

Learning Places Spring 2016

LIBRARY / ARCHIVE REPORT



Brooklyn Historical Society/library

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INTRODUCTION

The scope of the visit was to find more specific information about our topic for the final presentation. We had to look at the maps, books, letters and other materials from the library archives for a precise information. Going to archives now is becoming easier since we have been to couple of them already.

PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Before going to the BHL (Brooklyn Historical Library) we had to concrete the final idea for the final presentation. From the final idea we would start the research by the BHL website and order them two weeks prior to the visit so the material can be ready there when we visit the library. We looked for the necessary material and we gave them to the teacher who made the request for them to be pulled out. Before this class I thought to get in contact with such a unique archive would be really hard. Now I am excited to know that I can go to this archives and ask for what I am interested or curious for. Another thing to mention is the love the librarians do their job and how they are willing to help anyone, I was really surprised and happy to now know it.

SOURCES found

1. William Hooker, Hooker's New Pocket Plan of the Village of Brooklyn (Map), Date 1827
2. Jas. Bleecker & Sons, Peremptory Sale of Valuable Property in the City of Brooklyn (Map), Date 1838

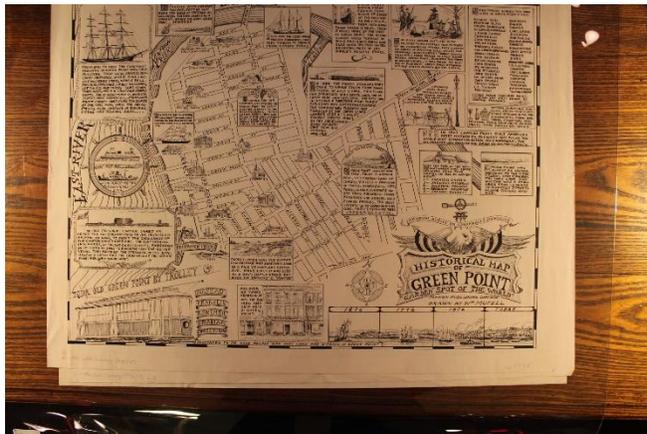
DOCUMENTATION of site & resources (maps/archival documents/photos)



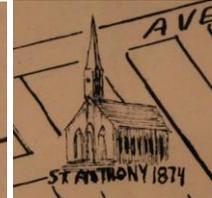
This is the interior of the BHS library in panorama view. I wanted to show how beautiful and comfortable is there and that everyone should visit it even outside school.

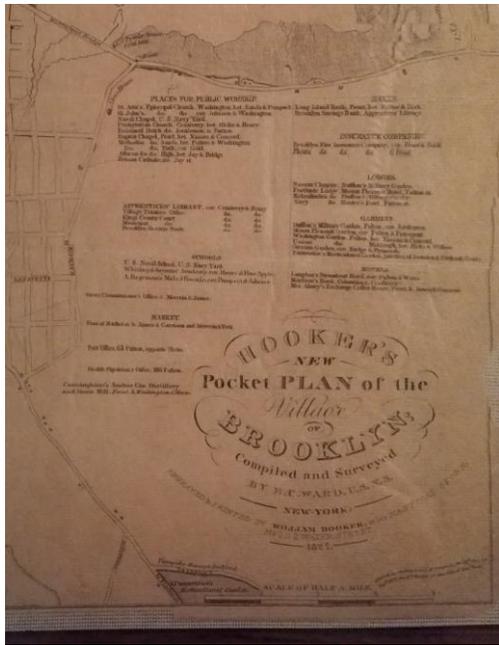


This is the Hooker's map that is my main source that my project is based on. It has most of the information needed to complete the work.

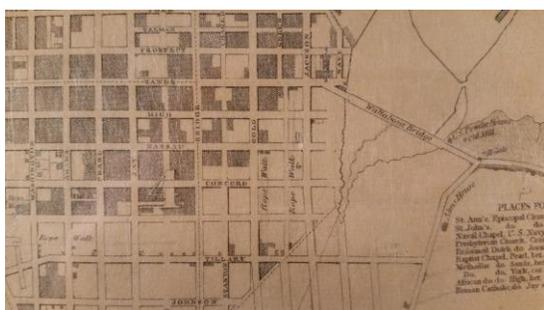
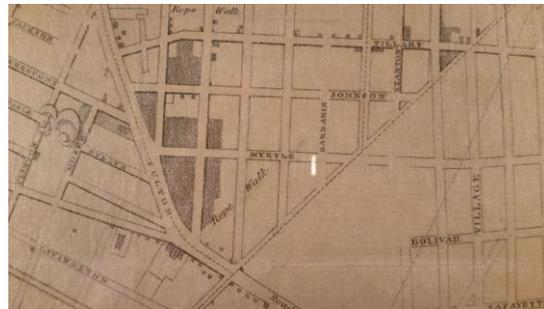


I took this picture on my alone second visit at the BHS. Since my plan is to do a 3D view of this map, I wanted to know how particular buildings looked at that time, so I took close shots of those drawings located in this map.





This picture is a close-up view of the listed places by William Hooker and that I will be color-coding them by the same way he sectioned them.





This are the close-up photographs of the rope walks area in the Hooker's map 1827. The reason why I took a closer shot is because I wanted to have as accurate as possible the measurements of their length and that so I can draw them in the proper length they had at that time. Another reason why I chose to take this close up pictures is because I am planning to join them together so I can have a good resolution map that will help a lot on my final.

DISCOVERIES

1. Neighborhood History
 - a. Rapid growth
 - b. Navy Yard and its ferry made the area popular
2. Key Events / Historical Dates
 - a. Peremptory sale
 - b. Numbering the properties
 - c. Turning blocks into lots so they can be sold and build.
3. Key Players
 - a. John Jackson
 - b. Jas. Bleecker
4. Relationship Key Players
 - a. Jas. Bleecker & Sons
 - b. Sands Brothers
5. Public Perception of Key Events
 - a. People were interested to buy land in the area.
6. Important Changes to Neighborhood
 - a. The changes in the waterfront line.
 - b. Soon to be very populated area by residents and stores.

7. Other Observations

- a. Many of the corner lots were bought by James B. Clark and also he is owner of the biggest land part in that map.
- b. The second with the biggest areas bought was Samuel Evans.
- c. James b. Clark also bought the waterfront.
- d. Some of the blocks go inside the water, meaning that it will filled with land in the near future.

TOPICS & KEYWORDS

Hooker’s New Pocket Plan 1827, Historical Map of Green Point, City of Brooklyn near the Navy Yard, Peremptory Sale, Valuable Property, Jas. Bleecker & Sons

QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Land Ownership	James B. Clark, Samuel Evans, Butler, Geo. Little, Ja. Bradly, Walson, Wm Bailey, Burlis
Number of Blocks	13 Blocks
Number of Buildings on a typical block	30 Buildings
Materials	Brick and majority wood
Number of Building stories	1-4 stories
Residential Bldgs.	Yes, mostly residential buildings
Empty Lots	Plenty of empty spots without names on them that were waiting to be soled

Commercial Uses	Yes, mostly on the corner blocks
Industrial Uses	Yes, ship making near the waterfront

QUESTIONS to Research Further

QUESTIONS:

1. Why are the lots extending to the water?
2. Why James B. Clark bought so much land, what was his plan?
3. Who came with the idea to divide the blocks into lots, and where was based the size of the lot?

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

1. Question 1
 - a. Brooklyn Daily Eagle
 - b. Brooklyn Public Library website
 - c. Wikipedia
2. Question 2
 - a. Brooklyn Historical Society
 - b. Brooklyn Public Library website
 - c. Municipal Archive
3. Question 3
 - a. New York Public Library website
 - b. Wikipedia
 - c. Brooklynhistory.com

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

The visit was very helpful since we took our time to see the material that were pulled out for us, we had much more time than in the other libraries. Also what I thought it was helpful was you get more time alone with the archives, you can study them deeper without having people waiting in line to take picture to the material. I felt so comfortable there that I decided to go back and use a professional camera and go there to take some pictures with higher resolution. This visit helped me understand better the blocks

and how they were separated at that time, since on the Hooker's map that I have been studying they are just hatched blocks. Also this maps from the archives proves right the declared owners in the writings about this area. It sticks in your mind when you get the information from two sources like textual and visual.