

Preservation & Development

Annotated Bibliography

Text Based Primary Source

3 x

Aya Morsy

Article 01

Development Not Even a Contender on Brooklyn's Waterfront

By: Andrew L. Yarrow

Aug. 21, 1991

Yarrow, Andrew L. "Development Not Even a Contender on Brooklyn's Waterfront." *New York Times*, 21 Aug. 1991.

http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?&id=GALE|A175302453&v=2.1&u=cuny_nytc&it=r&p=AONE&sw=w

This article is mainly about how the Brooklyn waterfront areas were suffering from neglect and decay, this includes Vinegar Hill as well. The city didn't care to develop the waterfront neighborhoods because they weren't confident that it would bring any income. People were realizing that there weren't any changes made or any development in industry at all. Vinegar Hill was mainly abandoned after the closing of Brooklyn Navy Yard in 1966. During 1980's people started to occupy Vinegar Hill again. They were mainly artist and artisans. In 1991 there were about 3,500 people living there and 180 working businesses. This shows that Vinegar Hill was becoming an active neighborhood since there were many businesses opened there. Seems like people didn't want to develop it more or make any changes. They wanted to preserve the neighborhood identity as it is.

Article 02

Neighborhood Report: Northern Brooklyn; Phoenix House Plans a Center: All's Quiet

June 26, 1994

"Neighborhood Report: Northern Brooklyn; Phoenix House Plans a Center: All's Quiet." *New York Times*, 26 June 1994.

http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?&id=GALE|A174444662&v=2.1&u=cuny_nytc&it=r&p=AONE&sw=w

In 1994 the Phoenix House foundation proposed a 200-bed treatment center in Vinegar Hill. This center is for residents to stay for 18 months to get treatment from drugs. Since the neighborhood is a very quiet place, it was perfect to put a treatment center. Many people living in Vinegar Hill liked the idea of it because they see it would be better for the neighborhood. It was going to improve safety and the appearance of the neighborhood. Vinegar Hill had a bad drug problem at the time especially in the Farragut Housing that holds 1,390 families. Many of the Farragut Houses residents were getting treatment at center in Brooklyn. After reading the article I see that the Farragut Houses were affecting Vinegar Hill negatively since they were the main source of drugs. It also made an unpleasant reputation of Vinegar Hill.

Article 03

The Little Town that Prices (Almost) Forgot

By: Jeff Vandam

Mar. 7, 2010

Vandam, Jeff. "The little town that prices (almost) forgot." *New York Times*, 7 Mar. 2010, p. 7(L).

http://go.galegroup.com/ps/i.do?&id=GALE|A220501643&v=2.1&u=cuny_nytc&it=r&p=AONE&sw=w&authCount=1

The Brooklyn waterfront had cheap rents but lately there many proposals for condominium towers. However, Vinegar Hill is still a neighborhood that not many people visit and it doesn't have any attractions of tourist. It's a very quiet neighborhood and the rents are very low. Residents living there all know one another. Vinegar Hill residents were pleased by the development of Dumbo because it increased traffic, less parking spaces, shadows of new towers, and people walking their dogs. Prices in Vinegar Hill wouldn't be as high as Dumbo because it doesn't have a good view like Dumbo does. From this article, we see that the residents don't want to develop Vinegar Hill since they disliked the development of Dumbo. The residents just want to keep it as a quiet neighborhood with 2-3 story high buildings.

Javier Zavaleta

Article 04

If You're Thinking of Living In/Vinegar Hill, Brooklyn; On Cobblestone Streets, History Lingers

By Dulcie Leimbach

Published August 31 2003

Leimbach, Dulcie. "If You're Thinking of Living In/Vinegar Hill, Brooklyn; On Cobblestone Streets, History Lingers." The New York Times. The New York Times, 30 Aug. 2003. Web. 18 Apr. 2017.

Part of the focus of our group is to find out how Vinegar Hill can be developed to the point where the general population increases. The primary purpose of this article is to sell readers on the idea of living and experiencing the life in Vinegar Hill by educating them on the historical background and value to the residence. It's important because it clearly points out the unique side of Vinegar Hill and it's purpose. For example the article states how "the Belgian-block streets, 19th-century wood-frame houses, brick row houses on Front Street and Gold Street and low-lying trees transport visitors and residents to another time" Which is what caught my eye when we walked around the village. The difference is quite telling and the reality as stated by the article is that this village was intended for Irish immigrants when it was first flourishing. What many may not see of the residence is the "evoking visions of immigrants stepping out of their small homes every morning to go to work in the Navy Yard or the factories, or as maids to Brooklyn Heights families". Because many of us don't live in this neighborhood we may not understand. What many of us see is old place from the the 19th or 20th century but others might see I quiet place to live in the city and opportunity to start a family. The reality is that this village has it's its own identity and shouldn't have to be exactly like it's neighbor DUMBO to be successful and grow. But with the positive the article also states out the negative and what should be the focus of the community in order to flourish. For one there is somewhat limited transportation, the closest one being York Street (F Train) which is about a 5 minute what and High Street (A, C train) which is about a 20 minute walk. Another is the limited amount of stores. This only includes bodegas and a fine food supermarket in the area. This is a problem, because it doesn't attract people to the neighborhood. I believe Vinegar Hill should continue and to start opening more business to experience the Vinegar Hill lifestyle. Something like SOHO but instead of copying the exact format maybe you bring in the roots and open irish pubs or irish influenced stores. A little related to Jackson Heights which has a massive amount of latino population and thus you have numerous latininos stores. The fact still continues to be that people want to live there because according to the article in 2003 you had 25 to 35 year olds specifically moving to the studios with a price range of 378k to 472k. So if that can be the focus of Vinegar Hill than the neighborhood can make adjustments according to the age range. It's interesting because on the recreational side we have parks. People

in that age range can have kids and that accommodate well with the already existing school.

Caitlin McManus

Article 05

A Neighborhood Identity Crisis: Transformation Brings Anxiety in Brooklyn's Dumbo CITY Brooklyn Neighborhood Faces an Identity Crisis

By Somini Sengupta

Published in 1999

By, S. S. (1999, Jun 09). A neighborhood identity crisis. *New York Times*

(1923-Current File) Retrieved from

<https://search-proquest-com.citytech.ezproxy.cuny.edu/docview/110141177?accountid=28313>

In Somini Sengupta's article, A Neighborhood Identity Crisis, there is a fair variety of opinions of the citizens of the Vinegar Hill and DUMBO regarding the developers of the neighborhood proposing waterfront activities and hotels. Each of the people interviewed in this article shared at least one negative factor about the anticipated change and development of the neighborhood. While some said it is an opportunity to feel safer and would like a few additional restaurants, others were opposed to development in an extreme way even rejecting the trees that were added to the streets. This article is important to the group bibliography because it shows the insight of the people living in Dumbo and Vinegar hill. It answers many of the questions the group has about the way people feel about the neighborhood changing. The article also provides valid statements for why people don't want developers to change the neighborhood which is the type of information we need to prove what the people of Vinegar Hill are opposing change for.

Article 06

Under the Manhattan Bridge in Brooklyn, a Builder has Big Plans

By, DAVID W. "Under the Manhattan Bridge in Brooklyn, a Builder has Big Plans." *New York Times (1923-Current file)*: 2. Oct 25 1998. ProQuest. Web. 19 Apr. 2017

In this article we see the story of the primary developer of the neighborhood we know today as DUMBO but was once known as Gairville. This article gives us background about how difficult it was for Mr. David C. Walentas to get approval to develop the area, how he couldn't get any loans because no one trusted this area for development, and the constant battle between the residents once it was officially developing. It is important to have an understanding of both the residents and developers for our assignment this way we ear unbiased. In some way, everyone

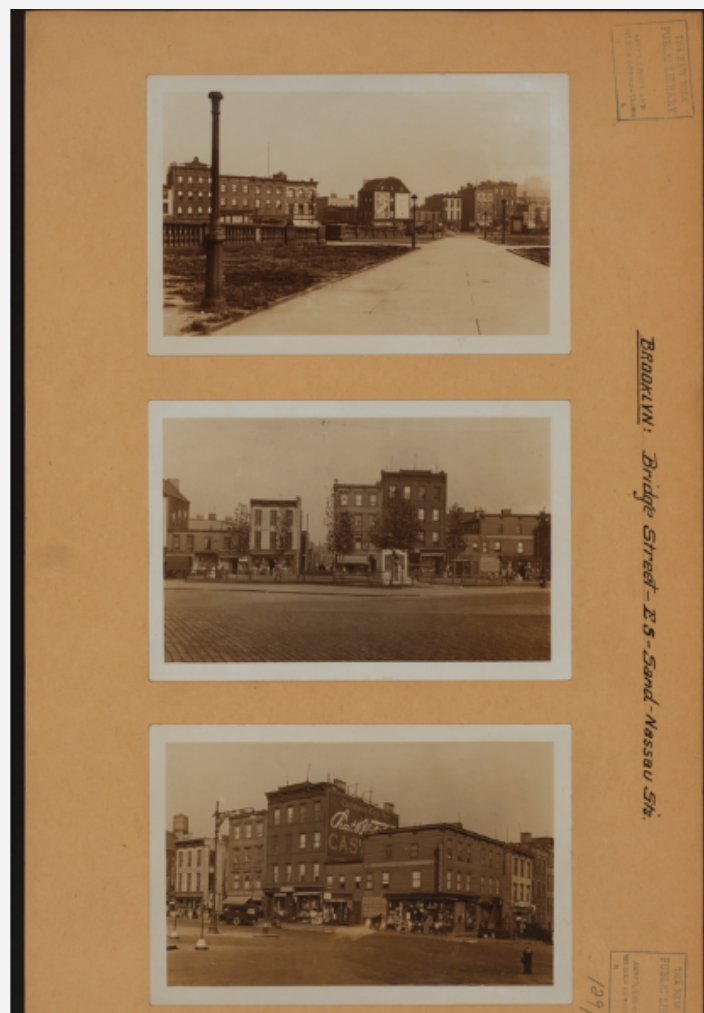
needs to agree to development. In Vinegar Hill, perhaps like in DUMBO, residents would like a safer neighborhood, a park, and restaurants. Mr. Walentas was aware of the need, and he provided; he then made millions off of it. We need to analyze the good, bad, and ugly of each party.

Image Based Primary Source

1 x

Pedro Torres

Picture 01



Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy, The New York Public Library. "Brooklyn: Bridge Street - Sand Street" *The*

New York Public Library Digital Collections. 1927.

<http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47dc-c6b4-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a9>

This picture shows how Bridge St & Sand St looked like in 1927. The streets in the picture doesn't exist now because of the construction of the Brooklyn Queens Expressway. This picture shows a completely different Bridge Street and Sand Street than the one from today. In the picture it shows a repetition of three or four story building with the ground level being a store front. That makes the building a mixed used building. What we see now on bridge street are commercial building mostly warehouses. Although most warehouses are now being repurposed for housing, offices, or art spaces. As for Sands Street it is now all NYCHA housing as well as the BQE. This image tells a completely different story of how active this neighborhood was before the creation of the BQE on 1961 which ultimately changed the history of Vinegar Hill. The BQE came and eliminated some of these friendly looking streets which had commercial spaces for people to mingle and shop in the area.

Picture 02

Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy, The New York Public Library. "Brooklyn: Sands Street - Gold Street" *The New York Public Library Digital Collections. 1938 - 1934.*

<http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47dc-b3a3-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>

BROOKLYN: Sands Street - No. 194-198

267/02-3

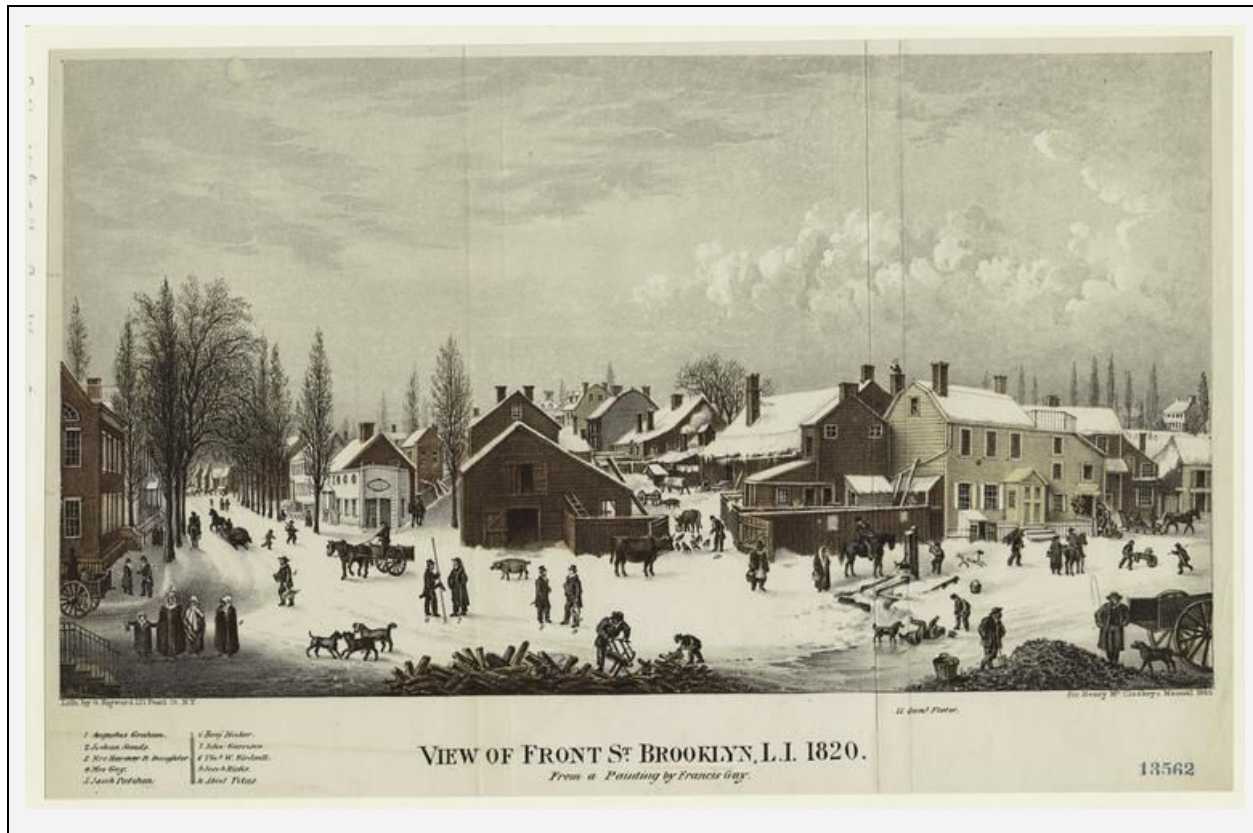


Irma and Paul Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy, The New York Public Library. "Brooklyn: Sands Street - Gold Street" *The New York Public Library Digital Collections*. 1938 - 1934.

<http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47dc-b3a3-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>

This image shows Sands Street & Gold Street in 1938 and 1934. Its interesting to see how Sands Street & Gold Street was before the NYCHA housing. Before the NYCHA housing it's interesting to imagine that this block looked almost identical to all the blocks in Vinegar hill and the majority of Brooklyn. You can also see the railroads tracks that were used to supply the stores in the neighborhood. The elimination of the railroad tracks and addition of the BQE, and NYCHA homes to the neighborhood are definitely factors that have influenced the neighborhood. Both additions have had an impact hugely on the neighborhood.

Picture 03



Art and Picture Collection, The New York Public Library. "View of Front St. Brooklyn, L.I. 1820." *The New York Public Library Digital Collections*. 1865. <http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/items/510d47e1-0f21-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>

This is an interesting painting from 1865 by Francis Guy. We can see that most of the houses were made out of wood; they have wood shingles on the facade. Homes now are made out of brick facade, which has changed due to the advancement of technology and understanding of materials. It is interesting to see that the painter painted that the animals were roaming freely. We can also see that there was a lot of working people on the streets, something we definitely don't see now in days. This community was a working class community which changed a lot.

Scholarly or Academic Source	1 x
------------------------------	-----

Stacey Batice
Source 01

Annotated Bibliography

Shepard, B. (2013, April 01). The Battle of Brooklyn: World City and Space of Neighborhoods.

Retrieved April 10, 2017, from

<https://www.questia.com/library/journal/1P3-2964735231/the-battle-of-brooklyn-world-city-and-space-of-neighborhoods>

Shepard offers an in-depth look at how Brooklyn residents fight to save their neighborhoods from real estate's future projects. The question was asked, what is the future of Brooklyn's neighborhoods once they have been rezoned? The residents of Vinegar Hill are yet to get an answer to this question and this could be their reason of opposing any new development in the area. Once Brooklyn is redesigned the historic touchstones of Vinegar will be in danger of being buried from its location and residents memory. Shepard further mentioned how other neighborhoods including Fort Greene, DUMBO, Williamsburg, and Carroll Gardens are blossoming as young professionals and artists settle into them but then asked the question who stands to benefit and who stands to be pushed out? Look at the proximity of Vinegar Hill to DUMBO which means the struggle of social cultural and environmental costs, the regular residents of Vinegar Hill will be part of the changes hence opposing to any changes.