

Learning Places Summer 2017

# Annotated Bibliography

## Public Housing Projects

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Andrews J. , Bussey, C. , Westbrook K. (2015, February 27). Growing up gowanus. Gowanus

houses art collective.[video] Retrieved from:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7zBU09KyisU&t=155s>

This reference is a video of two teenagers reflecting their thoughts on growing up in the Gowanus Houses in the year 2015. This source is important because it gives us a first hand account on how it is to live in the Gowanus Houses in this date and age. Both teenage boys take viewers around the Gowanus neighborhood. They show issues like gentrification taking place and police targeting their community. They also show positive things like community activities for the tenants living in the Gowanus houses and people interacting in the streets. Overall the teenagers have good memories growing up in the Gowanus neighborhood but fear that their neighborhood is getting gentrified and things will soon change.

Demographic Population. (n.d.). 1940's Social Explorer. Retrieved June 25, 2017, from <https://www.socialexplorer.com%2f&p=DevEx,5058.1>

The website is a great source due to its wide variety of maps. The website was created to allow people the ability to learn about the different regions of the world in different time periods. There are an estimate of 25,000 different maps that can be viewed in the website and can be broken out into delegate categories. Those categories range from population, gender, housing, income, etc. The reason I used this map was for me to be able to see what the neighborhood of Gowanus was like prior to the 1960's in order for me to have a better insight of the changes that occurred after. I had something to compare the changes to and it was very helpful.

Kelly, Katia (2015, June 22) Memories of growing up in the Gowanus Houses at 426 Baltic Street, South Brooklyn. Retrieved from:  
<http://pardonmeforasking.blogspot.com/2015/06/memories-of-growing-up-in-gowanus.html?m=1>

This reference is a blog of someone named Katia who lives in the Gowanus neighborhood. Katia encountered Genevieve, a previous tenant who grew up living in the Gowanus Houses back in the 60's until she moved to the suburbs in 1972 to write about her experience in the Gowanus houses. She documented her memories of living in the Gowanus Houses and post

it on Katia's blog. This source is important because it help others have a better understanding of how it was to live in the Gowanus housing projects when it was fairly new from a primary source and this information can be used to compare the different times periods in Gowanus houses public housing projects.

Kimmelman, M. (2016, August 1). In Gowanus, a people's housing plan to challenge the mayor's.

Retrieved June 26, 2017, from:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/02/arts/design/in-gowanus-a-peoples-housing-plan-to-challenge-the-mayors.html?mcubz=2>

This source is a new article from the city hall explaining the gentrification in the Gowanus.

This New York Times article explains Bill de Blasio's opinion on gentrification in the Gowanus and public housing. Bill de Blasio talks about all the new projects that will be built in the Gowanus neighborhood. A lot of the new projects will cause many Gowanus residents to move out because of the high rent. Most of the rent in the new building start off at \$3,000. A lot of people are being pushed out of their neighborhoods due to gentrification and rezoning. The mayor is trying to help those families with low income find more affordable homes.

Kollar, S. (n.d.). Municipal Archives. Retrieved June 23, 2017, from

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/records/html/home/home.shtml>

The Municipal Archives showed us photographs of what kind of building, structures and material use to be in specific areas of the Gowanus where public housing is located. I found out that there were more wooden constructed buildings than brick buildings. Also, the photographs show that many building was no higher than 4 stories high. I believe that these photos were highly important information because it's a clue on why the government would called those places with Irish families the slums. These photographs of buildings also show that many existing buildings at the time didn't even have a basement or a cellar which identifies the type of class dominated the area.

Nessen, S. (2012, December 18) Housing Generation | Life in the projects: A Shift to Violence.

WNYC news. Retrieved June 25, 2017, from:

<http://www.wnyc.org/story/258072-housing-generations-life-projects-shift-violence/>

This is an important source because it gives examples of people's opinions on public housing.

The article explains people's stories on their experiences. The main idea from this article is the impact public housing has on certain people. Some people living in public housing have been through so much. There are also a lot of innocent families that live in public housing because of the low income. One common thing in public housing is crime and young adults going down the wrong path. Everyone living in public housing has a story and a voice and with this article you get to learn theirs.

Nahmias L. (2015, September 9).NYCHA selects Wyckoff Gardens, Holmes Towers for new development. Politico New York. Retrieved from:  
<http://www.politico.com/states/new-york/city-hall/story/2015/09/nycha-selects-wyckoff-gardens-holmes-towers-for-new-development-025434>

This article was written by Laura Nahmias on September 2015 about how there is a proposal to construct a new development in the Wyckoff Gardens grounds. It explains the proposal on the new construction and the opinions of the tenants that live in Wyckoff Gardens which will lose green space if the proposal goes through. This article serves well with our research of the housing projects in the Gowanus, we needed accurate research of how many units families can live there and how it's used for the lower income families. This type of research helps us understand The Wyckoff Gardens housing complex and the demography of who occupies the space.

Nycha Photograph Collection. (n.d.). La Guardia And Wagner Archives. Retrieved June 24, 2017, from: <http://www.laguardiawagnerarchive.lagcc.cuny.edu/>

These archives give us the architectural design renderings of what both NYCHA were supposed to look like. It also gives us the insights of other proposed projects around the city. I feel that just to get a sense of how public housing around United States was proposed, we get the notion on how public housing was attractive and sold an unreliable American dream (propaganda). These photographs serve a significant help on my research about the area of

Gowanus. A better understanding of what kind of public housing looked like that replaced wholesome families in existing neighborhoods. Plus, this collection documents the ending of neighborhoods labeled as the slums.

Ranked!, T. 1., Movies!, R. T., The 50 best superhero movies by Tomatometer, &

Shot-by-shot, T. N. (2017, June 26). Citizen Jane: Battle for the City. Retrieved June 28, 2017, from [https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/citizen\\_jane\\_battle\\_for\\_the\\_city](https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/citizen_jane_battle_for_the_city)

This citation is of Citizen Jane serves as a great reference to our project and research question. This book and movie is very important in today's society and it is only right that this book gets mentioned for our analysis of understanding of how a neighborhood effects families and the economy. Jane Jacob had scared the world when she published the book that "The Death and Life of Great American Cities". Architects, and city planners that were basically messing up the city was shock that an activist who knew nothing about design, showed more sense of power than most authority figure heads including Robert Moses that new designs for New York City was going against what the community stand for.

Spellen S. (2015, June 9).Past and Present: The Gowanus Houses' Baby Buggy Brigade,

1952.Brownstoner. Retrieved

from:<https://www.google.com/amp/www.brownstoner.com/history/the-gowanus-houses-baby-buggy-brigade-1952/amp/>

This is an article written by Suzanne Spellman on June 2015 where she is comparing the past and the present of the Gowanus houses. She speaks about the movement in the 20th century in providing people with light and air, running water and indoor bathrooms. This is where the housing projects came into place, to provide tenants with those necessities particularly after the Great Depression when there wasn't many affordable housing available. She explains how Robert Moses tore down blocks where there were houses, factories and warehouses to construct what he called a "modern city". The Gowanus houses construction was part of Robert Moses movement. The early tenants were working-class families and were also multi-cultural people living there. Overall is a very informative article.