

# SITE REPORT #2 - Brooklyn Collection

View of Atlantic Yards, where Nets arena would be constructed.

## Nets arena foes make case to IOC

BY DEBORAH KOLBEN  
DAILY NEWS WRITER

THEY CALLED it a "Trojan Horse." Foes of developer Bruce Ratner's \$2.5 billion bid to build an NBA arena in Prospect Heights this week told the visiting International Olympic Committee they were being duped — just like the Greeks deceived the Trojans.

Members of the group Develop, Don't Destroy Brooklyn were given 15 minutes to present their case to four committee officials at a closed-door meeting Wednesday morning.

"The Olympic bid is a Trojan horse being used to grab 24 acres of prime real estate in Brooklyn," Shabnam Merchant said she told the committee.

"Real estate developers are really using you guys," she said to the four IOC representatives.

The proposed Atlantic Yards project includes an arena and 17 apartment and office towers. The arena would be used for gymnastics during the 2012 Summer Games.

Arena opponents say that Ratner supporters hope that attaching the arena to the Olympics will help garner public support for the project.

"They're co-opting the Olympics for a real estate deal," Merchant said. The anti-arena group insists, however, that it is not opposed to the city's Olympic bid.

The 13-member IOC panel spent four days touring New York as part an evaluation of the city's bid for the 2012 Games.

Committee members could not be reached for comment on the meeting. A Ratner spokesman declined to comment.

Opponents blanketed the neighborhood this week in banners slamming Ratner's planned development, which would stretch above the Long Island Rail Road yards along Atlantic Ave. and Pacific St. between Vanderbilt and Flatbush Aves.

"We want the IOC to know there's enormous controversy over this arena," said Patti Hagan of the Prospect Heights Action Coalition.

Hagan and a handful of neighbors braved the cold yesterday carrying anti-arena placards in hopes of running into the committee, which spent yesterday touring Staten Island, Brooklyn and New Jersey.

"Eminent Domain Abuse," declared one of the banners, alluding to Ratner's attempt to use the government's power to condemn private land for development.

The panel has visited Madrid and London and travels to Paris and Moscow next month before the July vote in Singapore.

"They seemed very engaged and were taking lots of notes," Merchant said about the meeting. "I'm glad they stopped to listen to the community."

Friday, February 25, 2009

DAILY NEWS

RAF Atlantic Yards

This image represents the view of the Atlantic Yards before the construction of the Barclays Center. Which I didn't have the opportunity to see it before the construction.

STUDENT NAME: Maricel Rodriguez

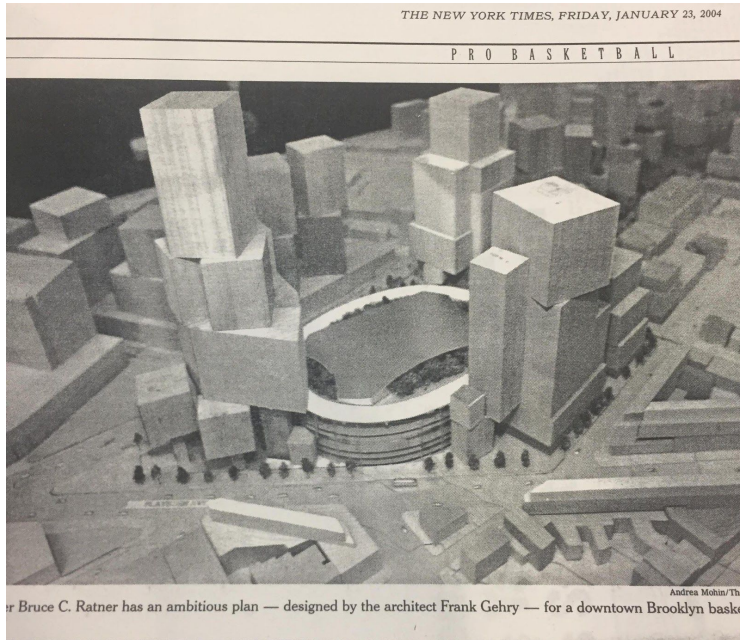
DATE: October 11, 2018

## INTRODUCTION

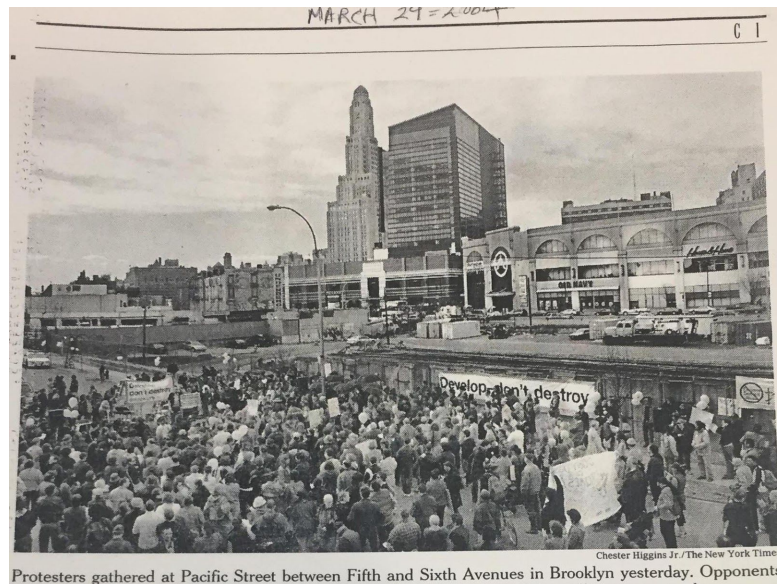
My expectations of the place before arriving was to find a lot of documentation from the Atlantic Yards. My experience lived up to my expectations because we definitely saw archives from years ago about the changes that underwent Brooklyn with the Barclays Center. What I notice about the place

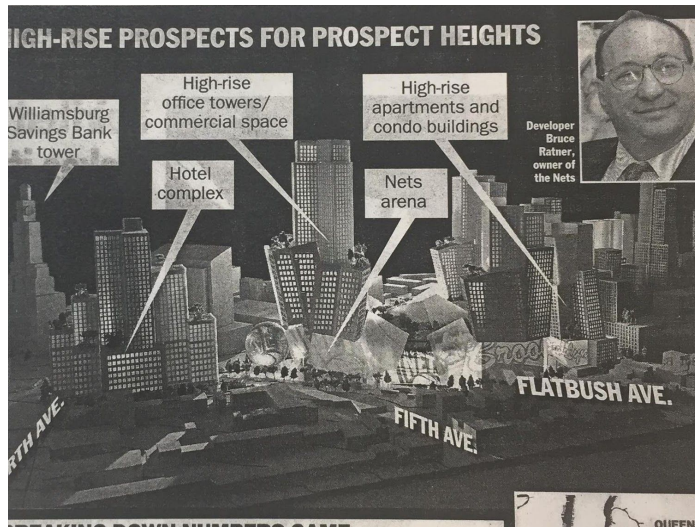
that I didn't already know from reading or previous visits is that before the construction of the Barclays Center there was a railyard.

## ARCHIVE OBSERVATIONS



The Dream Before Construction





The New Manhattan In Brooklyn

I chose these pictures because they show a before and after look. However, these pictures do not summarize any feeling for the place because I didn't know about it at that moment but now, looking at all the projects planned for this place, the Atlantic Yards, and how has changed Brooklyn after the Barclays Center gives me a nostalgic feeling. These pictures features the place before, during and future vision of the construction at the Atlantic Yards.

Few of the archival documents I examined were maps, articles, and books. The purpose of this documents serve now as a reference of what happened then, during and after the projects for Brooklyn. All documents serve to record information for later use. I think that the purpose they served when they were published or created was to inform the people and know about what was happening at their surroundings. Also, because it records the changes that undergo the city for later use or to take a look back if something when wrong and want to refer it to future plans so they omit the errors.

Considering that the Brooklyn Collection is part of the Brooklyn Public Library, Central Library. Some of the public amenities are offered to users of the space such as water fountains, wheelchair access and other supports for the disabled, public telephones, phone charging stations, help to create your city ID, subway and bus stations. However some public amenities are missing such as WiFi and security check, as compared to the NY public library in Manhattan.

I believe that planners, designers, and architects communicated the purpose of the place, via signage because they use graphic display to convey the audience with given information. They use signage to promote, identify, provide information, give directions and/or to raise safety awareness of such construction and to limit themselves to speak to a crowd that may not agree to a new imposing project.

There are restrictions/rules about how to use the space or interact with other people in the library by not using pen, only pencil, large bags and skateboards are not permitted, we must communicate silently and respect the books or maps since they are very old and delicate. I didn't see anyone using the space in a manner that exceeds or violates the intentional design.

My personal experience of the place was all right. I never had the opportunity to visit the New York Public Library therefore I took a look to what was around me, i also felt safe because at the entrance we were checked for security purposes which this contrasted with the Brooklyn Library because they lack of security, however, i have been in this library twice or more, so, I know a little bit of how this library works. Both libraries are a total different experience.

## **ANALYSIS/DISCOVERIES**

Thinking about the neighborhood in which the the Brooklyn Library is embedded, this space is designed for students, teachers or people around the neighborhood, this library is more for learning purposes rather than touring as the other library in Manhattan which serves for educational purposes but I feel that people would go just for a visit and to take a look on what's in there.

By examining my experience and studying the materials from the Brooklyn Collection I encounter the picture of the railyard back in 2006, which I don't remember seeing it, all I remember is the Barclays Center and nothing before that. I think that for the most part the articles, maps, books, and other information is preserved in order to have evidence of the changes, to keep track of the city's growth or collapse, this is done to keep track of the city. At the Map Division we had so much information available in digital form and few in the Brooklyn Collection. I believe that this is preserved

for the public that it's interested or has to use this information for educational reasons either as a teacher or student.

## QUESTIONS for FURTHER RESEARCH

1. Is the Barclays Center good for Brooklyn businesses?
2. Is the Barclays Center the only project that came to the Atlantic Yards or drags more?
3. If the rent increases due to new projects, such as high-rise buildings, stadiums, etc., what will be the destination for many people who will not be able to afford housing?