

# Discovering Northern Manhattan

## Guide To Washington Heights and Inwood



Chamber of Commerce of  
Washington Heights and Inwood, Inc.

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## Dear Visitor:

Welcome to Washington Heights and Inwood! Situated on the picturesque northern-most tip of Manhattan, our community is home to some of New York City's "hidden treasures." We are a crossroads where colonial and immigrant history meet modern-day scientific advancements.

Visitors to our neighborhood find many wonders. We are home to the Cloisters, which is part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art; The Hispanic Society of America which exhibits art from the Spanish masters; such historic homes as the Morris-Jumel Mansion and Dyckman Farmhouse; the Audubon Ballroom, best known as the site of the assassination of Malcolm X; and the new state-of-the-art National Track and Field Hall of Fame celebrating U.S. athletes.

Both Washington Heights and Inwood have majestic parks that offer breathtaking views of the Hudson River, the Palisades and the George Washington Bridge. Additionally, Inwood boasts the only nature preserve in Manhattan, featuring America's icon, the bald eagle.

Traditionally, this community has been home to many ethnic groups including the Irish, Greeks, Armenians, African-Americans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, and German and Russian Jews. Today, the population is largely from the Dominican Republic. Shoppers find busy commercial streets offering bargains on clothing, shoes and electronics and a host of ethnic restaurants and food stores.

Welcome to a very special community – a composite of historic sites, beautiful parks and leading cultural institutions. Discovering Northern Manhattan offers something for everyone.

Sincerely,



**Leslie Foster**  
*President*



**Rita Kardeman**  
*Executive Director*

# Historical Overview



Portrait of George Washington



Peter Minuit Purchasing Manhattan

The history of Washington Heights and Inwood dates back to the Native Americans who inhabited the area for centuries. Remnants of their settlements are still evident in Inwood Hill Park where Native American trails, caves and artifacts can be seen. Inwood is also reported to be the place where Peter Minuit paid the Lenape Indians \$24 “in trinkets” to purchase Manhattan island in 1626.

After forcing the Native Americans to depart, the early colonists turned this area into farms. The Dutch West India Company administered the entire village of Manhattan calling it New Amsterdam. Peter Stuyvesant was named governor and later incorporated it as a city. In 1664, the British sent a fleet of warships to New Amsterdam demanding that the Dutch surrender to the Duke of York. By this time, many Englishmen had also settled in

New Amsterdam and the colonists refused to fight. New Amsterdam subsequently came under English rule and was renamed New York.

Prior to the Revolutionary War, wealthy British and Dutch merchants owned most of the land in Washington Heights and Inwood. Because the hilly terrain inhibited the commercial development of this area, the landowners maintained their estates as summer residences.

## **Revolutionary War Period**

The advent of the Revolutionary War changed this pastoral area into one of strategic military importance. Most of the residents abandoned their homes as the numerous hills were turned into forts during the war. The history of the war in Washington Heights really began when General Washington’s troops lost the Battle of Long Island (actually fought in Brooklyn). He led his army across the East River into Manhattan and was followed up the west side of Manhattan into Harlem. There the battle of Harlem Heights took place. The American forces ended up in what is now Bennett Park, and began fortifying the area into Fort Washington. An outline of the fort still exists in the park.

General Howe’s British army then moved



Battle of Harlem Heights

from the Harlem River to Laurel Hill (now the site of the Isabella Geriatric Center and George Washington High School) where they established Fort George (named after their king). They then attacked Fort Washington, which extended from what is now 181st Street, north to the site of the Cloisters. When the northern outworks of Fort Washington were overrun, the British named that area Fort Tryon, after the last British governor of the island.

Captain William Demont, an officer in the Continental army, became America's first traitor when he secretly left Fort Washington carrying with him the plans of the fort and brought them to General Howe's headquarters. Meanwhile, the American officers met below the fort at the Blue Bell Tavern, which is now memorialized by a frieze in the lobby of the apartment building at the eastern corner of Bennett Avenue and 181st Street.



Morris-Jumel Mansion - Dining Room

During this time, Washington maintained his headquarters at what is now called the Morris-Jumel Mansion.

The fort's commander, Col. Robert Magaw (there is a street named for him), gallantly led the defense of the fort when Howe's army attacked. Colonel Magaw defied the demand for surrender with the famous words inscribed on the plaque attached to the Fort Washington Collegiate Church at 181st Street, "We will defend this outpost to the last extremity." This was not to be as the fort was overrun and many soldiers were killed or captured.

Meanwhile, Washington led the main force from Manhattan to White Plains where they crossed the North River (now the Hudson) to Fort Lee, New Jersey. At one point, Washington was rowed across the river from Fort Lee to Jeffrey's Hook (now the site of the famous Little



Audubon House 1916

Red Lighthouse) to confer with Fort Washington's few remaining soldiers. Ultimately, the colonial army lost the Battle of Fort Washington, struggled to survive, and won the war seven years later.

#### The 19th and 20th Centuries

During the 1800s, wealthy New Yorkers again enjoyed Northern Manhattan as an area for summer retreats. Among the neighborhood gentry were James Gordon Bennett, the publisher of the New York Herald newspaper and John James Audubon, the famous ornithologist and illustrator. Audubon's heavily forested property, 40 acres around 157th Street from Amsterdam Avenue to the Hudson River, was the place where he wrote his book about the mammals of North America. Early in the 20th century when subway lines began service to Northern Manhattan, the area began to change. The construction of multi-family buildings



Neighborhood Scene

and the extension of the IRT subway line to Dyckman Street (200th Street) turned Washington Heights and Inwood into a totally urban area.

Many immigrants from Ireland, Eastern Europe and Germany settled in the community. In the early 1960s, African-Americans, Puerto Ricans and Cubans settled in this part of Manhattan. Russian-Jewish refugees arrived in the 1980s. A large number of immigrants from the Dominican Republic started settling here as early as the 1960s and by 1990, represented the largest Dominican population outside of their native country and in the United States.

Today, many New Yorkers have rediscovered the beautiful landscape and residential communities. New restaurants and shops have opened to meet the demands of a diverse population.

# The Audubon Terrace Historic District



The Hispanic Society of America

This historic area was built on land that was once part of the John James Audubon estate. The Audubon Terrace was a gift of Archer Milton Huntington, the heir to a railroad fortune. Archer Huntington's cousin, Charles Pratt Huntington, designed the master plan for the Terrace.

The Audubon Terrace Historic District is located on Broadway between 155th and 156th Streets extending west to Riverside Drive. This complex was part of the early 20th century Beaux Arts/American Renaissance architectural tradition. Situated within a large courtyard are The Hispanic Society of America, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Boricua College and two vacant museum buildings. The Church of Our Lady of Esperanza, also part of the historic district, is located on 156th Street.

Technically, the Church of the Intercession and Trinity Cemetery are not part of the historic district. However, they sit directly across the street and represent an important part of the history of this area.

**The Hispanic Society of America** is located on the Terrace at West 155th Street and Broadway; Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.; Sunday



The Statue of El Cid

1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Closed on major holidays.  
Phone: 212 926-2234. Via subway, take the 1 train to 157th Street. Via bus, take the M4 or M5 to 155th Street. Admission: Free

Located within the Audubon Terrace across from a bronze equestrian statue of El Cid (Spanish national hero) is The Hispanic Society of America. It was founded by Archer Milton Huntington in 1904 as a museum and reference library. The collections of the museum feature many aspects of Spanish culture as well as those of Portugal, Latin America and the Philippines. The museum offers a comprehensive survey of Spanish painting and drawing from the Middle Ages

to the present, with an emphasis on the Spanish Golden Age (1550-1700), the 19th century and the early 20th century. The museum also displays a collection of Hispanic Impressionist art in a separate building on the north side of the Terrace that is only open for limited hours.



Portrait of the Duchess of Alba

Among the famous works are the paintings, drawings and prints by the celebrated artist Francisco Goya. Upon entering the museum, there is a courtyard in the style of the Spanish Renaissance. Goya's famous painting, the Portrait of the Duchess of Alba (alleged to have been Goya's mistress), is on the courtyard wall. To the far right is the Sorolla room, featuring The Provinces of Spain, a series of magnificent paintings by Joaquin Sorolla y Bastida. To the left of the courtyard is a small room, which contains alabaster Renaissance tombs. A research library highlighting the history, art and culture of Spain and Latin America is also

located on the first floor.

On the second floor, Spanish ceramics (lusterware), examples of earthenware and soft-paste porcelain from Capodimonte, Italy and Puebla, Mexico are displayed. The collection includes examples of gold and silver items. There are secular and ecclesiastical pieces of furniture, ironwork and glassware

from the Roman period to the present. Paintings by such renowned artists as Velazquez, Ribera, Goya, Zubaran and others line the walls. Notable in the collection are the paintings of El Greco. His Pieta, painted early in his career, evokes the pathos of the death of Christ. The museum also possesses a fine collection of Islamic and Christian sculpture along with a comprehensive collection of textiles, manuscripts and rare books.

**The American Academy of Arts and Letters** is located at 633 West 155th Street at Audubon Terrace. Phone: 212 368-5900. Open to the public for tours only once a year



Gate to the Audubon Terrace

on "Uptown Treasures Day" and for art exhibitions in March and May.

The American Academy of Arts and Letters' administration building was



Church of the Intercession

designed by William M. Kendall of McKim, Mead & White in 1921. Cass Gilbert designed the auditorium and north gallery. The Academy is an honorary arts membership organization celebrating the most distinguished artists, writers, musicians and architects in the United States. The administration building houses a library and a permanent exhibition of the works of the American artist, Childe Hassam, as well as manuscripts of many of the members.

**Boricua College** occupies a building on the Audubon Terrace that formerly housed the American Geographical Society. Please



Church of the Intercession

refer to page 35 for more information on this educational institution.

### The Church of Our Lady of Esperanza

is located at 624 West 156th Street between Broadway and Riverside Drive. Phone: 212 283-4340.

The church was designed by Charles Pratt Huntington and later remodeled by Lawrence White of McKim, Mead &

White. Built in 1912, it contains an eight-foot golden sanctuary lamp donated by King Alfonso XIII of Spain, a magnificent stained glass skylight and stained glass windows. The church was originally built for New York's socially prominent Catholic families and now ministers to the area's Dominican residents.

**Church of the Intercession** sits across from the Audubon Terrace at 155th Street and Broadway. Phone: 212 283-6200. Awarded landmark status in 1966, this Episcopal-Anglican Church is set in Trinity Cemetery and is mounted on a bluff overlooking the Hudson River. The church is complete with a cloister, vicarage, vestry, parish building and a crypt. Built in the Gothic Revivalist style, there is a sculpture honoring the architect of the church, Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, who also designed Saint Bartholomew's Church on Park Avenue. The church's interior is not only massive but beautiful, giving the feeling of a large country church set in the middle of a rural cemetery.

**Trinity Cemetery**, open to the public, is located both behind the Church of the Intercession and across Broadway between 153rd and 155th Streets extending to Riverside Drive. Phone: 212 368-1600. Visitors should stop at the office at Riverside Drive and 153rd Street.



The Trinity Cemetery - Audubon's Grave with Celtic Cross

Designed by Calvert Vaux, one of the planners of Central Park, Trinity Cemetery is the only active cemetery in Manhattan and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The property was originally part of naturalist John James Audubon's farm which he called "Minniesland." Ultimately, the family sold part of the farm to Trinity Church.

The cemetery was established in 1843 and is the burial place of John James Audubon; Alfred Tennyson Dickens (the son of Charles Dickens); Philip Livingston (a signer of the Declaration of Independence) and Clement Clarke Moore (author of

the poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas.") Members of prominent New York families including the Astors, Bleeckers and Van Burens are also buried here.

The cemetery contains mausoleums and monuments that are superb examples of Victorian and Neo-Gothic architecture. John James Audubon is buried in the eastern section of the cemetery under a memorial erected by The New York Academy of Sciences. Replicas of his work are displayed on each side of the memorial, capped with a Celtic cross.

# Museums



The Cloisters

**The Cloisters** is situated within Fort Tryon Park. Subway: Take the A train to 190th Street, exit station by elevator. Follow Margaret Corbin Drive north for a 10 minute walk. Via bus, take the M4 to the last stop. Hours: Tuesday – Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. (March – October); Tuesday – Sunday: 9:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. (November – February). Recommended Admission is: Adults \$20; Seniors/Students \$10. Children under 12 accompanied by an adult are free. (Admission button to the Metropolitan Museum of Art entitles you to free admission to the Cloisters on the same day). Phone: 212 923-3700.

The Cloisters is a branch of the Metropolitan Museum of Art dedicated to the art and architecture of medieval Europe. It incorporates remains of European monastic cloisters and is located on a majestic crest in Fort Tryon Park.

The Cloisters was founded after the Metropolitan Museum received a generous gift from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and was able to acquire the collection of medieval art belonging to the sculptor George Grey Barnard. In 1930, when Mr. Rockefeller donated an estate he owned (now Fort Tryon Park) to the City of New York, he stipulated that 4.5 acres be reserved for a museum devoted to medieval art. The result was the current Cloisters Museum, a



The Cloisters

complex of cloisters, chapels and galleries arranged around a square tower that opened to the public in 1938.

The structure utilizes both Romanesque and Gothic architectural elements. Visitors will find works that date back to the 12th through 15th century. The museum houses artifacts found in France, Germany, Spain and Italy and include world-renowned collections of medieval tapestries, ceramics, painting, sculpture, jewelry, stained glass, textiles and metalwork.

The famous Unicorn Tapestries are prominently featured. These seven 16th-century tapestries depict the hunt and capture of the unicorn and are remarkable for their color, craftsmanship and design.

Adding to the experience and the beauty of the overall setting are the lovely gardens. Rockefeller even purchased property across the Hudson to preserve the stunning views of the river and Palisades.





Hispanic Society of America

**The Hispanic Society of America** – This museum is the centerpiece of the Audubon Terrace district and is a premier institution in the United States for Hispanic arts and culture. *Please refer to page 9 in the Audubon Terrace section for more information.*

**The National Track and Field Hall of Fame at the Armory** is located at 168th Street and Fort Washington Avenue. Hours: Tuesday – Saturday from 10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and during most track meets. Via subway, take the A, C, or 1 train to 168th Street and walk one block west. Via bus, take the M4 or M5. Admission: Adults \$5;

Seniors/Students \$3. Phone: 212 923-1803.

This stunning new state-of-the-art museum opened its doors in January 2004 and is dedicated to the sport of track and field. An interesting five-minute film depicting the history of track and field runs continuously in the first floor theater. The first floor gallery entitled, “What Makes a Champion” features several interactive videos, enabling the visitor to “interview” five athletes and receive advice from the elite of U.S. track and field. Another display in this gallery allows visitors to hear the voices of champions discussing their strategies, worries and mental preparation



The National Track and Field Hall of Fame at the Armory

for an event. There are displays on the evolution of sports apparel and equipment from the 19th century to the present. Some of the exhibits serve as teaching tools with a focus on health, nutrition and fitness.

The second floor is devoted to the history of the NYC marathon and features the Fred Lebow Marathon Hall. A map of the New York City Marathon is inlaid on the floor and gives visitors a chance to experience the sights and sounds of the marathon as they walk the course.

The Hall of Fame Gallery on the third floor is adjacent to the track. This

gallery celebrates athletes who have earned legendary status in track and field events. At present, there are over 200 athletes whose names are etched into a vast glass wall. Photographs and mementos of their achievements are displayed.

Each year on the first Sunday in March, Coogan’s “Salsa, Blues and Shamrocks 5K Run” is held to benefit the Armory Foundation and the Museum.

# Historic Houses & Apartment Complexes



Madame Jumel's bedroom, Morris-Jumel Mansion

**The Morris-Jumel Mansion** is located at 65 Jumel Terrace (West 160th Street and Edgecombe Avenue, three blocks east of Broadway). Open Wednesday through Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Phone: 212 923-8008. Admission: Adults \$4; Seniors/Students \$3. Via subway, take the C train to 163rd Street. Via bus, take the M2 to 160th Street and Edgecombe Avenue (walk uphill one block); or M3 or M18 to 160th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue; or M101 to 160th Street and Amsterdam Avenue.

Built in 1765, the Morris-Jumel Mansion is the oldest house in Manhattan and highlights over 200 years of New York history, art and culture. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as a New York City landmark.

British Colonel Roger Morris and his American wife, Mary Philipse, originally built this stately Palladian house as a summer villa on property stretching over 130 acres from the Hudson to the Harlem River. Upon the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, the Morrises, who supported the British Crown, abandoned the house. Situated on one of the highest points in Manhattan, the mansion was ideal for General George Washington's temporary headquarters in the fall of 1776. Occupying the mansion for one month, Washington planned his army's first



The Morris-Jumel Mansion

victory, the Battle of Harlem Heights, from this strategic position. After Washington's army lost the Battle of Fort Washington and retreated from Manhattan, the house became the British headquarters.

When the Revolutionary War ended, the new American government confiscated the mansion and its property. The acreage was leased as a farm and the house became a tavern. In 1790, President George Washington returned with his cabinet members and their wives for a commemorative dinner. Guests included John Adams, Abigail Adams, John Quincy Adams, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson and Henry Knox, the Secretary of War.



Sylvan Terrace

In 1810, a wealthy shipowner and French émigré, Stephen Jumel, and his American wife, Eliza Bowen, purchased the house and refurnished it in the French Empire style. After Jumel died in 1832, Madame Jumel married former Vice President Aaron Burr (the man who shot and killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel). Burr resided there only briefly, since Madame Jumel divorced him after only two years of marriage. She then lived in seclusion in the house until her death in 1865.

Several subsequent owners occupied the house until it was purchased by the City of New York to preserve it as a monument to the nation's past. Four local chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution opened the house as a museum in 1907

showcasing its historical significance and period styles.

**The Jumel Terrace Historic District** from 160th to 162nd Street between Edgecombe and St. Nicholas Avenues includes 50 lovely lime and brownstone row houses surrounding the Morris-Jumel Mansion. These row houses, with their cobblestone streets, lend the neighborhood a 19th century feeling.

**Sylvan Terrace**, directly west of the Morris-Jumel Mansion, was built in 1882-83 on what was once the carriage driveway of the mansion and consists of 20 two-story wooden frame houses. The Victorian row houses (still occupied) were once home to police officers, subway workers and store-



Dyckman Farmhouse

keepers. These are among the few wood frame houses remaining in New York City.

**The Dyckman Farmhouse Museum** is located at 4881 Broadway at 204th Street. Open Wednesday through Saturday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Via subway, take the A train to the last stop, 207th Street, and walk south on Broadway. Via bus, take the M100 to 204th Street. Phone: 212 304-9422 for more information.

In the 1680s, Jan Dyckman created a large farm and orchard at the northernmost tip of Manhattan. After British troops destroyed the farm during the Revolutionary War, Jan's grandson, William Dyckman, restored the farm and built the current house in 1785. By 1868, the

Dyckman family found the house too small and sold the house and farm and moved to a larger house nearby. Not long after, the farmhouse fell into disrepair. In 1915, two Dyckman sisters saved the house from demolition. They initiated its restoration and presented the house to the City of New York.

The house is a two-story white building of fieldstone, brick and clapboard with a roof and full-length porch that are typically Dutch Colonial. Each floor features a central hall with four rooms. The house also showcases a winter kitchen located in the basement to provide heat, as well as a summer kitchen situated in an adjacent wing, to prevent the odors and heat of cooking from entering the rest of



Roger Morris

the house. The authentic furnishings and wares in the interior reflect life in Colonial America.

The museum provides educational programs and information about early American crafts. The Dyckman Farmhouse Museum is a National Historic Landmark, a New York City Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**409 Edgecombe Avenue** is located near the corner of 155th Street and St. Nicholas Place, east of Broadway. This building, sited near Coogan's Bluff (see Highbridge Park),



Hudson View Gardens

was once the most prestigious address for African-American intellectuals including Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, historian W.E.B. Dubois and Walter F. White, former executive director of the NAACP.

The **Roger Morris** apartment house located at 555 Edgecombe Avenue between 159th and 160th Streets, east of Broadway is another notable residence. This white brick terra-cotta building, referred to as the "Triple Nickel," was designated as a landmark in 1993. It was the former home of such celebrities as Count Basie, Paul



Castle Village

Robeson and Kenneth Clark; athletes Joe Louis, Jesse Owens and Althea Gibson; and Arctic explorer Matthew Henson.

**Hudson View Gardens** is an apartment complex found directly behind Bennett Park on Pinehurst Avenue between 183rd and 185th Streets. This brick Tudor style cluster of buildings features beautiful private gardens. Designed by George F. Pelham, it was one of the first cooperative apartment complexes in New York City.

**Castle Village** located between 181st and 186th Streets on Cabrini Blvd. is an



Pumpkin House

apartment complex designed by George F. Pelham, Jr. Built in 1938-39, the site was formerly part of the Charles Paterno estate. Among the special features of this group of buildings are private gardens and views of the Hudson River and George Washington Bridge for most of the occupants.

**Pumpkin House** is found one block west of Cabrini Blvd., on 186th Street and Chittenden Avenue. This private one-family home once served as a guest house on the Paterno estate. Built in the 1920s, it is perched on a huge pier and has an outstanding view of the Hudson River.

# Notable Destinations



Audubon Ballroom

**The Audubon Ballroom** is located at 165th Street on the east side of Broadway. Via subway, take the A, C or 1 train to 168th Street. Via bus, take the M4 or M5 to 166th Street.

The Audubon Ballroom was designed by Thomas Lamb and built by movie mogul William (20th Century) Fox in 1912. Visitors note the brown foxes between the second floor windows – designed to honor William Fox – and the bold ornamental design on the façade. At different times in its history, the Ballroom served as a vaudeville house, a movie theater, a synagogue and a meeting hall. Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, Henny Youngman, the Three Stooges and Mae West were among the entertainers seen on the Audubon stage.

During the 1930s, the Ballroom became home to Congregation Emes Wozedek. The synagogue, whose members were largely German-Jewish immigrants, sold bonds to its congregants and became the sole owner of the Audubon Ballroom complex in 1950. For no less than 45 years, the Congregation functioned daily and with a membership of over 1000 families, held high-holy day services in both the theater and ballroom.

In recent years, the Audubon Ballroom has become known as the place where African-

American Muslim leader, Malcolm X, was assassinated while giving a speech to the Organization of Afro-American Unity. Since his death in 1965, it has become an important memorial.

In the 1990s, most of the building was razed to make way for the Mary Lasker Biomedical Research Building. However, the original façade and the section of the ballroom where Malcolm X was assassinated were preserved. The building also houses several businesses and the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Education and Research Center. A life-sized statue of Malcolm X stands in the lobby of the Broadway entrance.

**Mitchel Square** is bounded by 166th and 168th Streets and Broadway and St. Nicholas Avenue. The square honors the memory of John Purroy Mitchel, who at the age of 34 was the youngest mayor in the history of New York City. Shortly after his four-year term ended, Mitchel joined the Army air corps during World War I but was killed after falling 500 feet from his plane during a training flight. In 1919, the NYC Board of Alderman named this square for Mitchel. The centerpiece of Mitchel Square is a bronze and granite group sculpture called the Washington Heights-Inwood War Memorial.



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Alexander Hamilton Bridge                    | 13 Highbridge Park                          |
| 2 Andrew Belfrage (Malcolm X Memorial)         | Highbridge Water Tower                      |
| 3 Audubon Terrace                              | 14 High Bridge Aqueduct                     |
| American Academy of Arts and Letters           | Oldest Bridge in New York City              |
| Belton College                                 | 15 Inwood Hill Park                         |
| Hispanic Society of America                    | 16 Isabella Geriatric Center                |
| 4 Broadway Bridge                              | 17 Inham Park                               |
| 5 Church of the Intercession                   | 18 J. Hood Wright Park                      |
| 6 Church of Saint Jude                         | 19 Little Red Lighthouse                    |
| 7 The Chalmers                                 | 20 Macombs Dam (155th Street) Bridge        |
| Metropolitan Museum of Art Anderson Collection | 21 New York Presbyterian Hospital           |
| 8 Dyckman Farmhouse                            | Columbia University                         |
| 9 Fort Tryon Park                              | 22 Saint Francis Xavier Cabrini Chapel      |
| 10 George Washington Bridge Complex            | State of Alaska Casino                      |
| GW Bus Station                                 | 23 Martin-Jumel Mansion                     |
| 11 George Washington High School               | Sylvan Terrace                              |
| 12 Henry Hudson Bridge                         | 24 St. Ann's Cemetery                       |
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|  | 26 Washington Bridge                        |
|  | 27 Yeshiva University                       |



WASHINGTON  
HEIGHTS  
INWOOD

...a great community  
at the top

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**The Little Red Lighthouse** can be found underneath the George Washington Bridge in Fort Washington Park at 178th Street.

Take the footbridge north of 181st Street at Riverside Drive over the highway and follow the path down to the park, south to the lighthouse. For information about tours and the annual Little Red Lighthouse Festival, phone the Urban Park Rangers at 212 304-2365.

The real name of the lighthouse is the Jeffrey's Hook Light (Jeffrey's Hook is a rocky point on the Hudson River beneath the George Washington Bridge). It was originally located in New Jersey and was designed to warn ships away from the shoreline.

The lighthouse was built in 1880 and moved to Jeffrey's Hook in Manhattan in 1921. It is a 40-foot tower with an acetylene lamp and a lens of cut-glass prisms. After construction of the George Washington Bridge in 1931, the lights of the bridge's towers caused the lighthouse to become unnecessary. It was decommissioned in 1947, abandoned, and was to be demolished a few years later.

When news of the imminent destruction of the lighthouse was made public, thousands of children and educators who had read and loved the story of "The Little Red



The Little Red Lighthouse

Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge," by Hildegard Hoyt Swift and Lynd Ward, started a nationwide campaign to save the lighthouse. (The story tells of the friendship of the George Washington Bridge and the proud red lighthouse.) As a result of the flood of letters, the lighthouse was turned over to the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation and became part of Fort Washington Park. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a New York City Landmark.

Although no longer in operation, visitors can climb the spiral staircase to the top and see a working historic lens. The Urban Park Rangers provide guided tours and talks about the ecology and history of the Hudson River and lighthouse. In addition, each year there is a Little Red Lighthouse Festival in the fall.

**The Saint Frances X Cabrini Shrine** is located at 701 Fort Washington Avenue at 190th Street. Open Tuesday through Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Admission: free. Via subway, take the A train to 190th Street and take the elevator to Ft. Washington Avenue or take the M4 Bus to Fort Washington Avenue and 190th Street. Phone: 212 923-3536.

Although born in Italy, Frances Xavier "Mother" Cabrini became a U.S. citizen and was the first American to become a saint. She was sent to the United States by the Catholic Church and set about establishing many hospitals, orphanages, schools and nurseries. She was the founder of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart and was known as the Patroness of Immigrants. After she saw the magnificent view from 190th Street and Fort Washington Avenue, she persuaded the Church to purchase the property and founded the Sacred Heart



The Saint Frances X Cabrini Shrine

Villa as her headquarters. Mother Cabrini was canonized in 1944. Cabrini Boulevard was named in her honor.

The current building housing Mother Cabrini High School opened on the site in 1930. The Saint Frances Cabrini Shrine was opened in 1959. The remains of Mother Cabrini are entombed in a glass coffin beneath the altar in the chapel of the Shrine. Her personal belongings, mementos and historic photographs are on display. Each year on November 13, there is a Feast of Saint Cabrini, and starting on July 15th her birthday is treated as a two-day celebration.

**Margaret Corbin Circle** is located at the entrance to Fort Tryon Park (north of 190th Street and Fort Washington Avenue.) Via subway, take the A train to 190th Street and take the elevator. Via bus, take the M4.

Margaret Corbin accompanied her husband John to fight in the Battle of Fort Washington during the Revolutionary War. When John was killed, Margaret took his place at the cannon. After receiving wounds to the face and arm and left for dead by the British, she was rescued but never fully recovered. In 1779, Margaret was made a part of the "Invalid Regiment" and received a lifetime half pension.



Loew's 175th Street Theater

She later became the first heroine of the American Revolution to be buried at West Point. She is commemorated by the circle outside the park and the drive to the Cloisters Museum.

**Loew's 175th Street Theater** (northeast corner of 175th Street and Broadway).  
Phone: 212 568-6700 ext. 17.

Designed by architect Thomas Lamb, this theater is an example of the grand and glamorous movie palaces of the 1920s and 30s. Originally a vaudeville theater, it was converted into a 3,444 seat movie house. The theater is a combination of Moorish,

Indo-Chinese, Rococo, and Art Deco styles and features a seven-story-high organ with twin chambers. The theater now belongs to the Christ United Church, presided over by the Reverend Ike, one of the pioneers of "televangelism."

**The George Washington Bridge** is at 179th Street and Fort Washington Avenue. Via subway, take the A train to 175th Street. Via bus, take the M4.

Designed by Othmar H. Ammann and completed in 1931, the bridge was once the longest in the world. It spans the Hudson in one pure line for 3,500 feet



High Bridge in 1900

connecting Manhattan to Fort Lee, New Jersey and features a pedestrian and bicycle path. When lit, the bridge's towers highlight its structure to spectacular effect. The famous architect Le Corbusier called it the "most beautiful bridge in the world."

**High Bridge** is located at Amsterdam Avenue and 174th Street. Via subway, take the 1 train to 168th Street and walk north and east or take the A train to 175th Street and walk south and east.

A National Historic Landmark and the City's oldest standing bridge (1848), High Bridge was built to carry water from the Old Croton Aqueduct to Manhattan. Its high elevation allowed the water to flow downtown by gravity alone. In 1890, the New Croton Aqueduct was built to carry water underground.

High Bridge was then used as a pedestrian walkway connecting Washington Heights to the Bronx until it fell into disrepair and was closed. Recently, there has been renewed interest to repair and reopen High Bridge as a pedestrian walkway, bike path and tourist destination given its beautiful vistas and access to Highbridge Park.

**Baker Field** is located at 218th Street, west of Broadway. Via subway, take the 1 train to 215th Street and walk north and west. Via bus, take the M100. Phone ticket office: 212 854-2546.

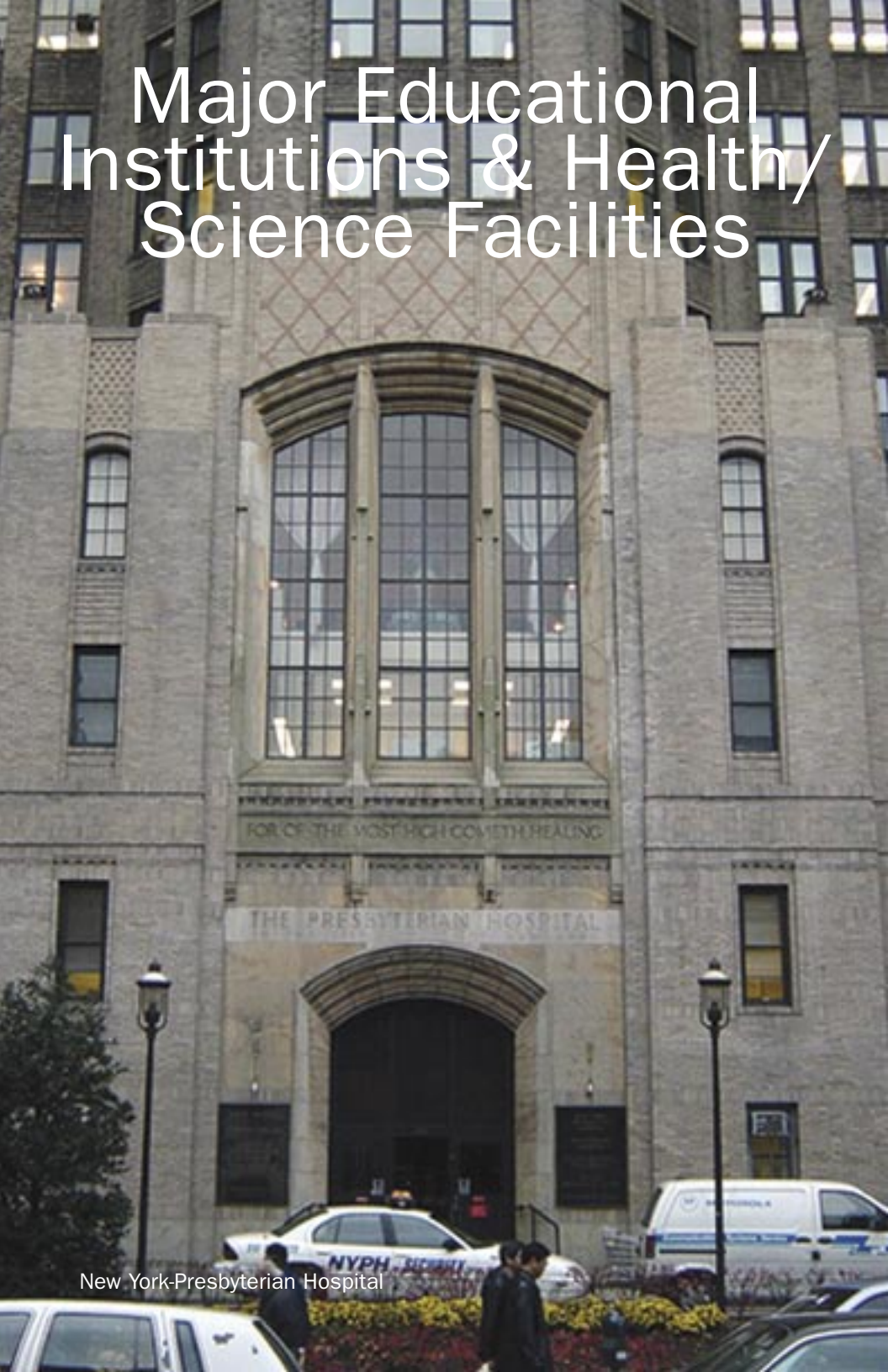
Baker Field is part of the Columbia University athletic complex. Fans of Division I college football can enjoy Saturday afternoon games during the fall season. During the spring, the field is used for soccer, lacrosse, softball and baseball. The complex also includes a boathouse and tennis facility.



Baker Field



# Major Educational Institutions & Health/Science Facilities



New York-Presbyterian Hospital



New York-Presbyterian Hospital

**New York-Presbyterian Hospital, The University Hospital of Columbia and Cornell** is located on the west side of Broadway spanning 165th to 168th Streets between Broadway and Riverside Drive. Via subway, take the A, C, or 1 train to 168th Street. Via bus, take the M4 or M5 to 168th Street. Phone: 212 305-2500.

New York-Presbyterian hospital is a world-renowned institution dedicated to the highest quality of clinical care, teaching and research. In 1998, New York Hospital located on the east side of Manhattan, and Presbyterian Hospital in Washington Heights merged to become New York-Presbyterian. The northern Manhattan campus was built in 1928 on the site of the old Hilltop Baseball Park, home of the New York Highlanders (now known as the New York Yankees).

Among the newer buildings are the Milstein Pavilion, the Morgan Stanley



The Columbia University Medical Center

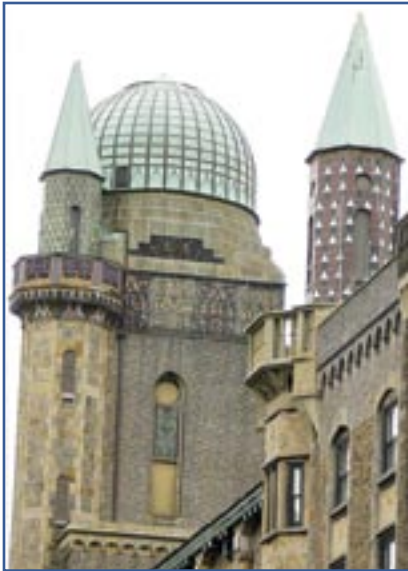
Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian, and the Allen Pavilion at 5141 Broadway at 220th Street.

**The Columbia University Medical Center** is located adjacent to the New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Phone: 212 854-1754. Together with the New York State Psychiatric Institute and the hospital, it is one of the largest medical centers in the United States. Columbia University's College of Physicians & Surgeons; School of Dental & Oral Surgery; the Mailman School of Public Health; School of Nursing; and the Graduate School of Arts

and Sciences are located here.

This campus is dedicated to educating the next generation of physicians, dentists, nurses and public health professionals. CUMC is also home to the Audubon Biomedical Science and Technology Park, which has the only biotechnology incubator in New York City.

**Yeshiva University** is located on Amsterdam Avenue from 183rd to 187th Streets. Via subway, take the 1 train to 181st Street and walk north and east. Via bus, take the M101. Phone: 212 960-5400.



Yeshiva University

Yeshiva College was founded in 1928 as the first college of liberal arts and sciences in the United States under Jewish auspices. Today, the uptown Wilf campus houses the undergraduate school and the schools of social work; music; education; theology; and the Yeshiva University High School for Boys. The main building at 2540 Amsterdam Avenue has been called one of the great romantic structures of its time. It utilizes ceramic tiles, copper, brass and orange stone, and includes Middle Eastern architectural details such as domes, turrets and towers. The campus has many street planters featuring seasonal flowers as well as benches offering visitors a place to sit.

**Isabella Geriatric Center** is located at 515 Audubon Avenue and the corner of 190th Street. Via subway, take the 1 train to the 191st Street stop, and take the elevator to the street-level exit. Proceed one block east to Audubon Avenue. Phone: 212 342-9200.

When Anna and Oswald Ottendorfer opened the first home in 1875, they named it Isabella in honor of their daughter whose early death at the age of 27 cut short her remarkable career in caring for the poor. Initially located in Astoria, Queens, Isabella moved to its present location in 1889. Originally dedicated to the care of indigent older women, Isabella Home



Isabella Geriatric Center

quickly expanded its mission to care for both women and men – without regard to race, creed or nationality.

Today, Isabella is a large complex offering a diversity of services on four well-landscaped acres. In addition to a 705-bed nursing home, Isabella offers moderately priced senior housing, adult day health care, childcare, long term home health care and programs designed to help older adults remain healthy while living at home.

In 2003, Isabella opened a Senior Resource Center at 4069 Broadway and 169th Street. The first of its kind in Northern

Manhattan, the Center offers information and advice to neighborhood adults and their families at no cost.

**Boricua College** is located at 156th Street and Broadway occupying a building on the Audubon Terrace. (See Audubon Terrace Historic District section.) Phone: 212 694-1000. Meeting the needs of a growing Hispanic population, the college was founded as the first in the United States to offer bilingual education in Spanish and English. The building was designed by architect Charles Pratt Huntington and formerly housed the American Geographical Society.



Boricua College

# Parks



Fort Tryon Park



Fort Tryon Park

**Fort Tryon Park** is bounded on the east by Broadway, on the south by 192nd Street, on the west by the Henry Hudson Parkway and on the north by Riverside Drive and Dyckman Street.

Considered one of the most beautiful parks in the United States, Fort Tryon Park is a federal, state and city landmark with a rich and vibrant history. The Weckquaesgeek Indians, who lived there until the early 17th century, were the original inhabitants of the area. During the summer of 1776, the Continental (American) Army built a series of army posts along the Hudson River. Hessian mercenaries, fighting for the British, forced the American troops

to retreat. The victorious British renamed the area Fort Tryon for Major General, Sir William Tryon, the last British Governor of colonial New York.

During the 19th century, wealthy New Yorkers built large estates in the Fort Tryon area. A triple arched driveway, which can be seen from the northbound Henry Hudson Parkway, was actually an estate entrance. After John D. Rockefeller, Jr. purchased the former C.K.G. Billings estate in 1917 and the mansion was destroyed by fire, he decided to build a park on the property. Rockefeller commissioned Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. (son of the designer of Central Park) to design its 67

acres. It took four years to transform the rocky topography into an aesthetically designed landscape. Fort Tryon Park features miles of pedestrian paths, terraces, promenades, lookout points, rock gardens and the beautiful “Heather Garden.”

The views of the Hudson River are among the best in Manhattan. Rockefeller even purchased property on the New Jersey side of the Hudson to preserve the park’s stunning views.

Each November, a reenactment of the Battle of Fort Washington is held in the park. In addition, every fall there is a free Medieval Festival replete with knights in armor, jousting, etc. *For festival information, call the Washington Heights-Inwood Development Corporation at 212 795-1600.*

**Highbridge Park** is situated east of Broadway from Amsterdam Avenue to the Harlem River between 155th and Dyckman Streets. Via bus, take the M101.

Highbridge Park, whose name can be traced back to the High Bridge, was assembled between 1867 and the 1960s and now covers 120 acres. The park features large rock outcroppings and cliffs. The high bluffs are the eroded remains of an ancient mountain range and provide a



Highbridge Water Tower

vista of the Harlem River and the Bronx. During the Depression, WPA workers built the Highbridge Recreation Center and Highbridge Pool (173rd Street and Amsterdam Avenue). *The center is open year-round and the pool is open daily in July and August. Admission: free.*

The park is also known for an important Revolutionary battle that took place there in 1776. The Americans were heavily outnumbered and lost the hilltop to the British. Coogan’s Bluff at the southernmost end of Highbridge Park (155th to 160th Streets and Edgcombe Avenue) was named for local landowner James J. Coogan, who was Manhattan’s first borough president. This bluff overlooked the old Polo Grounds baseball stadium, home of the New York Giants (now the San Francisco Giants), New York Giants football team and, briefly, the New York Mets. The



Highbridge Water Tower Interior

elevated location of Coogan’s Bluff enabled non-paying crowds to witness the games. The Polo Grounds stadium was dismantled in 1964 to make way for public housing.

Within the park is the **Highbridge Water Tower** at 173rd Street overlooking the Harlem River. It is open weekends in July and August, and climbing to its top, offers magnificent views. Built in 1872, the tower was rehabilitated in 1958 and outfitted with a five octave carillon dedicated to the memory of Benjamin Altman (philanthropist and owner of the former 5th Avenue department store, B. Altman’s.)

**Bennett Park** is located at Fort Washington Avenue and 183rd Street. Via subway, take the A train to 181st Street, exit at 184th Street and then take the elevator to Fort



Bennett Park



Inwood Hill Park

*Washington Avenue. Via bus, take the M4.*

Bennett Park, the site of Fort Washington, was the scene of a devastating defeat for the Americans and their last fortification in the Battle of New York in 1776. The fort was repossessed by the Americans upon their triumphal entry to the City in 1783. The granite-paved outline of the fort can still be seen in the southern portion of the park, but most of the vestiges have disappeared. James Bennett, publisher of the New York Herald newspaper, bought the land in 1871. After his death, the land was willed to his son. The American Scenic and Historical Society requested that the land where Fort Washington stood be

preserved. The City of New York acquired the property and put it under the auspices of the New York City Department of Parks in 1928. At the center of this small park, a large outcropping of Manhattan schist makes this the highest point of Manhattan Island (265 feet).

**Inwood Hill Park** is bounded by the *Hudson River on the west, Harlem River/Spuyten Duyvil Creek on the north, Seaman Avenue/Indian Road on the east, and Dyckman Street on the south. Via subway, take the 1 train to 215th Street. Via bus, take the M100, Bx7 or Bx20 to 218th Street.*

The Native American name for the park

was Shorakapok, meaning either “the wading place”; “the place between the rivers” or “the edge of the river.” The Lenape Native Americans occupied these acres prior to the Europeans. Ancient Indian weapons and utensils have been found in the area, and Indian cave dwellings can be seen in the park. At the southwest corner of the soccer field (near 214th Street) is a plaque honoring Peter Minuit, who is said to have purchased Manhattan island at this location.

Farms occupied by European settlers existed here during the 17th and 18th centuries. During the Revolutionary War, Fort Cox was built by the Americans and then conquered by the British (and Hessian mercenaries) in November of 1776. At the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, the area once again became farmland. Country estates existed here during the 1800s. The Straus family (former owner of Macy’s) was among the residents. A free public library and a charity house for women were part of the landscape.

After New York City purchased the land in 1916 (196.4 acres), the buildings on the property were demolished. Inwood Hill Park contains the last natural forest and the only salt marsh in Manhattan. At low tide the marsh is covered by mud and reeds and at high tide by shallow waters. Many forms of wildlife migrate to the salt marsh each

year, including America’s official emblem, the bald eagle.

The park also offers paths that are frequented by runners. The setting of Inwood Hill Park’s primeval forest and the abundance of wildlife distinguish this part of Manhattan.

**The Inwood Hill Nature Center** is located in Inwood Hill Park near the entrance at 218th Street and Indian Road. It is open Wednesday through Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Phone: 212 304-2365. The center is free to the public.

In 1995, the Inwood Hill Nature Center was officially opened. The Urban Park Rangers staff the center and provide lectures, tours, and after-school programs on ecology and cultural history. The WPA originally constructed the white and turquoise building as a boathouse.



The Inwood Hill Nature Center



Riley-Levin Children's Garden

**Swindler Cove Park** and the **Peter Jay Sharp Boathouse** are found at the Harlem River and Tenth Avenue waterfront. Via subway, take the 1 train to Dyckman Street and walk east to Tenth Avenue. Turn right past Public School 5 and follow the path. Via bus, take the M100 to Dyckman Street and follow the same directions as for the subway.

Once the site of an illegal dumping ground on the banks of the Harlem River, Swindler Cove Park is a five-acre park managed by New York Restoration Project (NYRP) that opened in August 2003. To help NYRP accomplish this transformation, the State of New York Department of Transportation invested over \$10 million in the project. It features a salt marsh, a freshwater pond, and the Riley-Levin Children's Garden, all of which make a center for hands-on environmental education. Swindler Cove's Peter Jay Sharp Boathouse, designed by



Peter Jay Sharp Boathouse

architect Robert A.M. Stern and managed by the New York Rowing Association, opened in June 2004 and provides training in the Olympic sport of rowing to economically disadvantaged youngsters. For more information about Swindler Cove Park call the New York Restoration Project at 212 333-2552. For more information about the Peter Jay Sharp Boathouse call the Peter Jay Sharp Rowing Club at 212 304-2870.

**The Dyckman Marina** is situated at the western most end of Dyckman Street on the Hudson River. Via subway, take the A train to Dyckman Street and walk west until you reach the Hudson River.

During the spring, summer and fall, boat owners moor their boats at this newly refurbished marina and often drop in at the marina's restaurant. A public fishing pier on the river is adjacent to the marina.

## Walking Tours

There are a few individuals and organizations that offer walking tours of Washington Heights and/or Inwood. Contact information is provided below:

### Municipal Art Society

212 935-3960

[www.mas.org](http://www.mas.org)

### James Renner

JR6751@aol.com

### Morris-Jumel Mansion

212 923-8008

[www.morrisjumel.org](http://www.morrisjumel.org)

### New York Historical Society

212 873-3400

[www.nyhistory.org](http://www.nyhistory.org)

### New York Restoration Project

212 333-2552

[www.nyrp.org](http://www.nyrp.org)

## The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

### The George Washington Bridge Bus Station

178th to 179th Streets between Broadway and Fort Washington Avenue

This major bus station, run by The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, connects Manhattan to various parts of New York and New Jersey. Buses also leave for Florida from this station. Designed by Pier Luigi Nervi in 1963, the station's butterfly shape was created to provide ventilation for the bus fumes. Travelers and commuters can link with the A train (175th Street station) on the lower level of the building.

## Houses of Worship

For visitors to Northern Manhattan who wish to attend a religious service, the following is a list of some of the churches and synagogues in the Washington Heights and Inwood communities.

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HOUSES OF WORSHIP

### CHURCHES

#### Adventist

##### Washington Heights Seventh Day Adventist Church

511 West 166th Street  
Phone: 212 781-2125

#### Armenian

##### Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church

580 West 187th Street  
Phone: 212 927-4020

#### Baptist

##### First Spanish Baptist Church

96 Wadsworth Avenue  
Phone: 212 568-3868

##### Wadsworth Avenue Baptist Church

210 Wadsworth Avenue  
Phone: 212 923-7660

#### Non-Denominational Christian

##### Manhattan Bible Church

401 West 205th Street  
Phone: 212 567-2276

#### Episcopal

##### Church of the Intercession

550 West 155th Street  
Phone: 212 283-6200

##### Holyrood Episcopal Church

715 West 179th Street  
Phone: 212 923-3770

#### Greek Orthodox

##### St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church

124 Wadsworth Avenue  
Phone: 212 795-5870

#### Jehovah's Witness

##### Assembly Hall

609 West 161st Street  
Phone: 212 928-7406

#### Lutheran

##### Our Savior's Atonement Lutheran Church

178 Bennett Avenue  
Phone: 212 923-5757



Fort Washington Collegiate Church

#### Methodist

##### Broadway Temple – United Methodist Church

4111 Broadway  
Phone: 212 928-1200

##### Church on the Hill

975 St. Nicholas Avenue  
Phone: 212 928-2324

#### Mormon

##### Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

1815 Riverside Drive  
Phone: 212 567-3321

#### Pentecostal

##### Mount Calvary Church

465 West 162nd Street  
Phone: 212 781-7665

#### Presbyterian

##### Fort George Presbyterian Church

1525 Saint Nicholas Avenue  
Phone: 212 568-7374

#### Reform Church in America

##### Fort Washington Collegiate Church

729 West 181st Street  
Phone: 212 568-4014

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HOUSES OF WORSHIP

**Roman Catholic****Church of the Good Shepherd**

608 Isham Street  
Phone: 212 567-1300

**Church of the Incarnation**

1290 St. Nicholas Avenue  
Phone: 212 927-7474

**Church of St. Jude**

431 West 204th Street  
Phone: 212 569-3000

**Our Lady of Esperanza Church**

624 West 156th Street  
Phone: 212 283-4340

**Our Lady Queen of Martyrs**

91 Arden Street  
Phone: 212 567-2637

**St. Elizabeth's Church**

268 Wadsworth Avenue  
Phone: 212 568-8803



Church of St. Jude



Church of the Good Shepherd

**St. Rose of Lima Church**

510 West 165th Street  
Phone: 212 568-0091

**United Christian Evangelical****Christ United Church**

4140 Broadway  
Phone: 212 568-6700

**SYNAGOGUES****Orthodox****Congregation Beth Hamedrash Hagodol**

610 West 175th Street  
Phone: 212 927-6000

**Congregation K'hal Adath Jeshurun**

85 Bennett Avenue  
Phone: 212 923-3582



Hebrew Tabernacle Congregation

**Congregation Shaare Hatikvah**

711 West 179th Street  
Phone: 212 927-2720

**Mount Sinai Jewish Center**

135 Bennett Avenue  
Phone: 212 568-1900

**Washington Heights Congregation**

815 West 179th Street  
Phone: 212 923-4407

**Conservative****Fort Tryon Jewish Center**

524 Fort Washington Avenue  
Phone: 212 795-1391

**Inwood Hebrew Congregation**

111 Vermilyea Avenue  
Phone: 212 569-4010

**Reform****Beth Am, The People's Temple**

551 Fort Washington Avenue  
Phone: 212 928-6030

**Hebrew Tabernacle Congregation**

551 Fort Washington Avenue  
Phone: 212 568-8304



# Bus Map



# Subway Map



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Oil on canvas, 41 "X60"  
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