

Learning Places Spring 2016

LIBRARY / ARCHIVE REPORT

Brooklyn Public Library



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INTRODUCTION

We are going to visit the Brooklyn Public Library located at 203 Arlington Avenue in Brooklyn. According to wikipedia the Brooklyn Public Library is the fifth largest public library system in the United States. Our class mission during this visit is to gather as much information and materials for our research project about Vinegar Hill, Brooklyn. In addition, we will also have a knowledge about the archive environment in regards to how it works, what it looks like and how we will be able to get access to the information we need.

PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

I was curious to know what an archive room looks like because I have never visit an archive location before. Before our class trip, I did a quick research on the internet to see what an archive room looks like and what type of materials are stored in there. One of the things I learned was that in order to access certain documents and information, you would have to go in person and fill out a request form. After browsing the internet about archives I was anxious to go and find my own documents, photo and materials that would help me with my research project. I'm hoping to find out as much information as possible about the geographic area around Vinegar Hill and all the changes that were made throughout the years.

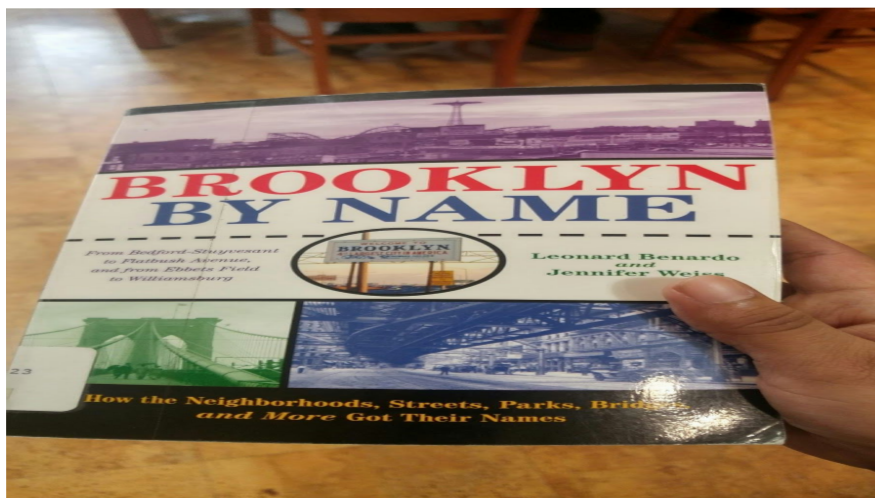
SOURCES found

1. Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, The New York Public Library. "Sheet 6: Map encompassing Boerum Hill, Cobble Hill, Brooklyn Heights, Downtown Brooklyn, Vinegar Hill, Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, Brooklyn Navy Yard and South Williamsburg." *The New York Public Library Digital Collections*. 1869.
2. Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, The New York Public Library. "Index to Volume One, Atlas of the Borough of Brooklyn Sections 1, 2, 3 & 4. Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12 & 22. City of New York. Published by E. Belcher Hyde, 97 Liberty St., Brooklyn. 1903." *The New York Public Library Digital Collections*. 1903.
3. Brooklyn by name: how the neighborhoods, streets, parks, bridges, and more got their names Leonard Benardo - Jennifer Weiss

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

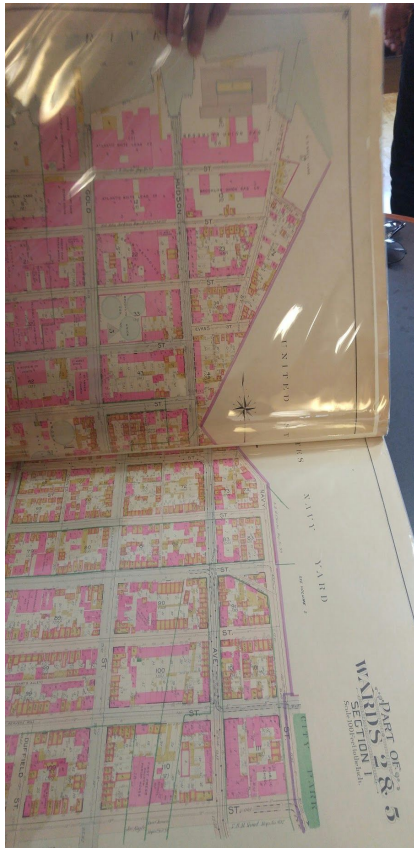


This is a map of Vinegar Hill, Brooklyn dated 1880. There is no listing of any author or publisher. This map shows many different type of stone and brick building structure around Vinegar Hill during that time frame..



This is a very interesting book to read. It has all the streets in Brooklyn and it describes

how they got their names. In this book you can also find other information about different streets and their history. This book is helpful because you can find out the history of a street or a place in brooklyn.



This map shows how Hudson Ave was before the geographic area was changed. Hudson Avenue used to intersect Gold Street and York Street. Now it has change and it merges Hudson Avenue with Navy Street.

DISCOVERIES

1. Neighborhood History
 - a. Hudson Avenue was a long stretch street
 - b. Hudson Avenue was later cut off at York Street and now merges with Navy Street

2. Key Events / Historical Dates
 - a. A housing place was built on that cut off location.
 - b. A school was made on that cut off location.
 - c. Urban development was the main reason for the change at Hudson Avenue.
3. Key Players
 - a. Housing
 - b. New York City government
4. Relationship Key Players
 - a. City officials
 - b. New York residents
5. Public Perception of Key Events
 - a. Street cutoff at Hudson Avenue
 - b. Their is a school where Hudson Avenue use to intersect
6. Important Changes to Neighborhood
 - a. A new school
 - b. Housing was built to give more people places to live

TOPICS & KEYWORDS

Hudson Avenue, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Vinegar Hill, Urban development, Public School 307, etc

QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Land Ownership	Public
Number of Blocks	One
# of Buildings on a Typical Block	About 25 but less today
Materials	Brick and wood frame
Residential Bldgs	Around 30

Empty Lots	Two
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QUESTIONS to Research Further

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did the government in Vinegar Hill change the geographic area of Hudson Avenue?
2. Why did they build the Farragut housing where Hudson Avenue use to intersect?
3. Who exactly made the plans for the urban renewal?

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

1. Question 1
 - a. Search on the web
 - b. Library
 - c. State Documents
2. Question 2
 - a. Search on the web
 - b. Library
 - c. State Documents
3. Question 3
 - a. Search on the web
 - b. Library
 - c. State Documents

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

I found this visit to the library very helpful and resourceful. I now have a better knowledge and understanding about an archive location and how to find documents and materials needed for our research project. In addition, this site visit was especially helpful and beneficial to us because we now have more resources and information we did not have before to complete our research project. The only thing I was not satisfied with was the lighting in the archive room because I found it difficult to take pictures of the maps with all the small details.