

Table of Content

Acknowledgments | 7

Introduction | 9

Research Object and Status of Research | 10

Methodological Considerations | 21

Hotel History | 41

1. Hotel Waldorf-Astoria – American Grand Hotel

Par Excellence | 57

1.1. The Hotel as the Stage for the Wealthy | 63

1.2. The Hotel as The Palace of the People | 80

1.3. The Hotel as a City within a City | 97

2. Hotel Algonquin – Birthplace and Home of New York Sophistication | 111

2.1. The Hotel as the Hotelman’s Tool | 119

2.2. The Hotel as Childhood Home | 127

2.3. The Hotel as Home and Salon of the Artist | 139

2.4. The Hotel and its Literary Circle | 147

3. Hotel Chelsea – New York’s Bohemian Mecca | 163

3.1. The Hotel as the Artist’s Refuge | 178

3.2. The Hotel as the Artist’s Place of Initiation | 191

3.3. The Hotel as Source of Inspiration | 196

4. Hotel Theresa – Harlem’s Center of African-American Self-Manifestation | 213

4.1. The Hotel as Center of the African-American Community | 225

4.2. The Hotel as Stage for Black Pride and as Symbol of Black Achievement | 234

4.3. The Hotel as Platform for Politics and as Victim of Desegregation | 240

4.3. The Hotel as Training Ground for an African-American Leader | 252

5. Grossinger’s Hotel and Country Club – Acculturation in Style | 259

5.1. The Hotel as Point of Entry to American Culture | 273

5.2. The Hotel as Place of Female Empowerment | 287

5.3. The Hotel as Site of Identity Struggle | 297

Conclusion | 313

Works Cited and Illustrations | 321