

Learning Places Summer 2019

SITE REPORT #1

GOWANUS



GOWANUS CANAL

STUDENT NAME: Sanobar Nazirova

Okey SITE OBSERVATIONS



Carroll Street bridge



Brownstone houses in President street



Gowanus Canal

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

—The most of the area was marked as a historic district. It has a lot of background history behind it from the architectures houses to the street names. It makes me feel like I'm in the 1980's movie because of the brownstone houses. All the houses were built with the same style. As we went from President street towards Hoyt street, we can notes that ground level slopes down. When we get near to the canal, I realize the difference in the environment. There is very dirty water that we can't see the depth of it. The smell will get stronger as we got closer to it. Since on the day we had a trip was a little windy, I felt a little better because the wind blows the smell off and brings cleaner.

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

— The main problem in the area is pollution in the canal that was caused by the people who decided to let wastes to run into the canal water. This made the water super toxic and dangerous to any living things.

— There were few trees that grow at the edge of the canal. these trees' seeds fell from shipping containers while they were transporting to use it as packaging for peanuts.

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

During the observation, we met friendly people in the Presidents street. Someone of them would talk to us and tell us some information that they know about the neighborhood while others just walk their dogs.

4. Reflect on a specific space you viewed in this neighborhood:

a. who was the space designed for and what is its general purpose?

—The area seemed like designed for wealthe people. The area have planed beautiful multiple stores building to brig ore people to the area.

b. what are the implied rules of this specific space? How are people meant to interact with one another and with the environment?

— Near to canal peple try to walk fater be cuse of the smell of the dirty water.

— people seemed old enough to understand that the area is dangerous for residents however, they don't seem like they want to take any action to change it.

c. describe possible creative reuse of this specific space for a theatrical event:

- a) **Which areas are best for actors and which areas are good for observers? Do these spaces overlap? Mention specific objects and structures in your answer.**

— I think the Carroll St bridge is the best place for performance. It is the space that has the problem.

- b) **Describe the potential audience. Who are they (workers? inhabitants? recreational users? tourists?) and why would they be passing through? Where are they going and where did they come from?**

— the audience would be the people who live in that area because they are the people who come across this problem.

—There are fewer cars in that area so it will not cause a lot of problems. Also, it seems like people like to use the bridge to run or walk their dogs.

- c) **Discuss how light and sound would support a theatrical event.**

— the area is pretty quiet and there's no shadow.

—There are fewer cars in that area so it will not cause a lot of problems. Also, it seems like people like to use the bridge to run or walk their dogs.

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

Giving out names of the dangerous chemicals and effects on the people's body.

QUESTIONS for FURTHER RESEARCH. Write down questions that require further research to answer. 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. Question?

What are the toxins does the Gowanus canal water has? **How dangerous is the water in Gowanus canal**

to the people in the area?

2. Question?

What are the thing to prevent the other canals from issues that gowanus canal has?

3. Question?

What are the effects does gowanus canal has on the living things?

FURTHER RESEARCH

Choose and revise one of your research questions for further research.

Revised Research Question:

How dangerous is the water in Gowanus canal to the people in the area?

Find a book or newspaper article that could help you answer your question.

MLA Citation for source:

Rice, Andrew. "ON THE WATERFRONT.(Magazine Desk)(RENEWAL)(Revitalization of the Gowanus Canal)." The New York Times Magazine, 2009, p. 64.

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

The first reason of choosing this source is because it is an article The New York Times Magazine. It gives full information that includes statistics and facts and history about Gowanus canal.

Describe the process you used to find this source including any keywords and the search engine or tool you used to search.

First I copied the question to search even though I knew that there would be less chance to find valid

source that will have a title close to the question. After the first fail, i searched “dangerous new york city canals” and to additional information I add “gowanus”. I got a lot of article and few books as a resould. Since there wasn't any PDF or windows or even scanned version of the books, I could not read it and looked for articles. I found the article from The New York Times Magazine that i used for a source but i wanted look for more information. Then i read 3-4 articles that answer my question but, i was not satisfied from the information I ot from them. So, i decided to go back to the article from The New York Times Magazine.

What other sources or further information would you need to answer your question? Where would you look for them?

I would need information that will answer my question in terms of medical problems that Gowanus canal may cause. I would look for information in health departmen, medical magasines and sicientest’s book or articles.