BLOCK 3070.
LOT 10-14.

NUEVA VISTA SITE.
140 JOHNSON AVENUE. WILLIAMSBURGH.
BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN. KINGS COUNTY, N.Y.

STAGE 1B ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD
RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY

Prepared For:

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Brooklyn, New York 11205

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September 1997
BLOCK 3070. LOT 10-14.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

STAGE 1B ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY
Introduction ................................................................. 1
Project Description ......................................................... 1
Environmental & Archaeological Setting ............................... 2
Prehistoric Background .................................................... 3
Testing Strategy ............................................................. 5
Field Methodology .......................................................... 6
Field Results ................................................................. 7
Summary and Conclusions ................................................ 8
Bibliography ................................................................. 10

APPENDICES:
A. Maps
B. Photographs

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CITY/SCAPE: Cultural Resource Consultants
INTRODUCTION

On September 14, 1997 City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants completed a field reconnaissance level archaeological survey of the Nueva Vista Site located at 140 Johnson Street within Block 3070 in the Williamsburgh section of the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

Archaeological field work was carried out by Stephanie Roberg-Lopez and Gail T. Guillett. Preparation of the final report and the Field Reconnaissance Map was completed by Stephanie Roberg-Lopez, Principal Investigator. Production of the report and photographs were completed by Gail T. Guillett.

PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION
(See also Stage 1A Literature Review, City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants, September 1995)

The project area is located in the Williamsburgh section of the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. (Map 1) The site is within a standard city block (Block 3070, Lot 10-14) bounded on the north by Johnson Avenue, on the west by Manhattan Avenue(formerly Ewen Street), on the south by Boerum Street, and on the east by Graham Avenue (Map 2). Lots 10-14 are 25' by 100' lots. The official address of the project area is 140 Johnson Avenue, but Lots 10-14 were formerly identified as 140-148 Johnson Avenue. The project area is currently vacant, surrounded by existing buildings and heavy chain link fence on the street boundary. The lot is generally clear of debris and vegetation, and appears to have been carefully maintained. (Photo 1-4)

The site is a bit unusual in that surface elevation is up to two feet lower in some areas than the street elevation. (Photo 5) It is far more common to find vacant lots in Brooklyn with substantially higher surface elevations (up to four feet) than street elevation. This is normally due to the pattern of debris removal. Although the approved method of removing destruction debris when a house is destroyed in this area is to truck it off-site, the majority of sites excavated by this archaeologist show substantial debris remaining as fill under a top soil layer, a method that certainly would save the contractor time and money. In this case of Block 3070 initial inspection suggested that the contractors responsible for the destruction of these buildings had complied with regulations. As a result, the overall site had settled. Subsequent excavation proved this assessment to be correct.

The Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation prepared by City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants documented that a total of five historic houses and various associated outbuildings had once stood on these lots. (Map 3) In addition, the 19th century occupants of these houses were identified as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>House &amp; Lot</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George Dahlbender</td>
<td>140 Johnson Lot 10</td>
<td>Built 1869. Butcher shop. No rear yard structure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stage 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey
Nueva Vista Site. 140 Johnson Avenue, Williamsburgh, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings Co., N. Y

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner</th>
<th>House &amp; Lot</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Lentz</td>
<td>146 Johnson Lot 13</td>
<td>Built 1866. 26 occupants in front. 13 occupants in rear. Rear yard structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Stoefller</td>
<td>148 Johnson Lot 14</td>
<td>Built 1866, replaced earlier structure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the information presented in the Stage 1A Literature Review, the project area contains minimal potential to yield prehistoric cultural material (see Stage 1A Literature Review). On the other hand, research indicated an extremely high probability that the site would yield historic information that would increase our knowledge of living conditions in a densely populated, culturally homogenous area of Brooklyn. Furthermore, Lot 12 and Lot 14 have the potential to yield industrial archaeological information that would contribute to our understanding of 19th century industrial and commercial development in this area.

The presence of historic sub-surface features such as privies and cisterns was judged to be highly probable, warranting an archaeological field reconnaissance level survey.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING

The project area lies within the larger prehistoric archaeological zone identified as Prehistoric New England. (Map 4) The area is routinely divided for study into major river drainages, as these waterways and their associated lands comprised the geophysical and political boundaries recognized by the indigenous groups themselves. Along with distinct waterways such as the Hudson, the Connecticut and the Housatonic, large inland and peninsular areas such as Long Island and Cape Cod are treated as discrete environmental units (Snow 1980:5). The majority of prehistoric New England (as defined by Map 4) is generally treated as a single physiographic unit. Only Long Island, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod are identified as being northern expressions of the coastal plain that broadens and dominates the landscape to the south (Snow 1980:6).

The entire New England land surface was covered by the Wisconsin glaciation that receded only 12 to 10,000 years ago. The soils of Long Island are a direct result of this glacial episode, and are dominated by deep, strongly acid soils that have developed in unconsolidated sand and clay (Snow 1980:6). The soils of the project area are classic glacial deposits, associated with the Harbor Hill terminal moraine that represents the maximum line of advance of the second glaciation episode on Long Island. The prehistoric forests of Long Island, unlike those of the mainland, were dominated by yellow pine and hardwood forests.
PREHISTORIC BACKGROUND

New England, particularly Southern New England including the Hudson, Thames and Connecticut drainages, has emerged as one of the richest archaeological zones in the northeastern United States. The reasons for this are several, the most important being the cluster of prime waterways that enrich the landscape and the fertile seacoast that marks its southern border. The prehistoric inhabitants of this region had ready access to very high quality raw materials for tool making, and the moderating influence of the ocean maintained a climate significantly milder than those regions to the north.

As the first native Americans, indeed the first humans, entered the area during the Paleo Indian period some 12,000 years ago, their logical route would be along the open seacoast and the mighty river systems that were the "super highways" of the times. Not only humans, but the post-Pleistocene mega fauna, the mammoth, the mastodon and the caribou that inhabited this tundra-like area would be logically drawn to these corridors. Mammoth and mastodon finds are densely clustered just south of Long Island (on the continental shelf) with one find just south of the project area. (Map 5) As the great ice sheet began to retreat from southern New England both the hunter, the Paleo Indian, and the hunted began to move into this region.

Research indicates that the post glacial landscape was tundra-like, the colonizing grasses, sedges and herbs supporting a variety of large and small game animals. Among the fauna were giant beaver, giant ground sloth and horse, all of which became extinct, as well as the caribou, musk-ox and bison that persist to modern times.

Paleo-Indians, as these small bands of nomadic hunter-gatherers are called by archaeologists, appear to have entered the previously uninhabited northeast from the south and west. Their sites, identified primarily by characteristically fluted points, are found all over North America. It has traditionally been assumed that these nomadic peoples were strictly "big game" hunters, however that assumption has been called into question by the discovery of fish, bird, small mammal bones and some plant remains found in association with Paleo-Indian sites. It now seems that in addition to the large animals that comprised their principal food source, the Paleo-Indians also hunted small game and gathered a wide variety of plants to support their diet. Paleo-Indian sites are quite rare in the archaeological record, and have been found in association with major waterways such as the Hudson, quarry zones such as the Wallkill Valley, and most notably for our present investigation, at the Port Mobil site on Staten Island. (Map 6)

The Archaic period in New England is better represented than the Paleo-Indian. It is divided into four stages: the Early Archaic, the Middle Archaic, the Late Archaic and the Terminal Archaic. In many important respects, the nature of life in the Archaic period was little different from the nomadic lives lived by the Paleo-Indians, however, during the time span of the Archaic significant changes in the environment occurred. The tundra-like landscape began to give way, first to spruce forest and then to a forest composed of various conifers, hemlocks and hardwoods. As the hardwood forests advanced northward, a new ecosystem became available, an ecosystem that provided a range of nuts (in particular the
acorn), grasses and tubers that supported both the smaller game of the Archaic period and the human population as well.

Like the Paleo-Indian culture, Archaic occupations are found throughout New England. In eastern New York this period is divided into a series of phases, Vergennes, Vosburg, Sylvan Lake, Wading River and Snook Kill. There are indications that Archaic man was by this time exploiting shellfish, a fact of particular importance on Long Island. The Archaic period, however, is still dominated by the hunting and gathering lifestyle.

The Archaic period on Long Island is followed by the Transitional Stage. Chief among the general characteristics that separate the Transitional Stage from the earlier periods is the use of stone vessels. With soapstone as the most common raw material, these vessels were extremely heavy and were later replaced by pottery vessels of various types.

Long Island takes front stage during the Transitional Period as the locus of the highly distinct Orient Culture. This Transitional phase is identified by the diagnostic Orient Fishtail projectile point, by the use of soapstone vessels whose raw materials were most likely quarried in Rhode Island and in Bristol Connecticut, by distinctive burials and by the intense exploitation of shellfish. It is possible that the supply of large game was being exhausted on Long Island as early as 900 BC, making exploitation of these alternate food sources a necessity for survival (Ritchie 1980:166). We must take particular note of the fact that contact with mainland New England was clearly an easy and frequent occurrence at this time, with passage across the narrows between Long Island, Staten Island, Manhattan Island, the lower Hudson drainage and southern New England a common occurrence. Important sites in close proximity to the project area include Muskeeta Cove, Wilkins, Grantville B and Clason's Point.

The Woodland Stage, like the Archaic is divided into several substages, including the early Woodland Stage, the Middle Woodland Stage and the Late Woodland Stage. Sites used by Woodland groups tend to be away from the major waterways and are frequently located on inland streams. In later periods there is some indication of the presence of palisaded villages. Around these sites, on the alluvial plains of nearby streams, the Indian fields were located. Horticulture, although practiced in other parts of North America at an earlier date, does not appear in this area until c. 1000 AD. The changeover to cultivation of a variety of domesticates, among them maize, beans, gourds, sumpweed and sunflower, created a marked change in the pattern of land use and settlement. With the advent of sedentary of occupations the character of sites changed.

On Long Island the Transitional, particularly the later period, is hallmarked by the Sebonac Phase. The Sebonac sites are large occupations located on well-drained sites on bays and tidal streams close to available sources of marine shellfish. Typical of these sites are deep shellfish middens, abundant pit structures and elaborate burials. This implies stable communities with people living in circular rush wigwams up to twenty feet in diameter made of grass or rush harvested from the tidal marshes and wetlands that were abundant on prehistoric Long Island.
The Sebonac Phase is followed on western Long Island by the Bowman's Brook phase of the East River tradition. Bowman's Brook sites are located on tidal streams or coves, and typically contain large village occupations with associated shell middens and pit structures. Unlike the Sebonac peoples, the Bowman's Brook culture did not focus on highly ritualized mortuary practices, although dog burials have been noted (Ritchie 1980:271).

By the time the Europeans arrived, the dominant indigenous groups on Long Island were the Montauk speakers of the eastern tip of the island, the Quiripi-Unquachog speakers of central Long Island (closely associated with Connecticut groups) and Munsee speakers on the western tip of Long Island, who were referred to by Johan de Laet as Nawaas (Snow 1980:87). (Map 7) Population figures are difficult to calculate due to the lightning speed with which European diseases wiped out the indigenous population. Snow states that "There is almost no data on which to base a population estimate for the middle and lower Connecticut and central Long Island populations". With the coming of first the Dutch, then the British settler, the indigenous population of Long Island decreased to its current negligible size.

In terms of the greater archaeological context, research on the *Nueva Vista Site* has not indicated prehistoric sites either near or associated with the project area. The Archaeological and Historical Sensitivity Evaluation of the site therefore assigned a low probability for prehistoric occupation for the project area.

The Stage 1A Literature Review did, however, succeed in documenting the entire occupational history of the historic houses once located on the site (see Stage 1A Literature Review, 1995: 17-26) reaching the conclusion that historic sub-surface structures were highly probable.

In addition to connecting the house sites along with known individuals, two loci of light industrial activity were documented for outbuildings located behind the houses. One hundred forty Johnson Avenue (Lot 10) contained a butcher shop, some evidence of which might be found in the rear yard area. John Lentz (described in the business directories and census data as a blacksmith/wheelwright) had a smithy at 144 Johnson Avenue (Lot 12). An archaeological excavation would focus on recovering evidence of this activity. Most of the structures in the area were occupied by tailors or tailor shops, and this activity as well might be documented in the archaeological remains.

Finally, the Stage 1A Literature Review indicated that, with the exception of Lot 10 and Lot 11, all of the lots within the project area contained buildings in 1866 -- several years prior to the time that sewer connections were made in the area. This is compelling evidence for the possible existence of cisterns and privies still remaining on the site.

**TESTING STRATEGY**

The testing strategy for the project area was dictated by the conclusions and recommendations of the Archaeological & Historical Sensitivity Evaluation for the *Nueva Vista Site*. As a result the Stage 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey focused
on all five contiguous lots in the project area (140, 142, 144, 146 and 148 Johnson Avenue). The historic house foundations that make up fully 50% of the site were ruled out as profoundly disturbed. The remaining 50% (the rear portions of the lots) then became the focus of sub-surface testing.

Recommendations focused on testing for the presence of privies and cisterns dating to the 19th century occupation of the row houses as well as for signs of the light industrial activity that may have taken place in the out buildings located in the rear yards.

Privies are most commonly found at the far rear of these house lots. The loci of industrial activity were located there as well, according to historical records. (see Photo 4) Cisterns are normally found directly behind the house structures themselves. It was therefore recommended that two five foot wide trenches, one directly behind the house foundations and one at the rear of the lots, be mechanically excavated in an effort to expose these features should they continue to exist on the site. (Photo 6) This testing strategy formed the basis of the research design employed by City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants to test for historic cultural remains.

A major concern on urban sites such as Block 3070 is the depth of the non-stratified overburden. Events such as destruction episodes, burning episodes, deliberate introduction of non-local fill for grading and sealing potentially hazardous surfaces littered with destruction debris are the rule rather than the exception in these areas. As there was no documentary evidence for the chain of events on the lot subsequent to the leveling of the houses, it was necessary to excavate a stratigraphic control trench in order to establish a reference stratigraphy. This test, when combined with altitude comparisons, confirmed that the majority of the site had been filled with clean sand. (Photo 7)

FIELD METHODOLOGY

Field methodology for the Nueva Vista Site consisted of several stages of investigation. These included:

1. A walkover and visual inspection of the area to assess the probable depth of the non-stratified overburden and to determine if the surface exhibited the presence of artifacts related to the historic houses. In addition to examining the site itself, extant houses from the period under study that still remain on the block, specifically those flanking the site, were very carefully examined for comparative purposes and to verify the accuracy of the historic maps. These houses were then used as guides to the location of the historic house foundations.

2. The excavation of a stratigraphic control test to establish the soil profile of the site and to identify the depth and composition of the sterile glacially deposited sub soils.

3. The controlled mechanical (backhoe) excavation of two trenches, one directly behind the house foundations and one more at the rear of the lots. This controlled testing was designed to locate cistern and privy features as well as traces of the historic butchering and smithing activity.
4. Cleaning, measuring, photographing and drawing features exposed through the combination of mechanical and hand excavation employed in testing.

5. Photographic documentation of the overall site.

FIELD RESULTS

Despite the volume of historic data available on the project area, a number of archaeological questions remained to be answered before introducing mechanical equipment to the excavation. Initial excavation was devoted to assessing the condition of the site and establishing a stratigraphic control. By examining the ground level of the extant row houses, it seemed clear that no overburden had been introduced to alter the historic elevation of the site. (see Photo 5) On the contrary, as mentioned above, the site was actually up to two feet lower in elevation. The test trench to establish stratigraphy was excavated in the southwest corner of the site at the beginning point of Trench 1. (see Photo 7) It revealed a deep (6') layer of clean sandy fill underlain by typical sand and gravel glacial till to a depth of an additional two feet. (see Photo 8)

A site datum was established at the southwestern corner of the project area (Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Map). Datum was set at ground level at an altitude of 28 feet above seal level.

The first test trench excavated on the site was placed along the rear boundary of Lots 10 through 14 (140-148 Johnson Avenue). (see Photo 6) The backhoe operator was instructed to open a trench 5 feet wide and 6 feet deep removing soils in arbitrary one foot strata. The principal investigator examined the sediments and emerging wall profiles as the testing proceeded west to east. (photo 9)

Lot 10 (140 Johnson Avenue) proved to be a deep non-stratified sandy fill to 6 feet in depth underlain by sand and gravel glacial till to an undetermined depth. The sand was extremely clean and was almost certainly trucked in form elsewhere since no artifacts of any kind were noted. (see Photo 7) The entire back trench on Lot 10 was sterile of cultural material. The trench was then extended along the back of Lot 11 (142 Johnson Avenue). The excavation proceeded in one foot arbitrary levels and revealed an identical result to that of Lot 10, indicating that these two adjoining lots had been filled at the same time. Lot 12 (144 Johnson Avenue) yielded a similar profile with the exception of soils at the eastern end, where a small amount of brick, metal and modern plastic debris appeared in the excavated soils. These recent materials appear to have intruded into the soils of this lot from the adjoining lot when the structures on Lot 13 (146 Johnson Avenue) were destroyed. Lot 13 showed a substantially different profile with several discrete layers of fill. (Photo 10) The upper strata were mixed destruction debris including bricks, metal, slate and timbers. Underlying this stratum was a layer of coal ash and slag, indicating an earlier deposit. The soils were jumbled and disturbed to the depth of the glacial subsoil. No features of any kind were identified. Lot 14 (148 Johnson Avenue) was identical to Lot 10 and Lot 11, exhibiting a stratigraphy of 6 feet of absolutely clean sandy fill underlain by glacial till. With the exception of Lot 13 (146 Johnson Avenue), virtually no cultural
material was encountered, let alone features. Lot 13 was filled with demolition debris indicating that it had undergone a different destruction episode from the other lots. Nonetheless, Lot 13 was judged to be completely disturbed to glacial subsoil. No features of any kind were encountered in Trench 1.

Trench 2 was placed along the projected location of the rear foundations of the historic houses on the site. The purpose of the trench was to locate and document the presence and location of the rear foundation walls if still in place, and to look for the presence of cisterns if they indeed existed on the site.

The first lot tested to be tested, Lot 10 (140 Johnson Avenue), showed once again a deep deposit of clean sandy fill. The backhoe operator was instructed to shave the wall of the trench northward, toward the proposed location of the foundation, and ultimately the foundation wall was encountered. The wall (Photo 11) was unusually crude by Brooklyn standards, consisting of field stone and a very decayed mortar. Through manual excavation, the wall was cleared and examined to see if it was in fact a foundation for a porch or more ephemeral structure, but it was confirmed to be the back foundation wall complete with doorway. No features of any kind were encountered. Lot 11 (142 Johnson Avenue) yielded a similar sandy fill, however it contained a substantial amount of building debris ranging from brick to metal to slate. Like Lot 10, the rear foundation was identified. The Lot 11 foundation was somewhat more substantial than that on Lot 10, being constructed of mortared ashlar masonry. The rear doorway and a window opening were located. No other features were encountered on Lot 11. Lot 12, 13 and 14 were excavated using the same methodology, however all three lacked traces of rear foundation walls. A consistent layer of clean sandy fill was present in trench tests on all of these lots. No features of any kind were encountered in Trench 2.

All trenches were backfilled upon completion of photography and mapping.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

A walkover reconnaissance was completed on the Nueva Vista Site, Williamsburgh section, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. After reviewing the Archaeological and Historical Sensitivity Evaluation completed for the project area, a testing strategy was created for the site focusing on the possible presence of historic cisterns and privies associated with the now destroyed historic houses as well as two possible light industrial sites.

Two trenches were excavated on the site, one at the rear of the historic houses and one along the back (southwest - southeast) boundary of the site using a combination of mechanical excavation and manual excavation. With the exception of two partially destroyed rear foundation walls (Lot 10 and 11) no features from the historic occupation period were identified, nor were prehistoric artifacts of any kind encountered.

The most likely explanation for the near total lack of cultural remains is the manner in which the site was treated when the structures were destroyed. As outline above, the approved method of removing the destruction debris and sealing the project area would
involve trucking debris off-site, and sealing the lots with clean sand. This was the method employed at the *Nueva Vista Site*. Needless to say, from this process complete disturbance and likely eradication of features would result. The *Nueva Vista Site* was tested and found to be completely disturbed, therefore no further archaeological testing is recommended for this site.
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APPENDICES
LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A: Maps
Appendix B: Photographs
APPENDIX A

MAPS
STAGE 1B ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY

MAP LIST

MAPS

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

Map 2: Site Location Map. (Scale unknown)

Map 3: 1918 Sanborn Insurance Map of Block 3070, including Project Area. V. 3. Plate 40. (Scale: 1" = 160’)

Map 4: Modern political New England and prehistoric New England as defined by constituent river drainages. (Snow, 1980: Fig. 1.1) (No scale provided)

Map 5: Excavated Paleo-Indian period sites and published fluted point finds. Also indicated location of mastodon and mammoth finds on continental shelf. (Snow, 1980: Fig. 3.1) (No scale provided)

Map 6: Location of Paleo-Indian sites in New York region, including Port Mobil on Staten Island. (Eisenberg, 1978: Fig. 1) (No scale provided)

Map 7: Distribution of major cultural units in aboriginal New England around AD 1600 indicating location of cultural units on Long Island. (Snow, 1980: Fig. 2.1) (No scale provided)

Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Map for Nueva Vista Site.

Map 1: Location Map. (USGS Topographical Map, Brooklyn Quad. 7.5 Minute Series. (Scale: 1:24,000)

CITY/SCAPE: Cultural Resource Consultants
Map 2: Site Location Map. Derived from Brooklyn Tax Map showing Project Area. (No scale shown)
Appendix A: Nueva Vista Site. Block 3070, Lot 10-14, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Map 3: 1918 Sanborn Insurance Map of Block 3070, including Project Area. (Scale: 1" = 160')
FIGURE 1.1. Modern political New England and prehistoric New England as defined by its constituent river drainages.

Map 5: Excavated Paleo-Indian sites and published fluted point finds. Also indicated location of mastodon and mammoth finds on continental shelf. (Snow, 1980: Fig. 3.1) (No scale provided)

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FIGURE 3.1. Excavated Paleo-Indian period sites and published fluted point finds. Dashed line shows maximum exposure of continental shelf. Mastodon and mammoth finds are shown for subsequently submerged areas only. Broad dotted lines show ice front positions at 15,300 and 13,500 a.p.
Appendix A: Nueva Vista Site, Block 3070, Lot 10-14, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Map 6: Location of Paleo-Indian sites in New York region, including Port Mobil on Staten Island
(Eisenberg, 1978: Fig. 1) (No scale provided)

PALEO-INDIAN SITES

1. Plenge
2. Shawnee-Minisink
3. Port Mobil
4. Twin Fields
5. West Athens Hill
6. Kings Road
7. Dutchess Quarry Cave
8. Zierdt
FIGURE 2.1. Distribution of major cultural units in aboriginal New England around AD 1600. Each corresponds to a major language. Subdivisions and names that came into use in later times are not shown.
NUEVA VISTA SITE
Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York
Stage 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey

FIELD MAP
Scale: 1 Inch = 20 Feet

Prepared by:
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APPENDIX B

PHOTOGRAPHS
Photo 1: 140 Johnson Avenue site looking southeast from rear of the property. Lot is enclosed by cyclone fencing. Lot is generally clear of debris and vegetation. September 1997.

Photo 2: Project area looking south from rear of property. The building seen at left is an example of the types of structures that formerly occupied the site.
Photo 3: Some debris exists at the west end of the property consisting of construction materials and automobile parts that appear to have been dumped on the site. View to west.

Photo 4: View looking east along rear property line. The exposed brick and line of tar indicate the scale of the buildings that formerly occupied the rear of the lots.
Photo 5: View looking southeast at corner of project area. This portion of the site is below street grade, indicating that when the buildings were demolished the debris was trucked off site.

Photo 6: Trench 1 was excavated along the rear lot lines to determine whether privies or other features associated with the light industrial use of the site were present.
Photo 7: Although there were some differences from lot to lot, on the majority of the lots debris had been removed and the land had been filled with clean sand. View is to northwest at rear of property.
Photo 8: The initial excavation of Trench 1 (at the rear of Lot 10) served as a stratigraphic benchmark for the remainder of the site. Here it was revealed that all debris had been removed from the site and the land filled with clear sand. This was generally characteristic of the entire site. The backhoe easily excavated through this clean sand to the level of the glacial fill -- composed of large, rounded pebbles and small cobbles -- seen at the bottom of the photograph.
Photo 9: Lots 10 and 11 had been cleaned and filled with sand leaving no debris.

Photo 10: In contrast the upper level of Lot 12 was filled with brick debris and dark soil suggesting a burning episode. The debris had not been removed and replaced with clean sand.
Photo 11: Trench 2 was dug at the rear of the house foundations in an effort to reveal cisterns of other features. No cisterns were revealed. It was noted that several of the buildings had been constructed on very crude stone foundations. Portions of an entryway into one of the buildings was uncovered.