

Park Avenue Synagogue



© Susan Fisher Plotner/Altieri

Architect: Murphy Burnham & Buttrick Architects
Location: New York, New York
Program: Religious Institution

Completed: 2020
Size: 63,000 SF
Awards: 2020 Renaissance Award - Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts

The Park Avenue Synagogue was founded in 1882 and is one of the largest and most influential congregations in the United States. The synagogue resides at its original location on East 87th Street in Manhattan.

The multi-phase project expanded and transformed the Park Avenue Synagogue campus, creating vibrant space and cohesive design for a landmarked 1912 Neo-Renaissance building, 1980s post-modern building, and historic Madison Avenue. The renovation enabled the synagogue to enhance programming, strengthen the sense of community, and create a more optimally functioning campus by creating classrooms, play space, assembly and support spaces. Heating and cooling for the renovated building is provided via a new central chilled water plant and new boiler plant. The selected high efficiency equipment reduces the building's overall energy usage while providing a high level of occupant comfort. A central outdoor air processing unit with energy recovery provides fresh air to the building, while also exhausting bathrooms and storage rooms, capturing the heat from the exhaust air and transferring to the incoming outside air. The renovated facility has a commercial kitchen, sprinkler and standpipe system throughout, new building management system, and a completely upgraded fire alarm system. New lighting controls incorporate digital programmable occupancy and vacancy systems, capable of varying their control functions based on time of day and occupancy schedules.