

Learning Places Fall 2016  
Chin/Swift

# **SITE REPORT** [part 1: place]

## Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts



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### INTRODUCTION

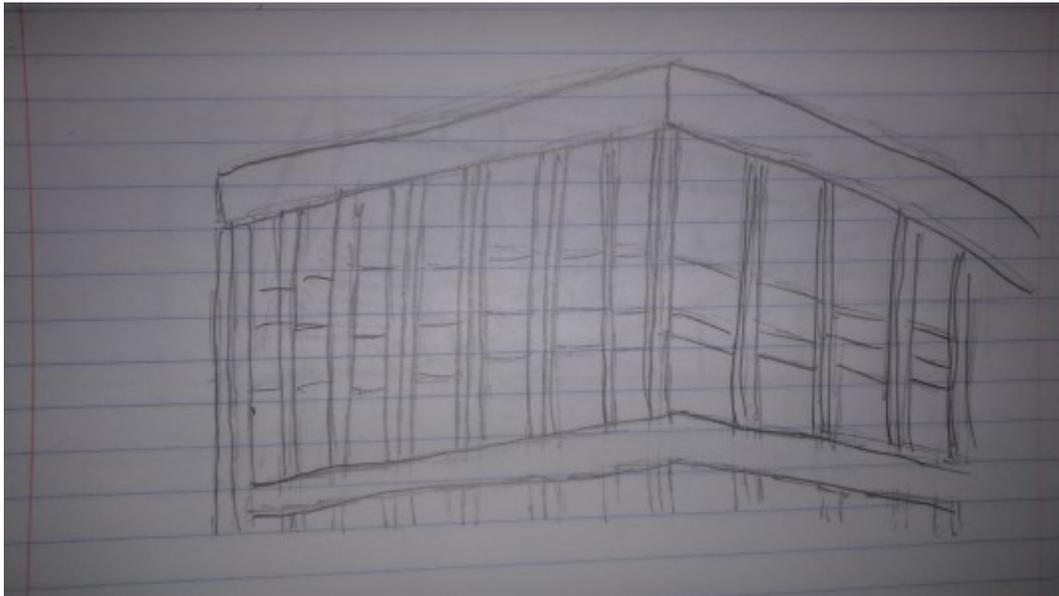
On this field visit we were instructed to examine Lincoln Center as a whole in terms of performance. Ranging from the structure design itself, to the surrounding environment and its additional structures, to the Lincoln Center Opera House. All of these elements could be considered in terms of performance space. The area consists of a 16.3-acre complex of buildings located in Manhattan, NY.

### PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Prior to the visit to the Lincoln Center Opera house I was quite unsure of what to expect. It is not a place that I have ever visited despite living in New York for many years. I have heard stories and seen quite a few pictures online but pictures could never replace being at the location.

## SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos/sketches)

### David Geffen Hall



The top three images depict a building that I chose to sketch on site (David Geffen Hall). The columns of this specific building were a piece of artwork in of themselves due to their interesting design. The building has larger gaps in between columns to signify entrance points. The areas around the building are empty and allow for performance space.

# Opera House



Above images representing the Opera house located at Lincoln Center, including a sketch of what I believe to be the ticket booth area. The area over all is beautiful, with a fantastic warm and inviting color scheme. The area tends to give off a very elegant and expensive vibe while allowing anyone to enter. The area as a whole gives off a pure vibe of performance, as if a mass amount of people dressed in expensive costume were to just walk down those stairs.

## QUALITATIVE SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. Neighborhood / Street Character
  - a. Tall residential housing, stores, and business structures.
  - b. Busy streets, as once again this is located in Manhattan.
2. Vitality of Place
  - a. General Description
    - i. Very active environment with many residents and tourists.
  - b. Pedestrian Activity
    - i. Busy due to the nature of the environment.
  - c. Vehicular Traffic
    - i. High traffic environment, heart of the city.
3. Age of Buildings (provide evidence for prediction)
  - a. Approximately 61 years old, as Lincoln Center started construction in the late 1950's.
4. Relationship Between Buildings (urbeme)
  - a. A combination of artistic structures mainly for the purposes of performance, such as theatrical performance, musical performance, and Ballet.
5. Building Details (historical/architectural styles, morphemes)
  - a. Very detailed architecture with a nod to Ancient Greece. This can be seen by the use of Columns very sparingly across the area.
  - b. Large structures that tend to give off a protective, and powerful feeling.
  - c. Serve as a great tourist attraction.
6. Building Uses
  - a. Theater, dance, theatrical performance, and things of this nature.

## QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Street Names	10 Lincoln Center Plaza, New York, NY 10023.
Street Width	Span between 64 <sup>th</sup> street to 66 <sup>th</sup> street.
Pavement Type	Concrete
Building Heights	-
Building Widths (Window Bays)	16.3 acres wide as a whole.
Building Types/Uses	Performance/ Art.
Empty Lots / Gardens	Grassy areas indicating parks, as well as empty areas that scream performance
Shops / Restaurants	Yes, as well as one within the area, under the terrace.
Industrial Shops	-
Other Data	-
Other Data	-

## QUESTIONS TO RESEARCH FURTHER

### QUESTIONS:

1. When was the area renovated?
2. How many visitors does Lincoln Center get on an average day?
3. What went into building the structures along with their Ancient Greek design?

### RESEARCH METHOD/SOURCE FOR EACH QUESTION ABOVE:

1. Question 1
  - a. <http://ny.curbed.com/2015/12/11/9892010/lincoln-centers-geffen-hall-overhaul-architect-finally-named>
  - b. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln\\_Center\\_for\\_the\\_Performing\\_Arts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln_Center_for_the_Performing_Arts)
2. Question 2
  - a. <http://www.aboutlincolncenter.org/about/faqs>
  - b. <http://www.lincolncenter.org/visit>
3. Question 3
  - a. <http://www.lincolncenter.org/>

## SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

I wasn't really expecting much prior to visiting the Lincoln Center. After the visit I would have to admit that the structures were actually fascinating. The architecture with a nod to Ancient Greece, as well as the warm and inviting design of the interior of the buildings was a really pleasant experience. The entire area almost screams performance, I guess that is what earned the area the title of "Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts". Can't really argue with what is in that title after visiting the area for myself.