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Site Report 2- The Morgan Library

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INTRODUCTION

The Morgan Library & Museum – formerly the Pierpont Morgan Library – is a museum and research library located at 225 Madison Avenue at East 36th Street in the Murray Hill neighborhood of Manhattan, New York City. It was founded to house the private library of J. P. Morgan in 1906, which included manuscripts and printed books, some of them in rare bindings, as well as his collection of prints and drawings. Today, The Morgan Library & Museum is a complex of buildings of differing styles and periods covering half a city block.



This photo is the mural located on the ceiling of the rotunda right next to Morgan's private library. It consists of three main philosophical factors, such as the Antiquity, the Middle Ages, and The Renaissance. J.P. Morgan's knowledge is a reflection of these three factors that portrays the four branches of learning—Religion, Philosophy, Science, and Art.



This is a photo of J.P Morgans private library. The architecture in this room is surreal. Reason I say that is because it's hard to believe how someone was able to place such design. This library is filled with books and bibles read and created by J.P Morgan himself. An example of neo classicism is provided through the murals designed above. The clarity of this mural allows light to come in from the outside. The architecture made me wonder how is it possible to get from one level to another in regards to where the books are stored. According to the guidance we had at the library, there is a stairwell behind these books that give you an access the different levels of book shelves.



This is the side entrance of the library is called the Mckim building. This architectural firm is a library adjacent to J.P Morgans brownstone on 36th Street and Madison Avenue. This structure resembles the white house in many ways, which gives many the impression that this model is pure in the American movement at the turn of the century. This model was also influenced by the Italian renaissance. Lastly,the Mckim building was named after the Mckim, White, Mead firm from the early 1900's whom provided in the design of this structure.

General notes:

- The Morgan residence was next to the library

- Morgan's residence was torn down in 1928, after his death, to be replaced by an annex building which featured an exhibition hall and a reading room
- The Morgan residence was bought by J. P. Morgan in 1904
- The Morgan Library was renovated in 2006
- The Morgan Library is a library but more like a museum based on my experience

Vocabulary:

Texture: the characteristic structure given to a surface or substance by the size, shape, arrangement, and proportions of the parts

Clarity: the state or quality of being clear

Articulation: a method or manner of jointing that makes the united parts clear, distinct, and precise in relation to each other

Composition: the arranging of parts into proper proportion or relation so as to form a unified whole

Annex: a building joined to or associated with a main building, providing additional space or accommodations

Questions:

- 1) Who was the architect behind the design of J.P Morgans private library?
- 2) What material were the walls made of that made the private library completely quiet once doors were closed?
- 3) Were the designs developed at the moment of building design or derived from another location or place where similar art was involved?