

Learning Places Fall 2017

Library / Archive REPORT

New York Public Library

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INTRODUCTION

The New York Public Library (NYPL) is a public library system that is a private, independently managed, nonprofit corporation. The Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, originally called the Central Building and more widely known as the Main Branch is designed by Thomas Hastings and John Mervin Carrère with Beaux Arts style, opened to public in 1911.

SITE OBSERVATIONS



What is the Genius Loci, or spirit, of this place? Ancient, historical, economically strong

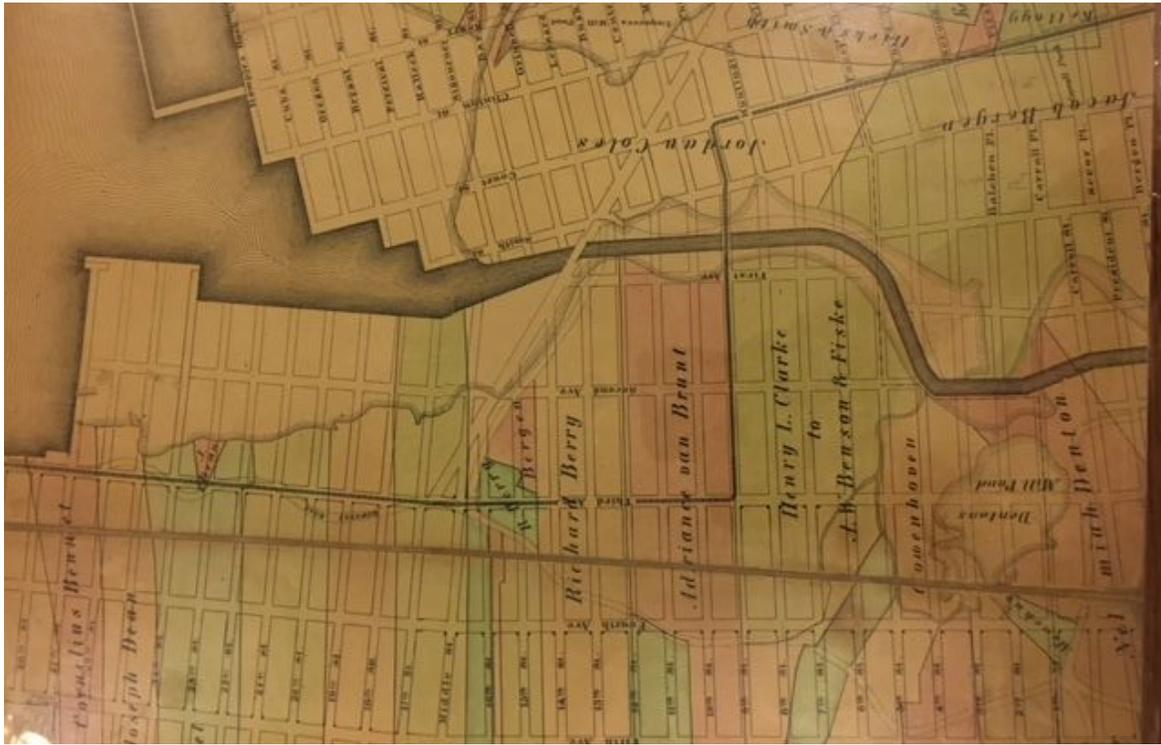
What kind of archive or library is this? What kinds of materials / sources does this place collect?

They collect all printed, and digital matter documenting every aspect of the city's past.

Who might use this collection and for what purpose? In our case, we are trying to understand the history of the Gowanus canal. Others can research for architectural changes , insurance related; anyone that wants to connect to the past conditions of the city.

Are there any special rules for using or accessing material? All material in the collection room that we visited are be utilized in that room of the branch.

SOURCE ANALYSIS



CITATION for ARCHIVAL SOURCE #1

1. *What is this source and what is its purpose?* Perris dated 1855
2. *Who created it and who was it created for?* Perris created it and it was created for the farming records.
3. *What does this source tell us about the place we are studying? What themes or subtopics does it relate to?* It tells us the original owners of the land, which we can connect the dots to today's streets names.
4. *How might it be integrated into a research project? What question could it be used to help answer?* It could help us understand if any of the original landowners contributed into the industrialization of the site, and or the artist studio space under the train station.

CITATION for ARCHIVAL SOURCE #2

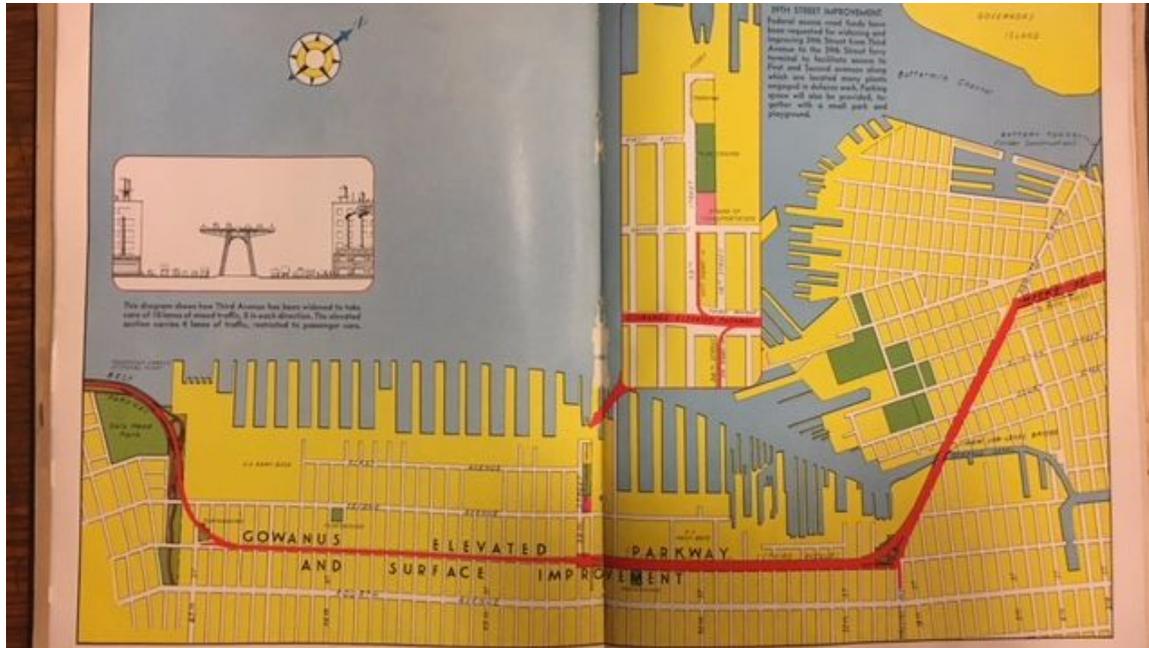
1. *What is this source and what is its purpose?* Blueprints dated 1916
2. *Who created it and who was it created for?* NYC Engineering Department for the City of New York
3. *What does this source tell us about the place we are studying? What themes or subtopics does it relate to?* It tells us how the engineers analyze our site, and the context of the site at that period.
4. *How might it be integrated into a research project? What question could it be used to help answer?* We can trace the correlation of un-engineered areas and find out if the dry spots are which are where the artist end up today. Meaning maybe undeveloped areas are where the artists studios are now...

GENERAL NOTES:

- Each industry has a different agenda to map
- Each map has a different method of mapping data
- Maps were mostly bound into book format
- We reviewed maps starting from 1767-2007
- List general information you learned about the place or themes we are studying

QUESTIONS for Further RESEARCH

- 1) Can we find any art studio maps?
- 2) Should we create art studio maps? |
- 3) How can we maintain stable, unthreatened, affordable studio spaces?



City Proposal