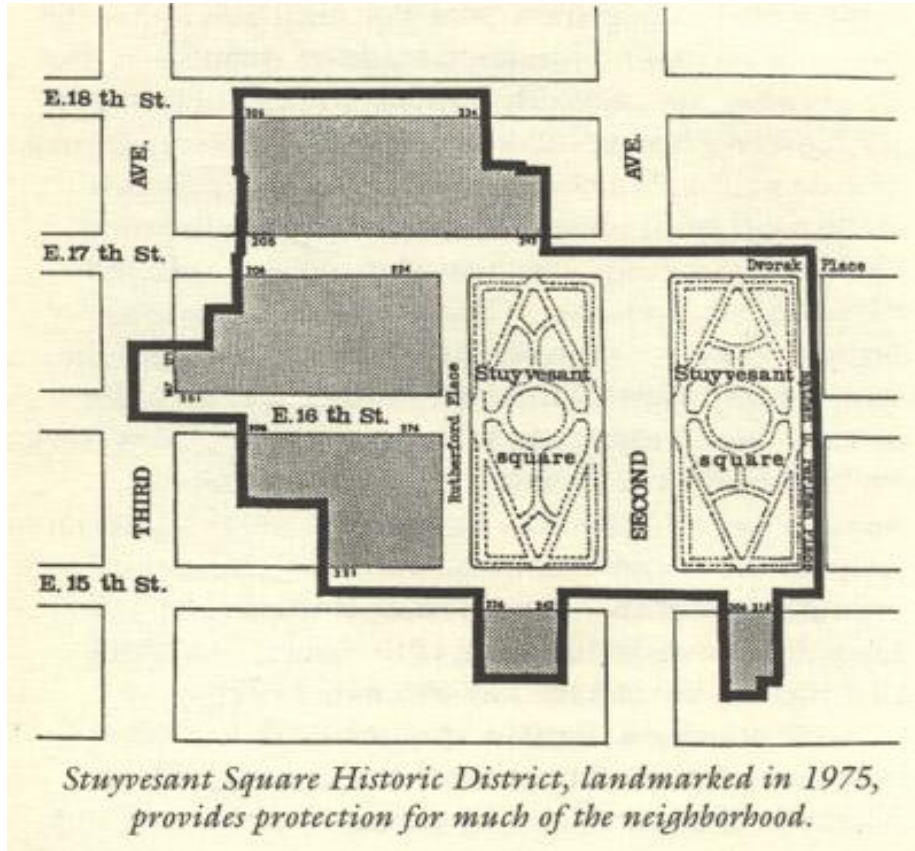


Stuyvesant Square Park Field Project



*Written and Designed
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Site Planning: Arch 1250
Prof. Calhoun Fall 2011
Final Project*

Background information on Stuyvesant Square (Part I.)

A. Climate: Macro, Meso, Micro

- ❖ Microclimate for the site would have a cool climate because it is covered by trees which will provide shading and is close to the East River; so that provides a cool breeze. This site is a good area to be during hot summer days; the humidity will affect this area but not as much as an open school yard with any trees for shading and far from any body of water.

- ❖ Meso-climate for the site would have a cool climate because Manhattan is an island and from Stuyvesant Square Park to the East River is a very small distance of about ½ to 1 mile. The Latitude and longitude coordinates of 40.7337131 and -73.984305.

- ❖ The Macro-climate of the site is located in the North Eastern district of the United States. Because of our distance from the North Pole and the equator our elevation and proximity to the Atlantic Ocean and Hudson River, we are in the Cool-Temperate zone.

B. Location:

1. Stuyvesant Square is a park in the New York City borough of Manhattan, Rutherford Pl. To N D Perlman Pl., E 15 St. to E 17 St., formerly Livingston Place. Second Avenue divides the park into two halves, east and west. 40 degrees 44.015' N, 73 degrees 59.
2. Governmental Zoning District is 6 and Community District 3 of Manhattan
3. Maps (2): are and park design itself (Attached are maps and design of park)
4. Dimensions of the park are not found but the entire area is 3.93 Acres
5. Stuyvesant Square Park is at an elevation of 21 meters

- ❖ Stuyvesant Square Park was founded in 1836, by Gerard Stuyvesant-great-great grandson of Peter Stuyvesant and his wife Helen Rutherford. They reserved four acres for the Stuyvesant farm and sold it for a token of five dollars to the City of New York as a public park. In 1846 the cast iron fence was installed; the two fountains and landscaping were completed in 1851. In the 1930s Stuyvesant Square was extensively rehabilitated in a more populist manner by Landscape Architect Gilmore D. Clarke with the addition of comfort stations, playgrounds and other built amenities. The park reopened in 1937 with preservation of the cast iron fence, and relaying the original bluestone sidewalks in two ellipses, with renovated lawns, shrubs and flower beds.

Stuyvesant Town Neighborhood (Part II.)

- A. Stuyvesant Town has numerous buildings that possess different important aspects of living for people in that area. There are Residential housings, commercial and public school buildings in the area. Some examples of these buildings are restaurants such as Momofuku Ssam bar located on 207 2nd Ave. and Artichoke Pizza located on 328 East 14th Street. There are also banks such as Chase and Citi-Bank; Supermarkets like Trader Joe's and Whole Foods. The Stuyvesant Town residential housing apartments as well as schools from elementary to college are in the neighborhood.
- B. Because of the type of buildings in the area, there would be a need of workers like teachers, bankers, managers at stores to be able to provide a service to students, and customers from the neighborhood.
- C. Reported from the census tract the average socio-economic income of a household in Stuyvesant Town is well over 50k. There are more people in this area have gone to College than an area like Bedford Stuyvesant in Brooklyn. This is because the cost of living in Manhattan especially an area like Stuyvesant Town is much higher.
- D. Notable architecture in the area would be the Union Square Park which always has special events, Tompkins Square Park, and the Peter Cooper Village one of the most iconic and successful of postwar housing projects. Stuyvesant Town was planned in 1943. Its first tenants, two Second World War veterans and their families, moved into the first completed building on August 1, 1947. Stuyvesant square is one of Manhattans most priceless parks which was a gift from Peter Gerard Stuyvesant who is also the cofounder of the historical society; the public park was a very essential move for a rapidly growing city in which. The neighborhood is surrounded by tall buildings and if you look up, one of the closest building which can be seen towering over is Beth Israel

Hospital. “Stuyvesant Square is a historic district, landmarked in 1975, provides protection for much of the neighborhood.”

Circulation (Part III.)

- A. Means of transportation to this area is easy to come by because of the subway and bus lines that are in New York. A person can take the N, R, W, 4, 5, 6, L subway line or M14, M15, M33, M23 bus. (Attached are maps and directions)
- B. There are numerous streets in the area, just because it is Manhattan. A person wanting to drive could easily get to 14th Street or Broadway which are too major streets in Manhattan.
- C. Stuyvesant Town is a very popular area because of the tourist attractions from the shopping stores, places to eat and the East River. On a monthly average there are more than a million people that walk through these streets.

Park Hardscape and amenities (Part IV.)

- A. Materials underfoot
 - ❖ Concrete pavers
 - ❖ Graphite tiles or rainbow mountain stones
 - ❖ Concrete curb around all the planted area.
 - ❖ Drainage facilities
 - ❖ Plants in garden area
 - ❖ Bluestone Sidewalk
- B. Special Construction
 - ❖ Statue of Antonin Dvorak (1841-1904) at the corner of Nathan D Perlman Pl. & E 17th street.

- ❖ Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney's statue of Peter Stuyvesant in the western half of the park.
- ❖ Electricity box by the statue of Antonin Dvorak.
- ❖ Fountains at the middle of the park
- ❖ Cast iron fence
- ❖ Bluestone Sidewalk

C. Rest Area

- ❖ Benches (benches are constructed of concrete and wood)
- ❖ Garden area
- ❖ Benches and Tables in the garden area where people can sit and eat.

D. Trash

- ❖ 20 Recycle Cans
- ❖ 27 Regular Cans

E. Restrooms

- ❖ There are not bathrooms in the park

F. Drinking water

- ❖ A few drinking fountains located in the park

G. Shelter

- ❖ There are only 2 shelters in the park for park staff members.

Utilities (Part V.)

A. Electric

- ❖ There is no major electric system in the park because of the trees but there are lampposts inside to provide lighting at night.

B. Gas

- ❖ There is no gas system inside the park; parks are symbolized as clean areas of a city or town and having gas inside a park will contradict that statement.

C. Water control/drainage

- ❖ There are no major water control systems that pumps water of out the park besides a few drains that are located in some particular spots and because of the how the park is designed when it rains the shrubs, trees, and bushes would absorb the water which will also be good for them for vegetation purposes. In case of massive rain fall there are also drains out of the park on the street corners.

Vegetation (Part VI.)

A. Stuyvesant Park possesses a few old trees; English elm and Little-leaf linden which still flourish.

B. The park has a lot of shrubs along the side of the pathway of the park which give a natural feel to the park.

C. The ground cover is mostly grass but has some patchy spots where there is top soil.

D. Stuyvesant Park has the same color and texture as most of the parks in the city. It has green shrubs and leafs from trees but the park also carries tulip flowers which are a bright red and stand out.

Other Aspects (Part VII.)

Type of soil, rocks/ Wildlife

- ❖ The site geology generally consists of five units. These units, from ground surface downward, include fill: a layer of organic clay, silt, and/or peat; Bedrock is present at shallow depths (within 10 feet of ground surface).
- ❖ Wildlife in the park consists of squirrels, birds, and a large number of insects which can be seen in the summer and spring.

Word-Stock

- ❖ Micro-Climate: Climate in a particular site.
- ❖ Meso-Climate: Climate in a particular area as a city.
- ❖ Macro-Climature: Climate of a region, a large area with variations within it; four determinates are Latitude, Elevation above sea level, bodies of water, mountain slopes.
- ❖ Landscape Architecture: is the design of outdoor and public spaces to achieve environmental, socio-behavioral, or aesthetic outcomes
- ❖ Latitude: location on the Earth is the angular distance of that location south or north of the Equator.
- ❖ Longitude: is a geographic coordinate that specifies the east-west position of a point on the Earth's surface. It is an angular measurement, usually expressed in degrees, minutes and seconds.
- ❖ Stuyvesant Square: Stuyvesant Square Park, uniquely bisected by Second Avenue between East 15th and East 17th Streets in Manhattan, is the center of one of the most handsome and historic neighborhoods in New York City. It is named for Petrus (Peter) Stuyvesant, the last Director-General of the Dutch colony of New Netherlands.
- ❖ Elevation: height above the earth's sea level.
- ❖ Zoning: Legislative process that divides privately-owned urban areas into different zones (such as residential, commercial, industrial) according to the specified land use. Each zone is regulated as to the density, location, size, and type of buildings permitted therein.
- ❖ Peat: A silty sand unit with varying amounts of silt and clay.

Atmosphere (Part 9)

My overall experience with this project was good because I never did a project like this before. I like Stuyvesant Park but feel that it can be improved and designed better even with the amount of space provided. The surrounding fence stands out because of the aging that it has; it gave me the feeling of how old the park really is. I feel that the fountains inside the park can be improved to something more presentable and have more symbolic meaning to the history of the park and its surroundings. I enjoy going to any park because it is a clean area in the city, away from the garbage and discomfort cleaning as I would feel being in the subway. Compared to the Brooklyn Bridge Park I am fonder of that park than Stuyvesant Square because of the landscape design of the Brooklyn Bridge Park which gives it an amazing view of lower Manhattan. Even without the view the Brooklyn Bridge Park has of lower Manhattan it is still a wonderful place to visit because of the layout and natural features it possesses. Stuyvesant Park has natural features but is not as appealing as the Brooklyn Bridge Park. If I were the landscape architect for the Stuyvesant Square Park I would change the fountain to a more appealing abstract fountain with hand carvings of the history of the Stuyvesant Town. I would remove some of the shrubs and put berry bushes and remove the statue and plant a large oak tree.