4784K

# REVISED STAGE 1A LITERATURE REVIEW & SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

1º 1/26/02

## LOS SURES SENIOR HOUSING (BLOCK 2418, PART OF LOT 18)

155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Borough of Brooklyn. Kings County, New York

160 S 2 S+

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149

July 2002

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(HUD/202-K)

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## REVISED STAGE 1A LITERATURE SEARCH AND REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Los Sures Senior Housing. 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (Block 2418. Part of Lot 18.) Borough of Brooklyn. Kings County, New York (HUD/202-K)

#### INTRODUCTION

The proposed project area is located on a portion of Lot 18 on Block 2418 on the northeast side of South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. (Map 1) The project area is located between Bedford Avenue and Driggs Avenue. The property is a rectangular shaped parcel, containing 0.67-acres, with 205 feet of footage on South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. There is a chain-link fence along the northwestern, western, southern, and northeastern boundaries of the property. At the present time the project area contains a vacant 1-story brick and concrete block structure that was used as a kitchen and dining hall for the building on the adjacent property. (Fig. 1 & Photo 1-3) That building, which is also vacant, fronts on South 2nd Street. It was used as a dormitory. There is a walkway that connects the two structures. The property owner is the State of New York. The property and the adjoining building on South 2nd Street have most recently been occupied by the, New York State Department of Mental Hygiene's Williamsburg Facility for Retarded Children. The property is located in a residential area, with a Presbyterian Church on the southeast corner of Block 2418. (Photo 4) Multi-family residences and apartment houses occupy the balance of the block. (Photo 5-8)

The applicant seeks authorization to construct senior housing on this site consisting of 65 one-bedroom units plus one resident superintendent apartment in a 7-story masonry building with the main entrance at 145 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. It is anticipated that the proposed project will impact the entire property. The proposed projects will include the demolition of the standing structure and the walkway. The asphalt paved parking lot will be removed. It is anticipated that vegetation on the site will be removed to facilitate construction.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

The project areas are located north of the Harbor Hill Moraine, which forms the spine of Long Island. In terms of the present-day topography the site is located in an urban setting. At the present time the site, which is enclosed by chain-link fence, contains a vacant structure and walkway, but is being used principally for parking. The elevation of Block 2418 at the present

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time is 52 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) at the intersection of Bedford Avenue and South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. The block slopes gently southwest towards the East River. The site itself is essentially flat, with an area of subsidence noted to the southwest of the 1-story structure. Historic elevations at the same intersections are within a foot of current elevations, indicating that the area has not been subjected to filling.

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

At street level the soils would today be classified as urban soils, in the sense that the site has been disturbed, first by the construction of the structures that formerly stood on the site, and then by the demolition of those buildings and the construction of the present 1-story structure. As is suggested by the subsidence on the site, it is probably that much of the surface soil is mixed with substantial amounts of rubble from the demolition. There is no substantial vegetation on the site.

Examination of historic maps and atlases indicates that the project area was not crossed by any streams or encompassed by any swamp or wetland areas. Historically, drainage would have been to the west into the East River. The project area was outside the boundaries of Wallabout Creek and its associated wetland, which were located to the south.

While the current conditions on the site are clearly reflected in the accompanying photographs, historically the site would have been subjected to a variety of disturbances:

- 1) those that may have been associated with farming activities during the 17<sup>th</sup> through the early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries;
- disturbances associated with the construction of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings and the outbuildings associated with these buildings;
- disturbances associated with the demolition of the various buildings and the construction of several new buildings, including the present 1-story cinder block and brick kitchen and dining hall.

#### **DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH**

The project area is located within New York City. The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) maintains information concerning archaeological and/or historic sites within the city; therefore, information concerning the archaeological and/or historic sites that

might be located in the vicinity was not obtained from OPRHP or the New York State Museum. In the course of other work on projects located in the same area, copies of the OPRHP Site Maps (USGS Brooklyn Quad, 7.5 Minute Series) have been examined at LPC. These maps show no prehistoric or historic sites associated with the project area.

On May 3, 2001 the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission completed an Environmental Review of the project area (identified as 160 South 2nd Street). The review concluded that the project area might be archaeologically significant, citing the "potential for the recovery of remains from c.1827 occupation on the project area". (Appendix C: Correspondence). In consequence of their review, the LPC requested that an archaeological documentary study (Stage 1A Literature Review and Sensitivity Analysis) of the project area be undertaken. CITY/SCAPE: Cultural Resource Consultants was retained to prepare a Stage 1A Literature Search and Evaluation of Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity for the project area. As the project is currently described it does not include any portion of the South 2nd Street NYS Department of Mental Hygiene site, but does cover an area on South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street that was previously owned by that entity. (See Fig. 1) In the course of the map discussion, the South 2nd Street property has been included, but the conclusions and recommendations will not include that portion of the property, since it is outside the proposed project area.

One of the research questions concerns the presence of National Register, State Register or local landmarks on or adjacent to the project area. An examination of the project area and documentary research indicates that no structures so listed are located within the immediate vicinity. The visual inspection of the area surrounding the sites does not suggest that any buildings that might be eligible for either National or State listing exist in the immediate vicinity of the project.

It should be noted that the Commander's Quarters (referred to as Quarters A and listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places on May 30, 1974) and the Rockwood Chocolate Factory Historic District (listed on the National and State Register of Historic Places on October 6, 1983) are located in the vicinity of the project area. Both are too far from the project areas to be impacted by the proposed development.

#### Prehistory of the Area:

Among the tasks required in the Stage 1A study 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, salt marshes, 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 historic maps, including the 1844 U. S. Coastal Survey map, indicates that no streams or other sources of fresh water were available within the boundaries of the project

area. However, the project area is located between two historic streams that had associated wetlands or salt marshes -Wallabout Creek to the south and Bushwick Creek to the north – both of which would have provided fresh water, as well as riverine and tidal resources. In environmental terms, the project area would prehistorically have been an upland area. Based on these considerations, the presence of Native American sites could not be able to be ruled out except for the fact that the entire area was developed during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. This development, which impacted much of the site, would in all probability have impacted any prehistoric resources that might have been located within the project area.

With the criteria outlined above in mind, information concerning known prehistoric sites in the vicinity of the project area was examined. It should be noted that no prehistoric sites are identified within the boundaries of the proposed project area. 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 the general vicinity of the project area. Several of them are associated with Wallabout Bay to the south and Bushwick Creek to the north. None of these sites, all of which were recorded early in the century, were professionally excavated (Greenhouse, 1991 & 1992).

One of these sites is the village of Mareyckawick, said by Bolton to have been located near Fulton Street between 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). This site 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. (Map 4) 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).

The third site noted by Arthur C. Parker as "traces of occupation" along the south side of Newtown Creek is to the north of the project area (Parker, 1922: Plate 179). This site is identified as New York State Museum Site #3613.

Parker also identified the location of a village on the Manhattan side of the East River. 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.

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In addition to the sites noted above, the New York State Museum identified a site (designated NYSM #3606) located on the route of Flatbush Avenue at the intersection of Sixth Avenue.

Based on the information presented above and an examination of the historic maps which include the project area, it appears that 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) Without question the land associated with the project area would have been an attractive place for Native American peoples; however, subsequent alterations to the land, including the construction of a variety of structures on the site in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, make it improbable that any significant intact 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 the Canarsie Indians, the tribe inhabiting the western portion of Long Island, met him. Hudson's first mate, Juet, described waters teeming with various species of fish and a land of abundant fruit trees and grapevines. Similar descriptions are available from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, when Daniel Danton and Jasper Dankers visited Kings County. During the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Canarsie Indians sold land to the Dutch inhabitants of Kings County, of which Brooklyn (Breuekelen) was a part. The process of land transfers continued under the English when they took over the colony from the Dutch in 1664. The area associated with the project site was located short distance north of Wallabout Creek, an area that was settled early. A road from the Village of Brooklyn ran approximately along the present day route of Flushing Avenue. These early road undoubtedly followed an earlier Indian trails. At the time the farms (boweries) were located along the East River with fields, pastures, and woodlots extending into the interior. The project area would have been located in these interior areas.

In 1767 Bernard Ratzer prepared for the British Army a Plan of the City of New York in North America, including a Portion of the Town of Brooklyn and part of Long Island. The Ratzer Plan includes the southern part of Manhattan and a portion of Brooklyn. The project area is shown as open land in the interior, away from the early farmsteads, which hugged the shoreline of the East River. The interior was divided among the early families, who used it for pastureland and woodlot. No roadways or structures were located in the vicinity. Bushwick Creek and its associated salt marshes extended south into Williamsburgh, but did not extend as far as the project area.

The 1839 Map of the City of Brooklyn. . . and Williamsburgh, New York was drafted by J. H. Colton. This map does not include specific structures, but it does indicate that the area in which the project is located had not yet experienced significant development.

This situation had changed by 1850, when Mathew Dripps published a Map of the City of Brooklyn, showing the Streets as at present with existing buildings . . . also the Village of Williamsburgh. (Map 2) Dripps' Map of the City of Brooklyn is the first that clearly indicates the presence of individual structures in the project area. Several structures are located on the block, but none within the project area. At the time Bedford Avenue was Fourth Street, while Driggs Avenue was Fifth Street. The cross streets were, as they are today, South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. On the southeast corner of the block was the Presbyterian Church. Adjacent to the church was a dwelling that later records indicate was the parsonage or rectory for the church. It appears that there was a structure at the rear of the parsonage lot that straddled the boundary between it and the lot on which the church was located. On the northwest corner of the block there was a Dutch Reform Church. The church had an attached building that extended south beyond the middle of the block. Two structures, one a dwelling, were located at the southwest corner on Fourth Street (later Bedford Avenue). From the various sizes of the buildings in the area, it appears that there was both residential and industrial development taking place.

In 1852 Thomas W. Field published a Map of the City of Williamsburgh and Town of Bushwick, including Green Point that shows the 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church on the southeast corner of Fifth Street (later Driggs Avenue) and South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and the Dutch Reform Church on the northwest corner of Fourth Street (later Bedford Avenue) and South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. No structures were shown within the proposed project area; however, the owner of the land on South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was identified as William J. Pease, that on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street as Edmond Driggs, for whom Fifth Street was renamed.

By 1869, when J. H. Higginson prepared Higginson's Insurance Map of the City of Brooklyn, Long Island, a 3-story brick dwelling that had a 2-story brick extension occupied 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. (Map 3) There were two small wooden extensions, one at the rear and the other at the west side of this dwelling. The dwelling did not span the width of the lot, which was 25' wide. It was set back from the sidewalk, with a wooden porch. In most respects 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was the mirror image of 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. It was also a 3-story brick dwelling with a 2-story brick extension that was set back from the street. It also had a wooden front porch. This building, however, spanned the 25' lot. It also had a wooden extension that spanned the rear of the brick extension. The lot occupied by this dwelling was L-shaped, with a 1-story wooden structure in the rear yard behind 153 South 3rd Street. The house at 155 South 3rd Street served as the parsonage (or rectory) for the Presbyterian Church at the corner of Driggs Avenue and South 3rd Street. The Higginson map does not indicate that water had been installed in South 3rd Street in 1869, however, based on the consultant's work on projects in the immediate vicinity (CITY/SCAPE: Cultural Resource Consultants 1994 & 2001), it is likely that water had been installed by 1869. An examination of the records of the Brooklyn Sewer Department indicates that the sewer line had not yet been installed in South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

The main building of the "Industrial School" (151 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street) was a 3-story T-shaped brick building with a mansard roof. To the west of the main structure there was a 3½-story building with a 2-story extension. Along the rear lot line there was a narrow brick structure. In some materials this building has been identified as a "Playhouse," but, since this was an industrial school, it seems more likely that this building was occupied by shops where the children

were trained to perform useful work. In the northwest corner of the school property was a 2-story wooden structure that in the colored version of the map is shown in green. Green was used to identify a frame building occupied by a particularly hazardous activity. While the markings on the building could indicate a stable, it is likely that this structure, given its hazardous identification, was occupied by a shop or shops. At the southeast corner of this building was a small free-standing wooden structure. The nature of this building was not indicated.

In 1880 G. W. Bromley's *Atlas of the Entire City of Brooklyn* identified Block 2418 as Block 63 (previously it had been Block 67). These changes in block and lot number are typical throughout Brooklyn. The project area would have been identified as Lot 32 and Lot 33 (under the old numbering system it would have been Lot 17 and 18). Lot 32 was an irregular L-shaped lot that wrapped around the back of Lot 33. A brick dwelling, the parsonage for the Presbyterian Church, occupied Lot 33. It appears that Lot 32 was vacant. Adjacent to the brick dwelling on Lot 33 was an "Industrial School." The "Industrial School" occupied the land owned by William J. Pease in 1852. The lot on which the school stood was identified as Lot 34. There were several buildings associated with the school: the large brick building on the southeast portion of the property (a T-shaped building with a broad base) and a series of adjoining buildings extending the width of the rear lot. The G. M. Hopkins *Detailed Estate & Old Farm Line Atlas of the City of Brooklyn* (vol. 1, Plate M) indicates that in 1880 water was available in South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. This map indicates that the "Industrial School" occupied a lot that was 150' wide and 100' deep.

It was between 1880 and 1886 that Fifth Street was renamed Driggs and Fourth Street became an extension of Bedford Avenue. During this same time the lots on Block 63 (later Block 2418) were renumbered. The Presbyterian Church occupied Lot 28-31, while 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was Lot 32, and the "Industrial School" was on Lot 34-39. The Brooklyn Sewer Department has several hand-written volumes that contain the dates when various properties in Brooklyn were connected to the sewer. While it is not necessarily the case that all houses and businesses in the area were immediately connected to the sewer, the date when the connections were made clearly indicates that sewer lines had been installed in the area by that date. An examination of the Sewer Department records did not indicate the dates when the buildings within the project area were connected to the sewer; however, Volume 8, which covers 1882-1886 is missing. The 1935 Sanborn Insurance Map resolves this issue, but including the information that a 6" water pipe was installed in South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in 1860, while the sewer line was not installed until 1884.

The Sanborn Insurance Map for the City of Brooklyn for 1887 identified the project area as 153 and 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. (Map 4) 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is occupied by a 3-story dwelling that has a 2-story extension at the rear. The house, which does not span the width of the lot, is set a short distance back from the sidewalk. The lot on which the house is located is less than 100' deep (the usual depth of a standard Brooklyn lot). No other structures appear on the lot. 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street is occupied by a 3-story dwelling that spans the width of the lot. It is set a short distance from the sidewalk and has a narrow front porch. At the rear there is a 2-story extension that also has a porch on the northeast side. This lot, which was formerly identified as Lot 32, is L-shaped, wrapping around behind 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. There is a 1-story structure in the rear yard behind the dwelling at 153 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. West of these dwellings is the "Industrial"

School," which by this date is an H-shaped structure. The building appears quite different from that seen on the 1880 map, though it may be that the eastern end of the building, which is a 4-story structure, is the same. The western end, a 5-story structure, is new construction. In the northwestern corner of the property is a 2-story structure. The markings on this building indicate that it could be a stable, but, if it is the same building seen on the Higginson's 1869 map, then it could also be a frame building occupied by a hazardous activity. Extending east from this building is a long narrow 1-story structure that extends across the rear lot line. A 1-story structure that had a 1-story extension on the south side was located immediately south of the 2-story building.

The Presbyterian Church was located on the southeast corner of the block. The Dutch Reform Church no longer stood on the northwest corner, having been replaced by 4-story tenements with stores on the ground floor and a 4-story furniture warehouse or store. There were two stores located at the corner of Bedford Avenue (formerly Fourth Street) and South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. The remainder of the block was residential. With the exception of two dwellings on Driggs Avenue that were 2-story, the remainder of the houses on the block were 3-story dwellings, often with 1-story extensions. Some of the lots have structures in the rear yards. While some of these might be privies, the 1887 Sanborn indicates that a 6" water pipe provided water to the block.

By 1898, when E. Belcher Hyde published an Atlas of the Brooklyn Borough of the City of New York, the blocks in Williamsburgh had been renumbered, with former Block 63 now identified as Block 2418. (Map 5) 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was still identified as Lot 32. The lot was still L-shaped with a dwelling at the front of the lot and a frame structure in the rear yard behind 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was now part of the "Industrial School" property, which was identified as combined Lot 44. The long narrow building was still located along the rear lot line, but it now appears to be separate from the building in the northwest corner of the property. The footprint of that building was somewhat different than that seen on the 1887 map. There was a second building on the lot, but it was located nearer the front of the lot than the 1-story structure seen on the 1887 map. The lot on which the school stood was 175' wide and 120' deep.

In 1904 the structures at 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street remained the same as those seen on the 1887 and 1898 maps, except that a 1-story extension had been added to the rear of the house. (Map 6) The house was still the parsonage for the South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Presbyterian Church. 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street had been enlarged by an addition at the rear. It was now identified as the "Hospital." The "Hospital" was joined to the main building by a bridge. The main school building had also been enlarged. The addition to the west appears to match that on the east. There was also a large extension at the rear of the building that does not appear on earlier maps. The outbuildings on the site had been removed to allow this expansion.

The Sanborn Insurance Map for 1918 indicates that the main. "Industrial School" building remained unchanged; however, the building that had been identified as the "Hospital" in 1904 was now a "Dormitory & Dispensary. (Map 7) The school also owned 162-164 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. The 3-story dwelling that had been on this lot since the 1880's was now identified as the "Hospital." Although it was still a separate lot, the school also owned the 3-story dwelling at 160 South 2<sup>nd</sup>

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Street, which was identified as the "Reception Center." Changes were taking place on Driggs and Bedford, where dwellings were being replaced by "New Law" tenement buildings.

In 1935 and 1847 the Sanborn Insurance Maps indicate that the main building remained unchanged. Map 8 & 9) However, the "Hospital" at 162-164 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street had been demolished by 1935. However, the "Reception Center" remained at 160 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, with the "Dormitory and Dispensary" at 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Importantly, by 1947 the "Industrial School" was now identified as the ":Hebrew College". The two buildings at 153 and 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street were being used as "Dormitories". It appears that the newer extension at 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was no longer standing. The buildings on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street had been demolished. In 1947 a 4-story fireproof "Dormitory" building was under construction on that part of the property. The same configuration continued to exist within the project area through 1965, when no changes were noted.

By 1977 the project area had undergone a variety of changes. The Hebrew College buildings on South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street had been demolished and a significantly smaller building constructed in a different location. (Map 10) That building, which housed the kitchen and dining hall, and the bridge that connected it to the building on South 2<sup>rd</sup> Street, date to 1970. The building on South 2<sup>rd</sup> Street, which was built for Hebrew College in 1947, was being used as a dormitory. Between 1977 and 1996 no changes are noted on the site. (Map 11) Both of these buildings are currently vacant.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

#### 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 Wisconsinian 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. Some scholars view the Transitional Phase as a separate cultural period that is sandwiched between the Late Archaic and Woodland periods. The Transitional Phase is characterized by the use of soapstone utensils, whereas the Woodland Period is identified in part by the use of pottery.

Four prehistoric archaeological sites are identified in the general vicinity of the project area. The first of these is located near Flatbush Avenue between 6th Avenue and Carlton Avenue (NYSM Site #3606), approximately 3 miles southeast of the project area. The other three sites

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are located in the vicinity of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, less than a mile south of the project area. (Fig. 2)

Although prehistoric peoples would have ranged over all of Long Island, archaeological investigations indicate that habitation sites were situated in proximity to water sources such as tidal creeks, substantial streams, and wetland areas. Upland areas, away from water, would have been used for hunting. (Smith 1950: 101) The project area would have been located in the upland area, where, in a previously undisturbed context, small special use camps might be expected.

Although no fresh water flowed across the project area, an examination of early maps indicates that Wallabout Creek and its associated salt marshes were located south of the site, while Bushwick Creek was to the north. It is probable that a series of Indian trails would have provided access to these streams, and that trails would also have extended into the interior areas where hunting, nutting and other special activities would have been pursued. In any event, it likely that prehistoric peoples passed through or close to the project area as they moved in their seasonal rounds. Despite these facts, alterations to the land surface (including grading to establish a level surface for construction in the 19<sup>th</sup> century), combined with the construction (including excavation for basements) and subsequent demolition of the structures formerly located on the site, greatly decreases the probability of recovering significant, intact prehistoric cultural material from the project area. Based on the foregoing, it is not anticipated that the project area would yield prehistoric cultural resources.

#### **Historic Sensitivity**

With respect to the historic sensitivity of the project area, the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission identified the project areas as possessing the potential to contain remains from c. 1827. (See Appendix C: Correspondence) This would be in the form of privies, cisterns and refuge pits, or the foundations of buildings that formerly occupied the project area. The review cites an address on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street that is not included in the project area, which is limited to the South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street portion of the New York State Mental Hygiene property. The South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street properties that are owned by New York State are discussed above, but the recommendations will be limited to the South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street project area.

One of the criteria needed to establish historical sensitivity for a specific parcel is that the owners or occupants have lived on the site long enough that we can assume that deposits recovered from subsurface deposits may reasonably be attributed to them. As part of the assessment of historic sensitivity for the project area, the Brooklyn Tax Assessment Records were examined for the years 1868-1894. The results are as follows:

#### The "Industrial School" Property

In 1868 the Tax Assessment records indicate that the Industrial School Association owned Lot 19-24 on Block 67. In 1868 Lot 19-20 and 22-23 were each assessed at \$1000.00, Lot 21, which was occupied by a 3-story building, was \$6000.00, and Lot 24, which also had a structure, was \$1200.00. The valuations were slightly higher in 1869, but after 1870 the property was listed

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as exempt: In 1875 the blocks and lots were renumbered, with Block 67 becoming Block 63. The Industrial School had occupied Lots 19-24. These lots were renumbered 34-39. During 1875-1878 two structures were reported on the property. On the assessment record for 1886-1890 the school is listed as exempt, but a note in the margin indicates that the buildings on the site were valued at \$100,000.00.

#### 153 South 3rd Street

The name of the owner of 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between 1868 and 1870 is illegible, but enough can be seen to know that it was not Josephine F. Paul, who owned the house between 1871 and 1882. The house was valued at \$3200.00 in 1868, but was raised to \$4000.00 in 1869. Between 1871 and 1882 the property, as noted above, was owned by Josephine F. Paul. The house was described as a 3-story brick structure that was 22' wide by 40' deep with a 25' extension. The lot numbers changed during this period of time, with Old Block 67 becoming Block 63, and Old Lot 18 becoming New Lot 33. In 1871-1878 the house was valued at \$4000.00. The following year (1879) the assessment was lowered to \$3000.00, where it remained through 1882. The note indicated that it was lowered because of the industrial school, but why this would cause a reduction in valuation is not clear. In 1887 the Industrial School purchased the property. As of 1889 it was listed as exempt from taxes, but the structure on the property was reportedly valued at \$3500.00.

#### 155 South 3rd Street

In 1868-1880 the property, identified as the parsonage for the Presbyterian Church, was exempt from taxes. The house was described as a 3-story brick structure that was 25' wide by 40' deep with a 25' extension. The lot numbers changed during this period of time, with Old Block 67 becoming Block 63, and Old Lot 17 becoming New Lot 32. In 1881 and 1882 the property was valued at \$4000.00. It was still the parsonage, but the fact that a value is regularly reported may indicate a change in its tax status.

The map research and the investigation of various records relating to the "Industrial School" portion of the property indicates that prior to its development as the "Industrial School," it was vacant land. 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was also vacant. However, by 1850, which is a number of years before either water or sewer were available on South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, both the Presbyterian Church and its parsonage (155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street) had been built. Research indicates that water was available in South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in 1860, while the sewer was not laid until 1884 (Sanborn Insurance Map 1935). There was a Dutch Reform Church and other building on Fourth Street (later Bedford Avenue), but other than the church, which extended some distance along South 2<sup>rd</sup> Street, there were no dwellings or other structures on the north side of Block 2418.

The 1868 Higginson Insurance Map of the City of Brooklyn, Long Island indicates that between 1850 and 1869 Block 2418 had been completely developed. On South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street there were several 3-story brick and frame buildings. On South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, the "Industrial School" site and 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street had been development. Water was available in 1860, but all of these buildings were constructed without the benefit of a sewer, which were not available until 1884.

It must, therefore, be assumed that initially all of the buildings on Block 2418 would have relied on privies and cisterns. On the "Industrial School" site, the map indicates that the first of several iterations of the main building had been constructed, along with a number of outbuildings located along the rear lot line.

Over the years, the internal organization of the "Industrial School" changed significantly, with the size of the main building increasing until it occupied all but a small percentage of the property. The maps and Assessment Records indicate that 153 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street was purchased by the industrial school to be used, first as a hospital, and then as a dispensary and dormitory. The 1904 Sanborn Insurance Map shows an addition on the west and north side of the building. The Presbyterian parsonage and the lot on which it stood remained unchanged until after 1947.

Between 1947 and 1950 both 153 and 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street were demolished. The structure in the rear yard of Lot 32 had been demolished between 1935 and 1947. Prior to 1970 the buildings that had housed the "Industrial School" and then Hebrew College were demolished to make way for the brick and cinder block dining hall and kitchen currently located on the property.

With respect to the historic sensitivity of the site, the research indicates that no buildings stood within the project area before 1850, but the research also demonstrates that virtually the entire property underwent significant disturbance related to the construction and demolition of a series of buildings that were or are now on the property. While it may not be possible to rule out the possibility of an intact historic subsurface feature, the extent of the building and rebuilding on the site suggests that the potential of the site to contain such resources is minimal.

When we examine the dates and details of construction and demolition at 153 and 155 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, we can see the possibility that some backyard features might have been present, but the construction of the kitchen and dining hall in 1970 would have effectively eliminated such features on both lots. The construction of the main building of the "Industrial School" took place over a number of years, during which time the structure seen on the 19<sup>th</sup> century historic maps, filled the forward part of the lot. The construction of the western part of the building would have impacted the structures seen in this area on the 1869 map. The building located in the northwest corner of the property was built by 1869 and demolished after 1898. It is possible that the remains of this structure are present and relatively undisturbed. The rest of the buildings along the rear lot line were built in the same time period. The remains of most of these structures should have been destroyed by the construction of the 1947 dormitory, but those portions of the buildings that were located at the rear of 152-160 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street may not have been disturbed.

The research did not reveal the potential for c. 1827 occupational remains within the project area (nor on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street), but it did reveal the possibility that the foundations and other remains of one or more outbuildings dating to before 1869 may be located in the northwestern corner of the project area. It is also possible that the remains of the small wooden building seen on the 1869 map to the southeastern corner of the larger building may also be present. Mitigating this potential is the extent to which the project area has been reworked over the past 130 to 140 years. Additionally, the extent of the excavation required to demolish and

Revised Stage 1A Literature Search and Evaluation of Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity 13

Block 2418, part of Lot 18. 155 South 3rd Street. Borough of Brooklyn. Kings County, New York

remove the debris from the main building of the "Industrial School" (later Hebrew College) would have in all likelihood impacted the smaller of the two structures in the northwest corner of the property.

Based on documentary research, including an examination of historic maps and atlases of the area, it is concluded that the project area does not contain the potential to yield significant historic archaeological resources dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The map examined indicate that the project area lay outside the developed areas and would have been farmland or woodlot. Ratzer's 1766-7 *Plan of the City of New York in North America* indicates that the farmstead were located along the East River and on the east side of Wallabout Road (later corresponding more or less to Flushing Avenue) with the fields extending into the interior. The project area would, therefore, have been in the interior.

With respect to the potential for 19<sup>th</sup> century cultural remains, it is concluded that no development had taken place within the project area until after 1850. Water was available in South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in 1860. In 1869, when Block 2418 was essentially fully developed, there was no sewer in South 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Sewer installation did not take place until 1884 (Sanborn Insurance Map 1935), which means that all of the lots on Block 2418 were originally dependent on privies.

The research indicates that, with the possible exception of the northwestern corner of the property, no part of the project area has the potential to contain subsurface deposits associated with privies or 19<sup>th</sup> century foundations. While an archaeological investigation of the northwest corner of the property might yield information concerning the function of the buildings located in that area, the extent of the destruction caused by the demolition and removal of the various buildings on the site, has most probably impacted these resources, and it is unlikely that intact features would be present. As a result of these findings, no further investigation of the historic archaeological potential of the project area is recommended.

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## **APPENDICES**

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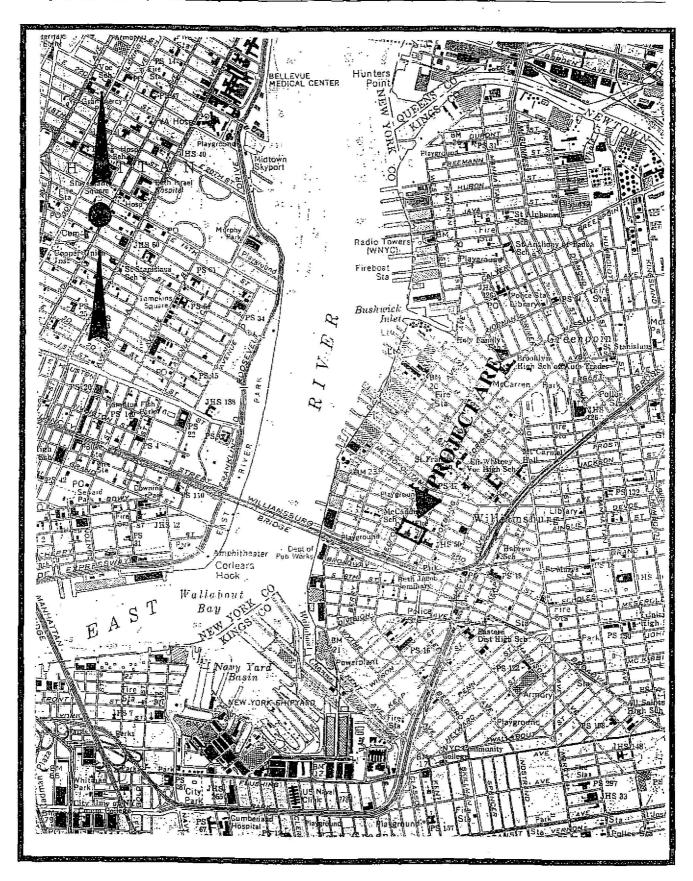
### APPENDIX A

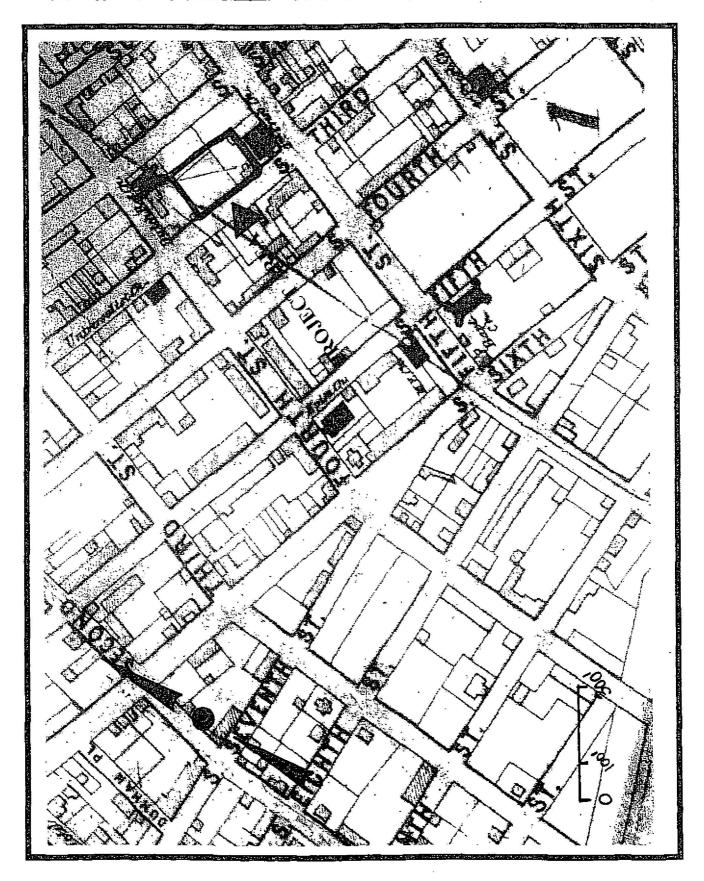
## **MAPS & FIGURES**

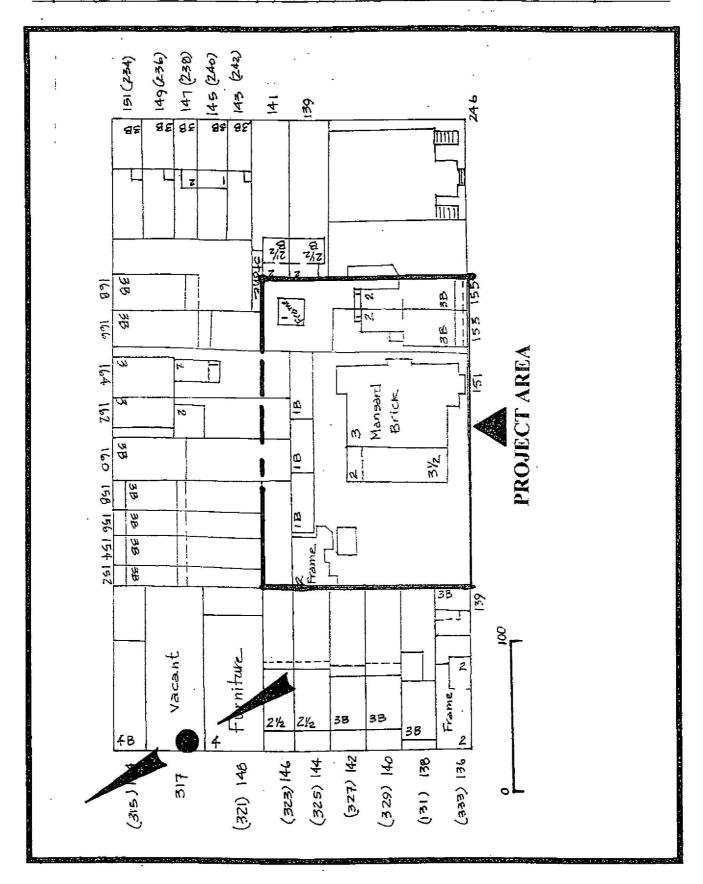
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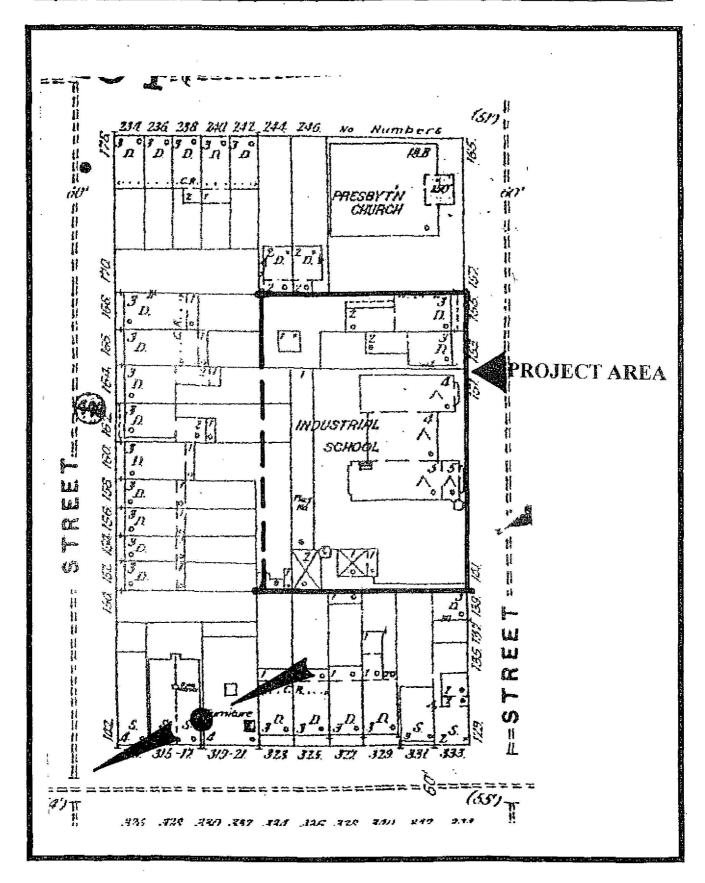
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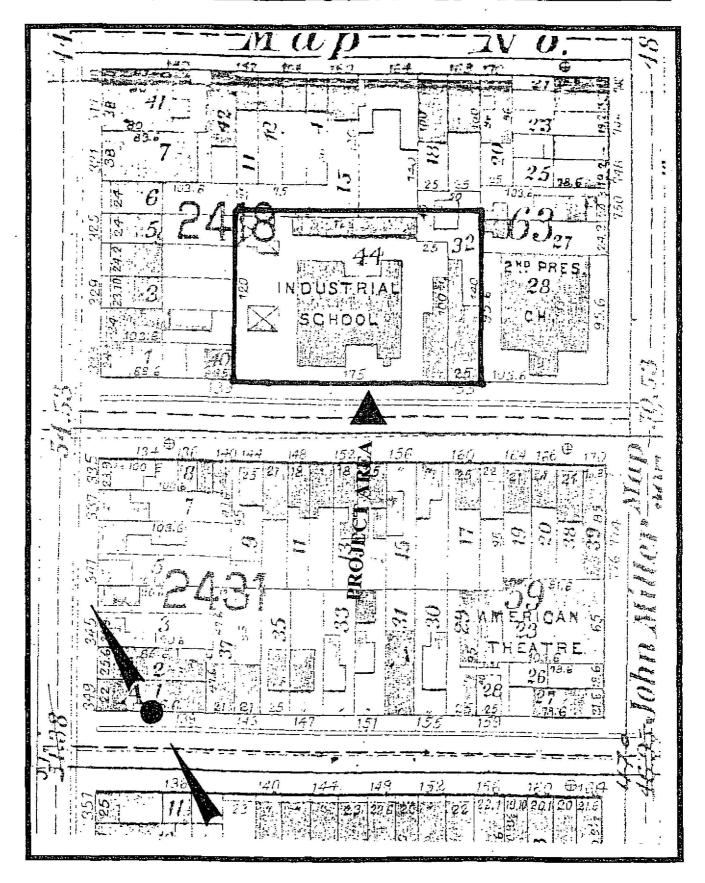
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Fig. 2	Archaeological Sites in Vicinity. USGS Topo. 7.5 Minute Series. Brooklyn Ouad. Scale: 1:24,000		

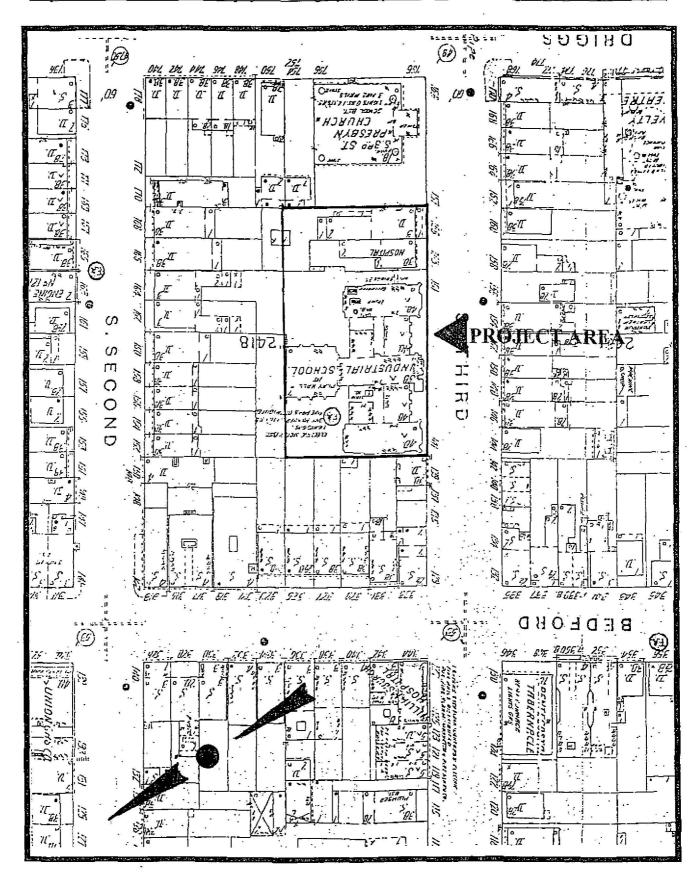


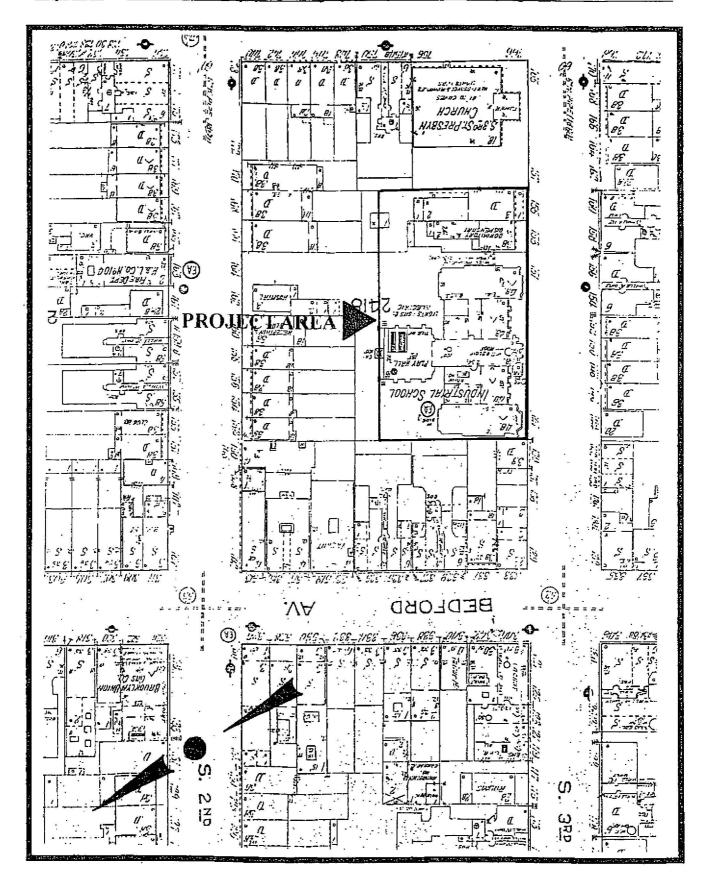


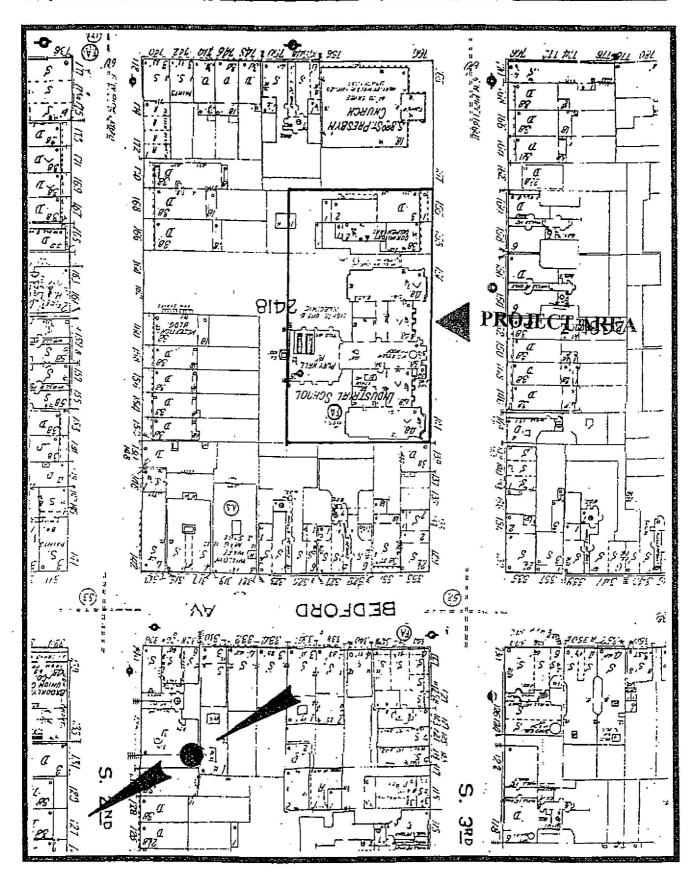


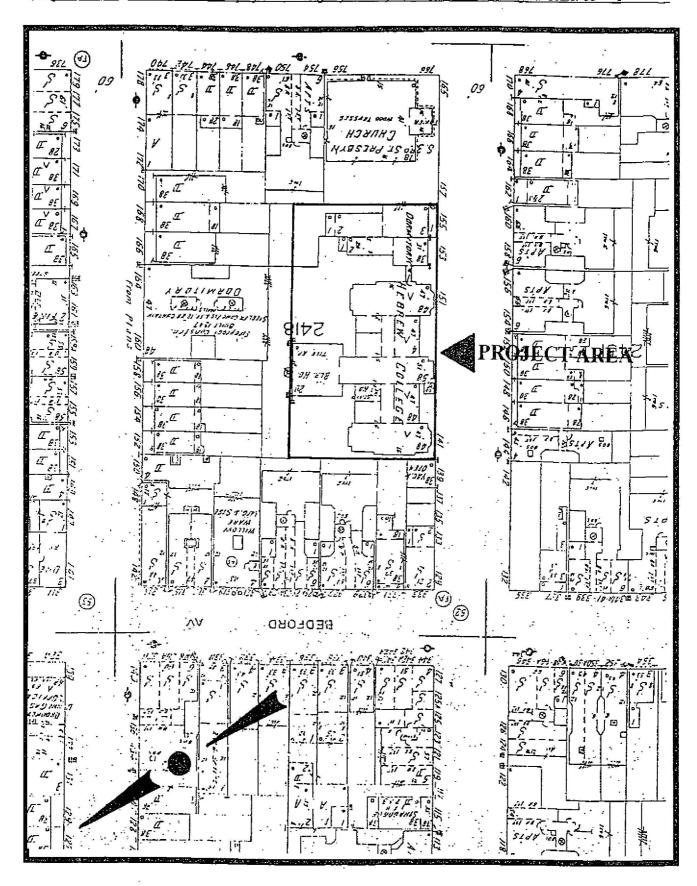


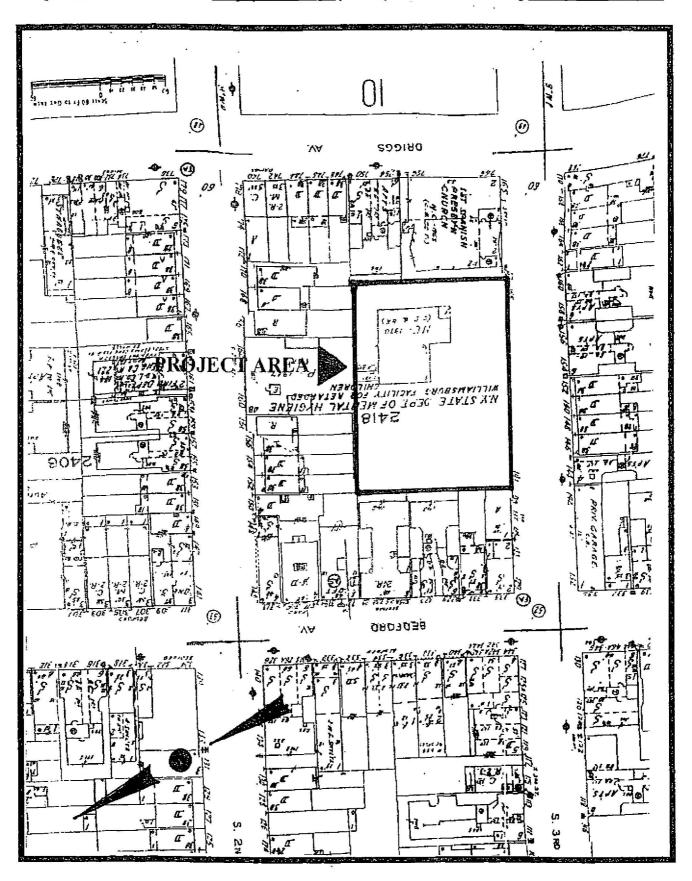


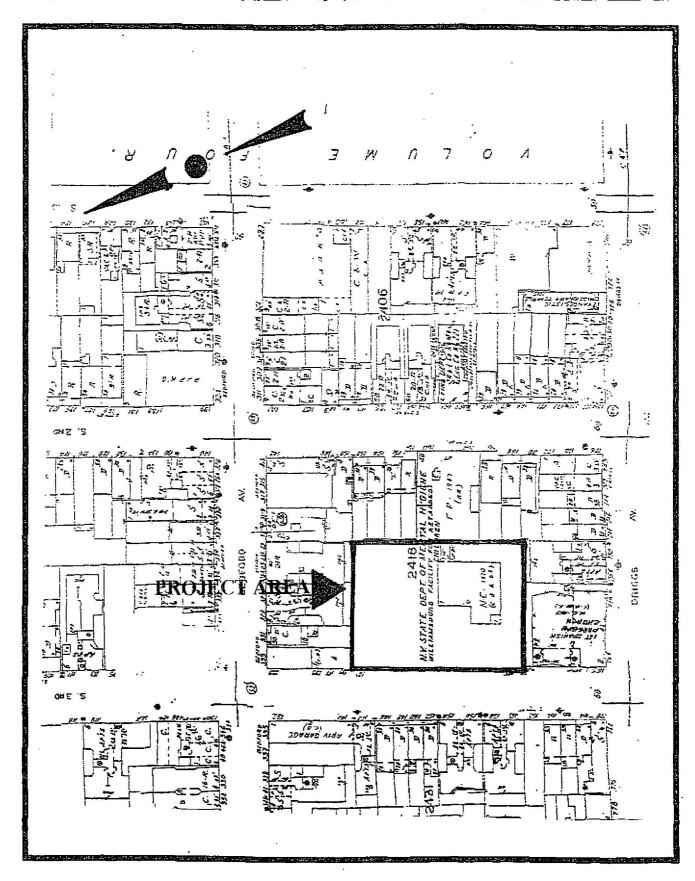


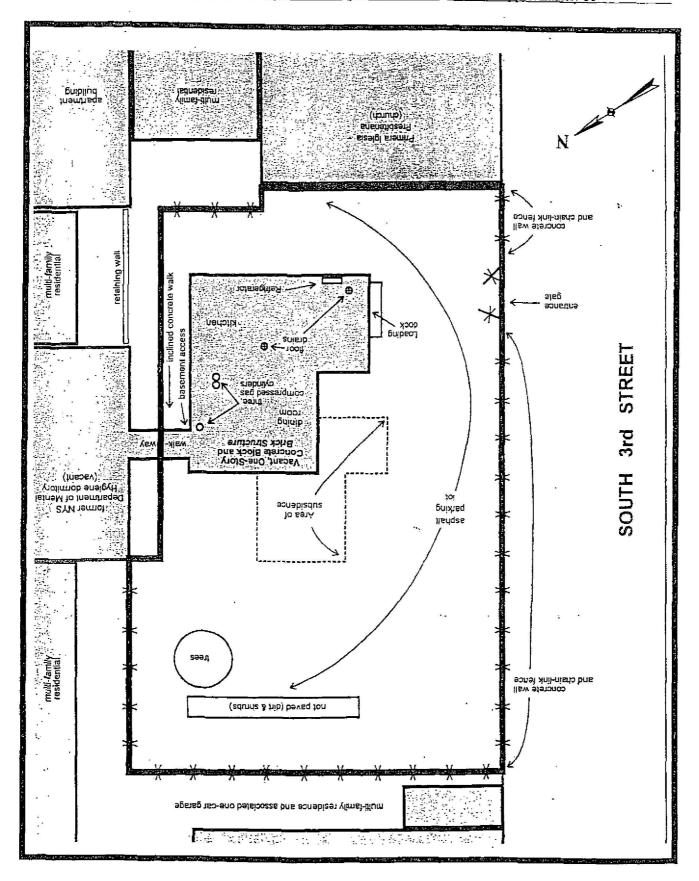


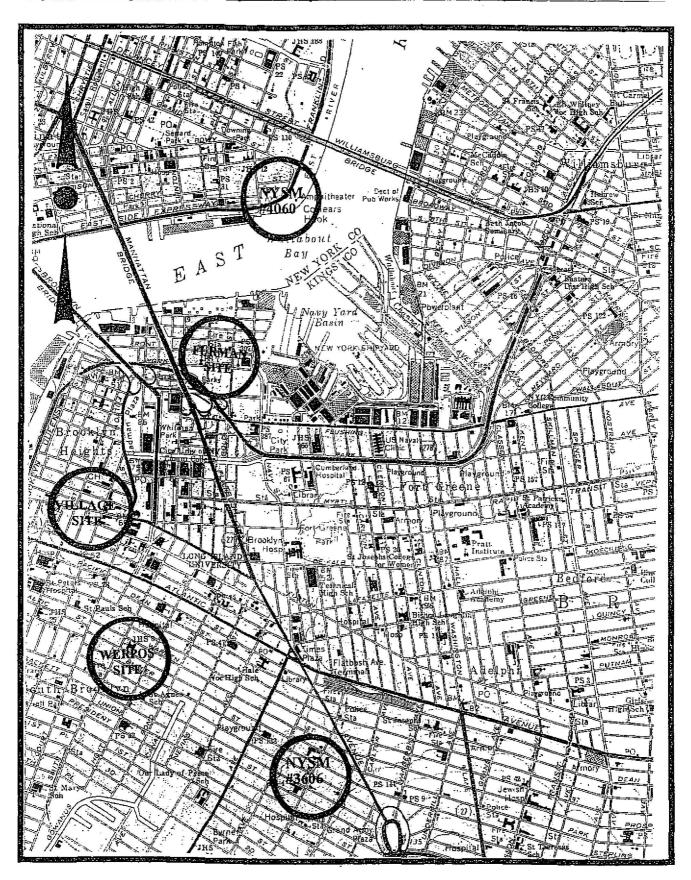






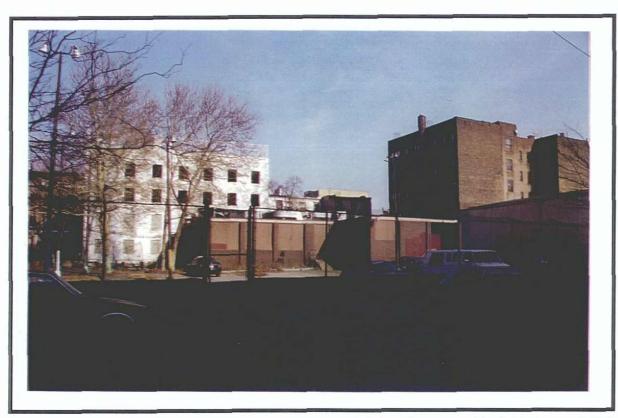






## APPENDIX B

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1**: Site is currently occupied by vacant 1-story brick and concrete block kitchen and dining hall building and asphalt parking area owned by the NYS Department of Mental Hygiene. The site was formerly occupied by the "Industrial School" – later Hebrew College. View to northeast.

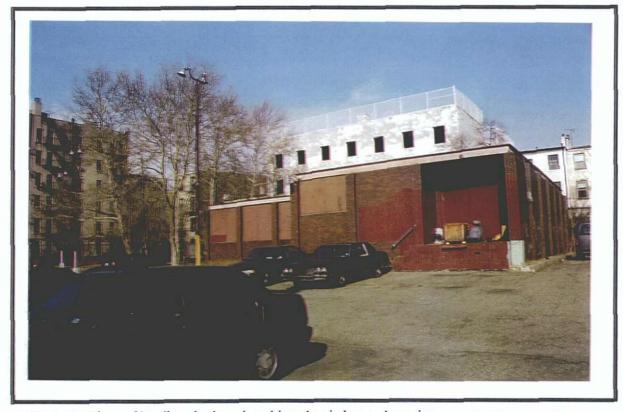


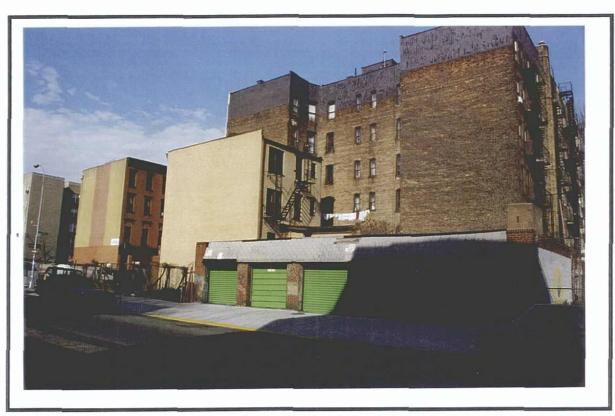
Photo 2: View of loading dock and parking that is located on site.



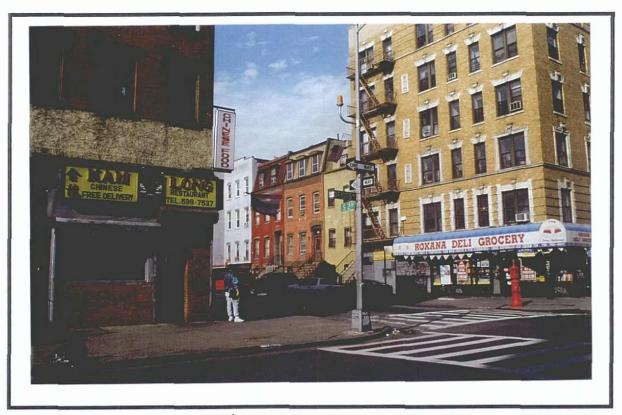
**Photo 3:** View to northeast. Dining hall-kitchen building (1970) on project area is to right. Dormitory building (1947) on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street is in background. These buildings are connected by a walkway. Both buildings are currently vacant.



Photo 4: Presbyterian Church at southeast corner of Block 2418. View to northeast.



**Photo 5**: View to north on South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street west of project area. Neighborhood is one of multifamily residential buildings and apartment houses.



**Photo 6:** Intersection of South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Driggs Avenue. Driggs Avenue and Bedford have been developed as commercial areas with residential side streets. View to north.



**Photo 7:** These 3-story brick row houses on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street are typical of the types of housing that was built on Block 2418 in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Many of these structures had extensions and rear yard structures. In places the brick dwellings have been replaced by "new law" tenements like those seen to the east of the row houses. Commercial development was generally limited to Bedford Avenue and Driggs Avenue (See Photo 6), but from the 19<sup>th</sup> century current Lot 18 was used for institutional purposes. View to southeast.

### APPENDIX C

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

THE CITY OF NEW YORK LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION 100 Old Slip, New York, NY 10005 (212) 487-6800

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

HUD	D/202-K	05/03/01
PROJE	ECT NUMBER	DATE RECEIVED
<u>160 S</u>	S 2 ST:	
[X]	No architectural significance	
[]	No archaeological significance	*
[]	Designated New York City Landmark or Within Designate	d Historic District
[]	Listed on National Register of Historic Places	
[ ]	Appears to be eligible for National Register Listing and/or Designation	New York City Landmark
[X]	May be archaeologically significant; requesting additional	materials <sub>.</sub>

#### COMMENTS

**PROJECT** 

LPC review of archaeological sensitivity models and historic maps indicates that there is potential for the recovery of remains from c. 1827 occupation on the project site. Accordingly, the Commission recommends that an archaeological documentary study be performed for this site to clarify these initial findings and provide the threshold for the next level of review, if such review is necessary (see CEQR Technical Manual 1993).

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HUD/202-K

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