

Where angels fear to tread: The Dakota

By NY Classic Rock Examiner, Sonya Alexander
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According to www.emporis.com, New York City is home to some of the tallest buildings in the world, including the Empire State Building and Trump Towers. Not all of the buildings are glass and metal monstrosities, but brick laden paeans to the early days of the city and its ethnically rich origins.



One such building is The Dakota, which New York Architecture reports is a "German Gothic, FrenchRenaissance and English Victorian" structure that was built from 1880-1884. Located at the corner of 72nd Street and Central Park West, it's so named because at the time that it was constructed, "the Upper

Westside of Manhattan was sparsely inhabited and considered as remote as the Dakota territory." The building is truly one of the most beautiful apartment buildings in NYC. Though it's color is deceptively bright, the building is brooding and imposing.

Many celebrities have been attracted to the building, including classic rock stars like John Lennon. Unfortunately it's allure to him would be that of a siren. On December 8, 1980, Lennon and his wife, Yoko Ono, were dropped off in front of the building, where crazed fan, Mark David Chapman, waited. He shouted, "Mr. Lennon!" then fired five bullets into the slender frame of the former Beatle, who died that night. When the building was used in "Rosemary's Baby" in the lates 60s, it became a part of "pop culture," but, after Lennon's death, it became an inextricable part of music history.



NY Classic Rock Examiner

Sonya Alexander

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