



The library is one of the 67 libraries built in New York City through a gift from steel baron and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The Renaissance Revival style limestone building was designed by McKim, Mead & White, arguably America's most influential architectural firm. The building is listed on the State and National Registries of Historic Places, and is a New York City designated landmark. McKim, Mead & White designed hundreds of buildings and structures across America, including the Brooklyn Museum, 10 New York City public libraries, the Washington Square Park Arch, and the original, demolished Pennsylvania Railroad station on Seventh Avenue between West 31<sup>st</sup> -33<sup>rd</sup> Streets. The demolition of Pennsylvania station in 1963 led to passage of the NYC Landmarks Law in April 1965, and the creation of the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission.

[The West 114th Street Historic District](#) (aka the Randolph Houses, named for labor and civil rights activist A. Philip Randolph) located at Nos. 214 to 243 West 114<sup>th</sup> Street between Adam Clayton Powell Jr. and Frederick Douglass Boulevards. The District consists of 37 tenement buildings with 455 apartments, known as the Randolph Houses, and the Wadleigh High School for Girls. The five-story, Renaissance Revival style tenement buildings were constructed between 1895 and 1899. The West 114<sup>th</sup> Historic District is listed on the State and National Registries of Historic Places.

[Wadleigh Secondary School for the Performing & Visual Arts](#), formerly Wadleigh High School for Girls, located at 215 West 114<sup>th</sup> Street. It was designed by architect and Superintendent of School Buildings C. B. J. Snyder, in the French Renaissance architectural style, and constructed between 1901 and 1902. When it opened, the school had 80 classrooms, more than a dozen laboratories, executive offices, three gymnasiums, a library, a large boiler and engine room, two study halls, and numerous lavatories and cloak rooms. The school also had two electric elevators, the first of their kind in public school buildings in the city. The *New York Times* declared that these interior innovations made it "the greatest school in the world." The building was named for Lydia F. Wadleigh, a pioneer in the movement of higher education for women. The building is listed on the State and National Registries of Historic Places, and is a New York City designated landmark.