

Learning Places Fall 2018

SITE REPORT #1

Downtown Brooklyn



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INTRODUCTION

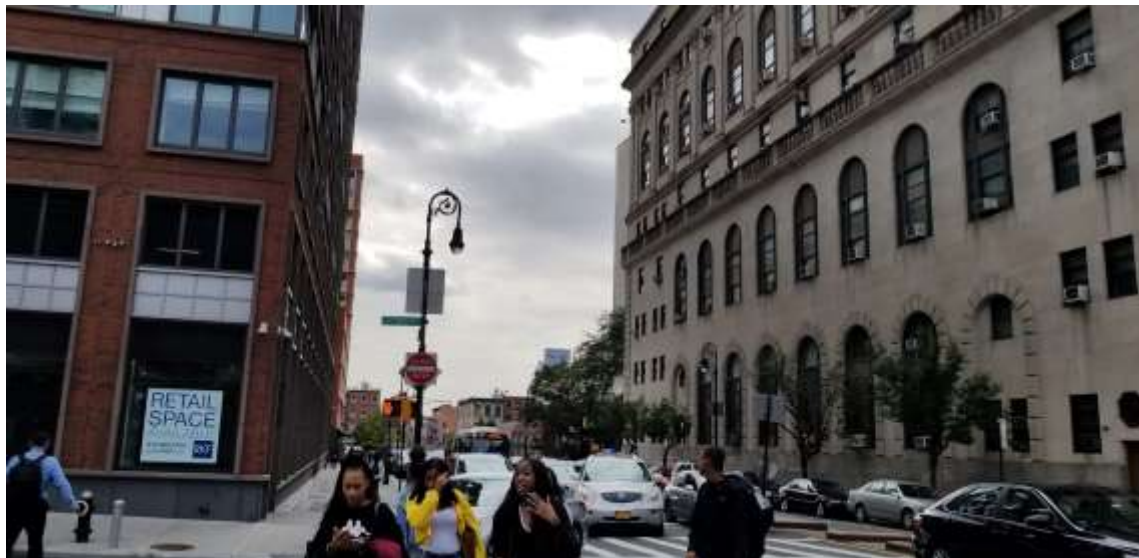
Scope of activity was to walk from Point A (City Tech Namn Building) to Point B (Barclays Center), taking two completely different routes, to understand history and possible future of places and observe things we saw on our way.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos*)

*At least 1 photo of archive / library space & 1 photo of a resource found required per site visit



View of the Barclays Center from behind the train station entry/exit. I remember I read somewhere that grass on top of the building is meant to reduce noise while there are shows inside. Neighbors had complained about the noise and they decided to use grass, since the grass have extremely complex root system.



This is the picture from corner of State and Smith Streets. From this corner building scale changed significantly from multi story to townhouses and sometimes 3 story buildings with commercial space on 1st floor.

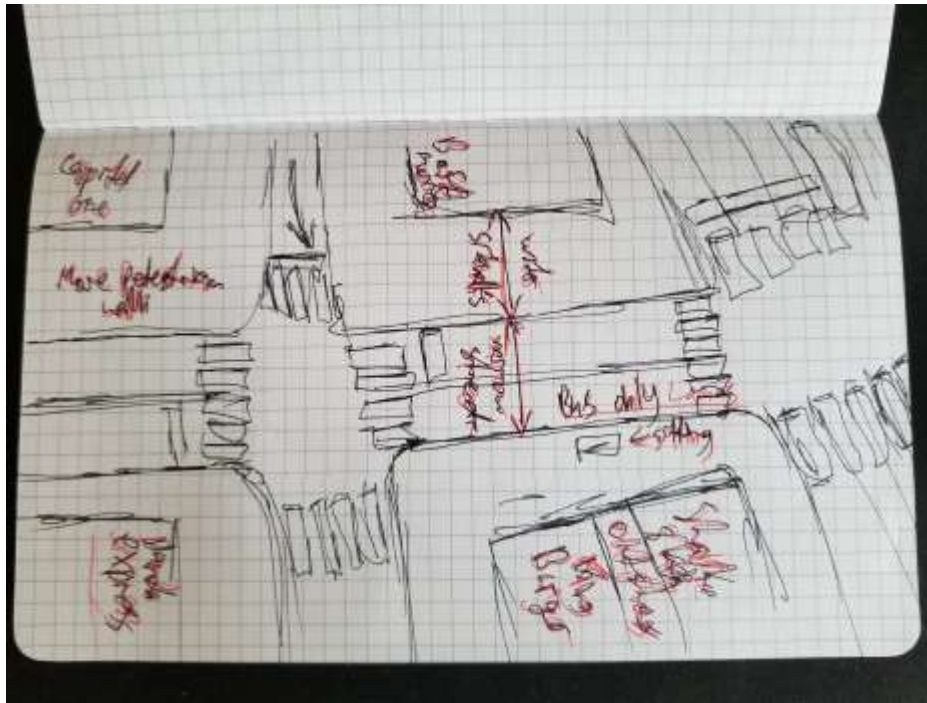


Dean Street, one way street with townhouses both sides, pretty narrow street considering 2 parking lanes are always full of cars and narrow sidewalks but still a good experience to walk down this street, seeing different looking houses all same height and enjoying the fresh air produced by these huge trees which we don't see on every street

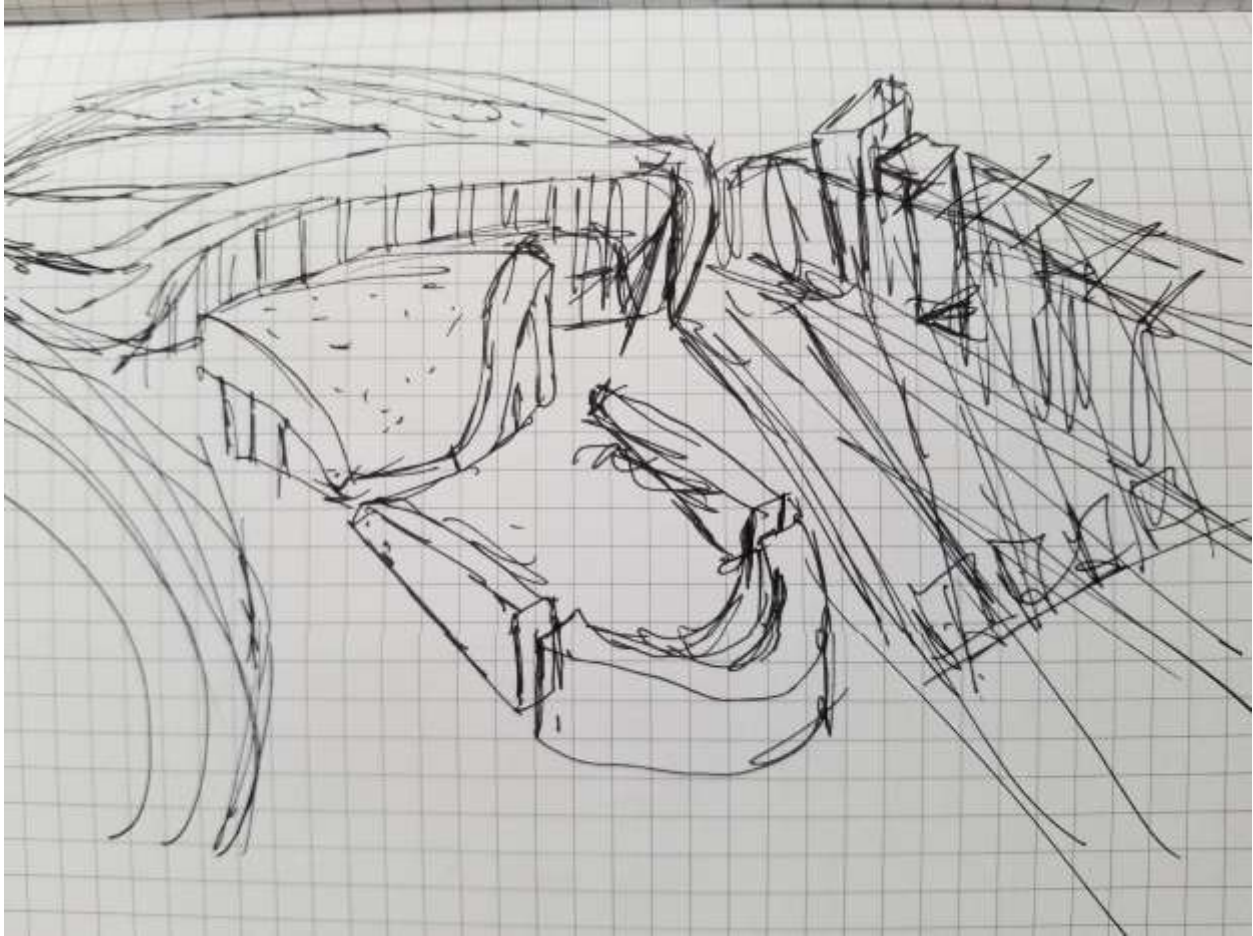


Three buildings next to each other. They are very alike, I checked on oasis map and they are built in 1920. They are brick buildings 3 stories with 1st floor of commercial. All windows align. Two on the right have the same cornice but different color. I guess the owner didn't want to have them look the same so he decided to have different cornice and small details on each building

SITE DOCUMENTATION (sketches*)



This is a site plan sketch of Fulton Street at around Jay street corner. Sketch shows comparison of sidewalks and streets itself. Sidewalks each side are way wider and streets are designed as one lane 2 way street just for buses and deliveries. This street is designed mostly for walkers



This is the sketch of Barclays Center. The center itself in the back, a little closer to us is the subway station and behind that is little bit of sitting area. The place is pretty open between train station and the entrance of the center itself. Which makes it easy for people who just walk around or get off the train to have enough space from huge amount of people standing in line to get in the building.

GENERAL NOTES:

- One family townhouses and sudden mix of multistory buildings.
- Comparison between two walks was 1st noisy and 2nd very quiet.
- 3 buildings built in 1920 next to each other are alike with minimal different ornaments at cornice

INSIGHTS/DISCOVERIES

During our two site walks i discovered several things:

1. The first site walk was pretty crowded between tall buildings and it was so loud caused by multilane street traffic, so much people and outside business. In fact, the second walk was way quiet. I personally enjoyed the second one more. It was almost just us in the streets.
2. The grid change where I could see not just flat elevation of the building at the corner, but an actual corner view @ the end of Jay street.
3. Between Smith and Nevins Streets on Dean Street there were all 1 family townhouses but after that, there was a huge setback in front of the school that also decreased the amount of trees on the sidewalk and introduced far view of towers across couple of blocks
4. Apparent scale change of buildings on Jay Street, shown on picture somewhere up there
5. Most of the buildings had brick facades and some of them wood facades
6. Almost every townhouse on Dean Street had this transition from brownstone to brick at the cellar level.
7. On dean street we saw townhouses and a lot of huge trees, like the street was shaded, but a little towards the streets where there are towers and higher buildings, I barely noticed trees, because there was just couple per block and very small trees

KEYWORDS/VOCABULARY & DEFINITIONS

*5 keywords minimum required per site visit

Cornice - a crown of a building

Ionic Column - one of the three Greek columns

Porch - projection in front of the entrance of a building

Brownstone - Brown sandstone used for building