

Learning Places Fall 2016

Grand Central



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INTRODUCTION

Grand Central is a transit railroad terminal at 42nd Street and Park Avenue in Midtown Manhattan in New York City is one of the most popular sites in the New York City for those who want to see the great creation build by Engineers and Architects in the style of neoclassic and Beaux-arts. Which elaborate the beautiful sculptural, big arches, huge stairs and terrace. when you enter the Grand Central terminal. Which give you the feeling of entering the Greek

era. The Grand central changed its names with the time from Grand Central depot to Grand Central station and finally into Grand Central terminal. It was good experience going there and sees the creation, which has rich history.

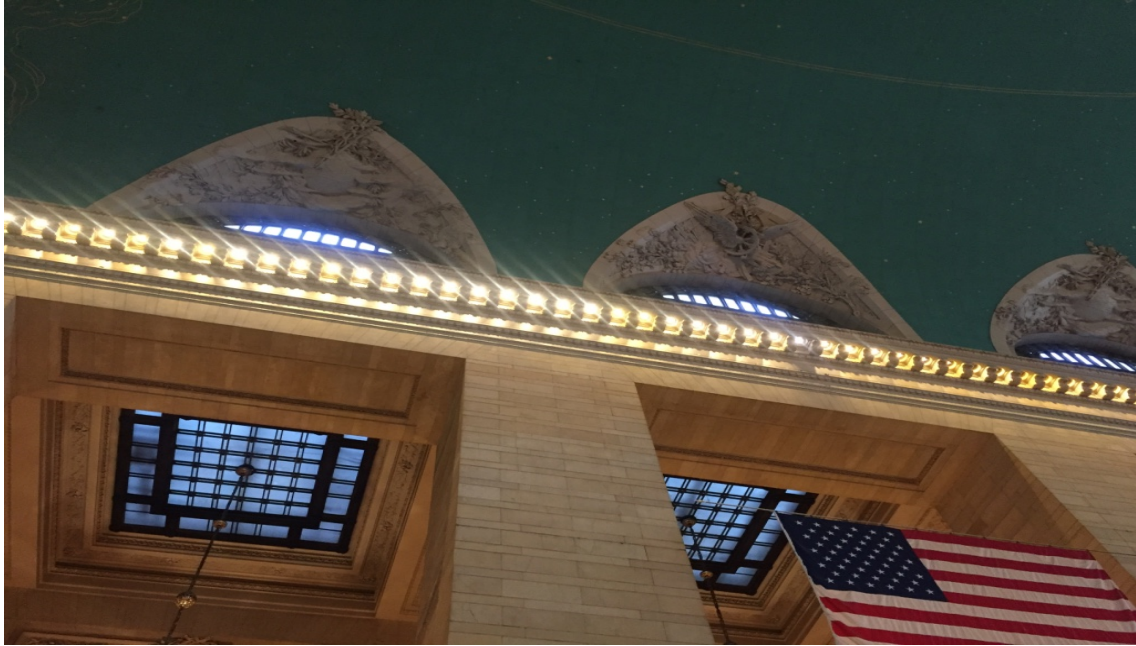
SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos)



This photo was taken on the corner of Pershing Square on park Ave and E42nd Street looking onto the Pershing Square Bridge. This entrance to Grand Central Terminal is styled by Jules-Alexis Coutan's 1914 symbolic statuary, which has the terminal's iconic clock. Fifty feet high, and Mercury, the Roman god of travel and business, and on the sides it has wisdom of Minerva and the strength of Hercules. The huge windows, big pillars, and great detailed work on the window and arches give you the feeling that you are going to enter the old time.



This picture was taken inside the huge Grand Central hall as you enter the hall the huge GC building welcome you with the big staircase, terrace tall ceiling and so many windows, with the arches and ticket booth inside GC. These windows, in cast iron frames and bordered by fluted classical columns, are 60 feet tall and double-glazed. The style of the GC hall tells you how the Architects spend a good amount of time creating this marvelous building. The neoclassic style gives the GC hall a look of two eras old and new.



This picture was taken inside the GC hall, looking to the tall ceiling of GC hall as you look to the ceiling you have

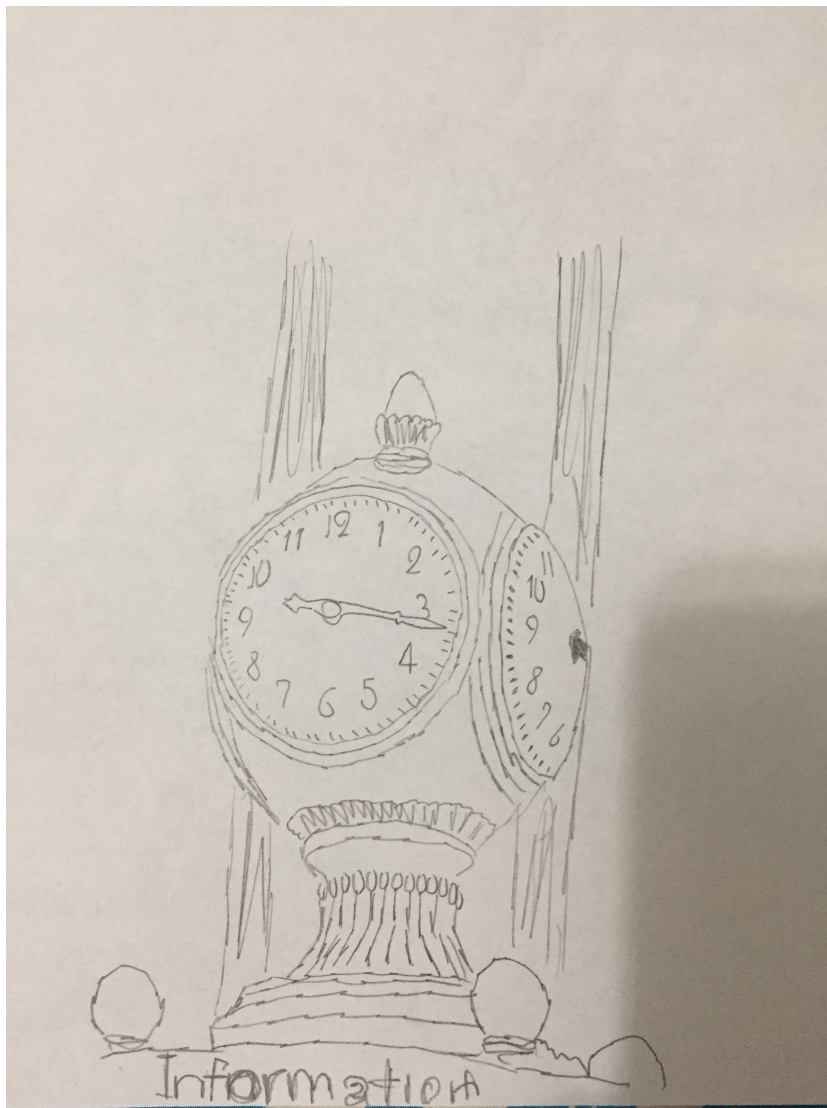
to look all the way up because of how tall is the ceiling. The designs that are made in the ceiling have flowers and birds on it. Its design in the ceiling also have blue color zodiac signs which was made French Pastelist and etcher Paul César Helleu created the vast tableau in 1912. The signs are made with gold leaf and modeled with tiny, stippled gold leaf stars. It Contains 2,500 gold stars. Sixty are LED lights to highlight the constellations of a Mediterranean sky for the October to March zodiac it looks like the French artist added the bulbs into the ceiling to amplify the beautiful art they had been created into the ceiling.



This picture was also taken inside the GC hall, which shows Tracks and their numbers on it. And which is the entrance into the train tracks. The beautiful terrace the Chandelier and the

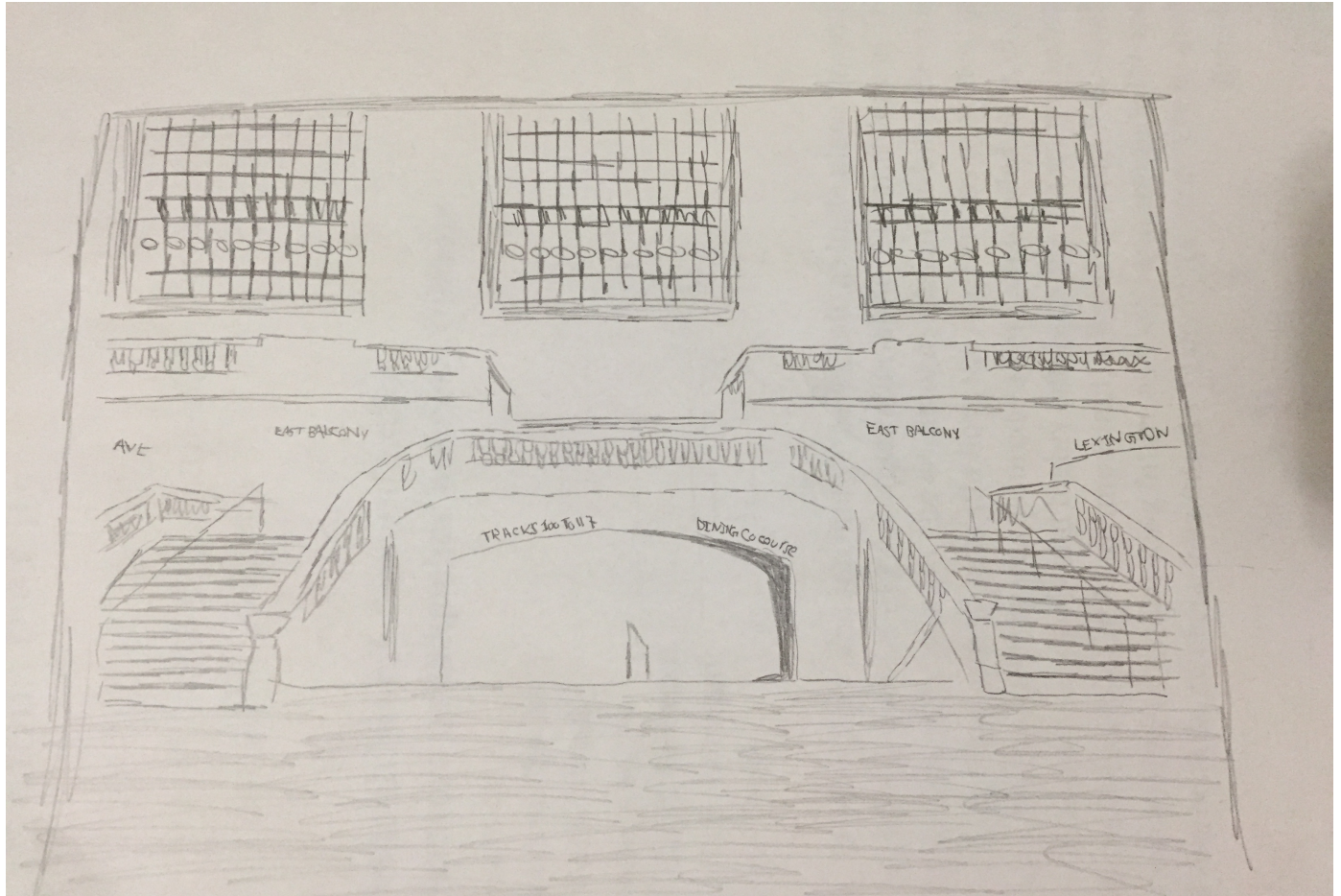
big mirror window is the beautiful design of the architect. The 10 melon-shaped chandeliers framing the Main Concourse five on the north balcony and five to the south toward Vanderbilt Hall. The marble of the walls and the lights inside the GC gives you the feeling of you traveling in the old time.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (sketches)



This is the sketch of clock on the top of information when you enter the GC hall. So as I enter the GC hall the one thing that stands out the most was a clock atop information booth. It

was very beautiful and elegant piece. You can't miss it when you enter the hall. Its right in the middle yet simple but stand out the most. The Connecticut-based Seth Thomas Clock Co. was actually turning 100 years old when the company manufactured this clock for Grand Central's in 1913.



This sketch is the stairs case inside the GC with big stairs beautiful design and shiny marbles. Its like I am walking into king's palace. The Arches of the stairs look beautiful; as hands and the Architects who build the design were making sure that everything goes well with each other. In the way which make it perfect. The huge Windows behind it let sunshine into the hall, which makes the design more beautiful and complete.

General Notes

Grand Central was completed in 1913.

Many homeless people started to stay in Vanderbilt hall so that's why now it's close for public.

GC building is in neoclassic style.

There are Zodiac signs on the ceiling of GC.

INSIGHTS/DISCOVERIES

I went to the Grand Central once before nothing seems interesting at my first visit to grand central, Just a ordinary visit to see the famous GC. But the visit I did for my class and knowing about the stuff like Neoclassic gives me the power to see the GC from totally different prospect. Sitting there and looking into details and beautiful sculpture, high ceiling big windows, thousands of bulbs and train tracks with huge stairs case everything was so fascinating. Its like I am seeing grand central in a total new way, which I have never seen before. I sit there in the stairs and looking and imaging that how the Architects build this huge and beautiful design how much time they invested in it. How much thoughts inside each design in GC sculpture have. It's liked you looking to GC and everything about it fascinate you how perfect the design are, it's like you traveling back in the time. I felt like I am in Greek era where artist build the unique style and put his beautiful thoughts into GC that's what makes Grand Central more beautiful and perfect.

KEYWORDS/VOCABULARY & DEFINITIONS

Neoclassic: the revival of a classical style or treatment in art, literature, and architecture.

Beaux-Arts: relating to the classical decorative style maintained by the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, especially in the 19th century.

Paul César Helleu: were a French oil painter, pastel artist, dry point etcher, and designer,

Vast tableau: great dramatic picture

Jules-Alexis: Were a French sculptor and educator.

Hercules: Is the Roman name for the Greek divine hero Heracles, who was the son of Zeus and the mortal Alcmena. In classical mythology, Hercules is famous for his strength and for his numerous far-ranging adventures.