

SITE REPORT #1

Grand Central Terminal



Maryse Maurice

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Introduction

Grand Central Terminal is one of the most popular historic landmarks in New York City. Located on 42nd street and Park Avenue, and renamed “Grand Central Terminal” after the reconstruction of Grand Central Depot. Major renovations were made to expand its facility. A great site visits for those who want to learn and see extraordinary works by engineers and architects from neoclassical. Also filled with beautiful sculptures, arches, gorgeous chandeliers...

Site documentation(photos)



This photo was taken inside Grand Central Terminal's main concourse that shows a gorgeous chandelier, but the most important thing is the natural light on the top. Light is one of the important things about Grand Central Terminal. As you can see lights are everywhere, and why? Because the importance of the electricity at that time which played a major role in GCT's development.

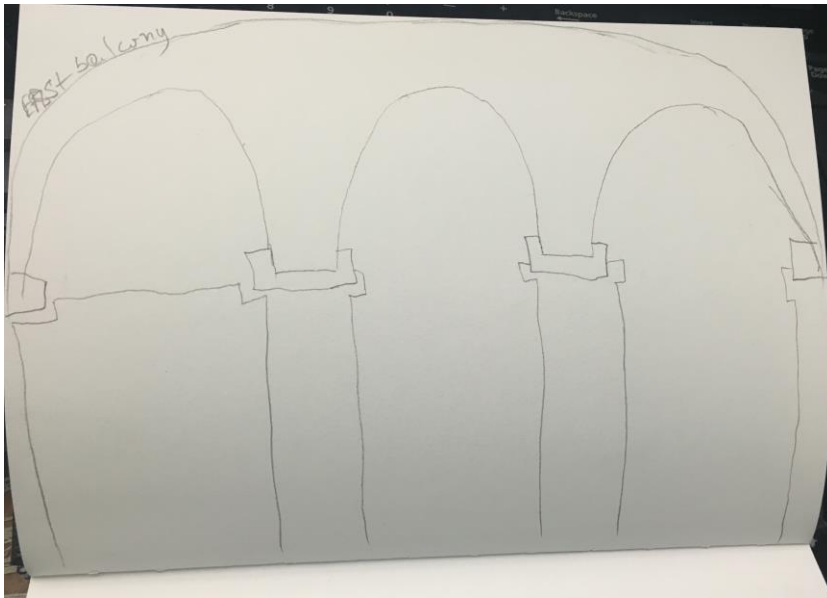


This picture shows a night sky. A majestic astrological ceiling mural above the main concourse. When you look up, all the zodiac symbols are above. The mural was intended to depict the astronomical map the way it looks. Grand Central Terminal is not just a place to grab a train. You can also have some fun and learn more about the designs. This really captured my attention.

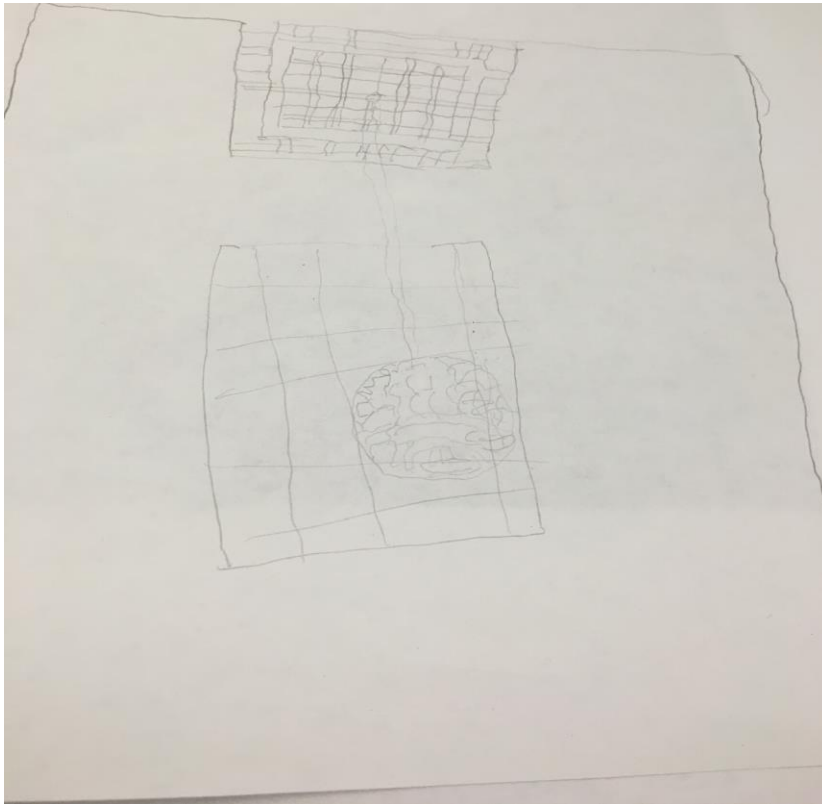


This is Grand Central terminal whispering gallery. Located on dining platform near the Oyster Bar & Restaurant. If you stand in one corner of the room and whisper into the wall people can hear you clear. "The tiling on the ceiling is work of Raphael Guastavino, he installed glazed terra cotta tiles to create arches".

Site documentation(sketches)



The arches on the East balcony at GCT's main concourse



This sketch was inside the main concourse where the natural lights are coming in from the top window and a chandelier. Lights are very important during GCT's construction.

General notes:

Grand Central sculptures were designed by French sculptor Jules Felix Coutan.

The space Vanderbilt Hall is no longer open to public.

Grand Central Terminal's main concourse is the center fills with crowds.

The main concourse has an astronomical ceiling.

Vanderbilt Hall serves as the entrance area from 42nd St.

Insights/discoveries

The site Visit to Grand Central was great experience, very acknowledgeable. I learned that the base of the building is always heavier, and it goes to the top the walls are taller. I saw some fascinating decoration, especially the astronomical ceiling with all the zodiac signs. And I learned people have to be careful of what they have to say under the whispering gallery because others can hear loud and clear. Also at the entrance on 42nd street lights are everywhere, shows the significance of lights.

Keywords/vocabulary/definitions

Beaux-Arts: the fine arts

Concourse: crowds where people come together

Whispering gallery: a vault covered in Gustavino tile

Tripartite: composed of three parts

Questions for further research

Did Gustavino built the arches with whispering in mind?

Why Grand Central had a place for the people to sit?

How much is the clock worth?