



NEW YORK STATE PARKS & RECREATION Agency Building 1, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12238 Information 518 474-0450  
Orin Lehman, Commissioner

0479

October 12, 1978

Mr. William Lebovich  
Department of the Interior  
National Register Office  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation  
Service  
18th and C Streets, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Bill:

Re: Fort Tryon and The Cloisters  
New York County

The National Register nomination for Fort Tryon and The Cloisters includes some 8 x 10 photographs of the Cloisters which were supplied by the Cloisters and which vary in date from 1937 to 1969. Except for those sections of the Cloisters which are heavily exposed to the elements and which have suffered some stone deterioration, the Cloisters are in the same excellent condition as depicted in these photographs.

Sincerely,

Larry E. Gobrecht  
National Register and Survey  
Coordinator  
Historic Preservation  
Field Services

cb  
Enc.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Fort Tryon Park and The Cloisters

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Fort Tryon Park

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

20th

CITY, TOWN

New York

VICINITY OF

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

New York

036

New York

061

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☒ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☒ MUSEUM☒ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

The Metropolitan Museum of Art and New York City Department of Parks

STREET &amp; NUMBER Fifth Avenue and 82nd Street, New York, NY 10028, and

830 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10021

CITY, TOWN

New York

VICINITY OF

STATE

New York

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

City Register

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Surrogates Court

31 Chambers Street

CITY, TOWN

New York

STATE

New York

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

The Cloisters, Fort Tryon Park, designation report

DATE

3/19/74

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

CITY, TOWN

New York

STATE

New York

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The area known as Fort Tryon Park is located in northwestern Manhattan and spans an area extending from the northern reaches of Washington Heights to the Inwood Section. The land consists of approximately 66.5 acres, is about half a mile long and averages 700 feet in width. Characteristic of its topography are dramatic land contours, rocky outcroppings and mature oaks indigenous to the area.

High points within the park command a magnificent view westward across the Hudson River to the Palisades and northward up the Hudson for a distance of thirty miles on a clear day. The northern boundary of the park is formed by a steep bluff. Across a valley to the north of this is Inwood Hill Park, which extends to the northern end of the Borough of Manhattan.

The parkland, unlike most of Manhattan, was spared major development and by the beginning of the twentieth century only three large estates occupied the land. One of these, the Billings mansion, burned in 1925 and with the creation of the new park, a series of terraces were constructed upon its foundations overlooking the river, one directly over the site of the British Fort Tryon with an attempt to suggest the fortification walls using native stone. Although untested, soil deposits at the base of the terrace construction may contain structural remnants and material pertaining to the Revolutionary War era fortification.

Another area within Fort Tryon Park where there is potential for archaeological remains is the Dongan Place shell heap site. Prehistoric remains have been collected from the surface of a steep bank below a stone retaining wall. This wall forms the east side of a terrace upon which sits a fan chamber for the Independent Subway. The subway itself crosses Fort Tryon Park on a trajectory from Fort Washington Avenue to Broadway, intersecting the latter between Dongan Place and Arden Street. It is probable that the subway was trenched across the park rather than tunnelled. It may be that excavation of the trench or fan shaft disturbed a prehistoric site or portion thereof with the result that artifactual remains now erode from the embankment peripheral to this construction. Michael Cohn, an advocational archaeologist familiar with the site, reports finding clam and oyster shell, sherds and projectile points on the embankment (personal communication). An SHPO staff member observed fragments of clam and oyster shell there during a cursory visit to the site on November 3, 1977. The precise location and extent of the original site can only be speculated upon, but is certainly included within the boundaries of this nomination. The object here is to record the location and general nature of the site without a statement of significance, since little information on the site exists.

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Fort Tryon Park

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Because the parkland was reserved before dense building occurred in Washington Heights in the 1920's and 1930's, its natural topography was preserved, the only changes being those to accommodate access roads, pedestrian pathways, sloping lawns, and the structures mentioned above. Although the park's design called for the introduction of more than 1,600 plant species, the overall plan was made to conform with the irregular terrain. The design, moreover, had to take into account the extremely rocky and thin soil. The heather garden along the Promenade at the park entrance is one of the best maintained gardens in the city park system. The greatest use of the park is by pedestrians. In addition to eight miles of pathways, carefully graded stairways and ramps lead up the steep rise of 150 feet from Broadway and Riverside Drive to the overlooks, terraces, gardens and playlawns. On the east ledge of the highest point in the park now surmounted by an outlook and a flagpole, is a bronze plaque erected in 1909 by Mr. Billings in honor of the defense of Fort Tryon.

Below are listed the main structures within the district number-keyed to map references and photographs:

1. The Cloisters
2. Field House
3. Fan Chamber and Shed
4. Shelter (Gazebo)
5. Cafeteria and Administration Building
6. Gatehouse
7. Overlook (Billings Arcade)
8. Flagpole Terrace (Site of Fort Tryon)
9. Overpass (Archway).

The Cloisters and the Parks Department structures were all built between 1933 and 1938. Apart from The Cloisters, which was intended to be the focal point of the park's design, and the cafeteria, visible from Margaret Corbin Drive, the structures are utilitarian and inconspicuously located, serving the public and the Parks Department without interfering with the landscape. The outbuildings are two comfort stations, a subway fan chamber, a gatehouse, a field house and a gazebo-like shelter. These are primarily one-story masonry structures of cut ashlar with stone-framed windows and doors. Some of the buildings include neo-Norman and neo-Gothic details. Other structures serving the landscape scheme are the driveway arcade of the Billings estate and seventy-five foot high underpass cut through solid Manhattan gneiss, which was, when blasted out, used to build

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retaining walls throughout the park.

Building materials for The Cloisters were chosen for their medieval appearance; for the exterior, Connecticut millstone granite, sand sawn, and for the interior, Doria limestone picked to blend with the old stonework. The red roof and floor tiles were inspired by those at Saint-Michel-de-Cuxa, and Belgian paving blocks, from New York City streets, were used for the courtyard and drives. The five-story tower rises above the park creating a landmark visible from all directions. After the tower, the buttressed limestone walls of the Gothic chapel form the most prominent aspect to visitors approaching from the south. The Romanesque chapel from Langon in southern France dominates the west side of the building. In 1961, the twelfth-century Spanish chapel from Fuentiduena was added to the north side. Ramparts that surround both the west and north sides afford vistas of the Hudson River as well as views back over the courtyard and the north side of the building. Outside the rampart walls are dense plantings, including an apple orchard along the southern walls. Within the building are several specialized gardens including a medieval herb garden.

The various cloisters of the museum occupy a unique position architecturally. While enclosed within the building, all but one have open courtyards.

The Cuxa Cloister, which forms the core of The Cloisters structure, is the most notable of the cloisters. Its medieval architectural elements are from the Benedictine monastery of Saint-Michel-de-Cuxa near Prades in the French Pyrenees, one of the most important abbeys in the Roussillon region of southern France and northern Spain in Romanesque times. Dating from about mid-twelfth century, the capitals, carved with plants, grotesque figures and animals, are the most significant elements of the arcades enclosing the courtyard.

The Saint-Guilhem Cloister, at the northwest corner of the structure, has been planned around a series of capitals, shafts, and columns from the cloister of the Benedictine abbey of Saint-Guilhem-le-Desert near Montpellier. The elaborately carved double columns supporting intricate twin capitals date from the late twelfth century. The courtyard is covered over by a skylight which allows natural illumination.

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The Trie Cloister, on the south side of the building and adjoining the Bonnefont Cloister, contains capitals on three sides of its arcade which came from the convent of Trie-en-Bigorre near Toulouse. These Gothic capitals, dating between 1484 and 1490, contain religious scenes and coats of arms from families in the area of the convent.

Adjoining the upper level entrance on the east side of the building is the Froville arcade formed by nine, pointed, cusped arches from the fifteenth-century cloister of the Benedictine priory of Froville. Rising above the arcade and forming a clerestory are four pointed-arched fifteenth-century windows from the refectory of the Dominican convent at Sens in Champagne.

The most prominent feature on the north side of the building is the Fuentiduena apse from the Church of San Martin in Fuentiduena in Segovia, dated c. 1157. The semi-circular apse, built of smooth-faced golden limestone, projects from and contrasts with the simple rough-faced wall of the main building. Capitals carved with real and imaginary birds and beasts, are fine examples of the Romanesque vocabulary. These capitals crown the engaged exterior columns and support the window arches. A temporary structure presently covers the apse to protect the stonework from pollution.

An apsidial projection, designed by Collens, effectively encloses the Langon Chapel on the west side of the building. It rises impressively above the West Terrace.

The south facade, which is best seen from the park, presents a striking series of horizontal rooflines accented by several projecting features and dominated by the four-story tower. The Gothic Chapel at the southwest corner is constructed of smooth limestone and was inspired by two thirteenth-century French Gothic chapels. The pointed-arched windows, set between sturdy buttresses, are typical of this early phase of the Gothic style. Adjoining the Gothic Chapel to the east is the Bonnefont Cloister--the only cloister which is visible from the exterior of the building. The prominent pointed-arch arcades, supported on twin columns with capitals, were inspired by Gothic monasteries of the late thirteenth and fourteenth centuries in Toulouse. The twin capitals of gray-white marble, installed in the two sides of this cloister, originated in the ruins of the abbey of Bonnefont-en-Comminges. From behind the arcades, one looks out into a medieval-style garden. Immediately to the east, rising behind the north wall of the Trie Cloister, are six fifteenth-century stained-glass lancet windows, set within a broad gable, from the Carmelite church at Boppard on the Rhine.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
— PREHISTORIC	— ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	— COMMUNITY PLANNING	X — LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	— RELIGION
— 1400-1499	— ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	X — CONSERVATION	— LAW	— SCIENCE
— 1500-1599	— AGRICULTURE	— ECONOMICS	— LITERATURE	— SCULPTURE
— 1600-1699	X — ARCHITECTURE	X — EDUCATION	X — MILITARY	— SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X — 1700-1799	X — ART	— ENGINEERING	— MUSIC	— THEATER
— 1800-1899	— COMMERCE	— EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	— PHILOSOPHY	— TRANSPORTATION
X — 1900-	— COMMUNICATIONS	— INDUSTRY	— POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	— OTHER (SPECIFY)
		— INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES The Cloisters:  
1935-1938

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Charles Collens

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The area of Manhattan now known as Fort Tryon Park has attracted human attention from prehistoric times to the present. The Dongan Place shell heap site suggests that Native Americans inhabited the ridge. Also, the park preserves the site of the northern outwork of Fort Washington. The historical interest of the outwork lies more in its association with the Revolutionary War heroine, Margaret Corbin, than in its strategic importance.

Fort Tryon Park is also an area of unusual topographic and scenic beauty. Located high above the Hudson River, it commands dramatic panoramas of the Palisades and lower Hudson River Valley. The rock cliffs, varied terrain and mature hardwoods add to the natural splendor of this park, made all the more unusual for its proximity to one of the most densely populated urban centers. Perhaps it was the ruggedness of terrain more than any other factor that spared this area from dense urban development. By the early part of this century the district of Fort Tryon was still relatively untouched as only several large estates were located on it. It was due to the perspicacity of a single man, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., the leading philanthropist of his time, that this area was preserved. He systematically bought up properties, assembled what is now Fort Tryon Park and donated all the land, with the exception of the four acres on which The Cloisters is presently located, to the City of New York. The development of the land into a public park was sensitively executed by the landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., who meticulously preserved and highlighted the historical and natural features of the land. Mr. Rockefeller's philanthropy did not, however, stop here. Between 1925 and 1938 he was engaged in the designing and building of The Cloisters, a branch of the Metropolitan Museum of Art devoted to the arts of the Middle Ages. Situated on a ridge at the northern part of the park, The Cloisters is the culminating point of interest in the design of Fort Tryon Park. Echoing the monastic architecture of southern France in the twelfth century, The Cloisters incorporates a vast collection of original architectural elements of medieval Europe and houses the foremost collection of medieval art in this country. Sensitive and creative philanthropy on an immense scale, a phenomenon that is uniquely American, preserved in Fort Tryon Park a district of both historic interest and natural beauty, developed an important recreational facility, and created a cultural institution of incomparable value.

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The Wiquaskeek Indian tribe held claim to the area now known as Fort Tryon Park as late as the end of the seventeenth century and were among the last tribes in Manhattan to retreat northward. The district remained thickly forested up to the Revolution when it was known as "Forest Hill" although the Dutch had previously settled the area of the Dyckman valley to the north in the early 1700's. "During the Revolution, the hills occupied by Fort Tryon, Fort Washington and Fort George, were cleared of trees, for firewood for the troops and to give openings for artillery and musket fire, but woods remained on them as late as 1855, as shown by conveyances mentioning woodlots thereon. Even as late as 1930, before development of the Park was begun by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., a few acres of woodland, second or third growth, but typical of hardwood forests of this region, with some fine oaks and and tulip trees, remained on the northeast corner...."<sup>1</sup>

The Revolutionary War battle redoubt on Forest Hill located about one-half mile north of Fort Washington, although a small two-gun battery, had the advantage of being atop steep sloping rock faces that helped the American garrison to hold out for two hours against the British and Hessian forces under General Knyphausen. The heroic stand of Margaret Corbin there earned her distinction as the first woman soldier and pensioner of the U.S. Government as well as an eventual burial at West Point.<sup>2</sup> Margaret Corbin's courage in that battle has been commemorated by naming the park's main drive and southern plaza in her honor.<sup>3</sup> When Fort Washington fell to the British, Forest Hill was renamed Fort Tryon for William Tryon, last English colonial governor of New York. The British strengthened the fortification and held it until the end of the Revolution. A smaller outpost was built, between 1777 and 1783, on the hilltop to the north, the site now occupied by The Cloisters.<sup>4</sup> The name Fort Tryon survived through an era when many British place names were abolished and in time shed its political overtones

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<sup>1</sup>Raymond H. Torrey, "Fort Tryon Park, A New and Distinctive Unit of the City Park System, of Unusual Scenic and Historic Qualities, Given by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Landscaped by Olmsted Brothers, and Maintained with Sympathetic Understanding by the City Park Department," Scenic and Historic America. New York: The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, Vol. IV, No. 3, (May, 1936), 11.

<sup>2</sup>Reginald Pelham Bolton, Washington Heights, Manhattan, Its Eventful Past. New York: Dyckman Institute, 1924. 751 ff.; and Annual Report, The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, 1915, p. 140.

<sup>3</sup>Edith Evans Asbury, "Revolutionary War Heroine Finally is Given Recognition," The New York Times, July 8, 1977.

<sup>4</sup>Raymond H. Torrey, *op. cit.*, p. 15.



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At the turn of the century, C.K.G. Billings built what was then one of America's most palatial estates, Tryon Hall. The mansion was designed by Guy Lowell of Boston in the Louis XIV style and was built directly on the site of the Forest Hill fortification, the highest point in the park. Only its multi-arched driveway off the Henry Hudson Parkway survives today and has been integrated in the park's landscape scheme as a scenic overlook. The Billings property was among those purchased by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., whose plan it was to give to the City of New York the land of this whole area as a public park with provisions for the creation of The Cloisters.

Even before Mr. Rockefeller began to develop this area he acquired strategic pieces of property across the river along eleven miles of the New Jersey Palisades commencing in a northerly direction from the George Washington Bridge. It was his intention to provide an isolated setting for The Cloisters within a park removed from city structures and to assure undisturbed views of the landscape.

Rockefeller combined his keen interest in the land with a desire to build a museum for his great collection of medieval art, the core of which he had acquired from the noted American sculptor George Grey Barnard (1863-1938). Barnard's collection had first opened to the public in 1914 at his private museum, also known as The Cloisters, at 698 Fort Washington Avenue about one-half mile south of the present Cloisters. In 1925 Rockefeller donated funds to the Metropolitan Museum of Art for the purchase of the Barnard collection and building which then opened as a branch of the Metropolitan. In 1931, when Rockefeller presented to the City of New York the 56 acres<sup>1</sup> he had amassed for use as a public park, he specifically set aside four acres deeded to the Metropolitan Museum of Art for the new museum. Rockefeller had since 1927 engaged Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., of the Olmsted Brothers firm to commence the landscaping of the park. In these first years before the gift to the city, Olmsted studied the parks and estates of Europe. The purpose of The Cloisters was "to provide a culminating interest in the architecture of Fort Tryon Park."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>An additional 10.5 acres in six parcels, Record map reference, "K," "J," "C," "D," and "E," were acquired or deeded to the park in 1944, 1941, 1936, 1937, and 1935 respectively.

<sup>2</sup>James Rorimer, The Cloisters, The Building and the Collection of Medieval Art in Fort Tryon Park. New York: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1938. Introduction.

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The Cloisters' rocky hilltop is perfectly suited for a museum dedicated to medieval art, as its physical location parallels those of its medieval precedents, particularly twelfth-century French monastic buildings. Construction on The Cloisters began in April 1935, while Fort Tryon Park opened to the public on October 12 of the same year. Charles Collens of the Boston firm of Allen, Collens and Willis, whom Rockefeller had chosen to design Riverside Church (completed 1930) was the architect for The Cloisters. Collens and James Rorimer, curator of the Department of Medieval Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and later curator of The Cloisters when it opened, conducted extensive studies in southern France to arrive at a proper setting for the medieval architectural sculpture. The modern structure was intended principally to incorporate elements of cloisters from five French monasteries. In addition, the chapter house from Pontaut, stonework from a chapel from Langon and about thirty doorways, windows and other architectural elements from various buildings were to be incorporated into the museum's fabric. By the time the building was completed, Mr. Rockefeller had added to his long list of munificent gifts a great number of important works of art to be housed in the museum, including the late Gothic tapestries depicting the Hunt of the Unicorn.

The Cloisters opened to the public on May 10, 1938 amidst great critical acclaim. At the inaugural ceremony, addresses were delivered by George Blumenthal, the president of the museum, Fiorello LaGuardia, Mayor of New York City, Robert Moses, Commissioner of Parks, and by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Since that date, Fort Tryon Park has been a center for art as well as scenic and historic preservation.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Bolton, Reginald Pelham. Washington Heights, Manhattan, Its Eventful Past. New York: Dyckman Institute, 1924.
- Rorimer, James. The Cloisters, The Building and the Collection of Medieval Art in Fort Tryon Park. New York: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, third edition, 1963. Revised in collaboration with Margaret B. Freeman and the Staff of the Medieval Department and the Cloisters.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 66.5

UTM REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

Also See Continuation Sheet

NAME/TITLE edited by:

Elizabeth Spencer-Ralph

October 5, 1978

ORGANIZATION

Div. for Historic Preservation, Office of Parks and Rec.

STREET & NUMBER

Agency Bldg. #1, Empire State Plaza

(518) 474-0479

CITY OR TOWN

Albany

STATE

New York

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL xxx

STATE     

LOCAL     

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation

DATE

10/17/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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CONTINUATION SHEET Fort Tryon Park ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Rorimer, James. Medieval Monuments at The Cloisters as They Were and as They Are.  
New York: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1941. Introduction, 1971.  
Reprinted, 1972.

Tomkins, Calvin. Merchants and Masterpieces, The Story of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. New York: E.P. Dutton and Co., Inc., 1970. 245-261.

Torrey, Raymond H. "Fort Tryon Park, A New and Distinctive Unit of the City Park System, of Unusual Scenic and Historic Qualities, Given by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Landscaped by Olmsted Brothers, and Maintained with Sympathetic Understanding by the City Parks Department," Scenic and Historic America, New York: The American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, IV, 3 (May, 1936).

White, Norval and Willensky, Elliot, editors. The AIA Guide to New York City.  
New York: Macmillan and Co., 1968, 212.

"George Grey Barnard's Cloister," Architecture, The Professional Architectural Monthly, March, 1916, XXXIII, 3, 51 ff.

Addresses on the Occasion of the Opening of The Cloisters. New York, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1938. (Limited edition, available in The Cloisters Library).

"The Cloisters, Retrospect and Prospect," Special Commemorative Issue: The Centennial of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Connoisseur, November, 1969, 138 ff.

"High Manhattan Point Becomes Fort Tryon Park," The New York Herald Tribune, Sunday, March 20, 1932, Section VIII, 2.

"56-Acre Fort Tryon Park Nears Completion. . ." The New York Herald Tribune, Sunday, July 23, 1933, 42.

"Revolutionary War Heroine Finally is Given Recognition," The New York Times, Friday, July 8, 1977, 57.

American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, Annual Report, 1915, 140.

NOTE: Archival materials, unpublished documents and papers on Fort Tryon Park and The Cloisters as well as the George Grey Barnard Archives are available in The Cloisters Library.

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UTM References

(All in Zone 18)

	Easting	Northing
A.	590340	4524160
B.	590040	4523500
C.	589960	4523500
D.	589880	4523270
E.	589820	4523300
F.	589820	4523260
G.	589800	4523280
H.	589840	4523240
I.	589610	4523440
J.	590000	4524300

Verbal Boundary Description

The southwestern corner of the district is formed by the conjunction of Riverside Drive and an imaginary extending line extending directly from 192nd Street. Beginning at Riverside Drive this line runs approximately 200 feet to Cabrini Boulevard (formerly Northern Avenue) crosses Cabrini Boulevard and continues approximately 250 feet to Fort Washington Avenue and continues for approximately 250 feet to a point at which the property line turns at approximately an 85 degree angle and runs in a southwesterly direction for approximately 300 feet, then turns due east for approximately 20 feet, and turns east for approximately 150 feet until the line reaches Bennett Avenue. This is the southeastern corner of the district. The eastern boundary then follows Bennett Avenue to its intersection with Broadway. The line then follows the western side of Broadway until the corner of Broadway and Riverside Drive. This is the northeastern corner of the district. The northern boundary is Riverside Drive which curves around the northwestern corner of the district and then becomes its western boundary until the point where this description begins.

FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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- 1) Timothy Husband and  
John Funt  
The Cloisters  
New York, NY
- 2) The Landmarks Preservation Commission  
305 Broadway  
New York, NY
- 3) Mr. Robert Hoffman  
30 Magaw Place  
New York, NY 10038

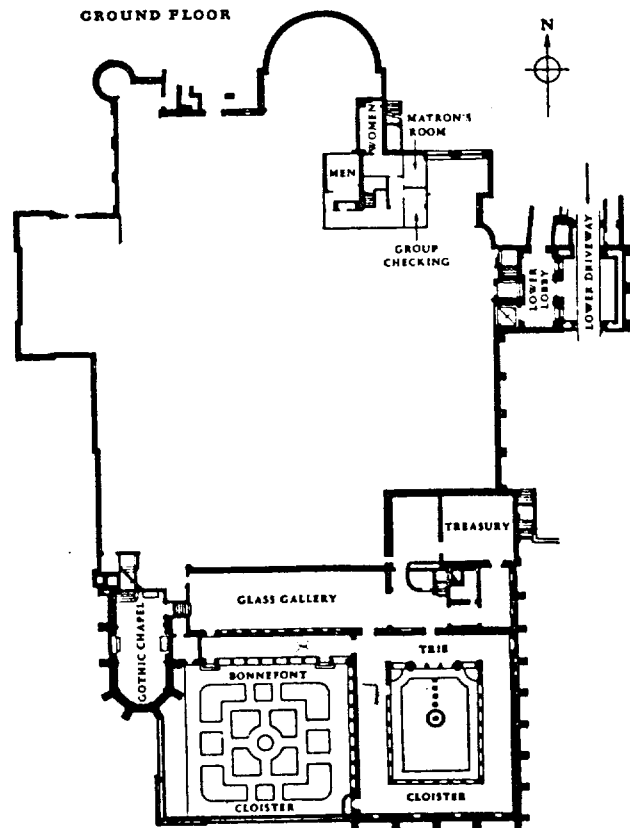
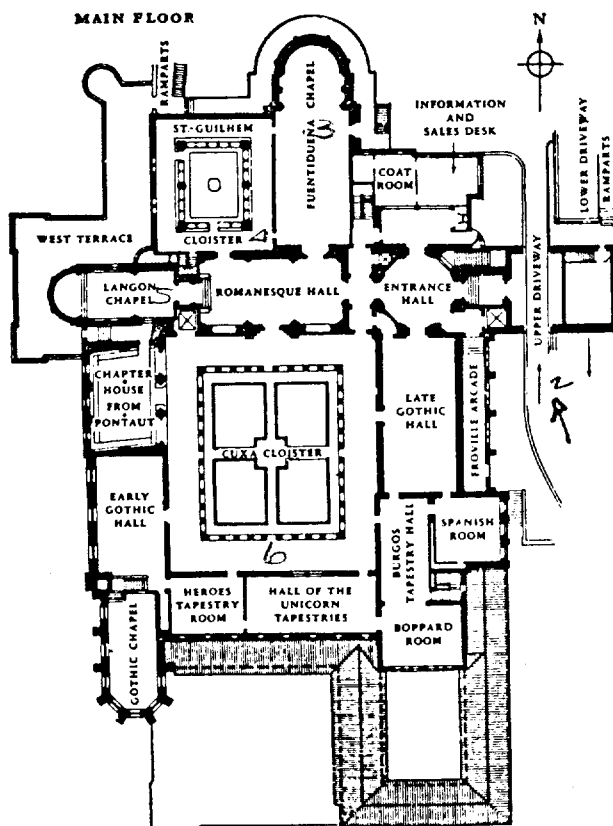
With archeological additions by:

- 1) Charles Florance  
Division for Historic Preservation  
Office of Parks and Recreation  
Agency Building #1  
Albany, NY 12238

Fort Tryon Park and The Cloisters  
New York  
New York County

PHOTO KEY FOR THE CLOISTERS

Floor Plan of The Cloisters



Source:  
Rorimer, James J. The Cloisters.  
pp. 10-11.



73°30' 388 6265 IV NW (YONKERS)  
590  
91 55' 2030 000 FEET (N.Y.)  
73°52'30" 40°52'30"

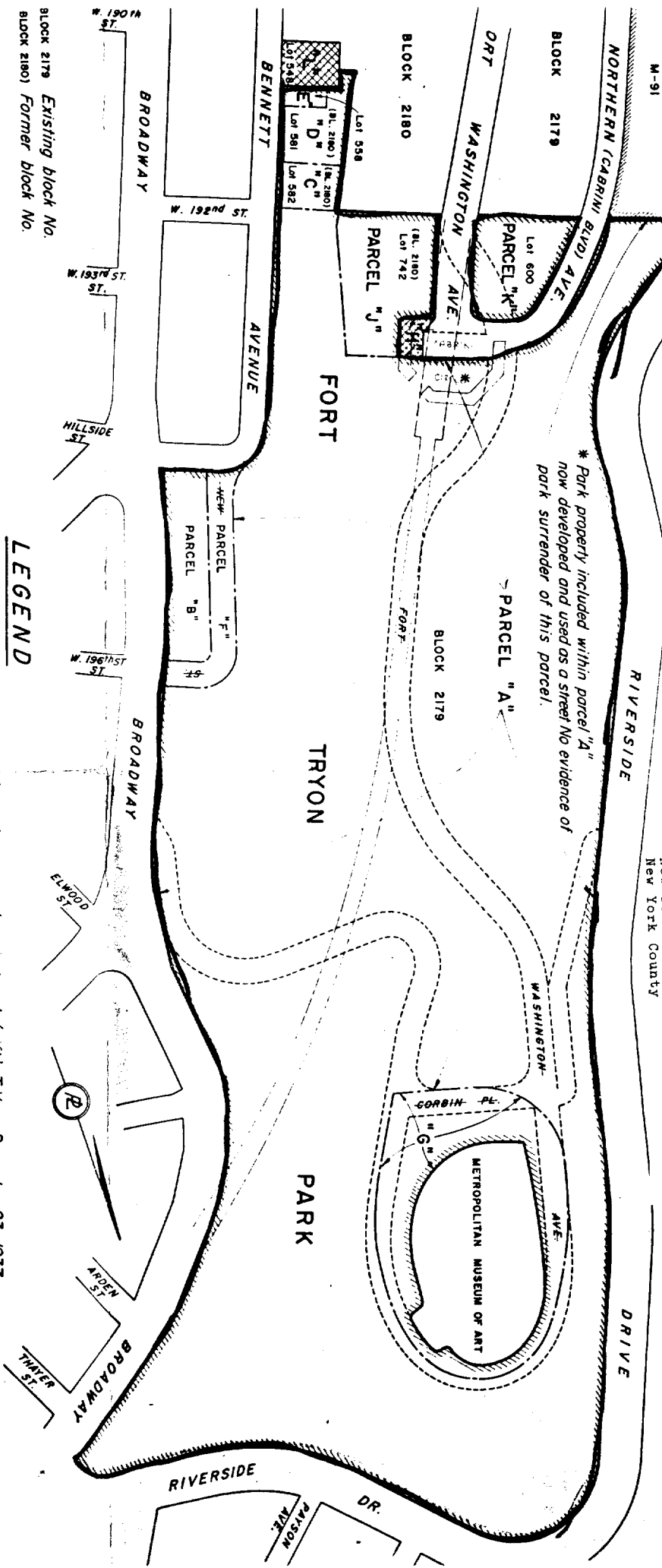
CENTRAL PARK QUADRANGLE  
NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW/4 HARLEM 15' QUADRANGLE  
6265 IV NE (MOUNT VERNON)

Fort Tryon Park and  
The Cloisters

New York, New York C  
UTM References  
(all in zone 18)

A.	Eastings	Northings
B.	590340	4524160
	590040	4523500
C.	589960	4523500
D.	589880	4523270
E.	589820	4523300
F.	589820	4523260
G.	589800	4523280
H.	589840	4523240
I.	589610	4523440
J.	590000	4524300





LEGEND

PARCEL "D" Acquired for park purposes by private sale (gift), T.V. on December 23, 1937 pursuant to a resolution by the Bd. of Est. on April 16, 1937, Cal. 5.

PARCEL "E" T.V. on December 30, 1935, pursuant to a resolution by the Bd. of Est., authorizing acquisition, on June 29, 1935, Cal. 36.

PARCEL "J" Acquired as a park by deed of gift, dated May 23, 1941 accepted by the Bd. of Est. on June 19, 1941, Cal. 108-A.

PARCEL "K" This area has been operated by the Dept. of Parks since 1935 as a permit playground. Leased from July 1, 1941 to February 1, 1944 (Bd. of Est. on February 19, 1942). Acquired as a park by deed of gift, T.V. on February 1, 1944, accepted by the Bd. of Est. on February 19, 1942, Cal. 69.

PARCEL "L" Assigned to Parks by the resolution of the Bd. of Est. on April 27, 1961, Cal. 254-A. Surrendered by the Dept. of Parks back to the Bd. of Est., pursuant to a resolution of the latter on July 22, 1965, Cal. 436.

PARCEL "G" Mapped by a map No. 4294-86 (deed plan by Wheeler), dated October 14, 1935, filed in Book of maps 908, Vol. 22, p. 63. This area was conveyed to Parks by the Metropolitan Museum of Art on September 2, 1936, pursuant to a resolution by the Bd. of Est. on November 20, 1936, Cal. 15, recorded on December 10, 1936, L. 3949 p.l.

PARCEL "A" Mapped as a park by map No. 2333 (M-RW-29-1), adopted by the Bd. of Est. on October 10, 1930, Cal. 2-A. Acquired as a park by deed of gift from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. on December 28, 1931, recorded on January 4, 1932, L. 3815 p.378. Street areas within parcel "A" were assigned to Parks by Sinking Fund on May 20, 1931, Cal. 11.

PARCEL "B" Mapped as a park by map No. 27016 (reg. 2371)(M-RW-29-3), adopted by the Bd. of Est. on June 23, 1933, Cal. 178-A. Acquired as a park by deed of gift on November 16, 1933, recorded on March 2, 1934, L. 3884, p. 18.

PARCEL "F" Mapped as a park by a map No. 27016 (reg. 2371)(M-RW-29-3), adopted by the Bd. of Est. on June 23, 1933, Cal. 178-A. Acquired by Rockefeller on December 28, 1931, L. 3815 p.379. Deed November 16, 1933 (T.V.) L. 3884 p. 19 releases title to discontinued "New Street" for park purposes. Assigned to Parks by Sinking Fund on March 28, 1934, Cal. 10.

PARCEL "K" Mapped as a park by a map No. 29452, dated October 15, 1940, adopted by the Bd. of Est. on January 24, 1958, Cal. 222 (C.B.). Appeared on March 19, 1958, Cal. 39, map 15 not adopted.

RECORD MAP

FORT TRYON PARK

M-29

BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

Area = 66.627 Acres

DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 1970; SCALE: 1"=80'±  
REVISIONS:

# GENERAL PLAN FOR FORT TRYON PARK NEW YORK, N.Y.

Fort Tryon Park and The Cloisters  
New York  
New York County

SCALE OF FEET  
0 50 100 150 200 250 300  
OLIVIERO BROTHERS  
BROOKLINE, MASS.  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
1933

PHOTO KEY-

