

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

NOV 05 1979

JAN 10 1980

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Ansonia Hotel

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2101-2119 Broadway

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

New York

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

20

STATE

New York

CODE

036

COUNTY

New York

CODE

061

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Richard Strauss and others/Ansonia Associates

STREET & NUMBER

2101 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

New York

VICINITY OF

STATE

New York 10023

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New York County Registers Office

STREET & NUMBER

31 Chambers Street

CITY, TOWN

New York

STATE

New York 10007

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Landmarks Preservation Commission LP-0285

DATE

March 14, 1972

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Landmarks Preservation Commission 305 Broadway

CITY, TOWN

New York

STATE

New York

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ansonia, an apartment-hotel constructed between 1899 and 1904, was designed by Paul E. M. Duboy in the French Beaux-Art style. It occupies the entire blockfront on Broadway between 73rd and 74th Streets on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, and rises on a conspicuous site to a height of seventeen stories.

The building is an irregular H shape in plan, and approximately 200 by 200 feet in size. Two entrances lead to a block-long corridor from 73rd to 74th Streets. Maximum light and air is provided to the apartments by recessed courts: two on the north side (74th Street), two on the south side (73rd Street), and one on the Broadway side.

The three main facades are characterized by overscaled Beaux-Art details, but an effect of lightness and grace has been achieved by the careful massing of elements. A sense of verticality established by tiers of windows and recessed courts is skillfully modulated by a series of horizontal balconies. Large limestone balconies run just above the three story rusticated base and near the top of the building between the twelfth and thirteenth floors. Smaller limestone and iron balconies divide the intermediate floors and define major window groupings.

A careful choice of materials also contributes an air of delicacy to this massive structure. Highly ornamental ironwork is contrasted against white-glazed terra cotta and limestone details, and quoins and rustication are contrasted against smooth panels of light-colored brick.

The building's most striking features are domed corner towers on Broadway that rise slightly above and repeat the theme of the three story convex mansard roof that crowns the building.

Techniques well in advance of their day were employed in the building's construction. All masonry construction and thick interior partitions were used to make the building fireproof and also rendered it soundproof. Six passenger elevators plus service elevators provided circulation. When the hotel opened, it had attractions unheard of at the time, such as two swimming pools and a roof garden.

A number of alterations have been made to the Ansonia. The ground floor archways have been altered into shopfronts, some of the balconies and railings are missing, and cupolas that once crowned the corner towers have been removed. The lobby has been remodeled, but retains its original plan and marble floors. The main staircase, constructed of ornate iron and marble, is the most important original interior feature. Several of the apartments retain their original plan, but most have been divided to increase the original 300 suites into about 540 apartments.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

☐ PREHISTORIC

☐ 1400-1499

☐ 1500-1599

☐ 1600-1699

☐ 1700-1799

☐ 1800-1899

☒ 1900-

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC

☐ AGRICULTURE

☒ ARCHITECTURE

☐ ART

☐ COMMERCE

☐ COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING

☐ CONSERVATION

☐ ECONOMICS

☐ EDUCATION

☐ ENGINEERING

☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

☐ INDUSTRY

☐ INVENTION

☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

☐ LAW

☐ LITERATURE

☐ MILITARY

☒ MUSIC

☐ PHILOSOPHY

☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

☐ RELIGION

☐ SCIENCE

☐ SCULPTURE

☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

☐ THEATER

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1899-1904

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Paul E.M. Duboy

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ansonia Hotel is world-renowned as a center of musical activity. Designed with a truly splendid Beaux-Arts exterior, it was solidly built with virtually soundproof construction and was the largest apartment-hotel in the world.

The Ansonia Hotel was built by William Earl Dodge Stokes, a noted capitalist and builder who was one of the leading developers of Riverside Drive and the Upper West Side. It was designed, in accordance with his specific instructions, by Paul DuBoy, a French architect. It was built by the Onward Construction Company which was owned by Stokes and for which he served as treasurer. His personal fortune had been inherited from his father, James Stokes, a partner in Phelps, Dodge & Co.

The name Ansonia was derived from Ansonia, Connecticut, where Stokes spent many summers and the town, in turn, had been named for Anson Greene Phelps, his maternal grandfather, who founded the Ansonia Brass & Copper Company.

Mr. Stokes had many ideas in advance of his day that were carried out in the construction of the Ansonia which he superintended in person. His early advocacy of fireproofing accounts for the all-masonry construction and the thickness of the interior partitions. In order to insure its high quality, he had the terra cotta ornament made at a plant he owned at Perth Amboy, New Jersey, under the supervision of a manager brought over from France. The elevators were likewise installed by a firm he owned in Worcester, Massachusetts.

The Ansonia Hotel is known the world over as a residence for musicians. Among those who have lived there are Leopold Auer, Karin Branzell, Enrico Caruso, Gatti Casazza, Bruna Castagna, Feodor Chaliapin, Fausta Clewa, Alessio De Paolis, Mischa Elman, Geraldine Farrar, Herbert Janssen, Lauritz Melchior, Yehudi Menuhin, Ezio Pinza, Lily Pons, Tito Schipa, Friedrich Schorr, Antonio Scotti, Igor Stravinsky, and Arturo Toscanini. Theatrical notables who have lived in the Ansonia include: Billie Burke, Florenz Ziegfeld, De Wolf Hopper, and Sol Hurok as well as the authors, Theodore Dreiser, Elmer Rice and W.L. Stoddard. Because of the many musicians who have lived there, the Ansonia's private apartments have been used for countless music lessons over the years. The building therefore has historic significance in music education.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Alpern, Andrew. Apartments for the Affluent. New York: McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1975.

Landmarks Preservation Commission. Ansonia Hotel Designation Report (LP-0285).
New York: City of New York, 1972.

Perks, Sydney. Residential Flats. London: B.T. Batsford, 1905.

"The Ansonia, New York, NY," Architectural Review. XI, no. 4 (April, 1904), plates XV-XVII.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 1 8 5 8 6 5 4 5 1 4 1 0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies Borough of Manhattan Tax Map Block 1165, Lot 20, is roughly 200' by 200' in size.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

David J. Framberger, Research Consultant

NAME / TITLE

For Joan R. Olshansky, National Register Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

Landmarks Preservation Commission

DATE

July, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

305 Broadway

TELEPHONE

(212) 566-7577

CITY OR TOWN

New York

STATE

New York 10007

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Stephen White

TITLE Director, Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau

DATE

10/29/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol D. Shuck

DATE

1-16-83

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Lynda D. Burke*

DATE

Jan. 10, 1980

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Ansonia Hotel
New York County

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

NOV 05 1979

DATE ENTERED

JAN 10 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

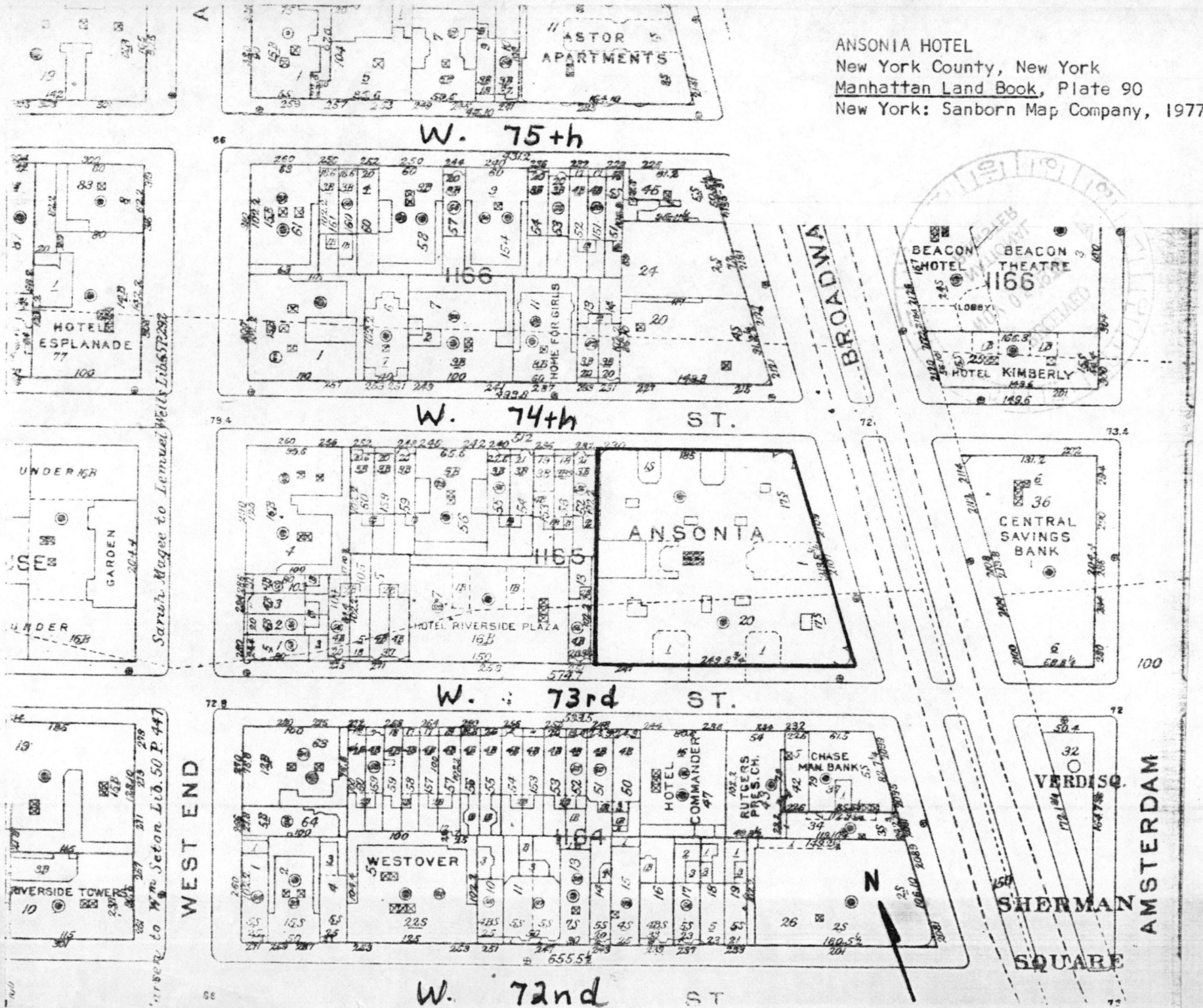
8

PAGE

2

This architecturally significant example of the French Beaux-Art style is visually striking when viewed from Broadway or from Verdi Square which is adjacent to it. Although a massive building, its design is at once extremely forceful, and rhythmic with varied design elements so that the structure's physical impact is not overwhelming. The set back arched entrances on the side streets (see photo 4) are grand and yet human oriented; an amusing face stares down from the massive archway. The richly decorated surfaces (see photo 3) vastly enrich the experience of the passerby. The Ansonia is a distinctive example of turn-of-the-century, urban architecture and well represents the period taste for highly decorative surfaces.

ANSONIA HOTEL
New York County, New York
Manhattan Land Book, Plate 90
New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1977.





JAN 10 1980

Property

Ansonia Hotel

80002665

State

NY (New York)

Working Number

11-5-79 2668

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos

Maps

*8**1*

built in 1899-1904, the Ansonia is renowned for its architecture (both for its impressive Beaux Arts exterior, its virtual soundproof construction and its innovative use of courtyards) and also ~~was~~ noted as a center of musical activity because of the many famous musicians who have lived there (Caruso, Stravinsky, Toscanini etc). the building was once the largest apartment-hotel in the world

HISTORIAN

accept
Patrick Andrus
1/2/80

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
L. Beebe
1/10/80

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered

JAN 10 1980

Federal Register Entry

2-3-81

Re-submit

INT:2106-74



County

Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York.

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.

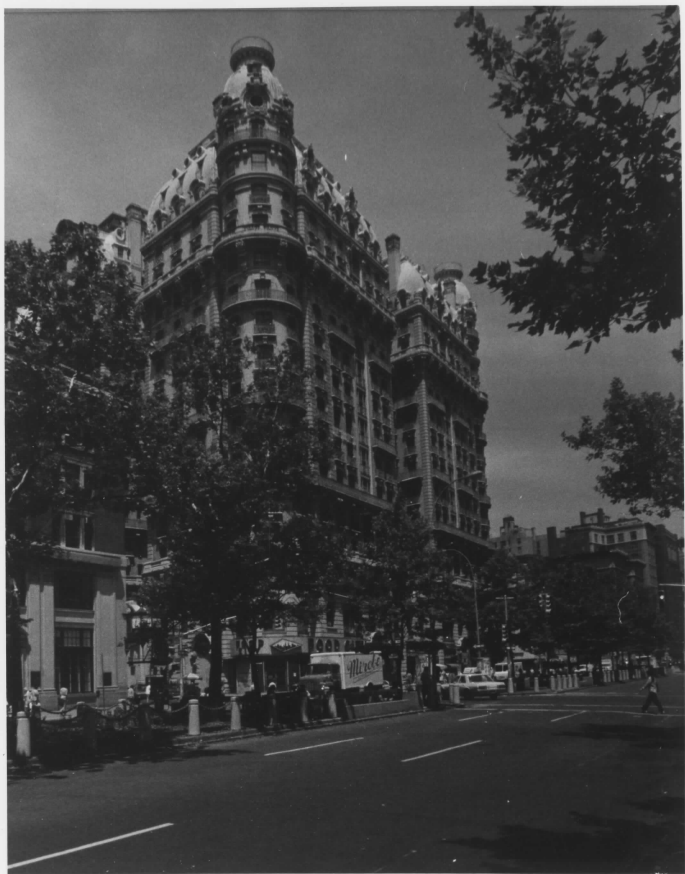
Neg. at: New York Landmarks

NOV 05 1979 Preservation Commission.

View from Northeast.

JAN 10 1980

①



Co.

Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York.
Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.
Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission.
View from Southeast.

NOV 05 1979

JAN 10 1980

(2)



Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York.

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.

Neg. At: New York City Landmarks

NOV 05 1979 Preservation Commission.

View of Northeast corner dome.

JAN 10 1980

CR

③



0 PARKING
1st - 2nd
3rd - 4th
5th - 6th
7th - 8th
9th - 10th
11th - 12th
13th - 14th
15th - 16th
17th - 18th
19th - 20th
21st - 22nd
23rd - 24th
25th - 26th
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89th - 90th
91st - 92nd
93rd - 94th
95th - 96th
97th - 98th
99th - 100th

Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York.
Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks

NOV 05 1979 Preservation Commission.
View of North entrance.

Co.

JAN 10 1980

④



Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York. Co.

Photo by: Stephen B. Senigo.

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission.

View of Lobby.

JAN 10 1980.

NOV 05 1979

5



Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York.

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo.

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission.

View of Lobby.

NOV 05 1979

JAN 10 1980

THIS PAPER
MANUFACTURED
BY KODAK

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MANUFACTURED
BY KODAK

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BY KODAK



7
Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York *County*
Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.
Neg. at: New York City Landmarks
Preservation Commission.
View of interior stairwell.

NOV 05 1979

JAN 10 1980



8
Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York.

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1970.

Neg. at: New York City Landmarks

NOV 05 1979 Preservation Commission.

View of interior staircase.

JAN 10 1980



9
Ansonia Hotel, New York, New York. CO.

Photo by: Stephen L. Senigo, 1979.

Neg. at New York City Landmarks

JAN 10 1980

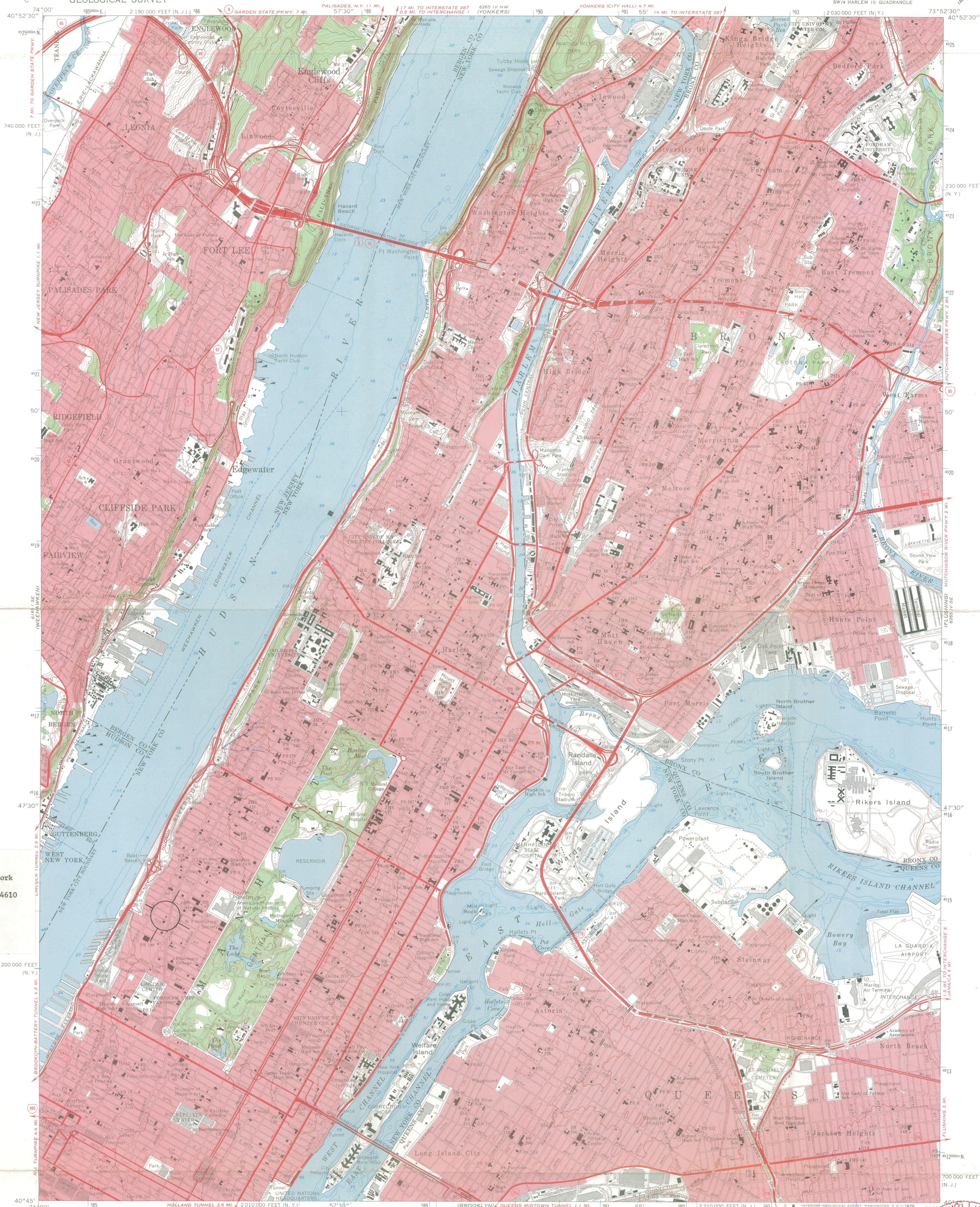
Preservation Commission.

View of stairwell windows.

NOV 05 1979

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CENTRAL PARK QUADRANGLE
NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 HARLEM 15' QUADRANGLE



ANSONIA HOTEL
New York, New York
UTM Reference:
18/ 585865/ 4514610

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Revised in cooperation with New York
Department of Transportation
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and New Jersey Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods and from USC&GS Charts T-4567,
T-5089, T-5264, T-5278, T-5448, T-5449, T-5451, T-5452, T-5453, T-5458,
and T-5778. Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1954 and planetable surveys 1956
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1966
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 226, 274, 745,
746, and 747 (1966). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on New York coordinate system, Long Island zone,
and New Jersey coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



SCALE 1:24,000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET-DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY
4 FEET IN THE HUDSON RIVER AND 5.7 FEET IN THE EAST RIVER



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

RECEIVED
NOV 03 1979
NATIONAL REGISTER

CENTRAL PARK, N.Y.
SW/4 HARLEM 15' QUADRANGLE
N4045-W7352.5/7.5

1966
AMS 6265 IV SW-SERIES V821

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE NEW YORK

Date Entered JAN 10 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Flower, Roswell P., Memorial Library	Watertown Jefferson County
Bloomingsburgh Reformed Protestant Dutch Church	Bloomingsburgh Sullivan County
Williams, Johann, Farm	Niagara Falls Niagara County
Ansonia Hotel	New York New York County
New Amsterdam Theater	New York New York County
Gifford-Walker Farm	North Bergen Genesee County
Brooklyn Borough Hall	Brooklyn Kings County
Mann, Andrew, Inn	Unadilla Otsego County
Brandreth Pill Factory	Ossining Westchester County

Also Notified

Honorable Daniel P. Moynihan

Honorable Jacob K. Javits
Honorable Robert C. McEwen
Honorable Matthew F. McHugh
Honorable John J. La Falce
Honorable Ted Weiss
Honorable Barber B. Conable, Jr.
Honorable Frederick W. Richmond
Honorable James M. Hanley
Honorable Richard L. Ottinger

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

ANSONIA TENANTS' COALITION

2109 Broadway New York, NY 10023

8/8/85

Mr. Gene A. Norman, Chairman
Landmark Preservation Commission
20 Vesey Street
New York, NY 10007

Re: The Ansonia
2101-15 Broadway
V-84-0513

Dear Mr. Norman:

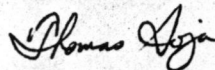
Enclosed for your records are enlargements of photographs submitted to the Commission on 7/10/84, which show the Ansonia's workmen in the act of defacing cartouches located on the SE corner of the South Central Bay at the 15th floor level. After receiving our 7/10/84 letter, the Commission allowed 4 other stone cartouches to be destroyed with black tar (they are located on the SW corner of the South Central Bay and the SE corner of the SW Bay). Then the Commission authorized the landlord to cover up this defacement with a beige-colored compound without even ascertaining the chemical composition of said compound. The Commission removed the violation numbered V-84-0513, even though it is clear that these cartouches have been defaced beyond repair.

Although the Commission saw fit to send our landlord copies of all of the tenants' communications, it never offered the tenants the same courtesy of sending them copies of the landlord's correspondence. Although we requested written information about violation #V-84-0513, we were unable to obtain it without the intervention of our elected public officials.

Subsequently, we wrote to you about a dozen violations which had been placed on hazardous balconies by the Dept. of Buildings. Since these items required immediate repairs, we expected to hear from you within a week or two, after delivering our letter to the Commission on April 19. Yet, nearly three and one half months have passed without our receiving one word from your Commission on the matter.

The preservation of the rich architectural heritage of our city, indeed, of our country, depends upon the vigilance of your Commission in preventing such depredations as those which Ansonia Associates have committed upon our building.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas Soja
President

cc: National Register of Historic Places
Assemblyman Jerrold Nadler
Mayor Edward I. Koch
Council President Carol Bellamy
Council Member Ruth Messinger
Borough President Andrew Stein
Commissioner Charles M. Smith, Jr.
Community Board #7
Samuel M. Stone, Esq.

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1985

LANDMARKS PRESERVATION
COMMISSION



5/1/84

Workmen hired by Ansonia Associates in the act of tarring
the giant limestone cartouches on the SE corner of the
South Central Bay at the 15TH floor level



5/1/84

Ansonia Associates workmen in the act of tearing the
giant limestone cartouches on the SE corner of the
South Central Bay at the 15TH floor level