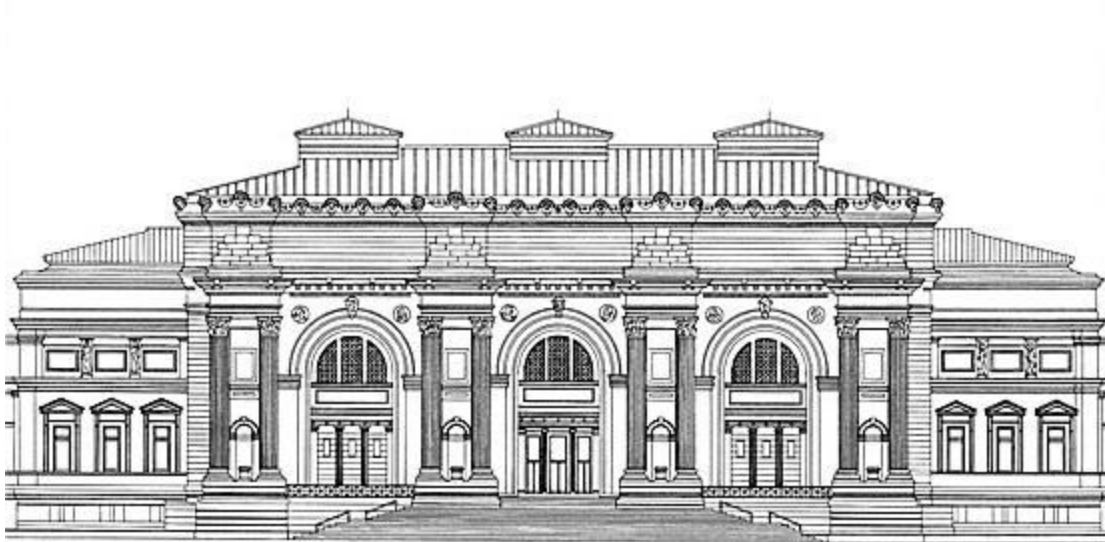


Learning Places Fall 2016

SITE REPORT #3

Metropolitan Museum



THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART - NEW YORK

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10/20/16

INTRODUCTION

For our last site visit we went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art with Professor Grace. During the visit we spent most of our time outside discussing the stairs leading up to the entrance and the rest of the time in the Great Hall of the Museum which is sort of like a lobby. The reason we spent most of our time focusing on the stairs is because of their cultural importance in NY, which I'll discuss further later in my report. The Great Hall is also essential because it is the first part of the Museum you see when you walk in. "The Met" is the largest Museum in the U.S and one of the most visited Museums

in the world.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos)



This is a photo of the main entrance of the Met Museum taken from 82nd street and 5th ave. This is an important view and picture because it shows the front entrance in its entirety along with the stairs. This is not the only section of the Met but is the first part of the structure that was built in 1870 by Richard Morris Hunt and Jacob Wrey Mould and was opened to the public in 1872. In later years more wings were added to the original structure by different architects. It is pretty clear ,when you look at this building and the ones later built, you can tell the difference in their architecture and styles. This structure that you see above is in a romanesque and greek style by the huge pillars and head

sculptures around the building.

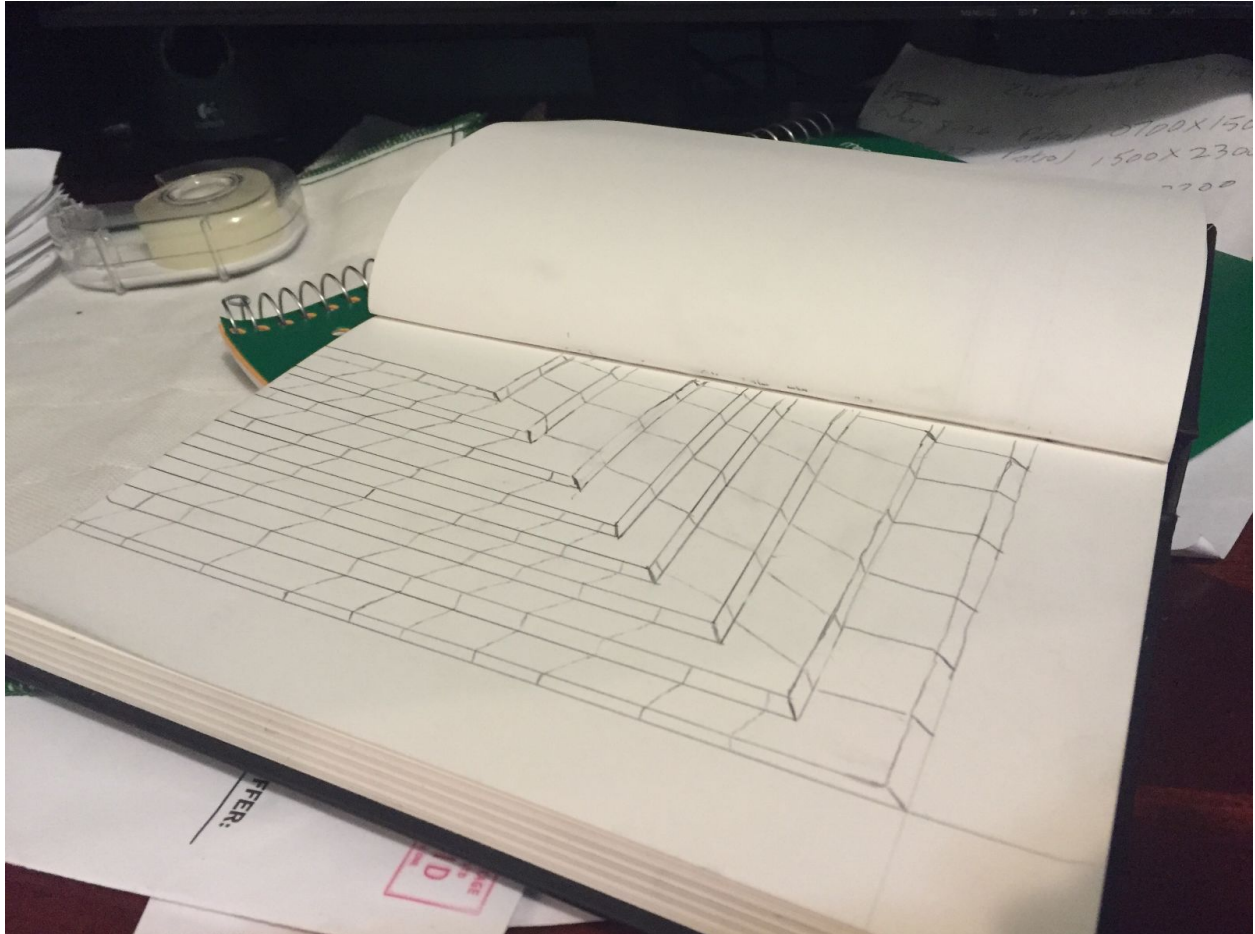


This is a picture inside the Great Hall, which is directly after you enter through the main entrance that i showed in my previous photo. I thought it was important that I share this photo because it perfectly exhibits the architectural style of Hunt. It wasn't just in the entrance but we see here that Hunt continued the Neo-Classical style by placing more pillars and keeping the space open. Also by doing this, in my opinion, the way the entrance is set up is inviting people to enter and explore.

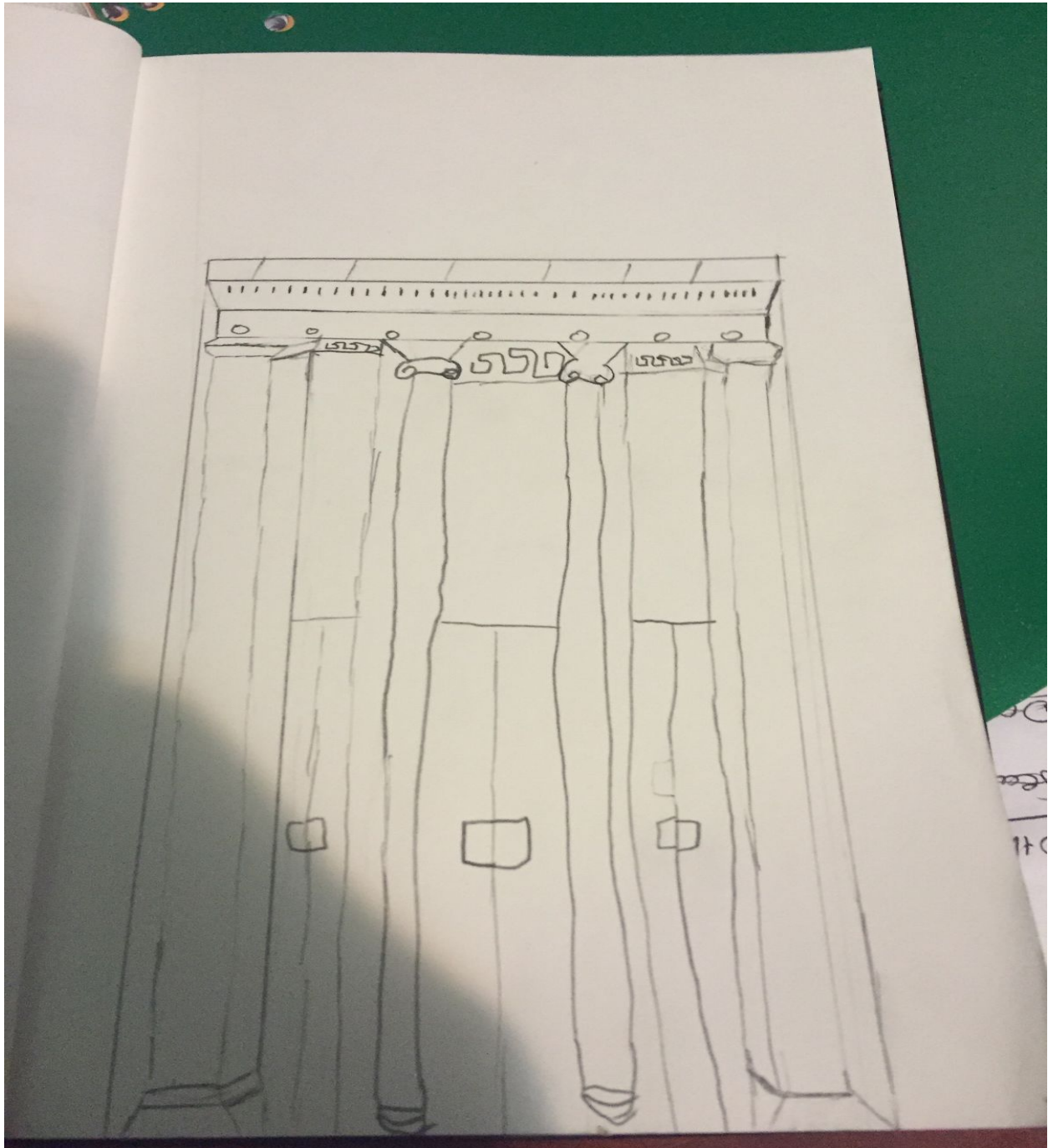


This is a side view of the stairs, facing towards 81st street, that i mentioned earlier in my introduction. I mentioned that the stairs were an essential part of the Met Museum and that why i thought it was important to highlight them. As you can see the stairs are many and are almost intimidating to look at because you think such large stairs can only lead to an important place. These weren't meant to be just stairs that lead into the Museum but also are an extension to the city, a connection between this huge structure and New York.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (sketches)



Here I sketched the stairs from a photo I took on my phone on a slightly tilted angle facing the entrance. I chose to sketch the stair because of their grand importance to the building and what they mean socially. They are, as I said before, an extension to the city almost as if they are leading us to a different city that is how big they are. Also I was impressed by the precision of the stair in an architectural view.



This is a close up sketch to the main entrance. I believe it was important to draw this because the

picture i took from far away doesn't give a clear view of the architectural style of Hunt.

GENERAL NOTES:

- The Met is the Largest Museum in America at an enormous two million square feet and more than 20 times larger than more buildings built at this time.
- The Met is the home of the oldest surviving piano.
- It is one of the most popular Museums in the world.
- In 2015 over 6.3 million people visited it which is a world record.

INSIGHTS/DISCOVERIES

This being my first time to the Metropolitan Museum i was happily surprised by the size of the building and the exhibits it has inside. I will definitely be coming back to look at it further and hopefully learn more about the building than i did this time. During this visit i was informed that the building wasn't built all at once and not be the same architect but rather in different time periods. I learned that the original building was first constructed in 1870 by Richard Hunt and later they two wings to the right and left were built. You can even tell that they were built by different people because of the difference in the styles.

QUESTIONS for Further RESEARCH

1. Was it the aim of the architects to make The Met the largest museum in America?
2. Is there any plans to further expand the Museum?

3. Where does most of the funding for the Museum come from?