

Lasne, 24 January 2005

Grzegorz Michalski  
Dyrektor  
Narodowy Instytut Fryderyka Chopina  
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PL-00-695 Warszawa

Dear Grzegorz,

74 RUE DE CHAILLOT

In accordance with your request of 18 January 2005, I am pleased to attach the report Cecilia and I have prepared on our research of the exact location of the now demolished apartment building of 74 Rue de Chaillot, where Chopin stayed between late May 1849 and some time in August 1849. This report is based on our visit to Paris last December and subsequent correspondence with the Mairie de Paris.

Official cadastral plans reveal that n° 74 was located only 250 meters off Avenue des Champs-Élysées, near the Arc de Triomphe. It was *not* situated further away in the former village of Chaillot or at Trocadéro, as cited by various sources today. Rue de Chaillot 74 was also located some 400 meters from 63 Champs-Élysées, where Jenny Lind stayed incognito from 16 May to 13 June 1849.

The cadastral plans indicate the general shape of the apartment building and show that the space of Chopin's former apartment is today contained in the body of one of the world's most prestigious hotels. At the next opportunity, we would like to discuss with you the idea of possibly working with the hotel on a Chopin commemoration programme.

We look forward to any comments you may have on these new findings.

Best regards,

Jens A. Jorgensen  
President

Encl.

## REPORT ON THE TRUE LOCATION OF 74 RUE DE CHAILLOT

Research conducted in December 2004 – January 2005 by Icons of Europe

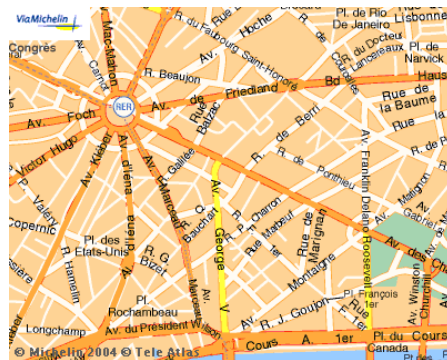
Cadastral plans obtained from the Mairie de Paris in January 2005 show that the apartment building, in which Chopin stayed at the second floor between late May 1849 and some time in August 1849, was situated in a courtyard leading to 74 Rue de Chaillot. The building, marked ‘E’ in the enclosed ‘fiche parcellaire n° 3’ of October 1899 ([Exhibit I](#)), is located some 400 meters south-east of the Arc de Triomphe and at least one km north-east of the former village Chaillot.

Details on the evolution of the address “74 rue de CHAILLOT ... où habita, en 1849, Frédéric CHOPIN”, are provided by the Mairie de Paris’ letter of 12 January 2005 ([Exhibit II](#)). The street number changed from n° 74 to n° 40 in the early 1860s. In 1919, this street section of Rue de Chaillot, including its 250-meter continuation up to Avenue des Champs-Élysées, changed name to Rue Quentin-Bauchart, and the new street number became n° 10. Chopin’s former building was torn down in 1928, when two large hotels were constructed on the site, with exit to Avenue George V, and the exit to Rue Quentin-Bauchart was renumbered to n° 12.

The former 74 Rue de Chaillot was located some 400 meters from where Jenny Lind stayed with Mrs Grote and Senior during her incognito 29-day visit to Paris from 16 May to 13 June 1849, i.e. at Maison Fenci, 63 Champs Elysées, at the corner of Rue Pierre Charron.

Various sources cite today incorrectly Chopin’s apartment to be situated further away in the former village of Chaillot. Adam Zamoyski’s biography of Chopin (1979) places it to “where the Trocadéro now stands”, i.e. some two km south-west the real location of n° 74. He also writes that Jenny Lind stayed only “a few days in Paris”, in early June 1849, and paid Chopin a surprise visit.

Former village of Chaillot >>



According to the Mairie de Paris, the Avenue de l’Alma was enlarged in 1858 and renamed Avenue George V in 1918. Cadastral plans show that the physical location of n° 31 had been attributed n° 33 by 1900. As a result, the space of Chopin’s former apartment is today contained in the body of one of the world’s most prestigious hotels.

CADASTRAL PLAN OF 1899 FOR FORMER 74 RUE DE CHAILLOT

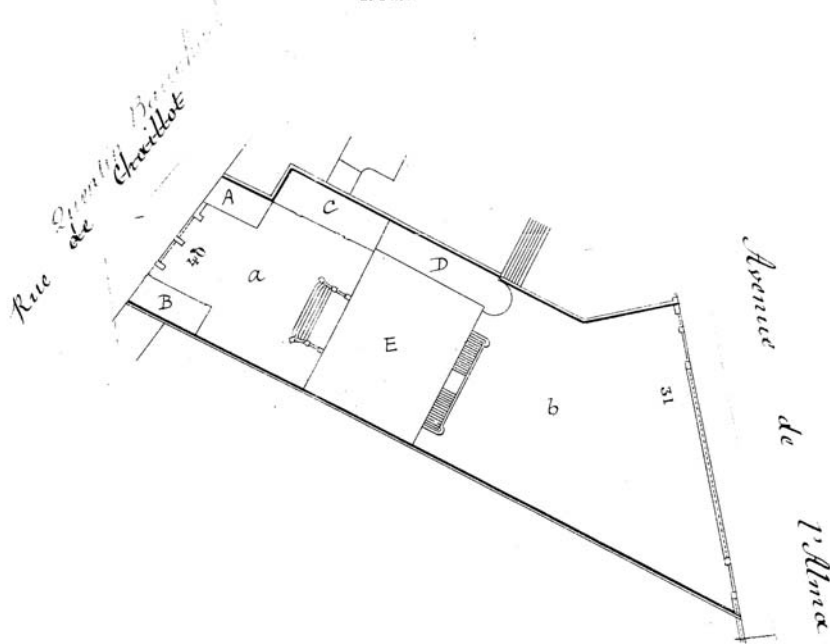
SERVICE TECHNIQUE  
DU  
DEPARTEMENT DE PARIS  
8<sup>e</sup> ARRONDISSEMENT  
2<sup>e</sup> Quartier  
Champs Elysees  
REVISION  
Octobre 1899

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE  
LIBERTÉ — ÉGALITÉ — FRATERNITÉ  
VILLE DE PARIS — CADASTRE DE 1900  
Rue de Chaillot N° 40  
PROPRIÉTAIRE : M. de Blacas vic. de Nam Marie  
Cette propriété porte aussi le N° 31 Avenue de l'Alma

LARGEUR DES RUE  
AU DROIT DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ  
Rue de Chaillot  
actuelle . . . . . }  
LARGEUR { entre les alignements . . . }  
          { jusqu'à l'alignement opposé }  
Rue de l'Alma  
actuelle . . . . . }  
LARGEUR { entre les alignements . . . }  
          { jusqu'à l'alignement opposé }

DÉSIGNATION ou CHAQUE CORPS DE BATIMENT 1	NOMBRE D'ÉTAGES					SURFACES 7	TERRAINS NON BATIS				NATURE DE LA PROPRIÉTÉ : Habitations
	Cotes 2	Sous-Sol 3	Rez-de- Chaussée 4	Étages carrés 5	Étages sans coulées 6		DÉSI- GNATIONS 8	COURS ET COURETTES 9	JARDINS 10	SOL 11	
A			1	1		23 10	a	290 40			SUPERFICIES : Bâtimens . . . . . 395 1 Cours et courtes . . . . . 290 40 Jardins . . . . . 708 10 Sol . . . . . 998 1 SUPERFICIE TOTALE . . . . . 1393 6
B			1	1		29 10	b		708 10		
C (Rearrière)			1			53 30					
D			1			55 40					
E		1	1	2		234 20					
SURFACES TOTALES . . . . .						395 10		290 40	708 10		OBSERVATIONS

NORD



Échelle 1:2000 2 millimètres pour mètre.

ANNU . . . . .

Chopin's apartment was located on the second floor of building E, with a south-east view of Paris.