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NEW LISTINGS

Chelsea mansion a sound investment

Forget about a washer/dryer in the kitchen. A restored mansion at 436 West 20th Street has one in each of its nine bedrooms.

The historic 1835 mansion has never before been listed for public sale. After a renovation to restore it to its former glory while creating a 21st century home, Michael Bolla, who along with partner Michael Daniel, specializes in historic preservation, is marketing the property through his real estate company Luxury Lofts and Homes.

The five-story, 10,000 s/f home was built by Don Alonzo Cushman for the estate of John N. Smith. It is on the same block as the famous Cushman Row, between 9th and 10th Avenues.

The home's most recent owner was actress Frances Gaar, who lived there for 46 years (and who rented the parlor floor to her close friend Glenn Close)



before it was sold to Bolla and Daniel.

“She entrusted us with the task to restore her home to its original glory,” explains Bolla. The proceeds of the sale were bequeathed to The Actor’s Fund.

Today, the 9-bedroom, 13-bathroom home showcases its original pilasters and ceiling medallions, 13 working wood-burning fireplaces, restored grand mahogany doors and original chandeliers, all Czechoslovakian crystal dating from the 1830s.

21st century amenities include an eleva-

tor and video security with armed guard backup by DGA Security Systems, Inc. The home has two kitchens: a catering kitchen on the garden level and a family kitchen on the second floor and every room is surrounded by state-of-the-art sound insulation called QuietRock .