Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

CITY, TOWN

New York

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 2 6 1977

STATE New York

	TYPE ALL ENTRIES			
NAME				
HISTORIC Ja	mes B. Duke Man	sion		4.1
AND/OR COMMON	New York Unive	rsity Institute	of Fine Arts	
LOCATION STREET & NUMBER				
l East	78th Street		NOT FOR PUBLICATION  CONGRESSIONAL DISTRIC	OT .
New Y	ork _	_ VICINITY OF	Edward I. Koch	- 18th
STATE New Y	ork	CODE 036	county New York	CODE 061
CLASSIFICA				
CATEGORY DISTRICT	OWNERSHIP	STATUS XXoccupied	PRESE	NT USE
이 교육 선택에 있었다. 이 경기 가장 하지만 그 모든 그 것이다.	XPRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	XX_COMMERCIAL	MUSEUM
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	XX_EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RES
SITEOBJECT	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE XXYES: RESTRICTED		RELIGIOUS
	IN PROCESSBEING CONSIDERED	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL	SCIENTIFIC
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XXEXCELLENT

GOOD

\_FAIR

### CONDITION

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

ALTERED

**CHECK ONE** 

XX\_ORIGINAL SITE

\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Designed in the French Classical style of Louis XV, the James B. Duke Mansion has an imposing presence and is prominently situated on the northeast corner of Fifth Avenue and 78th Street with its main entrance on the side street.

Built of fine limestone which resembles marble, the mansion appears from the street to be of two stories. However, an attic story is hidden behind the imposing stone balustrade and the building is actually three stories high. The mansion is well proportioned and is surrounded by an open area behind a sidewalk balustrade. The main (south) facade is seven bays wide and the west elevation on Fifth Avenue is four bays wide.

\*\*Mide light of the south elevation, consists of a two-story portico, crowned by a pediment. The recessed doorway on the first floor is flanked by Doric columns and the doorway on the second floor by Ionic columns. The portico is articulated by large quoins which also mark the corners of the house.

The large ground floor windows framed by banded moldings of stone have stone balustrades connected by a band course. The windows of the second floor are surmounted by carved swags and have banded moldings and wrought iron guards. Handsome low relief stone panels decorate the walls between the windows of both floors. The horizontal elements are a belt course between floors, a plain entablature and a modillioned cornice.

The plan of the mansion is basically rectangular with a one bay wing which potrudes on the north side. The interiors of the house are also in the French Classical style of Louis XV. A vestibule leads to the large main hall with carved stone reliefs depicting putti and other classically inspired figures. The polychromatic marble floor, free-standing sculpture and wide marble staircase, which is U-shaped and fills most of the north wall of the hall, all create a sense of imposing sumptuousness achieved with dignity. Off of this main hall are two small reception rooms which flank the vestibule and four large corner rooms: on the southwest, the paneled library; on the northwest, the dining room; on the southeast, the drawing room; and on the northeast, the rectangular music room. Largest of the four rooms, the music room is decorated with gilded swags above arched openings, low relief panels, fluted pilasters with gilded composite capitals and an architrave decorated with gilded festoons and a gilded cornice.

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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

James B. Duke Mansion, New York, New York County

CONTINUATION SHEET Description ITEM NUMBER #7 PAGE 2

A small balcony is set into an arched opening in the wall and is decorated with an iron rail. Behind this open arch was space for a small group to provide music for balls held in the room. The second floor has seven bedrooms, three along the west side, three on the east side and one in the center of the main facade. There are a variety of small rooms serving as linen and clothes rooms, baths, dressing rooms, a pantry, and numerous closets.

The basement contains a number of rooms whose original use reveals the variety of support facilities necessary for running a household of wealth at the turn of the century. largest room is the laundry, and there is also a large kitchen and servants' dining hall. The third floor has twelve servants rooms, as well as linen and serving rooms.

In 1958, the interior was adapted for educational use by Robert Venturi, Cope, and Lippencott, without alteration of the original details of walls, floors, or ceilings. Today the Institute of Fine Arts uses the basement for its laboratory. The main floor is used for classes. The second floor contains the Institute's library; the free-standing book stacks were designed to have no effect on the walls. The third floor now provides offices for the professors.

PERIOD

### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
FREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGI-FREHISTORIC	COMMONTH F EARMING	LANDSCAFE ARCHITECTORE	_RELIGION
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	XXARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	XX.commerce	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
XX_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	XX_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		adaptive reuse/
				preservation

SPECIFIC DATES 1909-1912

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Horace Trumbauer

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former James B. Duke Mansion, now New York University's Institute of Fine Arts, is a significant example of the type of elaborate turn-of-the-century townhouse built by wealthy New Yorkers along Fifth Avenue at Central Park. Designed in 1909 by Horace Trumbauer after the eighteenth century Labortiere Mansion in Bordeaux, the mansion is in the French Classical style of Louis XV.

The exterior proportions of the mansion create a sense of great presence and space on what is in fact a completely occupied corner lot. The use of a balustrade along the sidewalk with an open space between it and the house defines the limits of the property and serves to separate it physically and visually from the street. The interiors, with tall ceilings and large well-proportioned rooms full of statues and low relief carvings of classical inspiration, are imposing and dignified. This house was meant to impress and dazzle the visitor. Built for entertainment on a grand scale in a lavish age, there is nonetheless a feeling of liveability in the smaller first floor rooms. Designed for a self-made man, the house is at once dignified and showy.

James Buchanan Duke (1856-1925) began life on a farm in North Carolina and grew to fulfill the great American dream of "rags to riches." Washington Duke and his sons, Benjamin and James, began retailing tobacco off their farm after the Civil War. By the 1880's, James had become enormously wealthy and by 1889 his firm was selling half the cigarettes, in America. In 1890 James B. Duke became president of the American Tobacco Company, made up of the six principal cigarette manufacturers in the country. In 1911, while Duke's Fifth Avenue mansion was still being built, the Supreme Court ordered the dissolution of the American Tobacco Company under the antitrust laws. Duke was undaunted and with characteristic creativity and style, leaving nothing to chance, set about creating his own competitors. He also created the Southern Power Company to develop the water-power of the Southern Piedmont; in 1924 he assigned these holdings in trust for Duke University (named for him) and for other charitable purposes. He lived in the Fifth Avenue house until his death in 1925.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet No. 1

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CITY OR TOWN	series brag	· # ±	STATE	7
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As the designated State Historic Preservation hereby nominate this property for inclusion criteria and procedures set forth by the Nation STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGN	in the National onal Park Service	Register and certify th		
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TITLE Deputy Commissioner f	or Historic	Preservation	UATE 4/	18/77
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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James B. Duke Mansion, New York, New York County

CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER #8 PAGE 2

Horace Trumbauer (1869-1938), the architect of the Duke mansion, was himself a self-made man. In 1892, when he was only 23 years old, he established his own office in Philadelphia and in general practiced alone. He designed a number of public and commercial buildings in Philadelphia, as well as buildings in Boston and New York. Besides the Duke residence in New York, he also designed the Herbert N. Straus House (1932) at 9 E. 71st Street, the Carhart House (1913) at 3 East 95th Street (now the Lycee Francaise de New York), the Douglas Residence (1911) at 57 Park Avenue now the Olympic House, and Wildenstein and Company (1932) at 19 East 64th Street.

The Duke Mansion today is successfully used to house the graduate fine arts division of New York University. It is a significant example of adaptive reuse since the original fabric of the building was carefully preserved by the firm of Robert Venturi, Cope and Lippencott when the building was converted to its present use in 1958.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# RECEIVED APR 2 6 1977 DATE ENTERED NOV 1 0 1977

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

James B. Duke Mansion, New York, New York County

CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER #9 PAGE 1

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Federal Register Entry	12.6.77 Re-submit	INT:2106=74

# PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

New York County

## LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

305 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10007

James B. Duke Mansion
1 East 78th Street, New York, N.Y.
Photo: N.Y.C. Landmarks Pres. Commission,
1965

Neg.: N.Y.C. L.P.C. Main hall, west side

APR 2 6 1977

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# PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

# Ven York County LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

305 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10007

James B. Duke Mansion 1 E. 78th Street, New York, N.Y. Photo: NYC Landmarks Pres. Commission 1965

Neg. N.Y.C. L.P.C. Former music room, looking north-west

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# PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER"

ANDREW S. DOLKART 3/27

The York County

## LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION

305 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10007

James B. Duke Mansion 1 East 78th Street, New York, N.Y. Photo: Andrew Dolkart, 1977 Neg: N.Y.C. Landmarks Pres. Commission View to the north-east

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## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

APR 2 9 1977

Dear Property Owner:

The National Register is that list of evidences of the past deemed worthy of keeping for the future by the Secretary of the Interior. According to information submitted to the National Park Service by the State, you own property that has been nominated to the National Register which is pending review in our office.

Since you may not have been aware of the benefits and provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1976 when your property was nominated, we are sending informative material at this time which may supplement information you have already received from the State. If you wish to make comments about your property in light of the National Register "Criteria for Evaluation" (see enclosed green leaflet), we will be pleased to consider them. Comments should be made within 30 days of the date of this letter and should be addressed to Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Information concerning standards for rehabilitation (see information sheet) may be obtained from Technical Preservation Services, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Questions concerning the National Register program or the implementation of the historic preservation provisions of the Tax Reform Act should also be addressed to the Keeper of the National Register.

Inquiries must include the name of the property and address to be properly handled.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Murtagh

Keeper of the National Register

Enclosures

### ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE NEW YORK

Date Entered NOV 1 0 1977

Name

Duke, James B., Mansion

Burden Iron Works Site

Location

New York New York County

Rensselaer County

Hon. Daniel P. Moynihan Also Notified

Hon. Jacob K. Javits Hon. Edward I. Koch Hon. Edward W. Pattison

Regional Director, North Atlantic Region

880 Mott/js

11/11/77

State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Orin Lehman Commissioner, Parks and Recreation Agency Building #1 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12238

NATIONA			DATA	SHEET
NAME as it appears on federal registe	er: ②°	THER NAMES:	den Institute of Ed	3 date of entry 197 @ county code:
Duke, James B., Mansion  5 LOCATION street & number  1 E. 78th St.	city / town New York	vicinity of	state NY New York	nty (6)NPS REGION:
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### STORICALLY SIGNIFICANT:  CURRENTLY:	<b>&amp;</b>	dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:		ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION
architectural style(s):	@architect	: 28	master builder:	engineer:
30 landscape architect/garden designer:	interior decorator:	@ artist:	33 artisan:	builder/contractor:
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