

Learning places Spring 2017

Site Report

Navy Yard



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Due 3/3/17

Introduction:

In this site report I will be talking about how my trip to the Brooklyn Public Library. Our group needed to acquire some information about the Navy Yard, specifically maps of the yard and some information about the workforce the yard had once established.

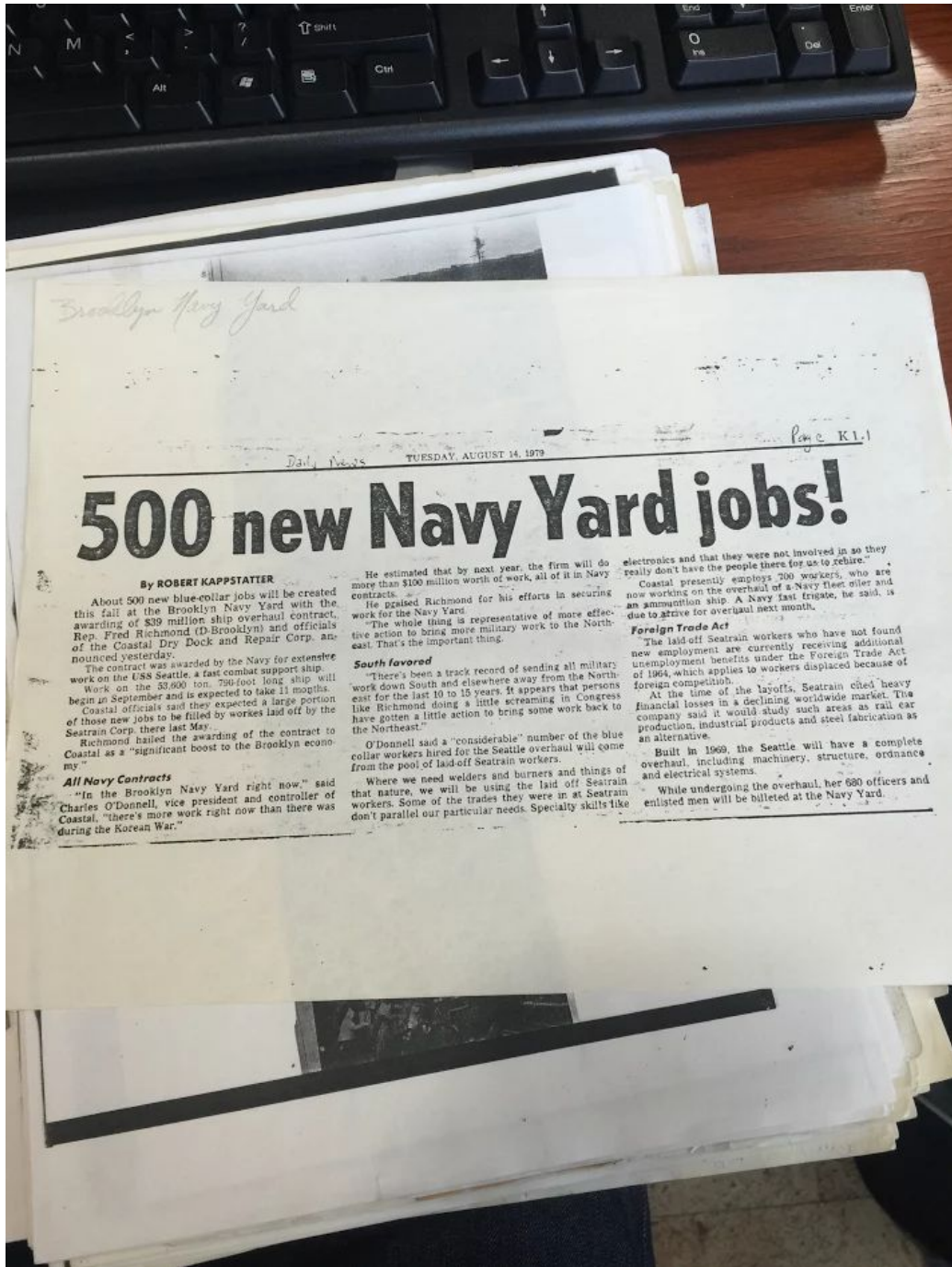
Pre-Visit:

I have never heard of a public library in Bryant Park, so this was my first time in the library. I knew that we went to the library because of the information and pictures that have not been digitized on their website.

Site Documentation (Photos):



In the photo above you can clearly see a very dense amount of naval production. The workforce was booming and they needed more workers to compensate for the amount of naval ship needed to be produced. This was taken in 1955 so it makes sense for the Navy Yard to employ a large workforce.



The picture above shows that 500 new jobs are available. This period of time was around the Vietnam War, so a huge demand of workforce was needed to make new naval ships. The Navy yard strikes me as a place that always needs a workforce, but this is not the case. The next picture involves The Navy Yard laying off employees.

Brooklyn Navy Yard

Scuttle 1800 More Navy Yard Jobs

N.Y. Post Jan - 23 - 1975 Page 5 Col 2

The Seatrain Shipbuilding Corp., citing a downturn in the tanker market due to what it termed the "world oil situation," has laid off 1800 more workers for a four-week period at the old Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Seatrain, the yard's biggest employer, said it was retaining only about 200 workers for maintenance. Two major ship projects are being delayed.

The company already has laid off more than 1000 employees since December.

Mayor Beame sent a telegram to President Ford urging "preferential consideration for American-built, American flag tankers."

Beame added: "The impact of these layoffs in Brooklyn, an already economically depressed area of our city, is particularly distressing, especially when we consider the multiplied effect on employment at the supporting service organizations in the vicinity."

Seatrain blamed not only the oil crisis but also President Ford for depressing the tanker market.

The picture above states that 1,800 jobs have been lost in the Navy Yard and who is to blame? The President of the United States for depressing the tanker market and the oil crisis.

Brooklyn Navy Yard

Brooklyn Navy Yard Gets Loan

N.Y. Amsterdam News
May 28, 1975 *B-1, 4*
The Department of Commerce has approved a \$40,000,000 loan for the Seatrain Corporation which will hopefully restore the jobs of 3,000 workers at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Praising the Department of Commerce, and in particular Secretary Morton and Asst. Sec. for Maritime Affairs Robert Blackwell, the two Brooklyn members of Congress Shirley Chisholm and Fred Richmond said they were pleased for their broad understanding of the ramifications of the layoffs at the Navy Yard and the need to return the workers to their jobs.

In January Seatrain, because of financial difficulties laid off 1800 workers and stopped construction at the Navy Yard. Secretary Morton told the two Brooklyn Representatives that the Ford Administration has decided to go ahead with a 90 per cent Federal guaranteed Economic Development Administration loan to Seatrain which will permit the company to resume construction of two tankers, the Bay Ridge and the Stuyvesant.

The two Representatives said, "At a time when unemployment in minority areas in Brooklyn is more than 20 per cent and New York's economic condition is desperate, the Seatrain loan could perhaps be a signal that the Federal Government has decided to look more favorably on assistance to urban areas."

In this picture above, you can see that the Navy Yard is getting a loan of \$40,000 to resume construction of two tankers.

Conclusion:

As you can see there has been attempts to save the workforce of the Navy Yard. Employment is very hard to deal with when we are talking about a Navy Yard because when there is no demand for ships you don't need workers. So over the years employment has been on and off.

Observations:

1. The yard fluctuates with the amount of workforce needed.
2. There seems to be a boom in production when there is a current war.
3. The mural is a clear representation of the lack of jobs that the Navy Yard holds.

Quantitative Data:

Subject	Data
Newspaper Articles	4
Maps	1
Pieces of Information	5

Questions and Hypothesis

Questions:

What happened to all the people that have been laid off?
Has the layoffs resulted in a migration of workers?

Hypothesis:

It seems they may have migrated or found a new job around the area.
It may have because they simply need to find a job.

Summary:

It was very interesting looking around the Library for these pieces of information. I really like how my site report has come so far. There is always something to explore when doing a site report. Very interesting information to be uncovered.

References to Explore Hypothesis

1. http://www.nytimes.com/1975/01/24/archives/lardoff-seatrain-workers-angry-at-company-grey-ford-union.html?_r=0