

Chanel, Inc.
Retail and Corporate Fashion Headquarters
Commercial

Client
Chanel, Inc.

Location
15 East 57th Street
New York, New York

Year
Completed: 1997

This seventeen-story tower on 57th Street in Manhattan houses Chanel Inc.'s American flagship boutique, a salon, showrooms and related offices, representing the renowned fashion house on the most important retail frontage in the United States.

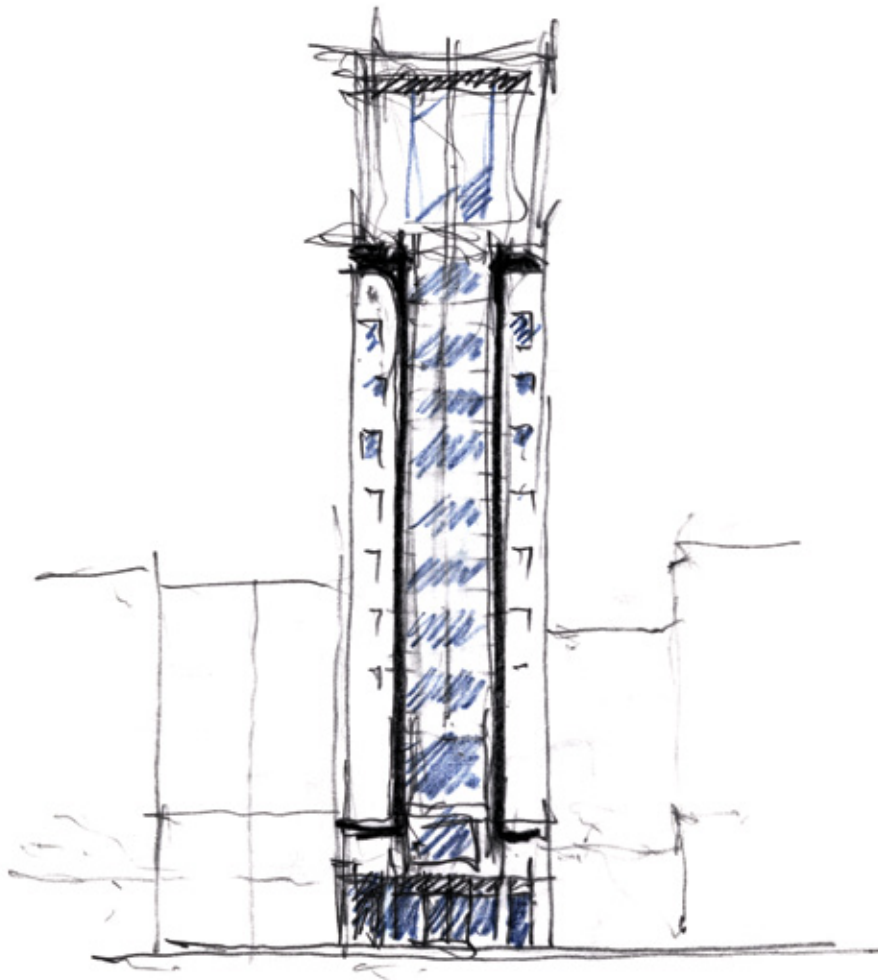


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Visible from a distance, the west facade presented a strong simple composition of clear glass windows set in granite. The principal south facade was developed with greater complexity in metal, clear glass and authentic stone masonry, rising from the boutique at the base past an intermediate closure at the setback to a final metal crown. Clear glass and grey granite with two black ribbon stripes, the building is elegant and modern but nonetheless consistent with the roots of the House in European masonry buildings. Praised by Herbert Muschamp in the New York Times as “an elegant blow against kitsch,” the design reflects the special character of Chanel in a building consistent with Chanel’s European roots but completely at home in New York.



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Design work for Chanel on 57th Street also included showrooms, providing a context for the unchanging elegance of its fashions.