

Learning Places Fall 2015

# **SITE REPORT #2**

## **DUMBO AND FARRAGUT HOUSES**



**Bibi Afeza Rozario**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

As a class, we planned our second site visit to carefully observe the Farragut houses and to do a bit more sketching since we were interrupted by a resident and also the weather condition the previous visit. Before we started to observe we were given map of the area by the professor and discussed as a class the importance and uses of geographic information systems (GIS) we also spoke about the sanitary conditions of the early tenement buildings and how a lot of people died due diseases, poor running water and a lack of space. At the end of this visit we were split up into pairs and assigned different block to make more observation about the neighborhood. My partner and I were assign block number seven that was Nassau Street.

## **PRE-VISIT REFLECTION**

Prior to our second site visit I was hoping that we get a chance to sketch some more and that we also have better weather condition. I was also hoping that we see more residents outside and kids in the playground compared to the first visit. I was also hoping not to see all the playgrounds empty as I did the first time even though it was during school hours there wasn't even younger kids that weren't in school as yet in the playgrounds it was all empty.

## SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos/sketches)





WORK IN PROGRESS: Reconstruction of Golconda Park



ANDREW M. CUDMO  
Governor

Department of  
Transportation

JOAN McDONALD  
Commissioner

Funded, Designed and Constructed  
by the New York State Department  
of Transportation (NYSDOT)

**NYS DOT Field Office:**

20 Grand Ave  
Suite 408  
Brooklyn, NY 11205  
718-243-2254

**General Contractor:**

ConStar Inc.  
81 Brightside Ave  
Central Islip, NY 11722  
631-608-3878

Anticipated Completion: Fall 2016

New York City Department of Parks & Recreation  
owns and maintains Golconda Park

Overall Schematic  
Plan

2002/03/26 14:00:00

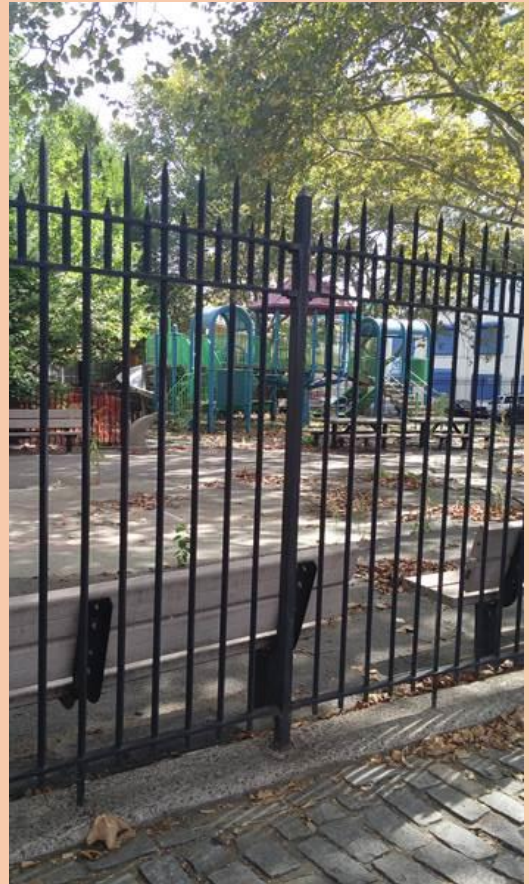
















## SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. They were a number of playgrounds.
2. There were a lot of NYCHA workers on the property.
3. They were residents hanging outside their apartment buildings
4. There was a lot of traffic since it leads to the highway.
5. Maintenance was very important.
6. The parks were still empty.
7. There were very few grocery stores.
8. there is a new park being built
9. There were a lot of people riding bikes in this neighborhood
10. The entrance was hidden.

## QUANTITATIVE DATA

Subject	Data
number of schools	2
number of playgrounds	4
number of churches	1

## QUESTIONS AND HYPOTHESIS

### QUESTIONS:



1. Why were the houses built in this location? Slum?
2. Right before they demolish the land, what was it like?
3. What jobs did people have? Was it a decent community?
4. Why wasn't the playground by the Farragut houses separated by a fence?

#### **HYPOTHESIS:**

1. the entrance was hidden probably because there might be a lot of crime in the neighborhood since it is a very busy street and nothing should be hidden in a urban area
2. they are trying to make the Farragut houses very sanitary
3. It was very windy that day because we were sketching right near the water and the wind comes right over and slams on to the land.

#### **SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION**

During this visit I noticed that they were bigger blocks subdivided into more buildings, and there is a divisions between the two neighborhoods which makes me think back to when we spoke about the “poor door” in class. We also notice that Architect put windows all around the Farragut houses for the main purpose of natural light. This is important because natural ventilation is very healthy and decrease the risk of disease as opposed to the early tenements that was in very poor conditions. There were also many NYCHA on the property which means that the land is properly kept. There were also a lot of residents sitting in front of their apartments and residents walking their dogs which shows that the people in the neighborhood feels a sense of safety on a Monday morning . It was also a very diverse community and it was a

very old fashion neighborhood since one owner of a coffee shop left his door unlocked. When we got split into pairs I noticed that the houses on Gold Street had cameras and were newly renovated. Which tells us that the grounds created separation and distance. They were a lot of spaces around the Farragut houses so that residents wouldn't hang out or even have relationship with other people around. I think this is one of the main reasons why the buildings are so far away from the sidewalk. In addition I think it is a very positive outlook to see so many NYCHA workers on the property because this implies that the residents and neighborhood is cared for.



## REFERENCES TO EXPLORE HYPOTHESIS

1. <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dob/html/news/news.shtml>
2. [http://www.nyc.gov/html/dob/html/development/co\\_factsheet.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dob/html/development/co_factsheet.shtml)
3. <http://www.dof.gov.ph/>