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At 9th Ave. and 13th St., in Meatpacking District

New 13-Story Hotel On Site That Was A Parking Lot

The historic cobblestone meatpacking district on the far West Side, in recent times a flashpoint for the hip and trendy, is soon to have a new hotel, which at 13 stories will stand tall in the mostly low-rise district. Ground was broken last month for the hotel, to be called the Gansevoort, which will occupy a triangular slice of land that was once a parking lot at 18 Ninth Avenue, between Little West 12th and 13th Streets.

The developers are the father-son team of William and Michael Achenbaum, partners in WSA Management Ltd., a Long Island firm. Stephen B. Jacobs is the architect on the project, and his wife, Andi Pepper, the interior designer. Their previous credits include the Library and Giraffe Hotels.

Referring to proposals that the area, where smart boutiques, restaurants and art galleries are proliferating, be made a historic district, Mr. Jacobs said, "It is very rare that you have a freestanding building on a very prominent intersection, which will become the center of what we think will be the Gansevoort Historic District."

The hotel is to contain 166 rooms and 21 suites,



Suns Hung/Sun & Associates

The Hotel Gansevoort is scheduled to be completed by the end of next year.

and it will have a 5,000-square-foot roof deck, a restaurant, a spa and a glassed-in, 45-foot pool with underwater music. The facade will be marked by zinc-toned metal panels, glass-encased balconies and bay windows. In the lobby there will be illuminated glass columns in changing hues meant to suggest that the building is supported by light.

The glass theme will be carried into the rooms as well, with backlit translucent glass to be used

instead of conventional closet and bathroom doors. The décor will be minimalist, with leather and fabric generously used on walls, headboards and armoires. With completion projected for late next year, Michael Achenberg said he expected room rates to range from \$325 to \$2,000 a night.

The \$60 million project is being financed through Westdeutsch Landesbank Girozentrale, a German bank.
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