

Learning Places Spring 2016

LIBRARY / ARCHIVE REPORT



New York Public Library

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INTRODUCTION

This library report is about the very prestigious New York Public Library.

PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

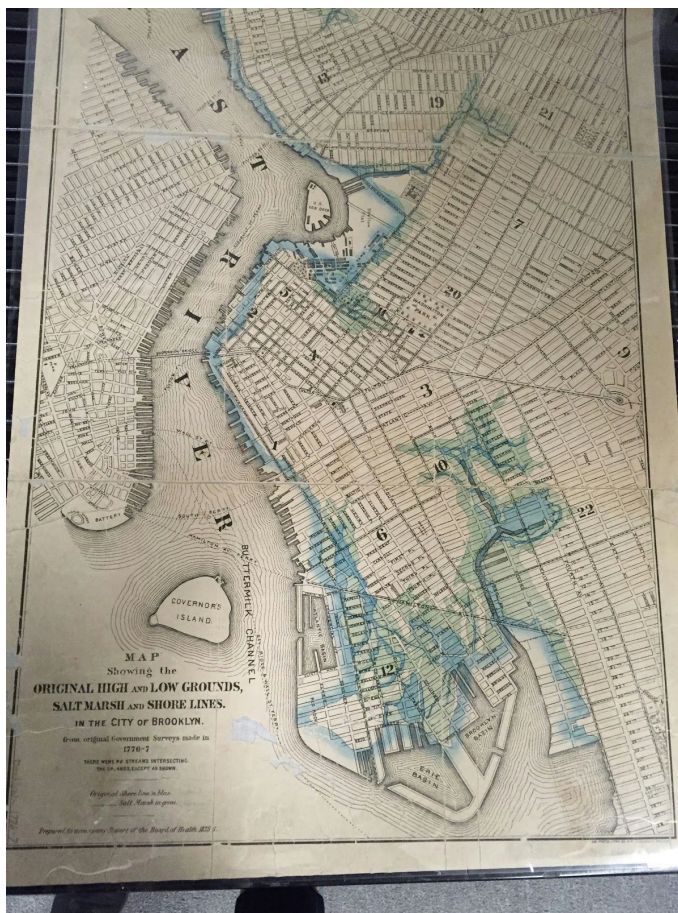
Before meeting the class at the New York Public Library I don't know what to expect. I have personally gone to the library but just to roam around and check it out, not to partake in any research

of any kind. I am excited for this visit because we will actually be doing research. I know we will be receiving assistance from someone who works which will help us immensely.

SOURCES found

1. The Original High and Low Grounds, 1776-7, Government Survey, prepared 1875
2. Brooklyn, Robinson, 1886
3. Brooklyn NY, Perris, 1855
4. Brooklyn, Bromely, Vol. 1, Plate 1, 1908
5. http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/downloads/pdf/reports/VINEGAR_HILL_HISTORIC_DISTRICT.pdf

DOCUMENTATION of site & resources (maps/archival documents/photos)

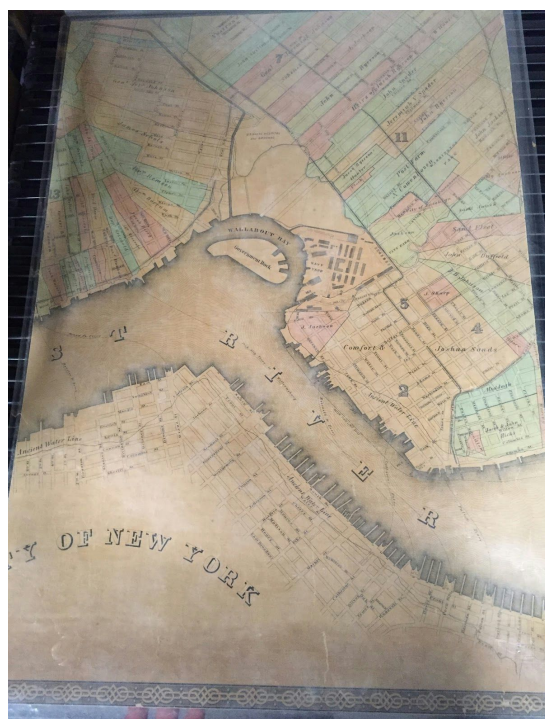


This map is showing the original high and low grounds, salt marsh and shore lines in the city of

Brooklyn surveyed in 1776-77. This helps me understand where the original land was and helps me further understand the placement and size of the original land lines.



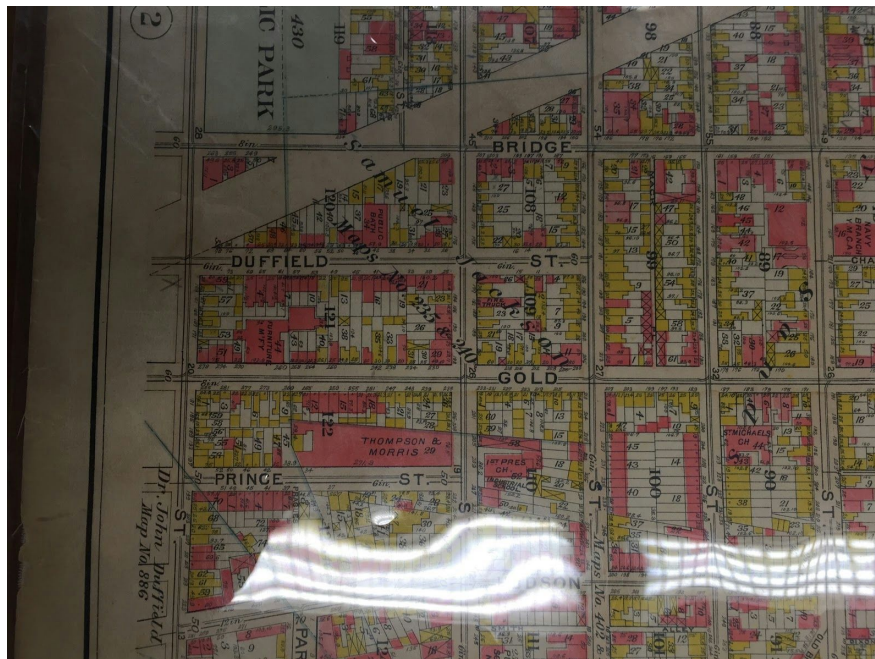
This map here was is from 1886. I believe that this resource, and the picture below, may be the best one that has been offered to me. It shows the original farm lines as well as the modern streets and blocks. Since my research is primarily trying to figure out the time frame of when the change from farm to urban occurred, this map has that answer written all over it.



Similar to the picture above, this also shows the original farm lines as well as the modern streets and blocks but in 1855. As you can see this map is a little more clear about where those lines were and are.



Not only am I focusing on the change from farm to urban living, I am also on the hunt to figure out the history of Harrison Alley which we found as a class on our first Vinegar Hill outing. It was a small little alleyway that looked like it was once a street. I would like to know the history of that small alleyway and why it is there. If it has any importance to the change from farm to urban living.



This was taken from the same map as the one above. This section of the map shows more of the area we are studying. If you look closely you can spot some different farm owners, their names and territories.

DISCOVERIES

1. Neighborhood History
 - a. 1790-1820
 - b. Still farm land
2. Key Events / Historical Dates
 - a. Change from farm to urban
 - b. 1790-1820
3. Key Players
 - a. Joshua and Comfort Sands
 - b. Sam Jackson
 - c. J Jackson
4. Relationship Key Players
 - a. Relatives
 - b. Acquaintances
5. Public Perception of Key Events
 - a. Offered more land to transfer of goods
 - b. As well as public transportation
6. Important Changes to Neighborhood
 - a. Change from farm to urban environment
 - b. Newly drawn land
7. Other Observations
 - a. Information somewhat difficult to find
 - b. Photographs not during this time period

TOPICS & KEYWORDS

Joshua and Comfort Sands, J Jackson, Sam Jackson, amount of land each possessed, 1790-1820, Vinegar Hill farms, Brooklyn Farms, Hudson and Plymouth Street

QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Land Ownership	Joshua and Comfort Sands, J Jackson, Sam Jackson
Number of Blocks	N/A
# of Buildings on a Typical Block	N/A
Materials	Brooklyn Farmland maps, 1846 Maps and articles
# of Stories of Buildings	Most likely 1 - 2 story houses
Residential Bldgs	Farm lands
Empty Lots	Open fields for livestock
Commercial Uses	N/A
Industrial Uses	N/A
Other Data	
Other Data	
Other Data	
Other Data	
Other Data	

QUESTIONS to Research Further

QUESTIONS:

1. How was accurate information passed on considering the times?
2. When were the official dates of change?
3. How much did each landowner receive after selling farm land?

RESEARCH METHOD/ ADDITIONAL SOURCES NEEDED TO ANSWER EACH QUESTION ABOVE:

1. How was accurate information passed on considering the times?
 - a. <http://bklyn-genealogy-info.stevemorse.org/Map/1846.BklynFarmLands.html>
 - b. 1874 Brooklyn Farm Line
2. When were the official dates of change?
 - a. United State Census
 - b. Public Archives
3. How much did each landowner receive after selling farm land?
 - a. Public Archives
 - b. http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/downloads/pdf/reports/VINEGAR_HILL_HISTORIC_DISTRICT.pdf

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

After the visit to the New York Public Library I was excited to go back. The endless information that is provided there is unfathomable. While we focused on one small section I could still start to understand just how large the resource pool is. We were able to dive deeper into our topics due to the plentiful options provided. I found a map that had both the old farm lines and new blocks and streets all in one map as well as maps that included the Harrison Alleyway.