

Learning Places Fall 2016

## SITE REPORT #3

# Metropolitan Museum of Art



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### INTRODUCTION

The Metropolitan museum has always been a wonderful place to visit when you just want to get out of the house. The historical and creative content stored in this one place is unimaginable unless you step foot into it yourself. This museum has an egyptian like structure with its very own fountain for

goodness sake. I can't say that I spent a lot of my own time here but every time I have gone it has been quite memorable and quite the knowledgeable experience.

## SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos\*)



In this photo we get to see the beautiful structures that sit on the ceiling in the Great Hall. It resembles an oculus type structure the way a dome just sits on top of beautiful arches. The arches make a person feel as if no matter which direction they decide to follow they will be entering into a marvelous room. They were not wrong. The structure does make you wonder how much math was put into the creation of this. It left me in awe but also very amazed. The window in the center allowed for natural light to seep in, something that many other marvelous structures have in common.



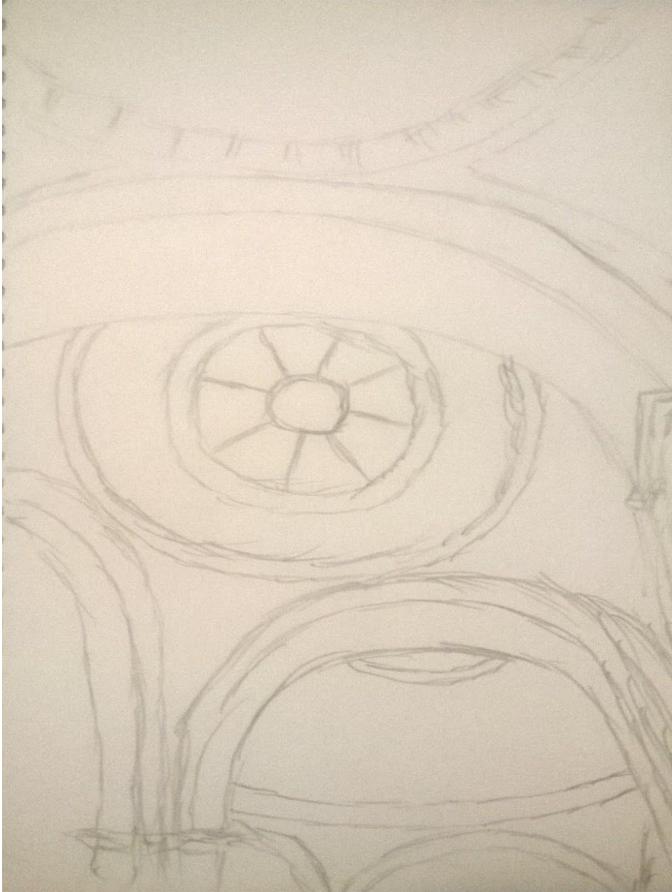
In this photo we are able to see the outside of the giant museum. I decided to take the picture at an angle to show how similar the architecture is to grand central and the morgan library. It also includes symmetry in the design and incorporates the use of columns on the outside. The three arches in the front also have giant windows. It seems like the golden ratio once again made an appearance at the Met. Unlike grand central, the MEt does not have giant statues on its roof but it still quite marvelous.



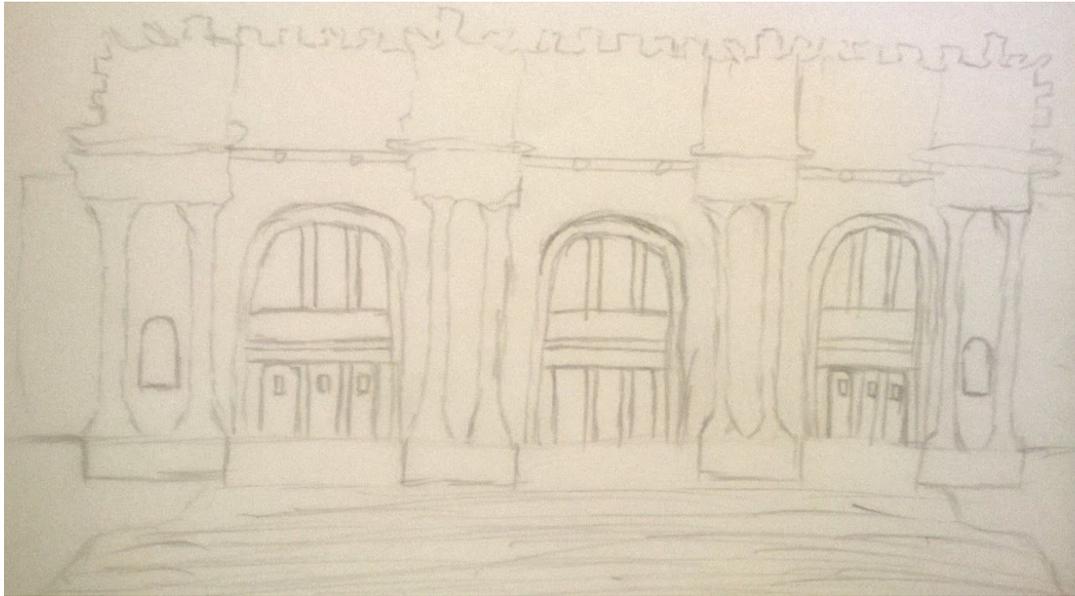
In this photo we see the fountain located on the outside of the museum. The spouts create arches that make the fountain look much more interesting and allow for a photogenic moment. In my opinion it adds life to the small structure and makes the outer design look even better than it already is. It's cool how architects can also manipulate water in their designs in order to make it look presentable.

## SITE DOCUMENTATION (sketches\*)

\*2 sketches minimum required per site visit



This is my small sketch of the oculus inside the Grand Hall. I was simply fascinated by how cool these arches looked. The window in the middle seemed like a giant eye looking into the room. Really cool design in my opinion. Makes the museum look interesting from the start. It's funny how I never even noticed the ceiling before.



This is my sketch of the outside of the metropolitan museum. It almost felt as if I had done this sketch twice before. Similar lines and shapes were incorporated into these drawings and once again I had to make sure that my drawings were symmetrical. I'm hoping that by the end of this class I'll be amazing at drawing large structures. Hopefully I can find a way to make money off of it.

## GENERAL NOTES:

- The MET museum is the largest in museum in the United States.
- The building was built by multiple architects.
- It originally opened on February of 1872.
- It was originally located on 681 Fifth avenue.
- The museum itself has 17 different departments.

## INSIGHTS/DISCOVERIES

This being my fifth time at the museum you would think that I would have at least notice the ceiling once before. I have never seen the ceiling of the Great Hall. I never even knew that it was called the Great Hall. The natural lighting I have noticed once before. I would always enjoy going straight into

the Egyptian exhibit because of the large and spectacular fountain. In that room you could see how much natural lighting is actually valued. The giant angled window lets so much lighting in its ridiculous. It makes for great photo lighting even though I did for to take pictures of it this time. Maybe the next time I visit.

## KEYWORDS/VOCABULARY & DEFINITIONS

**\*5 keywords minimum required per site visit**

Oculus: a round or eyelike opening or design.

Palimpsest: something reused or altered but still bearing visible traces of its earlier form.

Lunette: an arched aperture or window, especially one in a domed ceiling.

Microcosm: a community, place, or situation regarded as encapsulating in miniature the characteristics

qualities or features of something much larger.

Facade: the face of a building; the principal front.

## QUESTIONS for Further RESEARCH

1. Is the museum combined from multiple architectural styles?
2. How long would it take to properly explore the museum?
3. What exactly is the museum mile?