STAGE 1A LITERATURE REVIEW & SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

BLOCK 1735, LOT 26
112 Walworth Street
Borough of Brooklyn
Kings County, New York

Prepared For:
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Prepared By:
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Brooklyn, New York 11215

August 2001

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LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
STAGE 1A LITERATURE REVIEW & SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS
(Block 1735. Lot 26)

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PART 1A: LITERATURE SEARCH AND REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

112 Walworth Street (Block 1735, Lot 26)
Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

Affiliation: City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants
726 Carroll Street
Brooklyn, New York 11215
718-965-3860

Date: August 26, 2001

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Permit Application:

Permit Number:

Permit Type:

Prepared by: Gail T. Guillet
City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants
726 Carroll Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215

Location of Proposed Action:

The proposed action is located on Block 1735, Lot 26, on the west side of Walworth Street between Myrtle Avenue and Park Avenue. (Map 1 & 2) The current Sanborn Insurance Map identifies the area as an “Auto Repair” facility. (Map 3) The lot is a standard lot measuring 25’ by 100’. Although there are various cars, trucks, dumpsters and other mechanical equipment located on the property, no structures of any kind are located on Lot 26, which is bounded on the Walworth Street side by cyclone fencing. (Photo 1-4) To the north, Lot 26 is bounded by Lot 24, a 50’ lot, and to the south by Lot 27, a standard 25’ lot. To the west Lot 26 backs up on a vacant lot. No trees or other significant vegetation occurs on the site.

At the present time, 112 Walworth Street is identified as Lot 26, but in the 19th century it was identified as Lot 25. (See Appendix A). The area surrounding the property is characterized by a combination of residential buildings dating to the second half of the 19th century, interspersed with light manufacturing, commercial enterprises and off-street parking. (Photo 9 & 10)
Special Conditions on Site

An examination of house numbers for Block 1735 indicated that a portion of the block is crossed by an easement for City Tunnel No. 3, Stage 2. (See Fig. 1) As described in documents filed with the Supreme Court of the State of New York (Liber 1323, page 113), the proposed water tunnel would be located between 400 feet and 800 feet below Sandy Hook mean sea level and would extend in width between 50 feet to 211 feet. The elevation on Block 1735 is approximately 30 feet above mean sea level. The water tunnel would be located approximately 430 feet below the level of Walworth Street. The project sponsor does not anticipate that subsurface disturbance will extend below a maximum of 20 feet. The easement for the water tunnel will not, therefore, adversely impact the proposed project. With respect to Lot 26, the easement for the proposed water tunnel cuts across the extreme southeastern corner of the lot.

Description of Undertaking:

Although this particular report deals specifically with Lot 26, the applicant seeks authorization to construct housing on a property that encompasses 108-120 Walworth Street (current Lots 24 & 26-30). Each of these lots will be the subject of a report that is submitted under separate cover.

Estimated Size of Impact Area:

It is anticipated that the proposed project will impact the entire site, which measures approximately 175’ by 100’.

Description of Impact:

The proposed project will not result in the demolition or significant physical alteration to any improvement. The sites are currently vacant land. (Photo 1)

B: ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Topography:

The project areas are located north of the Harbor Hill Moraine, which forms the spine of Long Island. In terms of the present-day topography, the sites are located in an urban setting. At the present time the site, which are enclosed by cyclone fences, is being used for parking and storage. The land surface is flat.

The elevation of Block 1735 in the vicinity of Lot 26 slopes gently northward, ranging from 26.91 feet above mean sea level at the corner of Myrtle Avenue and Walworth Street to 24.42 feet above mean sea level in front of 108 Walworth Street. An examination of historic maps suggests that Block 1735 was not subjected to large scale filling of the area over the last 100 years.
Geology:

In geological terms, the project areas are located in the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province. It is presumed that between 1.5 and 65 million years ago the Long Island landmass was formed. Glaciers helped create much of Long Island's distinctive terrain, which consists of the Ronkonkoma Moraine and the Harbor Hill Moraine. The precise underlying geology of the project areas has not been identified, but would be consistent with the types of materials associated with the glacial terminal moraines running east and west along the spine of Long Island. These include unconsolidated gravel, sand and clay deposits.

At street level the soils would today be classified as urban soils, in the sense that the property has been disturbed, first by the construction of the dwellings in the mid-19th century and then by the demolition of these buildings.

Soils:

As with the geology, the underlying soils would be consistent with the types of materials associated with the glacial terminal moraines running east and west along the spine of Long Island. These include unconsolidated gravel, sand and clay deposits.

At street level the soils would today be classified as urban soils, in the sense that the soils have been disturbed, first by the construction of the structures that formerly stood on the site, and then by the demolition of those buildings. It is probable that much of the surface soil, at least on the forward portion of the lot is mixed with substantial amounts of rubble from the demolition. There is no substantial vegetation on the site.

Drainage:

Examination of historic maps and atlases indicates that the project area was not crossed by any streams or encompassed by any swamp or wetland areas. Historically, drainage would have been to the north where Wallabout Creek (draining into Wallabout Bay) was located. The extensive salt marshes associated with Wallabout Creek were located east of Walworth Street, extending east of Sanford Street (now Warshoff Street) and south of Myrtle Avenue. No part of this salt marsh extended into Block 1735.

Vegetation:

Visual inspection of the property did not reveal significant trees or other vegetation.

Forest Zone:

The project area lies within the Northern Hardwood Forest zone. Sugar maple, birch, beech and hemlock are the predominant trees in this type of forest. Visual inspection of the property did not reveal significant trees or other vegetation.
Man-Made Features and Alterations:

The site would have experienced a variety of disturbances:

1) those that may have been associated with farming activities during the 17\textsuperscript{th} through the early 19\textsuperscript{th} centuries;

2) disturbances associated with the construction of the 19\textsuperscript{th} and early 20\textsuperscript{th} century dwellings and/or multiple dwellings with stores on the ground floor and any outbuildings associated with these buildings;

3) disturbances associated with the demolition of the buildings and the construction of the fences to enclose the vacant lots, including Lot 26.

C: DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH

1. Site Files

a. New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP)

The project area is located within New York City. Information was, therefore, not obtained from OPRHP. However, copies of the OPRHP Site Maps (USGS Brooklyn Quad, 7.5 Minute Series) examined at the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) show no prehistoric or historic sites within the project area.

b. New York State Museum Archaeological Site Files

The project area is located within New York City. Information was not obtained from the New York State Museum Archaeological Site Files. However, information included in the New York State Museum Archaeological Site Files has been obtained for other projects, and the information is included in this report.

c. New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission

Prior to the involvement of the consultant, the Landmarks Preservation Commission had been consulted. The LPC response indicated that the project area might have the potential for the recovery of remains from 19\textsuperscript{th} century occupation. There was no indication that the site was considered to contain prehistoric potential. LPC indicated that the project area did not possess architectural significance.

State Register

No structures located within the immediate vicinity of either of the project area are listed on the State Register. A visual inspection of the area surrounding the sites does not suggest that such buildings exist in the immediate vicinity of the project. It should be noted that the Commander's Quarters (referred to as Quarters A and listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places on May 30, 1974) and the Rockwood Chocolate Factory

blk 1735/26

City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants
Historic District (listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places on October 6, 1983) are located in the general vicinity of the project area. However, the Commander's Quarters is located on the southwest side of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, too far from the project area to be impacted by its development. There is a small historic district associated with the Rockwood Chocolate Factory, which is located on the west side of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, which effectively screens the Historic District from development on the east side of the highway.

National Register

No structures located within the vicinity of the project area are listed on the National Register. A visual inspection of the area does not suggest that such buildings exist in the immediate vicinity of either site. As noted above, the Commander's Quarters (referred to as Quarters A and listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places on May 30, 1974) and the Rockwood Chocolate Factory Historic District (listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places on October 6, 1983) are located in the general vicinity of the project area. The Commander's Quarters is located on the southwest side of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, too far from the project area to be impacted by its development, while the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway effectively screens development east of the highway from the Rockwood Chocolate Factory Historic District.

National Register eligible listing

No structures located within the vicinity of the project area are eligible for listing on the National Register. A visual inspection of the area does not suggest that such buildings exist in the immediate vicinity of the project.

State/National Register proposed

No structures located in the vicinity of the project area are proposed for the State/National Register.

2. REFERENCES

a. General Texts
   (For complete bibliography see Appendix A)

   X Beauchamp, William

   X Funk, Robert E.
Stage 1A Literature Search and Evaluation of Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity

112 Walworth Street (Block 1735, Lot 26). Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

X Parker, Arthur

X Ritchie, William A.

b. Maps
Those marked with "X" are included in report.

Ryder

The 1670 Ryder map includes topographical features, such as the terminal moraine that extends west to east through the center of Brooklyn. A portion of this moraine is situated in the Brooklyn Botanical Garden. North of the moraine is the hamlet of Bedford, with Flatbush south of the moraine. These two hamlets were connected by the Bedford-Flatbush Road that passed between two morainal hills in Prospect Park (called Battle Pass for the clash between American and British troops that took place there in 1776). Wallabout Bay is identified on the 1670 map, as is Bushwick Creek and Newtown Creek. The Wallabout Creek is not clearly delineated, but later maps indicate that it ran north of the project area, which would have been a short distance to the east of Wallabout Bay.

Anonymous
1776-7 *Map showing the Original High and Low Grounds, Salt Marsh and Shorelines in the City of Brooklyn*. Prepared to accompany the report of the Board of Health, 1875-76. New York Public Library, Map Division.

X Ratzer, Benjamin

Ratzer’s map entitled *Plan of the City of New York in North America* includes the portion of Brooklyn where the project area is located. This map clearly locates Wallabout Creek, which permits us to accurately located the project area. The clear demarcation between farm fields suggests that in 1767 the area that includes Walworth Street was being used as pastureland.

X Stoddard, John S.
1839 *Map of the City of Brooklyn. ... & also a Map of the Village of Williamsburgh*. J. H. Colton, New York. (Map 5)

The map of the City of Brooklyn includes the project area, which is located between Park and Myrtle Avenues. At the time the nearest development had taken place

blk 1735/26

City/Scapes: Cultural Resource Consultants
west of Franklin Avenue south of Flushing Avenue, where the block between
Flushing and Park is shown as containing structures. The nature of these structures
is not identified. No development had taken place on Block 1735. Wallabout Creek
extended eastward into this section of Brooklyn, but, according to this map and
others, the main stream was north of Flushing Avenue and the extensive saltmarsh
associated with the stream was east of Sandford (now Warshoff). It appears that at
no time was Block 1735 other than fast land.

X Survey of the Coast of the United States
Library, Map Division. Scale: Reduced. (Map 6)

The U. S. Coastal map does not clearly indicate Wallabout Creek, but it does
include Flushing Avenue. This allows us to locate the project area, which still
appears to be pastureland. Dwellings and businesses, including a ropewalk, were
located along Flushing Avenue, but no structures were located within the area
ecompassing Block 1735.

X Harrison, J. F. & W. H. Cundy
1850 Map of the City of Brooklyn, showing the Streets as at present with existing
buildings... also the Village of Williamsburgh. M. Dripps, New York. Scale
included on map. (Map 7)

The 1850 map includes details of structures located in the developed areas of what
was then called East Brooklyn or the Eastern District. Development in the area was
expanding but still sketchy, with some blocks quite fully developed and others
containing only one or two structures. The nearest development to the project area
was two blocks away, where the Baptist Church and several dwellings had been
built between Skillman Street and Bedford Avenue near the intersection with Park
Avenue. By 1850 Wallabout Creek had been channelized, appearing on the map as
a canal running north of Flushing Avenue. River Street ran along the Wallabout
Canal. No development had taken place on Block 1735.

X Dripps, Mathew
1855 Map of Kings and Part of Queens Counties, Long Island, New York. M.
Dripps, New York. Scale: 5.5 feet = 2 Miles. (Map 8)

This map does not include the individual structures (as did the 1850 map), but the
crosshatched areas indicate blocks that had been developed. By 1855 portions of
Block 1735 had been developed, but the lightness of the crosshatching suggests that
there were lots on which buildings had not yet been built. Another map of the same
date (Perris, Brooklyn, New York 1855) indicates that Block 1735 fell within the
farm lot of the Nostrand family.

X Dripps, Mathew
1869 Map of the City of Brooklyn, being formerly the cities of Brooklyn and
blk 1735/26 City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants
This map does not include block, lot or house numbers; neither does it identify heights or size of buildings or construction materials. This map indicates that there are 7 lots encompassed by the project area, including Lot 26 (highlighted on Table 1). The block and lot numbers have changed in this part of Brooklyn, but on Walworth Street the house numbers have remained consistent throughout. In 1869 Lot 26 (identified on the Ward Map as Lot 25) was vacant. The overall project area was developed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1: Conditions of Tax Lot 24, 26-30 in 1869</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108 Walworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110 Walworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112 Walworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114 Walworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116 Walworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118 Walworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120 Walworth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Block 1735 had by 1886 been developed with residential structures along the west side of Walworth Street. Several of the lots had additional dwelling units in the rear yard, but none of the lots encompassed by the project area had commercial uses associated with them. Lot 26 was occupied by a 3-story dwelling at the front of the lot that spanned the entire lot. There was a 2-story dwelling unit at the northeastern corner of the rear yard. This building did not cover the entire rear lot, so that a narrow strip along the rear lot line and the balance of the rear yard was open.
Bromley, George W. and Walter S.

The map indicates that there was a dwelling at the front of Lot 26 (112 Walworth Street) with a frame structure at the rear lot line. This building is most probably the same structure seen on the 1887 map, but it appears smaller; however, the tax assessment records do indicate that two houses were located on the lot. The 1893 map indicates that Walworth Street was served by a 6" water main and a sewer.

Ullitz, Hugo

In 1898 the designation of the project area was Lot 25 (currently Lot 26). The new block number is included on this map (Block 1735), along with the earlier one (Block 89). This map indicates the main dwelling with the 1-story rear extension; however, this map shows no structures in the rear yard.

Bromley, George W. and Walter S.

Lot 26 was occupied by a 3-story frame dwelling that spanned the width of the lot. There was a 1-story rear extension on the west side of the house. By this date the second house in the rear yard had been removed and replaced by a small 1-story frame structure.

Bromley, George W. and Walter S.

The 1908 map indicates that Block 1735 had been part of the land owned by Garrett Nostrand (Maps #314 & 315). The configuration of the buildings on Lot 26 is the same as it had been in 1905.

Ullitz, Hugo

The lot was occupied by a 3-story frame dwelling on a stone foundation with a 1-story frame extension at the rear. No structure is shown in the rear yard. The map indicates that there was a 6" water main and an 18" sewer line in Walworth Street, which was now asphalt between Flushing and Myrtle Avenues. The Myrtle Avenue elevated line had been constructed. There was a station not far from the intersection of Walworth Street and Myrtle Avenue.
The 1915 Sanborn Insurance Map indicates that some minor alterations had taken place on Lot 26 (112 Walworth Street). The dwelling at the front of the lot now had a second 1-story extension on the eastern side of the building. The two extensions are shown as discrete structures; both with doorways providing access to the house. In the rear yard there was now a 1-story structure that spanned the rear lot.

In 1929 112 Walworth Street was identified as Lot 26. The configuration of the buildings on the lot was the same as it had been since as early as 1915.
4. Sensitivity Assessment/Site Prediction

Prehistoric Sensitivity

Regional prehistory dates to the first human entry into the area approximately 12,000 years ago. This coincides with the retreat of the Wisconsin glacial advance. At this same time sea levels began to rise along the Atlantic coast inundating the continental shelf off Long
Island and the Lower New York Bay. The precise timing of the retreat of the glacial ice and the rise in sea level is a matter of debate.

The dating of the earliest occupation of the northeastern United States is a matter of debate, with some researchers identifying sites along the East Coast that date to approximately 15,000 years ago, if not earlier. However, the first occupants that are generally accepted as inhabitants of the area are called Paleo-Indians by archaeologists. These people are identified by their distinctive lithic tradition of fluted projectile points. Later cultures occupying the area are broadly termed Archaic (9000 to 3000 BP) and Woodland (3000 BP to 1600 AD). Reliance on cultigens became an increasingly important part of cultural adaptations during the Woodland Period. A Transitional Phase between the Late Archaic and Woodland has been treated by some scholars as a separate cultural period. The Transitional Phase has traditionally been characterized by the use of soapstone utensils, though, like many things in archaeology, this is now being debated, with some scholars suggesting that in some parts of the Eastern Woodlands ceramic vessels may have preceded soapstone vessels. The Woodland Period is identified in part by the use of pottery.

Four prehistoric archaeological sites are identified in the general vicinity of the project area. The first of these is located near Flatbush Avenue between 6th Avenue and Carlton Avenue (NYSM Site #3606), approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the project area. The other three sites are located in the vicinity of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, less than a half a mile west of the project area. (See Fig. 2)

Although prehistoric peoples would have ranged over all of Long Island, archaeological investigations indicate that habitation sites were situated in proximity to water sources such as tidal creeks, substantial streams, and wetland areas. Upland areas, away from water, would have been used for hunting. (Smith 1950: 101)

Although no fresh water flowed across the project area, an examination of early maps indicates that a stream (Wallabout Creek) and associated salt marshes were located immediately north and east of the site. The stream flowed just north of present day Flushing Avenue, while the salt marsh extending as far south as Stockton Street and as far west as Warshoff Street (then Stanford Street) just to the north of Myrtle Avenue. (See Map 5)

Based on the predictive model developed by the LPC, the juxtaposition of the site to the stream and salt marsh greatly increases the likelihood that prehistoric peoples may have utilized the project area. It is probable that several of the roads in the vicinity of the project area, particularly the historic “Road to Wallabout which follows the general line of Flushing Avenue in the vicinity of the project area corresponds with older Indian paths, and that prehistoric peoples passed this way on a regular basis going from the Wallabout area to the interior. Despite these facts, alterations to the land surface, combined with the construction (including excavation for basements) and subsequent demolition of the structures formerly located on the site, greatly decreases the probability of recovering significant, intact prehistoric cultural material from the project area. Based on the foregoing, it is not anticipated that the project area would yield prehistoric cultural resources. However,
should an investigation be undertaken to examine the project area for historic cultural resources, the field archaeologist would, of course, examine the area to determine whether or not prehistoric remains were present.

**Historic Sensitivity**

The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission communication identified the project areas as possessing the potential to yield archaeological evidence of 19th century occupation. This would be in the form of privies, cisterns and refuge pits located behind the houses that formerly stood on the lots. Historic research indicates that along Walworth Street connections were made to the sewer in the 1870's. Maps indicate that this area contained dwellings prior to the time that sewer was available, raising the potential for there to be privies associated with the project area. The specific potential of 112 Walworth Street (Lot 26) is outlined below.

**Lot 26 (112 Walworth Street)**

Map research indicates that in 1869 Lot 26 (then identified on the Ward Map as Lot 25) was vacant. The lot was connected to the sewer in 1873 (Sewer Permit #38644.5), and it is probable that this is also the construction date for the house that occupied the lot. At the time J. S. Maran owned the lot, but by 1881 John Reilly owned the property. Tax Assessment Records indicate that John Reilly owned the house until at least 1897. Records at the Building Department (discussed below) indicate that John Reilly was the owner of record in 1905 and in 1916. The fact that the lot was vacant until after the time that the sewer line had been installed in Walworth Street suggests that the likelihood of privies being located on Lot 26 is not high. Water had been installed some years earlier, making the presence of a cistern also unlikely. The only caveat is that the Building Department Records indicate that water closets were installed at 112 Walworth Street in 1905. It is possible that this was an alteration to an existing water closet, but the possibility that, even though the house was connected to the sewer line, a privy may still have been in use (particularly for the residents of the dwelling on the rear of the lot) cannot be entirely ruled out.

**Building Department Records for 112 Walworth Street**

Records for 112 Walworth Street were examined at the Borough of Brooklyn's Building Department. These records indicate that in 1896 a demolition permit was granted for 112 Walworth Street. The demolition permit, dated January 6, 1896, identifies the building to be demolished as a frame structure located on Block 1735, Lot 26. The owner of the property was John Reilly. The size of the building is 18’ wide by 20’ deep. It is described as a 2-story structure. This building is the dwelling that, according to the maps, was located on the rear lot at 112 Walworth Street. (See Map 9)

A second group of records relating to 112 Walworth Street indicate that on May 15, 1905 an application was submitted to the Building Department to make alterations or repairs to the building. These records include the fact that the depth of the house on the front of the
lot was 35 feet and that there was an existing extension (10' x 12') that was then occupied by a kitchen.

On June 2, 1905 an application (perhaps part of the May 15th application) was filed with the Buildings Department to make alterations to the tenement at 112 Walworth Street. The application was for the construction of three "water closet(s)" that were to be located in the "Yard." Additional information indicates that the application was to permit the construction of an extension at the rear of the house that was to be 10 feet wide and 7'6" deep. The application specifically states that the extension was to be occupied by the water closets, which were to be lit by gas. The application states that after the construction the building would be occupied "the same as before" by three families. This extension is the one seen on the east side of the house on the 1915 map. (See Map 12)

Plans submitted with this application show the configuration of the building when it was occupied by three families. The rooms are not identified, but there was a reasonably large room at the front of the building with two smaller rooms (probably bedrooms) behind it. Both these rooms had access to the front and rear rooms. Behind these two smaller rooms was another room of a similar size to that at the front of the house. The final room was located in the larger of the two extensions. The information contained in the Building Department records indicates that this room was at one time the kitchen. The new water closets are arranged in three cubicles in the extension at the rear of the first floor passageway, with access to the rear yard by a side door. The common sink in the hallway is also shown.

In 1916 (October 16th) John Reilly filed an application for a building permit with the Buildings Department. The architect for the new construction or alterations was James A. Boyle, of Boyle & Fowler, whose offices were located at 367 Fulton Street in Brooklyn. The approval for the work came from the Tenement House Department. The cost of the approved alteration was $100.00. The permit describes the internal organization of the building with 2 families occupying each of the three floors. The dimensions of the building indicate that it was the same structure that was standing in 1905. The permit was for the installation of new sinks and wash tubs in the apartments for each of the families. The wash tubs were to be of stone, the sinks of iron enamel. At the same time the sink located in the hall was to be removed. New gas fixtures were also provided. The work was completed on October 30, 1916.

Plans accompanying the application indicate that on the first floor the entrance to the dwelling was on the north side of the structure. The hall led to the rear extension where the three water closets installed in 1905 were located. There were two apartments on the first floor, each containing a living room with a wash tub and sink. The apartment at the front of the building had one bedroom (chamber), while that at the rear had two. The second bedroom in the rear apartment was located in the extension that had once housed the kitchen. For both apartment access to the water closets was from the hallway. On the second and third floors, there were two apartments, each with a living room and two bedrooms. As on the first floor, a wash tub and a sink were in the living room. No stoves
or other arrangements for cooking are shown. It may be that only the areas and items requiring alteration were shown on the plans.

Further alterations at 112 Walworth Street were undertaken in 1933, at which time the owner of the property was Raffals LaSala. The building is described as an “old law tenement” occupied by three families. The building being altered was a 3-story structure with a cellar. It was described as being 25' by 36.4'. The application indicates that this was the only building on the lot. The work being proposed was to alter the area that contained the water closets, removing two of the three, and installing a new bath tub and shower to form a private bath for the family living on the first floor. Similar alterations were proposed for the second and third floors. The new baths were to be lit by electricity. The architect for the alterations was Cohen & Ferrara, with offices at 330 Quincy Street in Brooklyn. As before, the approval for the alterations was granted by the Tenement House Department.

In 1969 an application was submitted to the Department of Buildings for the installation of a gas fired central heating system that would be constructed in a new boiler room. There is a stamped notice on the application that the work was to be examined “under the ‘old’ building code.” The building is described as a 3-story wood frame structure built before 1938. It appears that this work was being done to correct a violation.

The date of the demolition of the building on Lot 26 is not known, nor do we know the appearance of the building; however, it is likely that it resembled one of several early buildings still located on the west side of Walworth Street. (Photo 6 & 7) The first is a flat roofed building that may have initially housed one family, but by the early 20th century housed two to four families. (Photo 6) Several of the structures located within the project area are described in Building Department records as having flat roofs. Some were 2-story as is the example in Photo 6, but others were 3-story structures. The second example (See Photo 7) is a gable-roofed house. Based on the overall appearance of this building, it most likely dates to the mid-19th century, as opposed to the 1870's. The building located at 122 Walworth Street is an example of a “new law,” as opposed to an “old law” tenement. (Photo 8)

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Prehistoric Sensitivity

Based on the environmental models promulgated by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and the New York State Museum Archaeological Site Files, the project area would be considered to have a high potential to yield prehistoric cultural material. As noted, Wallabout Creek and its associated salt marshes were located immediately north and east of the project area – both of which substantially increase the prehistoric potential. Based on a comparison on historic and current elevations in the immediate area, it does not appear that the substantial grading has taken place on the site. Such grading might have protected subsurface prehistoric resources, increasing the potential for recovery. In the absence of substantial fill on the site, it is most likely that episodes of...
building in the 19th century, and subsequent demolition of the structures have removed the potential of the site to yield significant, intact prehistoric cultural resources.

**Historic Sensitivity**

Based on documentary research, including an examination of Sensitivity Maps for the Borough of Brooklyn at the LPC and an examination of historic maps and atlases of the area, it is concluded that the project area does not contain the potential to yield significant historic archaeological resources dating from the 17th or 18th centuries. The map examined at the LPC indicated that the project area lay outside the developed areas and would have been farmland.

With respect to the potential for 19th century cultural remains, it is concluded that development in Block 1735 may have taken place as early as 1855. Water was available in the neighborhood earlier than the sewer. Sewers were being installed between Flushing and Park Avenues by 1867-68 (Armbruster, 1942). The fact that sewer permits were being given for buildings along Walworth Street beginning in 1871 indicates that the sewer had been installed in the same time period. The map research indicates that buildings had been constructed on several of the lots on Walworth Street by 1855 and on lots adjacent to Lot 26 by 1869, however, in that year Lot 26 was vacant.

We do not know the date that water was available in Walworth Street, but it may be assumed that it was installed by the time that sewers became available between 1868 and 1871. There were a number of businesses on Block 1735, particularly on Myrtle and Park Avenues, however, the majority of the block was filled with residential development. The residential development seen in this area was related to the development of the Brooklyn Navy Yard and the businesses that supplied it. At the time that East Brooklyn was being populated the area had a high percentage of families with Irish surnames – Devlin, Sullivan, Coglin, etc.

It does not appear that Lot 26 was developed until water and sewer was available in Walworth Street. This reduces the potential for Lot 26 to contain historic archaeological deposits. An examination of the Tax Assessment Records indicates that at the time that the building at 112 Walworth Street was connected to the sewer the property was owned by a J. S. Maran. It is possible that he was the builder or the first owner, but, in either event, he sold the property to John Reilly sometime before 1881. Reilly owned the property until at least 1916. As noted above, the permit to install water closets at 112 Walworth Street was given in 1905, and while it is possible that there had been water closets on the site, it is also possible that some sort of rear yard facility (i.e., privy) might be associated with this lot. If this were the case, archaeological investigation of the project area could provide a unique opportunity to examine a mid-19th century Brooklyn neighborhood. Immediately to the south – at Kent and Myrtle Avenue – in an area dating to the same time period as that of the project area, an archaeological investigation revealed cisterns with deposits dating from the mid-19th to the 1880's that revealed important information on the material culture of the residents of East Brooklyn. In addition, further investigation could be gathered on the

blk 1735/26

City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants
economic implications (as reflected in the material cultural remains) of single family, owner occupied dwellings, as opposed to owner occupied, multi-family dwellings, like the building on Lot 26, and those buildings that were multi-family dwellings occupied solely by tenants.

The possibility of intact archaeological deposits in the form of features such as cisterns and privies or sheet middens certainly exists on Lot 26. The recovery of this material could contribute to information important to local history and increase our understanding of the development of this early and important area of Brooklyn.
### BIBLIOGRAPHY

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<tr>
<td>Armbruster, Ernest L.</td>
<td>Brooklyn’s Eastern District</td>
<td>Private publication: Brooklyn, NY.</td>
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<td>Ritchie, William A.</td>
<td>The Archaeology of New York State. Natural History Press: Garden City, NY.</td>
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blk 1735/26 City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants


Salwen, Bert


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United States Department of the Interior.

Wolley, Charles
APPENDICES
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Appendix A: Maps & Figures
Appendix B: Tax Assessment Records (1881-1893) & Sewer Connection Dates
Appendix C: Photographs
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MAPS & FIGURES
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Maps

Map 1  Location Map. USGS Brooklyn Quadrangle. 7.5 Minute Series. Taken 1967. Revised 1979. Scale: 1:24,000.

Map 2  Area Map (derived from Hagstrom's New York City 5 Borough Atlas. Map 19)

Map 3  1995 Sanborn Insurance Map including Project Area. Original scale: 60' = 1”.

Map 4  Detail from Bernard Ratzer’s Plan of the City of New York in North America including Town of Brooklyn and part of Long Island, 1766-67. Prepared for the British Army.

Map 5  Detail of John Stoddard’s 1839 Map of the City of Brooklyn... including project area. Published by J. H. Colton. Enlarged, no scale.


Map 7  Detail of 1850 Dripp’s Map of the City of Brooklyn, L.I. . . . including project area. Scale: included on map.

Map 8  1855 Dripp’s Map of Kings and Part of Queens Counties, Long Island, New York... including project area. Scale: 5.5” = 2 Miles.

Map 9  1887 Robinson & Pidgeon’s Atlas of the City of Brooklyn, including project area. Plate 73. Scale: 200’ = 1”.

Map 10  1904 Bromley’s Atlas of the Borough of Brooklyn, including project area. Plate 55. Original scale: 200’ = 1”.


Map 12:  1915 Sanborn Insurance Map for Borough of Brooklyn, City of New York including project area. Vol. 3. Plate 55. Original scale: 60’ = 1”.


Figure

Fig. 1:  Architectural Survey of Block 1735, Lot 24, 25-30 showing “Permanent Water Tunnel Easement”. Prepared by Boro Land Surveying, P.C. Dated April 7, 2000. Original scale: 1” = 20’.

Fig. 2:  Archaeological Sites in Vicinity of Project Area. Taken from USGS Topo. 7.5 Minute Series. New York-Brooklyn Quad. Scale: 1:24,000.
Block 1735, Lot 24 & 26-30, 108-120 Walworth Street, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

Map 1: USGS Topo, Brooklyn Quad, 7.5 Minute Series. Scale: 1:24,000
Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

Map 2: Area Map (derived from Hagstrom's New York City Borough Atlas. Plate 19). Approx. scale: 1" = 3 Miles.
Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

Block 1735, Lot 24 & 26-30. 108-120 Walworth Street, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

Map 4: Ratzer's 1766-67 Plan of the City of New York... including Town of Brooklyn. Scale included on map.
Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

Map 5: Stoddard's 1839 Map of the City of Brooklyn including Project Area. Scale: Enlarged, no scale.
Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

Map 7: Dripp's 1850 Map of the City of Brooklyn, L. I. Scale included on map.
Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

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Block 1735, Lot 24 & 26-30, 108-120 Walworth Street, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

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I.

Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

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Fig. 1: Architectural Survey for Block 1735, Lot 24 & 26-30 showing Permanent Water Tunnel Easement. Prepared by Boro Land Surveying, P.C. April 7, 2000. Original scale: 1" = 20'.

NOTE: WE ESTABLISHED LEGAL GRAYS ON FINAL MAP OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (No Work Date 85).
Appendix B: Maps & Figures for Project Area. Note that where appropriate specific lots are highlighted.

Fig. 2: Archaeological Site in Vicinity of Project Area. USGS Topo. Brooklyn Quad. 7.5 Minutes Series. Scale: 1:24,000
APPENDIX B

TAX ASSESSMENT RECORDS (1881-1893)
& SEWER CONNECTION DATES
## ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE
### 21ST WARD - BLOCK 1735 (FORMER BLOCK 89)

**WEST SIDE WALWORTH STREET**

**1881-1885**

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Purchased in 1892 $3350
Purchased in 1885 $1300
## SEWER CONNECTION RECORDS

**BLOCK 1735 (FORMER BLOCK 89) LOT 24 & 26-30**

**108-120 WALWORTH STREET**

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APPENDIX C

PHOTOGRAPHS
Photo 1: Current conditions at 108-120 Walworth Street include vehicles and dumpsters, as well as piles of tires. View is to northwest.

Photo 2: Debris and junked vehicles occupy the project area. View is to northwest looking to 108-110 Walworth Street.
Photo 3: An additional view of 108-120 Walworth Street looking to northwest. Dumpsters are located on Lot 26 (112 Walworth Street).

Photo 4: Tires are piled up at southern edge of Lot 30 (120 Walworth Street). View to southwest.
Appendix C: Photographs

Photo 5: View of project area from east side of Walworth Street. Building in background is located at 106 Walworth Street, adjacent to Lot 24. View to northwest.

Photo 6: This 2-story flat-roofed frame structure may look like one or more of the buildings formerly located within the project area. View is to southwest.
Photo 7: Another example of an early dwelling on Walworth Street is this 2½-story house. Its appearance suggests a mid-19th century construction date, as opposed to the 1870's – the time when the sewer was installed in Walworth Street.

Photo 8: This brick 3-story building at 122 Walworth Street is an example of a "new law" tenement. New law tenements had light wells with windows in the center of the building to provide light and ventilation to the interior rooms. This building dates to the late 19th century.
Photo 9: Brick buildings in the Italianate-style dominate the east side of Walworth Street, as opposed to the frame dwellings that were located on the west side. View to northeast.

Photo 10: A mixture of residential and commercial structures is located on Walworth Street.
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