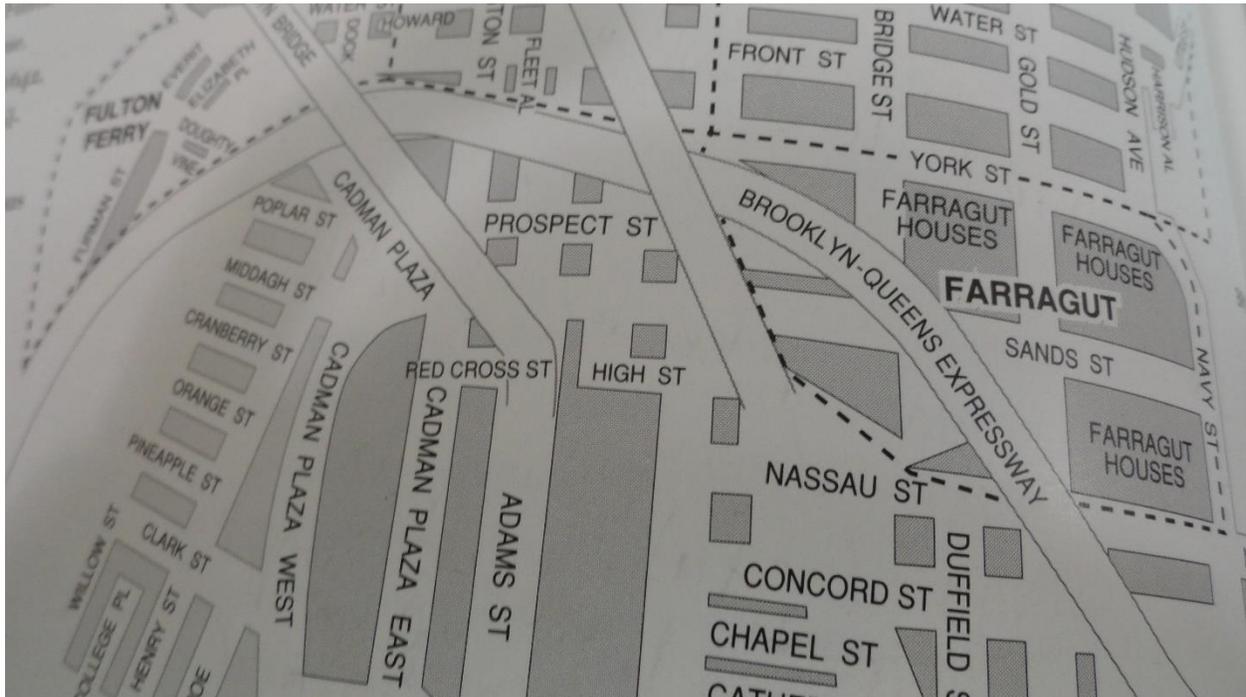


Learning Places Fall 2015

SITE REPORT #4

Brooklyn Public Library



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INTRODUCTION

On Monday, October 26th, our class met in the collection room of Brooklyn Public Library. We were shown old maps and books that are not circulating. This site visit was very useful. The maps seemed much easier to use than the one in the NYPL. Also, there was a large variety of books in that room; we were able to read and make copies of the needed material. I am very impressed with the way this library looks from outside. The metal statues gives the library an air of grandiosity together with the height of the building. It also invites one to study as it creates an atmosphere of respect for the books.

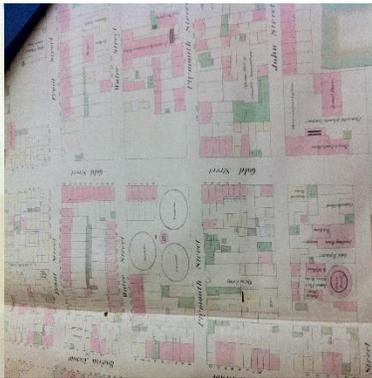
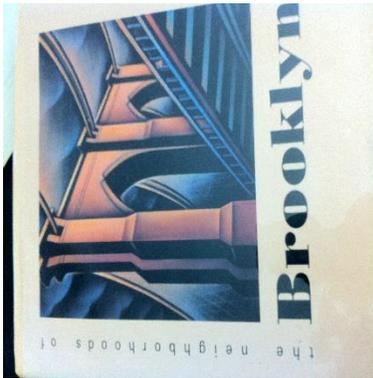
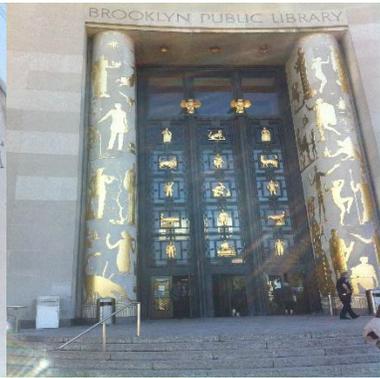
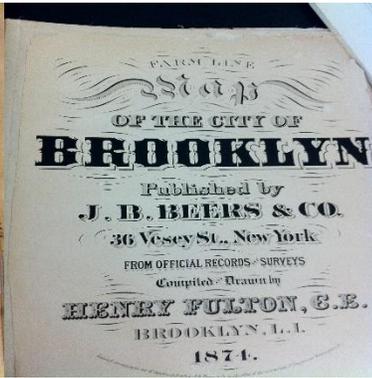
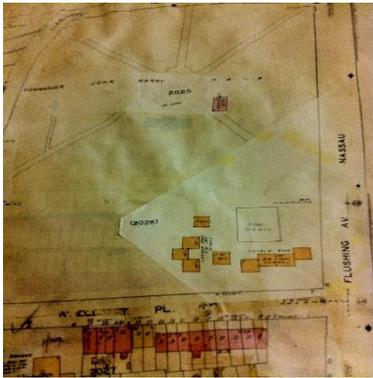
PRE-VISIT REFLECTION

Most of us chose this class as an elective as we considered it would be a new experience. I like going to new places and learning new things. Today's visit is a new site visit experience since I never went to Brooklyn Public Library before. I hope to find lots of new materials for my project portion, which is focused on demographics. I will leave my house very early because I am not familiar with the neighborhood.

By doing a very brief online research, I learned the building of this institution has a unique construction. Located at 10 Grand Army Plaza, it seems a little bit more difficult to reach that NYPL last week. I am looking forward to seeing my new site today at 10:00 am.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos/sketches)







SITE OBSERVATIONS

1. There are huge doors at the entrance of the Library.
2. There are beautiful metal statues at the entrance of the Library.
3. There are many old books in the collection room.
4. The oldest books in the collection room are dated early 18 hundreds.
5. There are old maps and atlases in the collection room.
6. The oldest atlas was dated 1904.
7. There are 4 copy machines in the collection room.

QUANTITATIVE DATA

Subject	Data
Number of Churches in Vinegar Hill area before Farragut Houses were built	5
Number of Churches on the same land piece where Farragut Houses were built	1
Number of Houses that existed on the same piece of land where Farragut Houses were built	30-40 per block
Total number of houses that were demolished on the same piece of land where the projects are now	Approximately 440 houses
Number of schools that existed on the same piece of land before Farragut Houses were built	3
Number of YMCA- Navy Branch that existed on the same piece of land before Farragut Houses were built	1
Number of Tutti Frutti MFG that existed on the same piece of land before Farragut Houses were built	1
Number of copy machines in the collection room	4
Number of Librarians in the collection room	1
Number of items in the library	Over a million

QUESTIONS AND HYPOTHESIS

QUESTIONS:

1. How tall is the entry of the Brooklyn Public Library, Central Branch?
2. How many items are there in this library?
3. What was the purpose of the fancy architecture of the building?
4. When was the Central Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library open?

HYPOTHESIS:

1. The entry of the Brooklyn Public Library, Central Branch is 50 feet tall.
2. There are over one million books, magazines, and multimedia materials in this library.
3. The architecture of the building was meant to resemble an open book.
4. The Central Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library was open in 1941.

SUMMARY / POST VISIT REFLECTION

Brooklyn Public Library visit today was very fruitful. Map research appeared easier and faster. I was impressed of the book collection room on the second floor. It was interesting to note that the collection included books older than a hundred years.

Another notable thing was the building itself. It looks majestic. The metal statues in front creates an atmosphere of antiquity. This atmosphere is maintained inside the Collection Room. It was really remarkable to see books published in early eighteen hundreds. I am looking forward to visiting our next objective.

REFERENCES TO EXPLORE HYPOTHESIS

1. Brooklyn Public Library. Retrieved 10/28/2015 from <http://www.bklynlibrary.org/locations/central>