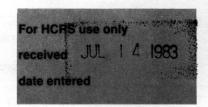
National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

| historic | | | | | |
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| and/or commo | on Grand Cer | ntral Term | inal & Park Avent | e Viaduct (Expansi | on) |
| | ation | | |),—— | |
| street & numb | | st 42nd St | reet; Park Avenue | between East 40th | and East 42nd Streetnot for publication |
| city, town | New York | | vicinity of | congressional-district | |
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| 3. Cla | ssificati | on | | | |
| Category district building(s structure site object | Ownership public private X both Public Acqui | s | Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted | Present Use agriculture _X_ commercial educational entertainment government | museum park private residence religious scientific |
| | ner of P | | X yes: unrestricted no | industrial military | X transportation other: |
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| Condition excellent X good fair | deteriorated ruins unexposed | Check one unaltered X altered | Check one X original site moved date | NA | |

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

7. Description

The nomination includes Grand Central Terminal at 71-105 East 42nd Street, which was designated a National Historic Landmark on December 8, 1976. The Park Avenue Viaduct, which is connected to the upper story of the terminal on the south facade, is being added to the nomination. Located in the center of Park Ave. and beginning at the north end of 40th St., the viaduct rises over a distance of two blocks to meet the elevated roadway on on the south facade of Grand Central Terminal. A continuation sheet describes the viaduct.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Grand Central Terminal and Park Avenue Viaduct

Continuation sheet New York County, NY Item number 4

For HCRS use only received date entered

Page 2

Hon, Henry Fulton Commissioner Department of Highways 40 Worth Street New York, NY 10013

Richard Ravitch Chairman Metropolitan Transit Authority 374 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10017

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Grand Central Terminal and Park Avenue Viaduct Continuation sheet New York County, NY Item number 7

For HCRS use only received date entered

Page 4

Located in the heart of midtown Manhattan, the Park Avenue Viaduct is situated in Pershing Square at Park Avenue and 42nd Street. The stone and iron viaduct begins at 40th Street at the opening of the Belmont Tunnel, ascends on a gradual incline over 41st and 42nd Streets, and joins the upper story of Grand Central Terminal on the south facade. around the terminal on terraced drives and descends to street level at 45th Street, tunneling under the New York Central Building (1928) and continuing up Park Avenue. Heavy cross-town traffic passes under the viaduct on 42nd Street.

The design of the viaduct is French in character, with low, broad spanning arches and substantial supporting piers. Almost 600 feet long, the viaduct was designed with three arches separated by granite piers. A granite-faced ramp crowned by stone balustrades serves as the approach to the viaduct between 40th and 41st Streets. The piers, which flank the central arch on both sides of the bridge are marked by central projections ornamented with a wide, carved foliate frieze. Each pier is crowned by an iron lamp post, an element that also appears on the elevated roadways around the terminal. The arch spandrels are sheathed with panels of sheet metal and crowned by an iron railing composed of plain and foliate panels. A section of this railing on the west side of the 42nd Street arch has been replaced by metal bars. Plagues marked with the words "Pershing Square" crown each arch on both sides of the bridge.

Originally, all three arches of the Park Avenue Viaduct were left open, with the trusses exposed, and at one time a trolley line ran underneath. The central arch was enclosed by a steel and glass brick structure in 1939, when the city opened the New York City Convention and Visitors' Bureau under the central section of the bridge. This structure, fronted by a contemporary glass enclosure on the north side, now serves temporarily as an employment office. A cement block enclosure on the north end of the 41st Street arch and a wire fence on the south end of the arch further alter the original appearance of the viaduct. The iron-clad arches have recently been painted

green.

8. Significance

| Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900– | Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — agriculture — X architecture — art — commerce — communications | | religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater X transportation other (specify) |
|--|---|---|--|
| Specific dates | 1903-1919 | Builder/Architect Warren and Wetmore Reed | & Stern |

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The nomination includes Grand Central Terminal at 71-105 East 42nd Street, which was designated a National Historic Landmark on December 8, 1976. The Park Avenue Viaduct, conceived as part of the original 1903 plan for the station and constructed in 1917-19 according to the designs of Warren and Wetmore, is being added to the nomination. A continuation sheet discusses the significance of the viaduct.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Continuation Sheet)

| 10. Geograph | ical Data | | |
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| creage of nominated property | Approximately | 3.5 acres. | |
| luadrangle name Central P | Park, N.YN.J. | | Quadrangle scale $1:24,000$ |
| MT References | | | |
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| erbal boundar, Lascription | and justification | | |
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| ist all states and counties | for properties over | rlapping state or c | ounty boundaries NA |
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| | echt | | |
| ume/title Larry E. Gobre | J 25 | | late January 30, 1981 |
| Historic Prese | echt ervation Field S | d | late January 30, 1981 elephone (518) 474-0479 |
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| me/title Larry E. Gobre Historic Prese ganization Bureau reet & number Agency I, E | echt ervation Field S | to | elephone (518) 474-0479 state New York 12238 |
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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Grand Central Terminal and Park Avenue Viaduct Continuation sheet New York County, NY Item number For HCRS use only received date entered

Page 7

The Park Avenue Viaduct is significant as an essential component of the complex circulation system that was planned for Grand Central Terminal. Constructed in 1917-19, the viaduct was designed in 1912 by Warren & Wetmore. It was conceived as part of the original 1903 plan for the station by the firm of Reed & Stern. Completion of the bridge in 1919 marked the culmination of the terminal construction and the opening of an important connector establishing Park Avenue as a continuous north/south thoroughfare. viaduct is an important element on Park Avenue and provides a striking visual approach to Grand Central Terminal, one of New York's most distinguished buildings. Together with the terminal and many of the surrounding buildings in the Grand Central Zone, the viaduct reflects a carefully related scheme that is the finest example of Beaux-Arts civic planning in New York City.

8

Essential to the success of the terminal design was an innovative circulation system designed for the ultimate convenience of pedestrian and vehicular traffic. It included two levels of electrified tracks, a series of ramps instead of stairs, terraced drives, and a connecting viaduct. The viaduct was designed as an integral part of the terminal's circulation system. It is important to the design of the station itself and reflects the comprehensive nature of Beaux-Arts design and planning. The influence of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, established in Paris in 1816, and the "Beaux-Arts Style" was widespread in America at the turn of the century. Many Beaux-Arts principles and planning techniques had impact in America. Most influential perhaps, was the monumental classicism that characterized the architecture and plan of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The exposition demonstrated, for the first time in the United States, the powerful effect of monumental scale, axial planning, and clearly defined systems of circulation. The overall design of Grand Central Terminal, including the connecting viaduct and the neighboring buildings, is a superb example of these principles.

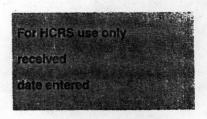
Characteristic of Beaux-Arts design, each part of the terminal scheme is related to the whole. The station, both a literal and allegorical gateway to the city, occupies an important axial location on Park Avenue and is the focal point from the south of this wide boulevard. A clearly defined axis directed toward such a fixed point is characteristic of Beaux-Arts planning. The viaduct approach to the terminal emphasizes the station's prominent position at the junction of Park Avenue and 42nd Street. The elevated roadways are a clear reflection of the analytical approach of the Beaux-Arts

school to problems of circulation.

The viaduct is an excellent example of the work of Warren & Wetmore, one of New York's most prestigious, accomplished, and prolific architectural The terminal and viaduct complexis one of the firm's most innovative and successful designs, one which continues to function admirably today.

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Grand Central Terminal and Park Avenue Viaduct
Continuation sheet New York County, NY Item number 9



Page 1

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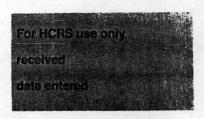
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(CONTINUED)

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Grand Central Terminal and Park Avenue Viaduct

Continuation sheet New YORK County, NY Item number 9



Page 2

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National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

Grand Central Terminal and Park Avenue Viaduct

Continuation sheet New York County, NY Item number 11

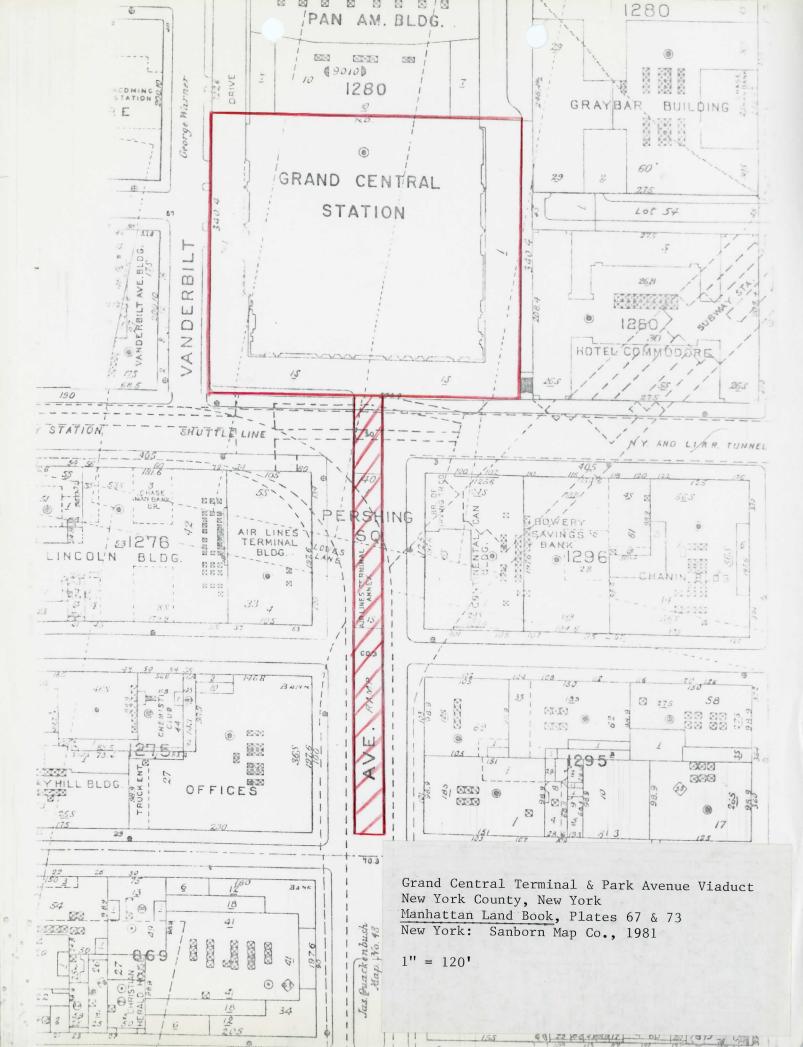
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Page 2

Form prepared by:

Rachel Carley Landmarks Preservation Commission 20 Vesey Street New York, NY 10007

(212) 566-7577



WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

| | minal (Boundary Increase | <u>se:</u> | | |
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| NEW YORK | | | Working No. | nt - |
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| boundary selection | | | | |

| 8. Significance | THE STATES DEPARTMENT OF T | ARD Pears - 177 |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | |
| Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph) | | |
| summary paragraph | y Inorease: | Grand Central Terminal (Boundary |
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| 9. Major Bibliographical References | | |
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1. PARK AVENUE VIADUCT, GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL

New York County, New York

Photo: 1979

Neg. at: New York Landmarks

Preservation Commission

View from the northwest



2. PARK AVENUE VIADUCT, GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL New York County, New York

Photo: 1979

Neg. at: New York Landmarks

Preservation Commission

View from the northeast

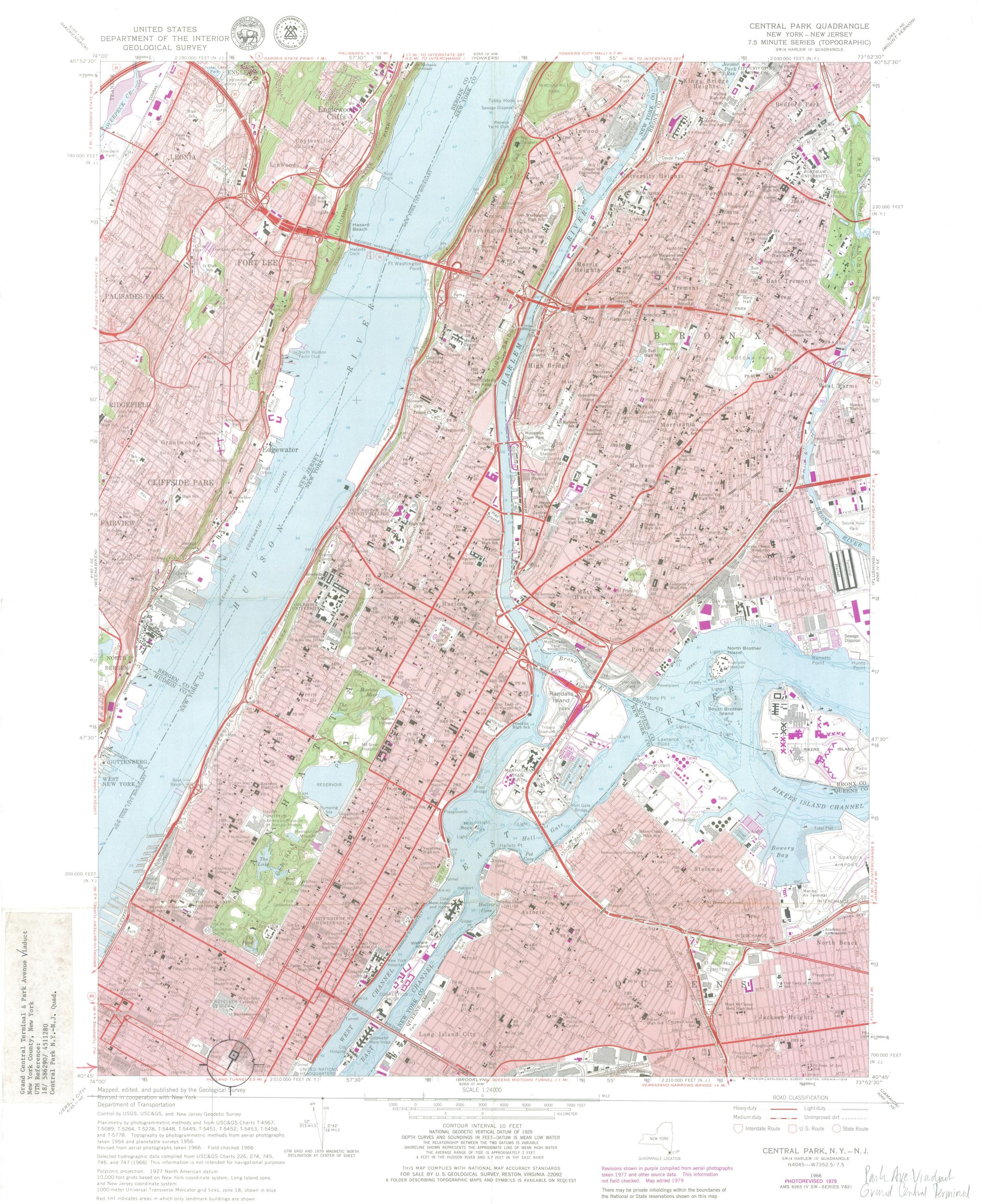


3. PARK AVENUE VIADUCT, GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL New York County, New York

Photo by: Carl Forster, 1981 Neg. at: New York Landmarks

Preservation Commission

View from the south





New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza Agency Building 1 Albany, New York 12238

518-474-0456

July 5, 1983

Carol Shull National Register of Historic Places Interagency Resources Division National Parks Service 1100 L Street NW, Room 6209 Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Carol:

The enclosed material constitutes an expansion to the nomination for Grand Central Terminal, listed on the National Register on January 17, 1975 and declared a National Historic Landmark on December 8, 1976. This amendment is based upon technical corrections to the original nomintion which did not include the Park Avenue Viaduct, connected to the terminal on the south elevation and constructed in 1917-1919 as part of the original plan for the station.

Included are the following:

continuation sheets for item 7 (description) and item 8 (significance) discussing the viaduct and its relation to the terminal

new cover for the expanded nomination including a new verbal boundary description.

new site map for the expanded nomination

new USGS map for the expanded nomination (which also corrects mapping errors in the earlier documentation)

photographs of the viaduct

expanded bibliography (item 9)

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions about this material.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Cobrecht

National Register Program Coordinator

Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau

LG/s1 Enc.

| NATIONAL REGI | | DATA | SHEET | |
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| A/AVAAAAA | OTHER NAMES: | | 3 date of entry: (4) c | ounty code: |
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| 71-105 East 42nd St. New York | | ny new Y | | ntic |
| OWNER PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name) | TRICT - 12 SOURCE | | ADMINISTRATOR: | |
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| BACCESS ☐ YES-Restricted ✓ YES-Unrestricted ☐ No Access ☐ Unknown | B ADAPTIVE USE □YES ★NO | | PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT | ? yes 🗷 no |
| AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: DENGINEERING-11 LANDSCAPE ARCH | | RECREATION -28 | CLAIMS: explain | |
| □ ARCHEOLOGY - Mehistoric - 2 SCOMMERCE - 6 □ ENTERTAINMENT - 26 □ LAW - 16 □ ARCHEOLOGY - historic - 1 □ COMMUNICATIONS - 7 □ EXPLORATION - 12 □ LITERATURE - 17 | RELIGION - 22 SCIENCE - 23 | URBAN PLANNING-31 | | |
| ☐ AGRICULTURE-3 ☐ CONSERVATION-8 ☐ HEALTH-27 ☐ MILITARY-18 | SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | | 'oldest'□ | |
| ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS-9 INDUSTRY-13 MUSIC-19 | SOCIAL / CULTURAL - 30 | | 'only' | |
| □ ART-5 □ EDUCATION-10 □ INVENTION-14 □ PHILOSOPHY-20 | | | | The state of the s |
| WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: R.F. STATION | dates of initial construction major alterations: | 19031913 | ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION | |
| CURRENTLY: DI TTO | historic events: | | (a) at | |
| architectural style(s): | | master builder: | engineer | 7.23 |
| BEAUX ARTS Salandscape architect/garden designer: Salinterior decorator. | Warren Wetmore | artisan: | Col. Wn. J. Wilg | us |
| Dianuscape architecty garden designer: | * su reverse | 39 21 11 3 211 | Builder Contractor: | |
| NAMES give role & date | 1 July and Se | | | |
| PERSONAL: WM. K. Vanderbilt-Chairman of Bd. of M.Y. Cen had already submitted their designs | Itral Corp brown | yurinwarren & W | letmore after keed & St | en |
| had alread Tubrulled their designs | | | | |
| EVENTS: | | | | |
| EVENTS: SYPOSOS | | | | |
| INSTITUTIONAL: | AP' | | | |
| INSTITUTIONAL: | مهر | | | |
| INSTITUTIONAL: MATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP Steel frame, granite 1 | imestone facing; 11 | 12 stones plus low | er levels, rectangular, gable | ed roof |
| ENSTITUTIONAL: SONATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP Steel frame, granite by I behind paneled parapet with decorative corner cartoucles as | imestone facing; 11/2 and pedimental state | 12 stones plus lower | er levels, rectangular, gable tiple corner and center ev | ed roof |
| Dehund paneled parapet with decorative corner cartouches and massive round arched and - story openings with engaged of | imestone facing; 14 ad pedimental state collumns between | 12 stones plus lower way group, multiple ba | er levels, rectangular, gable tiple corner and center ev lustraded terrace with de | ed roof utrances, |
| Dehund paneled parapet with decorative corner cartouches and massive round-arched and - stony openings with languaged of lamp standards, massive entablature and corner, cleresto | imestone facing; 11/2 and pedimental state cultumns betweene my openings; borre | 2 stones plus lower cary group, multiple surrounding ball-vaulted intension | er levels, rectangular, gable tiple corner and center ev hustraded terrace with de r concourse with mezzan | ed roof utrances, ecorative |
| behind paneled parapet with decorative corner cartouches an massive round-arched and-story openings with engaged of lamp standards, massive entablature and corner, clerestory grand staining, ramp system to train platforms; munor | imestone facing; 11/2 and pedimental state collumns betweene my openings; borre alterations. Excell | 2 stones plus lower cary group, multiple surrounding ball-vaulted intensioner of B | er levels, rectangular, gable tiple corner and center evel hustraded terrace with de concourse with mezzan beaux Cuts; architectura | ed roof utrances, ecorative ine |
| Dehund paneled parapet with decorative corner cartouches an massive round-arched and-story openings with engaged of lamp standards, massive entablature and cornice, clerestory grand staining, ramp system to train platforms, munor collaboration between the provincent firms of Reed of | imestone facing; 11/2 and pedimental state cultumns betweene my openings; borre alterations. Excell Stem and Beausi | 2 stones plus lower cary group, multiple surrounding ball-vaulted intensioner of B | er levels, rectangular, gable tiple corner and center evel hustraded terrace with de concourse with mezzan beaux Cuts; architectura | ed roof utrances, ecorative ine |
| behind paneled parapet with decorative corner cartouches as massive round-arched 2nd-story openings with engaged of lamp standards, massive entablature and cornice, clerestory opening train platforms; munor | imestone facing; 11/2 and pedimental state cultumns betweene my openings; borre alterations. Excell Stem and Beausi | 2 stones plus lower cary group, multiple surrounding ball-vaulted intensioner of B | er levels, rectangular, gable tiple corner and center evel hustraded terrace with de concourse with mezzan beaux Cuts; architectura | ed roof utrances, ecorative ine |

32 * Attist - Paul Hellen - concourse ceiling mural
Jules - alexis Contan - sculptural group