STATE: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Form 10-300 (July 1969) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE New York COUNTY: NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES New York INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE APR 26 19/2 (Type all entries - complete applicable sections) 1. NAME RECEIVED COMMON: The Dakota Apartments JAN 25 1972 AND/OR HISTORIC: NATION 2. LOCATION REGIST STREET AND NUMBER: 1 West 72nd Street CITY OR TOWN: New York STATE COUNTY: CODE CODE New York 061 36 New York 3. CLASSIFICATION ACCESSIBLE CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS S TO THE PUBLIC (Check One) Z Yes: Public Public Acquisition: X Occupied Building District Restricted 0 ☐ In Process Private ☐ Unoccupied Structure ☐ Unrestricted ☐ Being Considered □ Both Preservation work Object ☐ No in progress U PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Comments Agricultural Government Park Transportation Industrial 2 Commercial Private Residence Other (Specify) Apartment Building ☐ Educational Military Religious Museum ☐ Scientific ☐ Entertainment OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: New The Dakota, Inc. Yor ш 1 West 72nd Street STATE: CODE CITY OR TOWN: New York 36 New York 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: New New York County Hall of Records STREET AND NUMBER: 31 Chambers Street York CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE New York New York 36 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: ENTRY APR Historic American Buildings Survey DATE OF SURVEY: C. 1934, 1937
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: 2 6 1972 Federal ☐ State County ☐ Local Library of Congress

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Washington

Rep. Edward I. Koch

CITY OR TOWN:

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CONDITION	Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	☐ Unexposed
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Number of stories: There are seven stories plus two stories housed under the roof.

Number of bays: The West 72nd Street and Central Park West facades are both eleven bays wide; the West 73rd Street facade is thirteen bays wide; and the rear facade is seventeen bays wide.

Layout and/or shape of plan: The building is square in plan with an Ishaped central courtyard.

Wall construction: From the basement level to the first floor window sills the walls are of a yellowish-gray sandstone. Above this they are of yellow brick laid up in common bond. There is a terra cotta beltcourse carved with a diaper pattern between the second and third floors. The rear wall is of red brick. laid up in common bond.

Structural system: The structural system is masonry bearing wall construction.

Roof, cornice: The building has an irregular roofline with gabled and pyramidal roofs covered with slate. There is a stone cornice.

Dormers, chimneys: There are two, three and four levels of dormer windows at various levels of the roof, some with stone faces and some covered with copper. All have one-over-one, doublehung sash. There are several corbeled yellow brick chimneys on each side.

Important interior features: The corner stairways have iron balusters with wooden railings; from the first to second floors there is marble wainscoting. The hallways have wooden wainscoting and plaster walls and ceilings. The eight original hydraulic elevators -- four passenger and four service -- are still functioning, but new cabs have been installed.

Other notable features: The main entrance on 72nd Street consists of a stone archway with an iron gate and three windows above it. The entrance is flanked by double metal urns mounted on large pedestals and a sentry box for the doorman guarding the passageway into the inner court where the four corner entrances with stairways lead to the upper floors. A second iton gate opens into the courtyard. A glass enclosed passageway runs along the west side of the courtyard. At the seventh floor level a stone balcony with an iron railing runs along the West 72nd Street side and partially along the Central Park West and the West 73rd Street facades. A dominant feature of the end pavillions on the south facade are the two semicircular bay windows which extend up through seven stories.

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dakota, designed by Henry Janeway Hardenbergh (1847-1918), is one of the earliest and most distinguished apartment houses in the United States. The world famous Plaza Hotel at 59th Street and Central Park South is another example of Hardenbergh's monumental style. Overlooking the northern end of Central Park, the Dakota simultaneously affords its residents a magnificent view of the park and presents an impressive appearance to passers-by. Its richly varied skyline makes this building a prime example of late 19th century picturesque eclecticism, and its German Renaissance flavor is explained by the fact that Hardenbergh was trained by the architect Detlef Lienau, who was educated in Germany and France.

The Dakota was a large apartment building for its day, seven stories tall above a basement, with two more full stories and an attic under the steep roof. Myriad peaked gables with elaborate finials, dormer windows, oriels and dome-crowned vertical bay windows create a veritable village of roofs atop the building.

With its massive load-bearing walls, heavy interior partitions and double thick floors of conerete, it is one of the quietest buildings in the city. Service elevators, among the first to be installed in New York, were placed behind the kitchens of each bank of apartments.

The Dakota was erected for Edward S. Clark, beir to the Singer Sewing Machine fortune, and inaugurator of the development of the Upper West Side area. While under construction, it was jocularly referred to as "Clark's Folly", not only because of its extraordinary size, but also because of its location to far uptown. Clark's colleagues teased him by saying that if he went a few blocks farther from the mainstream of Manhattan life, he might as well build his apartment in Dakota, then still Indian territory. The name of the building still reflects this old joke.

Remarkably well maintained, and never extensively remodeled, the Dakota stands today in virtually the same condition as it did in the 1880s when it was new. Its plan and decorative features have not been significantly altered, and even the view of Central Park, visible from many of the apartments, has not changed since the 1880s. Still one of the most prestigious apartment addresses in New York, the Dakota counts many people involved in the arts among its residents.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Files of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

United States Department of the Interior, New York City Architecture;
Selections from the Historic American Buildings Survey
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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

The Dakota

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Alterations and additions: The grounds of the Dakota originally extended 175 feet to the west beyond the rear of the building. The property contained gardens, croquet and tennis courts, which are no longer extant. A boiler room was located beneath this open area.





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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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Form 10-301 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

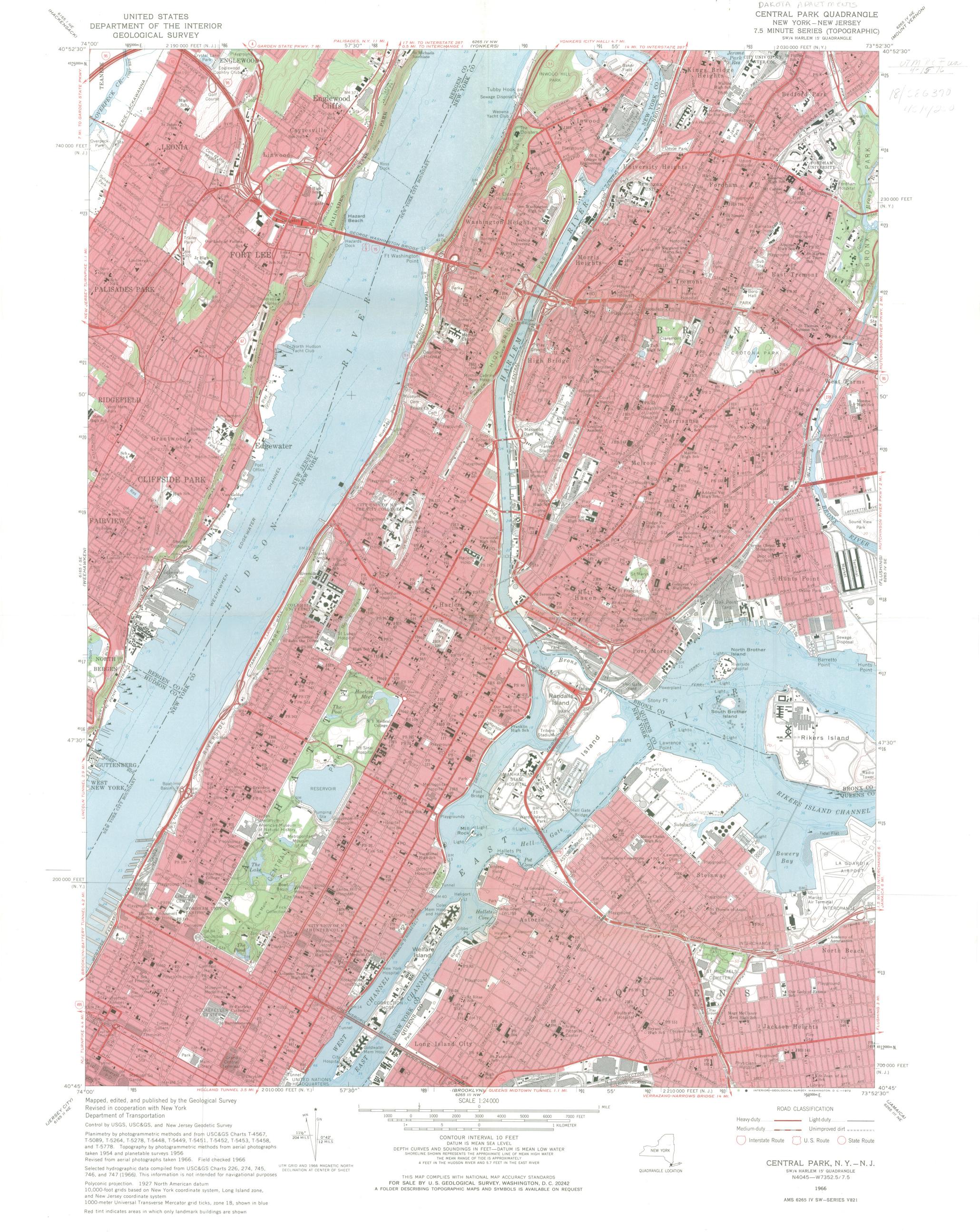
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ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Stevens (John) House

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Schoharie Valley Railroad Complex

Schoharie Schoharie County

The Dakota Apartments

New York

New York County

Church of the Boly Apostles

New York

New York County

Bialystoker Synagogue

New York

New York County

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New York State Historic Trust
Parks and Recreation
Building 2 - State Campus
Albany, New York I2226

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