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**REVISED**  
**STAGE 1B EVALUATION OF**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL OF PROJECT AREA**

**BLOCK 1883. LOT 13-20 & 27.**

**45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue**  
**Borough of Brooklyn. Kings County, New York.**

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April 1999

1950

# **BLOCK 1883. LOT 13-20 & 27**

**45-59 Taaffe Place  
Borough of Brooklyn. Kings County, New York.**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Stage IB Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area**

**Appendices**

Appendix A: Census Data from 1880 for Project Area

Appendix B: Tax Assessment Records

Appendix C: Census Data Analysis and Statement of Archaeological Potential

Appendix D: Maps

**REVISED**  
**STAGE 1B EVALUATION OF**  
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**Block 1883. Lot 13-20 and 27**  
**45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue**  
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The information presented contains material in support of the Stage 1A Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation submitted to the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission in September 1998, which noted that additional research needed to be completed before a determination could be made concerning the need for a Stage 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey. That research was undertaken at the National Archives in Manhattan, where census data from 1850, 1860, 1880 and 1900 was reviewed, and at the Municipal Archives, where Tax Assessment Records from 1867-1899 and several Brooklyn City Directories (1846, 1850, 1854-55, 1870, 1875-6, and 188) were examined. The results of that research and the conclusions drawn from it are presented below.

As part of the original investigation, historic maps and atlases including the project area were examined. The earliest map located that includes buildings is dated 1850. That map indicates that by 1850 the entire project area had been built upon. The tax records reveal that in this area of Brooklyn the earliest water tax assessment dates to 1862-63, while the Sewer Department records indicate that sewer connections were being made in Taaffe Place in 1868, several years after this area was occupied, indicating the potential for privies and cisterns within the project area.

In many areas of Brooklyn, the records of the Brooklyn Sewer Department are quite complete and informative; however, in this particular area they are sketchy, with distances from Flushing Avenue being noted rather than street addresses. Only the connection made at 55 Taaffe Place (formerly 55 Graham Street) in 1873, possibly at the time that a second dwelling was built at the rear of the property, is clearly identified in the records by street address. However, using the distances from Flushing Avenue and the names of the owners, we can determine that 45, 47 & 53 Taaffe Place (formerly 45, 47 & 53 Graham Street) were connected to the sewer in 1868, and that the original sewer connection at 55 Taaffe Place was in 1869. Based on the information, gathered in combination with the information contained on the historic maps, a number of conclusions can be drawn from the Sewer Department records:

- Based on the Drupp's 1850 *Map of the City of Brooklyn, showing the Streets as at present with existing buildings. . . also the Village of Williamsburgh*, it appears that buildings had been constructed in Taaffe Place (then called Graham Street) and along Kent Avenue prior

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

2

to the time that sewer lines were installed. This suggests the presence of privies and/or cisterns on those lots that have not been altered by subsequent construction (as is the case at 49 and 53 Taaffe Place).

- Examination of the Brooklyn City Directories supports the evidence of the Dripp's map, for listings of persons residing on Kent Avenue between Park and Flushing by 1849 and on Taaffe Place (then Graham Street) by 1853 are included in these early directories. Indeed, no listings for persons living on Graham Street between Flushing and Park were noted in the earliest directories (pre-1850) consulted, suggesting that Taaffe Place, at least, had not been developed earlier than 1850.
- Sewer connections were being made in Kent Avenue by 1867 and several of the buildings within the project area that are located on Taaffe Place (then Graham Street) were connected in 1868. The Dripp's map indicates that both Kent Avenue and Taaffe Place had been developed prior to the availability of sewer connections, indicating again the potential for a privy and/or cistern within the project area.
- Several lots on Taaffe Place had small shed-like structures located in the middle of the lot on the north or, in one case on the south, edge of the property. Some of these are identified on the maps by the initials "WC" indicating a water closet (privy). Traditionally we have looked for privies at the rear of the lot and cisterns directly behind the dwellings. The identification of the structures at mid-lot as water closets suggests that, if we only look for privies only at the rear lot line, we may miss some of these features.
- As late as 1918, long after the availability of sewer and water throughout the area, structures identified as water closets (W.C.) are shown on the maps of the project area, suggesting that even after sewer connections were available some owners continued to maintain privies.

The information provided above suggests that the project area has the potential to contain privies and/or cisterns that might yield historic materials related to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century occupation of the site, to the socio-economic and ethnic character of the neighborhood, and, in at least two cases, to the occupational activities that may have been associated with the site. With this in mind, the following questions were posited:

1. Does the project area have the potential to yield information relating to the prehistoric occupation of the area?
2. Does the project area have the potential to yield information concerning the 19<sup>th</sup> century domestic occupation of the project area?
3. Does the house lots located within the project area have the potential to yield information in the form of privies or cisterns associated with the rear yards of the dwelling houses formerly located on the site?

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

3

4. If they do, were the dwellings occupied for significant periods of time by persons who can be identified and whose domestic occupation can be documented through the excavation of either privies or cisterns should they exist on the site?

With respect to historic cultural resources, a review of data collected indicates that Lot 27 (796 Kent Avenue), Lot 19 (47 Taaffe Place), Lot 15 (55 Taaffe Place) Lot 14 (57 Taaffe Place) and Lot 13 (59 Taaffe Place) possess varying degrees of archaeological potential. On each of the lots noted the property was owned by the same individual for a considerable number of years, and in three of the five cases it is possible to demonstrate that the owner lived on the property. These two facts suggest that if privies and cisterns are present within these lots, the deposits may be dated and can then be associated with a particular family or groups of families.

**Lot 27: 796 Kent Avenue (formerly 322 Kent Avenue)**

The first of these is Lot 27 (796 Kent Avenue). The tax assessment records indicate that between 1867 and 1870 the property (then identified as 322 Kent Avenue) was owned by Peter Clark. The Brooklyn City directories indicate that as early as 1849 Peter Clark, variously described as a milkman and a grocer, lived on Kent Avenue near Flushing. In most cases the early city directories do not include a street number, but rather provide directions such as "Kent near Flushing", making it difficult to place a specific family at a specific address, but, in this particular case, the tax assessment records, which include the street address, provide the bridge, indicating that Peter Clark lived at 796 Kent Avenue (then 322 Kent Avenue) for over 20 years, and that for a number of years he and his family would have, of necessity, relied on privies and cisterns located in the rear yard. The house on the property was described as a 3-story dwelling. In 1870 it was valued at \$2200.00.

According to the tax assessment records, Patrick McCann purchased the property some time in 1870. Water had most probably been available since 1862-63, since it was available in Taaffe Place (then Graham Street) in that year, and the installation of sewers on Kent Avenue were presumably contemporaneous with the installation in Graham Street, which we know from the sewer records dated to 1868. Patrick McCann occupied the property between 1870 and at least 1899. He was identified as a grocer, and 796 Kent Avenue (then identified as 322 Kent Avenue) was described as a 3-story dwelling with an extension to the rear. It had a store on the ground floor of the building. According to the census data, Patrick McCann was 57 years old in 1880, married to Anne, who was 47 years old. At the time one daughter, Julia, aged 13, lived at home. Both Patrick and Anne McCann were born in Ireland, but Julia had been born in New York. This pattern of parental immigration and children born in the United States exists throughout this neighborhood. In 1900 Patrick and Anne McCann/McCain were still living at 796 Kent Avenue (formerly 322 Kent Avenue, but renumbered sometime after 1880). Patrick McCann appears in the 1880 Brooklyn City directory at 322 Kent Avenue, and is again identified as a grocer.

In 1880, in addition to the McCann/McCain family, several other families lived at 796 Kent Avenue, including Thomas Delaney and his wife, Ella, and their two sons - Joseph, aged 4 years, and Charles, ages 8 months. Thomas Delaney was a plumber. All the members of the

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

4

Delaney family had been born in New York, though both Thomas and Ella's parents had been born in Ireland. The Dorsey family also lived at 796 Kent Avenue in 1880. Patrick Dorsey, aged 57 years, was described as "at home," suggesting, perhaps, some infirmity. His wife, Elizabeth, also aged 57 years, was "keeping house." Both had been born in Ireland. John Miller, a mason, and his wife, Jennie, lived at 796 Kent Avenue in 1880 with three children: William (aged 7 years), James (aged 4 years), and Ella (aged 1 year). All the members of the Miller family had been born in Scotland. The census data indicates that by 1880 this lot was densely populated.

An examination of the historic Sanborn maps for Block 1883 indicate that in 1904 there was a three story dwelling at the front of Lot 27 with two extensions at the rear – a 2 story extension attached to the house and a 1 story extension beyond that. There was a 1-story shed extending across the rear boundary of the lot. By 1914 the 1 story extension behind the house had been removed, but between 1914 and 1950 the configuration of the buildings on the lot was unchanged. No construction occurred on Lot 27 that would rule out the potential for a privy or cistern being located on the property.

Despite the dense population of Lot 27 in the later years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the presence over a 20 year period of the Peter Clark family in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century – prior to the availability of either water or sewers in the area – suggests that 796 Kent Avenue has archaeological potential in the form of a privy and/or a cistern, and this revised assessment suggests that further investigation of Lot 27 is warranted.

**Lot 13: 59 Taaffe Place (formerly 59 Graham Street/7 Graham Street)**

Over the past 140 years many things have changed on Block 1883, including the block and lot designations and the street numbers. In the mid-1870s present-day Block 1883 was identified as Block 16, and present-day Lot 13 was Lot 6 (prior to that it was Block 4, Old Lot 41/41A). Street names have also been changed. Present-day Taaffe Place was known as Graham Street, but between 1904 and 1918 the name was changed to avoid confusion with Graham Avenue. The street numbers have also changed, with present-day 59 Taaffe Place being at one time identified a 7 Graham Street. Having said this, our investigation reveals that Edward McNamara lived on this lot as early as 1852, when his name appeared in the Brooklyn City directory. He was identified as a laborer. He and Edward McNamara, Jr., presumably his son, were at this address in 1854-55, when the property was specifically identified as 7 Graham Street. The senior McNamara was described as a laborer and the junior as a tinsmith.

The tax assessment records indicate that Edward McNamara owned the property between 1867 and at least 1880. The building was described as a two story dwelling valued at \$800 in 1870 and \$650 in 1880. This is one of several instances where a standing structure decreased in value, suggesting perhaps an economic decline in the neighborhood.

According to the 1880 census, John Malone, age 37, lived at 59 Graham Street with his wife and 7 children. John Malone and his wife had been born in Ireland, but their children had all been born in New York City. John Malone was described as a watchman. His wife was, like most of the women of the time, "keeping house." The eldest son, John, Jr., was

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

5

identified as a clerk. All of the other children, ranging in age from 14 to twin boys of 7, were "at school."

No records of the sewer connection exist for 59 Taaffe Place, but we know from other documents that sewer connections were made within the project area in 1868 (45, 47, & 53 Taaffe Place) and 1869 (55 Taaffe Place). Likewise, we do not know specifically when a connection to the water line was made, but we do know from assessment records for 57 Taaffe Place that water was available in 1862-63.

It appears that Edward McNamara lived at 59 Graham Street from as early as 1852 until 1880. During the first ten years, then, neither water nor sewer was available, making the presence of both a privy and cistern within this lot a possibility. An examination of the historic maps indicates some confusion concerning the configuration of buildings on this lot in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, with one map (Sanborn 1904) showing a one story vacant structure and another (1918) a 4 story dwelling with a 1 story shed at the rear of the lot. At mid-lot along the southern boundary was a 1-story structure that would be consistent with a site of a privy (or water closet/"W.C."). The certificate of occupancy (dated 1960) indicates the lot contained a 3 story dwelling. This building may have replaced the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century 2 story dwelling, or the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century building may have been altered, but, with respect to the overall placement of the buildings on the property, we cannot rule out the possibility that the remains of either a privy or cistern may be present. With this in mind, the additional information collected for the revised report indicates that an archaeological investigation of this lot is warranted.

**Lot 14: 57 Taaffe Place (57 Graham Street)**

According to the tax assessment records, Stephen Wood owned this property between 1867 and 1879, when it was purchased by Lucy E. Wheeler. The house was described as a 2-½ story dwelling valued at \$1300.00 in 1870. During the period of time that Lucy E. Wheeler owned the property (November, 1879 to approximately 1887) the valuation decreased to \$900.00 and then was increased to \$1200.00. In 1887 the property was taken by the City of Brooklyn, which held it until the mid-1890's, when it was purchased by Alex McKnight.

Stephen Wood's name did not appear in the Brooklyn city directory at this address (or any other in the neighborhood) in 1870, 1875-6 or 1880, and an examination of earlier city directories did not locate a person by this name living anywhere in Brooklyn. No names associated with this address prior to 1880 were found. However, in 1880 the Snyder family occupied the property. By 1904 the lot was vacant.

F. H. Snyder and his wife, "Adaire," had been born in German. He was a blacksmith, as was his son, Alfred, then aged 21 years. Alfred had been born in New York State, but the other children, including George (aged 20 years), Stephen (aged 15 years), Martha (aged 13), Samuel (aged 10), and Laura (aged 7) had been born in New York City. Martha, Samuel and Laura were at school. George was a driver. Stephen was a laborer. Although in 1880 only one family occupied Lot 14, there is no indication that this family occupied the property before 1880, and no record of their presence there in 1900.

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

6

The historic maps indicate that by 1904 the property was vacant, and remained vacant through 1950. As is the case with 59 Taaffe Place, we know that water was available during the period when Stephen Wood owned the property, and that sewer was available within a year of his purchase. Based on the 1850 Dripp's map, we have reason to believe that a house had been built on the lot (formerly Lot 34 and prior to that Old Lot 42/42A) before either sewer or water were available in the neighborhood, so it is possible that both a privy and a cistern may remain on the property. In addition to the potential for a privy and/or cistern dating to before 1862, it is possible that some information concerning F. H. Snyder's occupation may exist on the property. It is not entirely clear that he pursued his occupation (blacksmith) at this address, but an examination of this lot would address the question. The additional information collected for the revised report indicates that an archaeological investigation of this lot is warranted.

**Lot 15: 55 Taaffe Place (former 55 Graham Street)**

The house at 55 Graham Street was purchased in July 1869 by John Gillen, described as a porter in the 1870 city directory, who owned the property until as late as 1899. The house was described as a 2-½ story dwelling that by 1886 had been rebuilt or converted in a 3-story building with a store on the ground floor. The configuration of buildings on the lot in 1904 shows a 3-story dwelling abutting the southern boundary of the lot with a 3 story dwelling in the southeast corner. A 1-story extension was attached to the north side of the rear dwelling. In 1918 the configuration of the buildings was the same, but a 1 story shed structure identified as a "W.C." had been built on the northern property line at mid-lot. By 1935 the lot was vacant.

The census data indicates that in 1880 John Gillen, then 53 years old, lived at this address with his wife and 4 children. Both John Gillen and his wife, Rosa, had been born in Ireland, but their children, ranging in age from 24 to 15, had all been born in New York. The Gillen family lived in the dwelling at the front of the lot.

The tax assessment records indicate that in June 1874 an alteration was made to the property, and in 1879 the lot is identified as containing 2 dwellings, one at the rear. The 1880 census indicates that the following persons lived in the rear house:

Robert Armstrong, identified as a foreman, his wife, Mary, and three children;

Michael Hackett, a cooper, his wife, Maggie, and a one-year old son;

Joseph H----- (illegible), a painter, his wife, Maggie, 2 children and his mother;

Mary B----- (illegible), who at age 70, kept house for her son, Michael (age 40), a laborer, and her daughter, Marie (age 32), who worked in a cotton mill.

Of the 22 people living at 55 Graham Street, all the adults had been born in Ireland, and all the children had been born in New York.



Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

7

This is the only house where a sewer connection (made in 1873 just prior to the alteration to the property) is specifically linked with the street address. However, there is a record of a sewer connection being made to a house located 348' south of Flushing Avenue in 1869. Based on the other distances noted in the sewer records, it appears that this connection (#26383) was to 55 Graham Street – then owned by someone named Schneider. It appears, then, that the 1873 connection may have been associated with the alteration to the property – most likely the construction of the house at the rear of the property.

Since we have reason to believe that the house at the front of the lot dates from 1850 (based on the Drupp's map) and that water was not available until 1862-3, the potential for the lot to contain a cistern exists. Additionally, since we know from the date when the sewer connection was made (1869) that the house had been built prior to the availability of sewer lines, the potential for a privy is also present. Although John Gillen purchased the house in the year that the sewer was connected, it is possible that any deposits that may have been made in either the cistern or privy, should they exist, will be associated with his family or the family of the previous owner, the Schneiders. In any event, the 1850 date for the construction of the house, and the 1869 date of the connection to the sewer, make the presence of subsurface deposits possible, and, based on the revised information contained in this report, further investigation of Lot 15 is warranted.

**Lot 19: 47 Taaffe Place (former 47 Graham Street)**

In 1868 a building located 245' south of Flushing Avenue was connected to the sewer. At the time the owner of record was George Heikerson (Sewer Permit #23808). According to the tax assessment records the owner of the property in 1867 was George Heilberger (whose name is variously spelled in different documents), but logically it may be supposed that George Heikerson and George Heilberger are one and the same person. George Heilberger does not appear in the early city directories among the residents of "Graham Place near Flushing," as it was described. However, he was the owner between 1867 and 1892, when an Antonio Marsecothe purchased the property. The building, like the others on the block, was initially described as a 2-½ story dwelling that was subsequently rebuilt or altered into a 3-story building with a store on the ground floor (1886).

Although George Heilberger's name does not appear in the city directories, he appears in the 1880 census (as George Herbring) residing at 47 Graham Street with his wife and four children. Heilberger was 43 years old in 1880, and he and his wife had been born in Germany. No occupation is listed in the 1880 census, but three of his sons, ranging in age from 17 to 12, were listed as clerks. It is possible that he ran a store (perhaps a grocery) on the ground floor and that his sons assisted him, but that is, of course, not certain. In addition to the owner and his family, the house was also occupied by John Crawford, his wife Mary, and their young son (then under 1 year of age), and by Maggie Chambers, who was 52 years of age and identified as "Mother." She had been born in Ireland, but the rest of the Crawford family had been born in New York.

Examining the historic maps, we see that in 1904 the property contained a 3 story dwelling on the front of the lot, with a narrow passageway along the southern boundary. In

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY

8

addition there was a 1 story shed-like structure that spanned the rear boundary that had an extension to the west along the northern property line. At mid-lot was a second, smaller 1 story shed-like structure. Although it is not identified as such, the location of this shed corresponds with the location of several privies or water closets ("W.C.") within Block 1883. The configuration of the buildings on the lot remained identical between 1904 and 1950, suggesting that the remains of these structures may still exist on the property, and that an archaeological investigation might reveal information concerning these structures and their usage.

Having identified several lots that may require additional investigation, it is clear that Lot 20 (45 Taaffe Place), while sharing characteristics with its neighbors in terms of a long-term owner and a connection to the sewer that post-dates the construction of the house, is totally lacking in archaeological potential due to the history of construction on the property. Over the years, the lot became more densely developed, until by 1935 the entire lot was built upon. On the front of the lot was a 4-story structure with a store on the ground floor. On the rear of the lot, a series of smaller structures had been removed and a substantial apartment-type structure constructed. The address of the building on the rear lot was Little Nassau Street. Likewise, 53 Taaffe Place (53 Graham Street) appears to lack the potential to yield early deposits. 53 Taaffe Place (Lot 16 and originally identified as part of 55 Graham Street) contained a 1 1/2 story structure in 1867, and was connected to the sewer in 1868. It appears to have been altered or rebuilt as a 3 story building in 1879-83, but was vacant land in 1880. It remained vacant until 1891, when John Gillen, who owned the adjacent lot (55 Taaffe Place), built a 4-story old law tenement that covered much of the lot. In 1918 there was a structure identified as a "W.C." in the rear yard, but this was an apartment structure filled with numerous unrelated families and the value of any information obtained from such deposits, should they exist would be minimal. Lot 18 (no street address given) was an empty lot that remained unbuilt upon until 1898, when a 1 story building was constructed in the northeastern corner of the property. That building was linked to a building with a Kent Avenue address. In 1935 the building was identified with the word "Rags." It is concluded that Lot 18 has no archaeological potential.

Returning to the lots considered to have archaeological potential, it is necessary to say a word concerning the census data, and to note a number of factors that limit its usefulness: first, the census for 1850-1870 is organized by the order in which the families were interviewed, rather than by street address. This lack of an alphabetical list makes searching for residents of the project area difficult at best. In contrast, the 1880 Census is organized by address. It was searched, and the results of that search are included in Appendix B. Due to a fire, the 1890 Census for Kings County is not available. The 1900 Census was also searched. By that date, the Taaffe Place listings indicated a dense occupation of all of the buildings, with no overlap between the names found in the 1880 Census and those of the 1900 Census. Despite the limited usefulness of the census information, some conclusions can be reached concerning the families that occupied the project area in 1880:

- All of the families living in the neighborhood were Caucasian.

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

9

- The vast majority of the families occupying the project area between 1867 and 1880 were of Irish extraction – having either been born in Ireland or born of parents who had been born in Ireland.
- A very few individuals had been born in other English-speaking countries, i.e. Scotland or England.
- The only non-English speaking country represented among the persons living within the project area between 1867 and 1880 is Germany.
- Although the parents were most frequently foreign born, their children had been born in the United States. Most of them in New York City, but one or two in New York State, or, in one case, in Connecticut.
- The heads of household (HOH) had a number of occupations, but, with the exception of one man identified as a “gentleman,” the adult males were engaged in trade. Some of them, such as the three boilermakers, were skilled trades. It is likely that these men worked in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Two of the men were grocers, who lived in buildings where store, which presumably they owned and operated, were located.
- The wives were all at home and identified as “housekeeping.”
- Adolescent males were often working in unskilled trades, as clerks, laborers, or drivers.
- Young unmarried women, if they worked outside the house, worked in stores or, in one case, in the cotton mill.
- The younger children were at school.

From this information we see a homogenous neighborhood, composed of men engaged in trade – many probably associated with the Brooklyn Navy Yard - or small businessmen, such as the two grocers, who probably lived in the buildings where their stores were located. The project area was residential, but an active ropewalk was located immediately across Taaffe Place (then Graham Street) at the corner of Taaffe and Park Avenue. Flushing Avenue was a commercial street, as it had been from the 1840's, with shops, livery stables and a hotel within a block of the project area. By 1900 the area had seen some changes – the project area remained residential, but some of the Irish were being replaced by families whose birthplace was Italy. Irrespective of the changes in ethnicity, it seems likely that the Navy Yard was the primary employer.

Based on the material presented here and that included in the Stage 1A report, it is now possible to answer the questions posed above. First, it is concluded that the project area does not possess the potential to yield prehistoric cultural resources. Maps of the area indicate that between Classon Avenue and Kent Avenue the high water line of Wallabout Bay extended as far south as Little Nassau Street. Prehistorically the project area would not have

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY. 10

been inundated by the waters of Wallabout Bay, except in unusual circumstances, but the project area would have stood so close to the water's edge that it would be less than optimal as a habitation site. It may have been used as location from which to gather the resources of Wallabout Bay, but traces of such occupation would have been buried or profoundly disturbed by the subsequent filling of this entire area. There is, therefore, no prehistoric archaeological potential within the project area.

While the first question has been answered in the negative, the second, third and fourth question must be answered in the affirmative. Based on the material gathered to prepare this revised report, five of the eight lots within the project area have the potential to yield significant information concerning the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century occupation of this neighborhood. According to the Drapp's map (dated 1850) this area was fully developed by that date. Although Flushing Avenue, Wallabout Road, and the Brooklyn Navy Yard had been developed significantly earlier than 1850, and the Tucker, Cooper & Co. ropeworks was situated on the corner of Park and Graham from the early years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the construction of the residential properties along Kent Avenue between Flushing and Park in the mid-1840's and on Taaffe Place (then Graham Street) around 1850 represents an early date for such development in this part of Brooklyn. As such any information that we might gather from an archaeological investigation would significantly increase our knowledge and understanding of development in the western district of Brooklyn, prior to the consolidation of Brooklyn with the then independent City of Williamsburgh.

Our research indicates that water was available on Kent Avenue and on Taaffe Place by 1862-3 and that sewer connections were being made on Taaffe Place by 1868. The presence of houses in the area prior to the availability of water and sewer indicates that the residents must have utilized both privies and cisterns between 1848-1852 and 1868, suggesting that the potential exists for deposits to have been made by residents of the various lots into privies and cisterns at the time that water and sewer became available, or, as was frequently the case, in subsequent years. In this particular case, water closets continued to be identified within the project area into the second decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, indicating that in this neighborhood such features were long lived - though the water closets may not correspond to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century privies either in function or location.

Our research further indicates that the properties within the project area were, for the most part, owner occupied, and that the ownership extended over many years. The length of occupation increases the possibility that deposits found in privies or cisterns can be dated and associated with specific families or groups of families.

More specifically, Lot 27 (796 Kent Avenue) was first occupied by Peter Clark, who was variously identified as a milkman and a grocer. Patrick McCann, who purchased the property from Peter Clark, was a grocer, who had a store on the ground floor. Both families occupied the property for many years, with Peter Clark occupying it for approximately 20 years before water and sewer were available in Kent Avenue. An archaeological investigation to determine the presence or absence of either privies or cisterns on this lot would add to our knowledge of living conditions in a neighborhood that developed early, was homogeneous

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

11

ethnically and socially, and may have been spurred by the presence of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, an important employer in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Additionally, it is possible that deposits, if present, might provide insight into the occupation of the owner and the types of products that may have been available in his store.

Lot 19 (47 Taaffe Place) was owned by George Heilberger (alternatively Herbring, Heikerson and Hellburger) for many years. Early records indicate that the sewer connection was made in 1868, several years after the construction of the house. Heilberger does not appear in the city directories (though this may be a fault of the enumerator, given the various spellings of his name), but he definitely lived in the house in 1880, when he appears in the census. We do not know his occupation, but there was a store on the ground floor in 1886. Historic maps clearly indicate the presence of small structures, not unlike privies, within the lot. As is the case with Lot 27, an archaeological investigation to determine the presence or absence of either privies or cisterns on this lot would add to our knowledge of living conditions in a neighborhood that developed early, was homogeneous ethnically and socially, and may have been spurred by the presence of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, an important employer in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

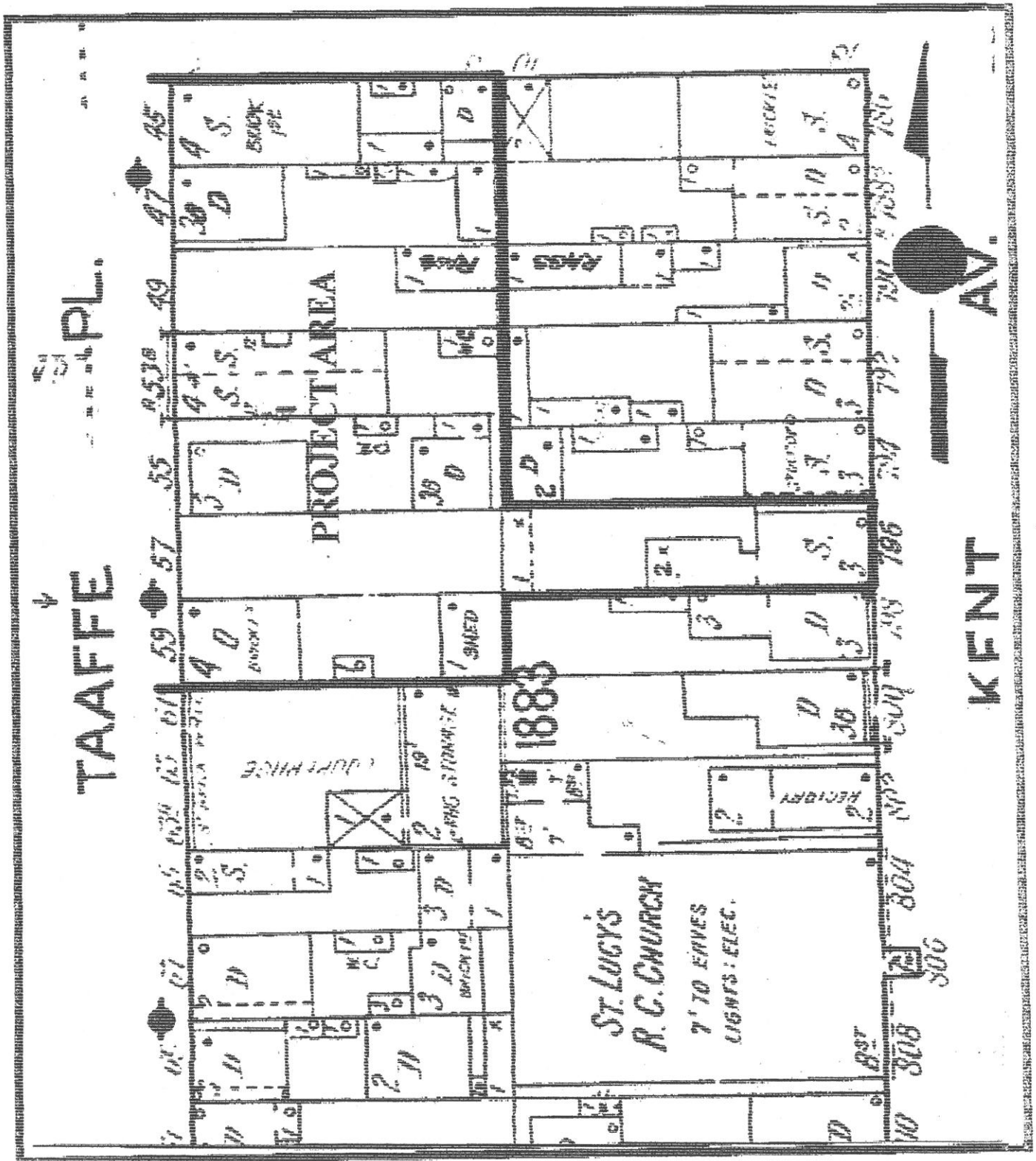
John Gillen owned and occupied 55 Taaffe Place (Lot 15) from 1869 to as late as 1899. The previous owner was named Schneider. His occupation is unknown, but John Gillen's occupation of the house for such an extended period of time provides the opportunity for deposits associated with him and his family to be present. From the late 1870's this lot was heavily occupied, but would provide an opportunity to further investigate a neighborhood where dense population was not unusual, and to contrast it with some of the other lots where such density was not achieved. The configuration of the buildings on the lot suggests that a privy may have been located in the northwest corner of the property, in association with the rear house.

Lot 14 was a vacant lot in 1904, but in 1867 a 2 ½ story building stood on the property. Assuming that the house was built in 1850 or 1851, then several years past before water and sewer were available and privies and cisterns unnecessary. In 1880 a single family, a German blacksmith and his family occupied the house. In this case, the owner of the house did not live there, but archaeological material located on the site, should it exist, might increase our knowledge of the differences between the material goods of a German family and their largely Irish neighbors, and, further, provide insight into the occupation of the site, perhaps with some evidence of blacksmithing activities.

Finally, Lot 13 (59 Taaffe Place) has a long history of ownership, which predates the availability of water and sewer in the neighborhood. Edward McNamara lived at 59 Graham Street as early as 1852. In 1854-55 he and his son are listed, according to an old street numbering system, at 7 Graham Street. He was listed as a laborer. His son was identified as a copper & tinsmith. It is possible that the son was employed by the Brooklyn Navy Yard, but some evidence of his craft might remain on the property. Historic maps indicate that the building history of the site does not preclude the possibility of both a privy and cistern being present within the lot. As in the other cases noted, an archaeological investigation would

Appendix B: Maps & Photographs

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.  
 Map 8: 1918 Sanborn Insurance Map, including Project Area. Scale: 60' = 1 Inch.



# City/Scape:

## Cultural Resource Consultants

726 Carroll Street  
Brooklyn, New York  
718-965-3860  
e-mail: CscapeCRM@aol.com

### FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

FROM 1-718-788-4024

**TO:** Amanda Sutphin  
**FROM:** Gail Guillet  
**DATE:** May 4, 1999  
**RE:** Stage 1B Archaeological Evaluation  
Block 1883: Lot 13-20 & 27.  
**FAX NUMBER:** 1-212-487-6839

Here are the pages at the end of the report portion of the evaluation.

Number of pages, including cover sheet \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Please call 718-965-3860 if you do not receive all pages.

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

11

ethnically and socially, and may have been spurred by the presence of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, an important employer in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Additionally, it is possible that deposits, if present, might provide insight into the occupation of the owner and the types of products that may have been available in his store.

Lot 19 (47 Taaffe Place) was owned by George Heilberger (alternatively Herbring, Heikerson and Hellburger) for many years. Early records indicate that the sewer connection was made in 1868, several years after the construction of the house. Heilberger does not appear in the city directories (though this may be a fault of the enumerator, given the various spellings of his name), but he definitely lived in the house in 1880, when he appears in the census. We do not know his occupation, but there was a store on the ground floor in 1886. Historic maps clearly indicate the presence of small structures, not unlike privies, within the lot. As is the case with Lot 27, an archaeological investigation to determine the presence or absence of either privies or cisterns on this lot would add to our knowledge of living conditions in a neighborhood that developed early, was homogeneous ethnically and socially, and may have been spurred by the presence of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, an important employer in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

John Gillen owned and occupied 55 Taaffe Place (Lot 15) from 1869 to as late as 1899. The previous owner was named Schneider. His occupation is unknown, but John Gillen's occupation of the house for such an extended period of time provides the opportunity for deposits associated with him and his family to be present. From the late 1870's this lot was heavily occupied, but would provide an opportunity to further investigate a neighborhood where dense population was not unusual, and to contrast it with some of the other lots where such density was not achieved. The configuration of the buildings on the lot suggests that a privy may have been located in the northwest corner of the property, in association with the rear house.

Lot 14 was a vacant lot in 1904, but in 1867 a 2 1/2 story building stood on the property. Assuming that the house was built in 1850 or 1851, then several years past before water and sewer were available and privies and cisterns unnecessary. In 1880 a single family, a German blacksmith and his family occupied the house. In this case, the owner of the house did not live there, but archaeological material located on the site, should it exist, might increase our knowledge of the differences between the material goods of a German family and their largely Irish neighbors, and, further, provide insight into the occupation of the site, perhaps with some evidence of blacksmithing activities.

Finally, Lot 13 (59 Taaffe Place) has a long history of ownership, which predates the availability of water and sewer in the neighborhood. Edward McNamara lived at 59 Graham Street as early as 1852. In 1854-55 he and his son are listed, according to an old street numbering system, at 7 Graham Street. He was listed as a laborer. His son was identified as a copper & tinsmith. It is possible that the son was employed by the Brooklyn Navy Yard, but some evidence of his craft might remain on the property. Historic maps indicate that the building history of the site does not preclude the possibility of both a privy and cistern being present within the lot. As in the other cases noted, an archaeological investigation would



Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY. 12

provide information on the development of this early Brooklyn neighborhood that must have been closely associated with the Brooklyn Navy Yard and its associated industries.

In contrast with lots discussed above, Lot 20 (45 Taaffe Place) and Lot 18 (long completely vacant) and Lot 16 (53 Taaffe Place) lack the potential to yield significant historic cultural resources. Lot 20 was completely built on by 1918, destroying all evidence of earlier subsurface features. Lot 18 was vacant until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when a small structure was built in the northeastern corner. That structure was for all practical purposes an extension of a building located on the adjoining lot that fronted Kent Avenue. Lot 16, while it may have originally had a cistern and privies, was built upon in the 1890's, when John Gillen had an old law tenement constructed on the site. We know that a water closet existed on the site, but the lateness of its date and the density of the population on the lot would make an interpretation of any materials difficult.

Assessment of Archaeological Potential for Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27			
Address & Lot Number	Front Lot	Rear Yard	Rear Lot
796 Kent Avenue Lot 27	None/dwelling foundation	Open yard/possible cistern and/or privy	Storage shed/possible privy location
47 Taaffe Place Lot 19	None/dwelling foundation	Open yard/possible cistern & privy mid-lot	Possible privy in northeast corner
55 Taaffe Place Lot 15	None/dwelling foundation	Open yard/possible cistern & privy	Rear dwelling/possible privy NE corner
57 Taaffe Place Lot 14	None/dwelling foundation	Probable open yard/possible cistern & privy	Unknown, but possible privy and/or evidence of blacksmith operation
59 Taaffe Place Lot 13	None/dwelling foundation	Open yard/possible cistern & privy mid-lot	Rear shed/stable-possible evidence of privy or tinsmith operation

Based on the foregoing, it appears that archaeological investigation of Lot 27, Lot 19, and Lot 15-13 is warranted. This testing would be limited to the yard area, from the rear of the house foundations to the rear property line. Following consultation with the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, the following work would be undertaken:

- A series of trenches would be laid out across the rear yard areas of the lots to be subjected to investigation. The trenches would be laid out to ensure that the

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.

13

structures at mid-lot (some of which are identified as water closets), as well as the rear lot structures, were examined. In addition, a trench would be laid out a short distance beyond the rear foundation wall of the dwellings to look for cisterns.

- Asphalt paving would carefully be removed to expose the soil beneath.
- Following the removal of the asphalt, one trench would be excavated along the rear property line to locate and identify rear yard structures, including, perhaps, privies. A second trench would be excavated at mid-lot to pick up and identify the structures seen along the northerly and southerly property lines, particularly those features identified on historic maps as water closets (W. C.). A third trench would be excavated approximately 6 feet behind the rear wall of the dwellings that formerly stood on the front of the lot to locate cisterns, if they are present. Depending on the findings at mid-lot, one or two more trenches will be dug to expose any features located in that area.

Revised Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY. 12

provide information on the development of this early Brooklyn neighborhood that must have been closely associated with the Brooklyn Navy Yard and its associated industries.

In contrast with lots discussed above, Lot 20 (45 Taaffe Place) and Lot 18 (long completely vacant) and Lot 16 (53 Taaffe Place) lack the potential to yield significant historic cultural resources. Lot 20 was completely built on by 1918, destroying all evidence of earlier subsurface features. Lot 18 was vacant until the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when a small structure was built in the northeastern corner. That structure was for all practical purposes an extension of a building located on the adjoining lot that fronted Kent Avenue. Lot 16, while it may have originally had a cistern and privics, was built upon in the 1890's, when John Gillen had an old law tenement constructed on the site. We know that a water closet existed on the site, but the lateness of its date and the density of the population on the lot would make an interpretation of any materials difficult.

<b>Assessment of Archaeological Potential for Block 1883, Lot 13-20 &amp; 27</b>			
<b>Address &amp; Lot Number</b>	<b>Front Lot</b>	<b>Rear Yard</b>	<b>Rear Lot</b>
796 Kent Avenue Lot 27	None/dwelling foundation	Open yard/possible cistern and/or privy	Storage shed/possible privy location
47 Taaffe Place Lot 19	None/dwelling foundation	Open yard/possible cistern & privy mid-lot	Possible privy in northeast corner
55 Taaffe Place Lot 15	None/dwelling foundation	Open yard/possible cistern & privy	Rear dwelling/possible privy NE corner
57 Taaffe Place Lot 14	None/dwelling foundation	Probable open yard/possible cistern & privy	Unknown, but possible privy and/or evidence of blacksmith operation
59 Taaffe Place Lot 13	None/dwelling foundation	Open yard/possible cistern & privy mid-lot	Rear shed/stable-possible evidence of privy or tinsmith operation

Based on the foregoing, it appears that archaeological investigation of Lot 27, Lot 19, and Lot 15-13 is warranted. This testing would be limited to the yard area, from the rear of the house foundations to the rear property line. Following consultation with the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, the following work would be undertaken:

- A series of trenches would be laid out across the rear yard areas of the lots to be subjected to investigation. The trenches would be laid out to ensure that the

FROM : CityScape

FAX NO. : 1 718 788 4024

Apr. 30 1999 01:50PM P3

## **APPENDICES**

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CITY/SCAPE: Cultural Resource Consultants

**APPENDIX A**

**CENSUS DATA FROM 1880  
FOR PROJECT AREA**

Stage 1B Census Information gathered for Taaffe Place-Kent Avenue Project, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY  
 1880 Federal Census Information for 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27.

Lot & House Number	Description of Property	Last Name	Name	Age	Relation-ship	Occupation	Place of Birth
10 (30) Little Nassau	Side street address of 45 Taaffe Place	Brannan	John	36	HOH	Laborer	Ireland
			Mara	36	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
16 (36) Little Nassau	Side street address of 45 Taaffe Place	Kernan	Matthew	48	HOH	Boiler maker	Ireland
			Mary	48	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
			James	13	Son	At School	Ireland
			Mary A.	3	Daughter		Connecticut
			Agnes	4 mo.	Daughter		New York City
		Chule	James	75	HOH	No business	Ireland
			John	33	Son	Boiler maker	Ireland
16 (36) Little Nassau	Side street address of 45 Taaffe Place	Olney (Olney)	Thomas	70	HOH	At home	England
			Ann	50	Wife	Keeping house	England
			Sarah	27	Daughter	Works out	New York State
			George	24	Son	Boiler maker	New York
		White	Patrick	35	HOH	Boiler maker	Ireland
			Mara	35	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
			John	20		Printer	Ireland

Stage 1B Census Information gathered for Traffic Place-Kent Avenue Project, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.  
 1980 Federal Census Information for 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27.

Lot & House Number	Description of Property	Last Name	Name	Age	Relation-ship	Occupation	Place of Birth
Lot 15 55 Taaffe Place (Graham St.)	(3-story dwelling with store on ground floor)	B..... (illegible)	Mary	70		Keeping house	Ireland
			Michael	40	Son	Laborer	Ireland
			Marie	32	Daughter	Works in cotton mill	Ireland
55 Taaffe Place Rear of Lot	(3-story Dwelling with basement in the rear)	Hackett	Michael	26	HOH	Cooper	Ireland
			Maggie	25	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
			John, Jr.	1	Son		New York State
		H..... (illegible)	Joseph	30	HOH	Painter	Ireland
			Maggie	28	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
			Annie	7	Daughter	At school	New York State
			James	1	Son		New York
			Annie	68	(Mother)	At home	Ireland



Stage 1B Census Information gathered for Taaffe Place-Kent Avenue Project, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.  
 1880 Federal Census Information for 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27.

Lot & House Number	Description of Property	Last Name	Name	Age	Relation-ship	Occupation	Place of Birth
Lot 15 55 Taaffe Place Rear of Lot	(3-story Dwelling with basement in the rear)	Gellan (Gillen)	John	53	HOH	Gentleman	Ireland
			Rosa	47	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
			William	23	Son	Clerk	New York
			Maggie	24	Daughter	Works in store	New York
			James	18	Son	Laborer	New York
			John	15	Son	Laborer	New York
			Robert	29	HOH	Foreman	Ireland
			Mary	32	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
			Robert, Jr.	5	Son		New York State
			Mary	5	Daughter		New York
Lot 14 57 Taaffe Place (Graham St.)	Dwelling on the lot in 1880	Snyder	Willie	1	Son		New York State
			F. H.	42	HOH	Blacksmith	Germany
			"Adaire"	32	Wife	Keeping house	Germany
			Alfred	21	Son	Blacksmith	New York State

Stage 1B Census Information gathered for Taaffe Place-Kent Avenue Project, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.  
 1980 Federal Census Information for 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27.

6

Lot & House Number	Description of Property	Last Name	Name	Age	Relation-ship	Occupation	Place of Birth
Lot 14 57 Taaffe Place (Graham St.)	Lot 14 57 Taaffe Place (Graham St.)	Snyder	George	20	Son	Driver	New York
			Stephen	15	Son	Laborer	New York
			Martha	13	Daughter	At school	New York
			Samuel	10	Son	At school	New York
			Laura	7	Daughter	At school	New York
Lot 13 59 Taaffe Place (Graham St.)	Dwelling on lot (no description)	Malone	John	37	HOH	Watchman	Ireland
			Mary	37	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
			John, Jr.	16	Son	Clerk	New York
			William	14	Son	At school	New York
			Edmund	8	Son	At school	New York
			Alice	12	Daughter	At school	New York
			John	37	HOH	Watchman	Ireland
			Michael	7	Son	At school	New York

Stage 1B Census Information gathered for Traffic Place-Kent Avenue Project, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY.  
 1880 Federal Census Information for 45-59 Traffic Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27.

Lot & House Number	Description of Property	Last Name	Name	Age	Relation-ship	Occupation	Place of Birth
Lot 13 59 Traffic Place (Graham St.)	Dwelling on lot (no description)	Malone	Henry	7	Son	At school	New York
			James	3	Son		New York
Lot 28 796 Kent Ave (332 Kent)	3-story dwelling w. extension & store on ground floor	McCann	Patrick	57	HOH	Grocer	Ireland
			Anne	47	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland
			Julia	13	Daughter	At school	New York State
		Delaney	Thomas	30	HOH	Plumber	New York
			Ella	26	Wife	Keeping house	New York
			Joseph	4	Son		New York
			Charles	8 mo.	Son		New York
		Dorsey	Patrick	57	HOH	At home	Ireland
			Elizabeth	57	Wife	Keeping house	Ireland

Stage 1B Census Information gathered for Taaffe Place-Kent Avenue Project, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, NY  
 1880 Federal Census Information for 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27.

Lot & House Number	Description of Property	Last Name	Name	Age	Relation-ship	Occupation	Place of Birth
Lot 28 796 Kent Ave (332 Kent)	3-story dwelling w. extension & store on ground floor	Müller	John		HOH	Mason	Scotland
			Jennie	32	Wife	Keeping house	Scotland
			William	7	Son	At school	Scotland
			James	4	Son	At school	Scotland
			Ella	1	Daughter	At school	Scotland

**APPENDIX B**

**TAX ASSESSMENT RECORDS**

**ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE  
7TH WARD - BLOCK 1883 (FORMER BLOCK 16)  
45-59 TAFFE PLACE & 796 KENT AVENUE**

1867 - 1870

Owner	Street Name & House Number	Details	Ward Map Number	1867	1867	1869	1870	Remarks
Peter Clark	1867: 332 Kent Avenue	3	Old 14 (New 6)	1800	1800	2250	2200	
Hannah P. McCoy	1867: 334 Kent Avenue	2 1/2	Old 15 (New 7)	1300	1300	1650	1600	
Edward McNamara	1867: 59 Graham Street	2 story	Old 41/41A (New 33)	650	650	800	800	
Stephen Wood	1867: 57 Graham Street	2 1/2 B	Old 42/42A (New 34)	1100	1100	1300	1300	
John Gillen	1867: 55 Graham Street	2 1/2 B	Old 43/43A (New 35)	1200	1200	1500	1500	2600 Jul '69
R. Anderson	1867: 53 Graham	1 1/2	Old 44 (New 36)	600	600	750	700	
Elizabeth Cross	1867: no street number shown	none	Old 44B (New 37)	350	350	440	400	
George Heilburger	1867: 47 Graham Street	2 1/2 B	Old 44C (New 38)	w Lot 44A @ 2300	900	1100	1100	1700 app
Terrence Deylin	1867: 45 Graham Street	3 B 2 bldgs	Old 44A (New 39)	w Lot 44C @ 2300	1400	2130	2100	2100 New '69

Note: From other information, know that water was installed in Graham Street by 1862.

**ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE  
7TH WARD - BLOCK 1883 (FORMER BLOCK 16)  
45-59 TAFFEE PLACE & 796 KENT AVENUE**

1870 -- 1873

Owner	Street Name & House Number	Details	Ward Map Number	1870	1871	1872	1873	Remarks
Patrick McCann	1870: 332 Kent Avenue	3 1/2	Old 14 (New 6)	2200	2200	2200	2200	
Hannah P. McCoy	1870: 334 Kent Avenue	2 1/2	Old 15 (New 7)	1600	1600	1600	1600	
Edward McNamara	1870: 59 Graham Street	2 story	Old 41/41A (New 33)	800	800	800	800	
Stephen Wood	1870: 57 Graham Street	2 1/2 B	Old 42/42A (New 34)	1300	1300	1300	1300	
John Gillen	1870: 55 Graham Street	2 1/2 B	Old 43/43A (New 35)	1500	1500	1500	1500	
R. Anderson	1870: 53 Graham	1 1/2	Old 44 (New 36)	700	700	700	700	
Elizabeth Cross	1870: no street number shown	none	Old 44B (New 37)	400	400	400	400	
George Hallberger	1870: 47 Graham Street	2 1/2	Old 44C (New 38)	1100	1100	1100	1100	
Terrence Devlin	1870: 45 Graham Street	none noted	Old 44A (New 39)	2100	2100	2100	2100	

## ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE

7TH WARD - BLOCK 1883 (FORMER BLOCK 16)

45-59 TAAFFE PLACE &amp; 796 KENT AVENUE

1873 -- 1876

Owner	Street Name & House Number	Details	Old Ward Map Number	New Ward Map Numbers	1873	1874	1875	1876	Remarks
Patrick McCann	1873: 332 Kent Avenue	3 story	Old 14	6	2000	2000	2000	2000	
Hannah P. McCoy	1873: 334 Kent Avenue	2 1/2	Old 15	7	1600	1600	1600	1600	
Edmund McNamara	1873: 59 Graham Street	2 story	Old 41/41A	33	650	650	650	640	
Stephen Wood	1873: 57 Graham Street	2 1/2 B	Old 42/42A	34	1300	1300	1300	1300	
John Gilien	1873: 55 Graham Street	3B	Old 43/43A	35	1500	1500	1500	1500	"alteration June '74"
R. Anderson	1873: 53 Graham Street	none	Old 44	36	700	400	400	400	
Elizabeth Cross	1873: 49 Graham Street	none	Old 44B	37	400	400	400	400	
George Heibberger	1873: 47 Graham Street	3 story	Old 44C	38	1100	1100	1100	1100	
Terrance Devlin	1873: 45 Graham Street	3 story	Old 44A	39	2100	2100	2100	2100	



**ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE  
7TH WARD - BLOCK 1883 (FORMER BLOCK 16)  
45-59 TAAFFE PLACE & 796 KENT AVENUE**

1876 -- 1880

Owner	Street Name & House Number	Details	Ward Map Number	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	Remarks
Patrick McCann	1876: 332 Kent Avenue	X223 1/4	6	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	
Hannah P. McCoy	1876: 314 Kent Avenue	X202 1/4	7	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	
Edward McNamara	1876: 59 Graham Street	2 story	33	650	650	650	650	650	
Lucy E. Wheeler	1876: 57 Graham Street	2 1/2 E	34	1300	1300	1100	1400	900	\$100/purchased 11-28-1879
John Gillen	1876: 55 Graham Street	3B	35	1500	1500	1500	1500	1300	
R. Anderson	1876: 53 Graham	none	36	400	400	400	400	400	
Elizabeth Cross	1876: no street number shown	none	37	400	400	400	400	400	
George Bullberger	1876: 47 Graham Street	3 story	38	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	
Terrence Devlin	1876: 45 Graham Street	3 story	39	2100	2100	2400	2000	1800	

**ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE  
7TH WARD - BLOCK 1883 (FORMER BLOCK 16)  
45-59 TAAFFE PLACE & 796 KENT AVENUE**

1879 - 1883

Owner	Street Name & House Number	Details	Ward Map Number	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	Remarks
Patrick McCann	1879: 332 Kent Avenue	2 family Ex deep	6	2000	2000	2000	2000	2500	
Hannah P. McCoy	1879: 334 Kent Avenue	2 fam	7	1600	1600	1600	1600	2000	
Lucy E. Wheeler	1879: 59 Graham Street	1-1/2 to 2 1/2 B	34	None shown	900	900	900	1200	
John Gillen	1879: 55 Graham Street	3B - 2 bldgs	35	1500	1300	2000	2000	2000	2 fam in rear
R. Anderson	1879: no street number shown	3 story	36	400	400	400	400	400	
Elizabeth Cross	1879: no street number shown	none	37	400	400	400	400	400	
George Halberger	1879: 47 Graham Street	3 story	38	1100	1100	1100	1100	1500	
Terrence Devlin	1879: no number shown	3 story -- 2 bldgs	39	2000	1800	1800	1800	2800	2 fam Little Nassau in 1883

**ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE  
7TH WARD - BLOCK 1883 (FORMER BLOCK 16)  
45-59 TAAFFE PLACE & 796 KENT AVENUE  
1883-1887**

Owner	Street Name & House Number	Details	Ward Map Number	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	Remarks
Patrick McCann	1883: 332 Kent Avenue	3 story	6	3000 to 2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	
Hannah R (P) McCoy	1883: 334 Kent Avenue	3 story	7	4600 to 2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	
Lacy E. Wheeler	1883: 59 Graham Street	2 1/2B story	34	900 to 1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	Water tax by 1862
John Gillen	1883: 55 Graham Street	3B - 2 bldgs	35	2000 to 2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	"rear house"
John Gillen	1883: no street number shown	3-story	36	400 to 480	480	480	600	480	(F & R)
Elizabeth Cross	1883: no street number shown	none	37	400	400	400	400	400	
George Hullberger	1883: 47 Graham Street	3 story	38	1400 to 1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	
Terrence Devlin	1883: 45 Graham Street	3 story - 2 bldgs	39	1800 to 2800	2800	2800	2800	2800	

NOTES: Park Avenue was opened April 20, 1875; gas and electricity in Graham Street on June 23, 1874; sewer district noted in 1870 and for 59 Graham Street there was an assessment for water tax in 1863.

**ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE  
7TH WARD - BLOCK 1883 (FORMER BLOCK 16)  
45-59 TAFFEE PLACE & 796 KENT AVENUE**

**1887-1891**

Owner	Street Name & House Number	Details	Ward Map Number	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	Remarks
Patrick McCann	1887: 332 Kent Avenue	3 story	6	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	
Annie McCann	1887: 334 Kent Avenue	3B	7	2000	2000	2000	1600	1600	(note in 1889 - P & M)
Lacey-E. Wheeler City of Brooklyn	1887: 59 Graham Street	2 1/2 B	34	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	
John Gillen	1887: 55 Graham Street	3B - 2 bldgs	35	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	"rear house"
John Gillen	1887: 53 Graham Street	none	36	600	480	480	480	600	Vacant
Elizabeth Cronin	1887: no street number shown	none	37	400	400	400	400	500	
George Hallberger	1887: 47 Graham Street	3 story	38	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	
Terrence Devlin	1887: 45 Graham	3 story - 2 bldgs	39	2800	2800	2800	2800	2800	

**ANNUAL RECORD OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL ESTATE  
7TH WARD - BLOCK 1883 (FORMER BLOCK 16)  
45-59 TAAFFE PLACE & 796 KENT AVENUE**

1895 -- 1897

Owner	Street Name & House Number	Details	Ward Map Number	1895	1896	1897	1899	Remarks
Patrick McCann	1895: 332 Kent Avenue	3 story	6	2500	2500	2500	2500	1899: 25 x 100
Annie McCann	1895: 334 Kent Avenue	3B	7	1600	1600	1600	1600	1899: 25 x 100
Alex McKnight	1895: 59 Graham Street	2 1/2B	34	1200	1200	1200	1200	1899: 25 xj 86 (had been owned by City of Bklyn)
John Gillen	1895: 55 Graham Street	3B -- 2 bldgs	35	2500	2500	2500	2500	1899: 25 x 86
John Gillen	1895: 53 Graham Street	4 story 29 x 50	36	6000	6000	6000	6000	1899: 29 x 50
John (Julius) Wilke	1895: no street number shown	none	37	500	500	500	500	1899: 25 x 86
Antonio Marscatone	1895: 47 Graham Street	3 story	38	1500	1500	1500	1500	purchased 8-9-92 1899: 25 x 86
Paquale Cascano	1895: no street number shown	3 story	39	2800	2800	2800	2800	purchased 8-17-94 1899: 25 x 87

**APPENDIX C**

**ANALYSIS AND STATEMENT  
OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
 Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

### INFORMATION ON LOTS WITHIN PROJECT AREA AND POTENTIAL FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Lot & Address	Owner	Construction / Sewer Dates	Conditions in 1870	Conditions in 1880	Conditions in 1918	Archaeological Potential	Work to be Performed (Level of Effort)
Lot 20 45 Taaffe Place (45 Graham St.)	1867: J. Devlin/ T. Devlin Sold in 1894 to Pasquale Caggeano	Built c. 1880 Sewer 1868 210' S of Flushing	Described as "new"; 2 bldgs on lot	Front & rear bldg. densely occupied	Lot completely occupied by bldgs	No archaeological potential due to complete coverage of lot by buildings in 1918	None
Lot 19 47 Taaffe Place (45 Graham St.)	1867: George Heilberger Sold in 1892 to A. Mauseonthe	Built c. 1850 Sewer 1868 245' S of Flushing	2 1/2-story structure	3-story w. store on ground floor	3-story dwelling on front, 1-story shed in rear, 2 sheds on N lot line	Early construction date, long occupation and stable building configuration suggests high potential Expect cistern & one or more privies	Trenching at rear lot for possible privy, mid-lot to determine nature of structures, rear of foundation for cistern
Lot 18 49 Taaffe Place (49 Graham St.)	1867: Elizabeth Cross	No connection to sewer noted	Empty lot	Empty lot	1 story shed- type structure related to bldg on Kent Avenue	Possible sheet refuse, but no substantial potential	Removal of asphalt paving and visual inspection

2  
 Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
 Block 1883, Lot 1-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Lot & Address	Owner	Construction / Sewer Dates	Conditions in 1870	Conditions in 1880	Conditions in 1918	Archaeological Potential	Work to be Performed (Level of Effort)
Lot 16 53 Taaffe Place (53 Graham St.)	1867: R. Anderson 1883: J. Gillen	Built c. 1850 Sewer: 1868 375' S of Flushing	1 1/2 story bldg	3-story bldg	Old law tenement covered 2/3 of lot; WC in NE corner	Potential for useful information relatively low due to new construction in 1891 and dense population	Include in trenching along rear property line to determine presence/absence of WC.
Lot 15 55 Taaffe Place (55 Graham St.)	1867: John Gillen 1899: John Gillen	Built c. 1850 Sewer: 1868 2 <sup>nd</sup> connection in 1873	2 1/2 story frame	3 story frame in front; 2 <sup>nd</sup> dwelling @ rear; 1886 store on ground floor	3 story frame; 3-story dwelling @ rear; WC mid-lot	Early construction date, long occupation and stable building configuration suggests high potential Expect cistern & one or more privies	Trenching at rear lot for possible privy, mid-lot to determine nature of structures, rear of foundation for cistern
Lot 14 57 Taaffe Place (57 Graham St.)	1867: Stephen Wood 1879: Lucy E. Wheeler 1887: City of Brooklyn 1895: A. McKnight	Built c. 1850 Sewer available: 1868 No connection noted	2 1/2 story frame	2 1/2 story frame	Empty lot	Early construction date suggest possible privy & cistern; possible evidence of occupation by blacksmith in 1880	Trenching at rear lot for possible privy, mid-lot to determine presence/absence of structures, rear of foundation for cistern



Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential of Project Area  
 Block 1883 Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

Lot & Address	Owner	Construction / Sewer Dates	Conditions in 1870	Conditions in 1880	Conditions in 1918	Archaeological Potential	Work to be Performed (Level of Effort)
Lot 13 59 Taaffe Place (39 Graham St.)	1854: Edward McNamara	Built c. 1850 Sewer available: 1868 No connection noted	2 story frame	2-story frame	4-story dwelling; 1-story shed @ rear; possible WC mid-lot	Early construction date, long occupation and generally stable building configuration suggests high potential Expect cistern & one or more privies	Early construction date, long occupation and stable building configuration suggests high potential Expect cistern & one or more privies
Lot 27 796 Kent Avenue (312 Kent Ave.)	1854: Peter Clark 1870: Patrick McCann	Built by 1843 Sewer available by 1867 No connection noted	1-story frame	3-story frame w. extensions, shed at rear; store on ground floor	3-story dwelling; 2 extensions; shed @ rear	Early construction date, long occupation and generally stable building configuration suggests high potential Expect cistern & one or more privies	Early construction date, long occupation and stable building configuration suggests high potential Expect cistern & one or more privies

FROM : CityScape

FAX NO. : 1 718 788 4024

Apr. 30 1999 02:11PM P6

**APPENDIX D**

**MAPS**

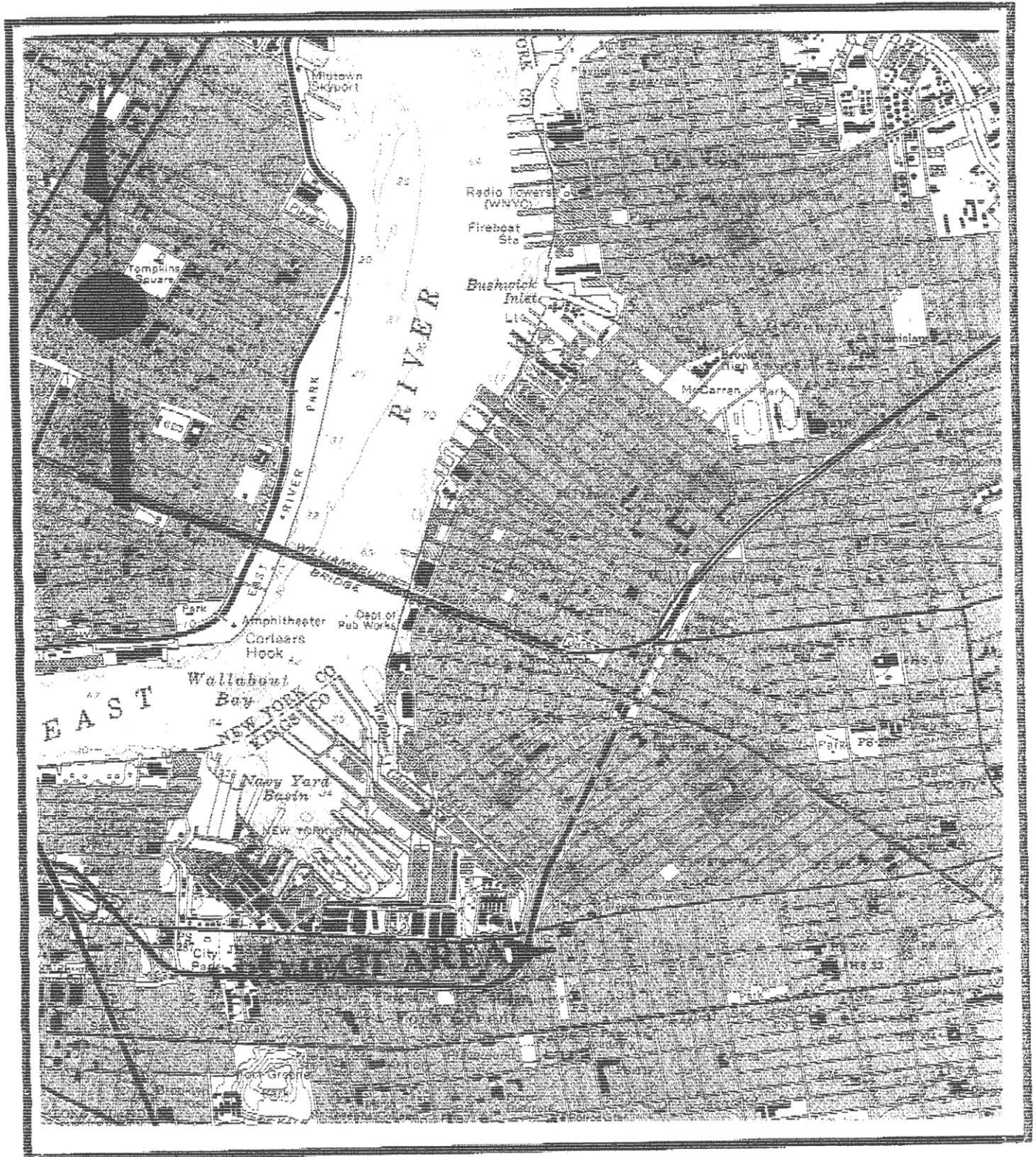
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CITY/SCAPE: Cultural Resource Consultants

Appendix B: Maps & Photographs

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

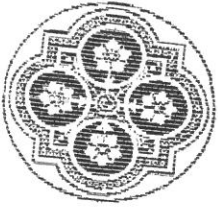
Map 1: Location Map, USGS Brooklyn Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series, Scale: 1:24,000.



FROM : CityScape

FAX NO. : 1 718 788 4024

Apr. 30 1999 02:17PM PS



**CITY / SCAPE:**  
Cultural Resource Consultants  
726 Carroll Street Brooklyn, NY 11215  
(718) 965-3860 Fax: (718) 788-4024

April 30, 1999

Mr. Mendel Rosenberg  
Kent Plaza Development  
321 Rutledge Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11211

RE: *Stage 1B Archaeological Reconnaissance Field Investigation for:  
45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Williamsburgh,  
Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York*

Dear Mr. Rosenberg:

Thank you for the opportunity to prepare a proposal for a Stage 1B Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey on the above captioned project located in the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Based on the research performed for the Stage 1A Literature Review, the areas of primary concern are located on Lot 19 (47 Taaffe Place), Lot 15 (55 Taaffe Place), "Lot 14" (57 Graham/Taaffe Place), Lot 13 (59 Taaffe Place) and Lot 27 (796 Kent Avenue). The Stage 1A Literature Review indicated the potential for historic archaeological resources in those areas consisting of subsurface features that may include privies and/or cisterns. In addition, Lot 18 (49 Taaffe Place) may have the potential to contain refuse pits and possible sheet deposits. The Stage 1A report recommended mechanical excavation on those lots that contain the potential to yield deposits associated with privies and/or cisterns to determine the presence or absence of such subsurface features. Shovel testing is recommended for those areas that may contain refuse pits or sheet deposits.

All work will be in accordance with the CEQR Technical Manual (December 1992), current New York City Environmental Quality Review guidelines, and the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commissions Guidelines for Archaeology. Further, the work performed will be in accordance with the standards of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended, 36 CFR Part 800) and of the Department of the Interior (35CFR Part 65).

#### Background of the Project

As a result of an evaluation by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission that the project area had the potential to yield 19th century historic cultural

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Proposal for Stage 1B Archaeological Field Survey.  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

2

resources, a Stage 1A Literature Review and Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation was requested. CITY/SCAPE: Cultural Resource Consultants was contracted to perform this work. Based on the research, it was determined that substantial development began to take place within the project area by 1850. Records available at the Sewer Department were examined to determine the dates at which sewer connections were made. The records indicated that several lots on Taaffe Place (then Graham Street) were connected to the sewer in 1868 and that sewer connections were being made on Kent Avenue by 1867.

Based on the information obtained it is clear that sewer lines were installed in Taaffe Place by 1868 – at which time the 1850 Dripps map indicates the entire area had been developed. This means that privies and/or cisterns would originally have been associated with all of the houses located within the project area, but, subsequent development may have, in some cases, impacted these subsurface resources. For example, Lot 20 was occupied by 1850, and in 1880-98 contained a small mid-lot structure that may have been a privy. However, the entire lot was fully developed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and this area no longer has the potential to contain an intact privy/cistern complex. Another example of low potential is seen on Lot 18, which was vacant until after 1886 – at which time sewer lines had been installed in the neighborhood. In addition, this lot never contained a dwelling or other domestic structure, and the potential for a privy/cistern complex in this area would be considered minimal. An example of moderate potential may be seen on Lot 13, where, although the original building dates to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, later construction may have destroyed subsurface resources. In contrast, in 1904 Lot 19 (47 Taaffe Place) contained a mid-lot structure that may have been a privy - the mid-lot being the location of a number of water closets (W.C.) identified within the project area. The placement of the buildings on this lot remained the same between the 1880's and the time when they were demolished, sometime between 1950 and 1977. Previous investigations in the area have demonstrated that demolition does not preclude the recovery of intact deposits, and we must conclude that demolition would not necessarily have impacted a privy/cistern complex on Lot 19. Lot 19 must, therefore, be considered to contain a high potential to contain subsurface deposits. Another example of a lot with high potential is "Lot 14." Although none of the historic maps identifies this as Lot 14, this is the number that would logically be assigned to this property. This lot also lacks a current street address, but on a 1904 map is identified as 57 Graham Street. Be that as it may, "Lot 14" contained a dwelling by 1850, before the availability of sewer in Taaffe Place. The lot was vacant by 1904, and no subsequent development took place. Based on these facts, this lot appears to have a high potential to contain a privy/cistern complex. Lot 27 also must be considered to have a relatively high potential, based on its development history. In addition, as late as 1918, two lots within the project area are specifically identified as containing water closets (privies). These are Lot 16 and Lot 15, both of which had a small structure identified as a "W.C." located along their northern boundaries in the middle of the lot. These two lots must also be considered to contain a high potential to yield subsurface deposits.

The probable significant historic archaeological resources within the project area can be described as:

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Proposal for Stage 1B Archaeological Field Survey. 3  
Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

- cisterns and/or privies that may have been reused as refuse dumps on Lots 19, 14 and 27 and the possibility that Lot 16 and 15 contain privies that may not have been emptied;
- the presence of refuse pits or sheet deposits on Lot 18;
- evidence of working class people living in an area that has not yet been extensively investigated;
- evidence of changing ethnicity of the neighborhood over a period of years;
- and evidence of a change in density between the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Having determined that there was the potential for significant resources on the site that would be affected by the proposed project, the Stage 1B investigation will be undertaken to determine the presence/absence of resources, their integrity and to assess their eligibility for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (CEQR Technical Manual, December 1993).

Before developing a testing strategy for the archaeological investigation, it is necessary to ascertain that the requirements of the CEQR Technical Manual (December, 1993), Section 512.1 on page 3F-11 have been met. In brief, these are:

- to identify the potential significance of the anticipated resources to be investigated by the field investigation;
- to establish the level of effort required to complete the field investigation, and
- to identify the research issues to be addressed by the field investigation.

To achieve the first two requirements, a brief statement describing the buildings formerly located on the lots, the dates of their construction, the dates that they were connected to the sewer system, and certain changes that have occurred during the later years of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century is presented in tabular form below. In addition, the statement describes the archaeological potential of each of the lots and the work that must be performed to complete the Stage 1B field investigation.

See next page for information on the lots within the project area and the potential for archaeological resources

Lot & Address	Construction / Sewer Dates	Conditions in 1880s	Conditions in early 1900s	Archaeological Potential	Work to be Performed (Level of Effort)
Lot 20 (45 Taaffe Place)	Original dwelling built by 1850 No sewer connection dates	1880-98: dwelling at front; 2 small structures mid-lot, probable privy	4-story dwelling w. 2-story dwelling at rear; shed at mid-lot probable privy	Between 1904 and entire lot heavily developed, destroying potential for privy and/or cisterns	None warranted
Lot 19 (47 Taaffe Place) 1868 Owner J. Devlin	Built by 1850 Sewer connection: 1868.	1886: Bldg. w. store on ground floor	1904: 3-story dwelling 2 sheds at rear; 1 mid-lot -- probable privy	Configuration existed until demolition c. 1950-1977; potential for privy and/or cistern	Trenching at rear of former building to determine presence or absence of cistern and mid-lot for evidence of privy and/or outbuildings
Lot 18 (49 Taaffe Place)	Built by 1898 Nosewer connection dates	1886: Vacant lot 1898: 1-story shed/stable at rear of lot	1904: 1-story shed/stable at rear of lot - bldg. connected to 790 Kent Avenue	Little potential for either privy or cistern on lot; possible shed deposits	Examination of lot for evidence of shed/stable at rear of lot after 1898 by way of walkover and possible shovel test pits
Lot 16 (45 Taaffe Place)	Built c. 1898 No sewer connection dates	1880: vacant lot 1886: vacant lot 1898: 4 --story brick bldg. on front of lot	1904: 4-story brick old law tenement w. 2 stores on ground floor; 1918: same w. W.C. shown in rear yard;	Potential for deposits in W.C. - though number of occupants implied by old law tenement may reduce usefulness of information	Trenching at rear of former building to determine presence or absence of cistern and mid-lot for evidence of privy and/or outbuildings

Lot & Address	Construction / Sewer Dates	Conditions in 1880s	Conditions in early 1900s	Archaeological Potential	Work to be Performed (Level of Effort)
Lot 15 (55 Taaffe Place)	Built by 1850 Sewer connection: 1873	1886: score on ground floor of bldg., bldg. at rear	1904 - 3-story dwelling at front, 3-story dwelling w. basement at rear; extension at rear 1918 - W.C. mid-lot	Potential for deposits in W.C. - though number of occupants implied by density on lot may reduce usefulness of information	Trenching at rear of former building to determine presence or absence of cistern and mid-lot for evidence of privy and/or outbuildings
"Lot 14" (1904 57 Graham, now Taaffe Place)	Built by 1850 No sewer connection dates	1880-98: dwelling on lot	1904 - vacant lot	High potential for privy/ cistern complex	Trenching at rear of building to determine presence or absence of cistern and at mid and rear lot for evidence of privy
Lot 13 (59 Taaffe Place)	Built by 1850 No sewer connection dates	1880: frame bldg.	1904 - 1-story bldg. "apparently vacant" w. 1-story shed/stable at rear, 1960: 3-story bldg. w. basement.	Original bldg. on lot predates sewer, potential for privy/cistern complex; unclear that subsequent building destroyed archaeological potential	Trenching at rear of building to determine presence or absence of cistern and at mid and rear lot lines for evidence of privy
Lot 28 (796 Kent Avenue) No ownership information	Built by 1867 Possible sewer connection by 1867	2 story frame dwelling with 1 story extension	3 story dwelling w. 2 extensions & store on ground floor	Bldg. on lot predates sewer, potential for privy/cistern complex	Trenching at rear of building to determine presence or absence of cistern and at mid and rear lot lines for evidence of privy.



## Research Issues

Based on the previous observations, the research issues fall into several categories:

1. Immigration  
Where had the majority of the adults living within the project area been born. Were they born in the United States, and, if not, what was their country of origin? If they had been born in the United States, were they native Brooklynites or had they come from other sections of the country? If so, from where? Federal Census data has been examined, but an archaeological investigation may provide additional information concerning the material culture of immigrant families from different parts of Europe.
2. Ethnicity  
The surnames associated with the project area are Irish, Scottish, English and German. The majority of the adults were Irish, suggesting that this a neighborhood was ethnically homogeneous. Is it possible to distinguish between the refuse of the English-speaking families and those of German descent? Were other ethnic groups represented? Is that diversity evidenced in the refuse discarded?
3. Occupation and Trade networks  
The area is close to the Brooklyn Navy Yard and industries that were related to the work of the Navy Yard. This is not clearly seen in the occupations of the persons who owned the various properties within the project area. Is it reflected in the refuse of the residents? Were the owners of the stores occupants of the building? Is this reflected in the refuse? Were home industries represented? Indications of the occupations might be reflected in the debris discarded from the houses.
4. Economic Status of Working Class Population  
Although the dates of the sewer connections suggest that persons made connections as soon as they were available, the several instances in which the tax assessments were lowered and the one instance in which the City of Brooklyn took a property may indicate a population was that became economically disadvantaged. The types of consumer goods and foodstuffs present in any privy/cistern deposit may increase our knowledge of this population in Brooklyn. Comparisons with other neighborhoods in Brooklyn and Manhattan could provide important insights into a community that was economically disadvantaged.
5. Other research issues  
In addition to the themes already noted, information could also be gathered on the social status of the population, gender and details of daily life of a densely populated community in the vicinity of the Brooklyn Navy Yard from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century into the 20th century.

The Stage 1B field investigation will permit us to determine the extent to which the potential resources located within the project area can contribute to our knowledge of the historical and cultural development of Brooklyn and enlarge our understanding of the

Proposal for Stage 1B Archaeological Field Survey

7

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

relationship of the community to the wider metropolitan area. It will also permit us to determine the integrity of any resources and assess their potential for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

**Work Plan:**

In developing the methodology for the field survey, the CEQR Technical Manual (December, 1993) was consulted. Section 512.1 (Paragraph 2) states:

*For sites where only a portion of the archaeological resources would be affected by the proposed action, current thinking calls for treatment of the entire archaeological site, because if a portion of a site is destroyed then the integrity of the entire site is damaged. (Page 3F-15)*

Using this statement as a guide, it is proposed that three trenches will be dug to determine the presence or absence of historical archaeological resources within the project area. One trench will be located along the rear property line. This trench can assist in the location and identification of the structures identified in the Stage 1A Literature Review – some of which may be privies. The second trench will be located mid-lot – this trench will be looking for evidence of small structures identified in this location that are specifically called “W.C.s” (water closets/privies). A third trench will be located near the rear of the house foundations – this trench will be to locate any cisterns that might exist on the property. Each of these trenches should be approximately 5 feet wide and run the width of the project area. For the purposes of archaeological investigation, the trenches will not need to exceed approximately 6 feet in depth.

**Brief description of the work to be performed:****Walk-over of the site and review of the Stage 1A material**

The field archaeologist will visit the site and using a topographical maps and other materials presented in the Stage 1A report will determine and stake out the location for the three trenches, and the entire area will be walked and examined for refuse pits and sheet deposits.

**Trenching and identification of subsurface features (if any)**

Mechanical excavation will be done with a backhoe. The field archaeologist will direct the backhoe operator at a date and time to be determined with the contractor who will supply the backhoe. The client will pay the cost of the backhoe operator and any other personnel deemed necessary by the contractor. The work performed by the backhoe operator will, however, be under the direct supervision of the field archaeologist, who is the principal investigator.

It will be necessary for the operator to remove the asphalt surface that currently covers a large percentage of the site, the upper layer of soil, and any rubble in a controlled manner to permit the location and identification of subsurface features. A proportion of the material removed by the backhoe will be screened through

Proposal for Stage 1B Archaeological Field Survey.

8

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York

1/4-inch hardware cloth to determine whether artifacts are present. The depths of the trenching, colors of the soil, and any unusual features, such as dark bands in the soil, will be noted on work sheets. Cultural material, if any, will be placed in bags and identified as to the lot on which they were retrieved, the depth at which they were located and the context in which they were found.

If mechanical excavation reveals subsurface features, manual excavation will replace mechanical excavation to determine the type of feature, its general date, integrity, and significance.

Although it is not expected that prehistoric materials will be identified in the Stage 1B investigation, the principal investigator will examine monitor the area as it is excavated to determine whether any evidence of prehistoric occupation exists. If such evidence should be found, manual excavation will replace mechanical excavation in that area.

The New York City Landmarks Preservation staff will be informed of the dates for the work so that a field visit can be scheduled.

- Examination of the walls of the rear yard trenches, photography and preparation of cross-sections of the trench (if needed)

Following the completion of the mechanical trenching, the exposed walls of the trenches will be photographed, and, if significant features are present, they will be drawn in cross-section.

Conclusion of field investigation

If no subsurface features are located, the backhoe excavation will continue until natural subsoil is reached. However, based on investigation in other areas in the general vicinity, it is anticipated that subsoil will be reached between 9 and 14 feet.

If subsurface features found to possess archaeological integrity are located, they will be left in place for future mitigation.

Upon completion of the Stage 1B field investigation, subsurface features, if any, will be covered with tarps and the trenches will be refilled.

- Laboratory Analysis

Although it is understood that the full excavation and retrieval of resources encountered is not included in this contract, analysis of any cultural material recovered will be necessary. The artifacts collected from the site will, therefore, be taken to the laboratory. The specific archaeological laboratory tasks include the cleaning and processing of all recovered material. Artifacts will be identified, as far as possible, as to temporal affiliation, material type, style, function, form, and

Proposal for Stage 1B Archaeological Field Survey.

9

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

so forth. When the analysis of the historic material is complete, the resulting artifact catalogue will be computerized.

• Report Preparation

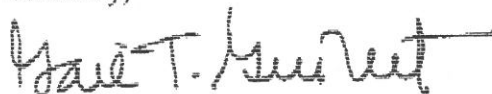
Following the completion of the field work and artifact analysis, a Stage 1B archaeological report will be prepared. The report will consist of the results of the investigations, the artifact catalogue, and appropriate maps, photographs, and figures, and recommendation for further work. This report will be submitted to the client and to the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission for their review.

Professional services and production costs:

The cost for the Stage 1B Archaeological Field Investigation will be \$xxxx excluding expenses, which will not exceed \$xxx. A detailed budget is appended. In order to proceed with the field investigation of the property, it will be necessary to receive a retainer in the amount of \$xxxx prior to our beginning work. This retainer check serves as an authorization to proceed and enables us to pay our field crew and expenses. Final payment (\$xxxx) will be due upon delivery of the Stage 1B report. Please note that the costs associated with the project do not include the cost of the backhoe and operator. Based on prior experience in Brooklyn, the cost of the equipment and operator will not exceed \$xxxx. If City/Scape undertakes to engage the backhoe operator, in addition to the retainer check for \$xxxx, a separate check for \$xxxx will be required prior to the start of work.

If you have any questions concerning the proposal or the cost estimate, I would, of course, be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



Gail T. Guillet

cc: Patrick Jones, Sheldon Lobel, PC