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1996

# PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL TOWER AND PARKING FACILITY

BROOKLYN HOSPITAL COMPLEX  
DEKALB AVENUE AND ASHLAND PLACE  
FORT GREENE. BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN.  
KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK.

95 BSA 047K

240 Willoughby St

## STAGE 1A LITERATURE REVIEW & ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORIC SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

Prepared For:

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January 1996

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# **PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL TOWER AND PARKING FACILITY**

## **Brooklyn Hospital Complex**

DeKalb Avenue and Ashland Place  
Fort Greene. Borough of Brooklyn.  
Kings County, New York.

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- A. Discussion of Prehistoric & Historic Components
- B. Maps & Figures
- C. Photographs
- D. Correspondence



# **PART 1A: LITERATURE SEARCH AND REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

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**Date:**                   January 29, 1996

## **A. PROJECT INFORMATION**

Permit Application:

Permit Number:

Permit Type:

**Prepared by:**       Gail T. Guillet  
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726 Carroll Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215

### **Location of Proposed Action:**

The project area is located in Block 2088 in the Fort Greene section of the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. (Map 1) As presently defined, Block 2088 includes not only the Brooklyn Hospital complex (located on the southwestern portion of the block), within which the project area is located, but all of Fort Greene Park. The Brooklyn Hospital complex is composed of two lots -- identified as Lot 1 and Lot 4. The location of the proposed development is on the southeastern portion of Lot 1.

The Brooklyn Hospital complex is bounded on the east by Fort Greene Park, on the south by DeKalb Avenue, on the west by Ashland Place (formerly Raymond Street) and on the north by Willoughby Street. (Map 2) Within the hospital complex, the proposed project area (located on Lot 1) is bounded on the east by Fort Greene Park, on the south by Building B of the hospital complex, on the west by an existing parking garage and entry way to the existing outdoor parking and on the north by the Maynard Building and the MRI Building. (Fig. 1) At the present time, access to the project area is obtained by a street level passage between the existing parking

garage and the hospital power building. The project area is currently occupied by a 90 space open parking area located at ground level. (Photo 1)

### **Description of Undertaking:**

The client proposes to construct a 15 story residential structure on the eastern edge of the outdoor parking area, with 4 levels of parking below ground. The proposed underground parking facility will extent westward along the southern edge of the Maynard Building and to the east the proposed parking facility will extend beneath the current stone wall into a narrow strip of hospital property that abuts Fort Greene Park. (Fig. 2 & 3)

### **Estimated Size of Impact Area:**

The project will impact 1.74 acres.

### **Description of Impact:**

A ground level outdoor parking lot will be replaced by housing and an underground parking area.

## **B: ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **Topography:**

The project area is located north of the Harbor Hill Moraine, which forms the spine of Long Island. In terms of the present-day topography, the site is a generally level area located in an urban setting consisting of a commercial and residential structures. According to information provided on the Sanborn Insurance Map of Block 2088 the northeastern corner of the block (abutting Fort Greene Park) is located at 42.8 feet above mean high tide. The current conditions map provided by the project sponsor indicates that this corner is 45.1' above mean high tide.

### **Geology:**

In geological terms, the project area is located in the Atlantic Coastal Lowland Physiographic Province. This province is limited in New York State to Long Island and Staten Island, the only other location in where the Atlantic Coastal Lowland Physiographic Province occurs within the State. (Thompson 1966: 34-35). It is presumed that between 1.5 and 65 million years ago the Long Island land mass was formed. Glaciers helped create much of Long Island's distinctive terrain, which consists of the Harbor Hill Moraine and the Ronkonkoma Moraine. The precise underlying geology of the project area 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.

## **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 entire surface of the site has been disturbed. Subsurface soils have also experienced episodes of disturbance, with at least three major episodes identified:

- the initial construction of Fort Putnam in 1776 and the subsequent rebuilding of the battlements (renamed Fort Greene) in 1812 may have impacted the project area;
- the construction and subsequent demolition of the "new" Raymond Street jail (1880-1964);
- construction of Building B, the Maynard Building and the MRI Building which may have impacted some portions (if not all) of the proposed project area.

## **Drainage:**

Examination of historic maps and atlases indicates that the property was not crossed by any streams or associated with any swamp or wetland areas.

## **Vegetation:**

The area contains a number of structures associated with the Brooklyn Hospital complex, including the outdoor parking lot. No vegetation was observed within the project area itself. Landscaped areas exist on the south side of the hospital buildings (at the Main Entrance) and in Fort Greene Park (adjacent to the hospital complex).

## **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. However, as noted above, no vegetation exists within the project area which is surrounded by the hospital complex.

## **Man-Made Features and Alterations:**

The site would have experienced a variety of disturbances, several of which have been noted above, including:

- the initial construction of Fort Putnam in 1776 and the subsequent rebuilding of the battlements (renamed Fort Greene) in 1812 may have impacted the project area;
- the construction and subsequent demolition of the "new" Raymond Street jail (1880-1964);
- construction and subsequent demolition of a building that formerly stood on the site of Building B;
- construction of Building B, the Maynard Building and the MRI Building which may have impacted some portions (if not all) of the proposed project area.

## **C: DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH**

### **1. Site Files**

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

The project area is located within the Borough of Brooklyn in New York City. Information concerning prehistoric and/or historic sites located on or in the vicinity of the project area was obtained from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission rather than from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

#### **b. New York State Museum Archaeological Site Files**

The project area is located within New York City. Information concerning prehistoric sites located in the vicinity of the project area was obtained from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission rather than from the New York State Museum Archaeological Site Files.

#### **c. New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission**

Correspondence is included in this report that indicates that the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) was consulted concerning the proposed project. The LPC determined that an archaeological documentary study was required to "assess the potential of recovery of remains from 18th and 19th century occupancy on the site (Board of Standards and Appeals letter, dated March 16, 1995). A copy of this letter is included in Appendix D. In addition, the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission files were examined for information on the project area and the land surrounding it by the consultant in mid-January 1996.

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation was also consulted. They responded in a letter dated May 30, 1995. According to their files there are reported sites near the project area. Unless substantial disturbance can be documented they conclude that an archaeological survey is warranted. (see Appendix D)

### **State Register**

The project area is within the boundaries of the Fort Greene Historic District (listed September 26, 1978). (Map 3) Notable properties listed include:

Fort Greene Park (1868, Olmsted & Vaux)

Prison Ship Martyr's Monument in Ft. Greene Park (1908, McKim, Mead & White)

Brooklyn Technical High School (1931-32)

It is within two blocks of the Brooklyn Academy of Music Historic District (listed September 26, 1978). (Map 4)

### **National Register**

The project area is within the boundaries of the Fort Greene Historic District (listed September 26, 1978). (Map 3) Notable properties listed include:

Fort Greene Park (1868, Olmsted & Vaux)

Prison Ship Martyr's Monument in Ft. Greene Park (1908, McKim, Mead & White)

Brooklyn Technical High School (1931-32)

It is within two blocks of the Brooklyn Academy of Music Historic District (listed September 26, 1978). (Map 4)

### **National Register eligible listing**

At the present time, no structures identified as eligible for the National Register (but unlisted) are located in the vicinity of the project.

### **State/National Register proposed**

At the present time, no structures identified as eligible for the National Register (but unlisted) are located in the vicinity of the project.

## 2. References

### a. General Texts

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1900 *Aboriginal Occupation of New York*. New York State Museum Bulletin No. 32. Albany, NY.
- X Funk, Robert E.  
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### b. Maps

Map examined are included in list. Those marked with "X" are included in report.

- X Ratzer, Benjamin  
1766 *Plan for the City of New York in North America*. Prepared for British Army. Reproduced in Valentine's Manual. Scale: included on map.
- X Martin, Alexander  
1834 *Map of Brooklyn, Kings county, Long Island from an Entire New Survey*. Scale: None noted.
- Colton, J. H.  
1839 *Map of the City of Brooklyn. . . Containing also a Map of the Village of Williamsburgh*.
- X Stiles, Henry Reed  
1867 *Plan of Fort Greene and Line of Entrenchments . . . 1814* (taken from

Benjamin Ratzer's Plan of the Town of Brooklyn and part of Long Island. From  
Stiles' History of Brooklyn. W. W. Munsell & Co.: NY. Scale: No scale.

X Johnston, Henry P. (compiler)  
nd *Plan of the Battle of Long Island and of the Brooklyn Defenses, August 27,*  
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X Dripps, Matthew.  
1869 *Map of the City of Brooklyn, being the former Cities of Brooklyn and*  
*Williamsburgh and the Town of Bushwick.* M. Dripps: Brooklyn, NY. Plate 6.  
Scale: 1800 Feet to the Inch.

— Fulton, C.E., Henry C.  
1874 *Farm Line Map of the City of Brooklyn.* B. Beers & Co.: New York, NY.  
Section 2. Scale 500 parts to the Inch.

— Guzman, J. P.  
1877 *Block Book of the City of Brooklyn.* 11th Ward. Scale of Blocks: 80 Feet  
to the Inch.

X Hopkins, G. M.  
1880 *Detailed Estate and Old Farm Line Atlas of the City of Brooklyn.* G. M.  
Hopkins: Philadelphia, PA. vol. 5. Plate G. Scale: 140 feet to the Inch.

— Bromley, Geo. W. & E. Robinson.  
1880 *Atlas of the Entire City of Brooklyn.* G. W. Bromley & Co.: New York,  
NY. Plate 6. Scale: 200 Feet to the Inch.

..... Robinson, E. & R. H. Pidgeon  
1886 *Robinson's Atlas of the City of Brooklyn, New York.* E. Robinson: New  
York, NY. Scale: 200 feet to the Inch.

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1893 *Atlas of the City of Brooklyn, N. Y.* G. W. Bromley & Co.: Philadelphia,  
PA. Plate 5. Scale: 200 Feet to the Inch.

..... Ullitz, Hugo  
1898 *Atlas of the Brooklyn Borough of the City of New York originally Kings Co.*  
Hyde & Co.: Brooklyn, NY. vol. 1. Plate 7. Scale: 160 feet to the Inch

..... Ullitz, Hugo  
1904 *Atlas of the Borough of Brooklyn City of New York.* E. Belcher Hyde:  
Brooklyn, NY. vol. 2. Plate 1. Scale: 100 feet to the Inch.

- X Hyde, E. Belcher  
1912 *Atlas Borough of Brooklyn City of New York*. E. Belcher Hyde: New York, NY. vol. 1. Plate 199. Scale: 200 Feet to the Inch.
- X Ullitz, Hugo  
1916 *Atlas of Borough of Brooklyn City of New York*. E. Belcher Hyde: Brooklyn, NY. vol. 1. Plate 28. Scale: 160 Feet to the Inch.
- X Hyde, E. Belcher  
1929 *Desk Atlas Borough of Brooklyn City of New York*. E. Belcher Hyde: New York, NY. vol. 1. Plate 178. Scale: 150 Feet to the Inch.
- ..... Sanborn Map Company  
1995 *Insurance Map. Borough of Brooklyn, City of New York*. Sanborn Map Company: New York, NY. vol. 2. Plate 31. Scale: 60 Feet to the Inch.
- X United States Geological Survey  
1967 *Brooklyn, New York Quadrangle*. 7.5 Minute Series. Photorevised 1979. Scale: 24,000: 1.

**c. Site Specific Texts**

William Hollenback Cary  
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Smith, Carlyle S.  
1950 *The Archaeology of Coastal New York*. American Museum of Natural History: Anthropological Papers. v. 43. pt. 2.

Stiles, Henry Reed  
1867. *History of the City of Brooklyn*. W. W. Munsell and Company: Brooklyn, NY.

**3. Previous Surveys**

Historical Perspectives  
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John Milner Associates  
1995 *A Phase 1A Second Level Topic-Intensive Documentary Study for the Atlantic Terminal Urban Renewal Area, Brooklyn, New York*. Draft of report prepared for Atlantic Housing Corporation: Forest City Ratner Companies, Brooklyn, New York.



#### Historic Sites Research

1984 *Cultural Resource Reconnaissance: Metropolitan Technology Center, Brooklyn, New York*. Prepared for Energy & Environmental Analysts, Inc., Garden City, New York.

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Greenhouse Consultants, Inc.

1991 *Archaeological and Historical Sensitivity Evaluation of Caribe Village Development Project. Williamsburgh, Brooklyn, New York*. CEQR #88-083K.

#### 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 earliest occupants of the northeastern United States, called Paleo-Indians by archaeologists, 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 is characterized by the use of soapstone utensils, whereas the Woodland Period is identified in part by the use of pottery. Various Native American peoples populated Long Island, and specifically the western end of Long Island, at the time of Contact. Parker asserts that there can be little doubt that their occupation of the land that became the Borough of Brooklyn was ubiquitous.

Although prehistoric peoples would without doubt 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) Because of the sporadic use of woodland areas by prehistoric peoples and subsequent alteration to the land, including substantial grading and the

construction of institutional structures on the portion of Block 2088 containing the project area in the mid-19th century, it is not considered likely that any prehistoric cultural material would be associated with the project area.

### **Historic Sensitivity**

The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission has indicated that the site may possess the potential to yield historic resources associated with the 18th and 19th centuries. (see Appendix D) Research for this report indicates that:

- 1) in 1776 Fort Putnam (later called Fort Greene) was built on land that had previously been known as "Cowenhoven's Woods," with entrenchments that extended south to a smaller fort and west to Wallabout Bay. It may be that some part of the entrenchments crossed the northern portion of the Brooklyn Hospital complex.
- 2) in 1812 Fort Putnam was renamed Fort Greene and reconstructed in anticipation of an attack by British forces. Alexander Martin's map, dated 1834, indicates that the entrenchments of the reconstructed fort may have crossed the northern portion of the Brooklyn Hospital complex;
- 3) Alexander Martin's 1834 map indicates that two structures were located within the entrenchments of Fort Greene. Neither of these buildings would have been located within the proposed project area, as both of them were adjacent to Raymond Street (now Ashland Place).
- 4) in 1839 the Kings County Jail was built in the northwest corner of the Brooklyn Hospital complex at the corner of Raymond Street and Willoughby Street (site currently occupied by existing parking garage);
- 5) in c. 1845 the Kings County Jail was enlarged (site currently occupied by existing parking garage);
- 6) in 1879 the old Kings County Jail was almost completely demolished and a new one, known as the Raymond Street Jail, built. Portions of this structure would be located within the project area. (Fig. 4)
- 7) in c. 1963 the "new" Raymond Street Jail was demolished.

Research indicates that in 1834 two structures may have stood within the boundaries of the Brooklyn Hospital complex. One of these was located at the northwest corner of present day Willoughby Street and Ashland Place. With the exception of this building, and possibly the entrenchments for Fort Putnam, it does not appear that any other structures stood within the boundaries Brooklyn Hospital complex in the 18th century. Evidence of these structures would have been destroyed by the construction of the Kings County Jail in 1839, c. 1845 and 1879, and construction

episodes associated with Kings County Morgue and Brooklyn Hospital in the 20th century.

## **5. Recommendations**

### **Prehistoric Sensitivity**

Based on the environmental models promulgated by the New York State Museum Archaeological Site File and the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission and documentary research, the project area is not considered to contain the potential to yield prehistoric cultural material. No further work is recommended with respect to prehistoric cultural resources.

### **Historic Sensitivity**

Based on research undertaken for this report, the following potential resources have been identified:

- 1) in 1776 Fort Putnam (later called Fort Greene) was built on land that had previously been known as "Cowenhoven's Woods," with entrenchments that extended south to a smaller fort and west to Wallabout Bay. It may be that some part of the entrenchments crossed the northern portion of the Brooklyn Hospital complex.
- 2) in 1812 Fort Putnam was renamed Fort Greene and reconstructed in anticipation of an attack by British forces. Alexander Martin's map, dated 1834, indicates that the entrenchments of the reconstructed fort may have crossed the northern portion of the Brooklyn Hospital complex;
- 3) Alexander Martin's 1834 map indicates that two structures were located within the entrenchments of Fort Greene.
- 4) in 1839 the Kings County Jail was built in the northwest corner of the Brooklyn Hospital complex at the corner of Raymond Street and Willoughby Street (site currently occupied by existing parking garage);
- 5) in c. 1845 the Kings County Jail was enlarged (site currently occupied by existing parking garage);
- 6) in 1879 the old Kings County Jail was almost completely demolished and a new one, known as the Raymond Street Jail, built. Portions of this structure would be located within the project area. (Fig. 4)
- 7) in c. 1963 the "new" Raymond Street Jail was demolished.

In an effort to determine whether such resources, should they be present as subsurface deposits, require additional investigation, the consultant examined the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Contexts and

Study Units (Version 3.2 dated 6. 7 .89) and determined that the potential features associated with the project area fall under two categories:

- Colonial Government: Military: fortifications
- Post-Colonial Government: County Government: prisons.

Certainly if any evidence of the 18th and early 19th century forts still existed within the proposed project area it would be of great interest. The map research indicates, however, that the northern entrenchment was located north of Willoughby Street, while the southern entrenchment would have crossed Lot 4 rather than Lot 1 (the location of the project area). (see Map 7) In addition, the construction of the masonry walls of Fort Greene Park in the 19th century, the construction of the security wall around the Kings County Jail, and the construction of the jail itself (without taking into consideration the 20th century construction undertaken by the hospital) would have effectively destroyed the integrity of any 18th century features, should such exist. Based on the above, it is unlikely that any evidence of the American Revolutionary War Fort Putnam or the War of 1812 Fort Greene will be found within the area that will be disturbed by the proposed construction of the new residential tower and expansion of the existing parking garage.

The Alexander Martin 1834 map referred to above indicates that two structures were located within the Brooklyn Hospital complex. As previously discussed, it is likely that these were associated with the John Jackson estate, and may have been barns, stables or other outbuildings. However, both these structures are shown adjacent to Ashland Place (then Raymond Street), and would have been destroyed by the various construction episodes associated with the Kings County Jail. No features associated with these structures would be within the boundaries of the proposed project area.

With respect to the 19th century construction episodes associated with the Kings County Jail (also known as the Raymond Street Jail), as can be seen from the outline of the footprint of the c. 1880 structure that has been superimposed on the footprint of the proposed project, some remnants of the Kings County Jail may still exist within the confines of the project area. (see Map 12) These features, if they still exist, would consist of exterior foundations walls and interior cellar walls. However, the demolition of the jail structure in c. 1963 and the removal of debris from the site would most probably have severely disturbed the subsurface foundation and interior walls as well as any other features that may have been present. Furthermore, examination of the structures that formerly surrounded the current outdoor parking lot (site of the proposed construction), the dates of construction, their subsequent demolition, and the more recent construction of new buildings on the site of older ones, all lead to the conclusion that the subsurface features that would have been associated with the Kings County Jail would, at the very least, be highly disturbed, if they are present at all.

To the north is the Maynard Building, which is more than 19 stories tall, with basement levels that extend below ground. The excavation for this building (generally on the site of the former Kings County Morgue) alone would have impacted a substantial area around it. The MRI building, also to the north of the proposed project area, is only 1 story high (the subsurface conditions are not known). The construction of this building may not have caused the same kind of impacts on subsurface resources, but some disturbance would be expected. To the south, there were previously substantial structures (see Map 12) that abutted the property line between the hospital and the jail security fence. These buildings were demolished and the site presumably cleared to permit the construction of the present "B" Building. Both the clearing and the subsequent construction of the "B" Building had the potential to impact subsurface resources within the project area. Finally, although it is possible, despite these episodes of disturbance, that some remnants of the Kings County Jail may still exist within the project area, it is not clear that such remnants of a 19th century structure, of which, based on published resources, we have considerable knowledge would be considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places nor that their further investigation would contribute to our knowledge of the development of county government penal institutions.

It is, therefore, the conclusion of the consultant that the project area contains a low potential to yield any archaeological evidence of the Raymond Street jail or other resources and no further archaeological investigation of the proposed project area is warranted.

## **6. Attachments**

- ☐ Environmental Assessment Form
- ☒ Topographic map (Appendix B: Map 1)
- ☒ Appendix A:  
Discussion of Historic Information concerning project area (Block 2088. Lot 1 and 4) Fort Greene section of the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.
- ☒ Appendix B:  
Maps (Map 1 -13)  
Figures (Fig. 1-4)
- ☒ Appendix C:  
Photographs
- ☒ Appendix D:  
New York City Board of Standards and Appeals letter (dated March 16, 1995)  
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) letter (dated May 30, 1995)

## **End of Part 1A**

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# APPENDICES

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**APPENDIX A**

**DISCUSSION OF PREHISTORIC AND  
HISTORIC COMPONENT**

## **DISCUSSION OF PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC COMPONENTS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The proposed project site is located within the Brooklyn Hospital complex (Lot 1, Block 2088) in the Fort Greene section of the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. (see Map 1 & 2) According to information obtained from the Sanborn Map Company, the current elevation of the Brooklyn Hospital complex ranges from 26.8' feet above mean high tide at the northwestern corner to 42.8 above mean high tide at the northeastern corner. At the present time the proposed project area is used as an outdoor parking area for approximately 90 cars. During the site visit it was observed that the project area is surrounded on three sides by existing structures. On the east side the project area is separated from Fort Greene Park by a chain line fence on a stone retaining wall. The client proposes to construct a 15 story residential building on the eastern portion of the project area. Below ground will be 4 stories of parking that extends westward beyond the present outdoor parking area. (see Fig. 1-3)

According to a letter from the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals (dated March 16, 1995) correspondence from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission indicated that the proposed project area had the potential to yield historic materials related to the 18th and 19th century occupation of the site. (Appendix D: Correspondence) The purpose of the material provided is to answer the following questions:

1. Does the project area have the potential to yield information relating to the prehistoric occupation of the area?
2. Does the project area contain the potential to yield information concerning 18th century and early 19th century occupation of the area (specifically evidence of either Fort Putnam or Fort Greene)?
3. Does the project area have the potential to yield evidence of the Raymond Street Jail and Kings County Morgue (which formerly stood on Lot 1) that would increase our understanding of this institution and its inmates?

### **PREHISTORY OF THE AREA**

Among the tasks required in the Stage 1A Literature Review is an assessment of the potential of the project area to yield significant prehistoric cultural resources. In making the assessment there are a number of factors to be considered, the first of which is the presence on or in the immediate vicinity of the project area of streams or springs that could have served as a source of fresh water for Native American peoples, secondly, is the presence of

nearby resources such as wetlands, tidal marshes, streams, and forested areas where deer and other species could have been hunted or open areas that could have been used as cropland, and, finally, the presence on or in the vicinity of the project area of known prehistoric sites.

An examination of the 1766-7 Ratzer map (see Map 5) indicates that no streams or other sources of fresh water were available within the project area or within easy walking distance. Although there were ample fresh water streams flowing through Brooklyn into the Wallabout in prehistoric times, they were too far away from the project area to have been a useful source of potable water for the project area. The same is true of the riverine and tidal resources: the East River, Wallabout Bay and the substantial streams that flowed into it were less than a mile from the project area, but locations nearer to these resources would probably have been selected for habitation or longer term camp sites. Based on these considerations, the only probable use that Native American peoples might have made of the project area would have been as a temporary or still hunting site while pursuing the white-tailed deer or gathering other forest resources such as nuts.

With the criteria outlined above in mind, information concerning known prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the project area was examined. According to information obtained from surveys covering the general area and from published resources such as Parker's 1922 *Archeological History of New York*, there are several prehistoric sites located within two miles of the project area. None of these sites, all of which were recorded early in the century, were professionally excavated.

One of these sites is the village of Mareyckawick, said by Bolton to have been located at Galletin and Elm Place (Bolton, 1924 in Greenhouse, 1992). Another resource, writing in 1977, indicated that this village, occupied by a group of Indians identified as Mareyckawick (a branch of the Canarsie), was located "just north of Old Fulton Street (now called Cadman Plaza West)" (Greenhouse, 1992). Still another possible location is suggested by Grumet, who quotes an earlier resource, is the site of present day Brooklyn Borough Hall (Grumet, 1981:27 in Greenhouse, 1992). Since each of these sites are sufficiently distant from the others that no firm determination can be made concerning the actual location of this village site, it must be considered anecdotal and is not included on the map of archaeological sites in the vicinity of the project area.

The second site, identified by Gabriel Furman in the mid-19th century, was located "... at Bridge Street, between Front and York and between Jay and Bridge Street." According to Furman, the material was located on the top of a hill approximately 70 feet high shown on Bernard Ratzer's 1766-7 *Plan of the City of New York in North America*. The hill has since been razed, but Furman states that "... the material was found *in situ* (down to a depth of 3 to 4 feet)." Evidence of Indian occupation included pottery, projectile points and clay tobacco pipes (Greenhouse, 1991:2).

Parker also identified the location of a village on the Manhattan side of the East River a little less than two miles from the project area. It was located southwest of

Corlaer's Hook, a place that provided one of the narrowest crossing points along the East River south of present day Roosevelt Island (Parker, 1922: Plate 192). This is identified as New York State Museum Site #4060.

Based on the information presented above and an examination of the historic maps which include the project area, it appears that, 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) Because of the sporadic use of woodland areas by prehistoric peoples and subsequent alteration to the land, including grading and the construction of the Kings County Jail and Kings County Morgue on Lot 1 in the 19th century and the subsequent demolition and construction of buildings associated with the Brooklyn Hospital complex in the 20th century, it is not considered probable that any prehistoric cultural material would be associated with the project area.

## HISTORY OF THE AREA

To our knowledge, the first European to visit Brooklyn was Giovanni da Verrazano in 1527 and 1529 when he is said to have landed on Coney Island. This was followed in 1609 by more extensive explorations undertaken by Henry Hudson. Hudson also landed at Coney Island where he was met by the Canarsie Indians, the tribe inhabiting the western portion of Long Island. Hudson's first mate, Juet, described waters teeming with various species of fish and a land of abundant fruit trees and grape vines. Similar descriptions are available from the late 17th century, when Daniel Danton and Jasper Dankers visited Kings County. During the 17th century, the Canarsie Indians sold land to the Dutch inhabitants of Kings County, of which Fort Greene was a part. The process of land transfers continued under the English when they took over the colony from the Dutch in 1664.

Although Manhattan was the area first occupied by the Dutch following their arrival, the settlement of Kings County followed almost immediately. The historical record is not clear concerning the first settlement; some contend that the first person to purchase land in Brooklyn was George Jansen de Rapalie who is said to have settled near Wallabout Bay (present site of the Brooklyn Navy Yard and within a mile of the project area) in the 1620's, other authorities indicate that the earliest settlement took place at Gowanus, where William Bennet and Jacques Bentyn are said to have purchased land from the Indians and built a house in 1636. Stiles confirms Rapalie's settlement at Wallabout, but states that it did not take place until the middle of the 17th century (Greenhouse 1991:3)

Whatever the case, Brooklyn in the 17th century became an area of farms linked together by roads running between the various small hamlets and villages. The primary village was Breucklyn, located along Fulton Street in the area of present day Brooklyn Heights. It was from here that the earliest boats and ferries crossed the East River, permitting the farmers to carry their produce to Manhattan for sale. That the settlement of

Kings County took place rapidly can be seen from descriptions published in 1670, in which Daniel Denton reports that:

*Long Island . . . is inhabited from one end to the other. On the West end is four or five Dutch Towns; the rest being English to the number of twelve, besides Villages and Farm houses. The Island is most of it of very good soil, and very natural for all sorts of English Grain; which they sow and have very good increase of, besides all other Fruits and Herbs common in England, as also Tobac, Hemp, Flax, Pumpkins, Melons, etc. . . . The greatest part of the Island is very full of Timber, as Oaks white and red, Walnut-trees, Chestnut-trees, which yield store of Mast for Swine . . . also Maples, Cedars, Saxifrage, Beech, Birch, Holly, Hazel, with many sorts more. . . . The Island is plentifully stored with all sorts of English Cattle, Horses, Hogs, Sheep, Goats, etc.; no place in the North of America better, which they can both raise and maintain, by reason of the large and spacious Meadows or Marches, wherewith it is furnished, the Island likewise producing excellent English grass, the seed of which was brought out from England, which they sometime mow twice a year. For wilde Beast, there is Deer, Bear, Wolves, Foxes, Raccoons, Otters, Muskrats and Skunks, Wild Fowl, there is great store of, as Turkeys, Heath-Hens, Quails, Partridges, Pidgeons, Cranes, Geese, of several sorts, Brants, Ducks, Widgeons, Teal and divers others . . . (Denton 1966:3-6)*

Denton described the streams and rivers which entered the oceans off Long Island, all abounding in fish, and the salt water areas where shellfish were harvested by the Indians to be taken to Manhattan to market. Denton also described in some detail the lives of the Indians whom he found living on Long Island. Denton further identified the types of crops grown on Long Island during the last quarter of the 17th century, along with the types of animals raised by the farmers of the island, and the game animals and birds hunted by both the Indians and the European inhabitants. He identified the importance of the meadows and marshes that were mown for fodder, and the woods that provided timber for building, wood for the kitchens and homes of the farmers, and mast (acorns, walnuts and chestnuts) for the swine that ran free in them.

During these years, the pattern of occupation for communities in Kings County and for the rest of Long Island followed the pattern of individually owned farmsteads on which each man built his house, barns, and outbuilding, and on which he planted his orchards and crops. These were the plantations. In addition to their own farms, each member of the community also was entitled to the use of the common land on which were pastured the cattle and from which the farmers cut hay for fodder. Woodlots were the third division of land, providing timber for building and firewood for the kitchen and fireplaces, as well as mast for the swine. Later these woodlots were divided, with specific lots being allocated to each family. Finally, in communities in proximity to the ocean, salt meadows were purchased in common and subsequently divided into lots which assigned to individuals in the community.

In Brooklyn the earliest farmsteads were located along the shore of the East River which served as a highway linking the farmers with Manhattan (their primary market) and one another. By the late 1640's the entire shoreline from Gowanus to the south and Newtown Creek to the north had been settled by persons engaged in agriculture (Stiles



1867:45). No maps from this date are available, but, based on Bernard Ratzer's map (see Map 5), it appears that a member of the Cowenhoven family was an early owner of the land associated with the project area. According to *The Brooklyn Eagle* at the time of the American Revolution the project area was located on land belonging to John Cowenhoven and his son, Rem Cowenhoven, locally referred to as "Cowenhoven's Woods."

Land conveyance records examined at the Brooklyn Historical Society for Block 2088 show that the earliest recorded land transfer involving Block 2088 took place in 1686 when Pieter Cesar (said to be the first Italian to live in Brooklyn) sold part of a large tract of land (including land within Block 2088) to Jan Damen. During the next 76 years various transfers took place, until 1762 when the land was conveyed to John Cowenhoven.

#### **1766-67      Bernard Ratzer's *Plan of the City of New York in North America***

Bernard Ratzer prepared a survey map for the British Army in 1766 and 1767 identified as the *Plan of the City of New York in North America* on which the project area appears. (Map 5) The map identifies the "Road to Flatbush" (present day Flatbush Avenue) and the "Road to Jamaica" (present day Fulton Street). Running west from the "Road to Jamaica" was a path leading to Wallabout Bay and the "Vanderbilt" plantation. The path would have followed the line of present day Washington Avenue. The map also identifies Wallabout Bay (site of the Brooklyn Navy Yard), Remsen's Mill and a group of buildings on the edge of Wallabout Bay identified as belonging to Cowenhoven. Comparing the 1834 property boundaries seen on Alexander Martin's *Map of the City of Brooklyn* (see Map 8) with the field boundaries shown on Ratzer's map indicates that the hill directly east of the buildings owned by Cowenhoven is the location of Fort Greene Park. The project area would be located on the southern side of the hill. In 1767, no structures were located within the confines of the project area.

#### **1776    Henry P. Johnson's *Plan of the Battle of Long Island and of the Brooklyn Defenses***

The Fort Greene section of Brooklyn was the scene of great activity during the years of the American Revolution, when, in March 1776, General George Washington ordered the fortification of Brooklyn. The line of forts, redoubts and entrenchments that made up these fortifications, of which Fort Putnam (later renamed Fort Greene) was one, stretched across Brooklyn from the southern edge of Wallabout Bay to Gowanus Bay. (Map 6) According to Stiles, at that time Brooklyn "was no more than an agricultural village" containing approximately 50 dwellings. (Stiles 1867:51) He further states that groves of cedar crowned the Heights, while between the East River and Joralemon Street (on the south) and the road to Jamaica (on the north) there were pastures, orchards and market gardens.

General Lee planned the defenses to protect Brooklyn with a line of fortifications and entrenchments as follows: north of present day Fort Greene Park there was a square fort, next in line was the star shaped Fort Putnam (now the site of Fort Greene Park), followed by Oblong Redoubt, then a second star shaped fort -- this one called Fort Greene

(located south of Flatbush Avenue), and finally a small square fort called Fort Box. It is reported by Stiles that Fort Putnam was protected by 6 guns and garrisoned by a full regiment. The fort was further supplied with a well and magazines. It was designed to protect the Jamaica Road (present day Fulton Street).

As it happened, Fort Putnam (later Fort Greene) saw no action. Indeed, the only important engagement of the war that took place in Brooklyn was the Battle of Brooklyn, which took place east and south of the project area at the end of August in 1776. This battle cleared the American forces from Long Island with the result that no further depredations took place as the result of warfare. However, we can assume that during this period of occupation, despite being protected from the ravages of further battles, the inhabitants of Brooklyn suffered great deprivations. The description provided by Stiles matches in many details descriptions of conditions on Manhattan and the Bronx, which were also held by the British, as well as southern Westchester:

*Brooklyn, which, during the war, had been wholly military ground, presented a sadder scene of desolation than any other town in Kings County. In 1786, after the occupation of the British, free range had been given to the pillaging propensities of the soldiery. Farms had been laid waste . . . woodlands were ruthlessly cut down for fuel, buildings were injured, fences removed, and boundaries effaced. Farmers were despoiled of their cattle, horses, swine, poultry, vegetables, and of almost every necessary article of subsistence, except their grain, which fortunately had been housed before the invasion. Their houses were also plundered . . . and much furniture was wantonly destroyed . . . stock became very scarce and dear, and the farmer of Brooklyn who owned a pair of horses and two or three cows was 'well off.' The scarcity prevailing in the markets, however, soon rendered it necessary for the British commanders to restrain this system of indiscriminate marauding, and to encourage agriculture . . . (Stiles 1884:100)*

With the end of the war, Kings County began to recover. Homes were rebuilt. Boundaries were redrawn, and fences reestablished. On March 7, 1788 Brooklyn became a town under the laws of the New York State Legislature. The Town of Brooklyn contained seven hamlets: The Ferry, Red Hook, Brooklyn (the village proper), Bedford, Gowanus, Cripplebush, and Wallabout. Although today the project area is considered part of Fort Greene, in the 18th and early years of the 19th century it was part of Brooklyn Parish.

Returning to the land conveyance records, we ascertain that the Cowenhoven's owned the project area until 1789 when Johamir C. Lott, Theodore Polhemus, John Terhune and John C. Vandever, trustees of John R. Cowenhoven, sold a large tract of land that included Block 2088 to Tredwell Jackson. In 1798 Tredwell Jackson purchased additional land in Block 2088 from Garrite Cowenhoven, Tuenis Tiebout and John L. Lefferts.

### **1814 *Plan of Fort Greene and Line of Entrenchments as laid out under the orders of General Joseph G. Swift (from Stiles 1867)***

The War of 1812, while it did not result in any attack upon New York, provided the impetus for the reconstruction and enlargement of former Fort Putnam, now renamed Fort Greene. (Map 7) The fort ceased to be star shaped, with its battlements extended to take advantage of the topography. Within the fort there were a series of structures. Two wide arms extended across Raymond Street (now Ashland Place) toward Wallabout to the west and the corner of Raymond Street and DeKalb Avenue (shown as dotted line but not yet in existence) to the south. Willoughby Street is shown on the north side of the fort, but not on the south. However, if we extend the line of Willoughby Street to the south across Raymond Street, it becomes clear that the southern arm of the entrenchments would have passed through the southern part of the Brooklyn Hospital complex, and not through the proposed project area.

Although the transaction is not reported, sometime between 1798 and 1832 the parcel of land located at the corner of Raymond Street and DeKalb Avenue came into the possession (probably by inheritance) of Samuel Jackson, who was described as one of the oldest merchants in New York City. His home was near Love Lane on Brooklyn Heights, where he had an ornamental garden so lovely that “. . . in those days, the favorite walks of the young people of both sexes” (Stiles 1867: 127). On February 15, 1832 Samuel Jackson granted this parcel of land to Hamilton H. Jackson.

The following year (1833), according to Stiles, in Brooklyn “. . . land speculation came to be, in some cases, almost a mania, and lots were purchased and sold at what appeared to many to be extravagant prices” (Stiles 1867:145).

### **1834 *Alexander Martin's Map of the City of Brooklyn***

In 1834 Alexander Martin, Surveyor of the City of Brooklyn, prepared a map that includes the project area. (Map 8) At that time, only Navy Street (formerly Rockwell) and Ashland (formerly Raymond) had actually been constructed – the other streets existed only on paper (Historical Perspectives 1985). On Martin's map Fort Greene is still a large structure containing two large and one small structure within substantial walls. On the north the walls appear to have deteriorated (at least they are not shown). The two lines of entrenchments described above still extended south from the fort to the line of Raymond Street (now Ashland Place). Between these entrenchments two structures are shown. The location of these structures can be determined by the location of Lafayette Street (later Willoughby Street), which (if extended along the property line shown on the map) would form the northern border of the Brooklyn Hospital complex.. The nature of these structures is not shown, but a description of the estate of John Jackson presented in Stiles states that John Jackson's residence was located on the northeast corner of Navy Street and Lafayette Avenue, “. . . while back on the line of Raymond Street and Lafayette Avenue, were his barns, stables and gardens (Stiles 1867: 134). Based on this description, it is likely that these buildings are some of John Jackson's outbuildings. The northern most building is in

same location as the first Kings County Jail, whose cornerstone was not laid, however, until 1836 (Stiles 1867:147).

The transfer of Lot 1 of Block 2088 to Kings County was not found in the land conveyance records, but it must have occurred prior to 1836 when the cornerstone of the jail was laid. The Kings County Jail was enlarged in 1845, and virtually replaced in 1877.

In 1839 John Jackson died, leaving his estate to his heirs, including Maria Jackson and Cornelia A. Jackson. At that time his land was surveyed and divided into lots. His property was kept together for a period of time, but as early as 1847 it was being broken up and sold. The trustees of the entity that was to become Brooklyn Hospital began acquiring land in Block 2088 in 1847, with a second purchase in 1848. By 1850 they had acquired 37 "suitable lots" on the high ground adjoining Fort Greene Park (Stiles 1884:925). It was on this land that the first building was constructed. The cornerstone was laid on June 11, 1851. The hospital opened the following Spring, by which time the trustees had purchased an additional 20 lots south which were enclosed by an iron railing and a plantation of trees (Stiles 1884:925).

The pattern of land acquisition by the trustees of Brooklyn City Hospital in Block 2088 continued following the opening of the main hospital building. In 1853 the Kings County Infirmary sold a parcel of land to Brooklyn City Hospital. Small lots along Raymond Street were purchased in 1857 (Lot 2) and 1859 (Lot 3). In 1858 Brooklyn City Hospital purchased the mortgage on the land at the corner of DeKalb Avenue and Raymond Street from Burdett Stryker, Sheriff, and the interest in a lease to land also at the southwest corner of DeKalb Avenue and Raymond Street from John Blunt. Between then and 1869, the year that Matthew Dripps' produced his *Map of the City of Brooklyn* the hospital trustees gained control of the remaining lots south of the Kings County Jail (also known as the Raymond Street Jail).

**1869 Matthew Dripps' *Map of the City of Brooklyn, being the former Cities of Brooklyn and Williamsburgh and the Town of Bushwick***

In 1869 Matthew Dripps' *Map of the City of Brooklyn, being the former Cities of Brooklyn and Williamsburgh and the Town of Bushwick*, shows the development of Brooklyn in the years since 1834. (Map 9) The area surrounding the Brooklyn City Hospital had developed rapidly. Canton Street had been opened, separating Washington Park (later renamed Fort Greene Park) from the institutions located at the corner of DeKalb Avenue and Raymond Street. The main hospital building is shown -- by this date two wings had been added to the east and west of the original structure. The Kings County Jail is located at the northwest corner of the parcel, with Lafayette Street (now Willoughby Street) serving at the northern boundary. As noted above, the jail had been enlarged in approximately 1845. It now consisted on the a rectangular block on the corner of Willoughby Street and Raymond Street with two extensions eastward along Lafayette Street toward the park. In addition to the jail there are two smaller unidentified buildings located east of the jail. Standing on the eastern edge of the jail property there is a small

unidentified structure; however, examination of the Sewer Department records indicate that on September 28, 1869 a connection (#27445.4) was made to the sewer on Willoughby Street from the Kings County Morgue. Presumably this structure is the morgue.

### **1880 Hopkin's *Detailed Estate and Old Farm Line Atlas of City of Brooklyn.***

This map indicates that by this date the Brooklyn City Hospital had constructed an extension to the rear of the main building, which still faced Raymond Street, as well as the Orthopedic Hospital. (Map 10) An additional small, unidentified building was located immediately east of the hospital on the boundary of the Kings County Jail property. The Kings County Jail had recently rebuilt and enlarged its facilities. The eastern portion of the Kings County Jail structure situated on the south side of the lot is located within the project area.

As can be seen, the area surrounding the project area then contained a mixture of institutional, commercial, recreational and residential uses. On Willoughby Street, immediately across from the Kings County Jail, was District School No. 11. Adjacent to the school, at the corner of Raymond Street and Willoughby Street, was the F. G. Smith Piano Manufactory. On the southwestern corner was the J. H. Prentice Hat Factory. A block away was a soap factory. Along DeKalb Avenue was Hook & Ladder No. 5. By this date, Canton Place had been closed between Washington Park (now Fort Greene Park) and the institutional grounds. At the southwest corner of the hospital property the former line of the road from the toll bridge (over the Wallabout) to the Brooklyn and Jamaica Turnpike road is shown. Hamilton H. Jackson had owned the triangular piece of land to the west of the road, but the Hopkins' map indicates that the "Heirs of John Jackson" were the owners of the portion of Block 2088 on which the hospital and the jail stood.

### **1912 E. Belcher Hyde's *Atlas of Borough of Brooklyn***

In 1912 a map prepared by E. Belcher Hyde, a publisher located in Brooklyn, presents a clear picture of the location of the Kings County Jail with respect to the project area. (Map 11) The Kings County Jail fronts on Raymond Street, with a large block oriented east-west close to the southern boundary line between the jail and the Brooklyn Hospital property. A dark line along the southern and eastern borders of the jail property identifies part of the fence that enclosed the jail. It should be noted that the eastern property boundary of the Kings County Jail property extended a short distance (approximately 20 feet) beyond the fence enclosing the rear of the Kings County Jail. A path (represented by the dotted lines) leads from the park to a point just east of the Kings County Morgue building. That path encroaches on the extreme northeast corner of the Kings County Jail (now Brooklyn Hospital) property line.

Examining this map and comparing it to the map that shows the proposed conditions on the project area after construction of the facility allows us to reach some conclusions concerning the impact of the proposed project on subsurface resources. (see Fig. 2) At the present time the stone wall topped by a chain link fence at the eastern edge of the project area is located in the same position as the fence at the east end of the Kings County Jail.



(Photo 5) The extension of the Brooklyn Hospital property beyond that fence is also shown. By usage that piece of property (formerly owned by Kings County and now belonging to Brooklyn Hospital) has become part of Fort Greene Park. The same circumstance clearly existed in the early 20th century when the wall that defined the open plaza area at the northwest corner of the park extended to the fence that separated the Kings County Morgue and Kings County Jail from the park. At that time (1912), the path led by steps to the plaza area near the intersection of Willoughby Street and St. Edwards Street (formerly part of Canton Street).

Returning to the rear portion of the Kings County Jail, the building extends to within a few feet of the fence. The eastern edge of the proposed 15 story residence corresponds closely with the eastern end of the Kings County Jail. The block of the jail, as it extends to the west, corresponds closely with the new parking garage that is to be built to the west of the tower. The present MRI Building and the Maynard Building occupy ground that corresponds to the former sites of the two Kings County Morgue buildings and a portion of the open area north of the jail. The existing parking facility occupies the ground formerly occupied by the small building located at the northwest corner of Ashland Place (formerly Raymond Street) and Willoughby Street, the front of the jail structure and the remaining open area north of the jail.

Based on this examination, it appears that, with the exception of the present outdoor parking area, all remains of the Kings County Jail or Kings County Morgue buildings or the open area north of the Kings County Jail would have been destroyed during the construction of these facilities. It also appears that the proposed project location is the only area where any remains of the Kings County Jail might be expected.

#### **1916 E. Belcher Hyde's *Atlas of Borough of Brooklyn City of New York***

In 1916 E. Belcher Hyde produced a series of atlases identified as the *Atlas of Borough of Brooklyn City of New York*. (Map 12) This atlas provides additional information concerning the structures located on the Brooklyn Hospital property. Substantial building had taken place, including the construction of a three story U-shaped building to the east of the main hospital building that abuts the property line between the hospital and the jail. (Photo 3) The dispensary and power house, as well as a number of other structures, had also been constructed along Raymond Street. By this date, the orientation of the entrance to the hospital had been swung around to DeKalb Avenue, where it is today. It does not appear that any changes have taken place on the Kings County Jail lot, but again the portion of the property east of the Kings County Jail security fence is indicated.

#### **1929 E. Belcher Hyde's *Atlas of Borough of Brooklyn City of New York***

The *Desk Atlas/ Borough of Brooklyn/City of New York*, dated 1929, like the 1916 map was published by E. Belcher Hyde. (Map 13) The structures located on the Kings County Jail lot have not changed. Now the Kings County Jail is identified as the City Prison. The interior organization of the rear block of the jail is shown -- indicating that

rows of cell blocks were lighted by open yard areas. It also appears the one of the morgue buildings had been removed. Present day Ashland Place was still called Raymond Street.

**1995 Sanborn Map Company. *Insurance Map. Borough of Brooklyn, City of New York. Block 2088.***

An examination of the present Sanborn Insurance Map for the project area indicates that the present conditions map (see Fig. 1) provided by the project sponsor corresponds with the buildings shown on the Sanborn map.

## **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **Prehistoric Sensitivity**

Based on the information presented above and an examination of the historic maps which include the project area, it appears that, 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) Because of the sporadic use of woodland areas by prehistoric peoples and subsequent substantial alterations to the land, including grading and the construction of structures during the 19th and 20th century, it is highly unlikely that any prehistoric cultural material would be associated with the project area.

### **Historic Sensitivity**

A review of pertinent historic maps and documents indicates that development began to take place within the boundaries of Lot 1 (location of the project area) in Block 2208 prior to 1834 (Alexander Martin's *Map of the City of Brooklyn*). Indeed, it is likely that the at least a portions of the walls that formed part of the entrenchments of both Fort Putnam (1776) and Fort Greene (1814) may have impacted some portions of the Brooklyn Hospital complex. An examination of the 1776 and 1814 maps (see Map 6 & 7) suggests, however, that neither the entrenchment that extended to Wallabout Bay nor the one that crossed Raymond Avenue in the vicinity of DeKalb Avenue impacted the project area itself. This conclusion is based on an examination of Map 7 where the line of Willoughby Street was extended across the fort and Raymond Avenue. The entrenchment that extended toward Wallabout Bay fell north of that hypothetical line, while the southern entrenchment would appear to cross the southern portion of the Brooklyn Hospital site, in which case, the project area would not contain remains of these structures. Furthermore, the construction of the Raymond Street Jail in 1877 would have heavily impacted the area on which it stood, further reducing the probability of recovering any intact features should such exist.

In cases where domestic structures are being investigated, an investigation of the dates at which the structures were connected to the sewer lines is frequently instructive. In the case of institutions such as the Brooklyn City Hospital and the Kings County Jail this information would appear to be less critical in that the jail and hospital were inhabited by a

transient populations to whom it would be impossible to tie any deposits recovered. However, an examination of the records at the Brooklyn Sewer Department was made, but identified only two sewer connections to the institutional area of Block 2088. As noted above, on September 28, 1869 a connection was made between the sewer line in Willoughby Street and the Kings County Morgue (# 27445.4). This corresponds with the date of construction. The other was made on November 7, 1878, when a line from Brooklyn City Hospital was connected into the sewer on Raymond Street (# 52731.7). The records were examined for earlier sewer connections for Brooklyn Hospital, but Volume 1-3, which would have contained dates prior to 1869 are missing from the Brooklyn Sewer Department. With respect to the availability of water, the current Sanborn Insurance Map for Block 2088 indicates that water lines were installed along DeKalb Avenue and Raymond Street in 1860. A 16" water line was installed in Willoughby Street at an unknown date, with the installation of a 48" water line in 1892. The presence of sewer lines was noted on the 1880 Hopkin's *Atlas of the City of Brooklyn*, but, as already stated, the Sewer Department records indicate that sewers had been installed by 1869. Clearly portions of the Brooklyn Hospital and the Kings County Jail pre-date the putative installation of sewers in the area; however, if privies were used at either institution, subsequent development on the site would have destroyed evidence of these features, and, for the reasons stated above, deposits recovered from such features would be of little assistance in interpreting the history of the site.

It is also the case with domestic structures that the Federal Census and Tax Assessment records can be of use in determining the names of residents of a particular parcel and the duration of their habitation. In this case, these institutions would have been surveyed as part of the Federal Census, but the amount of useful information would be minimal. For this reason, census information was not gathered.

For the 19th century, the research was, therefore, limited to an examination of land conveyances, historic map and atlas research, and secondary source material (such as Stiles). Based on this research it appears that in the early 19th century two structures stood within the boundaries of the Brooklyn Hospital complex: these are shown on Alexander Martin's 1834 map (see Map 8). The nature of the structures is not known, but, as noted above, Stile's description of the John Jackson estate would suggest that the two buildings were outbuildings associated with this property. John Jackson's house stood on the corner of Lafayette Street (later Willoughby Street) and Navy Street (formerly Rockwell), a short distance south of Raymond Street (now Ashland Place), with his barns, stables and orchards running back to Raymond Street. Neither of these structures are in the proposed project area, and subsequent construction and demolition on the Kings County Jail property would have obliterated any traces of these buildings.

By 1880 the Raymond Street Jail (also known as the Kings County Jail) had been rebuilt. It extended west to east along the southern boundary of Lot 1 covering a portion of the proposed project area. Comparing the map from 1880 (Map 10) with the map for 1912 (Map 11), it appears that the jail was extended further eastward sometime after 1880. Importantly, this map shows the line of the security fence that surrounded the jail and the



narrow strip of land beyond the fence that was owned by Kings County and is now the property of Brooklyn Hospital.

In order to determine to what extent the proposed project might impact subsurface resources (should any still exist on the site) the footprint of the Kings County Jail (also known as the Raymond Street Jail) was laid out over the footprint of the proposed project. (see Fig. 4) Clearly the eastern portion of the former jail falls within the boundaries of the proposed project. (see Photo 3) It might, therefore, be expected that foundation walls and interior walls might be encountered during the excavation of the new residential tower and parking facility. However, for the following reasons, it is unlikely that intact features would be recovered on the site:

1. The Kings County Jail was demolished in c. 1963, a period of time when it is likely heavy equipment was used in the demolition and clearing of the site. Experience indicates that, in the event that the foundation and interior walls were not removed as part of the clearing operation, such operations fill the cellar hole with debris that is profoundly disturbed. The demolition of the jail at this late date suggests that meaningful data is not likely to be obtained from this site.
2. Following the demolition of the jail, a number of buildings have been constructed to the north of its former site. These include a one story MRI Building and the 19+ story Maynard Building. It is possible that the construction of the MRI Building (being only 1 story) did not have a significant impact on the proposed project area, but it is not likely that the impact of the Maynard Building construction episode was not profound -- the excavation for such a structure would have opened significant areas around it, which would include portions of the proposed project area.
3. To the south of the project area there was formerly a series of structures on the present site of the "B" Building. These structures abutted the Kings County Jail security wall. Prior to c. 1960 they were demolished to make way for new construction. As in the case of the jail, such demolition may well have impacted the project area. Following the demolition of the buildings on the present site of the "B" Building, the "B" Building was built. The same types of impact on the proposed project area would be expected, including an excavation that may have directly impacted the project area.

Finally, though the potential to yield intact archaeological resources is deemed low, there is a possibility that despite these episodes of disturbance, some remnants of the Kings County Jail may still exist within the project area, it is not clear that such remnants of a 19th century structure, of which, based on published resources, we have considerable knowledge would be considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places nor that their further investigation would contribute to our knowledge of the development of county government penal institutions. It is, therefore, the conclusion of the consultant that no further archaeological investigation of the proposed project area is warranted and that the work may proceed without further concern for archaeological resources.

**APPENDIX B**  
**MAPS & FIGURES**

# STAGE 1A LITERATURE REVIEW

## MAPS AND FIGURES LIST

### MAPS

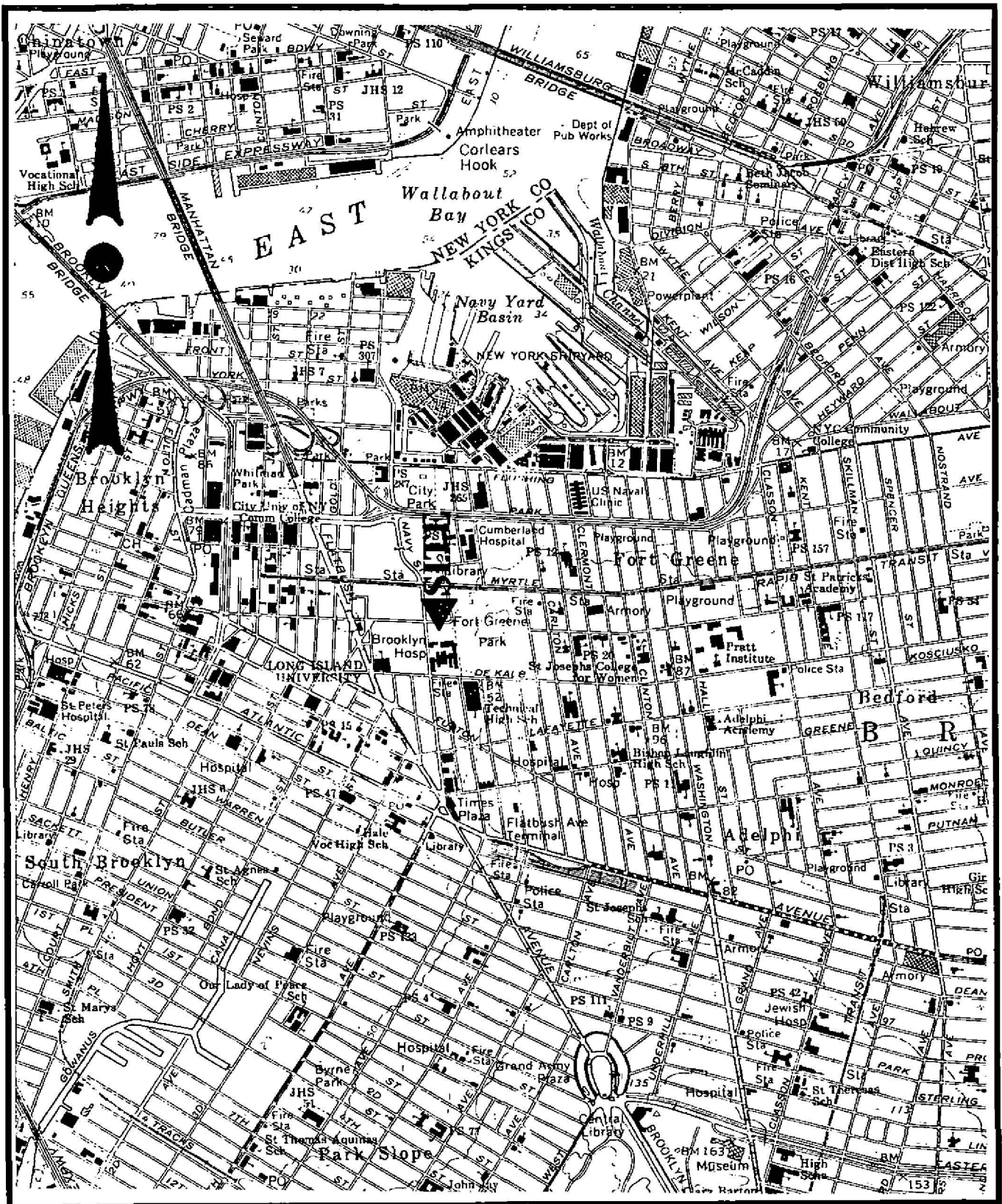
- Map 1      Location Map. USGS Brooklyn Quadrangle. Taken 1967. Revised 1979.
- Map 2      Site Map. (derived from Brooklyn Tax Map).
- Map 3      Fort Greene Historic District. LPC Designation Report. Designated September 26, 1978.
- Map 4      Brooklyn Academy of Music Historic District. LPC Designation Report. Designated September 26, 1978.
- Map 5      Detail from Bernard Ratzer's *Plan of the City of New York in North American* - 1766-67
- Map 6      Detail from Henry P. Johnston's *Plan of the Battle of Long Island and of the Brooklyn Defenses. August 27, 1776...*
- Map 7      Henry Reed Stiles. *Plan of Fort Greene and Line of Intrenchments, 1814.*
- Map 8      Detail of Alexander Martin's *Map of the City of Brooklyn.*
- Map 9      Detail of Matthew Dripps' 1869 *Map of the City of Brooklyn* . . .
- Map 10      Detail of Hopkin's 1880 *Atlas of the City of Brooklyn.*
- Map 11      Plate 199 from E. Belcher Hyde's 1912 *Atlas of the City of Brooklyn*
- Map 12      Detail from Hugo Ullitz's 1916 *Atlas of the Borough of Brooklyn*
- Map 13      E. Belcher Hyde. 1929 *Desk Atlas/ Borough of Brooklyn, City of New York.*

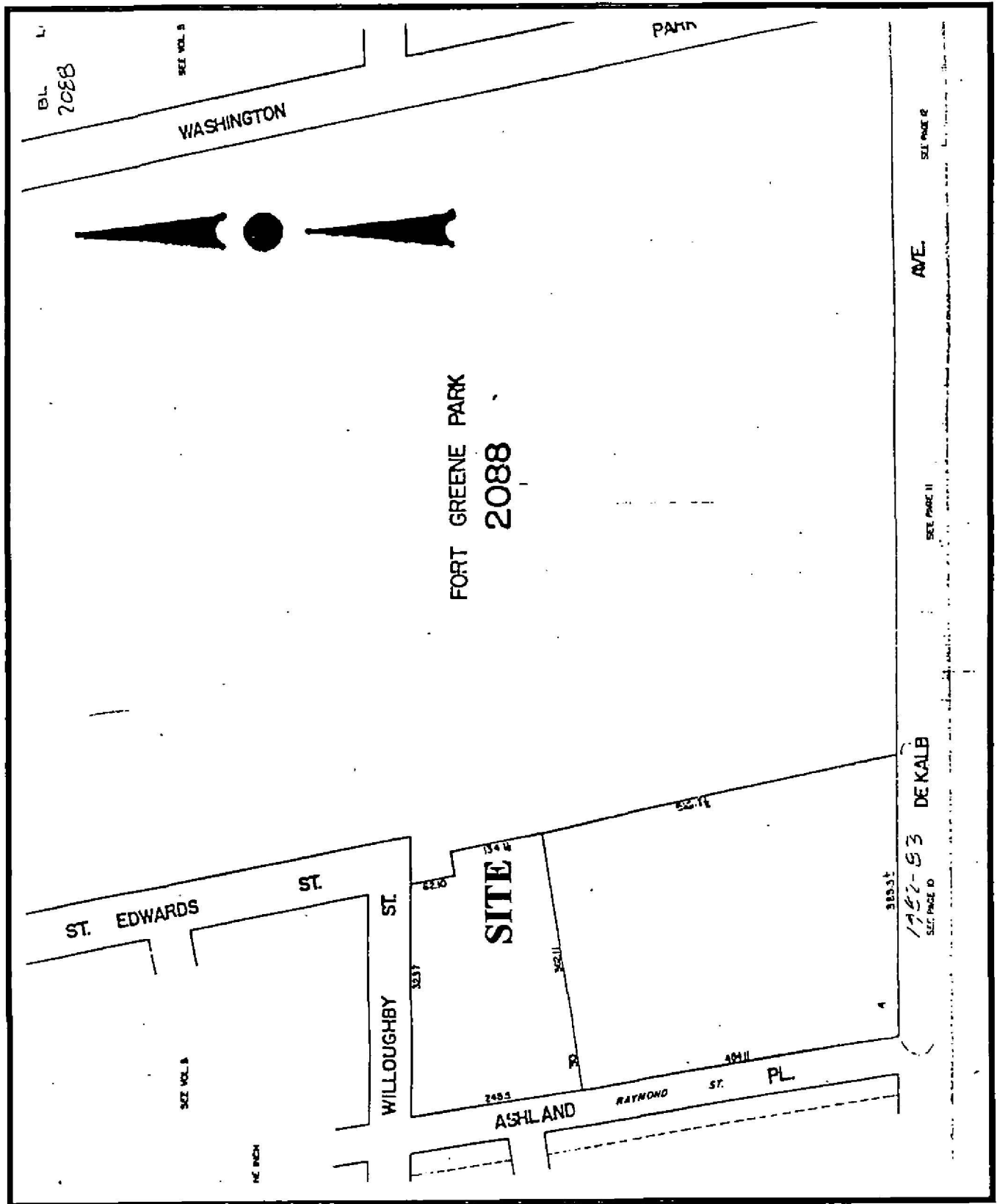
### FIGURES:

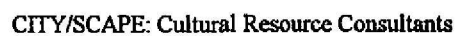
- Fig. 1      Existing Conditions Map
- Fig. 2      Proposed Project showing location of Residential Tower and Parking
- Fig. 3      View of Project looking West toward Residential Tower, Building B and MRI Building.
- Fig. 4      Footprint of Kings County Jail drawn over Footprint of Residential Town and Parking Lot.

**Map 1: Location Map. USGS Brooklyn Quadrangle. Scale: 1:24,000**

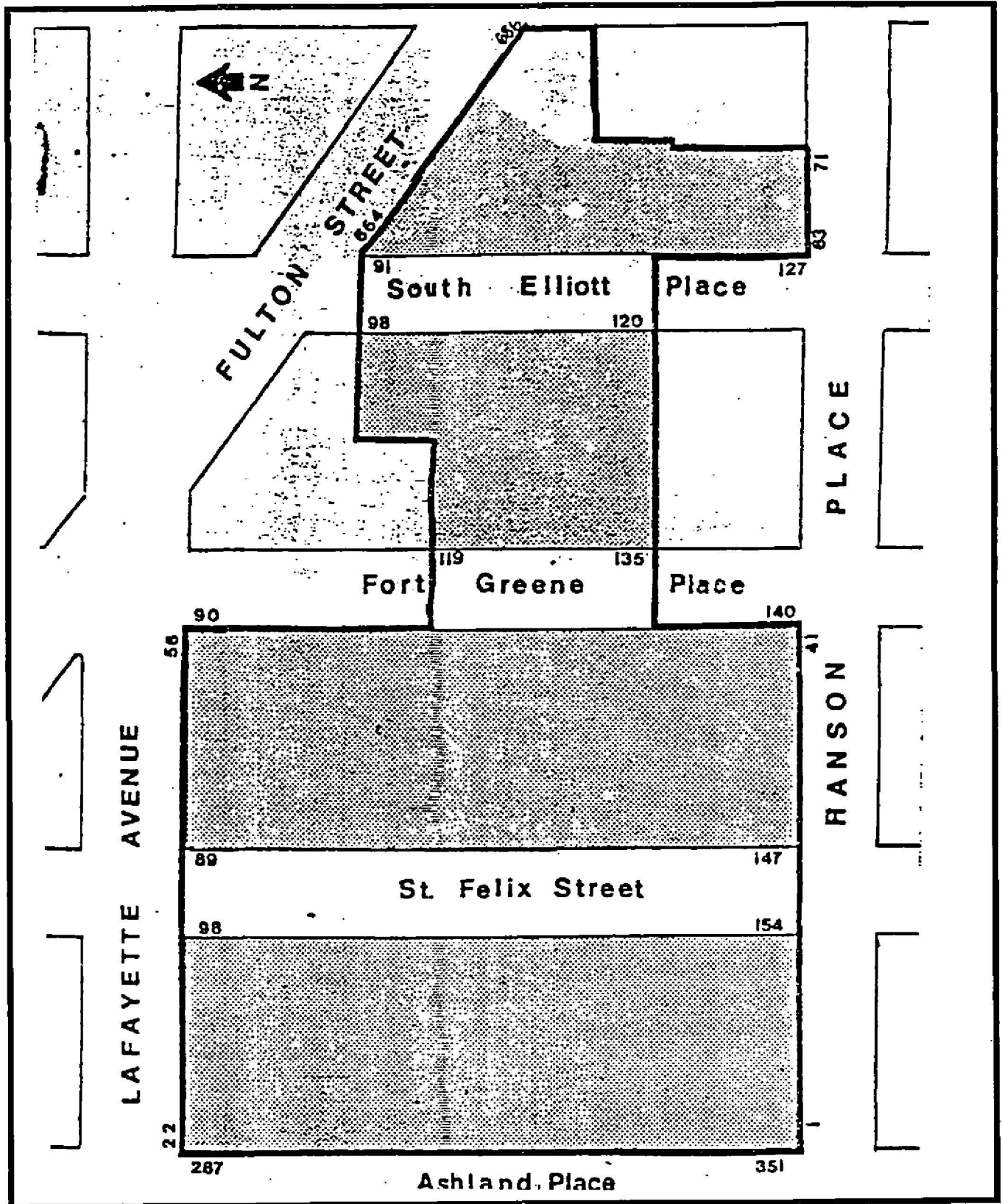
Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation. A Portion of Block 2088, Lot 1.  
Brooklyn Hospital, Fort Greene, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York







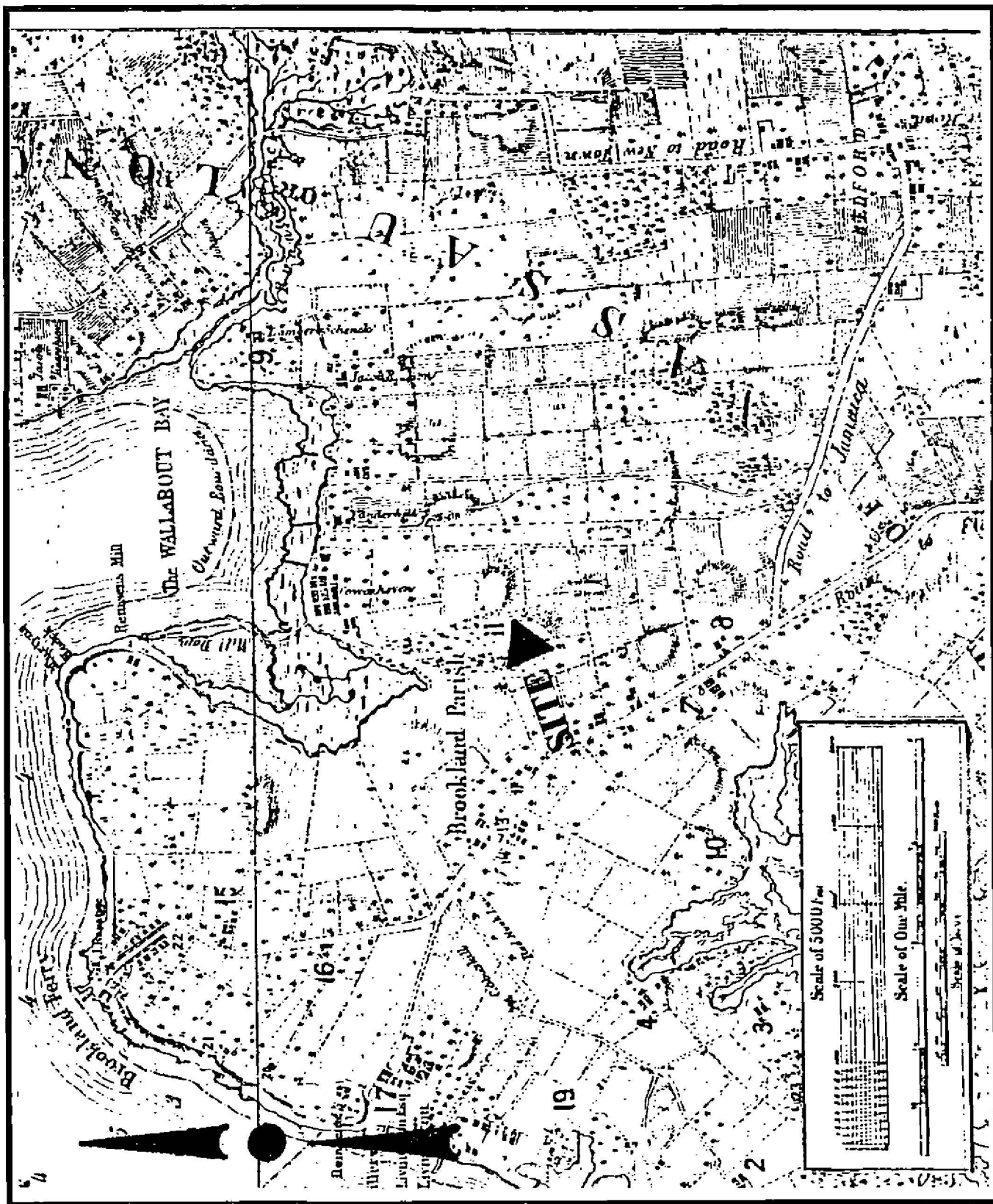
Map 4: Map of Brooklyn Academy of Music Historic District. (Designated September 26, 1978) Scale: None.  
 Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation. A Portion of Block 2088. Lot 1.  
 Brooklyn Hospital. Fort Greene. Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York





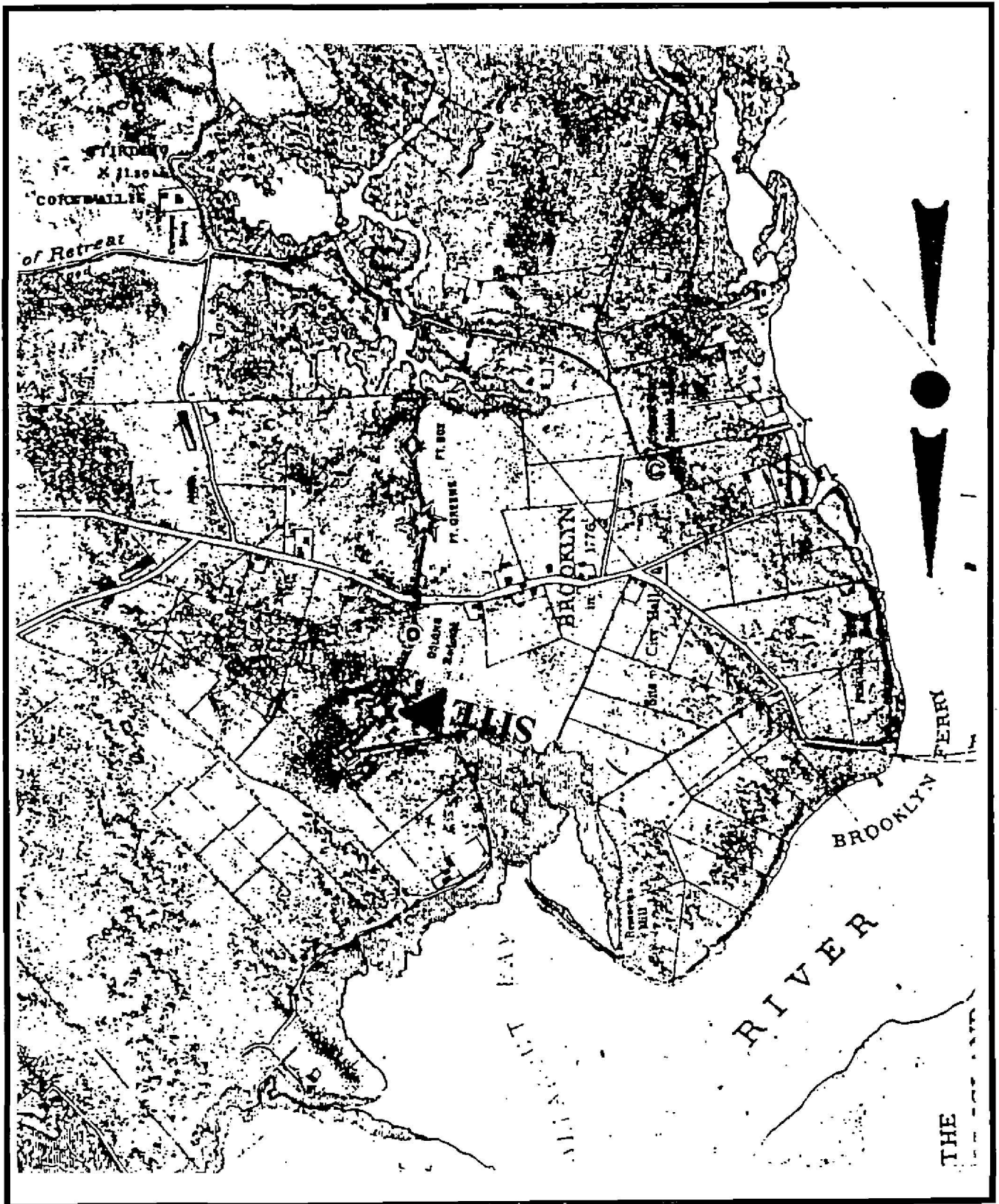
**Map 5: Bernard Ratzer's Plan of the City of New York - 1766-67. Scale: Included on Map**

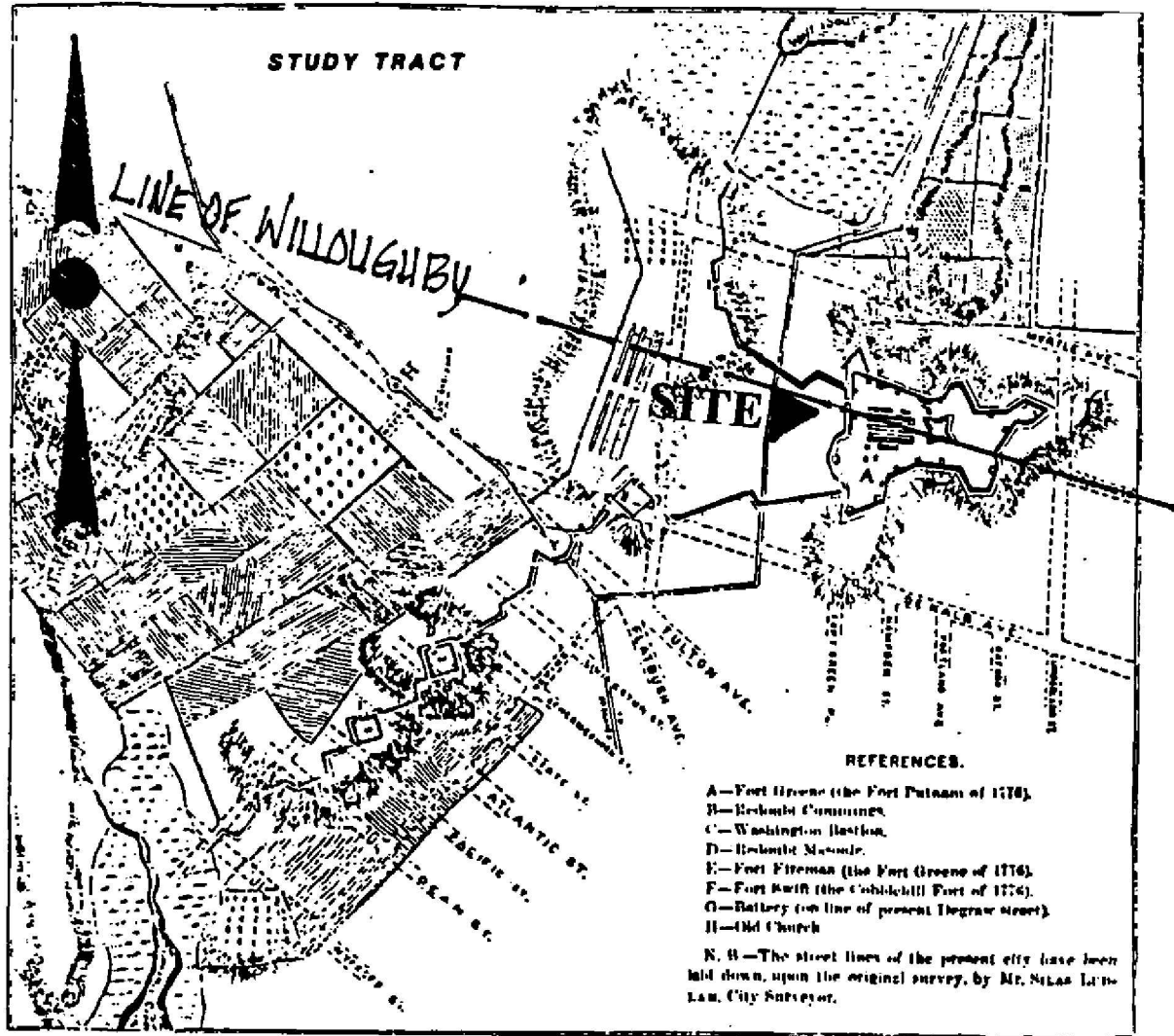
Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation. A Portion of Block 2088, Lot 1, Brooklyn Hospital. Fort Greene. Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York



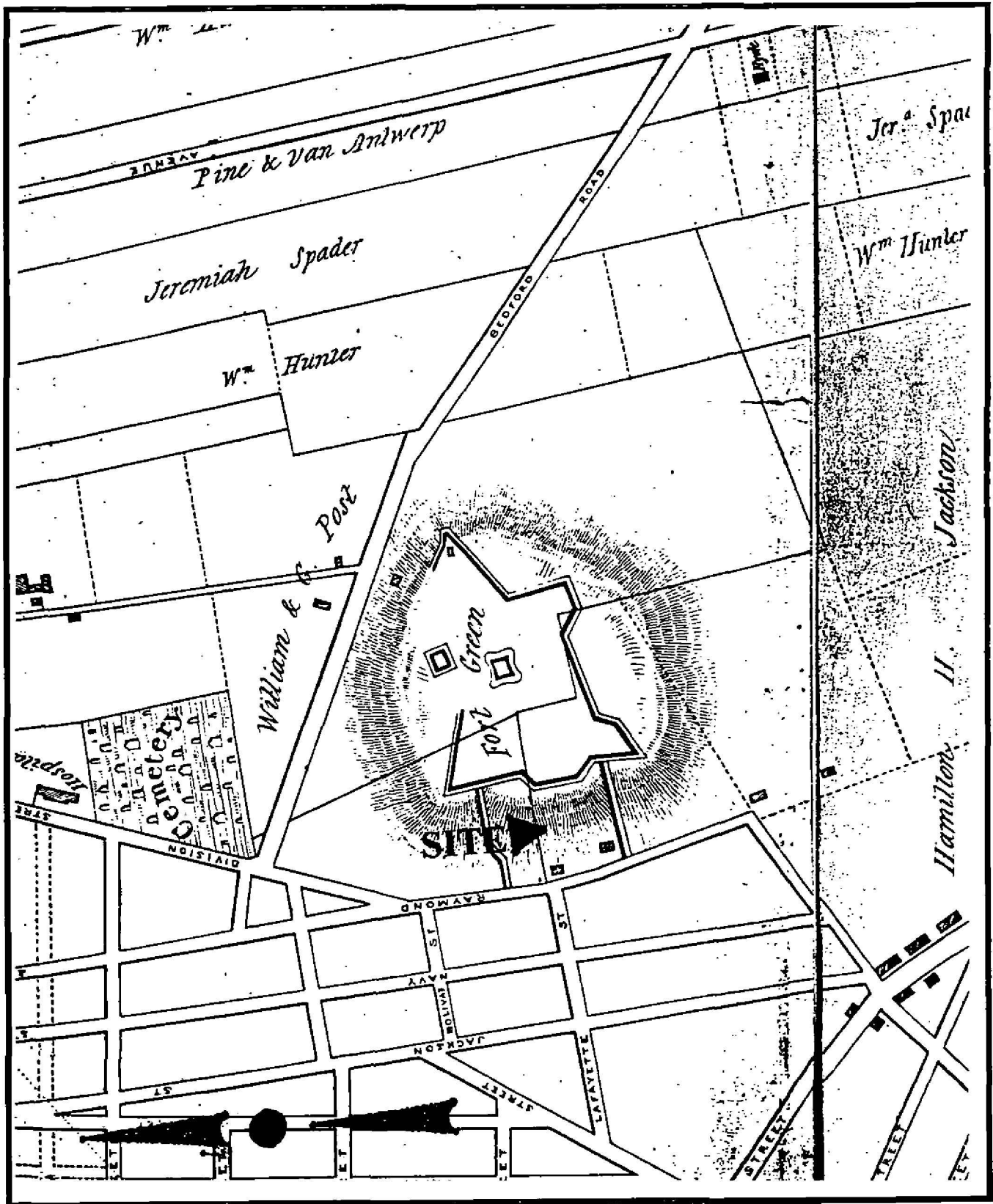


Map 6: Detail from Johnston's Plan of the Battle of Long Island & of the Brooklyn Defenses. Scale: None.  
 Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation. A Portion of Block 2088, Lot 1,  
 Brooklyn Hospital, Fort Greene, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York





Map 8: Detail of Alexander Martin's 1834 Map of the City of Brooklyn. Scale: Enlargement. Original Unknown.  
 Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation. A Portion of Block 2088. Lot 1.  
 Brooklyn Hospital. Fort Greene. Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

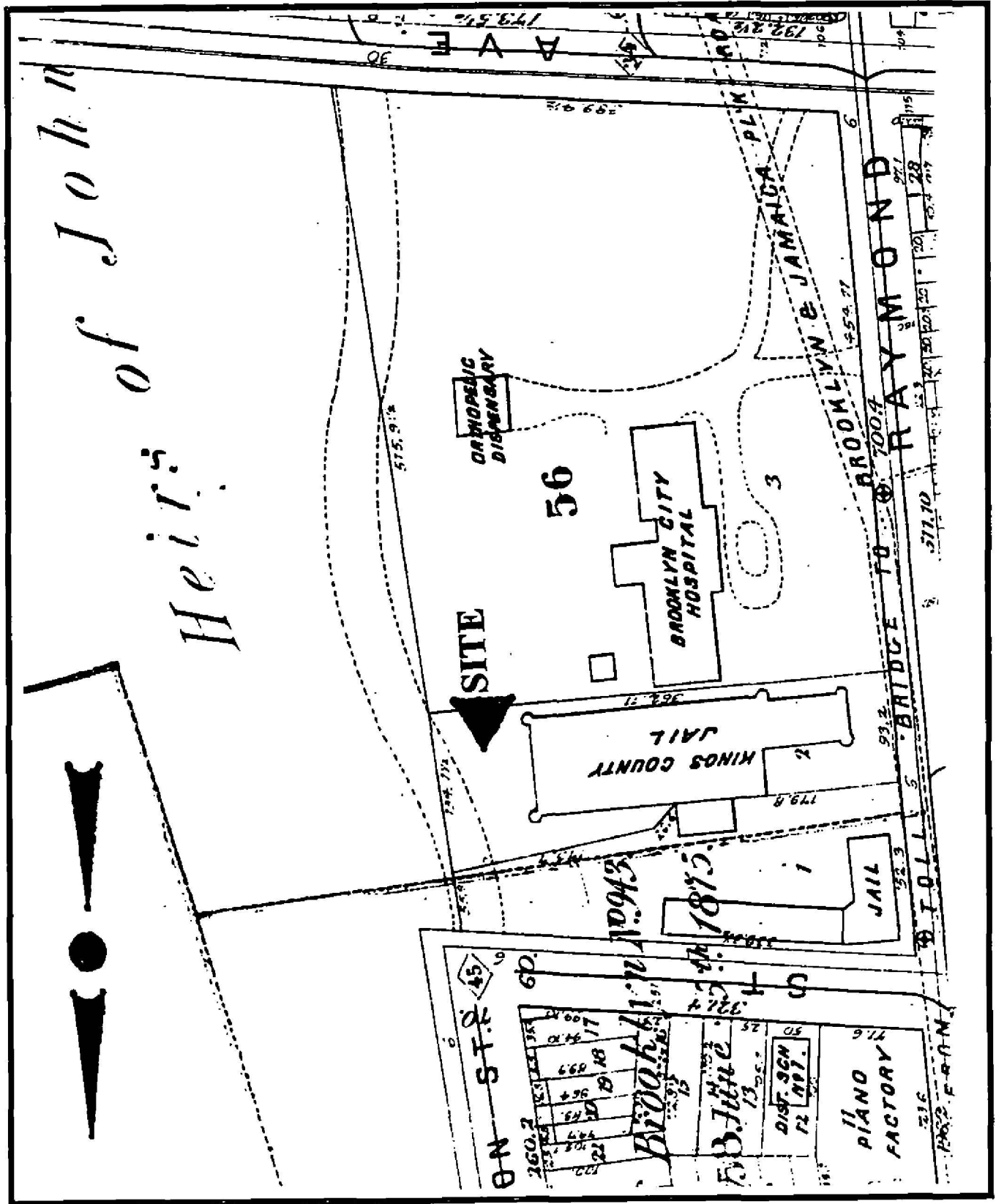


Map 9: Detail of Matthew Dripps' 1869 Map of the City of Brooklyn. Scale: Original Unknown.

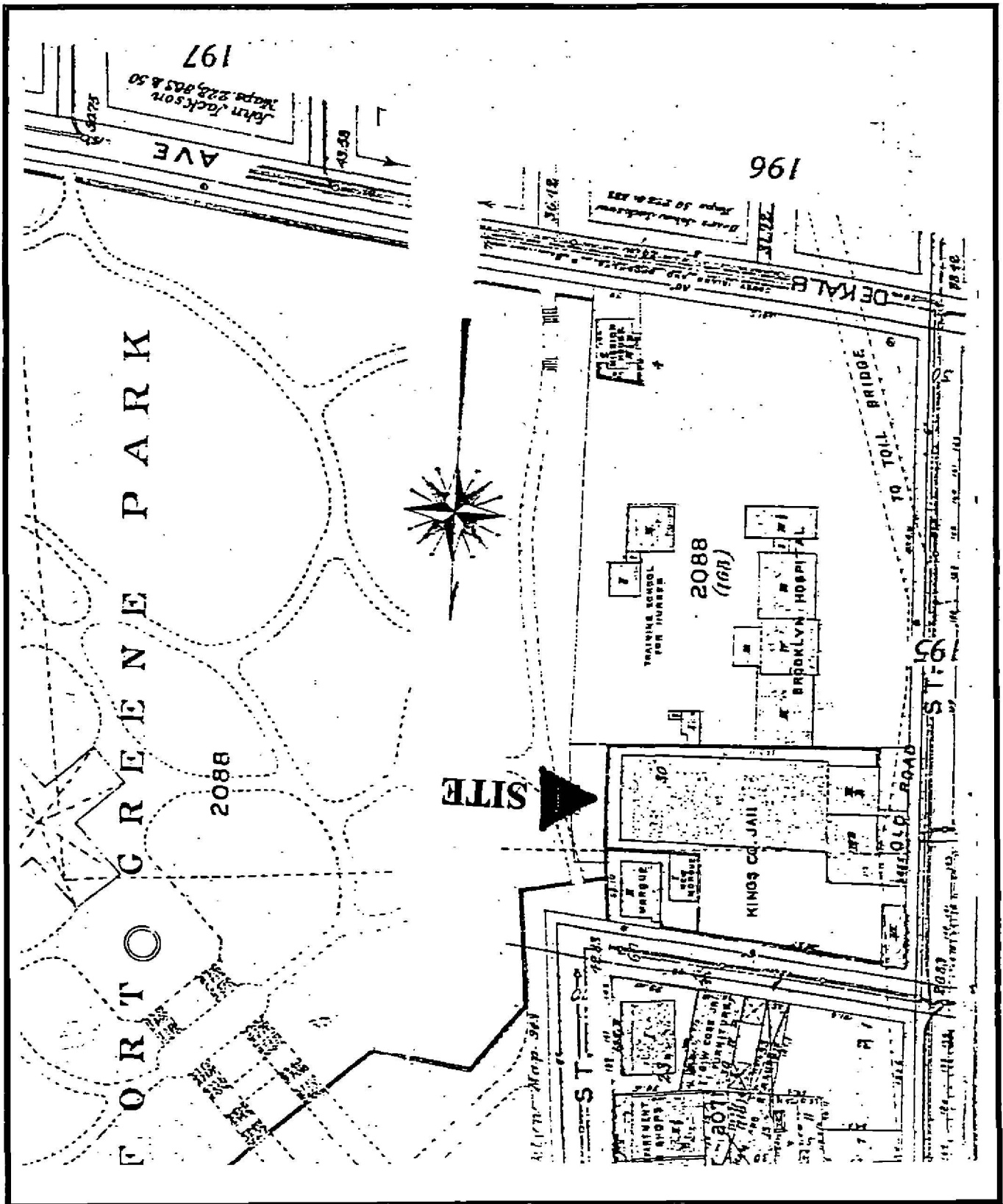
Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation. A Portion of Block 2088. Lot 1.

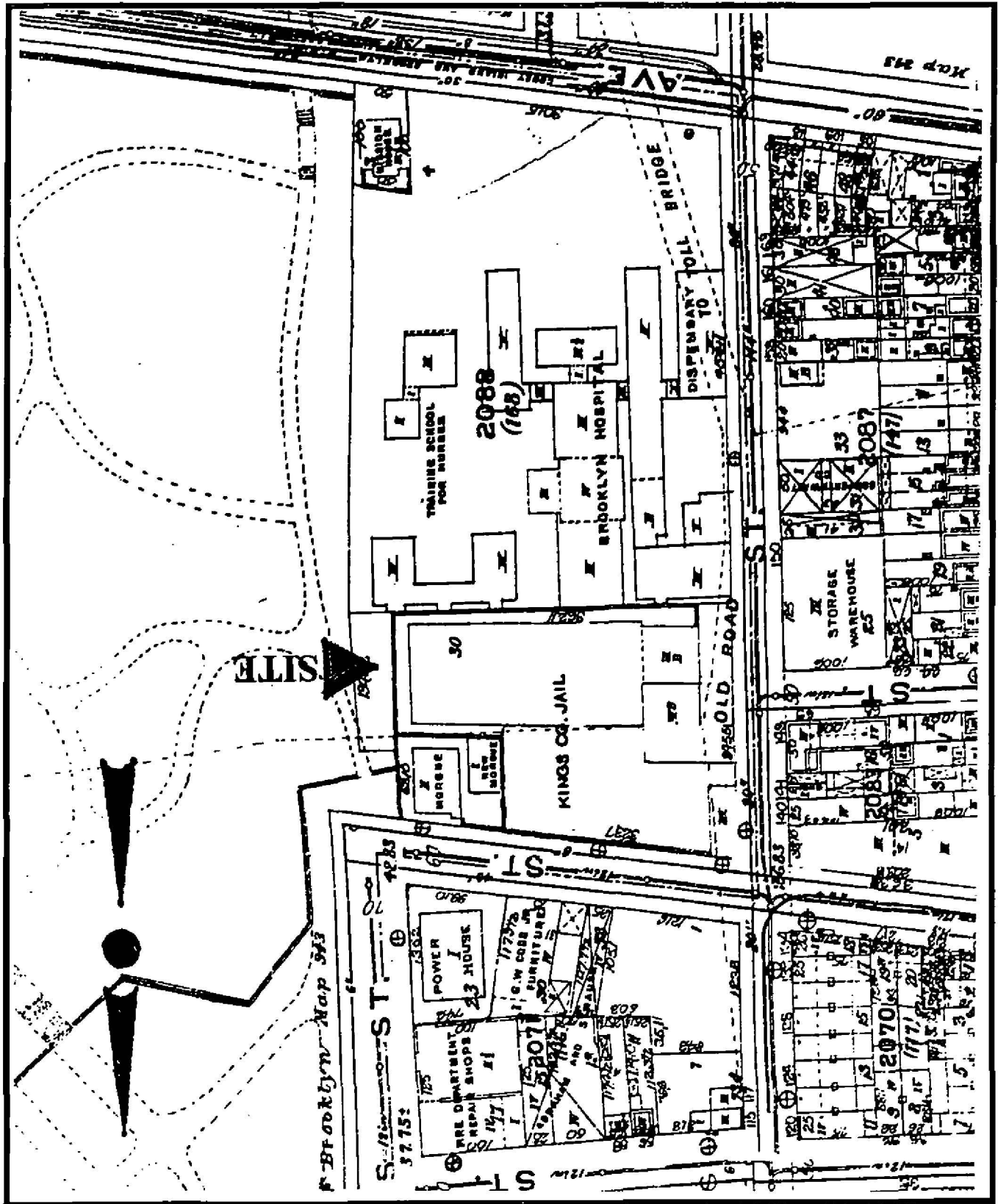
Brooklyn Hospital. Fort Greene. Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

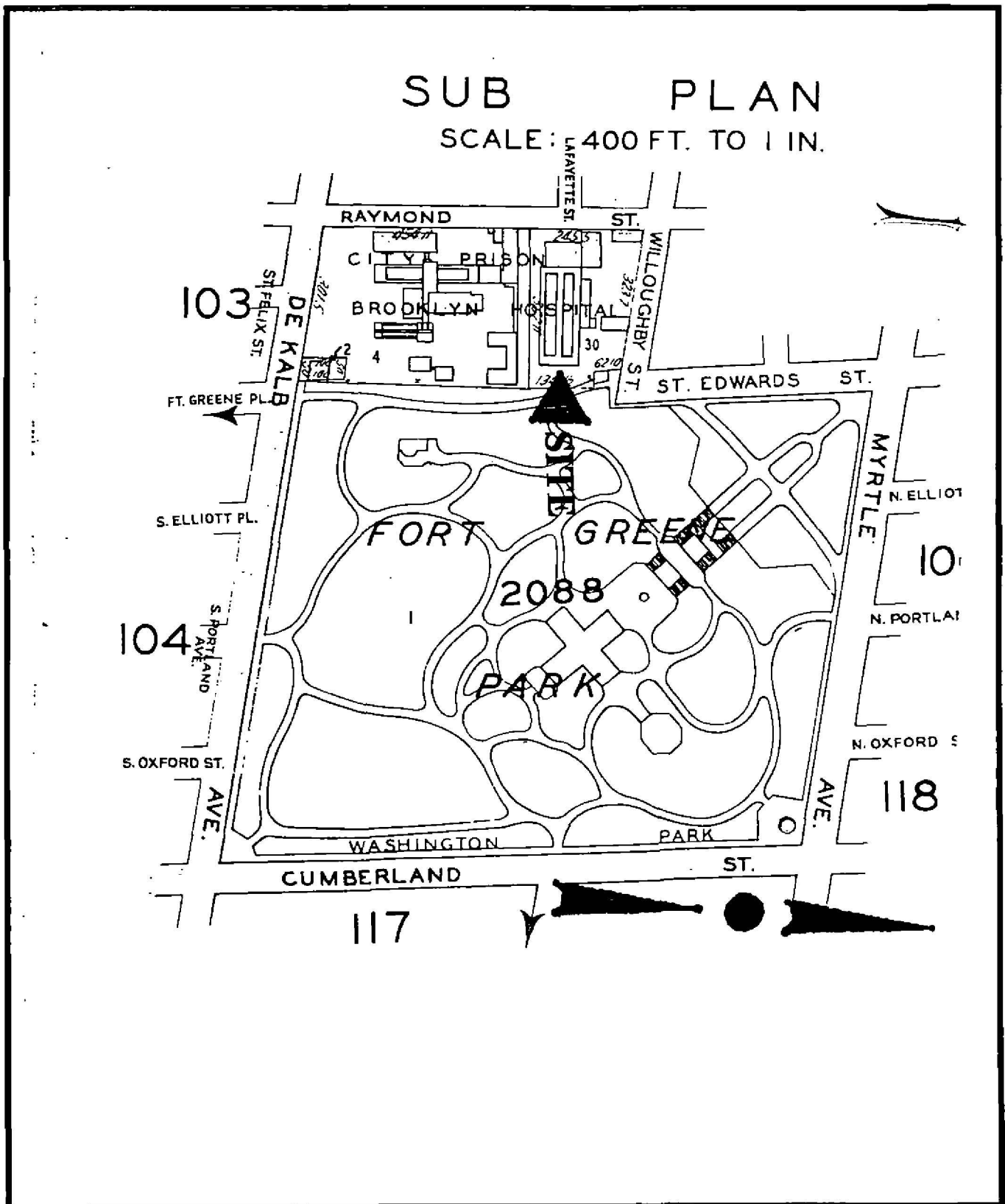












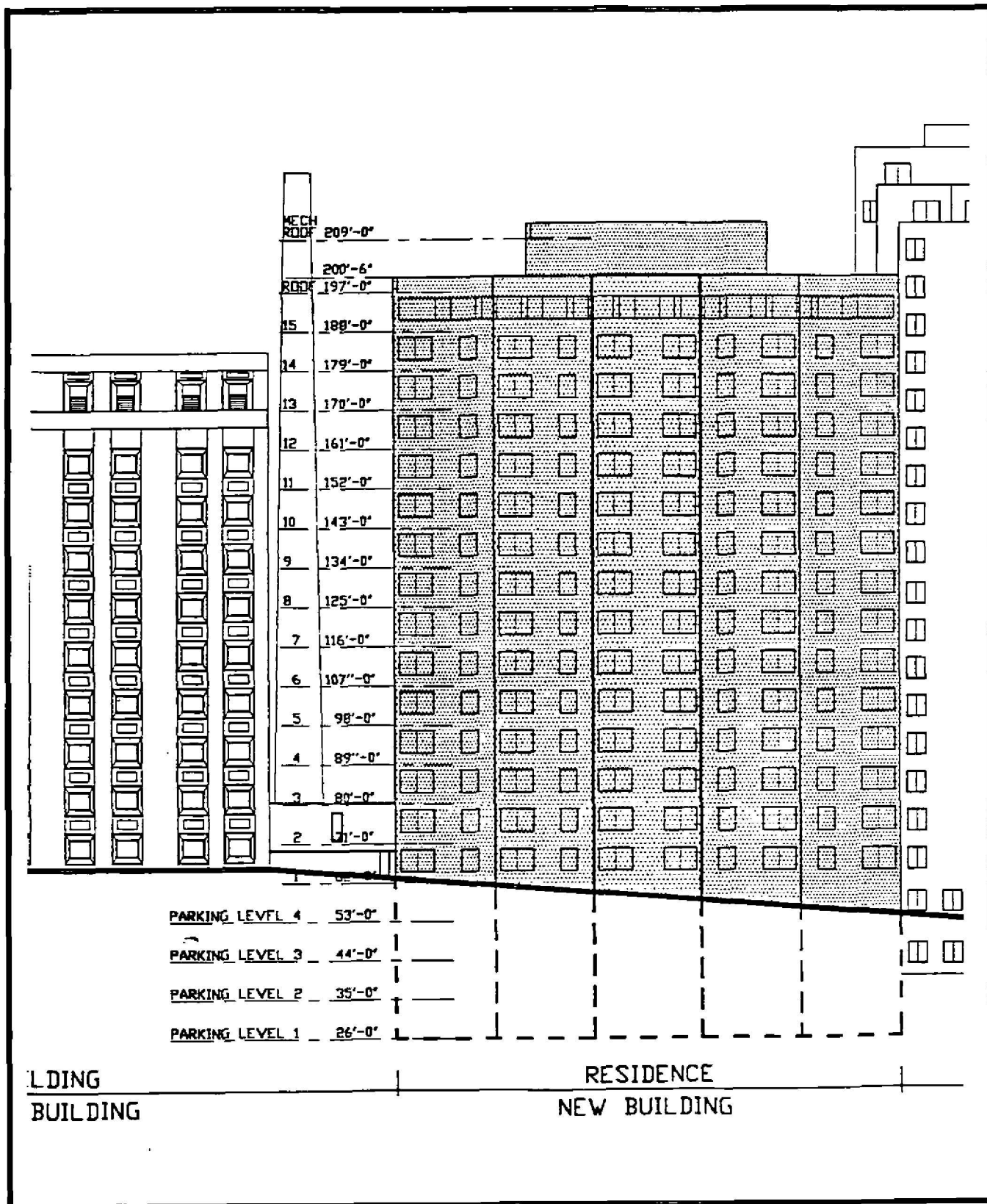


Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation, A Portion of Block 2088, Lot 1, Brooklyn Hospital, Fort Greene, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

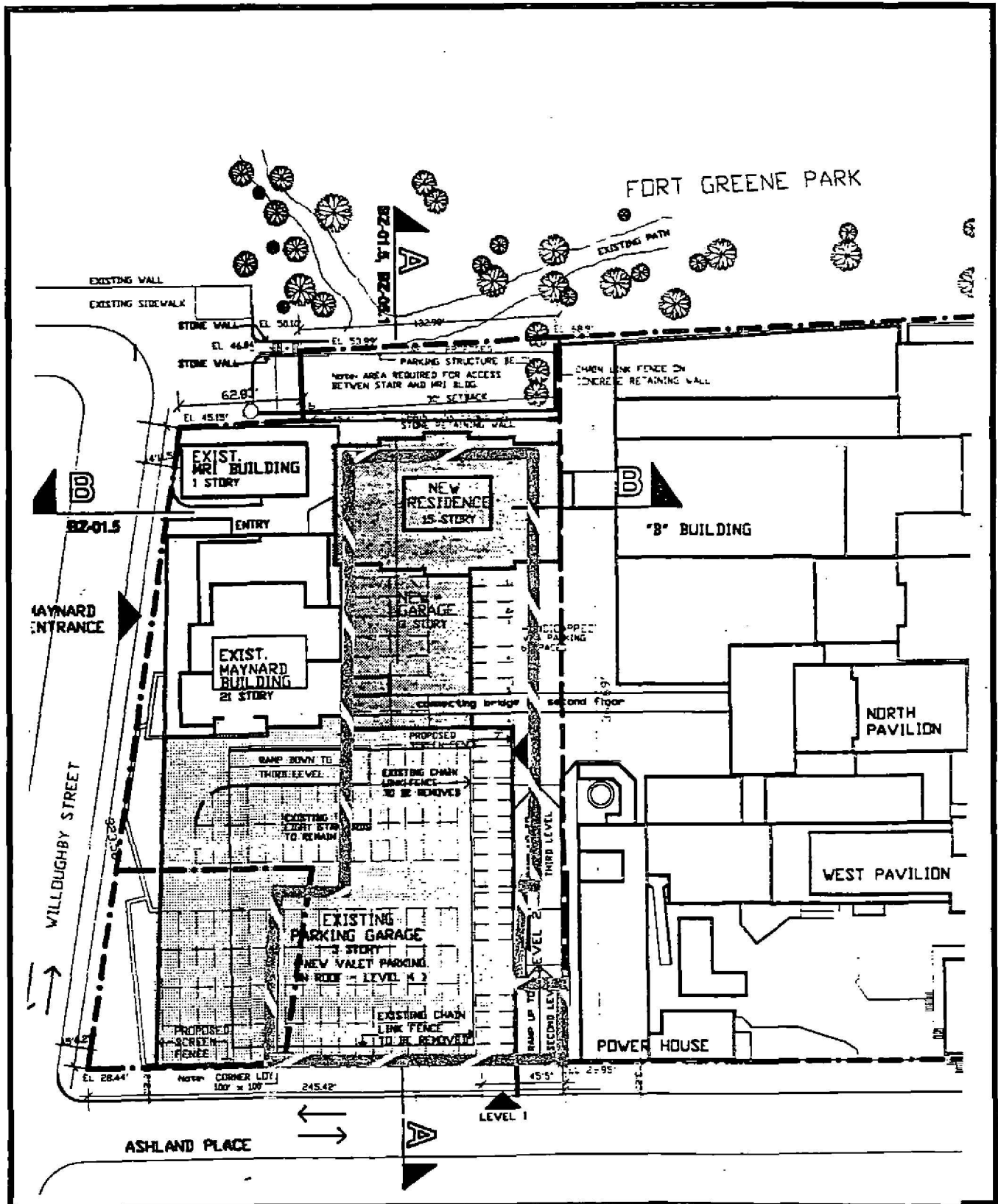




Fig. 3: View of Project looking West toward Residential Tower, Building B and MRI Building  
 Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation. A Portion of Block 2088, Lot 1,  
 Brooklyn Hospital. Fort Greene, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York



**Fig. 4: Footprint of Kings County Jail Building drawn over Footprint of Residential Tower and Parking Lot Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation. A Portion of Block 2088, Lot 1, Brooklyn Hospital, Fort Greene, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York**



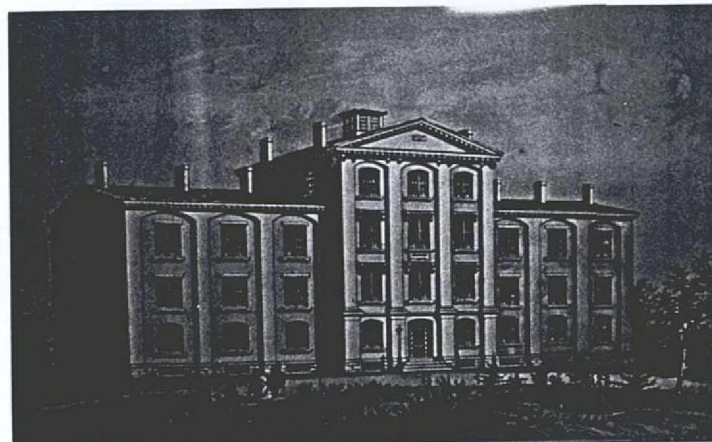
**APPENDIX C**

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

Appendix C: Photographs

Proposed Residential Tower and Parking Garage. Brooklyn Hospital Complex.

Block 2088. Lot 1 & 4. Fort Greene. Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

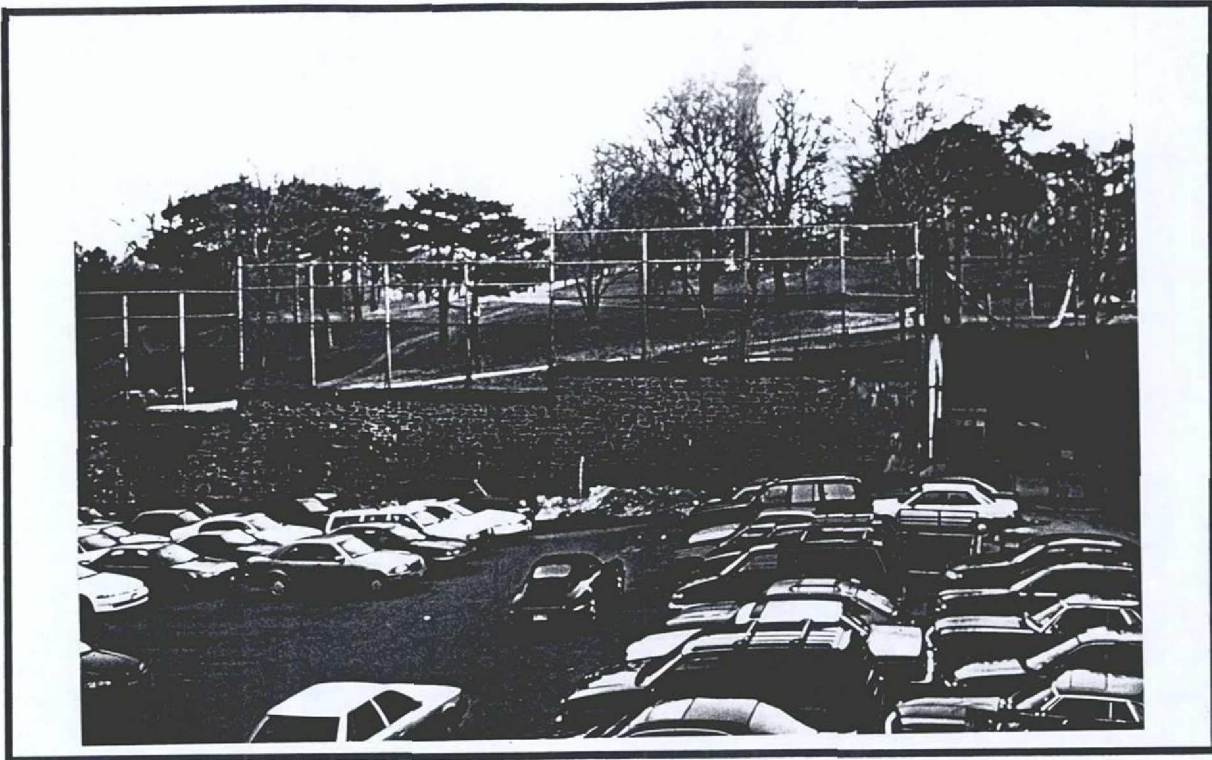


**Photo 2: Lithograph of the Brooklyn City Hospital.**

The lithograph shows the Brooklyn City Hospital located on Lot 4 and facing Raymond Street (now Ashland Place). This building is now "buried" within the enlarged Brooklyn Hospital complex.

The Kings County Jail (located on Lot 1) was to the north side of the hospital building.





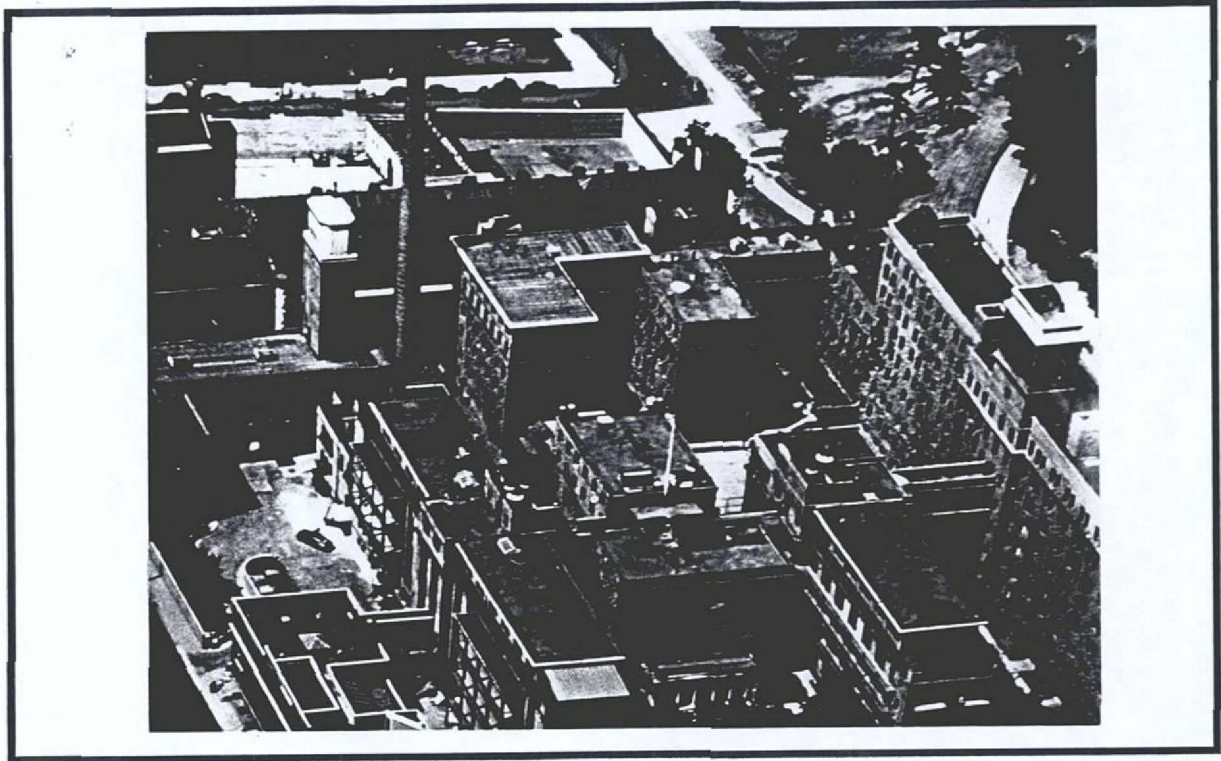
**Photo 1: Outdoor Parking Lot. Brooklyn Hospital Complex.**

This 90 space outdoor parking lot is located in the interior of the Brooklyn Hospital complex. It is bounded on the south by the "B" Building, which houses surgical suites, and on the north by the MRI Building and the Maynard Building, a residential tower that is being converted to office space for the hospital. On the east the project area is bounded by a stone wall topped by cyclone fencing. This wall was formerly the boundary fence of the Kings County Jail (also known as the Raymond Street Jail). Beyond the stone wall is a narrow strip of land that is owned by the hospital. Immediately east of this narrow strip of land is Fort Greene Park, formerly the site of Revolutionary War Fort Putnam and the War of 1812's Fort Greene.

Examination of this photograph and Fig. 4, which locates the footprint of the Kings County Jail (also known as the Raymond Street Jail) in relationship to the proposed residential tower and parking garage, indicates that most of the project area lies within the former footprint of the jail.

However, for the reason laid out in the body of this report, further archaeological investigation of this site is unwarranted.





**Photo 3: Brooklyn Hospital Complex and Kings County Jail.**

The entrance to Brooklyn Hospital (flanked by a colonnaded porch) can be seen in the lower part of the photo. Behind the main block of the hospital was a "W" shaped building that abutted the Kings County Jail property line. That building stood on the location of the present "B" Building. Immediately beyond that structure the roof of the jail can be seen. The jail extended east-west for almost the entire length of Lot 1. At the eastern end of the jail was a stone wall (now topped with cyclone fencing). This was the jail security fence, but a narrow strip of land (also belonging to the jail) separated the stone wall from the western edge of Fort Greene Park. The MRI Building and the Maynard Building occupy the open courtyard area seen just beyond the roof of the jail. The intersection of Willoughby Street and St. Felix is seen at the center at the very top of the photo.

The project area includes the area on which the eastern end of the jail stood.

**APPENDIX D**

**CORRESPONDENCE**



## Board of Standards and Appeals

161 Avenue of the Americas • New York, NY • (212) 807-3700 • Fax (212) 924-1769

GASTON SILVA, R.A.  
Chairman/Commissioner

NORMA L. SCHLISSEL, P.E.  
Vice-Chair Commissioner

WELLINGTON Z. CHEN  
ROSEMARY F. FALLADINO, Esq.  
CECIL F. JOSEPH  
Commissioners

March 16, 1995

Mr. George Apostolakos  
Vice President  
Ethan Eldon Associates, Inc.  
900 Ellison Avenue  
Westbury, NY 11590

Re: BSA Cal. No.: 8-95-BZ  
CEQR No: 95-BSA-047K  
Premises: 240-260 Willoughby St.  
Borough of Brooklyn

Dear Mr. Apostolakos:

Per our telephone conversation on March 10, 1995, The Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) has determined that an archaeological documentary study is required for the above-referenced case to "assess the potential of recovery of remains of 18th and 19th Century occupancy on the site." LPC has also conveyed to me that although the project site is adjacent to the Fort Greene Historic District, no adverse architectural impacts are anticipated, assuming that your proposed project is constructed as you state in your EAS Attachment 3, that is using materials which are compatible with the visual context of the surrounding area. Please note that we may recommend that the Board consider a zoning condition as part of their resolution to address this matter.

If there are any questions, I can be reached at 807-3740.

Very truly yours,

*Rory Levy*  
Rory Levy  
CEQR Examiner

RL:ch



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation  
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau  
Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

~~John K. Davidson~~  
~~Commissioner~~  
Bernadette Castro  
Commissioner

May 30, 1995

Ms. Maureen Evers Sicherman  
Environmental Scientist  
Ethan C. Eldon Associates  
900 Ellison Avenue  
Westbury, New York 11590

Dear Ms. Sicherman:

Re: HFA

The Brooklyn Hospital Center  
Staff Housing and Parking Project  
Willoughby Street at Fort Greene Park  
Brooklyn, Kings County  
95PR0849

Thank you for the project description you originally submitted and for sending the additional plans and elevations I requested over the telephone. The Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) has reviewed the project information in accordance with the New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law, Section 14.09. This project involves Fort Greene Park, which is within the National Register-listed Fort Greene Historic District.

We would like to clarify the boundaries of historic Fort Greene Park, based on a site inspection by our National Register staff. The jog in Fort Greene Park within the project area at the end of Willoughby Street, with its stone retaining walls and steps, appears to have been designed as part of the park. We therefore consider it to be a contributing component of the National Register-listed park.

The project information you submitted shows a parking garage proposed for beneath the park, but does not provide specifics on the design of the garage or its impact on the park. We therefore need project information which details this portion of the project. This information should address changes to the grade and circulation system; removal of mature trees or stone walls/steps; proposed plantings; or any other landscape alterations.

In addition these landscape concerns with Fort Greene Park, we also recommend that unless substantial ground disturbance can be documented an archeological survey is warranted due to reported sites near the project area. Documentation of ground disturbance should include a written description, graphic illustrations, and photographs keyed to the project map.

Concerning the 15-story staff housing tower, it does not appear that this proposed building will impact the historic district since similar buildings exist alongside the site, provided the exterior is a muted color. Please let us know the proposed exterior treatment of the tower.

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Agency

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Ms. Maureen Evers Sicherman  
May 30, 1995  
Page 2

We look forward to providing additional comments regarding the impact of this project on Fort Greene Park and on archeological resources. If you have any questions, please call me at (518) 237-8 extension 283. When responding please refer to the Project Review (PI) noted above.

Sincerely,



John Auwaerter  
Program Analyst  
Field Services Bureau

cc: Len Sedney, HFA  
Gina Santucci, NYC LPC