

Learning Places Fall 2016

LIBRARY / ARCHIVE REPORT

New
York
public
library



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INTRODUCTION

There are questions within my project that went unanswered. It was advised to go back to one of the locations that we as a class went to, try an answer these questions. Whether we want to insert them into our projects or not is our own decisions.

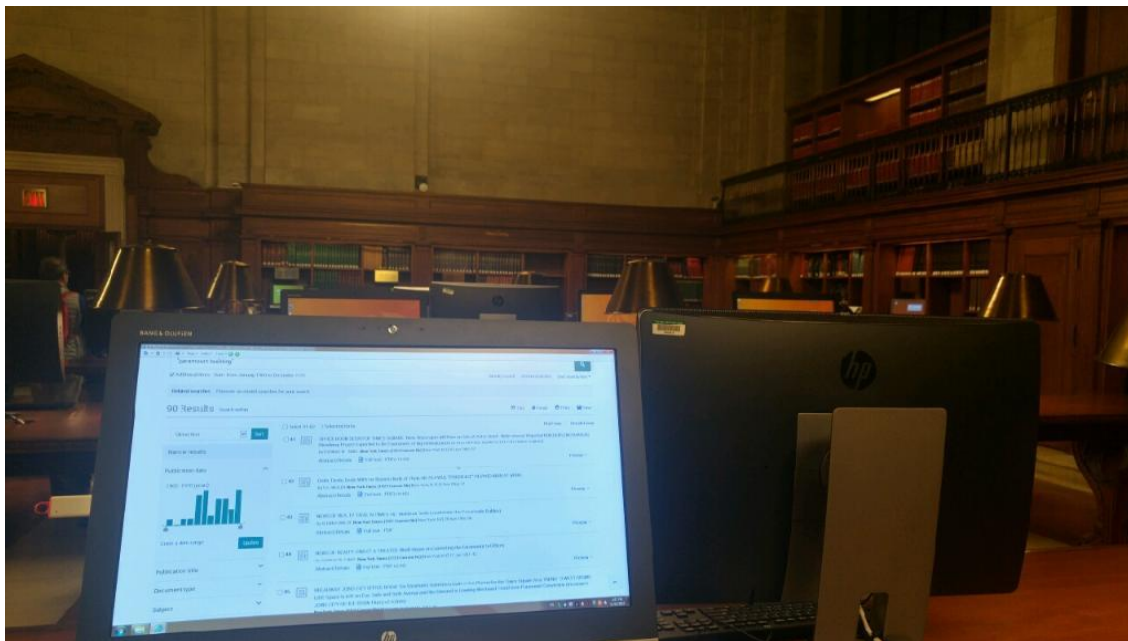
PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Knowing the amount of information in either locations is more than enough to find answers. I went to the library to find more textual information for the questions I had in mind.

SOURCES found

1. William Robbins, Renovation set for Paramount, New York times, pg.71
2. Glenn Fowler, Court approves Paramount Sale: Rosenthal's bid accepted- he may reopen theater, New York Times, pg. 67

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



This is a picture I took inside the catalog area of the New York Public library. I got the assistant of a librarian, telling me that some things can only be accessed at the library. It is me finding newspaper articles about my building.



This is one

newspaper clipping that another librarian helped me find. This is me trying to find other answers to the questions that I had for this report. Instead I discovered one of the first ideas for the pedestrian walkways in Times Square.

<file:///F:/eeE.pdf>

Couldn't really get it to be an image but it should work fine as a link. This is one of the above articles that I have listed, illustrating the sale and renovation of the paramount building after the theatre has closed its doors.

<file:///F:/b2.pdf>

This is the other article I have listed. It goes to say of the reselling of the building, whether the theater is going to be opened or not. The catalog in which I found these listings, were very specific in what to actually needed to be typed. Writing any general idea, even in The New York Times catalog, yielded a ton of results.

This is another newspaper clipping, but of a famous billboard made for the Camel cigarette company.



Most of the information that I have found has been digitized, so the tangible material I did find was unrelated. Granted my search was done only a few hours before the closing of the library, but what I have found is more than enough to write upon.

DISCOVERIES

1. Neighborhood History
 - a. Crude: elegant with the theaters, but full of vagrants with drugs and sex.
 - b. Expansive as theaters came and went, buildings sold or being built.
2. Key Events / Historical Dates
 - a. Construction of The paramount building
 - b. First motion pictures
 - c. Selling of The paramount building
3. Key Players
 - a. Adolph Zukor
 - b. Webb & Knapp
 - c. The New York Times
4. Relationship Key Players
 - a. Business
 - b. Journalism
5. Public Perception of Key Events
 - a. Excited because of the theater
 - b. Astonished with the ability of making a moving image
 - c. Aghast because of the many years of performances at the theatre
6. Important Changes to Neighborhood
 - a. Theaters becoming office spaces
 - b. Theaters converted to peep shows and live sex shows
7. Other Observations
 - a. Specific locations in the library for research

- b. Librarians are incredibly helpful
- c. Any textual item can be brought to the library to be archived, within context.

TOPICS & KEYWORDS

Times Square. Adolph Zukor. Paramount building. Paramount theatre NYC. The New York Times circa. 1900-1980

QUANTITATIVE DATA for Area of Study

Subject	Data
Land Ownership	Paramount leasehold
Number of Blocks	1
# of Buildings on a Typical Block	3-4
Materials	Steel, brick
# of Stories of Buildings	33
Residential Bldgs	None
Empty Lots	None
Commercial Uses	Office Space

Industrial Uses	None
Other Data	Glass globe can be seen from New jersey
Other Data	Four sided clocks, surrounded by stars like the paramount pictures logo
Other Data	Clock and globe were painted over during the war

QUESTIONS to Research Further

QUESTIONS:

1. What private plans were not approved?
2. What city plans were not funded in Times Square?
3. What building had the most renovation?

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

1. Question 1
 - a. NYPL
 - b. Building specific sites
 - c. NYC DOD
2. Question 2
 - a. NYPL
 - b. Times Square alliance
 - c. NYC DOD
3. Question 3
 - a. NYPL
 - b. NYC DOD
 - c. Buildings history site

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

If I were to have had the time to stay, I would have gotten all the information I would need. I didn't so much, since I went so late, but what I did find was incredible. There is also information that is specifically

found at the library, which cannot be found in other areas. More work will be done there.