

The Amsterdam Housing Projects

Noam Oster















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The Amsterdam Houses are a group of 13 low-income apartment buildings located on a stretch between 61-65 St. on the west side of Manhattan. The Houses occupy nearly 10 acres of land, and include numerous playgrounds, parks, and basketball courts.

Meant for low-income New Yorkers, the Amsterdam Houses were built in 1948, the dawn of modernist-style architecture in New York.

On March 16 2010, 28 adults and High School students were arrested for selling illegal drugs throughout the stairways and hallways of the Amsterdam Houses. More recently, on March 16, 2013 a man was shot in the leg just inside of a children's playground belonging to the Houses. The man was taken to St. Luke's hospital, and the shooter still remains unknown.

Of course, no matter the dangers of living in the Amsterdam Houses, the tenants have little choice. The houses clearly do not have an amazing reputation, but they still provide hospitality for the tenants. The Amsterdam Houses keep struggling New Yorkers in a home.

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