

Learning Places Spring 2017

SITE REPORT #3



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INTRODUCTION

In this site visit my group tried to find articles or sources to support our objectives. We tried to find articles that deals with the negative impact the navy yard had on the surrounding neighborhood and some pictures of the navy yard when it was fully functional. The articles we found described the impact the closing of the navy had on the amount of jobs lost. There were 75,000 men and women

working in the yard and the payroll was about 15,000,000 and 16,000,000 and today it isn't close to that number. Also, we tried to find the plan of the navy yard before and the way it is today. Also, there is a mural of the wall of the navy yard and we tried to find more information about it. We did find many articles on the closing of the yard and some about the future of the yard.

OBJECTIVES

- Find before and after images of the Navy Yard
- Acquire articles on the negative impact of the navy yard
- Find more information on the mural on the wall of the border of the Navy Yard and Vinegar Hill
- Get the plan of the yard before and after
- More information on the amount of jobs currently
- Why is their one abandon building in a giant construction site

PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Prior to the visit, I expected to find many images of the navy yard in the past and articles on the plans of the yard. Also, articles about what happened in the yard and the ships that were

built. I never paid attention to the navy yard and I never knew why that big space was there. I expected to learn about more the navy yard was there and what caused the yard to be abandoned. I wanted to learn more about the yard and why people aren't allowed to walk into the navy yard. Also, I wanted to know was the area shaped by made or it is naturally shaped. I have never been to the Brooklyn library and I have never seen a history collection before. Before the visit my expectations was high because this collection was put together and it's all about Brooklyn.

SITE DOCUMENTATION:



This articles give details on the future of plan of the Navy Yard. Small manufacturing met with the federal government to open businesses in the yard to boost the local economy. Also, it was effort to create more jobs because the closing of the yard many people lost their jobs.

Brooklyn Navy Yard's Closing Set for June, 1966

By JOHN C. DEVLIN

The date for the closing of the New York Naval Shipyard in Brooklyn has been set for June 30, 1966. The yard and remaining facilities will then be sold.

The announcement was made yesterday by Secretary of the Navy Paul H. Nitze in Washington and Rear Adm. J. H. McQuilkin, commander of the installation, which has been known through the years as the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Fifteen minutes before the date was made public, an announcement was read over a public address system to the installation's 9,500 employees.

First there was silence and then, in some cases, harsh denunciations of Federal officials, with special emphasis on President Johnson and Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara.

Word Came Nov. 19

Secretary McNamara reported on Nov. 19 that the yard would be closed at an unspecified date as part of an economy move.

The employees knew the demise of the yard was coming, but they appeared to be upset because they had hoped for a five-year "phase out" period.

As outlined yesterday, however, the procedure will be as follows:

This Friday each employe will receive a written notification of the yard's close-out order.

Each employe, as promised earlier by Secretary McNamara, will then have at least two months more of employment. Some will be kept longer, as needed.

At the end of the two months,

Layoffs Will Begin in About Two Months — Employees Are Told by Admiral

those with accumulated time off, or those who wish to take a month's leave of absence without pay may do so. There will be a five-day period for each employe to clear the books with the yard. This means that the first dismissals will take effect in 65 days in some cases, and in 95 days in others.

Admiral McQuilkin explained the procedure as follows:

"Briefly the closure will take place in two phases—the first of which starts now and will end with the completion of the Duluth [a relatively small landing personnel deck craft] and the completion of our assigned repair and overhaul work. I would expect that date, the end of the first phase, to be about Feb. 1, 1966."

He said about 3,000 employes should be left at that time.

"The second phase," he continued, "will consist of a roll-up operation, during which we will ship out tools, close up and secure buildings, move out material and the like. This task will then have to be completed by June 30, 1966. I would expect the remaining yard force to average about 1,500 during this phase."

Admiral McQuilkin, who said the yard would be disposed of "in parts and pieces before final dissolution," declared that more than 5,000 job opportunities were being presented to the employes.

But James Dolan, president of the Brooklyn Metal Trades

Council, said, "Half of them are phony or do not exist."

He said some called for employes, if white-collar workers, to go to such places as Guam, Thailand or Nationalist China.

The admiral interrupted the labor leader with a warning that if he was going to call the jobs "phony" he would have to say so off the Navy's property. Mr. Dolan is a civilian estimator at the yard.

Stark Issues Statement

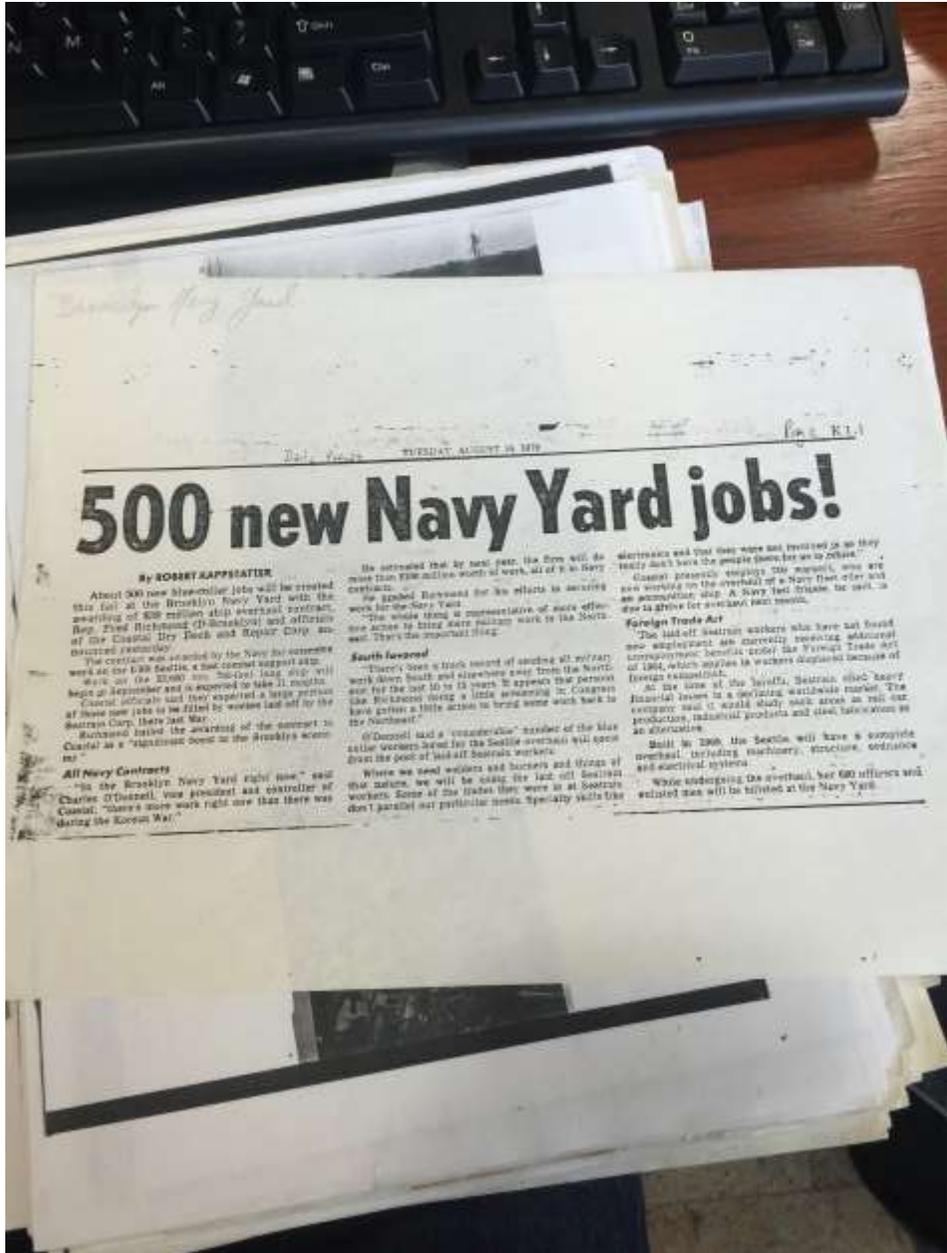
Meanwhile, Borough President Abe Stark of Brooklyn issued the following statement on the closing:

"This is not the final work by any means. We definitely know that the matter of keeping the Navy yard open will be brought to the floor of Congress in Washington during the new session which has just started."

"Nevertheless, I believe I have the right to say that the Brooklyn community and the Navy yard's faithful and efficient workers are shocked that so little time is being allowed before the Defense Department intends to close the yard in June, 1966."

"The Navy yard's own employes hoped for a longer phase-out. This was our hope too, not only for the sake of the employes because of the Navy yard's vital importance to the whole New York economy."

In a joint statement, Senators Jacob K. Javits and Robert F. Kennedy of New York said last night that the Government's decision to close the yard "cannot be accepted as final because no representative of New York has been able to examine the basis on which this decision was made."



The article is about the creation of 500 new jobs in the Navy Yard. It shows the future of the Navy Yard. It did create some jobs but the amount isn't as close to the previous amount. This article is important because it shows the impact of the closing of the yard.

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

1. Most of the primary sources was about the closing of the Navy Yard
2. Not many articles of the Navy Yard when it was fully operational
3. The collection has a lot of articles but not many pictures
4. Only one article on the mural on the wall of the Navy Yard
5. Many articles were about how much the city paid for the Navy Yard

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

Subject	Data
Maps	Only four printed maps of the Navy Yard and not too detailed
Picture	Only one aerial image of the yard in four folders
Folders	In four folders, only one or two picture of the yard. Most of the images are online.

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 the city have to buy the Navy Yard?
2. Why did the employees only have a 5 month phase out?
3. How did the closing impact the local economy and neighborhood?

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. how did the closing of the Navy Yard impact the local economy and neighborhood?
I chose this hypothesis because it is more specific and it more focus on one main topic. The articles I found were mostly about the impact the closing had on the community and

economy. Also, I feel like this hypothesis is more simple and I can find a lot of information on this topic.

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION / NEXT STEPS?

The visit to the Brooklyn Collection was successful. We founded many articles that described the impact the closing of the Navy Yard had on the economy and neighborhood. The closing lead to 75,000 people losing their jobs and these people most likely move out of Vinegar Hill. Also, the closing may have led to the Farragut houses. I acquired a lot of new information about the Navy Yard and found interesting information I really wanted to know. I have never seen a history collection and it was interesting to see. Also, the visit was my first visit to the Brooklyn Public Library. The visit met my expectations and it fun to see original sources that are really old.

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. Rabin, Bernard, and Polly Kline. "Biz & U.S. Plan Future of Yard At Vital Parley." NY Daily 9 May 1968: n. page. Print. Magical Map Company. "Fire Insurance Map of Fulton Street, Brooklyn." New York, NY:1887.
2. Codevlin, John. "Brooklyn Navy Yard's Closing Set for June, 1966." NY Daily 20 Jan. 1965: n. page. Print. And so on.
3. Kappstatter, Robert. "500 New Navy Yard Jobs!" NY Daily 14 Aug. 1979: n. page. Print.
4. Johnston, Richard J.H. "Historic Area Closes Today with Taps." NY Times 25 June 1966: n. page. Print.