

Learning Places Fall 2017

### **SITE REPORT #3**

#### **DEVELOPING THE GOWANUS**



([https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1CAACAV\\_enUS741US741&biw=1488&bih=798&tbm=isch&sa=1&q=future+gowanus&oq=future+gowanus&gs\\_l=psy-ab.3...5243.6954.0.7197.3.3.0.0.0.0.225.336.0j1j1.2.0...0...1.1.64.psy-ab..1.0.0....0.4D5i5tFEmj8#imgrc=7KqcYORRbM5ZVM:](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1CAACAV_enUS741US741&biw=1488&bih=798&tbm=isch&sa=1&q=future+gowanus&oq=future+gowanus&gs_l=psy-ab.3...5243.6954.0.7197.3.3.0.0.0.0.225.336.0j1j1.2.0...0...1.1.64.psy-ab..1.0.0....0.4D5i5tFEmj8#imgrc=7KqcYORRbM5ZVM:))

The future Gowanus should be exotic not only because of its luxury building but, for public spaces.

*Jhojansy Guzman*

10.24.2017

#### **INTRODUCTION AND PRE-VISIT REFLECTIONS**

This visit to the Gowanus Canal will be more of a self-interest visit. In groups, we will be visiting the places that we feel more comfortable and interested in to be able to develop a research about that topic. The main focus of this visit will be, to find out what new things is the government and local agencies doing to make Gowanus that special place everyone has dreamed with. In fact, we will be looking more at one important aspect of the Gowanus which is Public Space. Public space such as parks, recreation centers is such things that are essential and needed for a neighborhood. As we have seen in





This park is located right next to the old stone house. This park has the appearance of a baseball field but students from schools around are taken there to play during summer. It's like the recreation field for college that is right behind the Old Stone House.



The Washington State Park; handball, basketball courts and skating

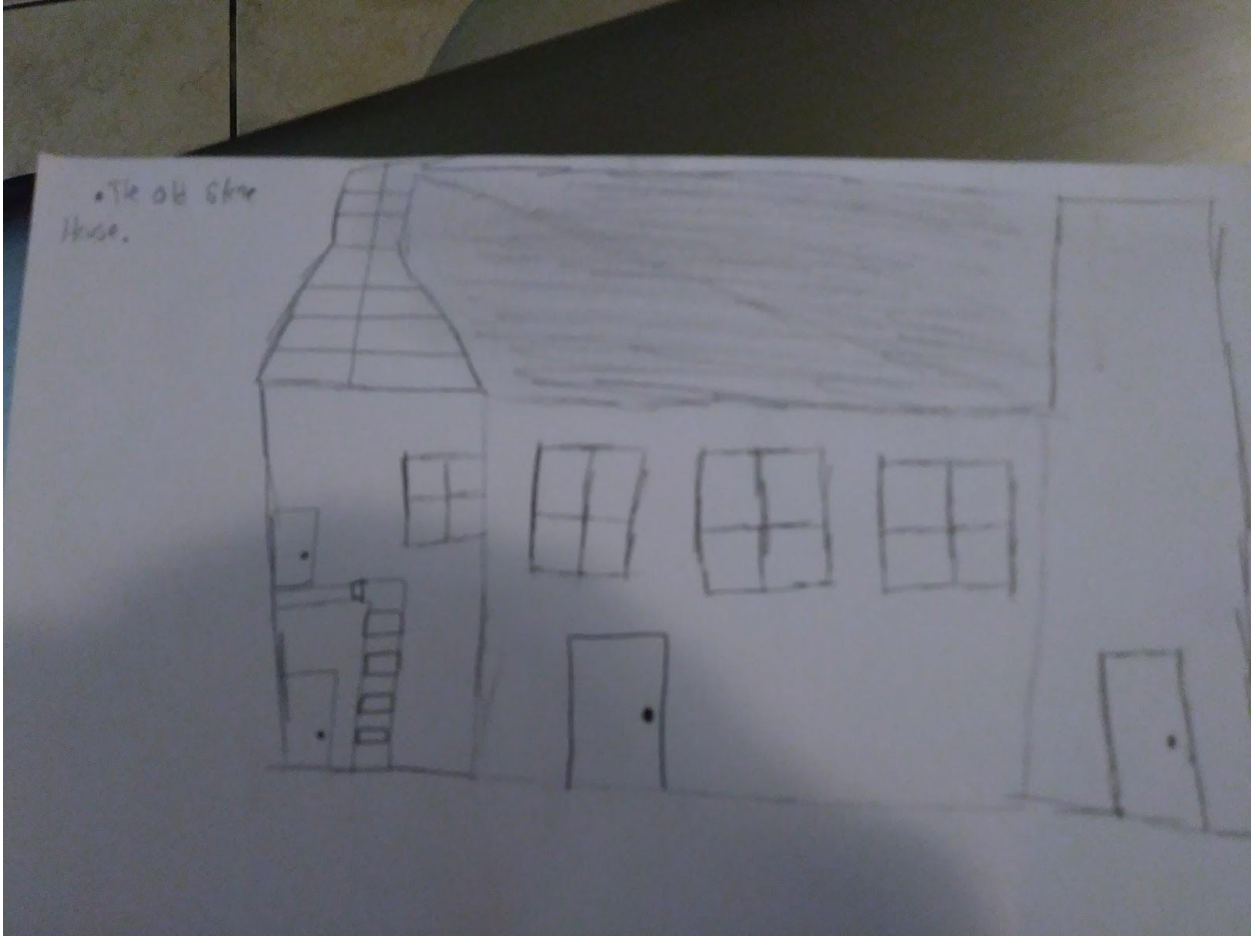




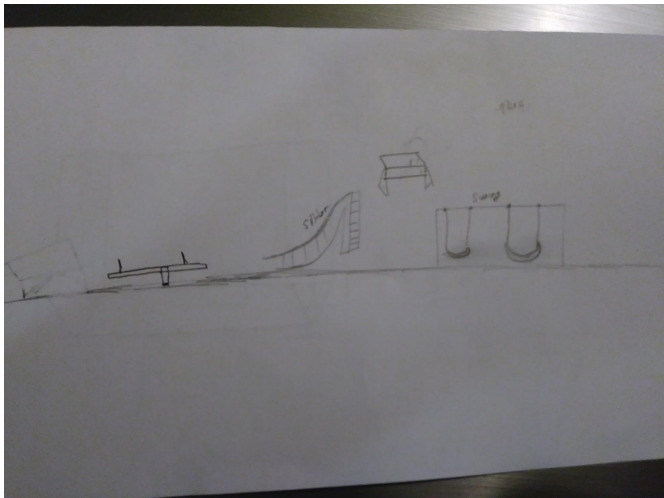
The Old Stone House; reconstructed in 1993.



Play ground at a public pre-k school.



Old Stone House.



Recreative playground for kids.

**ANALYSIS:** Select one of the topics discussed on the walk and 1-3 most important of your images (from those presented in the documentation section) and develop a 300-500-word discussion of that topic. Be specific and consider multiple points of view of that topic. Consider how it might affect the neighborhood, people, environment, art, development or anything else that you detect as significant either positively or negatively or both. How are your images relevant to the discussion? How will this topic affect the Genius Loci, or spirit, of this place? Does it have any ramifications for the rest of Brooklyn?

The Gowanus canal is a place that is currently growing up, there are new apartment buildings rising up, and there is the bright future vision for the canal. While people are being told all of this thing about the future, those things are not for sure. Although there are plans for the neighborhood nothing is secure yet. The most important thing that people should care about is the current situation of the neighborhood; how well structured is the Gowanus neighborhood that will attract people to move in even with this water and land pollution problem. First, we need to consider one thing that every human consider when moving into a neighborhood; what features are there that will allow me to not to have to travel to enjoy it. In the Gowanus, there is not a lot we can say about things that can attract people to move in especially in the northern part of the canal. As we move we have this public sitting pace in the border of the canal and the new buildings. The other place where there is a bit of recreational space is between 4th-6th Ave and 5th-3rd street. In that section is completely a recreational area, there is a playground for his, the Old Stone House and other recreational areas that are very attractive to people. Imagine living in the northern part of the canal and having to take your kid all the way there to have them play in the park, sound kind of stressful in the short run. The bigger the community, the more powerful it will be and push for the well being of the community as a whole. The Gowanus is one of the places with the least population in the city but, the problem is that one of the people's main complaint about them is that there is little recreation and people feel like they live in a cage. If we just could build more places for neighbors to enjoy the place that will really change the stereotype people have about Gowanus.

**KEYWORDS/ VOCABULARY** (these must be words you learned on this walk such as specialized vocabulary, city agencies, names of businesses or significant people – they must be specific to the topic of the walk) \*5 keywords required per site visit

1. The Old Stone House
2. Public Places
3. Recreation
4. Washington Park
5. Urbanization

**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; do not include questions you can answer with a quick google search)

1. Will Gowanus population increase before all of the urbanization takes place at if full state?
2. Do Gowanus people would prefer to have those new luxury building or rather have more recreation places where they can enjoy more of the environment and the surrounding ?
3. Gowans seems to be a place where people can live next to each other and not know each other, is everyone agreeing with the upcoming features to Gowans?