

February 17, 2010

## From Manhattan's skyline, vistas with global dimensions

► Manhattan glows with international charm ► Why you don't have to skip town to get a glimpse of Europe, South Africa and even Australia

### Real estate voyeur



SHIRA LEVINE  
SHIRA.LEVINE@METRO.US

The more I see of the world, the more I draw parallels to New York. For an international city bustling with global transplants, there is something comforting in discovering pockets of the Big Apple that

pay aesthetic homage to our homes across the seas.

With a firm belief that I could spot far-flung corners of the globe in New York, I decided to track down a few buildings in Manhattan that reminded me of elsewhere. There's no harm in pretending, especially if you can't get out of town.

### London, England

Washington Mews showcases one of the few, private alleys left in the city, conjuring up a similar charm to its

London counterpart. The cobble-stoned street running between Fifth Avenue and University Place started out as horse stables in the 1830s before becoming a bohemian enclave. Today, NYU faculty members occupy the hidden gem.

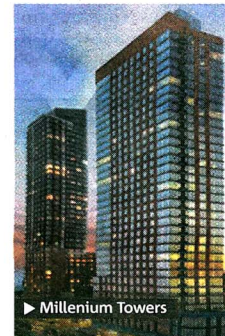
### Vienna, Austria and Paris, France

A federalist-style mansion dating back to 1835 majestically stands at 436 W. 20th St. With views of the quaint Episcopal Seminary

gardens and flanked by a row of Greek revival buildings, a walk along the street feels more Viennese or Parisian than the Flatiron District (inside: Czech crystal chandeliers and ceiling medallions). It certainly helps that 436 isn't Manhattan-sized either. It's a whopping 10,000 square feet! And after almost half a century, 436 is on the market for \$21 million.



► This federalist style mansion at 36 W. 20th St. resembles its 19th-century counterparts in Paris and Vienna.



### Cape Town, South Africa and Sydney, Australia

The view from the Radisson Blu in Cape Town exudes the same vibe that the Millennium Residence at 30 West St. does. Both have a quiet serenity thanks to being surrounded by water, marina and harbor views. Douglas Elliman's Frances Katzen was struck by how "Sydney" New York suddenly felt when inside the lower Manhattan high-rise. We're used to skyscraping Gotham buildings as our focal point, but from a penthouse at the Millennium (1,404 square feet, priced at \$2.2 million), the focus is on the harbor, which makes for a totally different mindset.

— Shira Levine is a freelance writer living in New York City.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.