

Learning Places Fall 2016
Chin/Swift

SITE REPORT [part 1:Brooklyn heights]



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INTRODUCTION

These images are pictures of brownstones. The idea was to take pictures of an iconic NYC built structure — a building (old or new) or any architectural structure that helps identify a neighborhood (urbeme) or New York City in general. Due to this, I could help but think of any other idea besides brownstones. Brownstones really do help identify Brooklyn in a very natural way. If you were driving in the passenger seat from Staten Island and fell asleep, then woke up surrounded by brownstones- you know you're in Brooklyn! These homes are extremely iconic and really contribute to the urbeme concept.

PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Prior to the visit, I felt like I was going to see a lot of people walking up and down trying to get to their home. I expected to see a few people walking in or out of their house. Due to the fact that this is Brooklyn, I knew there was going to be traffic.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos/sketches)



This is a brownstone. They are used for business and to live in. The homes are usually connected to one another allowing room for more to be built on the street. There a low of structure here and not to mention characteristic here. The walls seem to be made up of a mixture of brick and hard stone. There are always stairs leading up to an entrance. There are no grand front yards but there are trees on every block.

QUALITATIVE SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. Neighborhood / Street Character
 - a. Brooklyn heights
 - b. Brownstones
2. Vitality of Place
 - a. General Description

Connected Brownstone homes where people live or have business related activity.
 - b. Pedestrian Activity
 - i. Moderately Busy.
 - c. Vehicular Traffic
 - i. Moderately Busy.
3. Age of Buildings (provide evidence for prediction)
 - a. Over 150 years old
4. Relationship Between Buildings (urbeme)
 - a. Brownstones are made up of brick and stone.
 - b. Highly durable
5. Building Details (historical/architectural styles, morphemes)
 - a. Brown
 - b. Stones
 - c. Connected
6. Building Uses
 - a. Home
 - b. Business
7. Other Observations
 - a. Trees
 - b. No front yard
 - c. Clean

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

I really like the brownstones. Something is telling me, this is for rich people. Hopefully one day, I could afford one of my own. They seem very comfortable and quiet which is what I like. The only thing I don't like is the fact that there is no parking.

QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Street Names	Henry Street
Street Width	20 feet
Pavement Type	Cement
Building Heights	Approximately 90 feet high
Building Widths (Window Bays)	Approximately 50 feet wide
Building Types/Uses	Homes / Business
Empty Lots / Gardens	Small Gardens in the front.
Shops / Restaurants	Restaurants are surrounding the neighborhood, but not within the neighborhood.
Industrial Shops	Retail shops are surrounding the neighborhood.
Other Data	N/A
Other Data	N/A