

Learning Places Fall 2015

# SITE REPORT

## New York Public Library



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### INTRODUCTION

We visited this site so that we could take a look at the map collection of the New York Public Library. We sat down in a private room and the librarian gave us some background information on the maps and how to use them.

### PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

I don't really know what to expect at the New York Public Library. I've never been here before and I'm not sure what kind of maps they have there. I am open to seeing what the library has to offer though. I want to see some maps showing how the blocks were before the urban renewal. I would also like to see some pictures of the area so that I could get a better understanding of what is considered a 'slum'.



## SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. The Map Room is large.
2. We were offered our own private room.
3. There was a 'book reading' going on in the library.

## QUANTITATIVE DATA

Subject	Data
What is the New York Public Library's budget?	\$245,337,000
What is the size of their collection?	52,946,398
How large is the staff?	3,147

## QUESTIONS AND HYPOTHESIS

### QUESTIONS:

1. In the map room, why are the maps kept behind the desk?

### HYPOTHESIS:

1. The maps are old, fragile, and some are very important so it important that they aren't available to the general public so that they aren't damaged or stolen.

## SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

Going to this library was much appreciated. The library is very big and it would be easy to get lost in there. The ornate nature of this library was pleasing. Looking at the maps was beneficial because I got a lot of information about the area of Farragut houses. I saw the layout of the blocks that were present prior

to the urban renewal. I will visit again to get more information.