

New York New York Casino, Las Vegas: The Thirteen Skyscraper Façade¹

There seems to be a bit of mystery as to the identities of all these skyscrapers. Mystery solved!



(left to right)

- (1) Lever House (390 Park Avenue, 1952)
- (2) Empire State Building (350 Fifth Avenue, 1931)
- (3) Four World Financial Center (aka 250 Vesey Street, 1986)²
- (4) The Century Apartments (25 Central Park West, 1931)
- (5) Trump Tower (725 Fifth Avenue, 1983)³
- (6) 55 Water Street (1972)⁴
- (7) Manhattan Municipal Building (aka The Caketop Building) (1 Centre Street, 1914)
- (8) One Liberty Plaza (aka U.S. Steel Building) (165 Broadway, 1973)⁵
- (9) The New Yorker Hotel (481 Eighth Avenue, 1930)
- (10) Seagram Building (375 Park Avenue, 1958)⁶
- (11) 550 Madison Avenue (aka Sony Tower a/o AT&T Building, 1984)
- (12) Chrysler Building (405 Lexington Avenue, 1928)
- (13) CBS Building (aka BlackRock) (51 West 52nd Street, 1965)

¹ Many documents state the NYNY façade renders twelve skyscrapers—including MRI's official property press sheet—despite the fact that thirteen skyscrapers can plainly be counted. This is likely errata being carried forward from early design documents, with the Trump Tower rendering being a later addition. Principal architect Ilia Bezanski mentions the inclusion of Trump Tower at <http://www.archcon.biz/usa-bezanski-projects.html>.

² Many documents note "The Ziggurat Building" as one of skyscrapers in the façade—including MRI's official property press sheet. However there is no Manhattan skyscraper specifically named such. This "Ziggurat Building" is the only building mentioned in these documents not otherwise accounted-for, not clearly one of the skyscrapers rendered. Also, the height mentioned regarding it—38 stories—matches well with other nearby known renderings: 55 Water Street at 36 stories and The Century Apartments at 41 stories. So, it appears this particular skyscraper rendering is indeed tied to the "Ziggurat Building" reference. Many older Manhattan skyscrapers bear a distinctive ziggurated profile (such as 120 Wall Street), but only The World Financial Center towers (aka Brookfield Place) bear a ziggurated profile ... as well as this more modern appearance with nearly-sheer walls and punched-out darkly-tinted windows boxed in light granite. The WFC towers distinctively dominate the waterfront skyline at Battery Park and have taken many architectural awards. Four World Financial Center is actually topped with a large copper ziggurat (not reflected in its NYNY rendering) draping a ziggurated profile over the entire building.

³ For reasons unknown, the Trump Tower curtain wall is rendered incorrectly in *green* glass, as opposed to its true bronze glass.

⁴ The rendering is based on 55 Water Street's lower 15 floors.

⁵ Rendered catty-corner, as a black glass curtain wall behind the Manhattan Municipal Building's "caketop." One Liberty Plaza's rendering is based on extending upward the building's glass as seen at floors 2 & 3. As such, it excludes the distinctive external I-Beams framing as seen in higher floors, reflecting its heritage as the U.S. Steel Building.

⁶ The Seagram Building's curtain wall is rendered in a medium brown to acknowledge its bronze content, though its true bronze is much darker.