

The New York Times

This copy is for your personal, noncommercial use only. You can order presentation-ready copies for distribution to your colleagues, clients or customers [here](#) or use the "Reprints" tool that appears next to any article. Visit www.nytimes.com for samples and additional information. [Order a reprint of this article now.](#)



July 26, 2009

BIG DEAL

Rockefeller With an R

By JOSH BARBABEL

WITH co-op boards putting buyers under an ever more powerful microscope these days, one might fairly ask what one can do to get past them. It turns out that dropping the name Rockefeller can't hurt.

Last week, Peter C. Rockefeller and his wife, Allison Whipple Rockefeller, closed on a 10-room duplex apartment at 130 East 67th Street on the southeast corner of Lexington Avenue.

The purchase price for the apartment, with a 30-foot-wide living room and an adjacent library, was \$3.5 million, brokers said. That was a 56 percent discount from the original asking price of \$7.995 million when the apartment, a sale by an estate, went on the market in June 2008.

The building, designed by Charles A. Platt in 1908 in the Italian Renaissance style, was converted to a co-op in 1959. A carved wooden staircase connects the public floor with an upper family floor that has four bedrooms, two maid's rooms and three baths. It was described as in "estate condition" in the listing.

Mr. Rockefeller, 52, is a grandson of [Nelson A. Rockefeller](#), the former vice president and New York state governor. He was once a furniture appraiser at Sotheby's but is now a partner and managing director at Berkshire Capital, an investment bank. Ms. Rockefeller, 50, was once a real estate broker at Prudential Douglas Elliman.

Property records show that in 2006, the couple sold another co-op, an 11-room apartment a few blocks to the north, at 131 69th Street at Lexington Avenue, for \$7.4 million. Mr. Rockefeller declined to comment.

Mercedes Menocal-Gregoire, the broker at Stribling & Associates who listed the apartment, confirmed that the sale had closed but declined to provide details. But she did note that the buyers had no trouble getting the approval of the co-op board.

Or, as another Upper East Side broker put it: "You see a name like Rockefeller and it happens. Having a Rockefeller as a neighbor upgrades any building."

E-mail: bigdeal@nytimes.com

Copyright 2009 The New York Times Company

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Search](#) | [Corrections](#) | [RSS](#) | [First Look](#) | [Help](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Work for Us](#) | [Site Map](#)