Learning Places Spring 2016

LIBRARY / ARCHIVE REPORT

BHS Report

STUDENT NAME

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INTRODUCTION

The Brooklyn Historical Society is located at 128 Pierrepont Street in Brooklyn, NY. It is known as a museum, library and educational center which is dedicated to encourage and inspire people to explore and have a better appreciation for Brooklyn and its community. The Brooklyn Historical Society is filled with numerous books, maps of all centuries and other various archive material and resources that provides information and knowledge to anyone doing re-search projects or just have an interest in knowing about the history of Brooklyn. The second floor has endless shelves that is packed with books and have seats and tables available which makes it convenient for people to work while gathering the information they are looking for. The librarians who work there are very nice and polite and is willing to point you in the right direction so you would be able to find the information you are looking for fast, easy and without a hassle. All the materials that are kept inside the Brooklyn Historical Society are neatly organized and the surrounding is kept very neat and clean

PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

I have never heard of The Brooklyn Historical Society before this class trip. Therefore this is my first visit to this amazing museum and library. Even though I have visited the Brooklyn library, The New York public Library, and LaGuardia/Wagner Archive, this was definitely a different experience for me because I felt like actual being in the older version of Brooklyn. I have notice that the one thing all these libraries have in common is the archive materials they preserve so well for the public's viewing. Before stepping into the Brooklyn Historical Society I already knew what it felt like to be in an historical archive surrounding because of all our previous class trips. I already knew what I should expect to see inside and I knew the drill what to do if I'm unable to find the materials I'm looking for. The librarians there were very polite and helpful and they were willing and ready to assist with any information we needed.

SOURCES found

1. Harold M. Kennedy, Petition, Eastern District of NY, 01/09/1940

2. Matthew T. Abruzzo, Petition Plaintiff, District Court of US, 01/05/1940

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

This is a photo of the library on the second floor of the Brooklyn Historical Society. In this room there are many shelves of neatly organized books in alphabetical order making it easy to find exactly what you're looking for a timely manner. The librarians do an excellent job of organizing these shelves on a daily basis which makes it easy for visitors to gain access to the materials they're looking for fast and easy.

This photo shows how big and spacious the library area is at the Brooklyn Historical Society. There is even an upper level filled with additional books and seating area making it easy for people to do their work in a timely manner. One of the librarian told us the lights are very dim and not bright so that the documents wouldn't get damaged.

DISCOVERIES

1. Neighborhood History
    a. Founded 1863
2. Key Players
    a. Harold M Kennedy
    b. Matthew T Abruzzo
3. Relationship Key Players
    a. Harold M. Kennedy attorney petitioned court regarding land dispute
    b. Matthew T. Abruzzo resided during land dispute
4. Important Changes to Neighborhood
    a. Urban renewal took effect

TOPICS & KEYWORDS

New York City Housing Authority,Urban Development,Urban Renewal

QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Land Ownership	City
Number of Blocks	Unverified
# of Buildings on a Typical Block	Eight on average
Materials	Stone, Brick
# of Stories of Buildings	Eight stories
Residential Bldgs	None
Empty Lots	None
Commercial Uses	Shops
Industrial Uses	Offices

QUESTIONS to Research Further

QUESTIONS:

1. Why are some archives room private and not available to the public?

2. **Why were there so many changes in the names of Streets in the Brooklyn community?**

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

1. Question 1
    a. Ask around
    b. Go to the librarian
2. Question 2
    a. Ask the mayor of Brooklyn
    b. Go online to find any information

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

I was very impress with our class trip to the Brooklyn Historical Society. I have never heard of this place before and was very eager and excited and looking forward to our class trip. In my mind, I was expecting to see a library, like the libraries we visited on our previous class trips. But when we got there, I notice it was actually a museum/library and they even offer rental space for weddings, parties and other events. The museum is dedicated to Brooklyn's history and displays many beautiful art exhibits relating to various topics about the history of Brooklyn. Even though I was not able to get a lot of research materials and pictures for my project, the experience of just being in that historical archive library was great. One thing I was extremely fascinated by was how peaceful, quiet and relaxing the library was and the amount of books that was available on Brooklyn's history.