



PRINCE DE GALLES
A LUXURY COLLECTION HOTEL

Paris



Prince de Galles, a Luxury Collection Hotel
and Frédéric Chopin
74 rue de Chaillot – 12 rue Quentin Bauchart

Press Kit

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The Prince de Galles hotel and Frédéric Chopin *

The history of the Prince de Galles hotel is both rich and full of surprises. During the course of research into the close relationship between Jenny Lind, the famous Swedish soprano and philanthropist and Frédéric Chopin, the Brussels-based Icons of Europe not-for-profit organisation discovered that in 1849 the composer lived in the apartment building that at that time stood where the Prince de Galles is now located.

In April 1848, after the February Revolution, Chopin, who had been separated from George Sand for the past year, left Paris for London, as did many other artists. According to research carried out by Icons of Europe, he met Jenny Lind (known as the Swedish nightingale) on his arrival in London and a relationship developed between them which they both did their utmost to keep secret. In November of the same year, Chopin returned to Paris and received treatment from several different doctors. In mid-May 1849, he left his flat in the square d'Orléans and moved into a huge luxury apartment at 74, rue de Chaillot. Jenny Lind came to Paris at the same time in order to be married with him. She moved into 63, Champs Elysées, barely 400 metres from Chopin's apartment. The marriage never took place due to the complexity of the French legal system and the worsening political situation. Frightened by the outbreak of cholera in the city, Jenny Lind left Paris on June 13th, 1849. Chopin wrote on June 18th: 'Miss Lind came to see me. She sang for me at home one evening...'

A short while later, Chopin left his rue de Chaillot apartment to move in with his sister in an apartment building on the prestigious place Vendôme. He passed away on October 17th of the same year.

Up to now, experts in the field had always believed that Chopin's apartment was located in the village of Chaillot. New research carried out by Icons of Europe shows that the flat was in fact sited above the current location of the patio in the Prince de Galles hotel. In Chopin's time, the building faced onto both the rue de Chaillot and the newly-built avenue de l'Alma, which now go by the names of rue Quentin Bauchart and avenue Georges V.

This amazing and completely unexpected discovery has been confirmed by the original cadastral maps from the Mairie de Paris. They show that:

- In 1920, rue de Chaillot and avenue de l'Alma were renamed rue Quentin Bauchart and avenue Georges V respectively;
- In 1928, the building where Chopin had lived was demolished. The Prince de Galles was built on this exact location at 12, rue Quentin Bauchart and 33, avenue George V.

** Research carried out by Cecilia and Jens Jorgensen, Icons of Europe, Brussels*

The Prince de Galles hotel celebrates the life of Frédéric Chopin in 2010

Inspired by this newly-discovered link with the great composer, the Prince de Galles is delighted to be able to pay tribute to this renowned musician throughout the year of his bicentenary.

The hotel will be offering the chance to follow in the footsteps of the famous composer with its 'Chopin' hotel stay package, which includes:

- double room
- breakfast for two in the 'Le Jardin des Cygnes' restaurant, with views over the patio.
- Two entrance tickets to the 'Frédéric Chopin, La Note Bleue' exhibition at the Musée de la Vie Romantique. (Over 90 paintings, sculptures and drawings relating to Chopin's life will be displayed from March 2nd to July 11th, 2010)
- a special commemorative gift to help you relive the magic and romanticism of Chopin's life every day.

The package costs from 390 euros per night and is available until July 11th, 2010. Reservations on +33 (0)1 53 23 77 77 or www.princededegallesparis.com

The crowning moment of the celebrations marking the bicentenary of Chopin's birth will come with the official unveiling of a commemorative plaque in the patio of the Prince de Galles on October 6th, 2010.

At 8.30pm on the same day, after the ceremony, there will be a musical recital courtesy of the Société Chopin, Paris, in the hotel's State Rooms.

This wonderful evening of celebration will also be the occasion for the founders of the Icons of Europe not-for-profit organisation, Cecilia and Jens Jorgensen, to present their new book, which will reveal to the world one of the greatest untold stories in the history of music – the incredible relationship between Chopin and Jenny Lind, the Swedish Nightingale, in the years 1848 to 1849. This discovery is the result of research carried out by the Icons of Europe between 2002 and 2010.

The Prince de Galles, a Luxury Collection hotel

A byword for elegance and sophistication for over 80 years – truly unmissable



The Prince de Galles luxury hotel was built at the beginning of the Art Deco period by the famous architect, Arfvidson. It has remained remarkably true to the style of that period and today, as in times gone by, it is one of the finest hotels in Paris, designed for the truly discerning.

Located right in the heart of Paris, on avenue George V, a stone's throw away from the Capital's best designer shopping outlets, the business district and the most famous cultural and historical attractions, the Prince de Galles is the epitome of the very finest traditions of the art of hospitality. Guests looking for a certain elegance of lifestyle will find it in this unique luxury hotel, very much appreciated for its efficient and friendly service.

Its 168 bedrooms and suites are decorated in soft blue, white and yellow shades, offering a luxurious yet intimate setting for a stay that is guaranteed to be both comfortable and relaxing. Their decoration, made by the famous French designer Pierre-Yves Rochon, with Toile de Jouy motifs, captures the essence of Parisian style.

The 'Le Jardin des Cygnes' restaurant is highly rated by many lovers of fine cuisine, thanks to its excellent cooking and attentive staff. Its elegant surroundings are the perfect place to discover the sophisticated gourmet cuisine served by Chef Benoist Rambaud. When the weather is fine, the doors to the Art deco patio are thrown open. The rays of sun sparkling on the mosaics give each day its own special, almost magical quality to this wonderful, haven-like place.

The warm ambience, navy blue velvet curtains, natural oak wood panelling and Bordeaux leather armchairs of the Regency Bar offer a cosy, peaceful retreat in the heart of Paris. It's the perfect spot to enjoy unusual cocktails, tapas or even our 'Burgers Stars'.

Add to this excellent, attentive service tailored just to you, and you have the perfect blend that makes a stay at the Prince de Galles such a unique, authentic and simply outstanding experience.

Contacts

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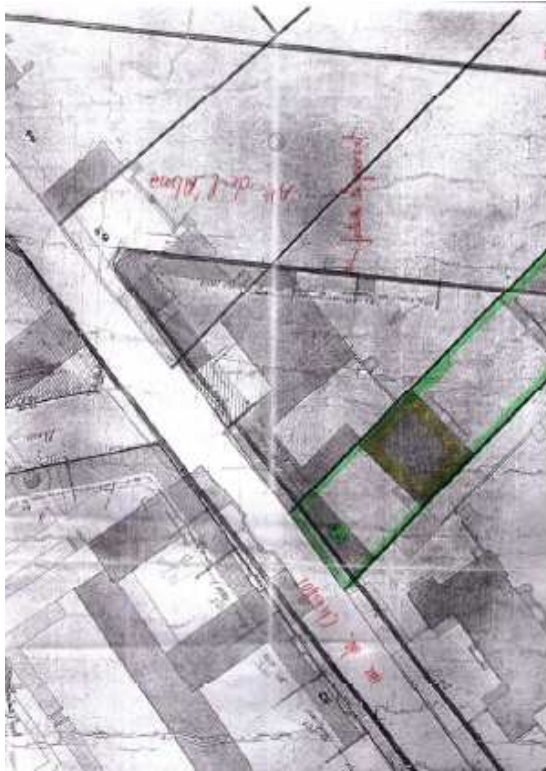
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www.princedefallessparis.com

Attachments

Proof of the street name changes provided by the Mairie de Paris to the Icons of Europe, the Brussels-based not-for-profit organisation.

Parcel plan n° 1682 for 74, rue de Chaillot (circa. 1850)

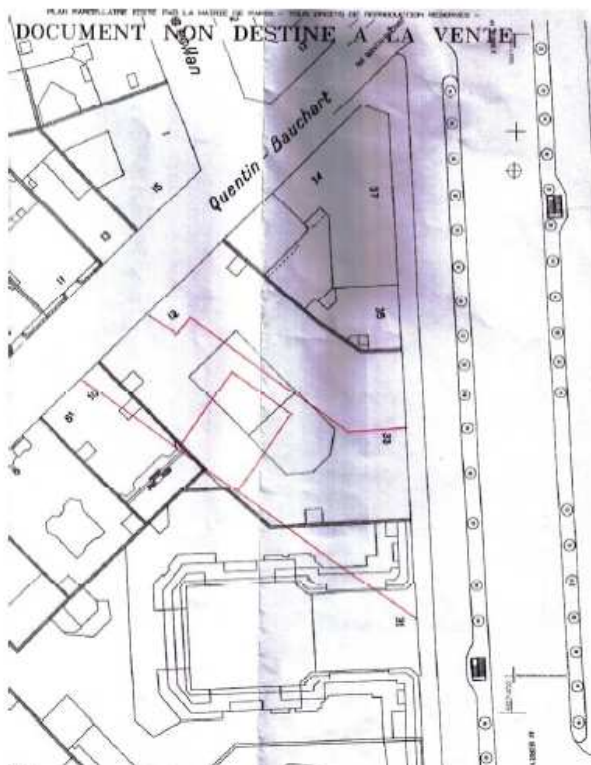


Source :

Extract N°1 of parcel plan n°1682 (circa 1850) sent by the Town Planning division of the Mairie de Paris to Icons of Europe.

A. Picarle, Chief Engineer of the S.T.D.F (City of Paris Topographical Department and Land Use Archives), says in his letter: 'On plan n° 1682, which shows the parcel layout in existence during the 1850s with the superimposed outline of planned construction projects, we can see parcel number 74, rue de Chaillot (marked in green by Mr Picarle). This is a property that was divided into plots around 1840 and lived in by Frédéric Chopin in 1849. A study of this map also shows us that the opening of the avenue de l'Alma will cut this parcel off from its entire rear-facing section.'

Parcel plan 2004 for 12, rue Quentin Bauchart



Source:

Extract n°8 of the 2004 parcel plan sent by the Town Planning division of the Mairie de Paris to Icons of Europe.

The S.T.D.F, Chief Engineer, A. Picarle says in his letter: 'I also enclose an extract of the up-to-date parcel plan of the parcel in question (See extract n°8 of the 2004 parcel plan featuring the outline of the old parcel [of the original house where Chopin lived] marked in red). »

SERVICE TECHNIQUE
 DE LA VILLE DE PARIS
 1^{er} ARRONDISSEMENT
 DE CHARENTON
 CHAUSSEE CHOPIN
 COTE 107

REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE
 LOI DE 1808 - LOI DE 1824
 VILLE DE PARIS - CADASTRE DE 1899
 Rue de Chaillot n° 40
 Procédant de l'ancien n° 132 avenue de l'Alma
 Cette propriété porte aussi le n° 11 Avenue de l'Alma

LARGEUR DES RUES
 AU NORD DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ
 Rue de Chaillot
 Rue de l'Alma
 Rue de l'Alma
 Rue de l'Alma
 Rue de l'Alma

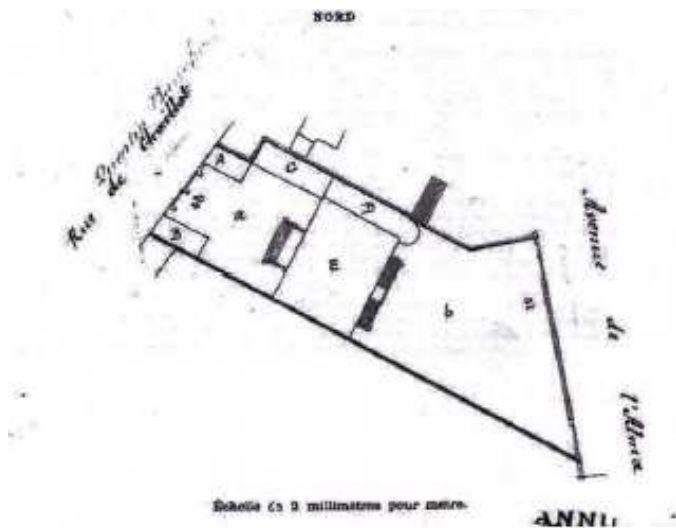
BÂTIMENTS					TERRAINS NON BÂTIS					NOM DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ		
SIGNATURE OU NOM DES PROPRIÉTAIRES	SURFACE DÉSIGNÉE			MÈTRES	CEN- TIMÈ- S	N°	CEN- TIMÈ- S		MÈ- TRES	CEN- TIMÈ- S	NOM DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ <i>Habitée</i>	
	Sur- face	Sur- face	Sur- face				Sur- face	Sur- face				
A	1	1		23	10	a	09	100			Surface cadastrale 397 10 Surface réelle 397 10 Surface totale 397 10	
B	1	1		30	10	b		768	10			
C (Ancien)	1	1		13	30							
D	1	1		15	90							
E	1	1	2	224	20							
TOTAL				397	10		09	100	768	10		

Plot plan for 40, rue de Chaillot (October 1899)

Number 74, rue de Chaillot in 1849

Source:

Plot plan dated October, 1899, sent by the Town Planning division of the Mairie de Paris to Icons of Europe.



The S.T.D.F, Chief Engineer, A. Picarle says in his letter: 'After the building work of the early 1860s... the parcel in question [Chopin's] was given the address 40, rue de Chaillot and 31, avenue de l'Alma'... 'The original house in which Chopin lived (marked by an E on the plot plan) disappeared in 1928 due to the construction of the building that can still be seen here today'. The parcel changes number yet again: '12, rue Quentin Bauchart and 33, avenue George V.

Independent historical research and creative applications

Cecilia and Jens Jorgensen Founded Icons of Europe, an association registered at Brussels in 2001, with the idea of using Icons of great culture – art, music, literature and science – as a platform for dialogue and inspiration in the world of today.

Chopin's life and music took from the very beginning centre-stage in the work of Icons of Europe. In consultation with many institutions, the Founders have in 2002-2010 conducted in-depth historical research on Chopin's secret relationship in 1848-1849 with Jenny Lind, the famous soprano and wealthy philanthropist known as the Swedish Nightingale. Scholars at Warsaw and Edinburgh have commented favourably on this new research. The research continues today to explore the monumentalization of Chopin's legacy, with particular emphasis on Paris and La Belle Époque.

In 2003, the Founders wrote a new kind of biography *Chopin and The Swedish Nightingale* ("a novelty in the book market"). A comment on the re-mergence of tuberculosis is signed by WHO. They subsequently created a musical drama in six acts, *The Composer and The Nightingale*, which has been staged at Brussels, Warsaw, Toronto and New York. In parallel, Cecilia and Jens Jorgensen hosted piano and string recitals at their home near Brussels with high-level patronage in tribute to Chopin and other composers of the Romantic era.

Most recently, Icons of Europe contributed to a 90-minute BBC TV documentary *Chopin: The Women Behind The Music*. This film, celebrating the composer's 200-year anniversary, is expected to reach a global audience in late 2010. Icons of Europe will publish a new book in October 2010, this time in French, which will encompass the whole Chopin / Jenny Lind story. It is an objective to find partners to turn this book into a feature film.

Cecilia Jorgensen is a former vice-president of JP Morgan, the U.S. investment bank and holds an MBA from Boston University. She became in 1982 a representative of *Christie's* Contemporary Art, London, for Belgium and Luxembourg. – Jens A. Jorgensen has previously worked in management positions at BP, McKinsey and a United Nations agency. He continues to write letters to the international press on political and cultural issues.

For more information on Icons of Europe on www.iconsofeurope.com

About the Société Chopin, Paris



Since its foundation in Paris in 1911 by Édouard Ganche, Camille Le Senne and Maurice Ravel, the Société Chopin has dedicated itself to honouring the life and works of Frédéric Chopin. It has been the stage for many seminal events in French music: highly-prestigious concerts (most notably that given by Yves Nat on November 20th, 1931 to mark the centenary of Chopin's arrival in France), lectures, journeys, literary events... and the traditional pilgrimage to the musician's grave in Père-Lachaise cemetery.

The Société Chopin underwent a period of decline after the Second World War, with the death in 1945 of Édouard Ganche and the subsequent dispersal of the major collection of items relating to the composer, musical scores and manuscripts that he had gathered together. The group's activities started up again in 1979 under the leadership of Élisabeth Parmentier, who founded a new group that currently boasts over 250 members. Very quickly, with the help of notables like the writer Camille Bourniquel and the pianist and educationalist Germaine Mounier, the Société Chopin regained its place in Parisian musical life. True to its founding aims and anxious to help bring the composer's works to a wider audience, the Société Chopin launched the Festival Chopin, which has taken place every year since 1983 in the Orangerie of the Parc de Bagatelle. This year's Festival runs from June 18th to July 14th.

More information about the Société Chopin in Paris is available at: www.frederic-chopin.com