several partnerships throughout his career, collaborating with architects including Max Lewinson (1887–88), Edward A. Kent, and Edward F. Ely (1889–90). In 1888 Baker practiced under the firm name of William Baker & Co. His residential work is well-represented in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District with designs for rowhouses typically executed in the Queen Anne style.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

JOHN BARRY (BUILDER)

47, 49 West 92nd Street, 681
Dwight James Baum (1886-1939)

3-11 West 63rd Street, 167
13-15 West 63rd Street, 168

Dwight James Baum was born in Little Falls, New York, and graduated from Syracuse University in 1909. He established an independent New York City architectural practice in 1915, the year in which he designed his own house, Sunnybank, in Riverdale, New York. This elegant house was greatly admired and led to many other Riverdale commissions for Baum, possibly as many as 140. He designed houses in a number of eclectic styles including the Colonial, Georgian, Italian Villa, English and Dutch Colonial types, drawing inspiration from his vast architectural library. In addition to his Riverdale designs, Baum designed residences throughout the country, including John Ringling’s Venetian style palace in Sarasota, Florida (1922-26), and several university buildings; including the School of Medicine, Hendricks Memorial Chapel, and the School for Citizenship, all at Syracuse University. Other institutions which benefited from his designs were Clarkson, Hartwick, Middlebury, and Wells colleges. Baum also designed buildings for the New York City World’s Fair in 1939.

A Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, Baum was a member of the Architectural League of New York, the National Sculpture Society, and the Beaux Arts Institute of Design. He served as architectural consultant to Good Housekeeping magazine and won the American Institute of Architects Gold Medal for the best small house design in 1926-30. Baum wrote and lectured extensively on a variety of architectural topics and many of his designs were published in architectural periodicals. His buildings for the YMCA in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District include a club building constructed in 1930 and a high school erected in 1931. The buildings’ brick and stone facades, their abundance of towers and corbel tables, and window and door openings set in rounded arches combine to form a bold neo-Romanesque design. (See institutional essay for further information.)

"Dwight James Baum," Architectural Record 87 (Jan., 1940), 10.

GEORGE BEAUMONT CO.

George B. Beaumont (1854-1922)

124-126 West 72nd Street, 305

George B. Beaumont was born and educated in Leeds, England. In 1881 he became a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects and moved to Chicago, where he was a founder of the Chicago Sketch Club. Beaumont first found work as a draftsman with J.A. McLennan, then assumed the position of Superintendent of Construction for the firm of Wheeler & Clay in Chicago. A Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, he began independent practice in 1886. In 1916 the George Beaumont Co., a contracting firm, was first listed in New York City directories. George B. Beaumont, Wilbert S. Beaumont, and William H. Rowan were listed as the principals of the organization. In that year the firm was responsible for a neo-Renaissance style apartment building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

George Beaumont obituary, AIA Journal Vol. 10 (1922), 338.
Trow’s New York City Directory.

ELI BENEDICT

113 West 78th Street, 432

WILLIAM K. BENEDICT (dates undetermined)

127, 129, 131, 133, 135 West 77th Street, 425

Little is known of architect William K. Benedict. His practice was established in New York by 1887 and from 1894-99 he collaborated with architect O.R. Neu. Benedict’s work seems to have been mainly residential, and is exemplified by his row of Queen Anne/Romanesque Revival style houses found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 15.
Little is known of New York City architect Joseph M. Berlinger, who became a member of the American Institute of Architects in 1949. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Berlinger combined and reconstructed three flats for a new apartment building in 1939-40 and enlarged the Riverside Memorial Chapel in 1944-46.


Little is known of the Bethlehem Engineering Corporation. In 1920-21 the firm was listed in New York City directories with Floyd D. Brown as president and George R. Coughlen as secretary and treasurer of the organization. The firm's offices were located at 527 Fifth Avenue at that time. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the Bethlehem Engineering Corp. designed and built a neo-Georgian style apartment building in 1920-21.

Trow's New York City Directory.

Educated at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, Charles E. Birge's early career was spent in Chicago, but he soon opened a practice in New York which he maintained until his retirement in 1937. Birge is best known for his designs for William Randolph Hearst and for Schrafft's Candy Stores. Examples of his work can be found in the Upper East Side Historic District — a handsome neo-Georgian stable, and the renovation of two existing rowhouses — and in the Riverside-West End Historic District, where he designed the Clarendon,

CHRISTIAN BLINN (dates undetermined) 
64 & 66 & 68 & 70 & 72 [a/k/a 235-239 Columbus Avenue] West 71st Street, 258 
109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119 West 78th Street, 432 
100 [a/k/a 392-396 Columbus Avenue] and 110 West 79th Street, 447 
4, 6, 8, 10 West 83rd Street, 536 

Little is known of Christian Blinn, an architect active in residential design on New York City's Upper West Side in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Blinn designed four rows of neo-Grec style houses with details which suggest a Scandinavian heritage. 

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files. 
Trow's New York City Directory. 

BLOCH & HESSE 
Ben C. Bloch (1890-1977) 
Walter Hesse (1897-1975) 
28-36 West 68th Street, 191 
38-44 West 68th Street, 191 

Ben C. Bloch was born in Chicago and received his education at Cornell University, graduating in 1912. The early years of his career were spent with Henry B. Herts (1911-12) and William Welles Bosworth (1912-13). He became a member of the American Institute of Architects in 1921. Walter Hesse was born in New York City and was educated at Columbia University. 

The firm of Bloch & Hesse was organized in 1913. Its principal works include: The Brooklyn Borough Gas Co. (1922-25), the Brooklyn Civic Center, Lundy's Restaurant (1934), and the Mid-Manhattan Branch Library.
continuation of . . . . Bloch & Hesse

The firm also designed synagogues, hospital additions, schools, and private homes. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm was responsible for renovating and converting the Jewish Institute of Religion (first built in 1922 and designed by Eisendrath & Horowitz [see] with Bloch & Hesse as associate architects) to the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue and expanding that building to the west to house the merged Institute and Hebrew Union College. The work was begun in 1939-41 and finished in 1948-49. The massive rough-faced stone walls of the buildings are enlivened by Gothic details. (For further information, see the section on religious buildings above.)


BLOODGOOD & BLOODGOOD

Freeman Bloodgood (dates undetermined)
William E. Bloodgood (dates undetermined)

134 & 136 West 82nd Street, 521

Little is known of the Bloodgoods or their architectural practice. Freeman and William established their firm as architects and builders in 1888. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Bloodgood & Bloodgood designed a pair of Chateauesque style houses. Elsewhere in Manhattan the firm designed commercial buildings. When the firm dissolved, both members continued in independent practice. William was associated with Walter Lund from 1895-97.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 16.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

GEORGE & EDWARD BLUM

George Blum (1874-?)
Edward Blum (1876-1944)

322 Central Park West, 52
105 West 72nd Street, 286
164-168 West 72nd Street, 314
120 West 86th Street, 604

Edward Blum, born in Paris, graduated from Columbia University in 1899 and continued his education at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris from 1901 to 1903. George Blum attended the Ecole in 1904.
The firm of George & Edward Blum received its first commissions in 1909 for apartment buildings, and it is best known for the designs of this building type. The firm was responsible for four apartment buildings in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, and another three in the Riverside-West End Historic District. All of them were executed in the neo-Renaissance style. The firm’s designs are notable for the use of glazed brick and terra cotta in a distinctive manner.

Andrew Dolkart, Conversation, April 11, 1989.

BOAK & PARIS

Russell M. Boak (dates undetermined)
Hyman Paris (dates undetermined)

143 West 72nd Street, 295
3-11 West 86th Street, 583

Hyman Paris practiced architecture as early as 1913 and was registered as an architect in New York in 1922. Russell M. Boak collaborated with Paris by the late 1920s, and the firm designed many Manhattan buildings. The firm appears to have been most active in the design of apartment buildings in the 1930s, including several in what are now the Greenwich Village, Upper East Side, and West End-Collegiate Historic Districts. Their structures exhibit a variety of Art Deco, Romanesque, Gothic, and Elizabethan Revival elements. Examples of their Art Deco/Art Moderne works are the Midtown Theater (now the Metro Theater, 2624 Broadway, 1932-33, a designated New York City Landmark), a commercial building at 143 West 72nd Street (1935), and an apartment building at 3-11 West 86th Street (1937), the latter two in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Boak later formed a partnership with Thomas O. Raad which was active in the 1940s and '50s. That firm was responsible for an apartment building and a retail store in what is now the Upper East Side Historic District.

ALBERT JOSEPH BODKER (dates undetermined)

333 Central Park West, 54

Little is known of architect Albert Joseph Bodker, who was active in residential design in Manhattan in the early twentieth century. Examples of his residential work can be found in the Upper East Side Historic District, as well as in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District where he designed the neo-Renaissance style Turin apartment building, which because of the size of the site displays an unusual plan with interlocking wings opening onto light courts.


BORING & TILTON

William Alciphron Boring (1859-1937)
Edward L. Tilton (1861-1933)

132 West 72nd Street, 307

William A. Boring was born in Carlinville, Illinois, and began his architectural education at the University of Illinois (1881-83). He established his practice of architecture in Los Angeles in 1883 under the firm name of Ripley & Boring and designed schools, hotels, and the first Los Angeles Times Building. In 1886 he moved to New York and completed his education at Columbia University, graduating in the following year, and continuing his study in Paris from 1887 to 1890. In 1890 Boring returned to the U.S. and entered the office of McKim, Mead & White (see). In 1915 he became a professor of architecture at Columbia and later served as Dean. Boring was also a founder of both the Society of Beaux-Arts Architects and the American Academy in Rome.

Edward L. Tilton was born and educated in New York. He apprenticed in the office of McKim, Mead & White and studied further at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris (1887-90). He was a member of the American Institute of Architects, the Architectural League of New York, and was a founder of the National Beaux-Arts Society of Architects.

Boring and Tilton, having previously met in the firm of McKim, Mead & White formed a partnership in 1891. The firm’s first prominent work was the design of the buildings for the U.S. Immigration Service on Ellis Island, won in competition and completed in 1898. Other works include a variety of institutional and residential designs. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm added a Beaux-Arts facade (1901) to an existing rowhouse at 132 West 72nd Street.

After Boring’s retirement from architectural practice, Tilton resumed
practice under the firm name of Tilton & Githens, with Alfred T. Githens. In 1901 he wrote a lengthy entry on Greek architecture for Russell Sturgis' "Dictionary of Architecture."

William A. Boring obituary, Royal Institute of British Architects Journal Vol. 44 (June 16, 1937), 849.
Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 17, 75.

WILLIAM H. BOYLAN (dates undetermined)

22 & 24 & 26 & 28 & 30 & 32 & 34 & 36 & 38 & 40 & 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54 West 91st Street, 674

William H. Boylan was an architect active primarily in residential work in New York City in the late nineteenth century. His architectural practice was established by 1886 or 1887. Boylan's designs typically exhibited the Queen Anne and Romanesque Revival styles, examples of which can be found in the West End-Collegiate and the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic Districts.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 17.
FREDERICK C. BROWNE (dates undetermined)

441-449 Columbus Avenue, 100
106-112 West 72nd Street, 302

Frederick C. Browne was established as an architect in New York City from the late 1890s. He designed the Mercantile Building at 34 East 10th Street and apartments at 113th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Browne designed the Beaux-Arts style Hotels Hargrave and Colonial. The Hotel Hargrave is constructed in two parts extending through the block. The 72nd Street section was built in 1901-02, while the section at 109 West 71st Street was not built until 1905-07. In 1910 he joined Randolph H. Almiroty in partnership. In that year the firm designed an apartment building in what is now the Greenwich Village Historic District and a neo-Gothic store and loft building in the Ladies Mile Historic District. After the dissolution of the firm in 1916, Browne and Almiroty continued to work independently through the 1920s.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 18.
Trow’s New York City Directory.

ARNOLD WILLIAM BRUNNER (1857-1925)
THOMAS TRYON (1859-1920)

99 Central Park West, 10
160 West 82nd Street, 524

Arnold William Brunner was born in New York City and attended schools in New York and England before entering the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1877. After graduating in 1879, he entered the architectural office of George B. Post as a draftsman. He resumed his studies abroad in 1883, traveling through Europe and returned to New York in 1885. Brunner was a president of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Architectural League of New York. Thomas Tryon was born in Hartford, Conn. and received his architectural
training in New York. Tryon was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, a member of its New York chapter, and a member of the Architectural League.

Brunner and Tryon joined in partnership in 1886. Buildings designed by them include the Chemistry Building at the College of the City of New York, the Studio of Daniel Chester French (Eleventh Street, 1888), and the Temple Bethel (Fifth Avenue and 76th Street, 1890). During their partnership, Brunner and Tryon collaborated on a book entitled "Interior Decoration" (1887). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm produced two very different synagogue designs. The first, built for Congregation Shaaray Tefila on West 82nd Street in 1893-94, is in the Moorish/Byzantine Revival mode, which shares similarities in form and architectural elements with contemporary Romanesque Revival church buildings. The second, built for Congregation Shearith Israel on Central Park West in 1896-97, is in the monumental Academic Classical style.

The firm dissolved in 1897 and both partners continued to practice independently. Tryon was later associated with the firm of Tryon, Brown & Burnham with Louis Brown and George Burnham (1899-1900). Brunner continued to be associated with successful architectural projects of a public nature. In 1898 he won the competition for Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York, the Federal Building in Cleveland (1901), and in 1910 the competition for the Department of State Building in Washington, D.C. (never built). Brunner achieved national fame upon the completion of these projects. He also produced city plans for Baltimore, Maryland, Denver, Colorado, and Rochester and Albany, New York, as well as the chapel and general plan for Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Brunner’s work exhibited his ability for large scale planning and monumental design in a Roman classicist style.

Harvey Wiley Corbett, "In Appreciation of Arnold W. Brunner," Architectural Record 57 (May, 1925), 460-62.
Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 18, 76.
BUCHMAN & DEISLER

Albert C. Buchman (1859-1936)
Gustav Deisler (dates undetermined)

410-416 Columbus Avenue, 95
20 West 70th Street, 229

The partnership of Buchman & Deisler was formed in 1887. Buchman, who later formed the firms of Buchman & Fox (see) and Buchman & Kahn (1917-1931), trained at Cornell and Columbia Universities; Deisler was trained in technical schools in Stuttgart and Munich. Both men worked in the Philadelphia office of A. J. Schwarzmann, architect of the Centennial buildings. Buchman & Deisler became very successful during the 1890s with commissions for commercial buildings, and lower Broadway is dotted with the firm's works, including several in the SoHo-Cast Iron Historic District. The work of the firm within the Ladies Mile Historic District fits within this pattern. Residential work included the Schiff residence on Fifth Avenue and speculative groups on the Upper East Side in the fashionable Beaux-Arts and neo-Renaissance styles. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Buchman & Deisler designed the Beaux-Arts style Orleans Hotel (1898-1900) and a row of six Renaissance Revival style houses (1892), only one of which survives. Buchman & Deisler remained in partnership until 1899.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 19.

BUCHMAN & FOX

Albert C. Buchman (1859-1936)
Mortimer J. Fox (1875-1948)

15 West 68th Street, 181
30 West 72nd Street, 281
42 West 72nd Street, 283
118 West 72nd Street, 304
126 West 73rd Street, 332
164-166 West 74th Street, 364
18 West 86th Street, 591

Following his partnership with Gustav Deisler, which was begun in 1887, Albert Buchman formed a new firm with Mortimer J. Fox in 1899. (See Buchman & Deisler.) A native New Yorker, Fox had studied at the College
continuation of . . . . Buchman & Fox

of the City of New York, now City College, and later the Columbia University School of Mines, the predecessor of the Architecture School, and joined Buchman shortly after graduation (1895). The seventeen-year long partnership produced many designs for commercial and residential buildings, including the Union Carbide Building at Madison Avenue and 42nd Street, the old Bonwit Teller, Saks, and Hollander department stores, a French Beaux-Arts style apartment house at 1261 Madison Avenue (1900-01, a designated New York City Landmark), and the New York Times Annex at 217-243 West 43rd Street (1913). In the Ladies Mile Historic District Buchman & Fox designed neo-Renaissance style store and loft buildings. Within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm’s work falls into two categories: Beaux-Arts style rowhouses and neo-Gothic style apartment hotels. Three identical designed apartment hotels (two on 72nd Street and one on 73rd Street) were built in 1914-15 for E.W. Browning. Thirteen stories high, each is faced in terra cotta molded in neo-Gothic designs.

Fox had other careers in addition to that of architect. In 1917 he gave up architecture to become a director and vice-president of the Columbia Bank (later merged with Manufacturers Trust). After ten years in banking Fox turned to landscape painting. He was said to have mastered the techniques of oil painting in less than two years and exhibited his works in New York.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 19.


GEORGE H. BUDLONG (dates undetermined)

49, 51, 53, 55 West 75th Street, 369
30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48 West 75th Street, 374
50, 52, 54, 56, 58 West 75th Street, 376

Little is known of architect George H. Budlong. His practice was established in New York by 1883, and he seems to have worked independently throughout his career. The three rows of houses designed by Budlong within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, all located on the same block and built between 1889 and 1891, exhibit the Romanesque and Renaissance Revival styles.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 19.

A18
Charles Buek & Co.

Charles Buek (dates undetermined)
Henry F. Cook (dates undetermined)

269-275 Columbus Avenue, 74
260-268 Columbus Avenue, 74
53, 55 West 70th Street, 224
57, 59, 61, 63 West 70th Street, 225
40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50 West 87th Street, 617
52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62 West 87th Street, 619
261-267 Columbus Avenue, 73

The firm of Charles Buek & Co., formed in 1881 by Charles Buek, an architect and builder, and Henry F. Cook, primarily an architect, dissolved in 1892, although the partners occasionally collaborated on projects after this date.

Charles Buek was one of the most active developers in New York City in the 1880s. Early in his career, he was associated with the firm of Duggin & Crossman and remained with that firm until its dissolution in 1879. Buek then established an independent practice in which he designed a group of neo-Grec rowhouses known as Astor Row (1880-81) at 8-22 West 130 Street.

The firm of Duggin & Crossman was reorganized in 1881 as Charles Buek & Co. with Charles Duggin and Henry Cook as Buek’s partners. Charles Buek & Co. first concentrated its activities on the East Side of Manhattan with development focused at Madison Avenue in the 60s and 70s and at Lexington Avenue and 36th Street. In 1887 the company transferred its interests to the active real estate market of the Upper West Side. Several rows of houses in the Renaissance and Romanesque Revival styles and two flats buildings displaying the Queen Anne and neo-Grec styles are found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District with Charles Buek & Co. as architect and developer. All of these buildings were designed during the period that Cook was employed by Charles Buek & Co.

After leaving Buek’s company and embarking on independent practice in 1892, Cook designed a Beaux-Arts style apartment building and three rows of Renaissance and Romanesque Revival houses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. (See Henry F. Cook.) He also acted as developer for these rowhouses. In addition, Cook designed a row of Renaissance Revival style flats in 1896-97 with Buek as the developer.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 19, 22.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
DANIEL BURGESS (dates undetermined)

11, 13, 15 West 74th Street, 338

Daniel Burgess was established as an architect in New York by 1855 and was associated with James W. Pirsson (see) from 1862 to 1864 and with James Stroud from 1869 to 1874. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Burgess designed a row of Queen Anne style houses.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 19.


JOHN C. BURNE (dates undetermined)

47 West 68th Street, 184
21 West 74th Street, 339
18, 20, 22 West 75th Street, 372
24 West 75th Street, 373
153, 155, 157, 159 West 75th Street, 383
108 West 76th Street, 411
157, 159, 161 West 80th Street, 466
27, 29, 31, 33, 35 West 87th Street, 609

John C. Burne was established as a New York City architect by 1877 and specialized in the design of houses and apartment buildings, often constructed on speculation. After his early work in the neo-Grec style, Burne favored the Romanesque and Renaissance Revival styles. Examples of his work can be found throughout the city and in the Upper East Side, Mount Morris Park, Park Slope, and Hamilton Heights Historic Districts. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Burne designed several rows of houses in the Renaissance Revival style.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 19.

WILLIAM F. BURROUGHS (dates undetermined)

53, 55 West 90th Street, 664
57, 59 West 90th Street, 665
61, 63 West 90th Street, 666

Little is known of architect William F. Burroughs. Established in New York City by 1880, his practice consisted primarily of residential designs. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Burroughs designed three contiguous rows of Queen Anne style houses.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 19.

FREDERICK G. BUTCHER (dates undetermined)

173, 175, 177 West 88th Street, 643

Little is known of Frederick G. Butcher, an architect whose practice was established in New York City by 1890. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Butcher designed a single row of Romanesque/Renaissance Revival style rowhouses.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 20.

BUTLER & STEIN

Charles Butler (1871?-1953)
Clarence S. Stein (1883-1975)

168-170 West 76th Street, 417

Charles Butler was born in Scarsdale, New York, and studied at Columbia and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. He received honorary degrees from Columbia and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In 1899 he was established as an architect in New York in the firm of Morris, Butler & Rodman with Benjamin W. Morris and Cary Seldon Rodman. That partnership lasted until 1911, the year of Rodman's death, and Butler subsequently joined the firm entitled Robert D. Kohn, Charles Butler & Associates in 1917 (see Robert D. Kohn). He remained there at least through 1952.

Clarence S. Stein was born in Rochester, New York and studied at Columbia and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Throughout his career Stein was interested in issues of urban crowding and regional planning, and formed the Regional Planning Association of America to address these problems. Their first projects were Sunnyside Gardens in Queens (1924) and Radburn, New Jersey (1926). His ideas were published in a book entitled "Towards New Towns for America" in 1951.
continuation of ... Butler & Stein

Butler collaborated with Clarence Stein and Robert Kohn on the design of the Temple Emanuel in New York (1929). Independently Butler designed the Children's Hospital of Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore (1909) and the Department of the Interior Building in Washington (1915). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Butler collaborated with Clarence Stein on a neo-Federal style building originally known as the Parkwest Hospital (1925-26) and now an apartment building.

Charles Butler obituary, Architectural Record 114 (July, 1953), 292.
Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 20, 56.

C ADY, BERG & SEE

Josiah Cleveland Cady (1837-1919)
Louis D. Berg (1856-1926)
Milton See (1854-1920)

175 Central Park West, 20
120, 122-138 West 76th Street, 413

Born in Providence, Rhode Island, and a graduate of Trinity College in 1860 J.C. Cady was established as an architect in New York by 1864. Earlier he worked as a draftsman with the firm of Town & Davis. Cady was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Architectural League of New York.

Louis De Coppett Berg was born in New York City and studied architecture in Stuttgart. He also was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Architectural League.

Milton See was born in Rochester, New York, and early in his career entered the architectural office of Emlen T. Littell. His independent practice was established in New York City by 1879. A Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Architectural League, he was later associate with his son Edmund T. See.

The partnership of See & Berg was formed in 1881. In the following year Cady, Berg and See established the firm entitled J.C. Cady & Co., Berg and See having been associated with Cady unofficially for several years prior to the firm's establishment. The name Cady, Berg & See began appearing in 1890. (Later, Cady was associated with William S. Gregory, previously head draftsman for Cady, Berg & See.)
The firm of Cady, Berg & See was a leader in the use of the Romanesque Revival style of architecture. This style is evident in the firm's work in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, which includes St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church (1889-90), now the West Side Institutional Synagogue, and the impressive complex of buildings at the American Museum of Natural History along West 77th Street. Other works by the firm in New York City include the Metropolitan Opera House, the Gallati Bank on Wall Street, additions to Presbyterian Hospital, and the New York Skin and Cancer Hospital.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 15,20,68.

FREDERICK T. CAMP (1849-1905)

313-315 Columbus Avenue, 81
421 Amsterdam Avenue, 139
423, 425 Amsterdam Avenue, 140
171 West 80th Street, 468

Little is known of Frederick Theodore Camp. He was established as an architect in New York by 1879, at which time he worked with Gilbert Bostwick Croff. He designed two brownstone residences and a flats building in the Upper East Side Historic District, and Renaissance Revival style rowhouses in the Riverside-West End Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Camp designed flats in the neo-Grec, Romanesque Revival, and Renaissance Revival styles.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 20.
ROSARIO CANDELA (1890-1953)

Born in Sicily, Rosario Candela came to the United States at the age of nineteen and graduated from the Columbia School of Architecture in 1915. Noted as the architect of many large luxury apartment houses on the Upper East Side, Candela was also responsible for the design of a variety of buildings throughout his career. In addition to many Manhattan apartment buildings, he designed several public schools in Baltimore, Maryland. Among his most interesting projects was the former United States Embassy Building in London (the lower stories were the work of the noted architect John Russell Pope, while the upper residential stories were by Candela). Also a cryptographer, Candela was the author of two books on the subject.

Candela designed six apartment buildings on Fifth Avenue in the Upper East Side Historic District. These designs were inspired by the details and compositional methods of the Italian Renaissance. In the Riverside-West End Historic District, Candela designed two apartment buildings in the neo-Renaissance style, and an additional four also in that style are found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. The apartment building (1928-29) at 360 Central Park West contains the Scotch Presbyterian Church.


JOHN F. CAPEN (1865-1927?)

John F. Capen was born in Brooklyn and apprenticed with the architect A.J. Bloor. He had established an independent architectural practice in Newark, New Jersey, by the time he received the commission for the Church of the Third Universalist Society (1892-93), now Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, on West 81st Street in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. This impressive Romanesque Revival structure is dominated by an arcade above a double flight of steps, flanked by towers. Later in his career he worked on a number of hospital buildings.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
John Merven Carrere, born in Rio de Janeiro of American parents of French descent, was educated in Switzerland. In 1877 he entered the Ecole des Beaux-Arts and worked in several prominent ateliers, including that of Leon Ginain, a proponent of the Neo-Grec style of architecture. Hastings, born in New York, spent a short time at Columbia University before entering the Ecole des Beaux-Arts and serving an apprenticeship in the atelier of Jules Andre. The future partners met in Paris, both earned their diplomas — Carrere in 1882 and Hastings in 1884 — and entered the office of McKim, Mead & White (see), where they became re-acquainted. In 1885, the two established a partnership in New York City. Encouraged by Henry Flagler, a partner in Standard Oil and a promoter interested in the development of Florida railroads and real estate, they designed and supervised the construction of churches and hotels in Florida. The Ponce de Leon and Alcazar Hotels, the Flagler Memorial Presbyterian Church, and a house for Flagler soon resulted. These buildings reflected the Spanish Renaissance style and were innovative in their use of concrete. Later hotels include the Laurel in the Pines Hotel (1889-90) at Lakewood, New Jersey and the Hotel Jefferson (1893-94) in Richmond, Virginia. Many of the firm's later buildings were designed in the French Renaissance style and in accordance with the principles of Beaux-Arts design, as seen in the winning design in the 1897 New York Public Library competition. The library, constructed 1898-1911 (a designated New York City Landmark), established Carrere & Hastings as one of the country's leading architectural firms and leading exponents of the Beaux-Arts methods of design and planning.

In addition to monumental public buildings, Carrere & Hastings was very active in residential design and was also responsible for the design of fourteen Carnegie-funded libraries in New York, awarded after the success of the central library building. The approaches and arch of the Manhattan Bridge (1905, a designated New York City Landmark) and the design of Grand Army Plaza (1913, a designated New York City Scenic Landmark) show the firm's interest in city planning. The First Church of Christ Scientist (1899-1903, a designated New York City Landmark) at the northwest corner of Central Park West and West 96th Street, Woolsey and Memorial Halls at Yale University (1906), the New (Century) Theater (1906-10), the Vanderbilt Estate, Long Island, the Frick Mansion (1913-15), and Richmond Borough Hall, Staten Island (1903-07) were also by the firm. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm of Carrere & Hastings was responsible for the school of the New York Society for Ethical Culture in association with Robert D. Kohn. Built in 1902-03 on Central Park West, the building, designed in an abstracted neo-Renaissance style, harmonizes with the Society’s meeting house in scale and detail.
The neo-Georgian apartment building (1922-23) on West 95th Street is characteristic of the firm’s large-scale residential work.

Carrere was a member of the Architectural League, a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, a member of the Beaux-Arts Society of New York and was director of the American Academy at Rome. He was killed in 1911. Hastings continued to work under the firm’s name. His later career included the design of large office buildings including the Standard Oil Building (1926), the MacMillan Building (1924), and the Cunard Building (1919-21). Hastings was an early exponent of the curtain wall system of construction and experimented with it in the Blair Building (1902). He was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a founder and president of the Architectural League of New York.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 20.
IRWIN S. CHANIN (1892-1988)

25 Central Park West, 1
115 Central Park West, 12

Irwin Salmon Chanin was born in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn. While a young boy, he lived with his family in its native Ukraine, but returned to Bensonhurst in 1907. Chanin graduated from Cooper Union in 1915, with a degree in engineering and architecture. In 1981 Cooper Union’s architecture school was renamed in his honor.

Early in his career, Chanin worked as an engineer on New York and Philadelphia subways. His earliest building activity was the construction of two houses in Bensonhurst in 1919. This led to other residential construction in the area and the organization of the Chanin Construction Company with his younger brother Henry I. Chanin (1893-1973). By 1924 Chanin’s work had expanded to Manhattan with the erection of the Fur Center Building and the construction of the first of a series of theaters.

In 1927 Chanin built the Lincoln Hotel (now the Milford Plaza) as part of a larger complex which also included three theaters. This was the first of Chanin’s works that exhibited the Art Deco style in which he became interested after visiting the 1925 Paris Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs et Industriels Modernes. In this building the Art Deco motifs are restricted to the lobby and dining room. The next building, the Chanin Building (1927-29, a designated New York City Landmark), also exhibited Art Deco motifs.

In 1930 Chanin became a registered architect and proceeded with plans for two Central Park West apartment buildings — the Century and Majestic — both in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District (both designated New York City Landmarks). These twin-towered apartment houses clearly exhibit the Art Deco style and greatly contribute to the skyline along Central Park West. For these buildings Chanin worked closely with architect Jacques L. Delamarre, Sr. (see), a staff member of the Chanin Corporation.

Chanin was also involved in suburban projects like Green Acres in Valley Stream, Long Island. He built 2,000 prefabricated houses in Newport News, Virginia and during World War II designed five hangars at National Airport in Washington, D.C., the Naval Ordnance Laboratory in White Oak, Maryland, and five Navy powder magazine buildings in Indian Head, Maryland. The firm also built the Coney Island Pumping Station for the City of New York. By 1952 the Chanin organization was composed of approximately 25 firms and corporations engaged in architecture, engineering, construction, and in the ownership and operation of real estate.

Victor Christ-Janer (b. 1915)

26-32 West 84th Street, 557

Victor Christ-Janer was born in Waterville, Minnesota and studied at Yale University, graduating in 1947. Early in his career he worked as a draftsman for the firm of Nemény & Geller in New York. In 1955 he organized Victor Christ-Janer & Assocs., a New York City firm involved in the design of residential, commercial, industrial, religious, and educational buildings, as well as in city planning, landscape and interior design, and restoration work. The firm received an award of merit from the American Institute of Architects in 1961 for its design for the Lake Erie College Commons Building. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm designed the St. Matthew and St. Timothy Church Center, a Brutalist poured-concrete structure designed in the manner of Le Corbusier.


SEYMOUR CHURGIN (dates undetermined)

46-52 West 68th Street, 192

Little is known of architect Seymour Churgin. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed an apartment building, constructed in 1982.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

CIEVERDON & PUTZEL

Robert J. Cleverdon (dates undetermined)
Joseph Putzel (dates undetermined)

302 Columbus Avenue, 83
25 West 71st Street, 244
12, 14, 16 West 76th Street, 401
18, 20, 22, 24 West 76th Street, 401

The firm of Cleverdon & Putzel was established in New York by 1882 and remained active through 1901. The partners specialized in the design of mercantile buildings. Their work was extensive in the city, with numerous apartment buildings, townhouses, and commercial structures built in the Mount Morris Park, Carnegie Hill, Ladies Mile, and SoHo-Cast Iron Historic Districts. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District they designed flats and rowhouses in the Beaux-Arts and Renaissance

A28
Revival styles in the late 1880s and '90s.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 22, 63.
Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1900), 21.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

CLINTON & RUSSELL

Charles William Clinton (1838-1910)
William Hamilton Russell (1856-1907)

135 Central Park West, 14

Charles William Clinton was born and raised in New York. His architectural training was received in the office of Richard Upjohn. He left Upjohn in 1858 to begin an independent practice. The following year, he formed a partnership with Anthony B. McDonald, Jr., which lasted until 1862. Later he was associated with Edward T. Potter. For the next 32 years Clinton practiced alone. Most of Clinton's important buildings during this period were office buildings based on Italian Renaissance prototypes. A strong design feature of all these works was a pronounced layering of the facade into horizontal sections with monumental pilasters or piers carrying cornice bands, a usual rendering of the tall building during the 19th century. Clinton also designed the country estate Glenview for James Bond Trevor in Yonkers in 1876-77 which exhibited Victorian Gothic ornament. While in independent practice Clinton designed a row of Renaissance Revival style houses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, of which one survives.

William Hamilton Russell, also a native New Yorker, studied at the Columbia School of Mines before joining the firm of his great-uncle, James Renwick, in 1878. Five years later, he became a partner in the firm and remained there until 1894, during which time the firm became Aspinwall, Renwick & Russell.

In 1894, Clinton and Russell joined in partnership. The firm was responsible for scores of buildings including early skyscrapers, luxury apartment houses, institutions, and fashionable hotels. An office building by the firm is typically of brick and masonry, with a base of two horizontal sections, a shaft characterized by a monumental arcade expressing the verticality of the structure, and a prominent roof entablature crowned with additional stories. The firm's apartment buildings include the Graham Court Apartments (1901, West 116th St. and Seventh Ave.), the Astor Apartments (1901-05, 2141 Broadway), and the Aptcorp (1908, 2101-2119}

A29
continuation of . . . . Clinton & Russell

Broadway), all constructed for the Astors. The Langham Apartments (1904-07) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District is a massive twelve-story Beaux-Arts apartment building with a modified U-shaped plan around a series of light courts.

Clinton was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Architectural League. Russell was a member of the New York chapter of the American Institute of Architects and of the Architectural League. After Russell’s death, Clinton continued to practice under the name of Clinton & Russell.


CHARLES W. CLINTON (1838-1910)

38 West 70th Street, 231

(See Clinton & Russell, above)

HENRY IVES COBB (1859-1931)

162 West 72nd Street, 313

Henry Ives Cobb was born in Brookline, Massachusetts, attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University, and traveled in Europe in 1870. Early in his career, Cobb worked for the architectural firm of Peabody & Stearns in Boston. While there he entered the competition for the new Union Club in Chicago. Upon winning the competition, Cobb moved to Chicago and subsequently joined Charles S. Frost in partnership. Cobb & Frost designed the Chicago Athletic Club, the Old Post Office (1888-1905), buildings for the University of Chicago, and Horticulture Hall and the Fisheries Building at the World’s Columbian Exposition.

From 1893 to 1903, Cobb was appointed architect for special government work, and moved to Washington in 1896. In 1902 he opened an office in New York City where he designed mostly office and commercial buildings, including the Harriman Bank Building, Liberty Tower (55 Liberty Street, 1910, a designated New York City Landmark), and in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, a small five-story neo-Renaissance style office building (1909-10).


SAMUEL COHEN (dates undetermined)

125 West 72nd Street, 289
151 West 72nd Street, 297
134 West 72nd Street, 308

Little is known of Samuel Cohen, an architect who altered existing buildings in the 1910s and '20s. His work can be found in the Upper East Side Historic District, as well as in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District where he converted rowhouses to small apartment and office buildings.


COLE & LIEBMAN

8 West 70th Street, 228

H.M. COLE (dates undetermined)

23 West 74th Street, 340

Little is known of architect H.M. Cole. He may be Herman M. Cole, a New York City architect who joined the American Institute of Architects in 1958. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Cole converted a rowhouse to a small apartment building in 1957.

JAMES W. COLE (dates undetermined)

118 West 83rd Street, 545
3 West 87th Street, 606

Little is known of architect James W. Cole. He was established as an architect in New York by 1887 and designed many residential and commercial buildings in the city, some of which are found in the Greenwich Village Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a Renaissance Revival style flats building (1890).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 22.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

COLLERA & BROTHER & HUGHES

51, 53, 55 & 57, 59 West 74th Street, 345

FREDERICK R. COMSTOCK (1866-1942)

77 Central Park West, 8

Frederick Royal Comstock was born in Lansingburgh, New York and was educated at Union College, Schenectady, Columbia University, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Early in his career Comstock was a partner in the firm of Comstock & Dresser in Gloversville, New York. There he designed mainly schools and residences. He then located in Hartford, Connecticut, and came to Boston in the mid-1890s to serve as consulting architect for the Christian Science Mother Church. He had joined the Architectural League in 1892, but his independent practice was not established in New York City until 1899, at which time he undertook the commission for the Second Church of Christ, Scientist, in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Comstock’s design for a domed church is in the Academic Classic mode based on Beaux-Arts principles.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 22.
Henry F. Withey and Elsie R. Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased), (Los Angeles, 1970), 133.
HENRY F. COOK
418-422 Columbus Avenue, 96
428, 430, 432-434 [a/k/a 200 West 81st Street] Amsterdam Avenue, 143
25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39 West 69th Street, 198
163, 165, 167, 169, 171 West 76th Street, 409
5, 7 & 9 & 11 & 13 & 15 West 87th Street, 606

(See Charles Buek & Co., above)

MAURICE COURLAND (1892-1957)
20-26 West 86th Street, 591

Maurice Courland, a native of Palestine, was educated at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris and City College. He practiced in Buenos Aires and established a New York City architectural practice in 1919. In the late 1920s he was president of the Maurandor Realty Company. Courland was a specialist in synagogue and school design, but in the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District he designed a neo-Renaissance style apartment building, a project for which the Maurandor Realty Company acted as developer. The senior partner of the firm, Maurice Courland & Son, Courland was a member of the American Institute of Architects and the New York Society of Architects.


C. HOWARD CRANE & ASSOCS.

C. Howard Crane (1885-1952)
115-123 West 70th Street, 236

C. Howard Crane was born in Hartford, Connecticut and began his architectural career in that city in 1904. He moved to Detroit one year later and found employment with Albert Kahn and Smith, Hinchman & Grylls. In 1909 Crane began an independent practice in which he specialized in theaters, designing over 200 in his lifetime. The Guild and Music Box Theaters in New York City were constructed according to his design. In 1934 Crane continued his career in England. There he designed Earl’s Court, an arena seating an audience of 30,000 viewers. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed the Stratford Arms (1928), a neo-Renaissance style hotel with Gothic elements.

"C. Howard Crane," Architectural Record 112 (Oct., 1952), 392.
George W. DaCunha (d. 1917)
59, 61, 63 West 83rd Street, 533
32, 34 & 36, 38, 40, 42 & 44 West 83rd Street, 539

George W. DaCunha was established as an architect in New York City by 1879. He designed business and residential structures, examples of which can be found in the SoHo-Cast Iron Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed two rows of Queen Anne style houses which were constructed in 1884 to 1886. Later in life DaCunha moved to Montclair, New Jersey. His son of the same name was also an architect.


Daub & Daub

Gerald M. Daub (b. 1925)
Sidney Daub (b. 1894)

32 West 72nd Street, 281
44-46 West 72nd Street, 283

Sidney Daub, father of Gerald, was educated at Cooper Union, graduating in 1915. He worked with Goldner & Goldberg while a student from 1911 to 1915, and later for Peter J. McKean, from 1915 to 1920. He was a member of the New York Society of Architects and the American Institute of Architects.

Gerald M. Daub was educated at Pratt Institute, graduating with honors in 1949, the year in which he received the New York Society of Architects medal for Excellence in Construction. The younger Daub, also an AIA member, worked successively as draftsman, chief draftsman, and junior architect for his father for twelve years.

The firm of Daub & Daub was formed by 1960 and designed residential, commercial, religious, and educational buildings. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, the firm converted rowhouses to small apartment buildings.

American Architects Directory (1962), 152.
HENRY DAVIDSON (dates undetermined)

17 & 19, 21, 23 West 88th Street, 632

Henry Davidson was established as an architect in New York by 1876. The designer of an apartment building (1894-95) now in the Greenwich Village Historic District, he designed a picturesque row of Romanesque Revival style houses (1888-92) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, only one of which survives largely intact.


JOHN A. DAVIDSON

132 West 81st Street, 491

RICHARD R. DAVIS (dates undetermined)

309 & 311 Columbus Avenue, 80

Richard R. Davis was established as an architect in New York City by 1887. He specialized in apartment house design, and though concentrated in Harlem, examples of his work can be found throughout the city. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Davis designed a row of flats in the Romanesque Revival style. He was also responsible for the northern section of the Metropolitan Baptist Church (1889-90, a designated New York City Landmark).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 25.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

WILLIAM HORATIO DAY (dates undetermined)

122-128 West 69th Street, 219

Little is known of architect William Horatio Day. His work in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, seems to have occurred early in his career. This was the initial Gothic Revival design for the Chapel of the Transfiguration (1879), predecessor to the present day Christ and St. Stephen’s Church. Day continued to practice at least through 1899.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 25.
John DeHart was established as an architect in New York City by 1892, typically designing flats, apartments, and office buildings. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District DeHart designed a Renaissance Revival style flat in 1899, the year in which Paul C. Hunter (see) was employed as head draftsman in his office.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 25.

Richard Deeves (Builder) (1836?-1919)

A native of Ireland, Richard Deeves came to the United States as a boy and soon embarked on a career in the building industry. He was first listed in New York City directories as a mason in 1870, in 1875 as a mason-builder, and in 1880 as a builder. In 1899 he established the firm of Richard Deeves & Son at 309 Broadway. By 1902 Deeves was listed as a contractor. Deeves' New York Times obituary stated that he constructed some of the "landmarks of the city," including the Casino Theater, the Navare Apartments, and the New York Athletic Club.

In 1916, Deeves retired and his son, Richard Anderson Deeves, took charge of the firm, then known as John H. Deeves & Brother, Inc., until 1942. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Deeves designed and constructed a row of Renaissance Revival style rowhouses in 1885.

Trow's New York City Directory.
Jacques L. Delamarre, Sr. was born in Mt. Vernon, New York, and graduated from Cooper Union. For most of his career Delamarre was associated with Irwin S. Chanin (see) and the Chanin Organization, a developer responsible for reshaping midtown Manhattan's skyline in the 1920s and '30s. Art Deco apartment buildings like the Majestic at 115 Central Park West and the Century at 22-30 Central Park West (both designated New York City landmarks), are structures planned and constructed by the firm. For the Century Apartments, Delamarre is listed as the architect of record. The collaboration also produced such structures as the Roxy movie theater, the Hotel Lincoln, and the Majestic, Royale, and Golden Theaters. Delamarre also designed a large residential development in Long Island.


Demeuron & Smith

Francis A. Demeuron (dates undetermined)
Justus J. Smith (dates undetermined)

152, 154, 156, 158, 160 West 76th Street, 415

The architectural firm of Demeuron & Smith was formed in New York City by 1886. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm was responsible for the design of a row of Romanesque Revival style houses, one distinguished by a blind horse-shoe arch, which were completed in 1889. The firm dissolved at about this time or earlier and the partners began independent practices.


Dennison, Hirons & Darbyshire

Ethan Allen Dennison (1881-?)
Frederic Charles Hirons (1882-1942)
Darbyshire (dates undetermined)

18-20 West 89th Street, 655

Frederic Charles Hirons was born in Birmingham, England and in 1892 moved to the United States, where his family settled in Boston, Mass. As a teenager interested in drawing, he was introduced to David I. Gregg — a well-known pen-and-ink architectural renderer of the 1890s — with whom he discussed his work. Through Gregg's influence, Hirons entered the office of the Boston architect Herbert C. Hale in 1898. In 1901, Hirons entered
continuation of . . . . Dennison, Hirons & Darbyshire

the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he studied for two years under Professor Despradelle. In 1904 he won the Rotch Traveling Scholarship, enabling him to go to Paris and study at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. While visiting New York in 1906, he won the Institute's Paris Prize, which allowed him to continue his studies abroad, where he spent a total of five years. Hirons later spent three years as an instructor at Columbia and served as president of the Society of Beaux-Arts Architects from 1937 to 1939.

Ethan Allen Dennison was born in Summit, New Jersey. After studying at Erasmus Hall and Pratt Institute, he worked briefly in New York before spending five years in Europe. He attended the Ecole des Beaux-Arts for three and a half years, and returning to New York in 1907, opened an architectural office.

Upon Hirons' return to New York in 1909, the firm of Dennison & Hirons was formed. (At this time, Hirons also formed his own atelier.) The firm was best known for the design of banking institutions which often employed bold, rectilinear compositions that incorporated beautifully executed ornamental details and reflected the current of modernized classicism associated with Art Deco design. In several works, including the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design (a designated New York City Landmark), the firm collaborated with the architectural sculptor Rene Chambellan, who executed the characteristic ornament, often a modern stylization of Greek or Near Eastern motifs. The State Bank and Trust Company of New York (now Manufacturers Hanover) at Eighth Avenue and 43rd Street in Jamaica, Queens (1929), the City National Bank and Trust Company Building in Bridgeport, Connecticut (1929); and the Home Saving Bank in Albany, New York (1929) were also the products of this fruitful collaboration. In New York, the firm designed the whimsical Childs Restaurant in Coney Island. Hirons is also associated with the designs of several courthouses and war memorials.

Darbyshire joined the firm some time after Dennison and Hirons had formed their partnership. The three-man team designed the Franklin School in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Quaring Dorian was born in Schwarmstadt, Germany and was educated at the American University in Beirut, Lebanon (1939-41) and at Columbia University (1946-48). Dorian worked independently for a time and in 1961 formed the firm of Baryla & Dorian. He designed residential, commercial, and religious buildings and undertook interior design projects as well. Joining the American Institute of Architects in 1957, Dorian was a lecturer on Near and Middle Eastern architecture. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Dorian converted two rowhouses into a small apartment building in 1963.


John Hemenway Duncan spent his boyhood in Binghampton, New York, and established a New York architectural career in 1886. He was active as the architect of many residential and commercial structures throughout Manhattan, but his reputation was largely the result of his designs for two important monuments: the Soldiers' and Sailors' Arch on Grand Army Plaza in Brooklyn (1889-92), and the imposing neo-Classical Grant's Tomb in Manhattan (1891-97). These monuments, both designated New York City landmarks, were prestigious commissions for Duncan and attested to his commitment to neo-Classical design. Following these projects, a clientele of affluent New Yorkers began to commission Duncan to design residences on the Upper East Side, in Midtown Manhattan, and on West 76th Street. For these designs Duncan preferred the French sources promulgated by the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris; rusticated facades, large scale ornamental...
continuation of .... John H. Duncan

details, and imposing mansard roofs were his favorite motifs. His work in
the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District is represented by
several rows of houses designed in the Renaissance Revival and Beaux-Arts
styles. Duncan also designed the Trenton Battle Monument in Trenton, N.J.
and civic buildings in Havana, Cuba. He was a member of the New York
Chapter and a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, a member of
the U.S. Public Architectural League, and a founding member of the
Architectural League of New York in 1881.

"John H. Duncan," American Art Annual, ed. F.N. Levy (New York, 1900),
vol. 3, 106.
"John H. Duncan obituary," American Art Annual, ed. F.N. Levy (New York,
1930), vol. 27, 409.
Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900
(New York, 1979), 28.
A History of Real Estate Building and Architecture in New York City.
Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1900), 29.
Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1901), 31.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, "Architects' Appendix," Ladies
Mile Historic District Designation Report (LP-1609), (New York,
1989); Metropolitan Museum Historic District Designation Report
(LP-0955), (New York, 1977).
Henry F. Withey and Elsie R. Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American
Architects (Deceased), (Los Angeles, 1970), 183.

JOSEPH M. DUNN (dates undetermined)

103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117 & 119 and 129 & 131 West 74th
Street, 350

Joseph M. Dunn was established as an architect in New York by 1873 with an
office at 318 Broadway. He designed three store buildings in what is now
the SoHo-Cast Iron Historic District in the 1870s and '80s and apartment
buildings on the Upper West Side in the late 1880s. In the Upper West
Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a row of Renaissance
Revival style houses. An example of his commercial work, noted for its
neo-Grec cast-iron facade, can be found at 857 Broadway in the Ladies Mile
Historic District. Dunn remained in practice at least through 1894.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900
(New York, 1979), 28.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, "Architects' Appendix," Ladies
Mile Historic District Designation Report (LP-1609), (New York,
1989).
JUDITH EDELMAN (b. 1923)
560-568 Columbus Avenue, 122

Judith H. Edelman was born in Brooklyn and studied at Connecticut College, New York University, and Columbia University, graduating in 1946. She was registered as an architect in New York in 1964 and joined the New York firm of Hudson Jackson as a designer and draftsperson. She entered private practice in 1958 and in 1960 formed the firm of Edelman & Salzman, Architects. Currently a partner in the Edelman Partnership, the successor firm to Edelman & Salzman, Judith Edelman served as partner in charge for the 1982 apartment building designed by the firm in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Other partners of the firm include Harold Edelman and Gerald Buck. In addition to architectural design, the firm provides services in interior and landscape design, site planning, rehabilitation, adaptive re-use, and historic preservation.

The firm has won numerous awards for its work, including first prize in the Queens Chamber of Commerce Building Awards in 1989, the Concrete Industry Board Award of Merit in 1986, the Settlement Housing Fund Public Service Award in 1983, awards from the National Trust for Historic Preservation in 1983 and 1975, and awards from the American Institute of Architects in 1975, 1969, and 1961. Edelman has served on several committees of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. A Fellow of the AIA, she served as chairwoman for that organization's Task Force on Women in Architecture and was a founding member of the Alliance of Women in Architecture. From 1972 to 1976 she was a professor of Architecture at City College and lectured on architectural topics at other American universities, as well as in China.


EISENDRATH & HOROWITZ

Simeon B. Eisendrath (1867-1935)
B. Horowitz (dates undetermined)

28-36 West 68th Street, 190

Simeon B. Eisendrath was first established as an architect in Chicago, where the Plymouth Building is the best known example of his work. Eisendrath was appointed Commissioner of Buildings in Chicago in 1894, then worked briefly in Pittsburgh prior to relocating to New York in 1903. In New York he later developed a reputation as a designer of synagogues. Among his earliest New York commissions were the Knickerbocker Jewelry Co. store building at 574 Sixth Avenue (1903-04) and the loft building (1906) at 55 West 16th Street. Eisendrath worked with the New York architect and engineer Oscar Lowinson (1868-1946) on the design of the Criterion Club.
continuation of . . . . Eisendrath & Horowitz

building at 683 Fifth Avenue in 1903 (demolished) and several alterations projects. In addition to other commercial buildings in Manhattan, Eisendrath's known work includes a townhouse at 526 Eighth Street, Brooklyn (1904-05, within the Park Slope Historic District).

Eisendrath later worked in partnership with Bernard Horowitz, of whom little is known. Their firm was active in New York architecture in the 1910s and '20s. Synagogues constructed according to their designs include the Temple Beth Elohim (1910, 277 Garfield Place, within the Park Slope Historic District), Temple Beth Emeth (1913, 83 Marlboro Road, within the Prospect Park South Historic District), and Temple B'nai Israel (1917, Fourth Avenue and 54th Street, Sunset Park). The firm also designed several motion picture theaters in Manhattan, including the Ideal Theatre (now the Cameo Theater, 1915, 693 Eighth Avenue), and the Tivoli Theatre (now the Adonis Theater, 1920-21, 839 Eighth Avenue). The Home for the Aged, and Temple Shaari Zidek in Brooklyn are other projects of the firm. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, Eisendrath & Horowitz designed the Free Synagogue School (1922), the first home of the Jewish Institute of Religion, in association with Block & Hesse (see). This was later renovated and converted for the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.


YEHAYAHU ESHKAR

322-326 Columbus Avenue, 87
25 West 74th Street, 341
6 West 75th Street, 371
53 West 76th Street, 398
55-57 West 83rd Street, 532
23-25 West 84th Street, 551
49-51 West 85th Street, 563
69-71 West 85th Street, 565
JOSEPH FEINGOLD (b. 1923)

120-122 West 78th Street, 439
203-209 West 79th Street, 454

Joseph Feingold was born in Kiev, Russia and was educated at Cooper Union and Columbia University, graduating in 1958. Early in his career he served as draftsman for Charles M. Spindler and later worked as job captain for the firm of Henry George Greene. In 1959 he established an independent practice. His works include the Garden Apartments in Spring Valley, New York of 1962. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Feingold combined rowhouses to form two small apartment buildings.


IRVING FEIRTAG

16 West 85th Street, 567

H.I. FELDMAN (1896-1981)

34-40 West 72nd Street, 282
121 West 72nd Street, 288
147-161 West 81st Street, 486

Hyman Isaac Feldman, born in Lemberg (now Lvov, U.S.S.R.), was brought to New York in 1900. He studied at Cornell, Yale, and Columbia, and began an architectural practice in New York in 1921. Over the course of a long career he designed well over 4000 residential and commercial buildings, including many hotels and apartment houses; he also wrote articles on economics, real estate, and architecture. In 1932, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce presented him with its first award for best apartment house design (for the Granlyn Apartments).

Many of Feldman’s most interesting designs were Art Deco style apartment buildings, examples of which can be found in the Bronx and in the Riverside-West End Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed the Raleigh and the Bancroft apartment buildings, and collaborated with H. Herbert Lilien (see) on a third design. His work dating from after World War II is represented in the Upper East Side Historic District.

Alfred Fellheimer (b. 1895)
Steward Wagner (1886-1958)

103 West 72nd Street, 285
57-59 West 86th Street, 588

Alfred Fellheimer was born in Chicago and studied at the University of Illinois. He was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Society of Civil Engineers. He wrote a book entitled "Forms and Functions of Twentieth Century Architecture" in 1952.

Steward Wagner was born in Marlin, Texas and received his architectural education through private instruction, through the International Correspondence Schools, and at Columbia University and the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design. He worked as a draftsman in various architectural firms in Texas and New York, and in 1914 established an independent practice in New York City which lasted until 1921. Wagner was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of the Society of Beaux-Arts Architects and the Architectural League of New York.

In 1921 Fellheimer and Wagner joined in partnership. Their firm specialized in the design of banks, office buildings, hospitals, schools, and large housing projects. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Fellheimer & Wagner converted rowhouses to two small apartment buildings.


J.M. FELSON (1886-1962)

350 Central Park West, 55
149-157 West 71st Street, 264
41-47 West 72nd Street, 278
32-42 West 77th Street, 421
147-153 West 79th Street, 445
146 West 79th Street, 451
40-44 West 86th Street, 594
105-113 West 86th Street, 597
115-121 West 86th Street, 598
114-116 West 86th Street, 604

Jacob M. Felson left Russia for the United States in 1888. He studied at Cooper Union and began to practice architecture in 1910. Felson designed many movie theaters and apartment buildings in New York, including several fine Art Deco style buildings on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx. In...
1938, he became president of Fleetwood Enterprises, Inc., of Bronxville, New York, which specialized in the erection of apartment buildings. He also designed private homes in Westchester County and in New Jersey. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Felson was active in the design of apartment buildings in the 1920s. These designs exhibit the popular styles of the period including neo-Renaissance, neo-Gothic, and Art Deco. Another example of his apartment building design can be found in the Riverside-West End Historic District.


MARTIN V.B. FERDON (dates undetermined)

481 [a/k/a 175-177 West 83rd Street], 483, 485 Amsterdam Avenue, 154 33, 35, 37, 39 West 71st Street, 247 146, 148, 150, 152, 154 West 73rd Street, 335 38, 40, 42 West 85th Street, 568 46 West 94th Street, 694 43, 45, 47, 49, 51 West 95th Street, 700 18, 20, 22, 24 West 95th Street, 702

Martin V.B. Ferdon was established as an architect in New York by 1885. Ferdon designed a number of buildings in Manhattan in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, several of which can be found in the Greenwich Village Historic District. These include a Romanesque Revival style warehouse and five five-story apartment buildings. Other residential work can be found on Manhattan's Upper West Side, including rows of houses and tenements in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District constructed from the late-1880s to the mid-1890s and others in the Riverside-West End Historic District, most in the Renaissance Revival style.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 30. 
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files. 
HENRY EDWARDS FICKEN (d. 1929)

135 West 81st Street, 484

Henry Edwards Ficken, born in London, was educated at the Greenock Academy in Scotland and studied art in Europe. He moved to America in 1869 and began a New York architectural practice in 1878. Early in his career, Ficken worked with the firms of Renwick & Sands, Potter & Robertson, and McKim, Mead & Bigelow. He was also associated with Charles H. Smith in 1878, and Charles D. Gambrill in 1880. In 1913 Ficken was appointed supervising architect and engineer of Woodlawn Cemetery. He was noted for civic and domestic work throughout the country and was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of its New York Chapter. Ficken designed a Beaux-Arts style store and loft building in the Ladies Mile Historic District and a Queen Anne style rowhouse in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 30.
Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1901), 32.

ALEXANDER I. FINKLE (dates undetermined)

136 West 78th Street, 440

Alexander I. Finkle was established as an architect in New York City by 1886. At the turn of the century his representative work was listed as a synagogue at Lexington Avenue and 72nd Street, but much of his work was residential in nature. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Finkle designed one row of Queen Anne style houses, only one of which survives.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 30.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
HENRI FOUCHAUX (1856-1910)

46, 48 West 86th Street, 595

Henri Fouchaux was born to French parents in Coytesville, New York. He began his architectural career in New York City as superintendent of the firm of Schickel & Ditmars (see). There he participated in the work on St. Joseph's Hospital. Fouchaux was extremely successful in his own architectural practice, which was under way in 1886. He designed numerous houses and large apartment buildings in a variety of styles in what are now the Hamilton Heights and Jumel Terrace Historic Districts. He also designed the Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb at 163rd Street and Riverside Drive. His work in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District is represented by a pair of rowhouses (1910-11) of neo-Renaissance design with Beaux-Arts elements. Fouchaux remained in practice until his death.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 31.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

JOHN FOUQUET

122-128 West 69th Street, 219
Charles Abbott French's architectural career began in New York in 1887 under the firm name of C. Abbott French & Co. The firm designed many houses and apartment buildings in the city. A flats building and three adjacent rowhouses were constructed in 1888-89 in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. In 1890 the firm became French, Dixon & DeSaldern as the firm of Robert C. Dixon, Jr. and Arthur DeSaldern, which had been active since 1899, merged with French's business. In 1894 DeSaldern entered private practice and Dixon followed in 1896. French continued practicing alone until at least 1907.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 32.

Fred F. French was born in New York City and first became interested in building in 1905 when he enrolled in an engineering course at Columbia University. French held various building-related jobs and in 1910 formed his namesake company. From humble beginnings, his company grew to be one of the largest real estate concerns of the inter-war years.

French is best known for the development of Tudor City (1925-27), at the time of its construction one of the largest housing projects ever undertaken in Manhattan and still one of the most successful. French also developed the Knickerbocker Village houses on the Lower East Side (1932).
The extent of French's personal involvement with architectural design in his organization has not yet been determined. He was primarily a developer and builder, and therefore relied mainly on his chief architect, H. Douglas Ives for his designs. One of the most notable designs of this collaboration was the headquarters of the firm — the Fred F. French Building at 551 Fifth Avenue (1927, a designated New York City Landmark). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the Fred F. French Co. was responsible for a six-story neo-Tudor style apartment building (1921).

H. Douglas Ives was born in Canada, where he received his architectural education and practiced until 1914. After World War I Ives relocated to New York where he was employed for a time by Cass Gilbert. Ives subsequently established an independent practice, then was employed by French for ten years. Ives also worked for French's concerns in London. A member of the Architectural League of New York, Ives was associated in 1944 with T.E. Rhoades, a local building contractor and engineer. Their brief collaboration terminated with Ives' death.


JOHN H. FRIEND (dates undetermined)

10, 12, 14, 16, 18 West 87th Street, 614

John H. Friend was established as an architect in New York as early as 1875, the year in which he joined the American Institute of Architects, and practiced at least through the turn of the century. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Friend designed a row of Renaissance Revival style houses (1892).

FURMAN & SEGAL

Joseph J. Furman (dates undetermined)
Ralph Segal (dates undetermined)

329-335 Amsterdam Avenue, 128

(See Joseph J. Furman, below)

JOSEPH J. FURMAN (dates undetermined)

3-5 West 83rd Street, 528

Little is known about architect Joseph J. Furman. He was active from the 1920s through the 1940s and designed a one-story garage in SoHo-Cast Iron Historic District, altered a building in the Upper East Side Historic District, and designed the neo-French Renaissance style Riverside Memorial Chapel (1925-26) with Ralph Segal, of whom little is known, in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Also in the district Furman combined two rowhouses into a small apartment building in 1929.


EMANUEL GANDOLFO (dates undetermined)

126, 128 West 82nd Street, 519

Little is known of architect Emanuel Gandolfo. His practice was established in New York City by 1882 and in 1885 he designed a row of Jacobean Revival style rowhouses (1885-86) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 33.
GEHRON & SELTZER

William Gehron (1887-1958)
Gilbert L. Seltzer (b. 1914)

131-149 West 76th Street, 407

William Gehron was born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania and attended the Carnegie Institute of Technology, graduating in 1912. He also received an honorary degree from Denison University in Granville, Ohio. Early in his career Gehron was associated with Arnold W. Brunner (see Brunner & Tryon) and later formed the firm of Gehron & Ross (1925-32). He then practiced independently in New York and Williamsport until 1953.

Gilbert Leslie Seltzer was born in Toronto, Canada and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1937 with a degree in architecture. From 1937 to 1951 he served as draftsman, job captain, and office manager for William Gehron.

The firm of Gehron & Seltzer was formed in 1952. The firm designed commercial, educational, public and transportation buildings. Among their projects are: Thayer Hall, West Point (1958), Buildings at Denison University, in Granville, Ohio (1960), and the East Coast Memorial, in Battery Park (1961). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, Gehron & Seltzer designed Junior High School No. 44 in 1955. (See institutional essay for further information).


ARTHUR GENSLER

211-213 Columbus Avenue, 62
Little is known of architect Edwin C. Georgi, whose practice was established in New York at the turn of the century. In the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District Georgi designed an addition to a rowhouse when it was converted into a studio building in 1925.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 33.

Horace Ginsbern was born in New York City and graduated from Columbia University in 1919. By 1921 he established his own architectural firm in the city. His expertise was in the design and layout of apartment buildings. Ginsbern joined the American Institute of Architects in 1942 and organized the firm of Horace Ginsbern & Associates in 1944. The firm designed residential, commercial, religious, and educational buildings. Among its principal works are the Harlem River Houses, the first federally funded, federally built and federally owned housing project in New York City (1936-37, a designated New York City Landmark, in association with other architects), the Garvin Printing Plant and the Neptune Storage Plant in New Rochelle (1951, 1954), and buildings for the Chock Full of Nuts Chain (1930-60).

Marvin Fine was born in New York and educated at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was influenced by the work of Paul Cret, a nationally prominent Beaux-Arts architect. Early in his career he worked as draftsman for Cass Gilbert and later George & Edward Blum (see). He first worked with Ginsbern in 1928 and became a partner in the firm in 1944. The designs of elevations of the firm’s buildings were typically his responsibility. Ginsbern and Fine designed the Park Plaza Apartments (1929-31, a designated New York City Landmark), one of the first Art Deco apartment houses in the Bronx. Frederick M. Ginsbern was born in New York
continuation of . . . Horace Ginsbern & Assocs.

City and studied at New York University, graduating in 1942. He also joined the firm in 1944.

Jules Kabat was born in Brooklyn, New York, and educated at New York University, graduating in 1934. He worked as a draftsman and designer for Horace Ginsbern from 1934 to 1941, draftsman for Kindland & Drake from 1942 to 1945, and practiced independently in 1941-42 and 1945-46. He joined Horace Ginsbern & Associates in 1946.

In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Horace Ginsbern designed one apartment building independently (built in 1941), prior to the establishment of Horace Ginsbern & Assocs. The successor firm was responsible for two additional buildings. The 1961 building on West 72nd Street was built on the site of the gardens and tennis courts of the Dakota.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

HORACE GINSBERN (1900-1969)

66 West 88th Street, 638

(See Horace Ginsbern & Assocs., above)

ALBERT GOLHAMMER

13-15 West 86th Street, 583

OSCAR GOLDSCHLAG (1884-1948)

163 West 72nd Street, 301

Little is known of architect Oscar Goldschlag. His "New York Times" obituary indicated that he worked as an engineer on the 1939 New York World's Fair and had been registered as an architect for 19 years. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Goldschlag designed an Art Deco style commercial building.

Born in Poughkeepsie, Lafayette A. Goldstone came to New York City at the age of 15 after receiving lessons in architecture and drawing from William Henry Cusack. He was first an apprentice with Carrere & Hastings (see) and later managed to obtain positions with William A. Bates, of Bates & Barlow, and with the firm of Cleverdon & Putzel (see). After service in the Spanish-American War in 1898, he found employment with a real estate developer and builder active in erecting Old Law tenements on the Lower East Side. In this position he supervised the construction of tenements designed by George F. Pelham (see). Goldstone also worked for a time with the building firm of Norcross Brothers. Finally, in 1902, he opened his own practice with the design of three private residences on the Upper West Side. His row of fifteen American basement Beaux-Arts style rowhouses within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District came four years later, as did a store and loft building in the Ladies Mile Historic District. Goldstone’s early work was devoted largely to designs of New Law tenements, but he later received commissions for apartment houses. At one point in his career, Goldstone hired Alfred Leuchtag (see Gronenberg & Leuchtag) as an office boy and from 1909 to 1926 he worked in partnership with William Laurence Rouse (see Rouse & Goldstone). This firm is best known for its luxury apartment buildings, including early cooperative apartments, on the Upper East Side. When the firm dissolved in 1926, Goldstone practiced independently, again specializing in apartment house design. In 1941 he was associated with Frederick L. Ackerman on the design of the Lillian Wald Houses.

Little is known of architect Harry F. Green. He joined the American Institute of Architects in 1946 and was associated with the firm of Kahn & Jacobs (see) and architect Paul Resnick (see) in designing 700 Park Avenue in the Upper East Side Historic District in 1959. Green collaborated with Resnick again in 1967-70 on the structure at 980 Fifth Avenue in the Metropolitan Museum Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed the Central Park West Apartments, built in 1965.

Little is known of architect Henry George Greene who joined the New York chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1946. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he altered an existing rowhouse for commercial use.

Increase M. Grenell was established as a New York City architect by 1859 and practiced independently, designing residential structures. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he was active in the 1880s and also acted as his own developer. His rowhouses on West 87th Street are in the neo-Grec style. In the records of the Buildings
Department, his name was recorded as J.M. Grenell for the row of houses at 22-44 West 94th Street, which are in the Queen Anne style. Grenell also acted as the developer for architect Charles M. Youngs for a row at 49-59 West 94th Street (1890-91).


GEORGE H. GRIEBEL (dates undetermined)

281-287 Columbus Avenue, 76
289-295 Columbus Avenue, 77
28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44 West 73rd Street, 321
53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67 and 73, 75 West 85th Street, 563

George H. Griebel was established as an architect in New York by 1885. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed rows of houses in the Queen Anne and Renaissance Revival styles. For Frederick Ambrose Clark he designed the building (1902-04) at 289-295 Columbus Avenue for use as a dry goods store and warehouse, an unusual building type in the district, and did alteration work on the adjacent flats building at 281-287 Columbus Avenue. Griebel also designed a number of apartment buildings on the Upper West Side in the 1880s and '90s, and a Romanesque Revival style commercial building (1890-91) in what is now the Stuyvesant Square Historic District. He continued in practice at least through the early 1900s.


Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

PERCY GRIFFIN (dates undetermined)

18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30, 32 & 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 & 44, 46, 48 & 50, 52
West 74th Street, 348

Percy Griffin was established as an architect in New York City by 1887. From 1891 to 1895 he was associated with Thomas Henry Randall in the firm of Griffin & Randall. In 1896 Griffin designed the Hotel Carribbee in Jamaica, in 1899 the Jefferson Davis Monument in Richmond, Virginia, and the Colored Orphan Asylum on West 114th Street. In the early years of the twentieth century Griffin designed a fire station and a loft building in Manhattan. Later he was associated with another architect in the firm of Griffin & Wynkoop. That partnership produced the United Hospital in Port Chester, New York (1913).

Griffin, a third-place winner in the Improved Housing Council’s competition of 1896 for model tenements, had begun working for the City and Suburban Homes Company in 1897, designing brick, stucco and half-timber houses for the Homewood Estate in Brooklyn. In 1904-05, two buildings at the company’s York Avenue (Avenue A) Estate were constructed according to Griffin’s revised competition design. His row of eighteen Georgian Revival style houses (1904) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District for Frederick Ambrose Clark are steel-framed and equipped with elevators and every other modern convenience. Both his housing projects and his rowhouses are indicative of his interest in housing innovation, at a whole range of economic levels.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 35-36.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

GROenenberg & LEUCHTAG

Herman Gronenberg (dates undetermined)
Albert Leuchtag (dates undetermined)

17-21 West 67th Street, 174
135 West 72nd Street, 293
127-133 West 79th Street, 443
120-128 West 79th Street, 450
25-31 West 81st Street, 478
139-147 West 82nd Street, 516
30-34 West 90th Street, 672

Herman Gronenberg and Albert Leuchtag formed a successful architectural partnership and were active in the first decades of the twentieth century. The firm specialized in the design of apartment buildings and examples of their work can be seen in the Upper East Side and Greenwich Village Historic Districts. Quite prolific on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, the firm was responsible for several apartment buildings constructed.
during the 1920s and into the 1930s in the Riverside-West End and the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic Districts. The firm preferred the neo-Renaissance and neo-Romanesque styles.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

EMILE GRUWE (dates undetermined)

380-384 Columbus Avenue, 93

Little is known of architect Emile Gruwe. His practice was established in New York City by 1878. Beginning in 1891 he practiced under the name of Emil Grewey, and worked in partnership with Robert W. Firth in Brooklyn until 1894. In 1897–99 Gruwe worked under the firm name of E. Grewey & Co. His sole design in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, a Renaissance Revival style flats building known as the Evelyn, is distinguished by its wealth of architectural sculpture and surviving original basement level shopfronts.


RAFAEL GUASTAVINO (1842–1908)

121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131 West 78th Street, 433
118 and 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134 West 78th Street, 438

Rafael Guastavino, born in Valencia, Spain, was trained as a musician and worked for a time in Barcelona. He developed a vaulting system which he called Cohesive Construction and which came to be known as the Guastavino arch, first developing it while designing Spanish factories which required fireproof construction. Cohesive Construction was developed as a thin, laminated tile system which combined Portland cement with plaster of Paris. The system resisted both flames and intense heat — a quality which stone masonry could not offer. The Guastavino method did not rely on buttressing for the stability of vaulting, a fact which enabled the construction of the largest dome ever erected without scaffolding — the crossing dome of St. John the Divine.

Guastavino brought his new method of construction to the United States in 1881. Settling in New York, he was listed as an architect in directories
as early as 1884. Two early works were the Progress Club (1883-84), 110 East 59th Street, and the B'nai Jeshurun Synagogue (1884-85), Lexington Avenue near 65th Street (both demolished). In 1885 he was hired by Bernard S. Levy, a developer active on the Upper West Side, to design the two rows of houses on West 78th Street with Moorish Revival details. Levy himself lived at No. 121 for many years. In No. 122 on the south side of the street (now rebuilt as a small apartment building), Guastavino introduced cohesive construction. Later he stopped practicing architecture, organized the Guastavino Fireproof Construction Co., and concentrated solely on Cohesive Construction, becoming known as a builder and contractor. The Church of the Blessed Sacrament at 146-150 West 71st Street in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District has Guastavino domes and arches.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 36.

CHARLES GUILLEAUME
116 & 118 West 69th Street, 217
133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145 West 87th Street, 624

DAVID GURA
135-145 West 70th Street, 239
Herbert Spencer Styne-Harde (1873-1958)
Richard Thomas Short (dates undetermined)

44-48 West 77th Street, 421

Herbert Spencer Styne-Harde studied architecture in London and set up a New York City architectural practice in 1894. His early work included the design of several tenement buildings. Between 1895 and 1900 Harde worked with both James E. Ware & Assoc. (see Ware & Styne-Harde) and Ralph Townsend (see Townsend, Steinle & Haskell) on Upper West Side tenement projects, two of which Harde owned. Richard Thomas Short established an architectural practice in Brooklyn in 1894 and moved to Manhattan in 1898. He won first prize in an influential model tenement design competition sponsored by the Charity Organization Society in 1900.

The firm of Harde & Short was established in 1901 with a commission from the City & Suburban Homes Company for a pair of buildings at the western end of the company’s York Avenue (Avenue A) Estate. The partners revised Short’s competition design, incorporating features from James E. Ware’s designs for the company’s First Avenue Estate. The firm went on to design other apartment buildings. Red House (a designated New York City Landmark) was erected in 1903-04 at 350 West 85th Street. In 1906 the firm received a commission to design an apartment building at 45 East 66th Street (a designated New York City Landmark), now in the Upper East Side Historic District. That structure’s exuberant terra-cotta detail, extensive use of large windows, and corner tower, give it a distinctive appearance. Another apartment building designed by the firm, Alwyn Court (a designated New York City Landmark), also exhibits magnificent terra-cotta detail, as does the neo-Gothic studio building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Short also worked independently of Harde and designed a variety of buildings, including a police station (1907-08, West 30th Street) and the Moorish Style Kismet Temple Mystic Shrine (1909, Brooklyn).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 37, 69.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
HENRY J. HARDENBERGH (1847-1918)

281-287 Columbus Avenue, 76
280-284 Columbus Avenue, 77
1 West 72nd Street, 275
15A, 15, 17, 19 West 73rd Street, 317
41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65 West 73rd Street, 319
103 West 73rd Street, 323
156 West 73rd Street, 336
163, 165 West 81st Street, 486

Henry Janeway Hardenbergh was born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, to Dutch parents. He attended the Hasbrouck Institute at Jersey City and received his architectural training under Detlef Lienau (see) in New York from 1865 to 1870. In 1870 he opened his own New York practice. Hardenbergh designed a number of city office buildings including the Western Union Office Building at Fifth Avenue and 23rd Street (1884, in the Ladies Mile Historic District), but was best known as a pioneer in luxury hotel and apartment house design. The Plaza Hotel (1905), the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel (predecessor of the current hotel by that name, demolished 1929), and the Dakota Apartments (1880), all in New York and the latter, a designated New York City Landmark in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, the Copley Plaza in Boston (1912), and the Willard in Washington (1901) are some of his most famous commissions. His buildings are recognized for their picturesque compositions, practical planning, and innovative use of historical style. Hardenbergh was also associated with Edward S. Clark in the early development of the Upper West Side and several examples of his rowhouse designs, primarily for Clark, can be found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Hardenbergh was one of the founders of the American Fine Arts Society and the Municipal Art Society of New York. He was president of the Architectural League (1901-02), was elected to the American Institute of Architects in 1867 and to Fellowship in 1877, and was an associate of the National Academy of Design.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 37.


Henry Janeway Hardenbergh obituary, AIA Journal Vol. 6 (Apr., 1918), 199.


Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

Henry J. Hardenbergh


Henry F. Withey and Elsie R. Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased), (Los Angeles, 1970), 263-64.

HARMON & HART

Arthur Loomis Harmon (1878-1958)
Donald Purple Hart (1868-1942)

35-39 West 72nd Street, 277

Arthur Loomis Harmon was born in Chicago and studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and at Columbia University, graduating in 1901. From 1902 to 1911 he practiced with the firm of McKim, Mead & White, during which time he supervised the construction of the extension to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. For two years Harmon worked with the firm of Wallis & Goodwillie and from 1913 to 1929 he practiced independently. In 1929 Harmon joined the firm of Shreve & Lamb as a partner, at which time the firm’s name was changed to Shreve, Lamb & Harmon. That firm is best known for its design of the Empire State Building, which was already under way at the time of Harmon’s arrival at the firm. Harmon’s independent designs include the Shelton Hotel (now the Halloran House) and the Julliard School of Music (now the Manhattan School of Music). He also acted as architectural consultant for the design and construction of the Parkchester, Stuyvesant Town, and Peter Cooper Village housing projects.

Donald Purple Hart was born in Marietta, Georgia and was educated at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating in 1895. Early in his career he worked as draftsman in the Boston office of Peabody & Stearns. At the turn of the century, Hart opened an office in New York, where he practiced independently. He was a member of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and designed many country residences on Long Island and in Connecticut.

Although both architects typically worked independently, in 1928-29 Harmon and Hart collaborated on a neo-Romanesque style apartment building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

HENRY L. HARRIS (ATTR.)

137 West 77th Street, 426

HENRY L. HARRIS (dates undetermined)

109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125 West 77th Street, 424
133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149 & 151 West 78th Street, 434
106, 108 West 78th Street, 436
33 West 81st Street, 479
117, 119, 121, 123, 125 West 81st Street, 481
127 West 81st Street, 482
129 & 131, 133 West 81st Street, 483
116, 118, 120, 122 West 81st Street, 489
56 & 58 & 60 West 82nd Street, 508
31, 33, 35, 37, 39 West 84th Street, 553
56, 58, 60, 62, 64 & 66 & 68 West 91st Street, 676
70 West 91st Street, 678

Henry L. Harris was established as an architect in New York by 1884, the year the row of houses at 117 through 125 West 81st Street was begun. His work in the city was mainly residential and appears mostly on Manhattan's Upper West Side. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Harris was active into the early 1890s, designing rows of houses in a variety of revival styles. While it is not certain that the rowhouse at 137 West 77th Street was designed by Harris, its form and detailing suggest this attribution. Harris practiced at least through 1906.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 37.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
HORACE EDGAR HARIWELL (dates undetermined)

6, 8 West 95th Street, 701

Little is known of Horace Edgar Hartwell, whose architectural practice was established in New York City by 1893. An example of his Renaissance Revival rowhouse design (1893-94) can be found in the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 37.

STEPHEN DECATUR HATCH (1839-1894)

123-125 West 71st Street, 261

Stephen Decatur Hatch was born in Swanton, Vermont, and early in his career worked as a draftsman in the office of John B. Snook (see). By 1864 Hatch had established his own architectural practice in New York City which consisted of commercial buildings, hotels, and residences. Some of his best known buildings were: the Gilsey House (1869-71) at 1200 Broadway and the Robbins & Appleton Building (1879-80) at 1 Bond Street, both designated New York City landmarks, and the Boreel Building at 115 Broadway, the Murray Hill Hotel at Park Avenue and 40th Street, and the William Rockefeller residence at 54th Street and Fifth Avenue (all demolished). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Hatch designed St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church, now Grace and St. Paul's Lutheran Church (1881-82), a diminutive High Victorian Gothic style structure. (See essay above on religious buildings for more information.)

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 38.
Stephen Decatur Hatch obituary, Real Estate Record & Guide, Aug. 18, 1894.
O.P. & R.G. HATFIELD

Oliver Perry Hatfield (1819-1891)
Robert Griffith Hatfield (1815-1879)

461-463 Amsterdam Avenue, 149
465 & 467 & 469 Amsterdam Avenue, 149

Oliver Perry and Robert Griffith Hatfield were born in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Robert, the elder brother, became interested in architecture after spending time in the building trades. In that role he was the author of "The American House Carpenter," which went through twelve editions between 1844 and 1892. His independent practice was established in New York by 1844. He was joined by his younger brother, Oliver, four years later. Both brothers were early members of the American Institute of Architects and served as president of the New York Chapter. Among their works in the city were buildings for the Department of Charities and Correction on Randall's Island, Seaman's Savings Bank on Wall Street, and the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb (none of which are extant). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm designed a series of contiguous flats buildings, all in the neo-Grec style. Experts in the field of building construction, the brothers published an article entitled "The Theory of Transverse Strain and Its Application to the Construction of Buildings."

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 38.

FRED H. HAWKINS (dates undetermined)

11A, 15, 17 West 94th Street, 686

Little is known of architect Fred H. Hawkins. His work in New York may be limited to that found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District — a row of Colonial Revival style houses with Flemish details.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
ALFRED M. HEDLEY (dates undetermined)

102 West 80th Street, 469

Little is known of architect Alfred M. Hedley whose practice was established in New York by 1899. In that year he designed a Beaux-Arts style flats building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 38.

MAX HENSEL (dates undetermined)

244-246 Columbus Avenue, 72
41, 43, 45, 47, 49 West 74th Street, 344

Little is known of Max Hensel, whose architectural practice was established in New York by 1887. Hensel designed the building at 311-317 West 76th Street in the West End-Collegiate Historic District and rowhouses at 68-72 East 93rd Street. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a row of houses (1881) in the Renaissance Revival style on West 74th Street and added storefronts to a pair of houses on Columbus Avenue to convert them to commercial use.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 39.


HERTS & TALLANT

Henry Beaumont Herts (1871-1933)
Hugh Tallant (1870-1952)

49 West 71st Street, 249

Henry Beaumont Herts and Hugh Tallant were celebrated theater architects, particularly active in the Times Square area of New York City, although the firm also carried out commissions for residential architecture. Herts, the son of Henry B. Herts who had established the decorating firm of Herts Brothers, studied at the Columbia University School of Mines (later the Department of Architecture), while Tallant received two degrees from Harvard College. Both Herts and Tallant attended the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris and worked together on student projects. Tallant graduated with a Grand Medal of Honor in 1896 and worked for a time in the Boston firm of Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge. Herts, also a talented painter, exhibited at the Paris Salon of 1898.

Returning to New York, the two formed the firm of Herts & Tallant in 1897
and soon began to achieve a reputation in theater architecture. Among the theaters which the firm designed are: the New Amsterdam and the Lyceum (1902, 1903, both designated New York City Landmarks); the Liberty (1904); the Gaitey (1909, demolished); the Folies-Bergere (later the Helen Hayes, 1911, demolished); and the Brooklyn Academy of Music (1908, a designated New York City Landmark). In the design of the New Amsterdam Theater, Herts & Tallant pioneered the use of cantilever construction to create theater balconies without supporting piers that would obstruct the vision of those in the lower seating area. The partners were also talented acousticians, and Tallant wrote extensively on that subject, as well as on other theater design problems. Herts & Tallant theaters were executed in a variety of revival styles, with an undercurrent of the American Art Nouveau. The firm's only major residential building in New York City is the Beaux-Arts style Isaac L. Rice Mansion (a designated New York City Landmark). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Herts & Tallant undertook alterations in 1909 to an existing rowhouse, reconfiguring the entrance and adding a projecting bay window to the second story.

After the firm dissolved in 1911, Tallant practiced with the firm of Lord, Hewlett & Tallant and Herts continued in the field as well. Both men were members of the Architectural League and the Society of Beaux-Arts Architects.

Roberta Cooper, "Rice Mansion," Thesis in LPC Research Files, 12-14.
Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 39,74.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
HIGGS & ROOKE

Paul F. Higgs (dates undetermined)
Frank A. Rooke (dates undetermined)

373-375 Amsterdam Avenue, 132

Frank A. Rooke (see) was established as an architect in New York by 1887. Paul F. Higgs’ first architectural work occurred with Rooke in the firm of Higgs & Rooke in 1888. That partnership remained active until 1890, during which time they designed a Flemish/Romanesque Revival style flats building (1889) for Lorton Horton in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Two years earlier Horton had commissioned the commercial building immediately to the south from Rooke. Other buildings designed by the firm can be found in the Park Slope Historic District. After 1890 Higgs practiced independently, then in 1899-1900 formed a partnership with James J.F. Gavigan. Rooke continued to practice independently after the break-up of the firm.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 39, 66.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

HILLBERG & IAVELLE

Albert G. Hillberg (dates undetermined)
Paul B. LaVelle (dates undetermined)

102-108 West 79th Street, 448

Paul B. LaVelle was born in Switzerland and educated in Munich and at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. In 1899 he moved to the United States and established an architectural practice in New York. LaVelle was responsible for the design of several hospitals and apartment buildings. Little is known of Albert G. Hillberg, who collaborated with LaVelle in New York in the 1930s. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Hillberg & LaVelle designed an Art Moderne style apartment building which was constructed in 1930-33.

WILLIAM I. HOHAUSER (b. 1896)

498 Columbus Avenue, 115
504 Columbus Avenue, 115

William I. Hohauser was born in New York City and was educated at Cooper Union and Columbia University, graduating in 1917 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. From 1916-17 he was Naval Architect at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. From 1917-20 he was associated with M.H. Harrison. In 1923 he organized his own firm, first named Hohauser Associates, Inc., and later changed to William I. Hohauser, Inc. Among his principal works are a series of housing projects including the Fort Greene Houses (1942) in Brooklyn, the Stephen Foster Houses in New York (1950), and the Bronx River Houses (1952). Hohauser won numerous citations for his work, including a New York State Association of Architects Award in 1949 for the apartment house at 870 Fifth Avenue, in the Upper East Side Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Hohauser undertook commercial alterations in 1936 on a pair of flats buildings.


GEORGE HOLIDAY (BUILDER)

10, 12, 14, 16 West 95th Street, 701

HERMANN HORENBURGER (1858-1941)

12, 14, 16, 18, 20 West 90th Street, 668
22, 24, 26 West 90th Street, 670
28 and 36, 38 & 40 & 42 West 90th Street, 671

Hermann Horenburger was born in Hamburg, Germany, and moved to New York City in 1884. He established an independent architectural practice in the city in 1889 and in 1893 collaborated with Julius Pfund. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Horenburger designed three contiguous rows of Renaissance Revival houses, built in 1892-93.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 40,41,61.
WILLIAM HOWE (dates undetermined)
127, 129, 131 West 87th Street, 623

Little is known of architect William Howe, whose practice was established in New York by 1871. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a single row of neo-Grec style houses built in 1882.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 41.

HUBERT & PIRSSON

Philip Gengembre Hubert (1830-1911)
James W. Pirsson (1833-1888)

201 [a/k/a 67-69 West 69th Street] & 203-205 & 207-209 Columbus Avenue, 61
219 Columbus Avenue, 63
61, 63, 65 West 69th Street, 201
60, 62, 64 West 70th Street, 233

Philip G. Hubert was born in Paris and moved with his family to Cincinnati in 1849. There he studied architecture with his father who was a civil engineer and an architect. Moving to New York to begin his architectural career in 1865, Hubert was the originator of a system of cooperative apartment construction and ownership, which he called the "Hubert Home Clubs." He held a patent for his method of constructing duplex and triplex apartments and also took a special interest in fireproofing. As a result, he devised a special fireproof sheathing system for structural beams. After retiring in the mid-1890s, Hubert moved to California where he designed an received patents for various household devices.

Pirsson, who began his architectural career in New York under the firm name of Burgess & Pirsson in 1862-64, formed a brief partnership with his brother, Robert L. Pirsson, in 1874. An amateur musician and painter, Pirsson was a member of several musical societies, and an early member of the American Institute of Architects.

Hubert and Pirsson formed their partnership in 1871. They were pioneers in apartment building design and were responsible for some of the earliest large apartment houses in New York. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the Hubert & Pirsson firm was commissioned by Sarah J. Doying to design a series of buildings for the western end of the block bounded by West 69th Street, West 70th Street, and Columbus Avenue. Built in 1886-87, the project consisted of a row of neo-Grec flats buildings on the avenue (later interrupted by two commercial buildings) and rows of Queen Anne style houses on the side streets. In 1889 the firm became Hubert, Pirsson & Hoddick as August O. Hoddick joined the partnership.
continuation of . . . . Hubert & Pirsson


Henry F. Withey and Elsie R. Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased), (Los Angeles, 1970), 305-6,474.

WILLIAM H. HUME & SON,

99 Central Park West, 11

William H. Hume was first known as an architect/builder in the South, and associated with Jacob Rief of Nashville for a short time. He began his New York practice in 1855. Frederick T. Hume was born in New York City and initially trained and practiced in the field of medicine. In addition to his medical degree he received an architectural degree from Columbia.

PAUL C. HUNTER (18627-1935)

117 West 72nd Street, 287

Paul Cairnes Hunter was first established as an architect in New York in 1894 in the firm of Collins & Hunter with W. Scott Collins. In 1895 he began independent practice established an office in Queens. In 1899 he collaborated with architect Everett Murgatroyd. During World War I he served in France in various building-related activities. In 1931 Hunter rebuilt a rowhouse as a five-story neo-Federal commercial building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 42.


A71
GEORGE MARTIN HUSS (1853-1941)

120 West 69th Street, 218

George Martin Huss was born in Newark, New Jersey. He received his education at City College and studied further with architects Calvert Vaux (see) and Frederick C. Withers. He also studied engineering. Huss was an advocate of the use of the Gothic style of architecture not only for religious structures but for other types of buildings as well. His design for the St. John the Divine competition — one of four finalists — was executed in the French Gothic style. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Huss designed the neo-Grec/Romanesque Revival style rectory of St. Stephen's P.E. Church. Huss was a member of the Architectural League and the American Art Society.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 43.


ALBERT HUTTIRA (dates undetermined)

161, 163, 165 West 88th Street, 642

Little is known of architect Albert Huttira. His practice was established in New York by 1890, the year in which he was commissioned to design a row of Renaissance Revival style houses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. The ownership of the property changed during construction, and the work was completed by George H. Anderson (see).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 43.
IFILL & JOHNSON

______ Ifill (dates undetermined)
______ Johnson (dates undetermined)

110-124 West 82nd Street, 518
124 West 88th Street, 645

Little is known of the architectural firm of Ifill & Johnson which was active in New York in the 1960s and '70s. The firm designed a swimming pool and bath house in Mt. Morris Park and a police station in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.


ISRAELS & HARDER

Charles Henry Israels (1865-1911)
Julius F. Harder (1865?-1930)

210-216 Columbus Avenue, 65

Nephew of the painter Joseph Israels, Charles Israels was born in New York and was educated at the Irving Institute in Tarrytown, the Art Students League, and in Paris. He traveled in Europe in 1889 and returned to New York in the same year to begin architectural practice. Israels was interested in tenement reform and wrote several articles which expressed his interests, including: New York Apartment Houses and Socialism and the Architect, both published in Architectural Record. He served on the Building Code Revision Commission in 1907, was secretary of the Municipal Art Society, and was a member of the executive committee of the Architectural League of New York.

Julius F. Harder worked with John R. Thomas (see) on the plans for City Hall and the Hall of Records. He was involved in civic matters in Queens, where he lived for some time, and was a member of the Architectural League.

In 1894 Israels and Harder were partners in the firm of Marsh, Israels & Harder, having previously met while in the employ of Charles B. Atwood during an 1888 competition for the New York City Hall. In 1897 the firm became known as Israels & Harder with commissions ranging from apartment houses and hotels to commercial designs. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Israels & Harder designed the Beaux-Arts style Hotel Walton (1903-04).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 37, 43.
Little is known about the lives and careers of Elisha Harris Janes and Richard Leopold Leo despite the many buildings on the Upper West Side and the Upper East Side erected according to their designs at the turn of the century. The firm of Janes & Leo was formed by 1897, specializing in apartment buildings and town houses designed predominantly in the Beaux-Arts style. Major examples of their work are the Alimar (925 West End Avenue, 1899), the Manhasset (2801-2821 Broadway, 1902-05), and in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, the Dorilton (1900-02, a designated New York City Landmark). The latter is given particular prominence by its high mansarded roof and location at the northeastern corner of Broadway and West 71st Street. Town houses designed by the firm on the Upper West Side are concentrated near Riverside Park, including those in the Riverside-West 105th Street and the Riverside-West End Historic Districts. Several others are located on the Upper East Side in the Metropolitan Museum Historic District. Janes & Leo also designed the neo-Gothic style All Souls Church (88 St. Nicholas Avenue, 1900) in Harlem, and the Leyland, a Renaissance Revival style tenement building in the Riverside Drive-West 80th-81st Street Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 44.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
D. & J. JARDINE

David Jardine (1830-1892)
John Jardine (dates undetermined)

136 West 71st Street, 272
157 and 161 and 165, 167 West 72nd Street, 298
162, 164 West 81st Street, 494
51, 53 West 82nd Street, 502
113, 115, 117, 119 West 82nd Street, 513
65, 67, 69 West 83rd Street, 534
71 West 83rd Street, 535
58, 60 West 83rd Street, 541
62, 64, 66, 68 West 83rd Street, 542

Born in Scotland, David Jardine was trained under his father before immigrating to America at the age of 20. In New York he first practiced alone and then with Edward Thompson from 1858-60. After the Civil War his brother John immigrated to New York, and in 1865 the Jardines formed the partnership which was especially active in the residential development of New York City in the 1870s. Early examples of townhouses in the Italianate and French Second Empire styles can be found in the Greenwich Village and SoHo-Cast Iron Historic Districts. The firm achieved special prominence in the 1880s and designed many warehouses, office buildings, and apartment houses. During this period the firm designed several rows of Queen Anne, Romanesque Revival, and Renaissance Revival style houses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. David also designed a number of churches and charity buildings elsewhere in the city.

After the death of David his brothers John and George joined with William Kent to form the firm of Jardine, Kent & Jardine. Kent had been in practice in New York since 1888 and was a member of the American Institute of Architects and the Architectural League. Jardine, Kent & Jardine continued the residential work which D. & J. Jardine initiated in the 1870s. The successor firm designed several large store and loft buildings in the Ladies Mile Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 44, 46.
ARTHUR BATES JENNINGS (1850?-1927)

174 West 72nd Street, 315

Arthur Bates Jennings was born in North Brookfield, Massachusetts, and spent the early years of his career in the offices of George B. Post and Russell Sturgis (see Simonson & Sturgis). By 1876 he had established an independent practice in New York City. He designed churches, institutional buildings, and residences and his works include the Webb Institute of Naval Architecture in New York and the Hanover Fire Insurance Company Building. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Jennings designed a Flemish/Romanesque Revival style rowhouse (1886-88) later altered for commercial purposes. Jennings was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of its New York chapter.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 44.

KAHN & JACOBS

Ely Jacques Kahn (1884-1972)
Robert Allan Jacobs (b. 1905)

8 West 70th Street, 227

Born in New York City, Ely Jacques Kahn was educated at Columbia University and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Soon after joining the firm of Buchman & Fox (see) in 1917, he became a partner and assumed effective control of the office, then known as Buchman & Kahn. His best-known designs are those for skyscrapers of the 1920s and 1930s which merged the stylistic influences of Art Deco and the Vienna Secession with his interest in oriental art and archaeology. Extensive travel permitted Kahn to develop a specialized knowledge of building materials. As part of his devotion to architectural education, he organized numerous exhibitions which introduced new ideas in interior and industrial design to students, and taught at Cornell and New York University. Kahn wrote widely for professional journals and in 1935 he published Design in Art and Industry. A Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, he lectured extensively, was consultant to the United States Housing Authority, and served as president of the Municipal Art Society.

From 1941 to 1972 Kahn’s partner was Robert Allan Jacobs. Also a native of New York City, Jacobs was educated at Amherst College and Columbia University. After working in Paris as a designer and draftsman for Le Corbusier in 1934-35, he returned to New York and joined the newly formed firm of Harrison & Fouilhoux. In 1938 Jacobs began working for Kahn and was soon elevated to partner. The firm maintained a broad practice including commercial, industrial, and institutional commissions, as well
as research and development, housing, and airport design. The firm's Municipal Asphalt Plant, erected in 1941-44 (a designated New York City Landmark), constructed in the form of a parabolic arch, was admired as an early use of reinforced concrete in the United States. The firm also designed several buildings in the Upper East Side Historic District, were associate architects for the Seagram Building (a designated New York City Landmark), and designed a school building for Congregation Shearith Israel in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.


RALPH M. KARGER (dates undetermined)

4 West 90th Street, 668

Little is known of architect Ralph Moreland Karger. In 1926 he enlarged and refaced an existing building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. In 1943 he was registered with the Maine Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. In 1962 his office was located at 301 East 63rd Street in Manhattan.


S. WALTER KATZ

221 West 79th Street, 458

GEORGE KEISTER (dates undetermined)

355 Amsterdam Avenue, 131

Little is known of the life of this New York theater architect. He was in active practice in New York beginning in the mid 1880s. His earliest commissions were tenements and rowhouses, but from 1905 numerous theater commissions filled his office. The Earl Carroll, the Selwyn, the Belasco, and the Apollo Theaters are some of his more famous works. Keister was skilled in a variety of styles but disapproved of architectural fads and indiscriminate copying of architectural designs. He worked alone throughout his career, except for a brief partnership from 1887 to 1888 with Frank Wallis (nicknamed Colonial Wallis, and credited with reviving interest in colonial architecture). Keister practiced through 1930 and was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and a member of its New York chapter and the Architectural League. In the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District Keister designed a Renaissance Revival style flats building.
continuation of . . . . George Keister

Landmarks Preservation Commission, "Architects' Appendix," Ladies
Mile Historic District Designation Report (LP-1609), (New York,
1989).

H. RUSSELL KENYON

137 West 71st Street, 263

ALONZO B. KIGHT (dates undetermined)

111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131 West 88th Street, 640

Alonzo B. Kight was established as an architect in New York by 1891. He
was active primarily in the design of Upper West Side rowhouses and
apartment buildings, most located west of West End Avenue. Kight designed
in a variety of styles, and typically his rowhouses were of the American
basement type. His work was praised by critics of the day. In the Upper
West Side/Central Park West Historic District Kight designed a long row of
Renaissance Revival style rowhouses. Others can be found in the West End-
Collegiate Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900
(New York, 1979), 46.
A History of Real Estate Building and Architecture in New York City.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, West End-Collegiate Historic

HENRY FRANKLIN KILBURN (1844-1905)

8 West 67th Street, 178
161 West 72nd Street, 299

Henry Franklin Kilburn was born and educated in Ashfield, Mass., and first
established an architectural practice in Northampton. In 1868 he moved
his practice to New York. There he designed a number of churches,
including the West End Presbyterian Church (1891, Amsterdam Avenue and
West 105th Street), the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church (1888, 2050 Fifth
Avenue), and the West Park Presbyterian Church (1890, Amsterdam Avenue and
West 86th Street). Kilburn also designed private residences. In the
Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the Durland Riding
Academy building (1900-01), now a production studio for ABC, was construc-
ted according to his design. He also added a projecting bay window to an
existing rowhouse on West 72nd Street. Kilburn was a Fellow of the
American Institute of Architects and a member of its New York chapter and
EDWARD KILPATRICK (1829-1895)

65, 67, 69, 71, 73 West 68th Street, 186
75, 77 [a/k/a 181-189 Columbus Avenue] West 68th Street, 187
22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 West 96th Street, 708

Edward Kilpatrick, architect and developer, was born in Killea, Ireland and came to New York at an early age. He was trained as a carpenter and built many houses in the Upper West Side and Murray Hill areas of Manhattan. Kilpatrick usually designed the structures he built, but he sometimes collaborated with the firm of D. & J. Jardine (see). Products of this collaboration include the Cornell Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church (231 East 76th Street, demolished). Kilpatrick designed houses in the Metropolitan Museum and Upper East Side Historic Districts, as well as in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District where he designed rowhouses and flats in the Renaissance and Romanesque Revival styles. His group of rowhouses and flats (1893-94) on West 68th Street are characteristic examples, showing the interrelationship between the two building types.

Kilpatrick was vocal about problems concerning the building trade and law. He testified before the Lexow Committee on the relation of the police department to the building industry, and criticized contradictory sections of the building law and the appointment of building inspectors.

Francis Hatch Kimball was born in Maine and was apprenticed to a carpenter in Massachusetts. In 1867 he entered the Boston office of Louis P. Rogers who later formed a partnership with Gridley J.F. Bryant. Rogers & Bryant entrusted Kimball with the supervision of two important projects in Hartford, Connecticut — the Charter Oak and the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company Buildings. This work led to Kimball’s preparation of an entry for the Connecticut State House competition and, more importantly, to his appointment as supervising architect for Trinity college. In the latter capacity he traveled to London to consult with William Burges, the designer of Trinity’s new buildings. Ultimately, Burges’ designs were only partially executed and much altered by Kimball.

In 1879 Kimball moved to New York; his first work was the remodeling of the Madison Square Theater in association with Thomas Wisedell, an English architect with Gothic training. Kimball & Wisedell remained active in theater design and achieved renown for the caisson system of foundation construction at the Fifth Avenue and Garrick Theaters. The firm’s extravagant Moorish style Casino Theater reflected Kimball’s mastery of the use of ornamental terra cotta. The firm dissolved with Wisedell’s death in 1884. Except for a brief partnership with Henry S. Innen in 1886, Kimball practiced independently until 1892, the year in which he altered a rowhouse in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, adding an exotic Moorish-inspired balcony to the fourth story. In that year the firm of Kimball & Thompson was formed with George Kramer Thompson. That firm became prominent and pioneering designers of tall commercial structures, mostly in lower Manhattan.


George S. Kingsley

471-475 Amsterdam Avenue, 150
SERGE KLEIN (b. 1914)

41-45 West 71st Street, 247
131-135 West 85th Street, 576

Serge Klein was born in St. Petersburg, Russia, and was educated in Paris and at Columbia University. Early in his career (1940-41) he worked as a draftsman for Clarence S. Stein (see Butler & Stein). Later, he worked for the firms of Mayer & Whittlesey, Shreve, Lamb & Harmon, and Kelly & Gruzen. In 1953 Klein began an independent practice and designed residential, commercial, industrial, and religious structures. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he converted rowhouses to small apartment buildings. In 1949 Klein won second prize in the New York State Housing competition.


LEO F. KNUST (1876-1946)

11-17 West 69th Street, 196
12-20 West 96th Street, 707

Little is known of Leo Frederick Knust. He was working as an architect in New York by 1899, became a member of the American Institute of Architects in 1923, and practiced through 1932. Knust was active in apartment house design on Manhattan's Upper West Side; examples of this work can be found in both the Riverside-West End and Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic Districts.

Dennis Steadman Francis, *Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900* (New York, 1979), 47.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
A. Eugene Kohn (b. 1930)
William Pedersen (b. 1938)
Sheldon Fox (b. 1930)

26-34 West 67th Street, 179

A. Eugene Kohn was born in Philadelphia and studied at the University of Pennsylvania, graduating with a Master of Architecture degree in 1957. Early in his career Kohn was associated with the firms of Vincent G. Kling Associates (1960-65), Welton Becket Associates New York (1965-67), and John Carl Warnecke & Associates (1967-76) where he was president and partner.

William Pedersen was born in St. Paul, Minn., and studied at the University of Minnesota, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the American Academy of Rome. Early in his career Pedersen worked with Pietro Belluschi (1963), Eduardo Catalano (1964-65), I.M. Pei & Partners (1967-71), and John Carl Warnecke & Associates (1971-76) where he was vice-president.

Sheldon Fox was born in New York City and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1953. From 1955 to 1972 Fox was a partner in the firm of Kahn & Jacobs (see) and from 1972-76 he was senior vice-president of John Carl Warnecke & Associates.

Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates was founded in 1976 with Kohn acting as partner-in-charge of many of the major projects. Shortly after its founding, the firm received a major commission from ABC to convert several older buildings on West 66th and West 67th Streets, as well as design several new structures for office and production use. These include a converted building, the Durland Riding Academy, 8 West 67th Street, and a new office building (1978-79), 26-34 West 67th Street, both within the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates has risen rapidly in the field of architecture. In 1985 the firm was invited by the Royal Institute of British Architects to exhibit their work in London. Its buildings at 333 Wacker Drive in Chicago and the Procter & Gamble Headquarters in Cincinnati were voted as two of the world's best buildings to be designed in five years in a Progressive Architecture poll. The firm has received numerous other awards for its architectural designs, including the 1990 Architectural Firm Award from the American Institute of Architects.


Partners' Biographies and Firm Description, Provided by Kohn Pedersen Fox Assocs., 1990.
ROBERT D. KOHN (1870-1953)

2 West 64th Street, 169

Robert D. Kohn was born in New York City and studied at the College of the City of New York (now City College, graduating in 1889), Columbia University (graduating in 1890), and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris (1891-95). His architectural practice in New York dated from 1895 and included a number of important New York City buildings. Kohn's style, formed during his studies in Paris, developed into an American version of the Secession or Art Nouveau style which can be seen in buildings such as the former New York Evening Post Building (1906), 20 Vesey Street and his store and loft building (1908) at 19-27 West 21st Street in the Ladies Mile Historic District. His 1931 addition to Macy's is in the Art Deco style. He also designed buildings in Cleveland, Ohio, including the Lindner Company and the H. Black Company Buildings (1908, 1919). Kohn was associated with various architects in the first year of his practice but by 1896 he practiced under his own name. Kohn was a friend and follower of Dr. Felix Adler, founder of the New York Society for Ethical Culture. He worked in association with Carrere & Hastings on the design of the Ethical Culture School (1902-03) in an abstracted neo-Renaissance style, then went on to design the Society's meeting house (1909-10) in the Secession style. Both buildings are in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Later, in the 1920s and 1940s, he collaborated with Charles Butler and Clarence Stein (see Butler & Stein), and in 1929 designed the Temple Emanu-el on Fifth Avenue in the Upper East Side Historic District.

In 1921 Kohn founded the New York Building Congress. He served as director of the Housing Division of the Public Works Administration (1933-34) and grew experienced in low-cost housing design. In 1939 Kohn was appointed vice-president of the New York World's Fair and was a member of the Board of Design. He was president of the Society of Ethical Culture (1921-44), and a member, past president, and honor medalist of the American Institute of Architects. He was a member of the Beaux-Arts Society of Architects and an Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Kohn was also a member of the Regional Planning Association of America, formed to resolve urban crowding.

City College Alumni Register.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
EDWARD J. KOVACH

129 West 72nd Street, 291

HERBERT J. KRAPP (1883-1973)

20-28 West 72nd Street, 280

Herbert J. Krapp was one of New York City’s major theater architects; today’s Broadway theater district owes more to him than any other architect. Upon his graduation from Cooper Union, Krapp joined the office of noted theater architects Henry Herts and Hugh Tallant (see Herts & Tallant), who had designed several early twentieth century New York theaters including the Lyceum (1903), Helen Hayes (1911, demolished), and Longacre (1912-13). Increasingly, Krapp gained responsibility for design and operations in that office, gradually becoming the chosen architect of the Shubert organization, for whom he was commissioned to design a dozen theaters in Times Square from 1916 to 1928. (The Shubert’s — Sam S., Lee, and Jacob J. — formed perhaps the most powerful family Broadway has ever seen; they rose to become the dominant force in legitimate theater in America.) Krapp also designed Shubert theaters in Boston and Philadelphia and supervised alterations to existing theaters nationwide.

Krapp designed nine other Times Square theaters besides those for Shubert. Six of these were built for the Chanin Construction Company (see Irwin S. Chanin). Krapp’s theater designs reflect the interest and needs of a new breed of theatrical entrepreneur — the large-scale speculative owner/
continuation of . . . . Herbert J. Krapp

builder. The Shubert theaters were seen as financial ventures, and their
designs reflect a certain simplicity compared with theaters designed for
impressarios. Although restrained in detail, Krapp's theaters reflect a
mastery of layout. Krapp's Barrymore Theater, the Biltmore, and the Ed
Sullivan are all designated New York City Landmarks, as are the Alvin,
Plymouth, Broadhurst, Ambassador, Brooks Atkinson, Golden, Royale,
Majestic, and the 46th Street Theater.

During this period Krapp also designed a neo-Renaissance style apartment
hotel (1925) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.
Krapp stopped designing theaters subsequent to financial problems of the
Depression. He then worked as a building assessor for the City of New
York, and turned increasingly to industrial design.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Barrymore Theater Designation

DAVID KRAUSS

162-166 West 76th Street, 416

IRVING KUDROFF (dates undetermined)

216 West 79th Street, 460

Irving Kudroff was a member of the American Institute of Architects and
maintained an architectural office on Park Avenue in 1956. In the 1920s
Kudroff was active in storefront alterations in the Ladies Mile Historic
District, and in 1950 undertook the same type of work in the Upper West
Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, "Architects' Appendix," Ladies
Mile Historic District Designation Report (LP-1609), (New York,
1989).
OTIS E. KURTH (dates undetermined)
40 West 95th Street, 705

Little is known of architect Otis E. Kurth. His work in New York City seems to have consisted of alterations to existing buildings and the re-construction of rowhouses for small apartment buildings; this was the case at 40 and 42 West 95th Street in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Other examples of his work can be found in the Upper East Side Historic District.


MORRIS KWELLER

148-152 West 74th Street, 362

LAMB & RICH

Hugh Lamb (1849-1903)
Charles Alonzo Rich (1855-1943)

321-329 Columbus Avenue, 85
24 West 71st Street, 254
26, 28, 30 West 71st Street, 254
161, 163, 165, 167, 169 [a/k/a 301 Amsterdam Avenue] West 74th Street and 303, 305, 307, 309 Amsterdam Avenue, 355
160-162 West 74th Street, 363
130, 132 West 82nd Street, 520

Hugh Lamb was born in Scotland and was established as an architect in New York by 1878, working with Lorenzo B. Wheeler in the firm of Lamb & Wheeler. The firm designed French flats and rowhouses on the Upper East Side and in Greenwich Village. Charles Alonzo Rich was born in Beverly, Mass. He studied engineering at Dartmouth College, graduated in 1875, and trained in architecture in both the United States (1875-79) and in Europe (1879-82).

Established in 1882, the firm of Lamb & Rich was active through 1899 and became one of New York City's most prominent firms. Lamb & Rich were particularly noted for commercial and institutional architecture, producing designs in the Romanesque Revival, Chateauesque, neo-Renaissance, Queen Anne, and neo-Gothic styles. Among these designs are: the Pratt Institute Main Building, Brooklyn (1885-87, a designated New York City Landmark); Millbank, Brinkerhof and Fiske Halls, Barnard College (1890-97); the Harlem Club and Harlem Free Library (1889, 1892, in the Mt. Morris Park Historic District); Mt. Morris Bank (later Corn Exchange Bank,
continuation of . . . . Lamb & Rich

1889) at 81-85 East 125th Street; and the Berkeley School (later Mechanics’ and Tradesmen’s Institute, 1890, a designated New York City Landmark) at 20 West 44th Street. Buildings at Colgate, Dartmouth, Smith, Williams, and Amherst Colleges were also designed by Lamb & Rich. The firm enjoyed an active practice in residential architecture as well, designing houses which are located in the Park Slope, Henderson Place, and Hamilton Heights Historic Districts. The firm was also active on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. Their work in the area appeared as early as 1885 and many of their designs were published in architectural periodicals. The firm's use of Richardsonian Romanesque in rowhouse design acted as a catalyst to further expand the variety of styles chosen by other architects for houses in the area. In addition to Romanesque, the firm used the Renaissance Revival and Chateauesque styles, as seen in the rowhouse group (1891) on West End Avenue between West 76th and West 77th Streets and a pair of houses at 35 and 36 Riverside Drive (1888-89), among the first rowhouses built on that avenue, all in the West End-Collegiate Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Lamb & Rich designed several rows of Renaissance Revival, Romanesque Revival, and Queen Anne style houses, as well as a school and an apartment building. Other examples of their work can be found in the Riverside-West End Historic District.

The firm of Lamb & Rich was active until 1899, after which time the partners worked independently. Rich practiced alone until 1903, then became senior partner in the firm of Rich & Mathesius (see), and later Rich, Mathesius & Koyl, which designed commercial, institutional, and school buildings. Rich was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1913, and was a member of the Architectural League of New York. He retired from architectural practice in the 1930s.


THOMAS WHITE LAMB (1871-1942)

135-145 West 70th Street, 239

Thomas White Lamb was born in Dundee, Scotland, came to the United States at an early age, and studied at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art in New York. He established an architectural practice, Thomas W. Lamb, Inc., in New York by 1892, and in 1899 he was associated with J.F. Kelly & Co. Although his earliest commissions, as listed in the firm's account books, include work in the St. Nicholas Skating Rink at 157 West 66th Street (demolished), the Grand Central Depot, and factories, lofts, stables, and residences, he is best known for his prolific work as a theater designer. Lamb designed over 300 theaters throughout the world, including the Cort Theater at 138-146 West 48th Street (1912, a designated New York City Landmark). Later in his career, Lamb continued to design legitimate theaters but also designed movie theaters throughout the U.S., including the Rivoli Theater (1919), and Loew's State Building and Theater (1922). In 1926-27 he designed the Pythian Temple in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, a building with an abundance of polychromatic ornament inspired by exotic neo-Babylonian sources. Lamb won honorable mention in the 1932 Palace of the Soviets Competition in Moscow.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 48.


NATHAN LANGER (dates undetermined)
127 West 72nd Street, 290

Little is known of architect Nathan Langer. His New York City architectural practice was established by 1897. In 1899 he began to specialize in the design of tenements, and formed a partnership with George R. Bintley under the firm name of Langer & Bintley. Examples of Langer’s work can be found in the Mt. Morris Park Historic District. In the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District, he was responsible for the conversion of a rowhouse to an office and apartment building in 1921.


FRED C. IARY

432–436 Columbus Avenue, 99

N. LE BRUN & SONS

Napoleon E.H.C. Le Brun (1821–1901)
Pierre L. Le Brun (1846–1924)
Michel M. Le Brun (1857–1913)

120 West 83rd Street, 546

Napoleon Le Brun, architect and engineer, was born in Philadelphia to French parents. He apprenticed to Thomas U. Walter (the designer of the dome and wings of the U.S. Capitol) for six years beginning in 1836. Le Brun opened his own firm in Philadelphia in 1841 where he proceeded to work on many ecclesiastical projects (the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, completed 1864, is a notable example) as well as residential and commercial buildings. At some point in his Philadelphia career Le Brun formed a partnership with Gustave Runge. The association did not last long, but the Academy of Music (1855–56) is a product of their collaboration. In 1864 Le Brun moved his already successful practice to New York where his early commissions were again ecclesiastical, but expanded to include residential and commercial work as well. His winning entry in the competition for the Masonic Temple (1870) on West 23rd Street near Sixth Avenue (predecessor of the present Masonic Temple) did much to establish his reputation.

Le Brun’s office expanded as his sons Pierre and Michel joined the firm in 1870 and 1892, respectively. The firm then became known as N. Le Brun & Sons. Perhaps the best known buildings of this phase of Le Brun’s career are the Home Life Insurance Building (1893–94) at 253 Broadway and a series of buildings for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company on Madison Square (complex, 1890–1909, the tower, 1907–09, is a designated New York
continuation of ... N. Le Brun & Sons

City Landmark). These were early experiments in skyscraper design. As the official architect of the New York City Fire Department from 1879 to 1895, the firm completed several firehouses in a variety of styles but particularly in the Renaissance and Romanesque Revival, including the building for Engine Company No. 14 within the Ladies Mile Historic District and Engine Company No. 74 in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. (See the essay on institutional buildings for more information.) Le Brun served as President of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, was a Fellow of the same organization, and a member of the Architectural League. He was also president of the Willard Architectural Commission, organized to acquire architectural models for the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 49.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
Napoleon Le Brun obituary, American Architect & Building News 4 (1903), 142.

CHARLES H. LENCH
102-104 West 85th Street, 582

LEVIKOW ASSOC.
215-217 Columbus Avenue, 63
David M. Lewis was born in New York City and was educated at the University of Cincinnati, graduating with honors in 1968. Early in his career he worked with the firm of Schuman, Lichtenstein & Claman (see) where he participated in the design of high-rise residential developments. Lewis was licensed in 1972 and became an associate in the firm of Stephen B. Jacobs & Associates. After working for a short period with Shapiro & Lawn Associates, Lewis established an independent practice in 1981. David Lewis Architects undertakes both new construction and renovation projects for residential, commercial, and institutional uses. The firm designed an eighteen-story apartment building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District and has recently converted an estate in rural Pennsylvania into a substance abuse treatment center and a Hoboken, New Jersey schoolhouse to residential use.


LIEBMAN LIEBMAN ASSOC.

Harold M. Liebman (b. 1920)
Norman M. Liebman (b. 1926)

130-136 West 79th Street, 450

Harold M. Liebman was born in New York City and Norman M. Liebman was born in Brooklyn. Both brothers completed their education at Pratt Institute; Harold received his degree in 1940, Norman in 1950. Early in his career, Harold joined with Morris Lapidus, forming the firm of Lapidus & Liebman. Later, Norman joined that firm, which produced designs for apartments and hotels such as the Summit and the Americana in New York City and the Fountainbleau in Miami, Florida. In 1964 the Liebmans established their own firm and received commissions for office and apartment buildings in New York City, Boston, and Ft. Lauderdale. In addition to an apartment building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District constructed in 1985-88, the firm is also responsible for Le Triomphe (245 East 58th Street, 1986), the Beaumont (30 West 61st Street, 1983), and the Morgan Court (211 Madison Avenue, 1987).

DETLEF LIENAU (1818–1887)

48 West 82nd Street, 505
50 West 82nd Street, 506
52 West 82nd Street, 507
54 West 82nd Street, 508

Born in Schleswig-Holstein, which is now a part of Germany, Detlef Lienau attended elementary and technical schools in Stettin, Germany, and was trained as a carpenter and cabinetmaker from 1837 to 1841 in Berlin and Hamburg. He studied architecture and engineering at the Royal Architectural School in Munich in 1841–42, and under prominent architect Henri Labrouste in Paris until 1847. Lienau then traveled extensively in Europe, producing hundreds of drawings, and worked for a short time (in 1847) as a draftsman with the Paris and Lyon Railway Company.

Lienau traveled to America in 1848 and by 1850 was listed in the New York City Directory as an architect working with Leon Marcotte. That partnership did not last long as Marcotte turned to interior design and Lienau opened his own architectural practice. Lienau designed virtually every type of building: mansions, townhouses, apartments, tenements, stores, offices, warehouses, lofts, factories, and schools. He was one of the early proponents in New York of the Second Empire and neo-Grec styles and helped popularize the use of the mansard roof. Examples of his French-inspired designs are found in four contiguous rowhouses constructed in 1886–87 in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Lienau was also responsible for the design of the Parish Building at 860 Broadway in the Ladies Mile Historic District.

Lienau’s firm was the training ground for both Paul Pelz (1859–66), designer of U.S. lighthouses and winner of the Library of Congress competition, and Henry J. Hardenbergh (see), designer of the Plaza Hotel (a designated New York City Landmark) and the Dakota Apartments. In 1873, Lienau invited his son, J. August Lienau (1854–1906), to join his practice. The elder Lienau was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and one of its thirteen original members. He remained active as an architect until his death.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840–1900 (New York, 1979), 50.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

H. HERBERT LILLEN (b. 1898)

10 West 74th Street, 347
147-161 West 81st Street, 486

A native of New Jersey, H. Herbert Lilien began a New York City architectural practice in 1929. Through the Depression years and early 1940s he was responsible for the design of numerous Art Deco and Art Moderne style apartment buildings, particularly in the Grand Concourse area of the Bronx. Two Art Moderne apartment buildings were constructed according to his designs in 1940 and 1950 in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District (one of which was a collaborative effort with H.I. Feldman), and another can be found in the West End-Collegiate Historic District. Lilien practiced through the 1950s.


FRANK S. LINDGREN

53 West 70th Street, 225
55 West 70th Street, 225
57 West 70th Street, 226

CHARLES H. LINDSELEY (dates undetermined)

128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140 & 142 West 70th Street, 241
3 & 5 West 83rd Street, 528
23, 25 West 83rd Street, 530
25 West 83rd Street, 530

Little is known of Charles H. Lindsley. He was first listed in New York City directories in 1880. In 1885 he was listed in the field of real estate and in the same year a Charles W., perhaps his son, was listed in the same field at the same address. In 1893 Charles H. was listed as a builder and was no longer listed after 1895/96. (Charles W. was first listed as a builder in 1899.) In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Lindsley designed neo-Grec and Romanesque Revival style rowhouses in the 1880s and '90s.

*Trow's New York City Directory.*
James Brown Lord, a New York City native and member of the influential Brown banking family, graduated from Princeton College in 1879. Lord began an architectural apprenticeship in 1879 or 1880 with William A. Potter (see), a noted architect who worked primarily in the Victorian Gothic Style and was a senior partner in the firm of Potter & Robertson. The association with Potter stemmed from a close relationship between the Potter and Brown families. In 1882 Lord worked with Potter as a junior associate in the design of the Union Theological Seminary complex at Park Avenue and 70th Street (demolished). About this same time Lord received his first independent commission, two houses for Howard Potter on East 37th Street; commissions followed for private houses in Yonkers, Tuxedo Park, Bar Harbor, Maine and Roslyn, Long Island, as well as in New York City. In 1890 Lord, along with Stanford White of the firm of McKim, Mead & White (see) and Bruce Price, designed rowhouses which became known as the King Model Houses or Striver’s Row on 138th Street in Harlem (included in the St. Nicholas Historic District).

Lord’s non-residential commissions included commercial and institutional work. He designed two restaurants for Delmonico’s, the building at Beaver and South William Streets (1891) and the one at 44th Street and Fifth Avenue (1897). In the 1890s he designed several hospitals, including St. Lukes Hospital for which he won a competition, as well as the Society of New York Hospital (Bloomingdale Asylum) at White Plains, New York (1894) and the New York Infant Asylum at Amsterdam Avenue and 61st Street (1901). The Bloomingdale branch of the New York Free Circulating Library and the Yorkville Branch Library (both designated New York City Landmarks), and Lord’s most prominent work, the Appellate Division Courthouse (1896-99, a designated New York City Landmark) on Madison Square, were executed in the Renaissance-inspired style he favored in the late 1890s. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Lord designed two rows of Queen Anne style houses that were built in 1886-88 on back-to-back sites for developer Charles Barney. His successful career was brought to an untimely end by his death in 1902 at the age of 43.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 51.
continuation of . . . . James Brown Lord


PAUL LU BROTHER

16 West 85th Street, 567

ROBERT T. LYONS (dates undetermined)

285 Central Park West, 46
72-76 West 68th Street, 195
12 West 69th Street, 202
31 West 71st Street, 246
164-168 West 75th Street, 392
135-139 West 79th Street, 444
29-39 West 90th Street, 662

Robert T. Lyons was established as an architect in New York by 1897. He specialized in the design of apartment buildings and hotels, but also designed rowhouses and commercial buildings. He apparently favored the neo-Renaissance style but also employed the more florid Beaux-Arts and more severe neo-Federal styles in his designs. Among his more important commissions were the Coronet apartment building (1901, West 58th Street), the Tammany Central Association Clubhouse (1902, East 32nd Street), the City Athletic Club (1906, West 54th Street), and a townhouse at 70 East 91st Street (within the Carnegie Hill Historic District). His work includes the Beaux-Arts style St. Urban (1904-05) on Central Park West and other apartment and studio buildings in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District constructed from 1913 to 1931. Lyons worked for F.P. Platt & Brother (see) on one building in the district.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 51.

Horace B. Mann (1868-1937)
Perry R. MacNeille (1872-1931)

Horace Borchsenius Mann was born in Orange, New Jersey and studied architecture at Columbia University, graduating in 1890. He then became associated with J.C. Cady (see Cady, Berg & See). After travel and study abroad, Mann worked as a draftsman for the firm of Snelling & Potter. Perry R. MacNeille began his career in architecture with Mann in the firm of Mann & MacNeille in 1902. The firm was active in the design of a variety of buildings in New York including office buildings, schools, churches, and residences. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Mann & MacNeille altered an existing rowhouse. The firm also designed innovative duplex rowhouses in the Park Slope Historic District. From 1917 to 1919 Mann worked with the U.S. Shipping Board which was actively engaged in a large-scale building program to house workers in war-related shipping industries. The firm remained in practice until 1931.


Irving Margon (1888-1958)
Adolph M. Holder (dates undetermined)

Although he practiced architecture in New York for over fifty years, little is known about Irving Margon. He designed brick apartment buildings in what are now the Greenwich Village and Upper East Side Historic Districts during the 1930s, as well as a neo-classical residence at 5 East 64th Street in 1950, also in the Upper East Side Historic District. He practiced with Charles Glaser in the mid-1920s and later joined with architect Adolph M. Holder. Little is known of Holder but the firm of Margon & Holder is most noted for the design of apartment buildings, particularly the twin-towered Eldorado Apartments in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District (1931, with Emery Roth as a consultant, a designated New York City Landmark). The firm designed two other apartment buildings in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, constructed between 1928 and 1930, and another in the
continuation of . . . . Margon & Holder

Riverside-West End Historic District.


ELI MARTIN (dates undetermined)

106, 108 West 81st Street, 487

Little is known of architect Eli Martin, whose practice was established in New York City by 1887. An example of his residential work can be found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District — a row of neo-Grec style houses.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 52.

MAYNICKE & FRANKE

Robert Maynicke (1849-1913)
Julius Franke (1868-1936)

2054-2062 Broadway, 163

Robert Maynicke was born in Germany and studied mechanics and mathematics at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. By 1872-73 Maynicke was employed by prominent architect George B. Post. While in Post’s office Maynicke studied the structural properties of iron and steel. This study allowed him to participate in the firm’s pioneering work in commercial structures of the 1870s and ’80s whose increased height was made possible by the introduction of elevators. The Mills Building (1881-83), the Produce Exchange (1881-85, demolished), the Cotton Exchange (1883-85), and the Union Trust Building (1889-90) are some of the elevator buildings with which Maynicke was involved in Post’s office. Maynicke remained with Post until 1895.

Franke was born in New York and graduated from the College of the City of New York, (now City College) in 1889. As a student he entered the office of George B. Post sometime during the construction of the New York Times Building (1881-90) which he supervised. That structure was, upon completion, the tallest building in the world. Franke then went to Paris to study at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. By 1894-95, he was back in the U.S. and was established as an architect at 287 Fourth Avenue. By 1900 Franke
worked in Maynicke’s office, where he served as head draftsman. Beginning in 1901, both Franke and Maynicke can be found in Trow’s directory at 725 Broadway. By 1905 the firm of Maynicke & Franke, occupying offices at 298 Fifth Avenue, is listed in addition to the individual architects’ listings.

Over 100 large commercial structures were completed in New York by Maynicke & Franke. The buildings were known for their advanced structural systems using iron and steel, as well as for developments in the structural properties of reinforced concrete. Maynicke was the single most prolific architect within the Ladies Mile Historic District, with most of his work commissioned by Henry Corn, a builder and real estate operator who was described as a pioneer in loft building construction. The firm’s work in the Ladies Mile Historic District dates primarily from the first two decades of the twentieth century and displays a predominance of the neo-Renaissance style. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Maynicke & Franke designed the neo-Renaissance style Hotel Alamac (1922). Independently Maynicke designed the Hotel Embassy, formerly the Hotel Ormonde (1899-1900).

Maynicke was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, and a member of the Municipal Art Society and the Architectural League. As a member of the Joint Committee of the AIA, Franke helped draft the New York City Building Code. After Maynicke’s death in 1913, Franke continued to practice independently, but retained the firm name of Maynicke & Franke until 1925. Franke retired in the following year and turned to landscape painting.

City College Alumni Register.
Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 31, 53.
Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1900), 45.
Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1901), 49.
continuation of . . . . Maynicke & Franke


ROBERT MAYNICKE (1849-1913)

2028-2032 Broadway, 162

(See Maynicke and Franke, above)

MCDOWELL & HENRY (BUILDERS)

145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155 West 88th Street, 641

MCKENZIE, VOORHEES & GMELIN

Andrew C. McKenzie (1861-1926)
Stephen Francis Voorhees (1878-1965)
Paul Gmelin (1857-1937)

121-139 West 73rd Street, 325

Andrew McKenzie, born in Dunkirk, New York, and educated in Buffalo, came to New York City in 1884 and worked for the firm of Babb, Cook & Willard (see). He later became associated with Cyrus L.W. Eidlitz, son of the prominent 19th-century New York architect Leopold Eidlitz (see), and the two formed the partnership of Eidlitz & McKenzie in 1902. That firm’s major work was the New York Times Building at Times Square which still stands, although its exterior cladding was destroyed in a remodeling of 1965. Eidlitz retired from the firm in 1910. While practicing architecture, McKenzie also served as a member of the City Planning and Survey Committee.

Stephen Voorhees was born near Rocky Hill, New Jersey, and was a descendant of a Dutch family which settled in Flatlands, Brooklyn, in 1660. Educated as a civil engineer at Princeton University, he worked in that capacity in Newark, New Jersey, from 1900, the year of his graduation, until 1902. That year, he joined the newly formed partnership of Eidlitz & McKenzie as a civil engineer and superintendent of construction; one of his first jobs was the supervision of the foundation work for the New York Times Building. Besides his work in the firm, Voorhees was president of the American Institute of Architects in 1936 and 1937, and chairman of the board of design, chief architect, and vice president of the New York World’s Fair of 1939-40. As an engineer, he believed that architects should be closer to the processes of construction; he was a founder in 1921 and later president of the New York Building Congress.
Paul Qmelin was born in Ulm, West Germany, and studied in Stuttgart. As a young man he came to this country to be a draftsman for "The Bridge Builder Magazine," and while employed there Charles Follen McKim (see McKim, Mead & White) asked him to make perspective drawings of the firm’s Boston Public Library. Shortly afterward Gmelin joined the firm of Babb, Cook & Willard, where he must have met Andrew McKenzie. He and McKenzie won a competition in 1885 for a proposed telephone building in New York; the first such building to be constructed in the United States, it was the first of a long series of telephone and telegraph company buildings designed by the firm.

The firm of McKenzie, Voorhees & Gmelin was organized in 1910 and continued McKenzie & Gmelin’s successful relationship with the telephone company, with commissions for the neo-Federal style structure (1920) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District and other telephone buildings in Albany and Buffalo. The firm’s most notable work, completed just after McKenzie’s death, was the Barclay-Vesey Telephone Company Building, one of the finest Art Deco skyscrapers in lower Manhattan; its design is generally credited to Ralph Walker, although he had not yet become a partner. The firm also designed the Brooklyn Edison Company building and the Brooklyn Municipal Building, as well as a few private residences, an example of which can be seen in the Upper East Side Historic District.

After McKenzie’s death in 1926, the firm became Voorhees, Gmelin & Walker. The new partner, Ralph Walker, became known in the 1920s and 1930s as one of the city’s major architects having designed a series of Art Deco office buildings. Voorhees retired from the firm in 1959, at which time it was known as Voorhees, Walker, Smith, Smith & Haines.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 54.
Charles Follen McKim (1847-1909)
William Rutherford Mead (1846-1928)
Stanford White (1853-1906)

248-254 Columbus Avenue, 72
167, 169, 171 & 173 West 83rd Street, 543

One of the most famous and productive firms in the history of American architecture, McKim, Mead & White exerted considerable influence over the development of this country's architecture in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Slowly breaking with the Richardsonian Romanesque aesthetic, in which both McKim and White were trained, the firm played a leading role in promoting the popularity of classically-inspired forms in the decades around the turn of the century. Work in both the Colonial Revival and the neo-Italian Renaissance styles are products of the long career of this firm. Their work marked the increasing sophistication of American architecture.

Charles Follen McKim was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania. After unsuccessfully attempting to study engineering at Harvard University, McKim turned to architecture. He began his apprenticeship in the office of New York architect Russell Sturgis, before leaving for three years of travel and study in Europe. On his return in 1870, McKim joined the firm of Gambrill & Richardson in which influential American architect Henry Hobson Richardson was a partner. Soon he rented his own office and began collaboration with Mead in 1872. In 1878 the firm of McKim, Mead & Bigelow was established, as William Bigelow joined the firm.

William Rutherford Mead was educated at Amherst College and studied in Europe. Like McKim, he apprenticed in Sturgis's office. Mead was largely involved with the management of the firm, rather than design.

Stanford White achieved fame not only for his prolific work in residential design, but also because of the public scandal which surrounded his murder in 1906. White came from a family in which cultural pursuits were the dominant interest. He wanted to be an artist but instead joined the firm of Gambrill & Richardson in 1872. He succeeded McKim as head draftsman in Richardson's office and stayed there until 1878, becoming quite adept in the Richardsonian Romanesque style and contributing greatly to many of Richardson's designs, especially in residential work, interior design, and ornament on public commissions. In 1878 he left the firm to travel in Europe. Upon his return, he assumed William Bigelow's position and the firm of McKim, Mead & White was begun.

The firm's national reputation and influence are largely attributable to the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 which popularized Roman- and Renaissance-inspired monumental architecture, and in which they designed the Agriculture Building on the Court of Honor, the New York State Building, and two small pavilions. Buildings such as the Low
continuation of ... McKim, Mead & White

Memorial Library at Columbia University (1895-97) and the U.S. Post Office (1910-13) on Eighth Avenue (both are designated New York City Landmarks), reflect this grandeur of turn-of-the-century American Classicism. The firm also designed mansions and summer homes, many constructed for members of wealthy Newport, Rhode Island, society, as well as grand public commissions, such as the Boston Public Library (1887-98). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, flats dating from 1885 reflect the firm's earlier Romanesque Revival aesthetic, while the Beaux-Arts style store for the Park & Tilford grocery concern (1892-93) displays the increasing classicism of the firm's work. The firm's prominence continued well into the twentieth century. McKim retired in 1907 and died two years later. The firm remained active for a number of years, first under the leadership of Mead, and then under many talented young architects. Mead retired to Europe in 1920.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 54, 82.


Leland M. Roth, McKim, Mead & White, Architects (New York, 1983).


MARVIN H. MELTZER (dates undetermined)

432-436 Columbus Avenue, 99

Marvin Herman Meltzer joined the American Institute of Architects in 1970, and collaborated with architect Fred C. Iary on the reconstruction of flats to a small apartment building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

MORTIMER C. MERRITT (1840?-1931)

128 West 73rd Street, 332

Mortimer C. Merritt was born in New York and graduated from the College of the City of New York (now City College) in 1859. He was established as an architect by 1868 and always worked independently. Merritt's practice consisted mostly of commercial structures, including the Hugh O'Neil Building in the Ladies Mile Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a rowhouse (1883-84) in a Medieval Revival style. Merritt practiced architecture until about 1915.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 54.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.


CHARLES BRADFORD MEYERS (1875?-1958)

7-21 West 83rd Street, 529

A graduate of Pratt Institute and City College, Charles Bradford Meyers was a prolific New York City architect whose practice was first established in 1900. While many of his designs were for residential buildings, he also designed several hospital and government buildings, in addition to the neo-Romanesque style Rodeph Shalom Synagogue Complex (1928-30) included in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. (See essay on religious institutions for more information.) During his career Meyers worked for the Building Code Revision Commission and other city agencies. A member of the American Institute of Architects and the New York Society of Architects, Meyers won a gold medal for his New York State Building at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 55.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

GEORGE G. MILLER (b. 1893)

35-45 West 92nd Street, 680

George Gottlieb Miller was born in New York City and was educated at Columbia University. Early in his career he served as chief draftsman for the firm of Gronenberg & Leuchtag (see). He established an independent practice in 1921 designing buildings of a variety of types. His principal works, however, were apartment buildings, examples of which can be found in the Bronx and in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Miller was a member of the New York Society of Architects and of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.


WILLIAM J. MINOGUE (1902-1954)

128 West 72nd Street, 306

William J. Minogue, a native of New York, studied at Columbia University. He was active in the first half of the twentieth century, particularly in work for the Catholic Archdiocesan Building Committee. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Minogue undertook alterations to an existing building.


FRANCIS A. MINUTH (dates undetermined)

487, 489, 491 Columbus Avenue, 110
493-495 Columbus Avenue, 111
569-579 Columbus Avenue, 121
57, 59 & 61, 63 West 68th Street, 185

Little is known of Francis A. Minuth. He was established as an architect in New York by 1887 and was responsible for the design of many rowhouses in the city including a group in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District and several in the Riverside-West End Historic District. Minuth also designed flats buildings in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District and typically worked in the Renaissance Revival and Queen Anne styles.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 55.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
Charles T. Mott established an architectural practice in Brooklyn by 1885 and moved his firm to Manhattan in 1887. From 1893 to 1896 Mott worked in partnership with Hugo Kafka (see). A prolific architect in New York, examples of Mott’s residential designs can be found in the Park Slope and West End-Collegiate Historic Districts, as well as in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District where he was responsible for one group of rowhouses. He also designed the Long Point Hotel in Senaca Lake, New York. Mott typically employed a mixture of nineteenth-century styles for his designs, including elements of the Queen Anne, Romanesque Revival, Francois I, and Renaissance Revival styles. Mott was elected a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1894.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 56.

Jacob Wrey Mould was born in Chiselhurst, Kent, England and received his education at King’s College in London, graduating in 1842. Mould studied architecture under Owen Jones and assisted him in compiling and illustrating a book on the Alhambra in Granada, Spain, an important architectural monument with a wealth of polychromatic ornamental features. He also collaborated on a book entitled "Grammar of Ornament." In 1852 Mould moved to New York and established a practice. His first major commission was for All Soul’s Unitarian Church and Parsonage (1853-55, demolished), in which he introduced constructional polychromy to American architecture. In subsequent ecclesiastical designs Mould designed in the English High Victorian Gothic style. His work in association with Calvert Vaux for the first building for the American Museum of Natural History, located in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, exhibits this style. (See essay on institutional buildings for more information.)

As assistant architect to Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux, Mould devoted much of his career to the design of architectural details for structures in Central Park. His most notable work there is the Terrace
continuation of ... Jacob Wrey Mould

(now known as the Bethesda Terrace). Later he served as architect-in-chief of the New York Department of Public Parks. Mould also designed residences, and in collaboration with Vaux, the first building of the Metropolitan Museum of Art (1874-80) which is now incorporated into the much expanded museum complex. From 1875-79 Mould was employed by Henry Meiggs as architect-in-chief of the Department of Public Works in Lima, Peru. Returning to New York in 1880, he designed architectural features for Morningside Park, then worked again for the Department of Public Parks as a draftsman.


MULLIKEN & MOELLER

Harry B. Mulliken (1872-1952)
Edgar J. Moeller (1874-1954)

251 Central Park West, 42
257 Central Park West, 43
521-527 [a/k/a 77 West 85th Street], 529-535 [a/k/a 76 West 86th Street]
Columbus Avenue, 116
261-267 Amsterdam Avenue, 124
269-275 Amsterdam Avenue, 124
2016-2018 Broadway, 161

Harry B. Mulliken was born in Sterling, Illinois, and graduated from Columbia University in 1895. He studied architecture under William R. Ware and A.D.F. Hamlin, and in Paris. A member of the Architectural League, he was associated with D.H. Burnham in Chicago in 1895-96 and Ernest Flagg in New York in 1897. Edgar J. Moeller also graduated from Columbia in 1895 and was elected president of the Columbia Alumni Federation in 1921. He remained involved in alumni affairs for most of his life.

Mulliken and Moeller had joined in practice by 1902 and designed many apartment buildings and hotels in New York. Several of these buildings, designed in the neo-Renaissance and Beaux-Arts styles and dating from 1904 to 1907, appear in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Independently, Mulliken designed a neo-Renaissance style hotel, as well. Mulliken retired from practice in 1949 after which Moeller practiced independently.
Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 57.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

HARRY B. MULLIKEN (1872-1952)
402-408 Amsterdam Avenue, 137
(See Mulliken & Moeller, above)

JULIUS F. MUNCKWITZ (1829-1902)
424 Columbus Avenue, 96

Julius F. Munckwitz was born in Leipzig and was established as an architect in New York in 1862. In the early 1870s he was appointed Supervising Architect and Superintendent of Parks and designed a small hotel in the Ladies Mile Historic District. His jurisdiction in this capacity included Central Park and his son by the same name succeeded him in this position. Munckwitz worked through 1900 designing buildings of all types; a small Beaux-Arts style commercial building dating from the end of his career was erected according to his design in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. He was a member of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and was elected to Fellowship in 1864.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 57.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
Julius F. Munckwitz obituary, American Architect & Building News 78 (Nov. 29, 1902), 66.
Thomas P. Neville (dates undetermined)
George A. Bagge (dates undetermined)

292 & 293 Central Park West, 48
498 [a/k/a 101 West 84th Street] & 504 Columbus Avenue, 114
123, 125, 127, 129, 131 West 75th Street, 379
117-119 West 79th Street, 441
119, 121 & 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139 West 80th Street, 462
151, 153, 155 West 80th Street, 466
167, 169 West 80th Street, 468
35-39 West 81st Street, 479
110, 112, 114 West 81st Street, 488
124, 126, 128, 130 West 81st Street, 490
158-160 West 81st Street, 493
50 West 86th Street, 595
35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61 West 88th Street, 634
103, 105, 107, 109 West 88th Street, 639
128-130, 132, 134 West 88th Street, 646
136, 138, 140, 142 West 88th Street, 646
144, 146, 148 West 88th Street, 647
150, 152, 154, 156 West 88th Street, 648
11, 13, 15, 17 West 89th Street, 650
59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71 West 89th Street, 654
26, 28, 30, 32 West 95th Street, 703
34, 36, 38 West 95th Street, 704

George A. Bagge established an architectural practice in New York by 1889.
Thomas P. Neville began his career in 1892 when he joined Bagge in partnership.
The firm of Neville & Bagge was active through the second decade of the twentieth century,
specializing in the neo-Renaissance style for store and loft buildings, many located in the Ladies Mile Historic District, and apartment buildings, some found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. The firm's residential work was concentrated on Manhattan's West Side and they were extremely prolific during the 1890s in the design of rowhouses and flats in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. There it is concentrated primarily in the blocks of 80th, 81st, and 88th Street, between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues. The work of the firm is also found in Harlem, as well as in the Chelsea, Hamilton Heights, and Mount Morris Park Historic Districts.

Bagge was also responsible for several independent designs for flats and rowhouses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, all predating the Neville & Bagge partnership. Three additional apartment buildings were designed by the firm of George A. Bagge & Sons, established after that of Neville & Bagge.

continuation of . . . . Neville & Bagge

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

NORMAN & FARBER

Oscar A. Norman (dates undetermined)
William C. Farber (dates undetermined)
6, 8 West 87th Street, 613

Little is known of the architectural firm of Norman & Farber which was established in New York by 1899 with offices at 111 Fifth Avenue. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm designed a row of four Chateauesque style houses, of which two survive.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 58.

A.B. OGDEN & SON

Alfred B. Ogden (dates undetermined)
Samuel B. Ogden (dates undetermined)
320 Columbus Avenue, 87
441-447 [a/k/a 175 West 81st Street] Amsterdam Avenue and 167, 169, 171, 173 West 81st Street, 144
477 Amsterdam Avenue, 151
128, 130, 132, 134 West 71st Street, 270
113, 115, 117, 119, 121 West 75th Street, 378
107 & 109 & 111 West 82nd Street, 512
137 West 82nd Street, 515
12, 14, 16, 18, 20 West 83rd Street, 536

Alfred B. Ogden established an independent New York City architectural practice in 1874. In 1885 he invited his son, Samuel B. Ogden, to join his firm and changed the name to A.B. Ogden & Son. The father and son team specialized in rowhouse design in the Queen Anne, Romanesque Revival, and Renaissance Revival styles, and examples of their work can be found in the Carnegie Hill and Greenwich Village Historic Districts. A.B. Ogden & Son designed several flats and rowhouses, predominantly in the Renaissance Revival style, in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.
continuation of . . . . A.B. Ogden & Son

In 1897 the firm became S.B. Ogden & Co. with Samuel B. Ogden and John H. Tomlinson as principals in the firm, presumably following the death or retirement of Alfred.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 58.


J.W. OGDEN, JR. (dates undetermined)

159, 161, 163, 165 West 71st Street, 265

Little is known of architect J.W. Ogden, Jr. His architectural practice was established in New York City by 1871, the year in which he designed a row of Italianate style houses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. It is one of the earliest groups of rowhouses to be built in the district.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 58.

GEORGE PACCISON

225, 227, 229 Columbus Avenue, 66

HENRY PALMER (dates undetermined)

47 West 94th Street, 689

Little is known of architect Henry Palmer whose practice was established in New York by 1882. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Palmer designed a Queen Anne style rowhouse.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 60.
George Frederick Pelham was born in Ottawa, Canada and was brought to New York as a child. His father, George Brown Pelham (1831-1889), opened an
continuation of . . . George F. Pelham

architectural practice in New York in 1875 and served as an architect with the City's Department of Parks. After being privately tutored in architecture and serving as a draftsman for a number of years, George F. Pelham opened his own office in 1890. A prolific architect, he specialized in apartment buildings designed in the neo-Renaissance, neo-Gothic, and neo-Federal styles during the forty-three years that he practiced, and his work is found in the Riverside-West End, Ladies Mile, and Upper East Side Historic Districts. Especially active on the Upper West Side, Pelham's work is well-represented in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, where he designed rows of Renaissance Revival style houses and flats early in his career and by 1916 shifted to the design of larger apartment buildings in the neo-Renaissance style.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 60.

THE PENTA GROUP, ARCHITECTS

143 West 72nd Street, 296

CHARLES J. PERRY (dates undetermined)

428 Columbus Avenue, 98

Little is known of Charles J. Perry. Established as an architect in New York by 1889, Perry designed a small cast-iron-fronted office building (1900) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 61.
ARTHUR DONOVAN PICKERING (1861-?)

221-223 Columbus Avenue, 66

Arthur Donovan Pickering was born in Chicago, Illinois and studied architecture in New York with John H. Duncan (see) and Bruce Price. Residing in Brooklyn, Pickering established a New York City architectural practice in 1886 with an office in Manhattan. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a Renaissance/Romanesque Revival style flats building soon after setting up practice. A member of the Architectural League, Pickering collaborated for a time with Harry L. Walker.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 61.


F.P. PLATT & BROTHER

Frederick Putnam Platt (d. 1955)
Charles Carsten Platt (dates undetermined)

170-172 West 72nd Street, 314
147-151 West 74th Street, 354

Frederick Putnam Platt, a native New Yorker, was an architect in the city for more than fifty years. For forty years he was the senior partner in F.P. Platt & Brother with Charles Carsten Platt, a firm which became well-known for the design of housing projects and Horn & Hardart Automat restaurants. The firm was involved with many conversions and renovations and maintained an alterations department for twenty-five years. Examples of the firm's work can be found in the Ladies Mile Historic District, as well as in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District where it was responsible for a neo-Renaissance style apartment building (1922) and a Horn & Hardart restaurant (1931).

George Mort Pollard (b. 1865)
Joseph L. Steinam (dates undetermined)

39-41 West 67th Street, 177

George Mort Pollard was born in Brooklyn and studied at the College of the City of New York, now City College. He established an architectural practice in New York around 1894 and formed a partnership in 1897 with Joseph L. Steinam, a member of the Architectural League who lived in New York. Pollard & Steinam specialized in the design of studio buildings, a specific type of multiple dwelling developed to accommodate living and working spaces for artists, typically in duplex units. The firm's work is represented in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District by a neo-Renaissance style studio building constructed in 1906-07. Independently, Pollard designed another studio building in the district, the neo-Gothic style Hotel des Artistes, constructed from 1915 to 1918. Both buildings were constructed on the north side of West 67th Street, along with another studio building, the earliest of those on the block, designed by Simonson & Sturgis (see) in 1902-03 and two others designed by Simonson, Pollard & Steinam (see) in 1904-05. The duplex studio units in these buildings take advantage of the northern exposure available at the rear that was preferred by artists for their work.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 62, 77.
JOHN RUSSELL POPE (1874-1937)

175 Central Park West, 30

Born in New York, John Russell Pope studied at the College of the City of New York, Columbia University, the American Academy in Rome, and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Returning to New York in 1900, Pope entered the office of Bruce Price. During this time he met Charles McKim of McKim, Mead & White (see), an association which greatly influenced his later designs. By 1903 Pope had established an independent practice in New York. His commissions were for public buildings, colleges, churches, hospitals, monuments and private residences; those displaying traditional classical styles are considered his most successful. Pope is best known for his monuments and grand public institutions: the Roosevelt Memorial Wing of the American Museum of Natural History in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District (a designated New York City Landmark), and Constitution Hall (1929), the National Archives Building (1935), the National Gallery of Art (1939), and the Jefferson Memorial (completed after his death), all in Washington, D.C. Also in New York City, Pope designed the Mrs. Graham Fair Vanderbilt House (1930-31) and the Frick Reference Library (10 East 71st Street), both designated New York City Landmarks.

Pope was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and received medals of honor from the Architectural League and the New York Chapter of the AIA. At the time of his death Pope was considered one of the foremost architects in the United States.

Herbert Croly, "Recent Works of John Russell Pope," Architectural Record 29 (June, 1911), 441-508.
Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 62.
Little is known of architect James S. Post. His practice was established in New York by 1886, the year in which he designed a row of Renaissance Revival style houses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 62.

WILLIAM APPLETON POTTER (1842-1909)

Born in Schenectady, William Appleton Potter spent his childhood in Philadelphia. His family was influential in ecclesiastical circles — his father was Alonzo Potter, Episcopal Bishop of Pennsylvania and vice president of Union College, and his brother was Henry Codman Potter, Episcopal Bishop of New York. William graduated from Union College in 1864, where he specialized in chemistry and later taught that subject at Columbia University. Potter returned from a tour of Europe in 1867 to apprentice in the New York architectural office of his half-brother, Edward T. Potter. By 1869, he was working independently in this office, and two years later, was appointed architect of Princeton College, a position which established his professional reputation and occupied him through the mid-1870s and later. Potter formed a partnership with R.H. Robertson in late 1874 or early 1875 which lasted through 1880; the work of this partnership included commissions for university buildings and suburban houses featuring Queen Anne and Shingle style designs. In 1875 Potter served as Supervising Architect of the Treasury in Washington, D.C., in which capacity he designed customs houses and post offices.

The majority of Potter's commissions were for schools, government buildings, and churches. In the 1870s he designed in the High Victorian Gothic style, as represented in the Chancellor Green Library at Princeton University (1871-73), the South Congregational Church in Springfield, Mass. (1873-75), and the Evansville Customs House in Indiana (1875-79). In the late 1880s and early 1890s his designs were executed in the Romanesque Revival style, influenced by the work of Henry Hobson Richardson. The St. Agnes Chapel complex (of which the Parish House at 121 West 91st Street is extant, a designated New York City Landmark) falls within this period, as does Potter's Holy Trinity Church complex at 230 Lenox Avenue (1887-89, now St. Martin's Episcopal Church, a designated New York City Landmark); the Grand Rapids (Michigan) Courthouse and Post Office (1875 on); and Alexander Hall at Princeton University (1891-94). The Gothic Revival Church of the Divine Paternity in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District is another of Potter's important ecclesiastical designs. (See essay on religious institutions for more
continuation of . . . William Appleton Potter

information.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 62.


JOHN G. PRAGUE (dates undetermined)

509-517 Columbus Avenue, 113
508-516 Columbus Avenue, 115
520-526 Columbus Avenue, 117
528-534 Columbus Avenue, 118
541-547 [a/k/a 61 West 86th Street], 549-555 [a/k/a 72 West 87th Street]
        Columbus Avenue, 119
540-546 [a/k/a 101 West 86th Street] & 548-556 [a/k/a 100 West 87th Street]
        Columbus Avenue, 120
460 Amsterdam Avenue, 151
521-527 Amsterdam Avenue, 159
68, 70, 72 West 85th Street, 572
74, 76 West 85th Street, 573
107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121 West 85th Street, 574
123, 125, 127, 129 West 85th Street, 575
137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159 & 161, 163, 165
        West 85th Street, 577
167, 169 and 173 West 85th Street, 580
55 West 86th Street, 587
103 West 86th Street, 597
123, 125, 127, 129 West 86th Street, 599
137 West 86th Street, 600
102 West 86th Street, 601
112 West 86th Street, 603
124 West 86th Street, 605
70 West 87th Street, 620
102, 104, 106, 108 West 87th Street, 627
110, 112, 114, 116 West 87th Street, 628
118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132 West 87th Street, 629
134, 136, 138, 140, 142 West 87th Street, 630

John G. Prague, architect and builder, established a New York City
architectural practice in 1867. In 1871 he was associated with architect James MacGregor, and in 1895 he formed a partnership with Jesse Acker Hays. Prague's practice was mainly residential with styles varying from Italianate to neo-Grec and Queen Anne. His work as an architect and builder was concentrated on the Upper East and West Sides of Manhattan. He was especially prolific in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District where numerous rows of flats and houses were constructed according to his designs in variations of the Romanesque Revival and Queen Anne styles. Often acting as his own developer, and sometimes in collaboration with real estate speculator D. Willis James, Prague's work in the district is concentrated in the blocks of 85th to 87th Streets between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues. A particularly noteworthy example of Prague's work is the Brockholst, a Romanesque Revival style apartment hotel at the northwest corner of Columbus Avenue and West 85th Street. In 1894 Prague suffered severe financial difficulties, owing considerable amounts of money to building materials dealers. Even so, he was considered one of the most popular architects and most prolific of builders in the city. Prague was a member of the American Institute of Architects and its New York Chapter.


FRANK RANDAZZO (b. 1899)

12 West 75th Street, 371
39 West 84th Street, 553
20-22 West 87th Street, 615

Frank Randazzo was born in Palermo, Italy and was educated at the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design, graduating in 1920. From 1930-35 he was Assistant Architect for the State of New York and from 1935-37 he was the architectural designer for the City of New York Department of Hospitals. In 1937 he joined the firm of Randazzo & Samenfeld, while also working independently. He received commissions for commercial, residential, industrial, religious, and public buildings, and in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District reconstructed rowhouses into the equivalent of small apartment buildings. Randazzo was a member of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

SAMUEL B. REED (dates undetermined)

112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124 West 88th Street, 645

Samuel B. Reed was established as an architect and builder in 1873 with offices in Queens, New York. In 1880 his office relocated to lower Broadway in Manhattan. In 1878 he wrote House Plans for Everybody and in 1883 Cottage Houses for Village and Country. These books contained designs for houses which were also published in the leading agricultural journal of the day, "The Agriculturist," and addressed the need for economical and practical house plans for farmers and mechanics. Reed designed the Bloomingdale Reformed Church at the northeast corner of Broadway and 68th Street (1883, demolished) and the Passaic County Court House in Paterson, New Jersey. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a row of Romanesque Revival style houses. Reed was a member of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the U.S. Public Architectural League.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 63.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

CHARLES RENTZ (dates undetermined)

480 [a/k/a 201 West 83rd Street], 482 Amsterdam Avenue, 156

Little is known of architect Charles Rentz. His practice was established in New York by 1885 and in 1888 he began a brief partnership with Rudolph L. Lange. Rentz designed Renaissance Revival style tenements in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District in addition to many other residential structures throughout the city, including several in the Greenwich Village Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 64.
PAUL RESNICK (1907-1966)

80 Central Park West, 8

Paul Resnick was born in Brooklyn and was trained as a draftsman. Registered in 1945, he practiced architecture in partnership with Rosario Candela (see). Following Candela's death in 1953, Resnick practiced architecture in association with Harry F. Green (see). A member of the American Institute of Architects, Resnick received commissions for apartment buildings on Manhattan's East Side, and a single example of his work, dating from 1965, can be found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.


RICH & MATHESIUS

Charles A. Rich (1855-1943)
Frederick Mathesius, Jr. (1880-1963)

70 Central Park West, 6

Frederick Mathesius, Jr. was educated at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating in 1902. A member of the American Institute of Architects and the Architectural League, he primarily designed school and office buildings. Later in his career Mathesius acted as chairman of the New York Architect's Code Committee and was the Northeast Regional Chairman of the Federal Housing Administration. Charles Alonzo Rich, previously associated with the firm of Lamb & Rich (see), practiced independently after that firm's dissolution in 1899.

In 1913 Rich and Mathesius joined in partnership. Their collaboration produced a neo-Renaissance style studio building in the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 48.
Charles William Romeyn was born in Kingston, New York, and trained in the architectural offices of William B. Olmsted, Calvert Vaux (see), and others. With Olmsted he planned commercial and industrial buildings. Romeyn established an independent architectural practice in New York in 1880. At various times throughout his career Romeyn was associated with another architect, Arthur Jay Stever, under the firm names of Charles W. Romeyn & Co. and, in the 1890s, Romeyn & Stever. Romeyn designed a carriage house located in the Upper East Side Historic District and the Old Grolier Club (later the Kiamie residence, a designated New York City Landmark). He devoted the later years of his career to the design of apartment buildings, an example of which — the Beaux-Arts style Prasada — can be found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. A member of the American Institute of Architects and the Architectural League, Romeyn retired from practice in 1913.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 66.
FRANK A. ROOKE (dates undetermined)

371 Amsterdam Avenue, 132

Little is known of architect Frank A. Rooke. His practice was established in New York in 1887, the year in which he designed a building combining a store, a stable, and flats in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Rooke also designed the Claremont Riding Academy and the adjacent stables at 173-177 West 89th Street, and in 1880 joined in partnership with Paul F. Higgs. Active until 1890, that partnership produced rowhouses in the Park Slope Historic District, as well as flats in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District adjacent to the building designed by Rooke. Both the Rooke and the Higgs & Rooke buildings were commissioned by Lorton Horton. Rooke later returned to private practice.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 39, 66.

WILLIAM ROPER

10-16 West 84th Street, 555

ROSS & MCNEIL

James Ross (1864-1944)
Charles R. McNeil (dates undetermined)

133 West 70th Street, 238

James Ross was born in Williamsburg, Va., moved to Yonkers, New York as a boy, and studied at Columbia University. Ross became associated with architect Charles R. McNeil; the firm of Ross & McNeil was established in 1899 and remained active for nearly forty years. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm altered an existing rowhouse in 1902 with the addition of one story and a mansard roof.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 54, 66.

Erick Kensett Wright (1853-1941)
Frank Ayres Wright (1855-1949)

137, 139, 141, 143 West 81st Street, 484

Erick K. Rossiter was born in Paris, France, studied at Cornell University, and later acted as managing director of the Central Park Studios, a cooperatively-financed studio building located in the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District. He first established an independent architectural practice in New York in 1879. Frank A. Wright was born in Liberty, New York and studied at Cornell University, graduating in 1879. In that year he established himself in the practice of architecture.

In 1880 Rossiter and Wright joined in partnership. At the turn of the century the firm's work included the President Taylor Residence at Vassar College and the Hotel Royalton at 47 West 43rd Street. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm designed a row of Romanesque Revival style houses dating from 1886-87.

Both partners were members of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Architectural League. Wright also taught architectural courses and wrote "Modern House Painting" (1880) and "Architectural Perspective for Beginners" (1882). Rossiter later practiced under the firm name of Rossiter & Muller.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 66, 84.
Emery Roth was born in Galzecs, Hungary and was sent to America in 1884. He first immigrated to Chicago and then to Bloomington, Illinois. With painting and drawing as his hobbies, and with no formal architectural training, he spent three years as an apprentice in an architectural firm, most of which time was spent copying plates of classical orders. In Bloomington, Roth also worked as a carpenter/builder for a short time. After an unsuccessful attempt to find work in Kansas City, Roth was offered, and accepted, a position with Burnham & Root as a draftsman for the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Roth assisted Julius Harder with the preparation of drawings for the celebrated Palace of Fine Arts, (which had been designed by Charles B. Atwood), and drew plans for two small fair pavilions. He also assisted Richard Morris Hunt with modifications to his plans for the fair’s Administration Building. Roth so impressed Hunt with his talent that he was promised a job with Hunt in New York if he chose to relocate.

Faced with the difficulty of finding work in Chicago after the close of the Exposition, Roth opened a very successful mail-order architectural rendering business. He soon decided to move to New York and was hired into Hunt’s office. While with Hunt, Roth drafted interior perspectives of the Breakers, Cornelius Vanderbilt’s Newport, Rhode Island, mansion, and met Ogden Codman, Jr., an architectural and interior designer. After Hunt’s death, Roth accepted a position in Codman’s office, where he became
familiar with historical styles.

In 1895 Roth opened his own office at 248 West 16th Street. Three years later, he bought the architectural practice of Theodore G. Stein & Eugene Yancey Cohen for $1000. As part of the agreement, Roth was entitled to represent himself as a partner in the firm of Stein, Cohen & Roth in order to capitalize on the established name of the firm; in reality, Roth worked on his own. To the firm’s credit are the Irving Place Theater (1899–1900) and the Saxony Apartments (1901) at 250 West 82nd Street, Roth’s first apartment design.

Soon after the turn of the century Roth returned to independent practice, specializing in luxurious apartment houses. The Hotel Belleclaire (1901–03, 2171–2179 Broadway, a designated New York City Landmark) which exhibits elements of the French Beaux-Arts and Viennese Secession styles, is considered Roth’s first major work in New York City. In the 1910s he experimented with the Art Nouveau style, and in the 1920s his designs became more classically-inspired and often incorporated elements of the Art Deco style. Among Roth’s designs are three of the notable towered buildings on Central Park West, the San Remo Apartments (1928–29, 145 Central Park West), the Beresford Apartments (1928–29, 211 Central Park West), and the Eldorado Apartments (300 Central Park West, in association with architects Margon & Holder), all designated New York City Landmarks, and many other apartment buildings included in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Other examples of his work can be found in the Riverside-West End Historic District. In 1932 Roth’s son Richard, and later his son Julian, joined the firm which then became known as Emery Roth & Sons. The younger Roths continued in practice after their father’s death and enjoyed prolific careers. That firm was responsible for Art Moderne style apartment building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. The firm still exists today.

Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1900), 56.
Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1901), 62.
Steven Ruttenbaum, Mansions in the Clouds (New York, 1986).
SAMUEL ROTH (dates undetermined)
49 West 68th Street, 185
161 West 71st Street, 265

Little has been discovered about the life or career of Samuel Roth. He practiced architecture in New York from the 1920s to the 1950s and was responsible for alterations to existing buildings in the Upper East Side, Ladies Mile, and Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic Districts.


ROUSE & GOLDSTONE

William L. Rouse (1874-1963)
Lafayette A. Goldstone (1876-1956)

118-126 West 70th Street, 241
117-121 West 71st Street, 260
138-140 West 71st Street, 272
138-144 West 79th Street, 451

William Laurence Rouse was born in New York City and educated at the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey. After setting up his practice in the early twentieth century, he began to design apartment buildings. The Hendrik Hudson Apartments at Riverside Drive and 110th Street (1907) is one of his most successful early works noted for its ornate Renaissance-inspired belvederes at the roof line. Early in his career, Rouse worked with John T. Sloan. The firm of Rouse & Sloan was responsible for a six-story neo-Georgian style flats building in the Riverside-West End Historic District. From 1909 to 1926 Rouse worked in partnership with Lafayette A. Goldstone (see).

Rouse & Goldstone established an early foothold in the redevelopment of the Upper East and Upper West Sides of Manhattan with apartment buildings which altered the appearance and character of these neighborhoods in the years before and after World War I. Examples of the firm's work can be found in the Riverside-West End Historic District and in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District where its designs reflect a variety of styles.

The firm of Rouse & Goldstone & Steinam also designed an apartment building at 43-47 East 62nd Street (1914-15, located in the Upper East Side Historic District) which was given a medal by the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for its handsome brick and marble facade. (see also Pollard & Steinam and Simonson, Pollard & Steinam)
After 1926, Rouse and Goldstone practiced separately, each continuing to specialize in apartment house design. In 1941 Goldstone was associated with Frederick L. Ackerman on the design of the Lillian Wald Houses (1947), a joint project of the New York City Housing Authority and the New York State Division of Housing.


JOHN C. RUMF

430 Columbus Avenue, 98
103 West 80th Street, 462

SAMUEL SASS (dates undetermined)

2 West 90th Street, 667

Samuel Sass was established in independent architectural practice from 1893. In 1899 Sass joined Max J. Smallheiser in partnership to form the firm of Sass & Smallheiser. The firm lasted at least until 1905, designing numerous apartment buildings in the city, after which time Sass returned to independent practice. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Sass designed a Romanesque Revival style stable.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 67, 70, 95.

Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1900), 54.
Key to the Architects of Greater New York (New York, 1901), 58.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

JOSEPH SCHAFRAN (dates undetermined)

44 West 96th Street, 709

Little is known of architect Joseph Schafran. He joined the Bronx Chapter of the American Institute of Architects in 1946 and in 1962 had offices at 2112 Broadway. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Schafran altered an existing flats building in 1961.


JOHN E. SCARUSMITH (dates undetermined)

35-37 West 67th Street, 176

John E. Scharsmith was established as an architect in New York in 1889, at which time his name was spelled Schaarschmidt. In 1893 he worked with Arthur M. Thom & James W. Wilson in the firm of Thom, Wilson & Schaarschmidt (see Thom & Wilson). While this liaison was brief, lasting approximately one year, it produced the design for the New Criminal Courts Building (replaced in 1939 by the present Criminal Courts and Prison Building, "The Tombs"). In 1896 Scharsmith’s name was listed in directories with its anglicized spelling. At the turn of the century his specialty was listed as residences, although the only known residential buildings constructed according to his design were the Northern Renaissance style Swiss Home, a dormitory in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, and the Chatsworth Apartments at 340 and 344 West 72nd Street (a designated New York City Landmark).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 67.


GILBERT A. SCHELLENGER (dates undetermined)

354, 355 Central Park West, 56
301-303 Columbus Avenue, 79
305 & 307 Columbus Avenue, 79
306-316 Columbus Avenue, 84
483, 485 Columbus Avenue, 109
349, 351, 353 Amsterdam Avenue, 130
420 [a/k/a 201 West 80th Street], 422, 424, 426 Amsterdam Avenue and 203 West 80th Street, 142
449-455 [a/k/a 184 West 82nd Street] Amsterdam Avenue and 176, 178, 180, 182 West 82nd Street, 145
440 [a/k/a 201 West 81st Street], 442 Amsterdam Avenue, 146
448, 450, 452, 454 [a/k/a 200 West 82nd Street] Amsterdam Avenue, 148
462, 464, 466 Amsterdam Avenue, 152

A128
23 West 69th Street, 198
14, 16 West 69th Street, 203
18, 20 West 69th Street, 203
30, 32 West 69th Street, 205
34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46 West 69th Street, 206
48, 50, 52, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70 West 69th Street, 207
72, 74, 76 [a/k/a 191-199 Columbus Avenue] West 69th Street, 209
23, 25, 27, 29, 31 West 70th Street, 222
33, 35, 37, 39, 41 West 70th Street, 223
43, 45, 47, 49, 51 West 70th Street, 223
111, 113 West 70th Street, 235
125, 127 West 70th Street, 237
6, 8, 10, 12, 14 West 71st Street, 252
16 & 18, 20, 22 West 71st Street, 253
145, 147, 149 West 72nd Street, 296
130, 132, 134, 136, 138 West 72nd Street, 307
136, 138, 140 & 142, 144 West 73rd Street, 334
6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 West 75th Street, 370
133, 135, 137, 139, 141 West 75th Street, 381
143, 145, 147, 149, 151 West 75th Street, 382
104 West 75th Street, 385
106, 108, 110, 112 West 75th Street, 385
114, 116, 118, 120, 122 West 75th Street, 386
124, 126, 128, 130, 132 West 75th Street, 387
39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51 West 76th Street, 397
28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38 West 76th Street, 403
150, 152, 154, 156 West 77th Street, 427
123, 125 West 79th Street, 442
140, 142, 144, 146, 148 West 80th Street, 472
14, 16 West 82nd Street, 504
146 West 82nd Street, 523
172, 174 West 82nd Street, 525
104 West 83rd Street, 544
106, 108 West 83rd Street, 544
11, 11A West 84th Street, 549
27 West 84th Street, 551
29 West 84th Street, 552
41, 43, 45, 47 West 84th Street, 554
58, 60, 62, 64 West 85th Street, 571
66 West 85th Street, 572
30, 32, 34, 36, 38 West 87th Street, 616
159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169 West 87th Street, 626
14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 West 88th Street, 636
158, 160, 162, 164, 166 West 88th Street, 649
19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39 West 89th Street, 651
22, 24, 26, 28, 30 West 89th Street, 656
52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66 West 89th Street, 658
4, 6, 8, 10 West 90th Street, 667
7 West 92nd Street, 679
Gilbert A. Schellenger was established as an architect in New York by 1882. He had an extremely prolific career during the 1880s and ’90s. Examples of Schellenger’s work can be found in what are now the Carnegie Hill, Greenwich Village, Ladies Mile, and Upper East Side Historic Districts. In addition, he was the second most prolific architect in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, with work spanning almost twenty years. Working for a number of developers in the district, he was responsible for numerous rows of houses and flats, as well as a tenement. His designs were primarily executed in the Renaissance Revival style, although he also used the neo-Grec, Queen Anne, and Romanesque Revival styles.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 67.


WILLIAM SCHICKEL & CO.

William Schickel (1850-1907)
Isaac Edward Ditmars (1850-1934)
Hugo Kafka (1843-1915)

121 West 79th Street, 442

(See Schickel & Ditmars, below)

SCHICKEL & DITMARS

William Schickel (1850-1907)
Isaac Edward Ditmars (1850-1934)

51-53 Central Park West, 4
26 West 76th Street, 402
11 West 81st Street, 477

William Schickel is said to have received his initial architectural training in Germany before immigrating to New York City at the age of twenty. In New York he found employment as a draftsman in the office of one of the most important American architects of the second half of the
nineteenth century, Richard Morris Hunt. Hunt's office, organized along the lines of a Parisian atelier such as the one he had worked in during his years at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, was one of the few places in America at the time it was established where a young architect could receive an academic architectural education. Schickel worked for Hunt for about six months in the early 1870s, then entered the office of Henry Fernbach. In 1873, Schickel established his own practice, relying initially on the patronage of wealthy German immigrants for important commissions, such as those from the Ottendorfers: the German Dispensary (now known as the Stuyvesant Polyclinic Hospital, 1883-84) and the Ottendorfer Branch of the New York Public Library (1883-84), both designated New York City Landmarks. Schickel was especially prominent as an architect of commercial structures. These buildings are distinguished not only in their architectural quality but also in their innovative and attractive use of materials such as terra cotta and cast iron. Schickel also designed a number of buildings in the American version of the English-inspired Queen Anne style, exemplified by the Century Building at 33 East 17th Street, a rare surviving Queen Anne style commercial building in New York (1880-81, a designated New York City Landmark).

Schickel expanded his office in the 1880s and formed a partnership known as William Schickel & Company in 1887 with the architects Isaac E. Ditmars and Hugo Kafka. Ditmars, born in Nova Scotia, had been associated with New York architect John F. Miller before joining Schickel. He was a founder and past president of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and was nominated a Fellow in 1895. William Schickel & Co. designed a Renaissance Revival style rowhouse in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, as well as several major department stores in the Ladies Mile Historic District. Kafka left the firm after a short time to practice on his own, but Schickel & Ditmars was active from 1896 into the first decade of the twentieth century. This firm designed buildings for the Lenox Hill Hospital and several impressive Roman Catholic churches. In the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District the firm designed a Beaux-Arts style apartment building, the neo-Gothic style Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a Renaissance Revival style rowhouse.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 45.
ERNEST W. SCHNEIDER (dates undetermined)

461 [a/k/a 73-77 West 82nd Street], 463 and 467, 469, 471, 473, 475 [a/k/a 70 West 83rd Street] Columbus Avenue, 102

Little is known of Ernest W. Schneider. In 1885, he designed a row of neo-Grec style tenements located in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. In 1887 he joined Henry Herter in partnership. Schneider & Herter was responsible for the design of numerous residential buildings in the city, especially five- and six-story tenements on the Lower East Side in the 1890s. Examples of the firm’s work can be found in the Greenwich Village and Riverside-West End Historic Districts, as well. The firm also designed the Park East Synagogue at 163 East 67th Street (1889-90, a designated New York City Landmark).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 39, 68.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

SCHUMAN & LICHTENSTEIN

Sidney Schuman (dates undetermined)
Sam Lichenstein (dates undetermined)

7-21 West 83rd Street, 529

(See Schuman Lichtenstein Claman Efron, below)

SCHUMAN LICHTENSTEIN CLAMAN EFRON

Peter Claman (dates undetermined)
Jerrold Clarke (dates undetermined)
Albert Efron (b. 1929)

2040-2052 Broadway, 163

Sam Lichtenstein was a graduate of New York University and was a founding partner of the firm of Schuman & Lichtenstein with Sidney Schuman. That firm was responsible for alterations to the Congregation Rodeph Shalom Synagogue Complex (1928-30) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Peter Claman was educated at Pratt Institute, graduating in 1949. His
expertise is in residential and commercial development, zoning and site evaluation. The firm of Schuman, Lichtenstein & Claman was organized in 1949 and designed No. 2 Lincoln Square (1975) and the Montefiore Apartments II (1972), one of the tallest buildings in the Bronx. The firm was also associated with the design of the North Central Bronx Hospital.

Albert Efron was born in Brooklyn, New York. A Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, he received a Certificate of Architecture from the Institute of Design and Construction in 1959. The firm of Schuman Lichtenstein Claman Efron was organized in 1956, as Efron joined the firm and rose to limited partnership. Jerrold Clarke, a graduate of Pratt Institute, is currently a partner in the firm. His area of expertise is in institutional design and project development, including health care and geriatric facilities. Enzo DePol, also a partner, studied at Columbia University. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Schuman Lichtenstein Claman Efron designed the Postmodern style Coronado apartment building.


SCHWARTZ & GROSS

Simon I. Schwartz (1877-1956)
Arthur Gross (1877-1950)

55 Central Park West, 5
88 Central Park West, 9
91 Central Park West, 10
101 Central Park West, 11
241 Central Park West, 40
271 Central Park West, 45
315 Central Park West, 50
336 Central Park West, 54
19–21 West 69th Street, 197
102–106 West 69th Street, 215
30–36 West 70th Street, 231
111–115 West 71st Street, 260
139–147 West 71st Street, 263
114–116 West 72nd Street, 303
141–153 West 73rd Street, 326
155–161 West 79th Street, 445
150–158 West 79th Street, 452
150–156 West 80th Street, 473
35–39 West 82nd Street, 501
41–49 West 82nd Street, 501
170 West 82nd Street, 525
Simon I. Schwartz was a graduate of the Hebrew Technical Institute and was Henry Andersen's (see) head draftsman in the late 1890s. Arthur Gross was also a graduate of the Hebrew Technical Institute. Schwartz and Gross formed their successful partnership in 1902, and from the beginning specialized in the design of both luxury apartment buildings and hotels, including the Grosvenor (1925, 35 Fifth Avenue, in the Greenwich Village Historic District), the Croydon (Madison Avenue and 85th Street), and the Victoria (Seventh Avenue and 51st Street, now demolished), and worked throughout Manhattan. The firm also designed commercial structures, examples of which can be found throughout the Ladies Mile Historic District. Extremely prolific on the Upper West Side, Schwartz & Gross designed ten large apartment buildings, predominantly in the neo-Renaissance style, which are located in the Riverside-West End Historic District, and more than twice as many in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

GEORGE SCHWARZ

126 West 82nd Street, 520

CHARLES SEE (d. 1915)

410, 412, 414, 416 [a/k/a 200 West 80th Street] Amsterdam Avenue, 138

Little is known of architect Charles E. See, whose architectural practice was established in New York in 1890. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a row of Renaissance Revival style tenements.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 68.
JOHN SEXTON (d. 1904)

47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57 West 71st Street, 248
22 West 83rd Street, 537

Little is known of architect John Sexton whose architectural practice was established in the city by 1853. Shortly after establishing his own practice, Sexton joined O.C. Dodge in a short-lived partnership. Sexton’s “New York Times” obituary stated that he had designed a variety of prominent buildings. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, Sexton designed neo-Grec style rowhouses dating from the 1880s.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 69.


SHAPE & BRADY

42-50 West 67th Street, 180

SIMONSON & STURGIS

B. Hustace Simonson (dates undetermined)
Daniel Nathaniel Barney Sturgis (1866-1911)

23-27 West 67th Street, 175

Danforth Nathaniel Barney Sturgis, son of architect and architectural critic, Russell Sturgis, was born in New York and graduated from Yale in 1889. He was established as an architect in New York City by 1893 and practiced independently for several years, designing country residences. Like his father, Sturgis contributed to the architectural press. In 1903 he wrote "Brick Building in London" and in 1904 he wrote about the planning and decoration of the "Modern American Residence," both for the "Architectural Record." At the time of his death he was associated with the firm of Sturgis & Faxon, also of New York. Sturgis was a member of the Architectural League and the National Sculpture Society.

Sturgis practiced with B. Hustace Simonson for a time at the beginning of the twentieth century. Simonson was first established as an architect in New York in 1894 and was later associated with the firm of Simonson, Pollard & Steinam (see). Simonson & Sturgis designed a studio building in 1902-03, the first of its type to be constructed in the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District, whose design reflects an Art Nouveau/Arts and Crafts aesthetic. Other buildings in the district with which Simonson was involved were also studio buildings located on the northern
continuation of . . . Simonson & Sturgis

side of West 67th Street, whose duplex units at the rear take advantage of the northern exposure preferred by artists for their work.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 73.


SIMONSON, POLLARD & STEINAM

B. Hustace Simonson (dates undetermined)
George Mort Pollard (dates undetermined)
Joseph L. Steinam (dates undetermined)

11-15 West 67th Street, 173
29-33 West 67th Street, 175

B. Hustace Simonson was first established as an architect in New York in 1894. He worked under the firm names of Kramer & Simonson in 1895 and Brazier & Simonson in 1896. At the beginning of the twentieth century he practiced with Danforth N.B. Sturgis (see Simonson & Sturgis).

George Mort Pollard was born in Brooklyn and educated at the College of the City of New York, now City College. He established an architectural practice in New York around 1894 and in 1897 formed a partnership with Joseph L. Steinam, a member of the Architectural League (see Pollard & Steinam).

Simonson, Pollard & Steinam was active in the early part of the twentieth century. The firm designed the distinguished apartment building at 131-135 East 66th Street in the neo-Renaissance style (1905-07, a designated New York City Landmark, with Charles A. Platt). In the Upper West Side/ Central Park West Historic District, the firm designed two Neo-Renaissance style studio buildings in 1904-05. Both studio buildings were developed to accommodate living and working space for artists. Located on the northern side of West 67th Street, the duplex studios located at the rear were assured of the even, unshadowed northern sunlight typically preferred by artists for their work. The firms of Simonson & Sturgis and Pollard & Steinam also designed specialized studio buildings located on West 67th Street.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 69, 72.
Edward Chestre Smith (dates undetermined)
25, 27, 29, 31, 33 West 82nd Street, 500

Little is known of architect Edward Chestre Smith. His architectural practice was established in New York by 1886, the year in which he designed a row of Romanesque Revival style rowhouses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. In 1892 he had an office in Brooklyn and in 1894 he was listed in directories as Edward Belden Chestre-Smith.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 21, 70.

W. Holman Smith
35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45 West 94th Street, 689

John B. Snook & Sons
John Butler Snook (1815-1901)
Thomas Edward Snook (1864-1953)
James Henry Snook (1847-1917)
Samuel Booth Snook (1857-1915)
John W. Boyleston (1852-1932)

51 West 75th Street, 369

John Butler Snook was born in England where his father was a carpenter and builder. The younger Snook worked as a bookkeeper and draftsman in his father's office and there received a strong foundation in construction methods. By 1835 Snook was established as a carpenter/builder, in 1836 he worked with William Beer, and by 1837 he was established as an architect. The Snook/Beer partnership dissolved in 1840 and by 1842 Snook found work with Joseph Trench. Later Trench and Snook formed a partnership with Trench taking the senior position. The work of this firm helped to introduce the Anglo-Italianate style to New York with buildings such as the A.T. Stewart Store in 1846, the country's first department store (at Chambers Street and Broadway, a designated New York City Landmark), and the
continuation of . . . John B. Snook & Sons

Metropolitan Hotel. With Trench’s departure for California in the 1850s, Snook rose from junior partner to the head of the firm.

Snook became an extremely prolific architect-builder who worked in virtually all revival styles and designed structures of all types, thereby expanding his architectural practice into one of the largest in New York. The first Grand Central Station (1869-71, demolished) was one of his best known works. In 1887, Snook took his three sons (James Henry, Samuel Booth, and Thomas Edward) and a son-in-law (John W. Boyleston) into his office, changing the firm’s name to John B. Snook & Sons to celebrate the firm’s fiftieth anniversary. This firm was responsible for the addition of a mansard roof to an existing rowhouse in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. A few years after the death of John B. Snook, the firm’s name was changed to John B. Snook Sons. The firm continued well into the next century.


HERMAN M. SOHN

281-285 Amsterdam Avenue, 125

SOMMERFELD & STECKLER

William C. Sommerfeld (dates undetermined)
Benjamin Steckler (1874-1924)

112-116 West 70th Street, 240

Benjamin Steckler began his career with McKim, Mead & White (see). Both he and William C. Sommerfeld established independent architectural practices in New York by the late 1890s. As early as 1906 they established the firm of Sommerfeld & Steckler, which was active through 1915 with the design of apartment buildings, an example of which was constructed in 1922 and is located in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, and commercial structures, as seen in the Ladies Mile Historic District. Sommerfeld was probably well-versed in structural matters, for in 1937 he was called as an expert witness in a building collapse trial.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 71, 72.
ANDREW SPENCE (1826?-1907)
35, 37, 39 and 49, 51, 53 West 83rd Street, 531

Andrew Spence was a prolific New York City architect. First establishing his practice in 1851, Spence's work was mostly residential in nature and was concentrated on Manhattan's Upper West Side in the 1880s and '90s. A group of Italianate rowhouses designed by him is among the earliest of the rows constructed in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Other examples of his work, constructed in 1895, can be found in the Hamilton Heights Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 71.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

ABRAHAM SPERLING (dates undetermined)
159 West 72nd Street, 300

Abraham Sperling was born in Berlin, Germany, and was educated at Pennsylvania State College, earning a Certificate in Civil Engineering in 1944, and Pratt Institute, graduating with an architectural degree in 1947. In 1948, he joined the firm of Daniel Schwartzman & Assocs. In 1965 Sperling established his own firm and in 1972 he designed a commercial building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

SPRINGSTEEN & GOLDHAMMER

George W. Springsteen (1879?-1954)
Albert Goldhammer (dates undetermined)

153-155 West 72nd Street, 298

Born in Brooklyn, George W. Springsteen studied at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art and Pratt Institute. The early years of his architectural career were spent in the office of Rouse & Goldstone (see). He later formed the partnerships of Mast & Springsteen and Saff & Springsteen. In 1919 the firm of Springsteen & Goldhammer was formed with Albert Goldhammer, of whom little is known. In partnership for fifteen years, the firm was active in the design of apartments for low-cost housing in the city, many examples of which can be found in the Bronx. Their first such project was the Amalgamated Cooperative Apartments and was erected in 1926-27 at Sedgwick, Jackson, and Dickson Avenues in the Bronx. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Springsteen & Goldhammer designed a neo-Renaissance/neo-Romanesque style store and loft building in 1922-23. Independently, Goldhammer designed a synagogue, school and apartment building for the Society for the Advancement of Judaism in 1938.


GUSTAVE STEINBACK

146-150 [a/k/a 147-153 West 70th Street], 152 West 71st Street, 273

STEINMETZ & CARTER

12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 West 85th Street, 566

(See Christian Steinmetz, below)
CHRISTIAN STEINMETZ (dates undetermined)

144, 146, 148 West 70th Street, 243

Little is known of architect Christian Steinmetz, whose practice was established in New York by 1897. At the turn of the century, he was associated with architect William H. Boylan (see). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, Steinmetz designed a row of Queen Anne style houses. He may also have been a partner in the firm of Steinmetz & Carter which designed a row of neo-Grec houses in the district.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840–1900 (New York, 1979), 72.

SIDNEY V. STRATTON (dates undetermined)

122–128 West 69th Street, 219

The designer of the New York House and School of Industry on West 16th Street, Sidney V. Stratton was one of the first Americans to study at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris where he was in an atelier with Charles McKim (see McKim, Mead & White), with whom he became well-acquainted. Returning to New York in 1870, Stratton found employment with the prominent architect Richard Morris Hunt, in whose office he met Louis Sullivan. Stratton established his own practice in the city in 1877 and during the mid-1880s was an adjunct partner in the firm of McKim, Mead & White. It was during this period that Stratton added a porch and a tower to the Chapel of the Transfiguration (now Christ and St. Stephen’s Protestant Episcopal Church) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. From 1890–92 he practiced with Francis J. Ellingwood, then returned to private practice. A member of the New York Chapter and a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, Stratton was also a member of the Architectural League.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840–1900 (New York, 1979), 73.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
JAMES STROUD (dates undetermined)

5 West 95th Street, 696

Little is known of architect James Stroud. Establishing his practice by 1865, his work was mainly residential in nature. Stroud designed a Renaissance Revival style rowhouse (1890-91) in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 73.

SUGARMAN & BERGER

M. Henry Sugarman (1888-1946)
Albert G. Berger (1879-1940)

239 Central Park West, 40
262 Central Park West, 44
289-295 Columbus Avenue, 77
48-54 West 72nd Street, 284
17-25 West 86th Street, 584
27-35 West 86th Street, 585
37-41 West 86th Street, 585
49-53 West 86th Street, 587

M. Henry Sugarman was born in New York and studied at Columbia University, the National Academy of Design, and in England and France. He first practiced with New York architect J.E.R. Carpenter for eight years, then worked in Alabama and South Carolina from 1915 to 1917. He then formed the firm of Sugarman & Bloodgood which lasted until the early 1920s. A member of the American Institute of Architects he was awarded its Gold Medal in 1925.

Albert G. Berger was born in Hungary and studied architecture and engineering at the University of Budapest. He traveled to the United States in 1904 and began his architectural career with the New York firm of Schwartz & Gross (see) where he assumed the position of chief draftsman, and later practiced with the firm of Starrett & Van Vleck, also of New York.

Little is known of Arthur P. Hess. Sugarman, Hess and Berger practiced together in the 1920s. The organization of the partnership was flexible; Sugarman worked with Hess and Berger both together and separately.

The firm of Sugarman, Hess & Berger was responsible for a neo-Renaissance style apartment building located in the Riverside-West End Historic District in 1922-23. Sugarman & Hess designed the neo-Moorish style Standish Hall apartment hotel in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District in 1922. Sugarman & Berger was active in the district.
continuation of . . . . Sugarman & Berger

particularly around 1926-27, designing apartment buildings in the neo-Renaissance style. The firm was also responsible for the New Yorker Hotel and the Fifth Avenue Hotel and their work is represented in the Greenwich Village Historic District by two apartment buildings erected in 1925. In the Riverside-West End Historic District, the two partners designed one apartment building in the neo-Renaissance style.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.


Trow’s New York City Classified Directory (New York, 1925), 2461, 2462.
Henry F. Withey and Elsie R. Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased), (Los Angeles, 1970), 53, 582.

SUGARMAN & HESS

M. Henry Sugarman (1888-1946)
Arthur P. Hess (dates undetermined)

41-49 West 81st Street, 480

(See Sugarman & Berger, above)

B. ROBERT SWARTBURG (b. 1912)

171 West 85th Street, 581

Little is known of architect B. Robert Swartburg. He maintained offices in midtown Manhattan in the 1930s and undertook alterations to existing buildings in the Upper East Side and Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic Districts.

EDGAR TAFEL (dates undetermined)
11-15 West 88th Street, 631

Edgar Allen Tafel was born in New York City, was educated at New York University (1931-32), and received a fellowship to study at Taliesin under Frank Lloyd Wright (1932-41). He established his own firm early in his career and has received numerous commissions for residential, commercial, religious, and educational buildings. In 1959 Tafel designed the Church House of the First Presbyterian Church located in the Greenwich Village Historic District. An example of his school design is found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, an addition to the Walden School completed in 1967.

American Architects Directory (1962), 691.

TAYLOR & LEVI

Alfredo S.G. Taylor (dates undetermined)
Julian Clarence Levi (b. 1874)

8 West 86th Street, 589

Little is known of Alfred Taylor, although he held joint ownership in the Osborne Apartments, 205 West 57th Street (1883-85, James E. Ware), in 1906, the year he filed plans to enlarge that building. Julian Levi, born in New York City, was the son of Augustus Levi, one of the founders of the Society for Ethical Culture. (See essay on religious institutions for more information.) Levi received his A.B. from Columbia University in 1896, studied from 1895 to 1897 with Prof. William R. Ware at Columbia, and trained at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in 1898-1904 in the Atelier Ginain-Scellier de Gisore. On his return to New York he worked as a designer for six months in the office of Herbert D. Hale; from 1905-06, in association with Francis H. Kimball, he designed the J. & W. Seligman office and banking building in lower Manhattan; and in 1907 he formed the partnership of Taylor & Levi. Principal works of the firm include: the Chandler Building, the Kesner Department Store, and a cooperative apartment building at 160 East 72nd Street, all in New York City; the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Norfolk, Conn.; the Eclair Moving Picture Studio in Ft. Lee, New Jersey, (the first movie studio in the United States); and private residences in New York and elsewhere. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Taylor & Levi designed a Georgian Revival rowhouse (1908). Levi was an associate architect for the United States Pavilion at the Paris exposition of 1937 and for the Romanian House at the New York World’s Fair of 1939. As secretary of the committee on foreign building cooperation of the American Institute of Architects, he organized the first exhibition abroad of U.S. architecture (1921); was founder and first chairman of the French traveling fellowship of the A.I.A.; and was founder and first chairman (1930-35) of the
continuation of . . . . Taylor & Levi

architects' emergency committee which found jobs for unemployed
architects. He received many awards and citations in the United States
and abroad, and was also active as a painter and etcher.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, "Architects' Appendix," Upper
East Side Historic District Designation Report (LP-1051), (New York,

ALFRED H. TAYLOR (dates undetermined)

165 West 72nd Street, 299
133 West 78th Street, 434

Little is known of Alfred H. Taylor whose architectural practice was
established in New York City by 1897. A member of the Architectural
League, Taylor designed a new facade for a store and apartment building
in 1908 in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, and
in 1909 added a curved bay window to a rowhouse also in the district.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900
(New York, 1979), 74.

ALFRED A. TEARLE

210 West 79th Street, 459
218 West 79th Street, 460

THOM & WILSON

Arthur M. Thom (dates undetermined)
James W. Wilson (dates undetermined)

227 Central Park West, 38
171-179 Columbus Avenue, 58
190-198 Columbus Avenue, 60
200-208 Columbus Avenue, 64
220-228 Columbus Avenue, 68
230-238 Columbus Avenue, 68
241-247 Columbus Avenue, 69
249-257 Columbus Avenue, 70
240-242 Columbus Avenue, 71
244 & 246 Columbus Avenue, 71
270-276 Columbus Avenue, 75
286-294 Columbus Avenue, 78
351-357 Columbus Avenue, 90
360-368 Columbus Avenue, 91
376 Columbus Avenue, 92
451-457 Columbus Avenue, 100
481 Columbus Avenue, 108
501 [a/k/a 57 West 84th Street] & 503 Columbus Avenue, 111
505 & 507 Columbus Avenue, 112
561-567 Columbus Avenue, 121
407 Amsterdam Avenue, 135
409-415 Amsterdam Avenue, 136
468-476 Amsterdam Avenue, 153
68, 70 West 68th Street, 194
41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51 & 53, 55, 57, 59 West 69th Street, 200
103 & 105, 107 & 109 West 69th Street, 210
111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121 West 69th Street, 211
123, 125, 127 West 69th Street, 212
129, 131, 133, 135 West 69th Street, 212
108 West 69th Street, 216
9, 11, 15, 17, 19, 21 West 70th Street, 221
22, 24, 26, 28 West 70th Street, 230
40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58 West 70th Street, 232
103, 105, 107, 109 West 70th Street, 234
129, 131, 133 West 70th Street, 238
67 & 69 & 71 & 73 West 71st Street, 250
42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56 & 58, 60 West 71st Street, 256
103 West 71st Street, 259
131 West 71st Street, 262
102, 104, 106 West 71st Street, 267
108, 110, 112, 114, 116 West 71st Street, 269
118, 120, 122, 124, 126 West 71st Street, 269
129 West 72nd Street, 291
137 & 139, 141 West 72nd Street, 294
140 & 142 & 144 & 146 West 72nd Street, 309
150 & 152 & 152A-154, 156, 158 West 72nd Street, 310
102, 104, 106 & 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118 West 73rd Street, 329
120, 122, 124 West 73rd Street, 331
31, 33, 35, 37, 39 West 74th Street, 343
102, 104, 106, 108 West 74th Street, 357
110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128 West 74th Street, 358
110, 112, 114, 116, 118 West 76th Street, 412
140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150 West 76th Street, 414
103, 105 West 77th Street, 423
148 West 77th Street, 427
153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167 West 78th Street, 435
168 & 170 West 79th Street, 453
206, 208, 210, 212 & 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226 West 79th Street, 458
164 West 80th Street, 475
134, 136, 138 West 81st Street, 492
7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21 & 23 West 82nd Street, 498
62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74 West 82nd Street, 509
76, 78 West 82nd Street, 510
continuation of . . . . Thom & Wilson

202, 204, 206 West 83rd Street, 547
208, 210 West 83rd Street, 548
49, 51 & 53, 55 West 84th Street, 554
48, 50, 52, 54, 56 West 85th Street, 570
17, 19, 21, 23, 25 West 87th Street, 608
47, 49, 51, 53 West 87th Street, 611
59, 61, 63, 65 West 87th Street, 612
24, 26, 28 West 87th Street, 615
25, 27, 29, 31, 33 West 88th Street, 633
26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58 West 88th Street, 637
32, 34, 36, 38, 40 West 89th Street, 656
42, 44, 46, 48, 50 West 89th Street, 657
15 West 90th Street, 659
41, 43, 45 West 90th Street, 662
48 & 50 & 52 & 54 West 94th Street, 694

While the most prolific architectural firm represented in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District, little is known about the backgrounds of the partners in the firm of Thom & Wilson. In addition to several buildings located within the Greenwich Village Historic District, the architects Arthur M. Thom and James W. Wilson designed the Harlem Courthouse, a designated New York City Landmark. Erected in 1891-93, the Courthouse reflects the Romanesque Revival style with Victorian Gothic detailing. The firm was also responsible for a row of neo-Grec style brownstone-fronted houses located in the Metropolitan Museum Historic District. Collaborating with a third architect under the firm name of Thom, Wilson & Schaarschmidt (see John E. Scharsmith), the firm designed the Criminal Courts Building, erected on Centre Street in 1890-94 (demolished). Their numerous rows of houses and flats constructed on the Upper West Side of Manhattan in the 1880s and '90s, with examples in the Riverside-West End and Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic Districts, are highly inventive in design and generally executed in the neo-Grec and Renaissance Revival styles incorporating elements from a number of historic sources.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 74.
JOHN ROCHESTER THOMAS (1848-1901)

62 West 71st Street, 257

John Rochester Thomas was born in Rochester, New York and studied at the University of Rochester and in Europe. In 1874, after returning to New York, Thomas was appointed Architect and Commissioner of the State Reformatory in Elmira. In 1877 he established an independent practice in Rochester where he designed buildings for the Theological Seminary at the University. Thomas moved to New York City and established an office by 1882. This was a very successful move; Thomas was said to have designed more buildings in New York City than any of his contemporaries. Among his notable work in the city are armory buildings, such as the Squadron "A" Armory at Madison Avenue and 94th Street (surviving Madison Avenue facade is a designated New York City Landmark), the Second Reformed Church (now the Ephesus Seventh Day Adventist Church in the Mt. Morris Park Historic District), and the imposing Surrogate's Court (formerly the Hall of Records, a designated New York City Landmark). Thomas also designed the Brooks Museum of Natural History at the University of Virginia. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Thomas designed a Renaissance Revival style rowhouse.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 74.

THEODORE E. THOMSON (dates undetermined)

130, 132, 134, 136, 138 West 74th Street, 360
120, 122, 124, 126, 128 West 80th Street, 471
37, 39, 41, 43, 45 West 87th Street, 610
44, 46, 48 & 50 & 52 West 90th Street, 672

Little is known of Theodore E. Thomson. He was established in New York as an architect by 1874 and for a time had an office in Brooklyn. Much of his practice was devoted to the design of residential buildings in Manhattan. His work is represented in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District by four rows of Renaissance Revival style houses and a store. Other rowhouses constructed according to his designs appear in the Carnegie Hill Historic District (a neo-Grec style brownstone), and
continuation of . . . . Theodore E. Thomson

in the Riverside-West End Historic District (Renaissance Revival style rowhouses). Thomson continued in practice at least through the early 1900s.

Dennis Steadman Francis, *Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900* (New York, 1979), 75.


**LOUIS THOUVARD (dates undetermined)**

12-14 West 68th Street, 189

Little is known of architect Louis Thouvard. His architectural practice was established in New York by 1895, the year in which he designed a Queen Anne style rowhouse in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Thouvard also designed a factory and stables at the turn of the century.

Dennis Steadman Francis, *Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900* (New York, 1979), 75.

**TILLION & TILLION**

Clement V. Tillion (1892-1947)
Philip Garnier Tillion (1888-1951)
Philemon Tillion (dates undetermined)

158-168 West 73rd Street, 336

Philemon Tillion was born in Cheltenham, England and immigrated to the United States in 1880. His architectural practice was established in Brooklyn and was active there for twenty-five years. The firm then moved to Manhattan. Philemon had two sons, Clement V. and Philip Garnier, both born in Brooklyn. Clement studied at the University of Pennsylvania and Philip studied at Pratt Institute and Columbia University. Early in his career Clement worked for a number of architectural firms before entering the firm of his father in which his brother also practiced. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District the firm of Tillion & Tillion designed the neo-Gothic style Sherman Square Apartments, which offered soundproof rooms to attract professional musicians as residents. Other projects of the firm include the Industrial Home for the Blind, Trinity Baptist Church, the Greenpoint Masonic Temple, and several apartment buildings, all in Brooklyn, as well as the Towers Hotel incorporating the Manhattan Congregational Church (1928-32) at 2162 Broadway in
continuation of .... Tillion & Tillion

Manhattan.


OSCAR TOHURST

304 Columbus Avenue, 84

RALPH S. TOWNSEND (d. 1921)

460 Columbus Avenue, 105
103, 105, 107, 109, 111 West 75th Street, 377
121, 123 and 131, 133, 135 West 82nd Street, 514
138, 140, 142, 144 West 82nd Street, 522

(See Townsend, Steinle & Haskell, below)

TOWNSEND, STEINLE & HASKELL

Ralph Samuel Townsend (d. 1921)
Charles Albert Steinle (1863-1930)
William C. Haskell (1869-1933)

151 Central Park West, 15

Ralph Samuel Townsend was one of New York City’s foremost architects of fashionable hotels and apartment houses. He established an architectural practice in New York City by 1881 and designed a number of stores, lofts and apartment buildings located in the Greenwich Village Historic District. He also designed the Hotel Savoy and the Pierrepont Hotel in the 1890s, office and loft buildings located in the Ladies Mile Historic District, and an apartment building and rowhouses in the Riverside-West End Historic District. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a flats building and rowhouses in the Renaissance Revival and neo-Grec styles. At the turn of the century he collaborated with architect Herbert Harde (see Ware & Styne-Harde) in the design of a number of apartment buildings on the Upper West Side. Townsend was noted for skillful designs with bold ornamentation. The apartment buildings with which he was involved are typically configured around light courts and have elaborate classically-inspired ornament. Townsend was a member
of the Architectural League and an associated member of the American Art Society.

Charles Albert Steinle was born in New York and educated in Germany. Around the turn of the century he worked as the head draftsman for Ralph S. Townsend. Steinle was a member of the American Institute of Architects, the Architectural League of New York, and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

William Cook Haskell was born in Detroit, Michigan and studied at the College of the City of New York and Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. Haskell entered the architectural office of George E. Harding in 1887 and later assumed the position of superintendent of New York school buildings. In 1897 he became associated with Ralph S. Townsend. Haskell was active in civic affairs in New Rochelle, New York, where he resided, and on his own designed three large apartment buildings in that city. He was a member of the American Institute of Architects, the Architectural League of New York, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the New York Sketch Club.

The firm of Townsend, Steinle & Haskell was formed by 1906 and was especially known for its designs of large apartment buildings. The firm was responsible for the Beaux-Arts style Kenilworth apartment building in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Elsewhere in New York, the firm designed the Willard and Herald Square Hotels, the Marbridge Building, the Best & Co. Department Store building (at Fifth Avenue and 35th Street), and apartment buildings in the Riverside-West End Historic District. The firm was financially involved in many of the apartment buildings it designed.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 37, 72, 76.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
S.B.P. Trowbridge was born in New York City. After his early education in the city's public schools, he did his undergraduate studies at Trinity College in Hartford. Upon graduating in 1883, he entered Columbia University's School of Mines where his father was teaching engineering, and later furthered his training at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens and at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. On his return to New York, he entered the office of George B. Post.

Goodhue Livingston, a descendant of a prominent colonial New York family, received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Columbia during the same period Trowbridge was at the University. He also practiced with George B. Post.

In 1894, Trowbridge, Livingston and Stockton B. Colt formed a partnership that lasted until 1897 when Colt left the firm. The firm then became known as Trowbridge & Livingston and gained recognition for its public and commercial buildings, among which are: the B. Altman & Co. Department Store (1906, 34th Street and Fifth Ave.), the St. Regis Hotel (1904, 55th Street and Fifth Ave.), the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company Building (formerly the J. P. Morgan & Co., 1913, 23 Wall Street), all of which are designated New York City Landmarks, and the New York Stock Exchange extension (1923). Buildings designed by the firm for the American Museum of Natural History, including the Hayden Planetarium (a designated New York City Landmark), are located in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Trowbridge & Livingston also designed residential buildings in a variety of styles popular in the early twentieth century, including the neo-Federal, Beaux-Arts and neo-Renaissance. Examples of their residential work can be found in the Upper East Side Historic District.

Trowbridge was a member and past president of the Architectural League of New York and a member of the Society of Beaux-Arts Architects. He was
continuation of ... Trowbridge & Livingston

also appointed Chairman of the National Council of Fine Arts and was a Trustee of the American Academy in Rome. Livingston was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, a member of the Architectural League and a recipient of its medal of honor.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 50, 76.

CLARENCE TRUE (1860-1928)

291 Central Park West, 47
426 Columbus Avenue, 97
155, 157, 159, 161 West 76th Street, 408
163 West 79th Street, 446
211, 213 West 79th Street, 455
215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225 West 79th Street, 457
64, 66, 68 West 87th Street, 620
157, 159 West 88th Street, 642
31, 33 West 94th Street, 688

Clarence F. True, a prolific and well-known architect and developer of the 1890s, practiced extensively on the Upper West Side of Manhattan where he is said to have designed over 400 houses. Trained in the office of prominent architect Richard M. Upjohn, he established his own firm in 1884. True helped popularize the American basement plan rowhouse in New York and was largely responsible for developing the southern end of Riverside Drive in the 1890s. In 1899 he published "A True History of Riverside Drive," intended as a real estate prospectus to promote his work. Envisioning the Drive lined with large elegant town houses, True purchased all the available lots along the Drive south of West 84th Street and designed houses for them. Many of True's houses, including nine located in the West-End Collegiate Historic District, were designed in his idiosyncratic Elizabethan Renaissance Revival style based on English Renaissance prototypes. Other examples of his rowhouse design can be found in the Riverside-West End Historic District. True also designed
continuation of . . . . Clarence True

apartment buildings. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed several rows of houses displaying elements of the Renaissance, Romanesque, and Jacobean Revival styles, in addition to a commercial building and a hotel.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 76.

JOSEPH TURNER

103, 105, 107 West 78th Street, 431

WILLIAM B. TUTHILL (1855-1929)

464 Columbus Avenue, 106

William Burnet Tuthill was born in New York and educated at City College. Early in his career he worked as a draftsman for Richard Morris Hunt and in 1877 established an independent architectural practice. An early commission, in association with Adler & Sullivan, was Carnegie Hall in which Tuthill was responsible for solving acoustical problems. Tuthill also designed school, public and hospital buildings. One of his best-known designs was the Schinasi Residence on Riverside Drive, a designated New York City Landmark. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Tuthill designed a Renaissance Revival style flats building. A founder of the Architectural League of New York, Tuthill also wrote several books on architecture.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 77.
Little is known of architect Jacob H. Valentine, whose practice was established in New York by 1880. He designed buildings in a variety of styles, ranging from Italianate and neo-Grec to Queen Anne and Renaissance Revival. Several flats, rowhouses, and a tenement were constructed according to his designs in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Other examples of his residential work can be found in the Upper East Side Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 77.

Calvert Vaux was one of America’s foremost architects and landscape designers. Born in London, he studied at the Merchant Taylor’s School and with Architect Lewis W. Cottingham. After meeting Andrew Jackson Downing in 1850 Vaux moved to Newburgh, New York, to assist Downing in the design and landscaping of country residences. While associated with Downing, Vaux also worked on the landscaping plans for the Capitol, the Smithsonian Institution, and the White House, all in Washington, D.C. After Downing’s death in 1852, Vaux formed a partnership with Frederick Clarke Withers. In 1857 Vaux published "Villages and Cottages," a book which documented his early work. In 1856, Vaux’s practice was established in New York City, still in partnership with Withers. In the following year Vaux collaborated with Frederick Law Olmsted on a plan for the Central Park competition. Inspired by the English picturesque tradition, their plan was chosen as the winner of the competition. Vaux was subsequently appointed consulting architect and later landscape architect, and he and Olmsted supervised the execution of their designs. Other products of the Vaux and Olmsted collaboration are found at Prospect Park in Brooklyn, and at Riverside and Morningside Parks (all but the latter are designated New York City Parks).
Calvert Vaux

Vaux and Olmsted continued to work in independent practices for some time. Vaux also held associations with Lewis W. Leeds (1863), George K. Radford (1874-92), and Samuel Parsons, Jr. (under the name Vaux & Co., 1880-95). Vaux was appointed Landscape Architect to the New York City Department of Public Parks (1888-95). He also produced designs for public buildings, among them are the Jefferson Market Court House (10th Street and Sixth Avenue, in association with Withers, 1874-77, a designated New York City Landmark). In collaboration with architect Jacob Wrey Mould (see), Vaux also designed the first buildings for the Metropolitan Museum of Art (1874-80) and the American Museum of Natural History (both are designated New York City Landmarks, the latter is located in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District). The designs for the American Museum of Natural History and the Jefferson Market Court House reflect the influence of the English High Victorian Gothic style.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 78.

Charles Volz (b. 1859)

175 Central Park West, 26

Charles Volz was born in Wildbad, Germany, and was educated at the Polytechnic School in Stuttgart. He began an independent architectural practice in New York in 1893. In 1899 he began a partnership with James Brown Lord (see) which was active for twelve years. Volz became a member of the American Institute of Architects in 1908, having completed a country residence in Connecticut, the Police Station of the 36th Precinct in New York, and two buildings for the American Museum of Natural History located in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

GEORGE M. WALGROVE (dates undetermined)

3, 5, 7, 9 West 75th Street, 365
21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 West 75th Street, 366
33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47 West 75th Street, 368
26, 28 West 75th Street, 373
27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37 West 76th Street, 396
40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56 West 76th Street, 404

Little is known of architect George M. Walgrove. Establishing an architectural practice in New York by 1886, he was soon active in the residential development of the Upper West Side of Manhattan. Many examples of his rowhouse designs dating from this period, several in the Renaissance Revival style, can be found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.


WALKER & GILLETTE

A. Stewart Walker (1880?-1952)
Leon N. Gillette (1878?-1945)

170 Central Park West, 17

A. Stewart Walker was born in Jersey City, N.J., and received an architectural degree from Harvard in 1898. Leon N. Gillette was born in Malden, Mass. and studied at the Universities of Minnesota and Pennsylvania. In 1895-97 he was employed by the firm of Bertrand & Keith, in 1899 by Howell & Stokes, and later by Babb, Cook & Willard (see), and Schickel & Ditmars (see). He then attended the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris from 1901-03. Returning to New York in 1903, he worked with Warren & Wetmore, then joined Walker in partnership.

Walker & Gillette rose to a prominent position in New York and eventually worked nationwide. Their commissions were for private residences, banks, apartment and office buildings, hospitals, clubs, museums, and hotels. Among these were the First National Bank building at 2 Wall Street (which was voted the second best building in downtown New York in 1927), the Art Deco style Fuller Building (East 57th Street, 1929, a designated New York City Landmark), and a substantial addition to the New York Historical Society, located in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. (See essay on institutional buildings for more information.) The firm received many awards for its designs. Walker was a member of the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and Gillette was a Fellow of that organization. Both partners were members of the Architectural League and the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design.
FRANK F. WARD (dates undetermined)

7, 9 West 84th Street, 549
46, 48, 50, 52 West 84th Street, 559
54, 56, 58 West 84th Street, 559
60, 62, 64 West 84th Street, 560

Little is known of architect Frank F. Ward. His practice was established in New York by 1884 and he later practiced with Herbert E. Davis. A product of that collaboration is the Third Baptist Church at Alexander Avenue and East 141st Street in the Mott Haven Historic District. The adjoining parsonage was also designed by Ward. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Ward designed four rows of houses in the neo-Grec and Renaissance Revival styles.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 80.


WARE & STYNE-HARDE

James Edward Ware (1846-1918)
Herbert Spencer Styne-Harde (1873-1958)

2020-2026 Broadway, 161

James E. Ware, a native New Yorker, studied at the College of the City of New York, apprenticed to Robert Griffith Hatfield (see), and began architectural practice in the city in 1869. Ware was an early pioneer in the design of fireproof warehouses; his work in that field included the Manhattan Storage and Warehouse Company’s buildings, one at Lexington Avenue and 42nd Street and the other at Seventh Avenue and 52nd Street. Ware was also interested in improving the design of tenement buildings, and is best known for his experiments with the dumbbell plan, which was a pioneering effort in that field and for which he won the competition of
continuation of ... Ware & Styne-Harde

1879 sponsored by "The Plumber and Sanitary Engineer." In later years, Ware was among the first to design tenements with central light courts. An example of his work in this respect is the First Avenue Estate constructed for the City and Suburban Homes Company in 1899-1905. Ware also designed residences, churches, grand hotels, school buildings, and apartment buildings. Although trained in the Second Empire style, he was an early exponent of the Queen Anne style as exemplified by his rowhouse at 1321 Madison Avenue (1890-91, a designated New York City Landmark). His Osborne Apartments (1883-85), a massive ten-story structure at the corner of West 57th Street and Seventh Avenue combining Romanesque and Florentine Renaissance Revival elements, was one of the city's finest early luxury apartment buildings. Other works include the Gothic Revival Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, 917 Madison Avenue, of 1899 and the Twelfth Regiment Armory at Columbus Avenue and 61st Street of 1886.

Ware took his two sons, Franklin B. and Arthur, into his firm in 1879 and 1900, respectively. James practiced architecture until his death, at which time the firm became F.B. & A. Ware. Ware collaborated briefly in the 1890s with Herbert Spencer Styne-Harde (see Harde & Short). In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Ware & Styne-Harde designed a neo-Renaissance style flats building (1895-96).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 73.
Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

JAMES EDWARD WARE (1846-1918)

143 & 145 West 69th Street, 214
130, 132, 134 West 73rd Street, 333

(See Ware & Styne-Harde, above)
EDWARD J. WEBB (dates undetermined)

132 West 81st Street, 491

Little is known of architect Edward J. Webb. With an architectural prac­tice established by 1830, Webb's specialty was in perspective drawing. Later in his career he practiced with Samuel Curtiss. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Webb designed a neo-Grec style rowhouse late in his career.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 80.

WECHSLER & SCHIMENTI

Max Wechsler (b. 1906)
Michael Schimenti (b. 1915)

17-19 West 74th Street, 339
17 West 88th Street, 632
19 West 88th Street, 632

Max Wechsler was born in New York and was educated at Columbia University and New York University. Michael Schimenti was born in New York City and studied at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, the Mechanics' Institute, the New York Structural Institute, and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. In 1941-47 he was employed as draftsman with William I. Hohauser (see).

Wechsler and Schimenti joined in partnership in 1946 and designed residential, commercial, educational, and public buildings. They were also involved in city planning and restoration work. The firm remained active for many years, although the partners may have practiced independently as well. Wechsler & Schimenti was responsible for alterations to existing rowhouses located in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District during the 1980s. Later known as Wechsler, Grasso & Menziuso, the firm designed an apartment building in the district (1985-88) and was responsible for renovating and adding stories to an existing flats building (1982-86).

Max Wechsler (b. 1906)
Grasso (dates undetermined)
Menziuso (dates undetermined)

465 Columbus Avenue, 104
521-527 Amsterdam Avenue, 160

(See Wechsler & Schimenti, above)

ARTHUR WEISER (b. 1894)

2080-2094 Broadway, 164

Arthur Weiser joined the American Institute of Architects in 1945. He was educated at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. Weiser received awards for his designs for the United Home for Aged Hebrews in New Rochelle, New York, and for the buildings at 60 Sutton Place and 517-21 East 86th Street. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he designed a modern commercial building. Weiser later retired to Florida.


ALEXANDER M. WELCH (1869-1943)

9 West 69th Street, 196
14, 16 West 86th Street, 590

(See Welch, Smith & Provot, below)

WELCH, SMITH & PROVOT

Alexander McMillan Welch (1869-1943)
Bowen Bancroft Smith (1869-1932)
George H. Provot (1868-1936)

3, 5, 7, 9, 11 West 73rd Street, 317
6 West 74th Street, 346
206 West 79th Street, 459
28 & 30 West 86th Street, 592
32, 34 West 86th Street, 593
36, 38 West 86th Street, 593

Alexander McMillan Welch was both a banker and an architect. He graduated from Columbia University and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, an educational background shared by many successful New York City architects.
of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. From 1899 to 1908
Welch practiced architecture with Bowen Bancroft Smith and George H.
Provot under the firm name of Welch, Smith & Provot. Born in Newton,
Mass., Bowen Bancroft Smith was a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute
of Technology and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. George H. Provot was
born in New York and studied at Columbia and in Paris.

The firm was extremely active in the residential development of both the
east and west sides of Manhattan, and many of the firm’s residential
commissions were carried out on speculation for developers William W. &
Thomas M. Hall. The firm catered to its clients’ taste for the fashionable French-inspired Beaux-Arts style in the first decade of the twentieth
century. The townhouse at 20 East 65th Street in the Upper East Side
Historic District is a fine example of this work. Others are located in
the Metropolitan Museum Historic District.

Although Welch, Smith & Provot primarily worked in a Beaux-Arts manner,
the firm designed buildings in a variety of other styles in other parts of
the city. The firm’s rowhouses in the Upper West Side/Central Park West
Historic District represent the neo-Renaissance and Georgian Revival
styles that were also popular at the beginning of the twentieth century.

After 1908, Welch returned to private practice and designed numerous
Manhattan town houses, buildings which reveal his mastery of the elegant
Beaux-Arts style employed by contemporary Parisian architects. Welch
practiced architecture independently from 1908 until 1925, designing
suburban houses as well as St. Stephen’s Methodist Church, a simple
shingled structure in the Bronx. He was also the restoration architect of
a number of historic structures, including Hamilton Grange (a designated
New York City Landmark, also in the Hamilton Heights Historic District),
Washington’s Headquarters in White Plains, New York, and the Dutch
Colonial Dyckman House (a designated New York City Landmark). At the time
of his death, Welch is said to have owned one of the largest and most
important architectural libraries in the country. Independently, Welch
also designed two additional rows of houses in the Upper West Side/Central
Park West Historic District.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900
(New York, 1979), 81.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Metropolitan Museum Historic
District Designation Report (IP-0955), (New York, 1977), 118;
"Architects’ Appendix," Riverside - West End Historic District
"Alexander M. Welch," American Art Annual, ed. F.N. Levy (New York,
1900), vol. 3, 134.


Henry F. Withey and Elsie R. Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American
Architects (Deceased), (Los Angeles, 1970), 492, 559.
EDWARD WENZ (dates undetermined)

487, 489, 491, 493, 495 [a/k/a 162 West 84th Street] Amsterdam Avenue, 155
169 West 78th Street, 435
20 West 94th Street, 691

Little is known of Edward Wenz. Established as an architect in New York by 1887, his practice was mostly residential in nature. Examples of his flats and rowhouses designed in the neo-Grec and Renaissance Revival styles are found in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. Wenz was also involved in the design of an addition to the College of Mount St. Vincent Administration Building, a designated New York City Landmark, in 1906-08.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 81.

A.E. WESTOVER (dates undetermined)

460 Amsterdam Avenue, 152

Little is known of Albert E. Westover. Appearing in Philadelphia directories from 1901 to 1919 he was known as a theater architect with several theaters in the Philadelphia area to his credit. In New York Westover designed the Oscar Hammerstein Theater at 254-58 West 42nd Street and is listed as the architect of record for the Victory (originally the Republic) Theater at 209 West 42nd Street. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Westover constructed a small commercial structure at the rear of an existing flats building in 1899, suggesting that his practice was first established in New York before moving to Philadelphia in the early twentieth century.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.
B.H. & C.N. WHINSTON

Benjamin H. Whinston (dates undetermined)
Charles N.? (dates undetermined)

137 West 86th Street, 601

Benjamin H. Whinston studied at Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, and in 1922 he won honorable mention in the Chicago Tribune Tower competition. During his career he specialized in the design of single-family homes in the Bronx and Queens. Little is known of his partner C.N. Whinston. Together they designed office buildings, and also altered an existing rowhouse in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District.

Landmarks Preservation Commission, Research Files.

E. WILBUR (dates undetermined)

167 West 72nd Street, 299

Little is known of E. Wilbur. This architect may be Edwin Wilbur, whose practice was established in New York by 1900. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Wilbur altered an existing rowhouse into bachelor apartments and a store (1909).

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 82.

HENRY W. WILKINSON (dates undetermined)

41 Central Park West, 2

Henry W. Wilkinson was born in New York and graduated from Cornell University. His New York architectural practice was established early in the twentieth century and included commissions for commercial buildings and public structures, such as those for the New York Telephone Company. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District Wilkinson designed a neo-Renaissance style apartment building. A member of the Architectural League, he moved to West Orange, N.J., in 1925 where he continued to practice architecture.

HARRISON G. WISEMAN (1878-1945)

281-287 Columbus Avenue, 76

Harrison G. Wiseman was born in Springfield, Ohio, and established a New York City architectural practice which thrived on the design of theater buildings, including the John Golden Theater and the Yiddish Art Theater (12th Avenue and Second Street), as well as the Oriental, Alpine, Cameo, and Commodore Theaters, as a commission for the Loew's theater chain. In the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District he altered a flats building in 1921.


YORK & SAWYER

Edward Palmer York (1865-1928)
Phillip Sawyer (1868-1949)

170 Central Park West, 16

Edward York, born in Wellsville, New York, studied at Cornell University, from which he graduated in 1889. The most formative influence on his work, however, was the eight years he spent working in the offices of McKim, Mead & White (see) as a personal assistant to Stanford White. Phillip Sawyer, born in New London, Connecticut, and raised in Washington, D.C., was trained as an engineer. In 1888 he studied engineering with the U.S. Geological Survey, Division of New Mexico, and did an irrigation survey of drainage in Yellowstone. The following year he went on to the Architectural School at Columbia University, and then to the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris.

York and Sawyer met while working in the McKim, Mead & White offices. In 1898 they joined in partnership and won a competition for the design of the Rockefeller Recitation Hall at Vassar College, in Poughkeepsie, New York; from that point on their professional status was secured.

Although the firm continued on long after York's death in 1928, that year may be said to mark the end of the classically-inspired work which won the firm its reputation. During those previous thirty years the firm had concentrated on several types of commissions: close to thirty hospital buildings, fifteen college and school buildings, and a dozen office buildings. By far the greatest number of their commissions, however, were for banks, and by 1928 they had designed almost fifty of this building type.
Among the firm's many fine works in New York City are three designated New York City Landmarks: the New-York Historical Society at 170 Central Park West, in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District (see the essay on institutional buildings for more information); the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, 33 Liberty Street, designed in 1924 in a neo-Italian Renaissance style; and the Central Savings Bank, 2100-2108 Broadway, designed 1926-28, also in the neo-Italian Renaissance style. These three buildings are excellent examples of the kind of work which made the firm so prominent in its time. Other buildings designed by York & Sawyer are located within the Metropolitan Museum Historic District (three elegant Beaux-Arts town houses at 1014 to 1018 Madison Avenue), and in the Upper East Side Historic District (two town houses and an apartment building).


CHARLES M. YOUNGS (dates undetermined)

49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59 West 94th Street, 690

Little is known of Charles M. Youngs whose architectural practice was established in New York by 1889. Youngs's contribution to the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District is a row of Renaissance/Romanesque Revival style houses which began construction in 1890.

Dennis Steadman Francis, *Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900* (New York, 1979), 84.
Alfred Zucker was born in Freiburg, Prussian Silesia, and received his training in German polytechnic schools. In 1872 he traveled to the U.S. and found work as a draftsman in the office of the Supervising Architect of the U.S. Treasury in Washington, D.C. From 1875 to 1882, Zucker practiced in the southern U.S. where he formed a partnership with John Moser and was the official architect of public buildings in Mississippi. His New York architectural practice began in 1883.

John R. Hinchman worked for Alfred Zucker & Co. from 1885 to 1888. During that period the firm designed a Renaissance Revival style rowhouse in the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District. In 1891 Hinchman’s office was located in Brooklyn, and in 1894-95 he practiced with his brother Fred B. Hinchman.

Zucker returned to independent practice in 1889 and between 1891 and 1893 often employed John Edelmann. Edelmann designed the Union Building (1892-93, formerly the Decker Building, 33 Union Square West, a designated New York City Landmark), and the interiors of the Hotel Majestic (1891-92, Central Park West and 72nd Street, predecessor of the current Majestic apartments) for Zucker’s firm. The designs of the Zucker firm within the Ladies Mile Historic District are generally attributed to him, as well. In 1903 or 1904 Zucker was sued by a former partner and was forced to close his New York practice. He then moved to Argentina where, as Alfredo Zucker, he designed a number of Beaux-Arts hotels, including the Plaza in Buenos Aires.

Dennis Steadman Francis, Architects in Practice in New York City, 1840-1900 (New York, 1979), 39, 85.
FINDINGS AND DESIGNATION

On the basis of a careful consideration of the history, the architecture, and other features of this area, the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District contains buildings and other improvements which have a special character and special historical and aesthetic interest and value and which represent one or more eras in the history of New York City and which cause this area, by reason of these factors, to constitute a distinct section of the city.

The Commission further finds that, among its important qualities, the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District evokes the distinctive qualities of the Upper West Side from its powerful iconography of twin towers along Central Park West to its active commerce along Columbus Avenue to its residential side streets; that the district is defined by its large concentration of architecturally distinctive and high quality buildings; that these buildings are characteristic of the development of the Upper West Side east of Broadway over a fifty-year period from the 1880s to the 1930s and that the district encompasses a number of residential building types, as well as related institutional and commercial buildings; that the complex historical and architectural interrelationship among these buildings is one of the factors which helps to define the character of the district; that the architects who contributed to the development of this area included Henry J. Hardenbergh, Rafael Guastavino, Detlef Lienau, Percy Griffin, John J. Prague, George F. Pelham, Gilbert A. Schellenger, and Thom & Wilson for the design of rowhouses; John J. Prague, Gilbert A. Schellenger, Thom & Wilson, Charles Buek & Co., and McKim, Mead & White for the design of tenements and flats buildings; and Rosario Candela, Mulliken & Moeller, Neville & Bagge, George F. Pelham, Emery Roth, Schwartz & Gross, and Irwin Chanin for the design of larger apartment buildings and apartment hotels, including the distinctive multi-towered buildings on Central Park West; that the rowhouses located on the side streets throughout the district and in isolated groups on Central Park West and the cross streets of West 72nd, West 79th, and West 86th Street present a picture of the final years of rowhouse construction in Manhattan; that the unusually long side street blocks that form the heart of the district are built up with long rows of four and five-story houses which unify the streetscapes by consistent height, setback, and overall form, although the rows are stylistically varied and there is often a great deal of variety in form and ornamental detail within each row, thus producing a multiplicity of configurations; that the high stoops and the earth tones of the brick and brownstone facades are other qualities which unify the rowhouses; that contemporaneous with the rowhouses are five- and six-story tenements and flats buildings, often in the neo-Grec and Romanesque Revival styles which are predominantly located on Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues; that many were built in conjunction with the side street rowhouses and that they are related to the rowhouses in height, scale, material, and architectural detail; that Central Park West, the cross streets, the lower portion of Amsterdam Avenue, and the portion of Broadway within the district derive much of their quality from the larger twelve- to twenty-story apartment buildings that were constructed in two phases, before and after World War I; that the building walls of these apartment buildings help to define and frame the eastern and western boundaries of the historic district; that the apartment building facades are generally characterized by simple wall surfaces with base and upper level elaborately embellished with
ornament inspired by the Beaux-Arts, Renaissance, Gothic, and Romanesque styles; that throughout the period of development of the district, a variety of specialized buildings designed by some of the city's most prestigious architects have been constructed to meet the social, educational, and religious needs of the residents, and these complement the residential buildings and enhance the architectural character of the area; that Central Park West with its stylistically diverse buildings constructed over the entire development span of the district plays a special role in the district as its buildings create a streetscape and a skyline which is exuberant and varied as to scale, height, and form; that the role of Columbus Avenue as a commercial street has survived to the present, making the avenue a strong spine in the district; that while little original storefront fabric survives, stretches of facades of relatively uniform height and scale give the avenue its distinctive character; that Amsterdam Avenue shares a number of characteristics with Columbus Avenue including tenements and flats designed with storefronts at street level and built over a roughly ten-year period (1885-1895); that despite the avenue's consistent commercial character, the storefront fabric has undergone a lesser degree of change than storefronts on Columbus and shows a greater harmony with the architectural character of the upper stories of the buildings; that the commercial portions of West 72nd Street and West 79th Street achieve a distinction because of the transformation of earlier rowhouses for commercial use beginning in the early years of the twentieth century; that the resultant streetscape on West 72nd Street is created by the alternation of largely intact nineteenth-century residential facades, set back from the street above twentieth-century extended two-story commercial bases, and 1920s facades erected at the building line, and that the total effect is a diverse commercial street which contains a mix of surviving historic storefronts from the 1920s and contemporary vernacular storefronts; that the commercial streetscape of West 79th Street retains a unified appearance by virtue of projecting bays, continuous stringcourses, and other architectural details of the surviving portions of the residential facades above the commercial bases and by virtue of the street-level storefronts themselves which show a degree of regularity in retaining transparency, the modularity of the rowhouses, and the plane of the facade; and that the district portrays the historical and architectural development and the varying scale, form, and character of this section of the city; and that the rich variety of interrelated buildings on the avenues and streets produce a complex urban area constituting a distinct section of the city.

Accordingly, pursuant to Chapter 21, Section 534 of the Charter of the City of New York and Chapter 3 of Title 25 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, the Landmarks Preservation Commission designates as a Historic District the Upper West Side/Central Park West Historic District containing the property bounded by a line beginning at the southwest corner of the intersection of Central Park West and West 96th Street, extending southerly along the western curb line of Central Park West, westerly along the northern curb line of West 62nd Street, northerly along the western property line of 25 Central Park West, northerly across West 63rd Street, westerly along the northern curb line of West 63rd Street, northerly and easterly along the western and northern property lines of 13-15 West 63rd Street, northerly along part of the western property line of 3-11 West 63rd Street, easterly along the southern curb line of West 64th Street, northerly across West 64th Street, northerly and easterly along the western and part
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