

Learning Places Fall 2016

# Library / Archive REPORT

## THE History of brooklyn in the library.

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### INTRODUCTION

During this visit we will have the privilege to look at very old archive materials from brooklyn history at the Brooklyn Public library located by Grand Army Plaza. I strongly look forward to look at very old archival documents from all parts of brooklyn but, specially those from the canal. Also, something more exciting will be to look at maps of brooklyn in transition, from the times where there only roads with no pavement to the present times. This will give me a opportunity to learn more about the background brooklyn not just its physical aspect of it but, the people which is more important and indeed a big chunk of what a place really means to be a place.

### SITE OBSERVATIONS

(include photographic documentation and visual notes—at least 2 photographs 1 sketch required)

What is the Genius Loci, or spirit, of this place?

This library seem very historic, when you into any other public library you feel a totally different sensation. You see all of the books in shelves. In the other hand at this library people are so careful about this archives that they have specific room for certain different types of archives.

What kind of archive or library is this? What kinds of materials / sources does this place collect?

This library has one of the oldest collection in terms of brooklyn history. There you can find Atlas maps from brooklyn, clipping from the daily eagle newspapers. Maps on how brooklyn have been physically changing over the years and many more very valuable archives that might not be found somewhere

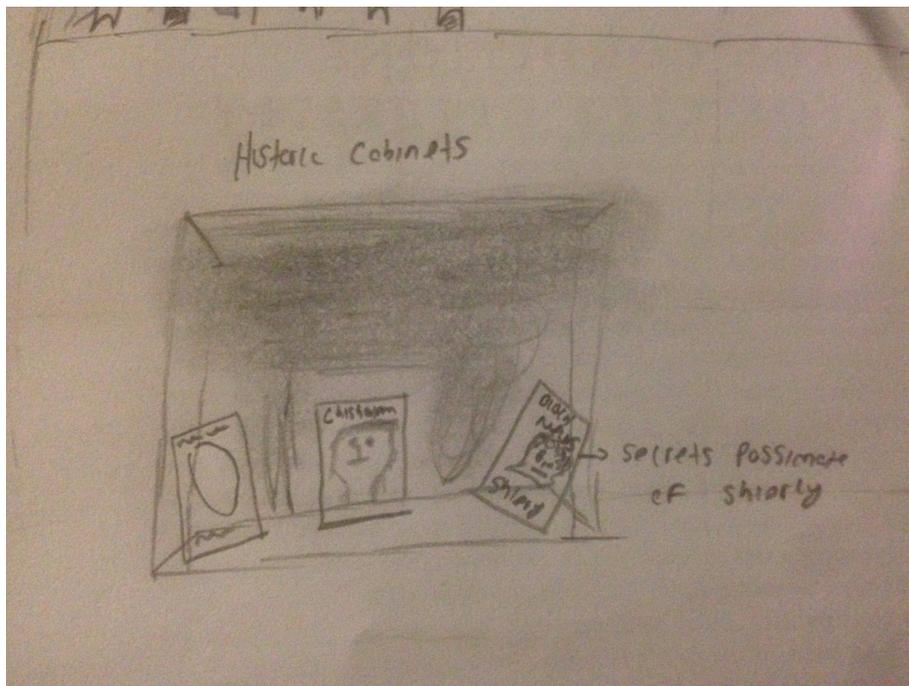
else.

Who might use this collection and for what purpose?

This collection can be used by historians to dig into the past of Brooklyn more, researchers, developers and even agencies like the DPA to address the ongoing issue of the Gowanus pollution.

Are there any special rules for using or accessing material?

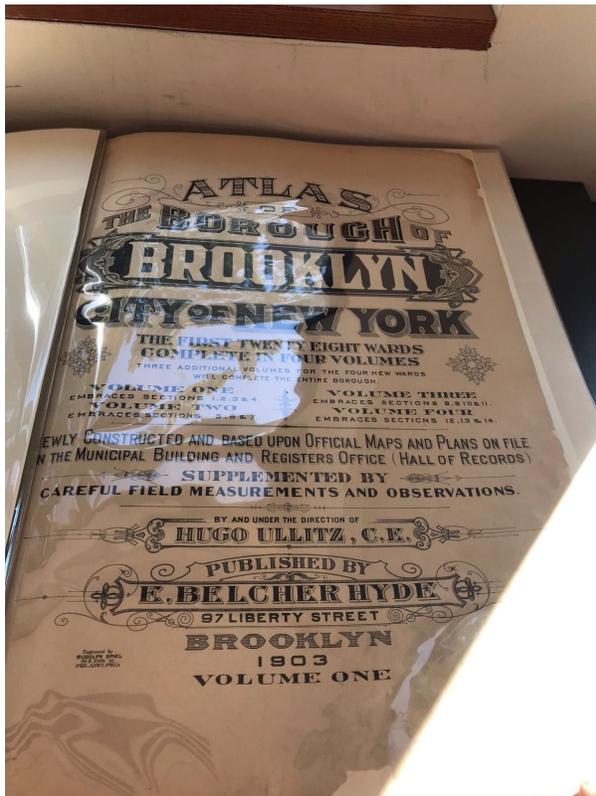
Like any other library rule number one in all libraries is not food/water. In terms of using the sources found in there, they cannot be taken out of the place since they cannot be found everywhere. Also they have to be reserved at the front desk.



## SOURCE ANALYSIS

(2 citations of sources found and a brief analysis of each source—photos optional)

CITATION for ARCHIVAL SOURCE #1 (consult this [website](#) for help with citations)



*E. BELCHER HYDE. (1903). [Atlas The Borough Of Brooklyn City Of New York]. The Brooklyn Archives, Alas Collection, Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn, NY*

1. What is this source and what is its purpose?

This source is nothing more but a collection of maps that show brooklyn, In this Atlas there is a key that tells you all of the physical aspect of the things like the building, the streets and the color.

2. Who created it and who was it created for?

This was created by E. BELCHER HYDE and it was created to show the physical aspect of brooking by that time.

3. What does this source tell us about the place we are studying? What themes or subtopics does it relate to?

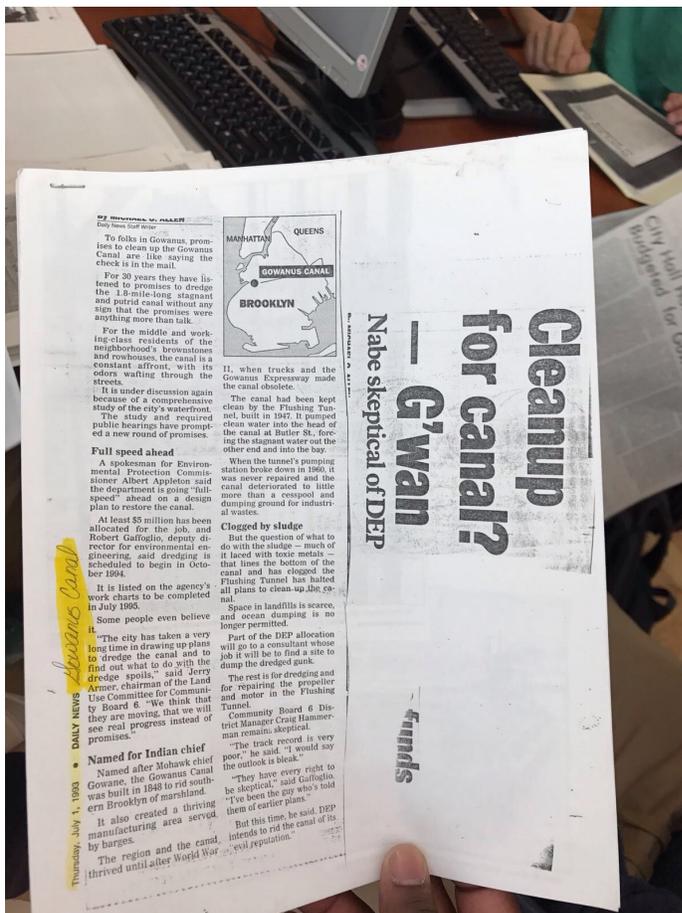
This source closely related to what we are studying about gowanus in the way that we can

see what was there before and what is there now and, we can see how the gowanus canal was affected by all those factories throwing their waste into the canal.

4. How might it be integrated into a research project? What question could it be used to help answer?

This can be a perfect resource for research to be integrated in research about the gowanus. Since you can see the difference of the old Gowanus and the future vision that organisations like the gowanus conservancy have for the gowanus. Also this can be good for future research after the Gowanus is developed and see the changes and effects that zoning will bring to the gowanus.

CITATION for ARCHIVAL SOURCE #2 (consult this [website](#) for help with citations)



MICHAEL O. ALLEN(1933,July 1) . [Daily News]. The Brooklyn Archives,Alas Collection, Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn, NY

1. What is this source and what is its purpose?

This newspaper clipping talks about the gowanus cleaning.

2. Who created it and who was it created for?

It was created by Michael o. Allen and daily news writer and the purpose of this to criticize the promises that have been made to clean the canal for thirty years and still nothing has been done about it.

3. What does this source tell us about the place we are studying? What themes or subtopics does it relate to?

This source has a huge change to be used in the matter of the cleaning of the canal. Themes that can be apply to this clipping is the battle that agencies have been going for so long to clean the canal, also, are DPA promises ever become not word but action.

4. How might it be integrated into a research project? What question could it be used to help answer? The clipping says a lot on how people have been struggling to get the DPA to clean the canal. In the mid part of the newspaper it says that the agencies were going to have all set by july 1995 which as we can see today it was a total scam.

## GENERAL NOTES:

- How has Brooklyn change
- The gowanus pollution clean un project
- Development of Brooklyn through the years
- Physical aspects of the old Brooklyn(color of buildings, material,color,physical aspect and shape , etc)

- The Gowanus cleanup has been going for more than 20 years and nothing has happened.

## QUESTIONS for Further RESEARCH

1. Since we know that almost every time, history repeats itself, the Gowanus cleanup project has been going for more than a decade, is there something that is securing the people that the Gowanus canal will be cleaned in the next 10-15 years?
2. How do you think the Gowanus resident's vision changes and what feelings are they after knowing that in the long run Gowanus is going to be torn down and build a new Gowanus? Will it feel like home anymore?
3. What is the DPA and government doing to prevent the polluting after it is cleaned?