



**PARK AVENUE ARMORY
RENOVATION FACT SHEET**

Updated March 2016

Project Description: Park Avenue Armory is overseeing a comprehensive multi-year renovation and restoration of its historic building. Under the stewardship of the nonprofit arts organization, this remarkable building—which had been named among the “100 Most Endangered Historic Sites in the World” by the World Monuments Fund in 2000—has been reimagined as a vibrant cultural institution which enables artists to create and the public to experience unconventional work in the performing and visual arts that could not otherwise be mounted in the city.

The revitalization of the building unites the creative visions of some of the leading designers of the 19th century—including Louis Comfort Tiffany and the Herter Brothers—with that of one of the most innovative architectural firms of the 21st century, Herzog & de Meuron. Working with a team of world-renowned artisans and experts in fine woodworking, artisanal glass, and decorative arts, the Pritzker Prize-winning architects have responded to the exuberant ideas of the Armory’s original design with necessary interventions that are in direct dialogue with the ethos of the designers who first created it. Their plans embrace the attention to detail, affinity for materials, and creative spirit of the original team, while fully activating the building to ensure its future use for creative expression that is at the core of the building’s make-up.

Design Consultant: **Herzog & de Meuron, Basel, Switzerland**

Jacques Herzog, Senior Partner
Pierre de Meuron, Senior Partner
Ascan Mergenthaler, Senior Partner
Charles Stone, Associate
Sara Jacinto, Project Designer

Executive Architect: **Platt Byard Dovell White Architects, LLP**

Charles A. Platt, Partner in Charge
Samuel G. White, Partner
Ray Dovell, Partner
James D. Seger, Partner
Scott Duenow, Partner
Debora Barros, Architect

Project Budget: \$215 million, with \$155 million invested to date

Scope: This multi-year, multi-phase project began construction in 2007. The scope of work for the restoration of the building includes:

- all new electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems throughout the building, including replacement of steam radiation with hot water;
- new air conditioning throughout the building, including in the 55,000-square-foot drill hall at a concert-level acoustic standard, and a new concealed mechanical plant on the 5th floor;
- installation of fire alarm systems;
- installation of state-of-the-art theatrical equipment in the drill hall including a

- catwalk, chain motors, theatrical switches, cables reels, black-out shades;
- replacement of all roofs;
- rehabilitation or replacement of all windows (historic and non-historic), many with sound proofing;
- structural repair and reinforcement throughout the building including the trusses in the drill hall and the administration building wall where it meets the drill hall;
- repointing and repair of all masonry facades;
- construction of performer and visual art support spaces including dressing rooms, rehearsal spaces, flexible support spaces for hair, make-up, wardrobe, and instrument storage;
- new back of house showers and toilet facilities;
- substantial expansion of front of house bathrooms and fixtures to meet modern convenience standards;
- new flexible public areas including box office, lounges, and coat check;
- new circulation including ADA access to all areas of the building including the balconies, new elevators and fire stairs;
- restoration of eighteen period rooms (4 of which have been completed to date) and other historic areas including all art work, woodwork, lighting, floors, metalwork, glasswork and windows.

Building Background: The Armory was originally designed by Charles Clinton, and constructed between 1877 and 1881. Occupying an entire city block, the Armory’s 210,000-square-foot, five story building includes:

- The Head House with eighteen historic rooms designed by Louis Comfort Tiffany, Stanford White, Herter Brothers, Pottier & Stymus, and other prominent designers of the late 19th century and the American Aesthetic Movement.
- The 55,000-square-foot Wade Thompson Drill Hall, one of the largest unobstructed spaces in the city, which features:
 - An 85-foot-high barrel-vault ceiling (eight stories)
 - Eleven elliptical wrought-iron arches
 - Original Georgia yellow pine floors
 - 8,000-square-foot rifle range located underneath drill hall floor

Location: 643 Park Avenue, between 66th and 67th Streets, New York, NY
www.armoryonpark.org

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 Kirsten Reoch, Director of Design and Construction

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