

## What have monkey's and rare birds got to do with Manhattan's Radio Row?

You never know what turns up at Radio Row! Irv Simon, one time store owner of Stewart's Radio in Downtown Manhattan, had an unusually interesting story about the area and the old days at Radio Row.



It seems there was a fellow Mr. Henry Trefflich \*1908-1978\* who had a shop on Fulton Street, which was a local attraction in its own right. Henry dealt with importing exotic animals and birds for the circus, had a company in Jersey and a small place on Fulton Street in the middle Manhattan.

You could always tell when Trefflich got in a shipment of monkey's and birds. They would get loose and fly around the area and hang off of the fire escapes and in sides of buildings.

Once, a monkey got into Simon's - Stewart's Radio Sales Radio Row store and they had a difficult time getting it caught. Fast and faster, they were and could jump like the devil.

Mr. Trefflich would come out and head up the capture team as he would have a bundle tied up in those exotic and rare birds and monkey's. The cops would come by and thought the whole thing was hilarious. Oy!

Yet, Henry Trefflich became a Radio Row Martyr too! In the 60's his building on Fulton along with 13 other blocks of buildings with neighboring properties were bought out by the Port Authority and became rubble for the World Trade Center. Below (Letterhead after moving to their Broadway location)

W8SU 2006

