

In the News

Thriving Congregation Reverses Trend and Expands

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Park Avenue Synagogue renovation by Murphy Burnham & Buttrick.
Image Credit: Murphy Burnham & Buttrick.

MBB's Park Avenue Synagogue renovation nears completion.

Following a comprehensive, campus-wide master plan for the growing Park Avenue Synagogue community on the Upper East Side, Murphy Burnham and Buttrick Architects (MBB) is now completing a renovation and expansion of the congregation's 87th Street Synagogue building. The six-story, 65,500-square-foot 87th Street Synagogue building was originally built in 1927, added onto in 1954, and then again in 1980. A glassed-in, double-height space visually connects the ground floor to

a large event space below, while another double-height space visually connects to clergy and staff offices located on the second floor to create a unified entry. The redesigned lobby, which houses a small chapel designed as a sculptural object to invite daily prayer, provides a formal entry sequence to the main historic sanctuary. Framed niches in the stairs and along the corridors display mid-century stained glass works by American artist Adolf Gottlieb and ribbons of 200-plus graphic artworks spanning three millennia. The interior features a sky-lit central stairwell that leads to classrooms and a chapel.



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