

Learning Places Fall 2015

SITE REPORT #2

Farragut Houses



STUDENT NAME

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INTRODUCTION

The complex of projects situated in Vinagar Hill continues to be our point of interest for our class. We had a second visit to the site to have a closer look to the premises. In this second visit, we were assigned to further explore the neighborhood where the projects are. The area was divided for us in ten zones and we were grouped in pairs of two students and focused on a particular area. In my group, the area of interest was zone number six surrounded by Nassau Street, Bridge Street, Concord Street, and Gold Street, with Duffield Street in the middle. During this visit, we draw sketches and took pictures on our phones. I uploaded mine in this project.

PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

I am a little nervous about the project visit tomorrow as I have a poor space orientation. I expect to see a conglomerated neighborhood with limited green areas and poorly dressed people. I will try to draw some sketches, but I have no artistic talent whatsoever. I will try my best, but I know I cannot create art. Given the fact that we have already watched videos of how private houses were demolished in that neighborhood, I am thinking we might meet some people who were victims of demolition. Although there will be no human interaction, I will observe not only the surroundings, but also the affect of people; their facial expressions. I am looking forward of meeting everyone at the location.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos/sketches)







SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. The neighborhood is kept safe; there were two police officers by the projects.
2. The neighborhood is kept clean; there were nine sanitary employees working on the grounds.
3. There were two schools close by the projects and a high school in the area I was assigned.
4. There are a large variety of buildings in the area.
5. There are three groceries and one supermarket in the area.
6. There are people socializing on the premises of the projects.
7. There is an extremely luxurious building in the area.

QUANTITATIVE DATA

Subject	Data
Number of schools in the area	There were three schools in the area.
Number of cleaning people	There were nine cleaning people in the area.
Number of police	There were two police officers in the area.
Number of supermarkets	There is one supermarket in the area.
Number of food stores	There are four food stores in the area.
Number of luxurious buildings in the assigned area	One luxurious building

QUESTIONS AND HYPOTHESIS

QUESTIONS:

1. Why are the buildings shaped hexagonally?
2. Why is there a luxurious apartment building in the area?
3. Why are there three food stores?
4. What are the little Chinese buildings?
5. What kind of High School is the one in the area?
6. What are the street boundaries for Farragut Houses?
7. What is the name of the luxurious building in the area?
8. Why is the area by Bridge View Tower Luxury Condos not neat?

HYPOTHESIS:

1. The shape of the buildings is done for health reasons; the sun can go inside the rooms through the windows.
2. The neighborhood is getting gentrified.
3. There are three food stores to add more food supply to the only supermarket in the area.
4. Those buildings are Dumbo Building Supply.
5. The High School is called Science Skills.
6. The boundaries of the projects are: Navy Street, Nassau Walk, York Street, and Bridge Street.
7. The name of the luxury building is Bridge View Tower Luxury Condos located on Bridge Street.
8. The area is under construction.

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

This second visit to the projects was more interesting than the first one, as we explored an area of the neighborhood as well. The area has a large variety of buildings and they can be noted in the pictures scanned and uploaded above. The most impressive one was an extremely luxurious apartment building that had a doorman. It is called Bridge View Tower Luxury Condos and it is located on Bridge Street. It was very interesting to note that my sketches of the same project building look different. When I draw my first sketch of the projects, it was partially done from memory; doing the second one by looking and drawing until finished, it looked somewhat different. I kept my first sketch in the group of the nine smaller pictures and I put my second one next, on the same first row to its right.

REFERENCES TO EXPLORE HYPOTHESIS

1. <http://nypost.com/2015/07/08/why-vinegar-hill-is-brooklyns-edgiest-enclave/>
2. <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/nycha/>
3. <http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycha/html/developments/bklynfarragut.shtml>
4. <https://www.google.com/maps/place/Bridge+St>