

THE REAL DEAL

July 13, 2009

Bruce Willis scopes out the Apthorp

By Candace Taylor



Celebrities interested in the Apthorp

The celebrity buzz around the Apthorp continues.

Bruce Willis and his new bride, 31-year-old model and actress Emma Heming, checked out apartments in the iconic Upper West Side condominium conversion yesterday, sources confirmed.

Willis, 54, and Heming, who wed in March in Turks and Caicos, looked at the 101-year-old building's interior garden courtyard and units, the sources said.

After a recent [price reduction](#), apartments in the building currently start at \$1.535 million, with the developers under a deadline to sell at least 25 apartments before September so the condo plan can be declared effective.

The "Die Hard" star, who has three children from his previous marriage to Demi Moore and divides his time between New York and Los Angeles, is no stranger to the Upper West Side. In 2007, he purchased a 2,318-square-foot Trump Place apartment at 220 Riverside Boulevard at 70th Street for \$4.26 million.

Prior to that, he reportedly rented an apartment in Trump International condo on Central Park West at a cost of \$55,000 per month while working on the film "Perfect Stranger," which also

featured Heming.

The Apthorp was built by the Astor family in 1908. Modeled after the Pitti Palace in Florence, it has housed celebrities like Nora Ephron and Robert De Niro over the years.

Residences in the ornate building are known for the size, ranging from four to 12 rooms and 1,100 to 6,000 square feet, with 11- to 12-foot ceilings, according to Apthorp sales materials. Buyers there have the option of combining and customizing apartments to create even more palatial residences.

Other celebrities reportedly attracted to the building, with its private courtyard that allows residents to come and go without paparazzi surveillance, include [Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie](#). According to the Daily News, the celebrity couple has looked at homes there for their brood of six children.

[Jill Zarin](#) of "the Real Housewives of New York City" has said she is interested in purchasing a home in the building, while "30 Rock" star Alec Baldwin has also toured the building.

New celebrity interest is the best thing that could happen to the Apthorp, which is now focused intently on selling units after surfacing from a very [public feud](#) between the sponsors.

Spokespeople for Bruce Willis and the Apthorp had no comment when asked about Willis' interest in the building.