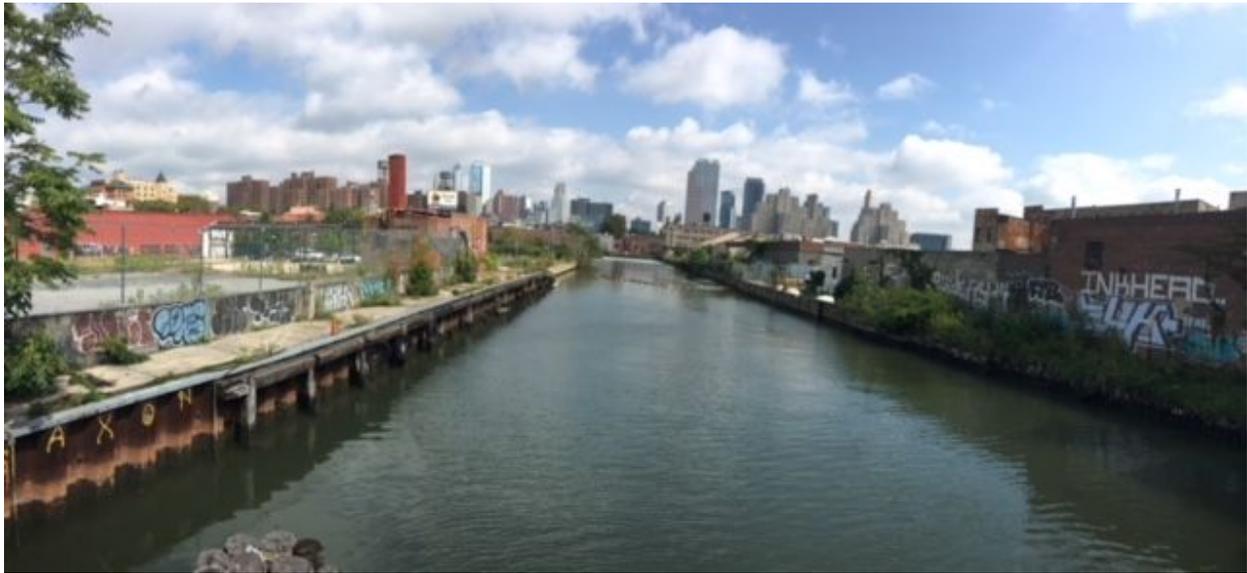


Learning Places Fall 2017

# SITE REPORT #1

## Gowanus



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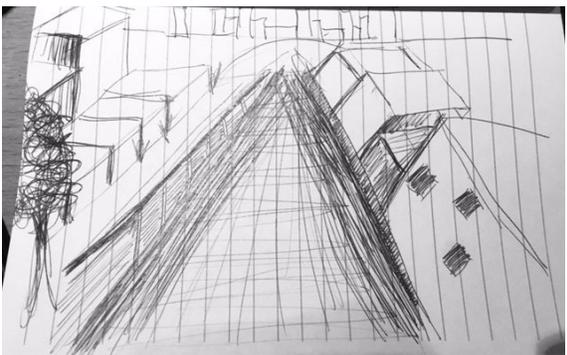
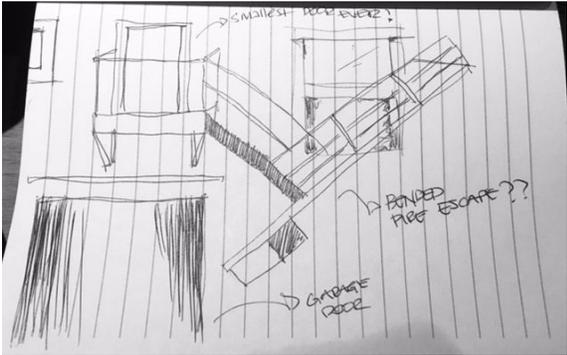
### INTRODUCTION

The canal used for waterborne transportation of goods. Tugs and barges still navigate the canal daily. Union, Carroll, 3rd street intersect the canal. Being that this canal is a superfund site, and is gentrifying.

### SITE OBSERVATIONS:

The scale of the average height of a building is 2-3 stories high. Patterns of brick colors, browns, maroons, natural colors. Trees surround the neighborhood every 20 feet. Buildings next to canals are majority industrial and commercial business as if a buffer protection to the residential homes that follow. One/two yachts on the canal....Smaller businesses like shops, coffee shops and restaurants are

scattered within the residential area. Lots of shrubs adjacent to the water of the canal, must be shrubs that do not require much attention since they are not cared for. These areas do not have any public seating areas near the canal. But towards 3rd street housing development, this urban planning adjacent to the canal provided seatings along the water. So when the water quality is fully restored, people will already have the custom of sitting in these public areas of the canal, but no one is using it now. The mix of industrial and residential planning is so dense. The noise during the day from the warehouses are buffered by the trees and streets.



## ANALYSIS/DISCOVERIES

Graffiti artists and wall art artists have utilized the boring walls of the industrial areas and covered it with art. The art is camouflaging the industrial areas with warm colors, local caricatures, connecting you to the neighborhood. Since median household income is 110\$K, renovations on the redeveloped houses are very luxurious and trendy. The conversion of these town houses to modern row houses are individually unique. Its proximity to the train hub and whole foods, and larger commercial areas connect to the site to that make very central as well.

## KEYWORDS/ VOCABULARY

1. Superfund site
2. Whole Foods
3. Graffiti
4. Retractable bridge-Carroll Street
5. Vertical wind turbine

## QUESTIONS for FURTHER RESEARCH

1. Is the industrial areas too loud for the residents?
2. Since it seems like a local custom, How many layers of graffiti art are on the walls?
3. How often does the Carroll Street bridge move (day, month, year)?