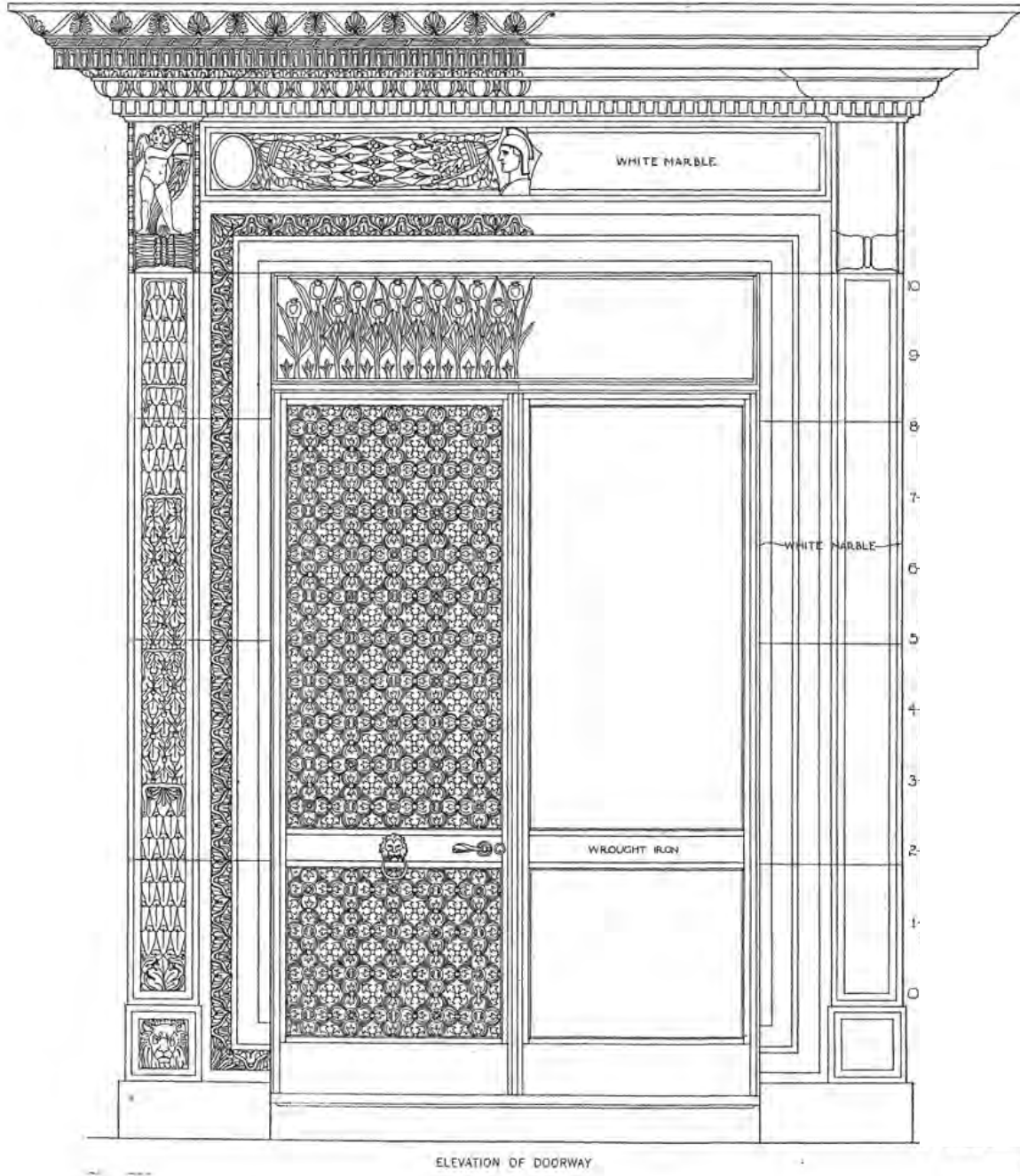




FRENCH EMBASSY  
IN THE UNITED STATES

HIGHER EDUCATION,  
ARTS, FRENCH LANGUAGE



# *Payne Whitney Mansion*

972 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10075  
Telephone (212) 439 1400 — Fax : (212) 439 1401

*A luxurious, historic venue on*

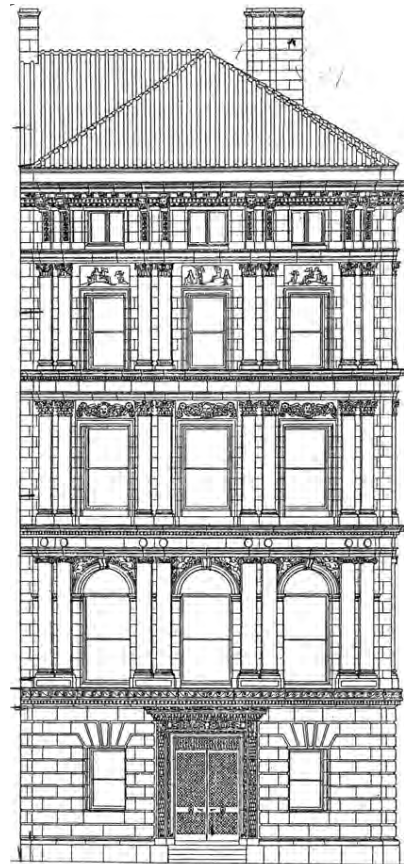
# *Fifth Avenue*

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As one of the few remaining buildings from the Gilded Age architectural period, the Stanford White-designed Payne Whitney Mansion at 972 Fifth Avenue offers an unparalleled blend of history, location, design, and elegance. Steeped in the history of turn-of-the-century New York, Renaissance Europe and France, the mansion transports visitors to another epoch and offers the height of elegance and sophistication in the 21st century. Its location, across from Central Park and on Museum Mile, is easily accessible.

The mansion was commissioned in 1902 by Oliver Hazard Payne, a former treasurer of Standard Oil Company, for his nephew, Payne Whitney, on the occasion of his marriage to Helen Hay, uniting two prominent families. Payne's father, William, served as Secretary of the Navy in 1885 and Payne's father-in-law, was U.S. Secretary of State from 1898-1905, as well as a U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom. Payne's brother, Harry, married Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, a sculptor, arts patron and founder of the Whitney Museum of American Art.

The French government acquired the Payne Whitney Mansion in 1952. In 1970, it was deemed an official landmark of the City of New York. Today, this emblematic building is home to the Cultural Services of the French Embassy.



*First Floor*

# *Marble Rotunda*

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Stepping through the front doors of wrought iron, one enters the rotunda, a hall framed by marble columns surrounding a fountain and supporting a dome ceiling decorated with lattice and vines. On the fountain rests a marble statue of a youth, now thought to be an early work by Michelangelo.





*First Floor*

# *Venetian Room*

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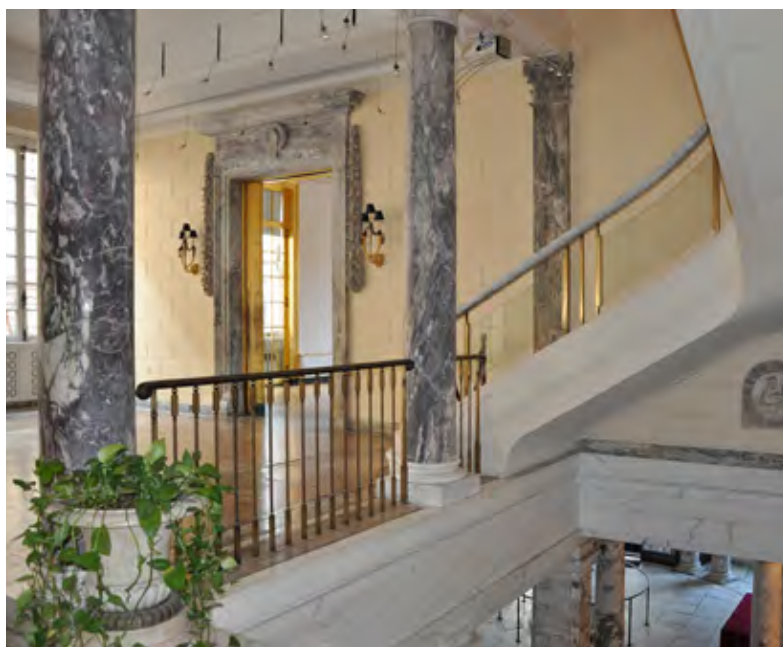
Off the rotunda is one of the architect's most original creations, a receiving room later to become known as the "Venetian Room." This fairy tale room is a true museum piece with walls of mirrored panels and a cornice of metal lattice entwined with exquisite porcelain flowers and 18th-century European furnishings.

On view to the public with limited access. Access privileges may be granted under certain conditions.

*Second Floor*

# *Marble Room*

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A wide, gracious stairway leads from the rotunda directly to the Marble Reception Room of classic proportions, with gilded, mirrored doors on opposite walls of this salon. This space is an exquisite backdrop for cocktail receptions and formal dinners as well as fashion shows and press luncheons.

*Second Floor*

# *Reception Room*

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The Embassy's formal reception room with a series of oversized windows overlooking Fifth Avenue and Central Park is the perfect backdrop for any event, from intimate dinners and elegant cocktail receptions.

Adjacent to one another, the Marble Room and Main Reception Room on Fifth Avenue and can be configured as one space.





*Second Floor  
Reception Room*



*Exterior*

# *Florence Gould Garden*

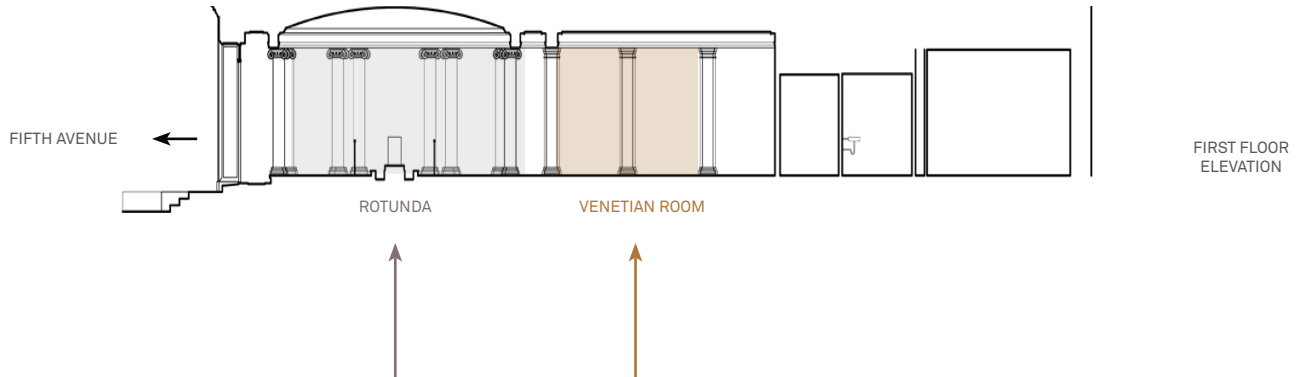
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A peaceful respite, the Embassy's contemporary garden, created with a generous contribution from the Florence Gould Foundation, offers guests an outdoor space for cocktails and other gatherings. It is a delightful complement to any warm weather event. An elegant zen-like design gives the space tremendous malleability. Lighting design by Hervé Descottes.





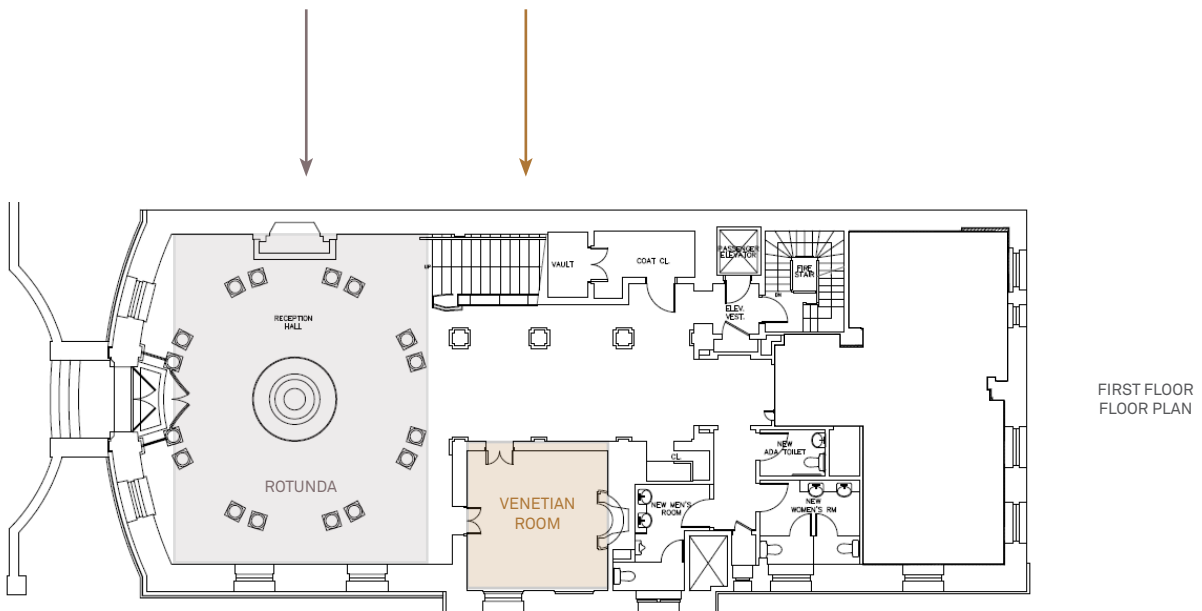
# First Floor



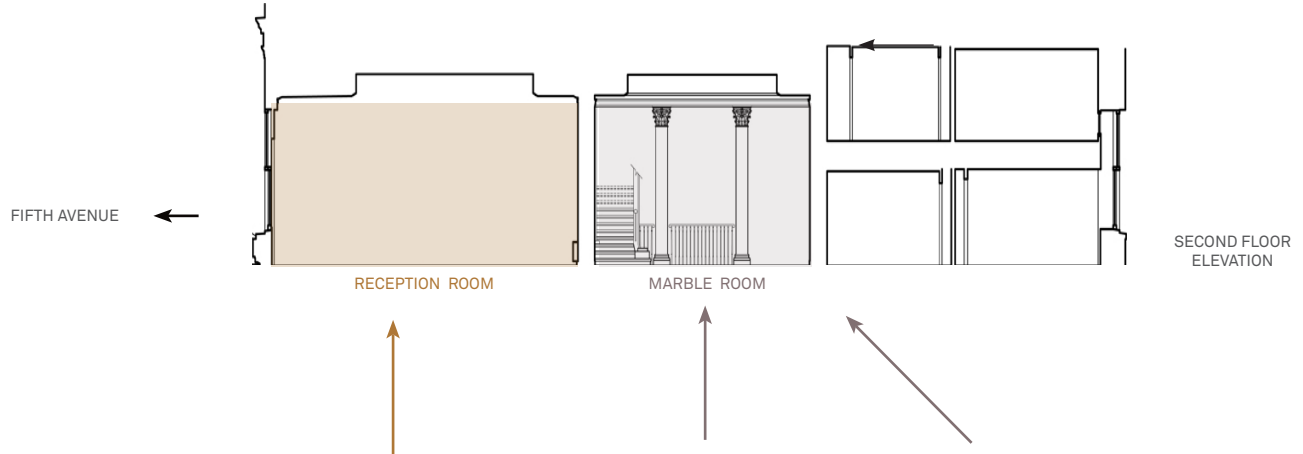
**ROTUNDA**  
9.77M x 10.52M (32.24'x 35')  
Capacity: 131 people.



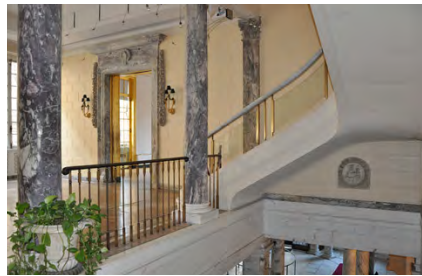
**VENETIAN ROOM**  
Access privileges may be granted under certain conditions.



# Second Floor



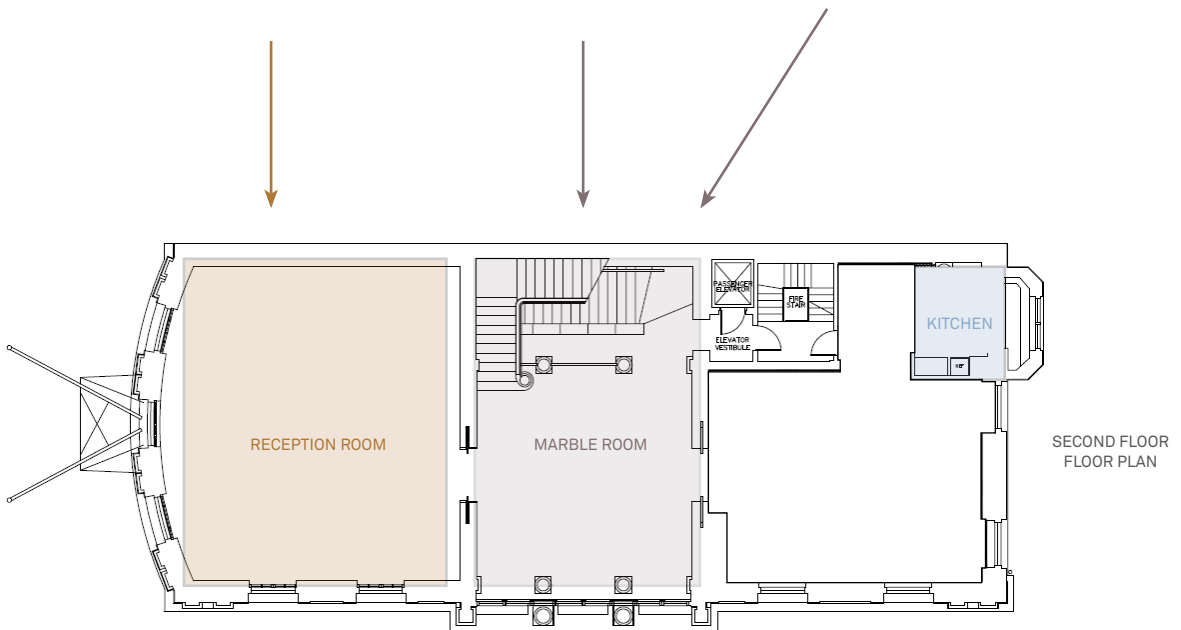
**RECEPTION ROOM**  
9.07M x 10.31M (30' x 34')  
Capacity: 150 people



**MARBLE RECEPTION ROOM**  
7.18M x 7.84M (24' x 26')  
Capacity: 75 persons



**MARBLE RECEPTION ROOM**



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# Summary

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## **ROTUNDA**

9.77M x 10.52M (32.24' x 35')  
Capacity: 131 people.

## **MARBLE RECEPTION ROOM**

7.18M x 7.84M (24' x 26')  
Capacity: 75 persons

## **RECEPTION ROOM**

9.07M x 10.31M (30' x 34')  
Capacity: 150 people

## **GARDEN**

280 M<sup>2</sup> (919 sq ft) Capacity: 60  
people

## **KITCHEN**

Partially equipped kitchenette.

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# Contact

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## **FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE EVENTS OFFICE**

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972 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10075  
**Email:** [florian.delsert@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:florian.delsert@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

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