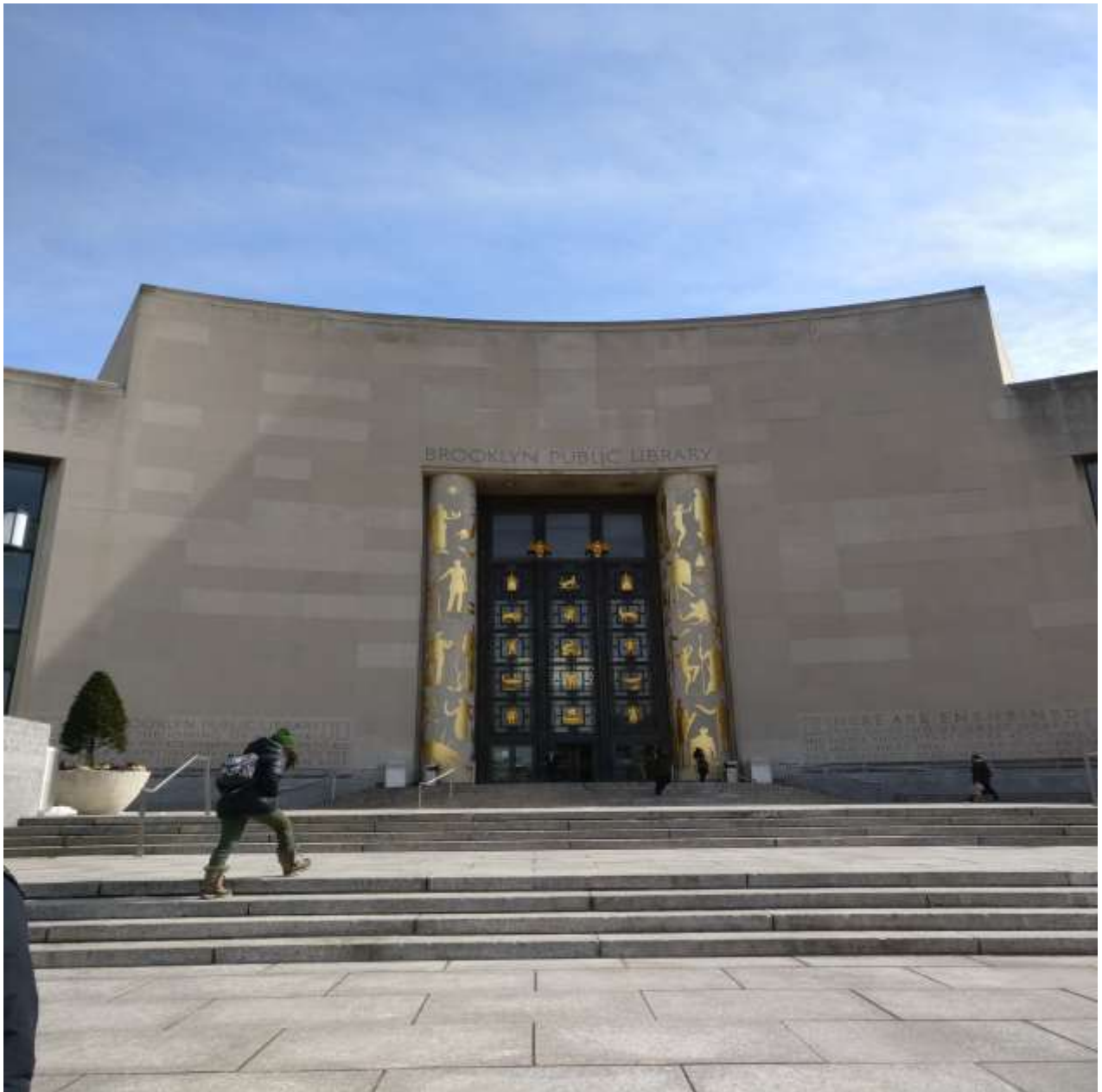


Learning Places Spring 2017

SITE REPORT #3

Maps of Brooklyn and Underground Tunnels



STUDENT NAME

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INTRODUCTION

March 8th, we got together as a class and went to the Brooklyn Public Library to discover and look at different maps from different time periods of Brooklyn. We all noticed as a class that some of the locations were different than years ago. Also, noticed on a few maps that the Brooklyn Bridge wasn't even built yet. That was interesting to me.

OBJECTIVES

In my group, our objective was, what was the underground tunnels and pipelines by the waterfront used for? Why were there multiple tunnels and pipeline around the waterfront? We had plenty of questions such as, were they importing good or maybe, illegal goods that were prohibited such as alcoholic. Maybe a means for escape for slaves running away from the south?

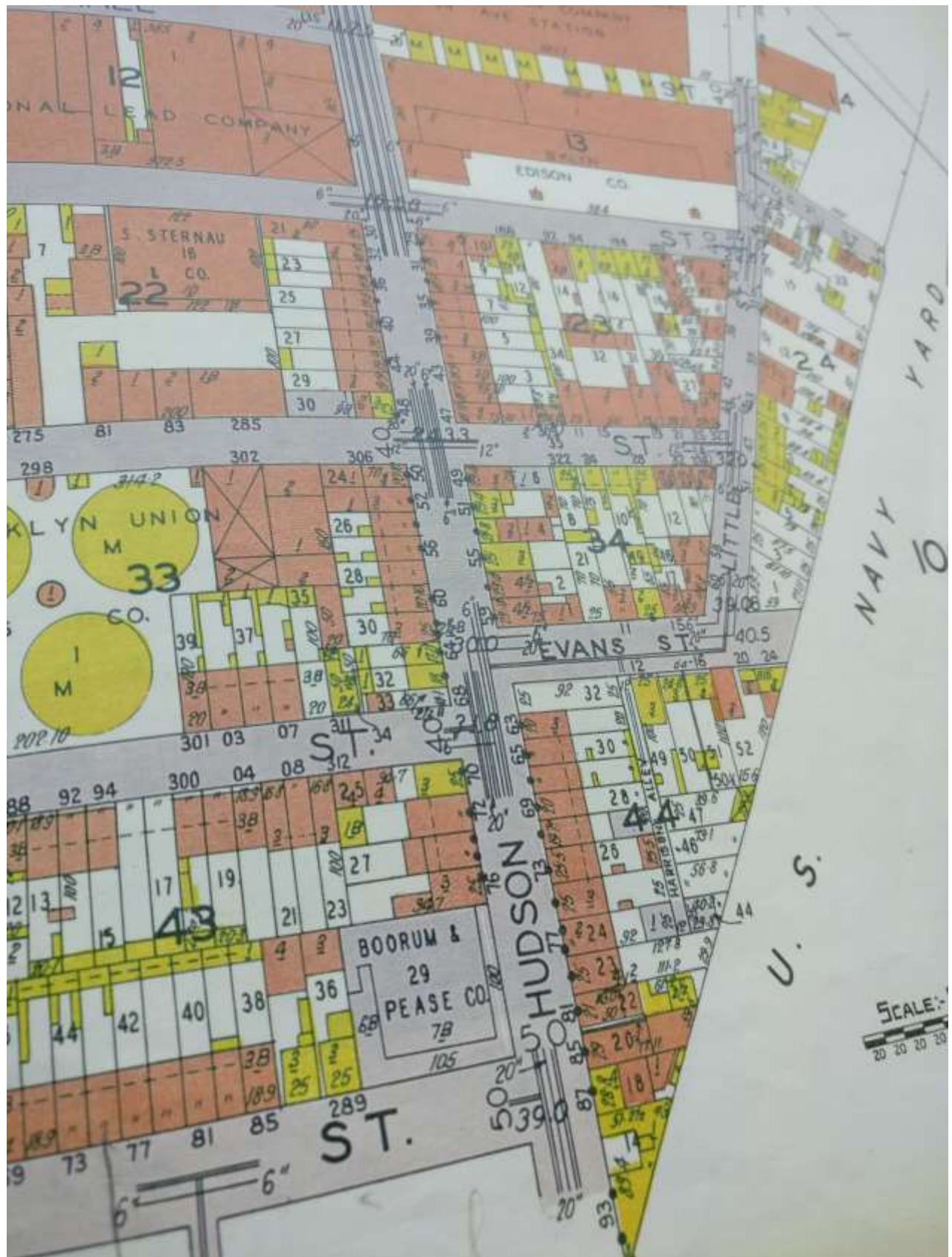
PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Prior to our site visit, I didn't expect to see different maps of Brooklyn from different time periods. I noticed that some street names changed. For example, Jay street was used to be called Main Street. Before and during our site visit, I've gotten to learn about digital archives to help me with my research on this topic. Before this site visit, I didn't know Brooklyn had underground tunnels back then.

SITE DOCUMENTATION: photos/sketches of 2 or 3 significant primary sources. Provide captions and explanations – why is the image shown significant for your topic of exploration?



On this map we can see the water way that is indicated green going through Fulton and Sands makes it's way to the waterfront of Fulton Ferry. I'm certain when they closed down the pipelines, people used the pipelines as tunnels to get through Brooklyn trading good and moving free slaves trying to escape.





As you can see on image 2 and 3, you can see the pipelines that leads to the waterfront on Hudson St. For sure, people used the unused pipelines as underground tunnels.

cent. between 1901 and 1911. This serves as an illustration of what is likely to occur along the South **Brooklyn water-front** generally if it shall be properly organized for commercial and industrial use. The adoption of the Dock Department's **plan**, including a marginal connecting railway, such as that proposed—a classification yard centrally located in the Erie Basin district—warehouses and industrial buildings on the backlands—will be of the greatest value to the port and to the local community.

I got this article from the BPL. Here it states Brooklyn water-front is used for commercial and industrial. Goods that aren't for industrial and commercial use wasn't allowed to enter the docks. I can see why the sailors used the underground tunnels to their advantage.



Both pictures from the NYPL Digital Collection

SITE OBSERVATIONS: One or 2 general notes about the Brooklyn Collection, and 2-3 specific observations about how the primary sources you found are connected to the topic of your investigation

From one of the Atlas in Brooklyn Collection

1. Paper Mills
2. Iron Founders
3. Book Binders
4. Cotton Pressers

From Digital Archives

5. Brooklyn Water Front Rail Plan

QUANTITATIVE DATA: under “subject” list the topic; Under “data” describe your findings and the quantity found

| Subject | Data |
|----------------|------|
| Gas Companies | 3 |
| Lead Companies | 2 |
| Paint Works | 1 |

QUESTIONS AND HYPOTHESIS Consider the primary sources found during your visit and review the material you included so far in this report.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did New York need an underground tunnel and multiple ones?
2. Were slaves using these underground tunnels?
3. Did certain people have access to the underground tunnels? If so, who?

HYPOTHESIS: From the questions you wrote above, select the most important question for your own research topic. Propose an explanation made on the basis of the evidence you have so far as a starting point for further investigation.

1. At the time, alcohol was prohibited. So sailors could just arrive to Brooklyn and enter through the underground tunnel to sneak through alcohol.
2. Slaves were trying to escape the South and move up North. Some end up in New York. New York was against slavery but not everyone was. I'm pretty sure they encountered one of the tunnels as a means to escape and stay hidden.
3. Yes, I think certain people had certain access to these underground tunnels. Which were the sailors. Some good weren't allowed. So what they could have done was move the illegal good through the tunnels.

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION / NEXT STEPS?

What I really want to do is to explore one of the tunnels but I doubt I'll be allowed to. What I'll do is hopefully return to the Brooklyn Public Library and continue to look into the underground tunnels. Also, use the digital archives to look for more photographs .

PRELIMINARY REFERENCES FOR PRIMARY SOURCES:

Record the essential information that you might use to create a citation for 3-4 primary sources you examined. Don't worry about creating a perfect or conventionally formatted citation; record the information that someone would need to find it again. Include a variety of sources: photographs, maps, articles, manuscripts, etc.

1. <https://bklyn.newspapers.com/image/57534029>
2. <http://www.bklynlibrary.org/brooklyncollection/digital-collections>
3. <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47e4-4196-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>
4. <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47e4-4197-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>