



Posh Portals

Elegant Entrances & Ingratiating Ingresses to Apartments for the Affluent in NYC

Andrew Alpern

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- The first illustrated survey of the spectacular entryways to New York's most elegant and exclusive apartment houses
- Written by noted architectural historian Andrew Alpern, author of the definitive history of the Dakota Apartments and many other books
- Features new colour photographs, archival photographs, and numerous watercolours of the entrances
- An ideal resource for architects, aficionados of the urban landscape, city walking tours, and those fortunate enough to live in these buildings
- Entryways are once again beginning to feature heavily in the marketing of luxury apartments

An illustrated tour of the elegant entrances to New York City's most celebrated apartment houses.

This handsome, oversized book introduces us to the grandest entrances of New York City's residential buildings. These posh portals come in an array of forms and styles, such as the *porte cochere*, with a passage to admit carriages or motor cars; the classic awning, originally meant to be retracted in good weather; and Neoclassical, Romanesque, and Gothic revivals.

Architectural historian Andrew Alpern highlights approximately 140 entrances, from the 19th century to the present, including those of the Dakota, the first true luxury apartment house in New York; San Remo, one of Central Park West's most impressive apartment houses; and the Ansonia, at one time the largest hotel in the world. Each entrance is accompanied by a description of its signal features and the history of the building that surrounds it. All are represented in splendid colour photographs, and many by charming watercolour drawings.

These ornate entrances offer a glimpse into New York's past, as well as its future – for today, once again, entryways have begun to feature heavily in the marketing of residential buildings. ***Posh Portals: Elegant Entrances and Ingratiating Ingresses to Apartments for the Affluent in New York City*** will be an inspiration for architects and a delight for city dwellers.

Andrew Alpern has a background as an attorney, architect, and architectural historian, and is the author of numerous books, most recently *The Dakota: A History of the World's Best-Known Apartment Building*.

