

Learning Places Fall 2019

SITE REPORT #1

Gowanus Canal



Select a meaningful image that captures your perception of the site we visited.

STUDENT NAME: Lenny Marin

PART 1: SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. What are some general observations about the character of this neighborhood? What does it remind you of? How does it make you feel?

Small town like, very calm and quiet, old fashion brooklyn flair.

2. How is the natural world contained or shaped by human activity or architecture? In what ways does the natural world invade or disrupt human activity, planning or architecture?

In context with gowanus people didn't care no companies causing them to alter the environment. Such As dumping waste and an attempt to clean it.

3. What people did you observe in the neighborhood and what activities are they engaged in?

Walking around, enjoying parks, entering small stories/shop

4. Reflect on a **specific** place you viewed in this neighborhood. A specific place means a single building, or an intersection, or an individual built structure, etc.
 - a. Insert 1 photograph and/or sketch and provide a *creative* caption for the image. The caption should be a word or short phrase that suggests a theme or conceptual association related to the photo or sketch.



Calm yet Frightening

Historical Drawbridge

- b. What is the *program* of the space? How are people meant to interact with one another and with the environment?

It doesn't seem to have a program for the space with people to interact with unless it's something that is shown to be implemented by the surrounding building complex nearby.

- c. describe a possible creative reuse of this **specific** space for a performance:
- a) Which areas are best for performers/activists and which areas are good for observers? Do these spaces overlap? Mention specific objects and structures in your answer.

The best place for performance is at parks, government facilities, and stage. These places can cause an overlap on what to expect. Especially on bridges is the most influential aspect on a protest or performance.

- b) What kinds of performance would work best (intimate or grand; processional or stationary; text and/or music; interactive or passive audience; etc.)?

I would think that a stationary performance would work the best when creating this type of protest demonstration.

QUESTIONS for FURTHER RESEARCH. These should follow directly from your analysis section and be complex and specific enough to serve as the basis of a research project.

Questions might relate to architectural or environmental observations, socio-political problems and/or solutions, demography, history, zoning, civic processes, performance strategy, etc.

1. Is there a way to create a protection from natural disasters such as hurricanes?
2. What can we ensure that the new york government can't stop ignoring the problem of the Gowanus Canal?
3. What created the Gowanus Canal to become so polluted without the care of the government which knew this for years?

PART 2: RESEARCH

Revised Research Question: Is there a way to help the canal combat natural disasters such as hurricanes.

CITATION 1: Mandigo, Amy C., et al. "Chemical Contamination of Soils in the New York City Area Following Hurricane Sandy." *SpringerLink*, Springer Netherlands, 20 Oct. 2015, <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10653-015-9776-y>.

Why did you select this source? How does it address all or part of your research question?

It gave an understanding of how polluted the Canal has become ever since with it still being not taken care of. We can understand what people can or can't do to try and help fix this Canal.

Is the source credible? Why or why not?

Yes, because it shows different statistics of federal information.

What further information would you need to answer your question? Where would you look for additional sources?

The health risk statistics of the Gowanus Canal to understand the amount of population.

CITATION 2: Rosenzweig, Cynthia, and William Solecki. "Hurricane Sandy and Adaptation Pathways in New York: Lessons from a First-Responder City." *Global Environmental Change*, vol. 28, 2014, pp. 395–408., doi:10.1016/j.gloenvcha.2014.05.003.

Why did you select this source? How does it address all or part of your research question?

It utilizes the information from both climate change and the canal's pollution. It gives a recent event that happened into an adaptation.

Is the source credible? Why or why not?

Yes, Global Environmental Change interacts with the rest of the world in climate change.

What further information would you need to answer your question? Where would you look for additional sources?

The spending of new york since the pollution of Gowanus Canal.

PART 3: Performance Reflection (after second site visit)

I wasn't able to attend the second visit the space the Gowanus Canal for the performing activities due to my cold being out of hand on Sept. 19. This visit change couldn't perception of the place and my relationship to the natural and built environments. I don't think the experience of 'performing' in the space teach me anything new about the landscape or architecture because architecture is not made to support either a protest or a society mindset. Even though it can flow society views that doesn't show that it is fully focus on society.