PHASE IA ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE STUDY

397, 399, 403 HOWARD AVENUE
BLOCK 1452, LOTS 5, 7, and 9

BROOKLYN BOROUGH, NEW YORK CITY
KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK

October 11, 2007
CRCG # 06-236-02

Brock A. Giordano, M.A., RPA, Archaeologist/Principal Investigator
Catherine B. Bull, M.A., Historian
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Prepared for:
The Lantern Group
690 Eighth Avenue
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Prepared by:
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of Study

The purpose of this Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study is to provide information about the potential archaeological resources within the area of potential effects (A.P.E.) to The Lantern Group for a proposed multi-family-dwelling apartment complex that will occupy three lots (Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9) in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, New York (Figures 1-3). The subject property is located in an urban setting on 397/399/403 Howard Avenue. The subject property fronts Howard Avenue, its western boundary. Bergen Street is the cross street to the north and St. Marks Avenue to the south (Figures 1-3).

This investigation does not include archaeological testing. Instead, this reconnaissance-level study simply establishes whether any previously identified historic properties exist within the project’s area of potential effects (on and near the project site), and investigates the potential existence of previously unidentified historic properties.

A historic property is defined as “any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places” (36 CFR 800.16 [I], amended 2004). The area of potential effects is defined as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist” (36 CFR 800.16[d], amended 2004). [Note that although the project is not presently subject to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (36 CFR 800), Section 106 terminology is used in this report for purposes of consistency and to facilitate any future review under these regulations.]

1.2 Summary of the Scope of Work

The study was performed in response to a request by The Lantern Group and MTI Residential Services, Inc. (MTI) for a Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study to be included as part of their fulfillment of Environmental Review. The development proposed by The Lantern Group and MTI is part of the urban renewal project spearheaded by the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (NYC-HPD). As such, the project must adhere to the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) process, which requires oversight by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYC-LPC) in order to monitor any effects on the environment and cultural resources. On June 8, 2006, the Lantern Group received an
Environmental Review from the NYC-LPC indicating the potential for archaeological sensitivity on the subject property based on the findings of an Archaeological/Historical Sensitivity Evaluation undertaken by Greenhouse Consultants, Inc. (1995) for the entire block encompassing Howard Avenue.

According to Amanda Sutphin of the NYC-LPC, the Greenhouse (1995) report indicates that there is potential for the recovery of remains from the 19th-century occupation of the 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue property lots. As such, an addendum to the report must be prepared that analyzes whether potentially significant archaeological resources are likely to be present within these properties. This Phase IA builds on and incorporates the Greenhouse (1995) report and specifically focuses on identifying historic archaeological sensitivity on the properties of 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue. If existing or potential resources are identified within the area of potential effects during the Phase IA survey, additional cultural resource investigations may be required by the NYC-LPC. This Phase IA study is not intended to definitively establish the presence or absence of previously unidentified historic properties. Rather, it indicates the likelihood that they exist, and inventories any previously identified historic properties. The probability of prehistoric archaeological sites has already been eliminated through the previous investigation, with which the NYC-LPC staff concurred.

1.3 Study Administration

Developer of Subject Property: The Lantern Group
690 Eighth Avenue
6th Floor
New York, New York 10036

Engineer: MTI Residential Services
476 48th Street
4th Floor
Brooklyn, New York, 11220

Cultural Resource Consultant: Cultural Resource Consulting Group,
415 Cleveland Avenue
Highland Park, New Jersey 08904
1.4 Description of the Undertaking

The proposed multi-family-dwelling development will consist of a seven-story condo/apartment complex to be located in the approximate 0.10 acres of Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9, in Brooklyn Borough, Kings County, New York. The project occupies 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, New York. The project involves the complete removal of the existing buildings and substantial subterranean disturbances throughout the project area.

1.5 Permits, Funding, and Applicable Regulations

The project sponsor will incorporate the report produced as part of their Environmental Assessment. As part the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (NYC-HPD) urban renewal project, the proposed project must meet requirements of the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) process, which requires oversight by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYC-LPC).

1.6 Subject Property

The subject property consists of Lots 5, 7, and 9 in Block 1452 in Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York. The subject property fronts on Howard Avenue, which forms its western boundary. The cross streets consist of Bergen Street to the north and St. Marks Avenue to the south. The lots consists of 397 (Lot 9), 399 (Lot 7), and 403 (Lot 5) Howard Avenue in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn (Figure 3).

1.7 Area of Potential Effects

The area of potential effects (A.P.E.) is:

The geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking.
To determine the area of potential effects the full scope of the intended project must be understood. The area of potential effects (A. P. E.) includes all areas affected by the end result of the project as well as during the construction of the project. Determining the area of potential effects should take into consideration visual effects, auditory effects, direct and indirect effects, beneficial as well as adverse effects, physical effects, and changes in the way the land or historic properties are used. A project may have a single area of potential effects that includes all these effects, or may generate multiple areas of potential effects, one each for visual effects or direct effects, etc., which may or may not overlap.

The area of potential effects for archaeological resources is where the proposed project would cause changes in the character or use of historic properties of this type, if any exist. This corresponds to the areas where construction of the new residential complex would cause ground disturbance (Figure 4).

1.8 Public Participation

According to 36 CFR 800.2(c)(1-6), a number of parties could have a consultative role in a project such as this. These parties can include State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, Indian tribes, representatives of local governments, applicants for Federal assistance, permits, licenses and other approvals, and certain individuals and organizations who have demonstrated an interest in the undertaking. Though more interested and consulting parties may be revealed in the course of this investigation, the following potentially interested individuals and organizations have been identified. These parties will be contacted if the project progresses to the next stage of investigation:

- The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYC-LPC), 1 Centre St., 9N New York, NY 10007, Tel. (212) 669-7826.
- Brooklyn Historical Society, 128 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, Phone: 718-222-4111.

1.9 Dates the Study Was Conducted

The project area was visited by Brock Giordano with a scheduled appointment with Alpesh
Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue
Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9
Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York

Patel (MTI Residential) on October 31, 2006. Background research at the New York City
Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Water and Sewer Operations Central
Mapping and Records, the Brooklyn Permitting and Connection Office, the City of New York
Department of Water Supply, Gas, and Electricity Bureau of Water Supply, the New York Public
Library, and New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission was conducted October 31,
2006 and November 3, 2006. Additional historical research, as requested by the NYC-LPC, was
conducted by Amanda Lui under the direct supervision of Catherine Bull throughout the month
of May 2007 at the Brooklyn Historical Society, New York Public Library, and the Kings County
Deeds Office, as well as various internet resources including the Brooklyn Daily Eagle Online
and the Conover Family Genealogy.

1.10 Study Conditions and Constraints

There were no constraints to this investigation.

1.11 Acknowledgments and Citation

The Cultural Resource Consulting Group thanks the following individuals for their assistance
with this study:

Eric Mohamed, The Lantern Group
Alpesh Patel, MTI Residential Services
Amy Larovere, The Lantern Group
Amanda Sutphin, NYC-LPC
Daniel Pagano, NYC-LPC

The investigation was conducted by the following CRCG staff members:

Brock A. Giordano, M.A., RPA, Archaeologist and Principal Investigator
Catherine Bull, M.A., Historian
Amanda Lui, Historical Research Assistant
Gregory G. Dietrich, M.S., Project Manager
Peter A. Primaver'a, Principal in Charge
The report was written by Brock Giordano and Catherine Bull with contributions by Amanda Lui. The report was illustrated by Sean McHugh and Siobhan McCarthy and edited by Kristian Eshelman.

This report can be cited as:

Giordano, Brock A., Catherine Bull (Cultural Resource Consulting Group)  
2006 Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study. 397/399/403 Howard Avenue, Block 1452, Lots 5/7/9, Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York. Prepared by Cultural Resource Consulting Group, Highland Park, N.J.

1.12 Location of Report Copies

Copies of the report will be on file at the offices of the Cultural Resource Consulting Group, Highland Park, N.J.; The Lantern Group, New York, N.Y.; and MTI Residential Services, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Figure 1: Road map of the project area and vicinity. Source: Rand McNally, 2000 New York City, 5 Boroughs StreetFinder.

Phase I A Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue
Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9
Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York
Figure 2: USGS 7.5' Quadrangle: Brooklyn, N.Y. 1967, Photorevised 1979.

Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue
Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9
Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York
Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue
Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9
Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York

Figure 3: Aerial photograph of the project area. Source: Google Earth, 2006.
Figure 4: Proposed build plan for 397/399/403 Howard Avenue. Source: Gran Associates, 2006.
2.0 BACKGROUND RESEARCH

2.1 Methods

Researchers systematically reviewed background materials and conducted site inspections to search for previously identified historic properties within the study area, and to evaluate the potential of the study area to contain previously unidentified historic properties. Archives that were visited or consulted include:

- Brooklyn Permitting and Connection Office, the City of New York Department of Water Supply, Gas, and Electricity Bureau of Water Supply
- New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYC-LPC)
- New York City Public Library

The potential for Native American archaeological sites to be present on the subject property was eliminated through the previous investigation by Greenhouse Inc. (1995), with which the NYC-LPC concurred.

Prior historic-period land use was researched primarily through a review of historic maps, local histories, and the previously noted secondary sources.

A site visit was conducted on October 31, 2006, during which an archaeologist examined the subject property and the area of potential effects. This site inspection was aimed at identifying any previously documented historic properties and locating surface indications that would suggest the presence of unidentified historic properties. Surface reconnaissance involved the inspection of any existing aboveground architectural features, topographic anomalies, areas of obvious ground disturbance, areas with clear surfaces, and erosion features. Maps of previously recorded historic and prehistoric properties were consulted prior to the site visit in order to assist in the preparation of this report.
2.2 Historical Background

Crown Heights, Brooklyn

The Crown Heights neighborhood is located in the New York City borough of Brooklyn. Crown Heights is roughly bounded by Washington Avenue to the west, Atlantic Avenue to the north, Ralph Avenue to the east, and Clarkson Avenue to the south. The Eastern Parkway acts as the main thoroughfare dividing the neighborhood into Crown Heights North and South. Bordering neighborhoods of Crown Heights include Prospect Heights to the west, Prospect Lefferts Gardens to the southwest, Wingate and Rugby to the south, Brownsville to the east, and Bedford-Stuyvesant to the north. The project area is located in the Crown Heights North neighborhood.

At the time of European settlement the area in what is now the borough of Brooklyn was inhabited by a number of distinct Native American groups including the Marechkawiek, the Canarsee, the Keeshaecquequeren, the Rockaway and the Nayack (Grumet 1981: 6). These Native American groups occupied long-term village sites, as well seasonal encampments throughout portions of New York. European settlement within the Borough of Brooklyn began during the second quarter of the 17th century. Throughout the Dutch and then British colonial settlement periods, farms and cultivated fields made up the majority of the landscape. From the 17th century until the 19th century, the area that is now Crown Heights was part of the common lands of the Town of Brooklyn (Greenhouse 1995).

During the American Revolution from 1776 through 1783, Brooklyn was the site of the Battle of Long Island. The Battle of Long Island took place during the last week of August 1776. During this battle some 9,000 American troops confronted roughly 15,000 British forces. The British forces prevailed, forcing the Americans to evacuate Brooklyn. The British crown would control New York City and Brooklyn until 1783.

It is not until the middle of the 19th century that Brooklyn began to take on the character that it still possesses today. In 1816 Brooklyn became a village. Over the next two decades Brooklyn’s population would grow and in 1834 it was incorporated as a city. As a city, Brooklyn acquired the Towns of Greenport, Williamsburgh and Bushwick in 1855. The town of New Lots would be integrated with the City of Brooklyn eleven years later, in 1866. In 1894 Flatbush, New Utrecht and Gravesend merged. During 1896, the Town of Flatbush became part of the City of Brooklyn, which now contained all of Kings County. Finally, on January 1, 1898, the City of Brooklyn became a borough of New York City (Ellis 1966: 452-453).
Throughout most of the 19th century the area currently known as Crown Heights, and more specifically Crown Heights North, was a rural area located within the Bedford district. The principal commercial center was Bedford Corners, a hamlet situated at the intersection of the Clove Road which ran to Flatbush, the Cripplebush Road which ran to Newton, and the Brooklyn and Jamaica Turnpike (Greenhouse 1995:7). This area would remain rural until the latter part of the 19th century. Completion of the Brooklyn Bridge in 1883 (NYC-LPC 1978) spurred large-scale residential development in the Crown Heights area which continued heavily for 30 years, transforming the rural farmland complexion of Brooklyn into the urban landscape that exists today.

Site-Specific History

The subject property consists of Lots 5, 7, and 9 in Block 1452 in Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York. The subject property fronts Howard Avenue, its western boundary. Bergen Street is the cross street to the north and St. Marks Avenue is the cross street to the south. The street numbers relating to the subject property are 397 (Lot 9), 399 (Lot 7), and 403 (Lot 5) Howard Avenue in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn (Figure 3). The following documentary history utilizes the previous research as reported in the Greenhouse (1995) archaeological sensitivity report while incorporating new research on the specific properties within the project boundaries.

Research of historic documents pertaining to the subject property included a review of secondary sources such as 19th-century local histories, and primary sources including historic maps, deeds and property conveyance records, historic newspapers, street directories, census records, and other archival records such as newspaper articles.

According to the records located at the Brooklyn Topographical Bureau, Howard Avenue was opened on February 3, 1873. Saratoga Avenue, located one block east, was opened on April 7, 1873. The subject property first appears on the 1874 Farm Line Map of the City of Brooklyn published by J.B. Beers and Company. This map shows portions of four farms or woodlots, with their boundaries cutting across the block diagonally. The northern portion is labeled Michael Stryker and A.O. Millard. This farm borders two others to the south. Most of the southern part of the block was part of a farm labeled Thomas P. Graham late Jacobus Lott. The southeastern portion of the block is labeled as the property of Mrs. Macomber (illustrated in Figure 5).

The subject property is illustrated in the 1880 Bromley Atlas (Figure 5). This Atlas shows the four
previously mentioned (Leffert Lefferts Est., A.O. Millard, Jacobus Lott, and Mrs. Macomber) farms diagonally cross cutting the subject property. The subject property is located on the Millard Farm to the south and the Lefferts property to the north. By 1880 the Millard Farm has been divided into lots numbered as 2, 3, 4, and 40. Lot 2 contains a long narrow structure labeled as a ropewalk (presumably a structure within which strands are laid out during the manufacture of rope). The Lefferts property contains Lot 5, a portion of which lies within the project’s A.P.E. In order to clarify the present lot configurations with the historic development, the lots and addresses are as follows: Lot 2 (407 Howard Avenue) lies partially under the backyards of present Lots 79 through 87 and partially under the one-story garage in the rear of Lot 78. Lot 2 is outside of the proposed construction’s A.P.E. Lot 3 (403 Howard Avenue) is present Lot 5. Lot 4 (399 Howard Avenue) is present Lot 7. Lot 40 is located outside of the subject property. Lastly, Lot 5 (397 Howard Avenue) is present Lot 9.

The 1886 Robinson and Pidgeon Atlas map (Figure 6) depicts much of the same information as the 1880 Bromley Atlas. The four designations for the farms are present and the Millard farm shows the same subdivision into Lots 2, 3, 4, and 40. Lot 5 also maintains the same subdivision on the Lefferts property. Lot 2 contains a long narrow structure that appears to be the long narrow rectangle labeled as a ropewalk in the 1880 Bromley Atlas. The most significant change is a structure and associated outbuilding behind it now appears on Lot 3 (present Lot 5, 403 Howard Avenue) facing Howard Avenue.

The 1888 Sanborn Insurance Map (Figure 7) also begins to illustrate a slight variation and development of the subject property. The former Millard farm has been further subdivided. What was Lot 4 seen in Figure 6 has been subdivided into two. The long ropewalk is identified as having one story and a structure depicted at 403 Howard Avenue is identified as a two-story dwelling with a one-story structure, presumably an outbuilding, behind it. The 1898 Atlas of Brooklyn Borough of the City of New York marks the demolition of the ropewalk and two buildings appear in the previously vacant lots to the north (Greenhouse 1995:8). Although the 1898 map is not illustrated here, the 1908 Sanborn map (Figure 8) contains the same locations and configurations as the 1898 Atlas.

The 1908 Sanborn map (Figure 8) illustrates considerable changes that still characterize the vicinity today. To the north of the project area, Bergen Street has been fully developed with 33 row houses. The western half of the St. Marks frontage has also been developed. The corner property at Howard and St. Marks Avenues consists of three stores. East of the stores are nine row houses, a vacant lot, and nine more row houses. The 1908 Sanborn shows the project area’s configuration as it presently stands as 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue. All three
buildings are labeled as two-story dwellings. 397 Howard Avenue (present Lot 9) has retained a small one-story extension in the rear and a one-story outbuilding behind this. The outbuilding is labeled as "Tailor." The 1929 Atlas shows additional development along Saratoga and St. Marks Avenues. The configuration of the subject property along Howard remains the same with the exception of 397 Howard Avenue (Figure 9). The only change is that the outbuilding previously identified as "Tailor" in the rear of 397 Howard Avenue is now identified as just a 1-story building.

Finally, the 1932 Sanborn (Figure 10) shows that the building at 403 Howard Avenue (present Lot 5, former Lot 3) within the subject property has been demolished and a one-story automobile washing and greasing facility with an earthen floor is now present.

Water service became available to the neighborhood during the decade of 1894 through 1904, according to files located at The City of New York, Bureau of Water supply, Brooklyn Permitting and Connection. The earliest water main was installed under Bergen Street, the cross street just north of the subject property, and was in use by 1894. Howard Avenue, including 397, 399, and 399 located within the subject property, was the second street to receive water services, which were in place by December 1901. Research conducted at the City of New York, Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, Bureau of Water supply, Brooklyn New York, located the original water supply installation index cards for the buildings within the subject property. These index cards record the block, lot, addresses, and the official date the water main was connected to the building, as well as (if applicable) the date that it was turned off or destroyed. The results of this research reveal that 397 Howard Avenue (Lot 9) did not begin receiving water until October 15, 1959, when the water main located along Howard Avenue was officially tapped. A subsequent index card indicated that the water line was destroyed on July 18, 1978. There is unfortunately no original installation index card available for 399 Howard (Lot 7). The only document for this property is the index card showing that the water had been shut off on May 21, 2005. The earliest recorded date for receiving water related to the property at 403 Howard Avenue (Lot 5). The index card permit states that this building was connected to the water main and originally began receiving water on September 9, 1930.

Additional files located at the Brooklyn Permitting & Connection Office record that the earliest sewer lines were installed under the streets along Bergen Street, just north of the subject property during the years of 1899 through 1901. Many of the properties along St. Marks were connected between 1905 and 1909. These records note that the subject property along Howard Avenue (including 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue) was connected to the sewer system in 1905 (Register of Permits, Book 15).
Therefore, when comparing the sewer and water connection data with the cartographic evidence, it appears that the construction and occupancy of the houses along Howard Avenue pre-date the installation and connection of the sewer and water mains. It is thus reasonable to assume that these dwellings were served by subsurface features such as wells, privies, and cisterns, as would have been typical prior to the availability of city water and sewer services.

The 1880 map shows the owners of the subject property as A. O. Millard (403 and 399 Howard Avenue) and Estate of Leffert Lefferts (397 Howard Avenue). A. O. Millard, born in 1809, practiced law in New York. He is listed as a counselor in an 1836 Manhattan Directory but moved to Brooklyn in 1839. He married Sarah Cowenhoven Lefferts in 1839. She bore six children, only two of whom survived infancy, James Lefferts Millard and Lefferts Lefferts Millard. Sarah died in 1849. When a portion of the subject property passed to A. O. Millard in 1868 it is described as the equal divided 1/3 part of Lot No. 12 in the 3rd division of Brooklyn woodlands, "which lies between the E'ly. Line of Howard Ave., & middle line of Block between Howard & Saratoga Aves" (Kings County Deed Book 1675:15; 2055:389).

Although he never lived on this property (he is recorded as a resident of 77 New York Avenue from at least 1871 through 1884), Millard subdivided the tract in preparation for development (Greenhouse 1995:13). Millard is listed in the 1880 U. S. Census, aged 71, along with a boarder, but he had died by June 1886 when the executors of his estate deeded the property to Walter E. and Henry Parfitt (Kings County Deed Book 850:315).

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle has a record of a court case brought forth by James Lefferts Millard against his father A. Orville Millard and his brother Lefferts Millard. The article is entitled "The Lefferts Estate—A Sixteen Year Old Litigation Approaching a Close." This was in regards to a parcel of land that was left to the three men by Sarah Millard, A. Orville's wife, who died in 1849 (7/15/1880, pp 4). Although this article does not directly refer to the subject property, the deed of October 7, 1868 is part of a judgment made involving these three Millard family members.

The son of early Dutch settlers, Leffert Lefferts was reportedly born in 1727 and died in 1804. He married Dorothy Couwenhoven in 1746 and lived on a farm located at what is now Brevoort Place and Fulton Street. Their son, John L. Lefferts was born in 1763 and married Sarah Couwenhoven in 1790. Their children included Leffert Lefferts, born in 1791, and Sarah Cowen- hoven Lefferts (who would later marry A. O. Millard). Leffert Lefferts was a judge in Brooklyn. When he died in 1847, he was "one of the largest real estate owners in the city" (Brooklyn Daily Eagle 1896). Clearly, the Lefferts and Millard families were joined with the
marriage of Sarah Lefferts and A. Orville Millard.

Several files that comprise a portion of the Lefferts family archives were reviewed at the Brooklyn Historical Society. No information concerning the subject property was found in these records. Likewise, no information relating to other names connected with the history of the property was found at the Historical Society.

Members of the Cornelius Stryker family owned the 403 Howard Avenue property from 1811 to 1867. No specific information concerning Cornelius Stryker was found except that he was born in 1760, married Adrianne Schenck in 1789, and died in 1841.

397 Howard Avenue, Lot 9

The site visit conducted on October 31, 2006 revealed that, 397 Howard Avenue (Lot 9) consists of a vacant lot with substantial overgrowth (Plate 2-3). Local dumping and littering is evident throughout the extent of the property. Consequently, there was little likelihood of locating surface features or surface anomalies during the site visit. As described above, Lot 9 occupies portions of former Lot 5. As seen in both the 1880 Bromley Atlas (Figure 5) and the 1886 Robinson and Pidgeon Atlas (Figure 6) former Lot 5 was the property of the Lefferts Estate. The property remains vacant until 1898 when a two-story dwelling with a one-story extension and additional one-story outbuilding labeled "Tailor" are constructed. Although the 1898 map is not presented here, the 1908 Sanborn (Figure 8) illustrates the locations of the dwelling and associated outbuildings as they existed in 1898. By 1929 (Figure 9) Block 1452 has been renumbered and 397 Howard Avenue is labeled as Lot 9. The 1932 Sanborn (Figure 10) verifies that 397 Howard Avenue maintains the structures along the property to at least 1932.

Table 3: Chain of Title Block 1252, Lot 9, 397 Howard Avenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Grantor</th>
<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Book, Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/11/1959</td>
<td>Kings Brit Realty Corp.</td>
<td>Earl Anderson &amp; Willie M. Anderson</td>
<td>8783, 212</td>
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<td>8/8/1959</td>
<td>Walter, William, William A. Goetz</td>
<td>Kings Brit Realty Corp.</td>
<td>8766/141</td>
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<td>12/14/1926</td>
<td>William &amp; Anna Goetz</td>
<td>Louise Borsvick</td>
<td>4761, 364</td>
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<td>William &amp; Anna Goetz</td>
<td>Frank &amp; Rose Loema</td>
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<td>Wilhemina &amp; Louis Goetz</td>
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<td>8/3/1895</td>
<td>William &amp; Anna Goetz</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
William Goetz is associated with the property at 397 Howard Avenue as early as 1891. He emigrated from Germany in 1885. William resided at 403 Howard from at least 1892 until 1896. The following year, William is listed as a tailor living and working at 397 Howard (Greenhouse 1995:13). Louis Goetz is also listed as a resident. The 1900 census lists William (32), a tailor, living with his wife Annie (26), who had emigrated from Germany in 1894. The house appears to have been a two-family building; an unrelated couple is listed as renters at this address. In 1910, William is living with Anna, and his sons William (8) and Walter (5) at 397 Howard Avenue. At this time, Louisa Brosamle and Louisa Goetz are listed as a separate household at 397 Howard Avenue. Mrs. Brosamle is renting a portion of the house and Louisa Goetz, identified as a servant, is still employed as a tailoress, presumably in her brother’s shop. In 1920, another family is renting a portion of the house (U.S. Bureau of the Census). William Goetz remained at this address until the property at 397 Howard Avenue was sold to Kings Brit Realty Corp in 1959 (Kings County Deed Book 8766:141).

399 Howard Avenue, Lot 7

A two-story frame row house occupies 399 (Lot 7) Howard Avenue (Plate 3-4). Now vacant, the dwelling is clad in aluminum siding and its windows have been boarded over. The building is
devoid of its any original exterior architectural components that would once have defined its historic character. Similar to 397 Howard Avenue, the backyard portion of the property is covered in substantial overgrowth, and shows the effects of dumping and littering.

As described above, 399 Howard Avenue occupies former Lot 4 and is presently designated as Lot 7. As seen in both the 1880 Bromley Atlas (Figure 5) and the 1886 Robinson and Pidgeon Atlas (Figure 6) former Lot 4 was located on the Millard Farm. The property appears to have been set off from Lot 9 at 397 Howard Avenue via a deed dated August 3, 1895. A house was built sometime between 1895 and 1898 when the Atlas Map shows a two-story structure at 399 Howard. No additional structures or outbuildings are identified on the maps.

Table 2: Chain of Title, Block 1452, Lot 7  399 Howard Avenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Grantor</th>
<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Book, Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/18/1952</td>
<td>A. George Golby</td>
<td>Mary &amp; Truman Lewis</td>
<td>8020, 524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/18/1951</td>
<td>Louis Goetz</td>
<td>A. George Golby</td>
<td>7912, 530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/3/1895</td>
<td>William Goetz</td>
<td>Louis Goetz</td>
<td>6, 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Brooklyn Historical Society, Kings County Deeds Office

With the 1895 deed, William Goetz grants this property to Louis Goetz who appears to be either his brother or cousin. The 1897/98 Brooklyn Directory records both William and Louis Goetz as residents of 397 Howard Avenue, suggesting that the house at 399 Howard had not yet been constructed. The two men are in the tailoring business together. In the 1900 census, Louis Goetz (27) is listed as a tailor living with his wife Wilmeana (20) and his sister Louisa (30) at 399 Howard Avenue. Louis Goetz emigrated from Germany in 1888, Wilmeana (also recorded as Wilhemina) arrived in 1880, and Louis's sister Louisa had arrived in 1870. A second couple is listed as renters at this address. In the 1910 census, Louis Goetz and Wilhemina and their two children, Harry (7) and Helen (4) are residing at this address, and the 1920 census shows the addition of a daughter Marian. At this time, there are no renters in the house. Louis and William appear to be the owners of the tailor shop (U.S. Bureau of the Census). There are no changes in the household reported in the 1930 census. The property at 399 Howard Avenue passed out of the Goetz family in 1951 (Kings County Deed Book 7912:530).

403 Howard Avenue, Lot 5

A one-story brick commercial building presently occupies 403 Howard Avenue (Lot 5) (Plate 5).
The existing sign in front of the building identifies the former business as Supermarket Meats. The building extends to the rear on a southeasterly diagonal angle. A small backyard is present on the very rear of the property. The building is vacant.

### Table 1: Chain of Title, Block 1452, Lot 5  403 Howard Avenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Grantee</th>
<th>Book, Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/24/1916</td>
<td>Louis &amp; Wilhemina Goetz</td>
<td>Rubin Brinlan</td>
<td>3610:342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/25/1871</td>
<td>Caroline E. &amp; Abraham C. Hyatt</td>
<td>Louisa Brosamle (wife of Frederick)</td>
<td>1024:24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/16/1867</td>
<td>Adrianna Stryker, Sarah M. Ditmas, Henry Ditmas</td>
<td>Caroline E. Hyatt</td>
<td>784:109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/14/1867</td>
<td>Heirs of Cornelius Stryker</td>
<td>Executors of estate of Cornelius Stryker</td>
<td>783:459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25/1811</td>
<td>John &amp; Sarah Lefferts</td>
<td>Cornelius Stryker</td>
<td>10:74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/25/1811</td>
<td>Cornelius Stryker</td>
<td>John Lefferts</td>
<td>10:76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/22/1701/2</td>
<td>Henry &amp; Katherine Filkin</td>
<td>Peter Stryker</td>
<td>3:326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/11/1697</td>
<td>Town of Brooklyn</td>
<td>Inhabitants &amp; Freeholders of the Town of Brooklyn, Henry Filkin</td>
<td>2:133</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


As described above, 403 Howard Avenue occupies former Lot 3, now known as Lot 5. 403 Howard Avenue is the earliest developed property located within the project’s A.P.E., and is located on the former Millard Farm. By 1880 the Millard Farm has been divided into lots numbered as 2, 3, 4, and 40. Lot 2 adjacent to 403 Howard Avenue contains a long narrow feature labeled as a ropewalk. By 1888 what was Lot 4 has been subdivided into two. A two-story dwelling with a one-story structure, presumably an outbuilding, behind it is clearly identified at 403 Howard Avenue.

Deed research indicates that Frederick and Louisa Brosamle owned this property as early as 1871 (Kings County Deed Book 1024:24). A building and associated outbuilding had been erected at 403 Howard Avenue as early as 1886, as seen in Figure 6. Brooklyn City Directories recorded William Goetz as a tailor living at 403 Howard Avenue during 1892, 1895, and 1896 (Greenhouse 1995:13). It is probable that he was renting a portion of this building before the houses were built at 397 and 399 Howard. Frederick Brosamle is listed in the 1889 Brooklyn City Directory as a carpenter living at 403 Howard Avenue (Greenhouse 1995:10).

The US population census for 1900 lists 403 Howard Avenue as the residence of Frederick Brosamle (74) and his wife Louisa (72), his niece, and a boarder. Frederick, a baker, owned the home in which he resided. Deed research shows that Louis and Wilhemina Goetz purchased
the house at 403 Howard Avenue from Louisa Brosamle in 1905 (Greenhouse 1995:11). In the 1910 census, Samuel Katz, a salesman, rents the building at this location. The household includes his wife, four children, and a servant (U.S. Bureau of the Census). Louis Goetz sold the property at 403 Howard Avenue in 1916 to Rubin Brinian (Kings County Deed Book 3610:342). The 1920 population census lists George Mason, a black from the West Indies, renting 403 Howard Avenue and owning a tailoring shop. The household includes his wife and five children (U.S. Bureau of the Census).

The house still stands on this property in 1929 as seen in the Hyde Atlas (Figure 9). The 1930 census contains no listing for 403 Howard Avenue (U.S. Bureau of the Census). By 1932, the two-story dwelling and associated outbuilding on 403 Howard Avenue have been demolished and a one-story automobile washing and greasing facility with an earthen floor has been constructed (Sanborn 1932).

In summary, research has revealed that by 1880 the Millard Farm had been divided into lots numbered as 2, 3, 4, and 40. Lot 2 adjacent to 403 Howard Avenue contained a long narrow feature labeled as a ropewalk. A building and associated outbuilding appear on 403 Howard Avenue as early as 1886. By 1888 what was Lot 4 had been subdivided into two. A two-story dwelling with a one-story structure, presumably an outbuilding, behind it is clearly identified on 403 Howard Avenue. This remains consistent until some time after 1924 and on or before 1932. The 1932 Sanborn map shows that the two-story dwelling and associated outbuilding on 403 Howard Avenue had been demolished and a one-story automobile washing and greasing facility with an earthen floor were present. Research did not indicate that this structure contained a grease pit or tanks. The most specific information that was available is the 1932 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map that specifically identifies the building as containing an earth floor. The Sanborn map makes no reference to a grease pit or to any sort of tanks.

Summary of occupation for 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue

All three buildings housed a combination of long-term proprietors/residents and long-term renters. Members of the William Goetz, Louis Goetz, or Brosamle families were associated with these properties from 1871 to the mid-20th century.

The residence at 397 Howard Avenue was built c. 1896. Originally owned and occupied by the William Goetz family, a portion of this building was rented through at least 1920. The building
remained in the Goetz family until 1959. A tailor shop was present on the property from c. 1898 to at least 1932.

The building at 399 Howard Avenue was constructed between 1898 and 1900. The Louis Goetz family owned this building until 1951 (Deed 7912:530) and were occupants until at least 1930 (US Census Bureau 1910, 1920, 1930). A portion of the house was rented until at least 1910, when the Louis Goetz family became the sole occupants (US Census Bureau 1910).

A residence had been constructed at 403 Howard Avenue by 1886. Frederick and Louisa Brosamle lived at this address from at least 1886 until 1905, when the property was sold to William Goetz. From that time, the property appears to be a rental property until its demolition around 1930.

**Evaluation**

The subject property was evaluated using the National Register eligibility criteria (36 CFR 60.4), as outlined in the National Park Service's (1995) *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. As detailed in the LPC guidelines for archaeological work in New York City “these criteria also serve as the LPC’s basis for determining archaeological significance” (LPC: 4).

The criteria for evaluation, as stated in 36CFR 60.4, are as follows:

A) [properties] that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or

B) [properties] that are associated with the lives of persons significant to our past; or

C) [properties] that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master; or that possess high artistic values; or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or

D) [properties] that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
CRCG has evaluated the subject property and finds that it is not significant under Criterion A. Historical research has revealed that the property is not associated with specific events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of our history (36 CFR §60.4(a)).

This resource is not significant under Criterion B, as historical research has failed to reveal that the property is associated with lives of persons significant in our past or whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented (36 CFR §60.4(b)). Although the first owners of the subject property were people of some financial resources or local social standing, they did not reside on the subject property. The first residents, participants in a growing German immigrant community, used their skills to support their families and build a life for themselves in America.

Buildings on the property do not embody the evolution of a type, period, or method of construction and so are not significant under Criterion C (36 CFR §60.4(c)).

The subject property is not significant under Criterion D because it is unlikely to yield potentially significant information important in history or prehistory. The primary historical research revealed that the original owners of the properties typically rented their properties to various traveling immigrant workers who used their skills to support their families and build a life for themselves in America. Thus, potential archaeological deposits could not be firmly associated with any particular occupational phase pertaining to the properties. Furthermore, the brief period of occupation of 397 (1897 to 1905) and 399 (c. 1899 to 1905) Howard Avenue before sewer service was introduced reduces the chances of finding archaeological deposits of late-19th- and early-20th-century habitation. The documentary study supports the high turnaround of the renters who primarily occupied the subject property. As a result, the potential significance of possible archaeological resources is assessed as low.

Similarly, deed research conducted for 403 Howard Avenue indicates that Frederick and Louisa Brosamle owned property (Lot 5) as early as 1871. A residence had been constructed at 403 Howard Avenue by 1886. By 1888 what was Lot 4 had been subdivided into two. Deed research indicates that Frederick and Louisa Brosamle lived at this address from at least 1886 until 1905, when the property was sold to William Goetz. From that time until its demolition around 1930, the property appears to have been a rental property. In the 1910 census, Samuel Katz, a salesman, rented the building at this location. The household included his wife, four children, and a servant (U.S. Bureau of the Census). Louis Goetz sold the property at 403 Howard Avenue in 1916 to Rubin Brinian (Kings County Deed Book 3610:342). The 1920 population census lists George Mason, a black from the West Indies, renting 403 Howard
Avenue and owning a tailoring shop. The household included his wife and five children (U.S. Bureau of the Census).

Therefore, although the timeline from the original residence occupying the residence is slightly longer than that of 397 and 399 Howard Avenue, the majority of occupants within the household were immigrant workers who were renting the properties. Thus, the likelihood of establishing a clear association between any archaeological deposits with any particular occupancy is considered low, and the potential significance of any such deposits is likewise considered low.
Figure 5: 1880 Bromley Atlas, Sheet 33.

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Figure 6: 1886 Robinson and Pidgeon Atlas, Plate 24.

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Figure 7: 1888 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Brooklyn, N.Y.

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Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York
Figure 8: 1908 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Brooklyn, N.Y. Note: Illustrates conditions as they existed in 1898.
Figure 9: 1929 Hyde Desk Atlas, Plate 196.
Figure 10: 1932 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map.

Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue
Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9
Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York
3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

3.1 Potential for Archaeological Resources

The following section describes the results of the site visit and synthesizes the site-specific history while assessing the sensitivity for archaeological resources.

397 Howard Avenue, Lot 9

The site visit conducted on October 31, 2006 revealed that, 397 Howard Avenue (Lot 9) consists of a vacant lot with substantial overgrowth (Plate 2-3). Local dumping and littering is evident throughout the extent of the property. Consequently, there was little likelihood of locating surface features or surface anomalies during the site visit. As described above, Lot 9 is located in portions of former Lot 5. As seen in both the 1880 Bromley Atlas (Figure 5) and the 1886 Robinson and Pidgeon Atlas (Figure 6) former Lot 5 was property of the Lefferts Estate. The property remains vacant until 1898 when a two-story dwelling with a one-story extension and additional one-story outbuilding labeled “Tailor” are constructed. Although the 1898 map is not presented here, the 1908 Sanborn (Figure 8) illustrates the locations of the dwelling and associated outbuildings as they existed in 1898. By 1929 (Figure 9) Block 1452 has been renumbered and 397 Howard Avenue is labeled as Lot 9. The 1932 Sanborn (Figure 10) verifies that 397 Howard Avenue maintains the structures along the property to at least 1932.

Files located at the Brooklyn Permitting & Connection Office record that the earliest sewer lines were installed under the streets along Bergen Street, just north of the subject property during the years of 1899 through 1901. Many of the properties along St. Marks were connected to the sewer system between 1905 and 1909. Records located at the Brooklyn Sewer Department show that the subject property along Howard Avenue (including 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue) was connected to the sewer system in 1905 (Register of Permits, Book 15).

Despite installation of sewer lines in the neighborhood at the turn of the 20th century, not all the properties were connected to the sewer system until years later. Maps located at the Brooklyn Permitting & Connection Office revealed that the sewer system was not connected to 397 Howard Avenue until 1905 (minimally 7 years after the building was constructed). Similarly, water lines were installed along Howard Avenue by 1901; however, the official date of installation to the water main for 397 Howard Avenue is not until October 15, 1959. In addition, the subsequent permit indicates that the water line was destroyed on July 18, 1978.
In summary, a two-story dwelling with a one-story extension and additional one-story outbuilding were constructed by 1898 at 397 Howard Avenue as indicated in the 1898 Atlas. The buildings on the property remained intact from 1898 until at least 1932. Water services were available by 1901, at least seven years after the dwelling and associated structures were constructed. In addition, Lot 9 was not connected to the water main along Howard Avenue until 1959. Likewise, although sewer mains were installed along Howard Avenue, it was not until 1905 that 397 Howard Avenue was connected to the sewer system.

Therefore, when comparing the sewer and water connection data with the cartographic evidence for 397 Howard Avenue, it appears that the construction of the house and associated outbuildings pre-dates the original installation and official connection of the sewer and water mains. Thus, the potential identification of subsurface features which are common to the 19th-century urban environment, such as privies, wells, and cisterns must be considered, as such features would have been necessary prior to the availability of public services. The potential for historic archaeological resources to be present on the property of 397 Howard Avenue is considered high.

399 Howard Avenue, Lot 7

A two-story frame row house occupies 399 (Lot 7) Howard Avenue (Plate 3-4). Now vacant, the dwelling is clad in aluminum siding and its windows have been boarded over. The building is devoid of its any original exterior architectural components that would once have defined its historic character. Similar to 397 Howard Avenue, the backyard portion of the property is covered in substantial overgrowth, and shows the effects of dumping and littering.

As described above, 399 Howard Avenue occupies former Lot 4 and is presently designated Lot 7. As seen in both the 1880 Bromley Atlas (Figure 5) and the 1886 Robinson and Pidgeon Atlas (Figure 6), former Lot 4 was located on the Millard Farm. As with the surrounding properties, 399 Howard Avenue remains vacant until it appears on the 1898 Atlas Map as a two-story dwelling. No additional structures or outbuildings are identified on the maps.

As is the case with the surrounding properties along Howard Avenue, water services were available by 1901 and sewers were installed on the properties by 1905. No original installation index card available for 399 Howard Avenue was located at the Bureau of Water Supply, Brooklyn. The only document available was the official date it was shut off for May 5, 2005.
Therefore, when comparing the sewer and water connection data with the cartographic evidence for 399 Howard Avenue, it appears that the construction of the house pre-dates the original installation of the sewer (1905) and water (1901) mains. The cartographic evidence shows no outbuildings in the rear portion of the 399 Howard property. However, the potential identification of subsurface features is likely based on the official dates that the water and sewer lines were installed to the property, since the lack of public water services would have necessitated the use of wells, privies, and cisterns. Based on the cartographic evidence, however, the likelihood of 399 Howard Avenue to contain subsurface features is slightly lower than that of 397 and 403 Howard Avenue because of the apparent lack of outbuildings. Thus, the potential for archaeological resources is considered moderate to high.

403 Howard Avenue, Lot 5

A one-story brick commercial building presently occupies 403 Howard Avenue (Lot 5) (Plate 5). The existing sign in front of the building identifies the former business as Supermarket Meats. The building extends to the rear on a southeasterly diagonal angle. A small backyard is present on the very rear of the property. The building is vacant.

As described above, 403 Howard Avenue occupies former Lot 3 and is present Lot 5. 403 Howard Avenue is the earliest developed property located within the project’s A.P.E., and is located on the Millard Farm. By 1880 the Millard Farm has been divided into lots numbered as 2, 3, 4, and 40. Lot 2 adjacent to 403 Howard Avenue contains a long narrow feature labeled as a ropewalk. A building and associated outbuilding appear on 403 Howard Avenue as early as 1886, as seen in Figure 6. By 1888 what was Lot 4 has been subdivided into two. A two-story dwelling with a one-story structure, presumably an outbuilding, behind it is clearly identified on 403 Howard Avenue. This remains consistent until some time after 1924 and on or before 1932. The 1932 Sanborn map shows that the two-story dwelling and associated outbuilding on 403 Howard Avenue are demolished and a one-story automobile washing and greasing facility with an earthen floor is present.

As with 397 and 399 Howard Avenue, water services were available by 1901 and sewers were installed and connected to the properties by 1905. The earliest recorded date for receiving water was recorded at 403 Howard Avenue (Lot 5). The index card permit reveals that water was installed to this building originally on September 9, 1930. Therefore, when comparing the sewer and water connection data with the cartographic evidence for 403 Howard Avenue, it appears that the construction of house (as early as 1886-1888) and associated outbuildings predates the original installation and official connection of the sewer (1905) and water (1901).
mains. Although the original dwelling and outbuilding have since been demolished, and the present structure was built directly over portions of the earlier buildings, the structure was originally built with an earthen floor and remains without a basement. Thus, there is a greater potential that deep features such as cisterns, privies, or wells are present in 403 Howard Avenue, likely underneath the present structure. Therefore, the potential for historic archaeological resources to be present is considered high.
4.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Pedestrian reconnaissance preceded by background research was conducted in the proposed construction area's A.P.E. in order to provide a sensitivity assessment for potential historic-period archaeological resources. The potential for Native American archaeological sites to be present on the subject property was eliminated through the previous investigation by Greenhouse Inc. (1995), with which the NYC-LPC concurred.

Historical research revealed that although the first owners of the subject property were people of some financial resources or social standing, they never resided on the subject property. The first residents of this portion of Brooklyn were participants in a growing immigrant community. Historical research has failed to reveal that the property is associated with specific events that have made significant contributions to the broad patterns of our history or that the property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past or whose specific contributions to history can be identified and documented.

When comparing the sewer and water connection data with the cartographic evidence it appears that the construction and occupancy in the houses along Howard Avenue pre-date the installation and connection of the sewer and water mains. Files located at the Brooklyn Permitting & Connection Office record indicate that the subject property along Howard Avenue (including 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue) was connected to the sewer system in 1905 (Register of Permits, Book 15). Similarly, water lines were installed along Howard Avenue by 1901. 397 Howard Avenue (Lot 9, former Lot 5) was built by 1898. Although this is only three years before water was available along Howard Avenue, the installation records reveal that 397 Howard Avenue did not tap into the water main and officially start receiving water until 1959. Furthermore, the 1898 and 1908 maps indicate the there were two additional outbuildings present in the backyard portion of the property. The house at 399 Howard Avenue was also built by 1898; however, the cartographic evidence does not indicate any associated outbuildings as on the surrounding properties. No official water installation index was available for this property. Number 403 Howard Avenue appears as early as 1886-1888 with an associated outbuilding. Although the original dwelling and outbuilding buildings have since been demolished, and the present structure was built directly over portions of the earlier structures, the original structure was built with an earthen floor and the present building was built without a basement. Thus, subsurface disturbance to the area is presumed to be low. It is likely that deep features such as privies are present and relatively undisturbed beneath the present structure.
Comparing the sewer and water connection data with the cartographic evidence indicates a high potential for historic-period archaeological sites to exist in 397 Howard Avenue (Lot 9) and 403 Howard Avenue (Lot 5) and a moderate to high potential for historic-period archaeological resources on 399 Howard Avenue.

Although the potential for intact archaeological remains is considered moderate to high, the potential significance of the remains is considered low. The primary historical research revealed that the original owners of the properties typically rented their properties to various traveling immigrant workers who used their skills to support their families and build a life for themselves in America. Potential archaeological remains thus could not be firmly associated with any particular occupational phase pertaining to the properties. As a result, the occupants of 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue who resided on the subject property lack established historical association and cannot be firmly associated with any particular phase of history, historical event, or historically significant individuals.

Based on the above, CRCG recommends no further investigation.
5.0 SOURCES

5.1 References

Brooklyn Daily Eagle


Doggett, John Jr. & Co.

Ellis, Edward R.

Greenhouse Consultants, Inc.

Grumet, Robert S.

Hart, Nancy E.

New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission: Landmarks Preservation Commission
United States Bureau of the Census
1880 Census of Population.
1900-1930 Censuses of Population.

Williams, Edwin

5.2 Maps and Atlases

Bromley, George W. and Walter S.

Hyde, E. Belcher


Robinson, E. and R.H. Pidgeon

Sanborn Map Company
1888 Insurance Maps of the City of Brooklyn.


United Stated Geological Survey
5.3 Regulations Cited

APPENDIX A: PHOTO PLATES
Plate 1: View to the northeast showing the project area along Howard Avenue. From right to left: 403 (Lot 5), 399 (Lot 7), and 397 (Lot 9) Howard Avenue.

Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
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Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York
Plate 2: View to the east showing the current conditions of 397 Howard Avenue.

Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue
Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9
Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York
Plate 3: View to the east showing 399 Howard Avenue.
Plate 4: View to the east showing the project area. Left: 397 (Lot 9) Howard Avenue vacant lot; Right: 399 (Lot 7) Howard Avenue, two-story dwelling.

Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue
Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9
Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York
Plate 5: View to the east showing 403 Howard Avenue.

Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study
397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue
Block 1452, Lots 5, 7, and 9
Brooklyn Borough, New York City, Kings County, New York
APPENDIX B: CORRESPONDENCE
THE CITY OF NEW YORK LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
1 Centre St., 9N, New York, NY 10007 (212) 669-7700

ENVIROMENTAL REVIEW

HPD/HOME-K

PROJECT NUMBER

06/08/06

DATE RECEIVED

PROJECT

397 HOWARD AVE:

( ) No architectural significance
( ) No archaeological significance
( ) Designated New York City Landmark or Within Designated Historic District
( ) Listed on National Register of Historic Places
( ) Appears to be eligible for National Register Listing and/or New York City Landmark
Designation
( ) May be archaeologically significant; requesting additional materials

COMMENTS

LPC review of archaeological sensitivity models, historic maps and an archaeological documentary study, see, Greenhouse Consultants, Inc. 1995a, Archaeological/Historical Sensitivity Evaluation, Oceanhill Urban Renewal Area, Brooklyn, New York, Draft, For: The New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development, CEQR #99-112K, indicates that there is potential for the recovery of remains from 19th Century occupation for the following Borough, Block and Lot locations within the study area: 3014520005, 3014520007 and 3014520009. Accordingly, the Commission recommends that an addendum be prepared that analyzes whether potentially significant archeological resources are likely to be present at these locations to clarify these initial findings and provide the threshold for the next level of review, if such review is necessary (see CEQR Technical Manual 2001).

G:\AAERCEQR\KB1452L5,7,9K06122006KNI.DOC

06/13/06

SIGNATURE

DATE
THE CITY OF NEW YORK LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
1 Centre St., 9N, New York, NY 10007 (212) 669-7700

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

HPD/HOME-K 06/19/07

PROJECT NUMBER DATE RECEIVED

PROJECT

397 HOWARD AVE:

[X] No architectural significance

[ ] No archaeological significance

[ ] Designated New York City Landmark or Within Designated Historic District

[ ] Listed on National Register of Historic Places

[ ] Appears to be eligible for National Register Listing and/or New York City Landmark Designation

[X] May be archaeologically significant; requesting additional materials

COMMENTS

The LPC is in receipt of the revised, "Phase 1A Archaeological Reconnaissance Study for 397, 399, and 403 Howard Ave, B 1452 L 5, 7, and 9, Brooklyn, NY," prepared by CRCG and dated May 31, 2007.

The LPC cannot concur with this study. This study has determined that because the former residents of the subject property were "not of particular significance or made specific contributions to the history of Brooklyn or the region," the site has no research value. This is not a threshold that is ever used in urban archaeology- the appropriate consideration (aka criteria d of the National Register standards) is whether or not anything new can be learned about the past which it appears may be possible at this site. This study should be revised to consider whether or not anything new may be learned from studying the likely archaeological resources in the subject area.

Signature: [Signature]

DATE: 06/22/07
Brock Giordano

From: Sophia Perdikaris [sperdikaris@lpc.nyc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 1:00 PM
To: Brock Giordano
Cc: Amanda Sutphin; Kate Daly; habankoff@brooklyn.cuny.edu
Subject: RE: CRCG - MTI Residential - Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study for 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue, Block 1452, Lot 5, 7, and 9, Brooklyn, NY

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Dear Mr. Giordano,

I checked the letters of previous communication and I also talked with Amanda Sutphin earlier today in regards to this project. What is needed before the project goes on to the next level is information on who were the residents of the lots and approximate length of stay. If the documentary study supports high turnaround of who stayed at the area (transients), further archaeological investigations will not be necessary. If however, there is evidence for long term stay at the area then archaeological investigation will be necessary. Some information about the occupants of the area can be found at rootsweb.com, Brooklyn census records 1897. Once you have submitted that info to us, we will be able to evaluate and proceed with this project.

Hope this is of help,
Best,
Sophia Perdikaris
Archaeologist

-----Original Message-----
From: Brock Giordano [mailto:bgiordano@crg.net]
Sent: Wednesday, August 22, 2007 1:20 PM
To: Amanda Sutphin
Cc: Sophia Perdikaris
Subject: Ref: CRCG - MTI Residential - Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study for 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue, Block 1452, Lot 5, 7, and 9, Brooklyn, NY

Dear Ms. Sutphin,

Thank you for reviewing and commenting on the project listed above located in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, NY. I was recently forwarded the latest comments by the NYC-LPC in reference to this project. I am looking for some clarification by the LPC in regards to the comments provided for the documentary study.

Our first report submitted to the LPC concluded that when comparing the sewer and water connection data with the cartographic evidence a high potential for historic period archaeological sites exists in 397 Howard Avenue and 403 Howard Avenue and a moderate to high potential exists on 399 Howard Avenue. As such, CRCG recommended Phase IB archaeological testing. Comments received by the LPC on 11/10/07 stated that "the LPC cannot accept this document yet. It does not include any information about who may have lived at these properties, and therefore why any such potential archaeological resources may be significant such information can usually be found throughout census records, chain of title, and directories." As such, CRCG revised the report to incorporate all the necessary historical research to document the site’s use and occupation. In doing so, CRCG concluded that no clear historical association could be firmly established. As such, CRCG felt that based on the original comments “...and therefore why any
potential resources may be significant." that the LPC was looking for the probability that archaeological remains would be present (assessed as High), and then if so, why any potential archaeological resources based on the historical research and association may be significant (assessed as low). It seems that I may have misinterpreted these comments and I am looking for clarification to meet your requests.

In reading the comments prepared on 6/19/07 I am looking for clarification on the revisions requested. If the question is just whether or not anything new can be learned from studying the likely archaeological resources in the subject property, as opposed to, why any potential archaeological resources may be significant, then it seems to me that archaeological field testing will be recommended to determine whether the site actually contains significant archaeological resources. A Phase IB would be recommended to determine whether archaeological resources are present and pending the results of the Phase IB, a Phase II which would determine the significance of these resources.

I apologize for any confusion. I just want to make sure I am clear about the revisions before making the necessary changes. If you would like to discuss this I would happy speak to you at your convenience.

Thank you very much. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Brock Giordano

Brock A. Giordano, M.A., RPA
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8/24/2007
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Thank you for the answers to the questions raised by the review of the "Phase I ... for 397,399 and 403 Howard Avenue". The additional facts have indeed addressed those points which the review of the documentary study raised. Please incorporate your answers into the text of pages 21 and 23 of the document, and either resubmit the document as a whole or (if desired and possible) new replacement pages (21, 23) for those already submitted, and the review can go forward to a final sign off.

Arthur Bankoff

-----Original Message-----
From: Brock Giordano [mailto:ugiordano@crcg.net]
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2007 12:18 PM
To: H. Arthur Bankoff
Cc: Sophia Perdikaris
Subject: CRCG-MTI residential - Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study for 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue, Block 1452, Lots, 5, 7, and 9.

Re: CRCG-MTI residential – Phase IA Archaeological Reconnaissance Study for 397, 399, and 403 Howard Avenue, Block 1452, Lots, 5, 7, and 9.
NYC-LPC September 24, 2007 Comments

Dear Mr. Bankoff,

Thank you for reviewing and commenting on the project listed above located in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, NY. I was recently forwarded the latest comments by the NYC-LPC in reference to this project. I am looking for some clarification by the LPC to specifically address these comments so this project can be evaluated and proceed.

"LPC has received the September 12th Phase IA study for 397-403 Howard Avenue. Although much improved, there are still two points that should be clarified. Both relate to the 403 Howard Avenue lot (Block 1452, Lot 5)."

1. p. 21: Did the “car wash and greasing facility with an earthen floor” have a grease pit and tanks associated with it?
Our research revealed that by 1880 the Millard Farm has been divided into lots numbered as 2, 3, 4, and 40. Lot 2 adjacent to 403 Howard Avenue contains a long narrow feature labeled as a ropewalk. A building and associated outbuilding appear on 403 Howard Avenue as early as 1886. By 1888 what was Lot 4 has been subdivided into two. A two-story dwelling with a one-story structure, presumably an outbuilding, behind it is clearly identified on 403 Howard Avenue. This remains consistent until some time after 1924 and on or before 1932. The 1932 Sanborn map shows that the two-story dwelling and associated outbuilding on 403 Howard Avenue are demolished and a one-story automobile washing and greasing facility with an earthen floor is present. Research did not indicate that this structure contained a grease pit and tanks that contained associated tanks with it. The most specific information that was available is the 1932 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map that specifically identifies the building as containing an earth floor. There is no indication that this building contained a grease pit and/or tanks.

2. p. 23: The reasons given for lack of significance do not seem to apply well to this lot. Please elaborate further.

Deed research indicates that Frederick and Louisa Brosamle owned property (Lot 5) as early as 1871. A residence had been constructed at 403 Howard Avenue by 1886. By 1888 what was Lot 4 has been subdivided into two. Deed research indicates that Frederick and Louisa Brosamle lived at this address from at least 1886 until 1905, when the property was sold to William Goetz. From that time, the property appears to be a rental property until its demolition around 1930. In the 1910 census, Samuel Katz, a salesman, rents the building at this location. The household includes his wife, four children, and a servant (U.S. Bureau of the Census). Louis Goetz sold the property at 403 Howard Avenue in 1916 to Rubin Brinian (Kings County Deed Book 3610:342). The 1920 population census lists George Mason, a black from the West Indies, renting 403 Howard Avenue and owning a tailoring shop. The household includes his wife and five children (U.S. Bureau of the Census).

Therefore, although the timeline from the original residence occupying the residence is slightly longer than than 397 and 399 Howard Avenue, the majority of occupants within the household were immigrant workers who were renting the properties. Thus, a clear association of potential archaeological deposits with the original occupants is considered low.

Thank you for taking the time to address these comments. I want to make sure I am clear about your questions and that they have been addressed. If so, is the NYC-LPC looking for a new revised report to be submitted? This project has been in progress since late 2006 and I am looking to specifically address the NYC-LPCs comments so this project will be accepted, evaluated, and able to proceed further.

Thank you very much for your review and comments. If you would like to discuss this I would be happy to speak to you at your convenience.

I have copied Ms. Sophia Perdikaris on this email since we have previously discussed this project in August 2007.

Sincerely,

Brock Giordano

Brock A. Giordano, M.A., RPA
Archaeologist/Principal Investigator

10/11/2007
APPENDIX C: INVESTIGATOR QUALIFICATIONS
Brock A. Giordano, R.P.A.

Title: Archaeologist

Education: Degree - Year - Specialization-School
- M.A. - Anthropology - Western Michigan University
- B.A. - American Studies - Salve Regina University

Years Experience: 4

Overview of Professional Expertise
- Interdisciplinary background in archaeology, cultural and historic preservation, and American Studies.
- Additional interests and research in material culture studies, culture contact, the organization of labor, ethnography, colonial burying ground analysis, urban archaeology, industrial archaeology, craft production, and fur trade.
- Historic and prehistoric archaeology experience in numerous Phase I-III cultural resource investigations in New Jersey, Michigan, and Rhode Island.

Previous Relevant Experience
- The RBA Group, Morristown, NJ
  Archaeological Crew Chief - Directed field crews, maintained all paper work, cataloging, budgeting, mapping, assisted in site planning, testing, interpretation, and assisted in report preparation for more than 15 various Phase I/II/III prehistoric and historic projects throughout New Jersey (2004-2006).

- Louis Berger Group Inc., Pottery Field Cemetery, Secaucus, NJ
  Field Technician - Conducted excavations of the 19th-20th century Secaucus Potters Field Cemetery. Excavations yielded over 4,000 sets of human remains and over 100,000 artifacts (May-August, 2003).

- Fort St. Joseph Museum, Niles, MI
  Collections Manager - Hired by Fort St. Joseph Museum to conduct inventory and initial analysis of all materials recovered during the 2002 field season at Fort Joseph (June-August, 2002).

- Western Michigan University Archaeological Field School, Fort St. Joseph, Niles, MI
  Archaeologist - Conducted a Phase III archaeological survey of the material remains of Fort St. Joseph (June 2002).

Publications & Technical Reports

Conferences & Presentations
- Examining Culture Contact at Fort St. Joseph Through a Technological Analysis of Tinkling Cones. Abstract submitted for the 40th Annual Conference of the Society for Historical Archaeology, Williamsburg/Jamestown, VA.
- 2004 Crafting at Fort St. Joseph. Paper presented at the 37th Annual Conference for Society for Historical Archaeology, St. Louis, MO.