



Backlog Initiative: Addressing 95 Properties Manhattan A Group 2 Items

Landmarks Preservation Commission

Hotel Renaissance, later Columbia Club

4 West 43rd Street, Manhattan
Manhattan Block: 01258; Lot: 0042

Manhattan Community Board 5
Public Hearing Date(s): 05/16/2000; 10/24/2000;
11/14/2000



Photos 2014



Special Public Hearings

The Landmarks Preservation Commission will hold a public hearing on the backlog of buildings in the Borough of Manhattan on **November 5, 2015** and encourages interested parties to submit written testimony in advance of that hearing. Each speaker will be given three minutes total to speak, and in that time may address all of the items within Manhattan A Group 2, just particular items, or add comments to support written testimony. In order to conduct efficient hearings, we ask speakers to register in advance, and submit their written statements and materials that will be read at the hearing by **October 29, 2015** to backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov. If you are unable to attend the hearing, your written submissions will be entered into the record and distributed to the Commissioners.

If you have questions about this property or the hearing process please contact backlog95@lpc.nyc.gov or call (212) 669-7817. If you would like more information about this property, please see the research file summary (over) and go to our website (<http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/backlog95>) and click on the link for this building's research file.



**Landmarks Preservation
Commission**

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Hotel Renaissance, later Columbia Club Description

Landmark Type: Individual

Built: 1894

Architect: Clarence S. Luce

Style: Beaux-Arts

Research Staff Hearing Statement (2000)

**(FORMER) COLUMBIA CLUB
4 W. 43RD STREET, MANHATTAN**

No. 4 West 43rd Street was built as the Hotel Renaissance in 1894 to the designs of architect Clarence S. Luce. It is one of the few remaining nineteenth century buildings in the area, and contributed to the transformation of the neighborhood from an area of stables and trolley yards into a district of social clubs and hotels. The renaissance revival style of the building is an elegant response to McKim, Mead & White's earlier Century Club across the street and makes the building the earliest extant and rare example of a Renaissance Revival style hotel in New York City. Clarence Luce was a noted designer of residences and hotels, and this may well be his only surviving hotel building in New York City. The building is an interpretation of the Renaissance palazzo type in Beaux-Arts terms. Its monumental double-height columnar portico projects from a two-story rusticated base with historic storefronts. Above, the broad facade is articulated by simple windows, rhythmically repeated. The fifth-floor windows are more elaborately treated: each has a bracketed balustrade at the bottom, and is topped by a segmental-arched pediment carried on stone columns. A series of smaller windows flanked by cartouches panels forms a decorative attic frieze beneath a modillioned cornice and a crowning balustrade. The building then became the Columbia University Club from 1917 until 1973 when it was purchased by the Unification Church.