

Xaverian High School Expansion Project

7100 Shore Road (Block 5883, Lot 1)

BAY RIDGE, BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, KINGS COUNTY, NEW YORK

Phase 1A Archaeological Documentary Study

Prepared for:

Xaverian
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A. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Xaverian High School—a private, co-educational, Catholic, college preparatory school for grades 6 through 12—is proposing to construct an addition to its existing campus in the Bay Ridge neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY (see **Figure 1**). While new construction and ground disturbance are expected to occur only on the eastern portion of the campus, for the purposes of this study the project site is defined to include the entire campus at 7100 Shore Road (Block 5883, Lot 1). The campus is currently developed with a three- to four-story main school building constructed between 1956 and 1957. To the rear (east) of the main school building is a one-story addition that was constructed in 1980 and is now known as the “Genesis wing.” To the east of the Genesis wing is a paved surface parking lot. In the northeast corner of the campus sits a small 18th- and 19th-century family burial ground that was established and utilized by members of the Barkeloo (also spelled Barkaloo, Barkuloo, Barkalew, Borckeloo, or Van Borculo) and Cortelyou families and has not been used for human burials for nearly two centuries. For the purposes of this investigation, the spelling “Barkeloo” will be adopted for consistency, except for where alternate spellings from historical records are cited.

The proposed addition to the school would be located within the eastern side of the existing campus and would be undertaken in two parts. First, an additional floor would be constructed atop the existing Genesis wing; the footprint of that structure would not change. Next, a new two-story addition with below-grade parking would be constructed on what is now the surface parking lot. The proposed addition is expected to be located several feet south and west of the burial ground and no impacts or changes to the burial ground are proposed as part of the proposed project. No exterior changes are proposed to the existing main building.

To facilitate the construction of the proposed addition, the school is seeking two variances from the New York City Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA) (the “Proposed Actions”). These actions are subject to New York City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR), and BSA will serve as the lead agency for the environmental review. Pursuant to CEQR, consultation was initiated with the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) regarding the proposed project. In a comment letter issued August 8, 2023, LPC requested an archaeological documentary study to further document potential archaeological resources on the project site, specifically resources related to the adjacent burial ground.

B. RESEARCH GOALS AND METHODOLOGY

This Phase 1A Archaeological Documentary Study of the project site has been designed to satisfy the requirements of LPC as issued in 2018. The study documents the development history of the project site and its potential to yield archaeological resources, including both precontact and historic cultural resources. In addition, this report documents the current conditions of the project site, as well as previous cultural resource investigations that have taken place in the vicinity.

This Phase 1A Archaeological Documentary Study has five major goals: (1) to determine the likelihood that the project site was occupied during the precontact (Native American) and/or historic periods; (2) to determine the effect of subsequent development and landscape alteration on any potential archaeological

resources that may have been located within the project site; (3) to confirm the historical boundaries of the burial ground located on the campus; (4) to make a determination of the project site's potential archaeological sensitivity; and (5) to make recommendations for further archaeological analysis, if necessary. The steps taken to fulfill these goals are explained in greater detail below.

The first goal of this documentary study is to determine the likelihood that the project site was inhabited during the precontact and/or historic periods and identify activities that may have taken place in the vicinity that would have resulted in the deposition of archaeological resources.

The second goal of this Phase 1A study is to determine the likelihood that archaeological resources could have survived intact within the project site after development and landscape alteration (e.g., erosion, grading, filling, etc.). Potential disturbance—associated with paving, utility installation, and other previous construction impacts—was also considered. As described by the New York Archaeological Council (NYAC) in its *Standards for Cultural Resource Investigations and the Curation of Archaeological Collections in New York State*, published in 1994 and subsequently adopted by SHPO:

An estimate of the archaeological sensitivity of a given area provides the archaeologist with a tool with which to design appropriate field procedures for the investigation of that area. These sensitivity projections are generally based upon the following factors: statements of locational preferences or tendencies for particular settlement systems, characteristics of the local environment which provide essential or desirable resources (e.g., proximity to perennial water sources, well-drained soils, floral and faunal resources, raw materials, and/or trade and transportation routes), the density of known archaeological and historical resources within the general area, and the extent of known disturbances which can potentially affect the integrity of sites and the recovery of material from them (NYAC 1994: 2).

The third goal of this study is to utilize documentary research (e.g., historical maps and property records) to document any historical changes to the burial ground to define the limits of the area used for human burials within the project site and to determine if the historical limits are within the modern burial ground boundary.

The fourth goal of this study is to make a determination of the project site's archaeological sensitivity. As stipulated by the NYAC standards, sensitivity assessments should be categorized as low, moderate, or high to reflect "the likelihood that cultural resources are present within the project area" (NYAC 1994: 10). For the purposes of this study, those terms are defined as follows:

- Low: Areas of low sensitivity are those where the original topography would suggest that Native American sites would not be present (i.e., locations at great distances from fresh and saltwater resources), locations where no historic activity occurred before the installation of municipal water and sewer networks, or those locations determined to be sufficiently disturbed so that archaeological resources are not likely to remain intact.
- Moderate: Areas with topographical features that would suggest Native American occupation, documented historic period activity, and with some disturbance, but not enough to eliminate the possibility that archaeological resources are intact on the project site.
- High: Areas with topographical features that would suggest Native American occupation, documented historic period activity, and minimal or no documented disturbance.

The fifth and final goal of this study is to make recommendations for additional archaeological investigations where necessary. According to NYAC standards, Phase 1B testing is generally warranted for areas determined to have moderate or higher sensitivity. Archaeological testing is designed to determine the presence or absence of archaeological resources that could be impacted by a proposed

project. Should they exist on the project site, such archaeological resources could provide new insight into precontact occupation in southwestern Brooklyn, the transition from Native American to European settlement, or the historic period occupation of the project site.

To satisfy the goals as outlined above, documentary research was completed to establish a chronology of the project site's development, landscape alteration, and to identify any individuals who may have owned the land or worked and/or resided there, and to determine if buildings were present there in the past. Data were gathered from various published and unpublished primary and secondary resources, such as historic maps, topographical analyses (both modern and historic), historic and current photographs (including aerial imagery), newspaper articles, local histories, and previously conducted archaeological surveys. These published and unpublished resources were consulted at various repositories, including the Main Research Branch of the New York Public Library (including the Local History and Map Divisions) and the Library of Congress. Previously identified sites and previously conducted archaeological resources in the vicinity were collected from the files of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) and the New York State Museum (NYSM). Information on previously identified archaeological sites and previous cultural resources assessments was accessed through the New York State Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS). Online textual archives, such as Google Books and the Internet Archive Open Access Texts, were also accessed.

A. CURRENT CONDITIONS

The campus is developed with a three- to four-story main school building constructed between 1956 and 1957 (see **Photographs 1 through 8 on Figures 2A through 2D**). The school was developed with a basement and a subbasement. To the rear (east) of the school is the one-story (with basement) is an addition now known as the Genesis wing that was constructed in 1980 (see **Photographs 1 through 3 and 8 on Figures 2A, 2B and 2D**). To the east of the wing is a paved surface parking lot surrounded by landscaped areas and an iron fence (see **Photographs 4, 5, and 6 on Figures 2B and 2C**). A 10,000-gallon underground fuel oil storage tank that was decommissioned and closed-in-place in October 2016 is located in the side yard at the northwestern corner of the school (CBRE 2015).

A small 18th- and 19th-century burial ground formerly associated with the Barkeloo and Cortelyou families is located at the northeast corner of the block (see **Photographs 6 and 7 on Figures 2C and 2D**). The burial ground encroaches on the sidewalk of Mackay Place to the north. It is currently landscaped and surrounded by a low iron fence. As described in **Chapter 4, “The Historic Period,”** the burial ground’s current footprint and layout were established as part of an early 20th century restoration. The ground surface of the burial ground and the small lawn surrounding it on the north are located at the same elevation as the adjacent street grade. At a distance of 10 to 12 feet south of the northern boundary of the project site, a retaining wall separates the lawn area from the adjacent parking lot, the ground surface of which is 3 to 4 feet lower than that of the burial ground and the adjacent street.

B. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

The project site is situated within a geographic province known as the Atlantic Coastal Plain (Isachsen, et al. 2000). Brooklyn’s physical setting was shaped by massive glaciers up to 1,000 feet thick that retreated from the area toward the end of the Pleistocene. There were four major glaciations that lasted until approximately 12,000 years ago when the Wisconsin period—the last glacial period—came to an end. During the Wisconsin ice age, a glacial moraine known as the “Terminal Moraine” traveled southwest across Staten Island. The progression of the Terminal Moraine resulted in the separation of the Atlantic Coastal Plain in southern Brooklyn from the rest of Long Island to the north and northeast. The project site is situated in the vicinity of the moraine, while its underlying bedrock is unidentified, the area is characterized by glacial and alluvial deposits dating to the Quaternary Period of the Cenozoic Era beginning 2 million years ago (Fisher, et al. 1970; Isachsen, et al. 2000). Surficial geological deposits are identified as “till moraine,” which is more permeable and more variably sorted and drained than other till deposits (Cadwell 1989). These glacial till deposits are believed to extend to depths of approximately 175 feet below the ground surface and are underlain by layers of clay and gravel (CBRE 2015).

C. HYDROLOGY

As the glaciers receded, the ensuing runoff created streams, rivers, and lakes as well as thick tracts of marshland in the low-lying areas along Brooklyn’s coastline. As recently as a few thousand years ago, the sea level was 2 to 4 meters (6.6 to 13.1 feet) lower than it is at present and the coastline was located

farther out into New York Bay, hundreds of meters south of its present location (GRA 2014). Prior to the development of Brooklyn's waterfront to the west, the project site was historically located approximately 100 feet from the waterfront of the Narrows, the body of water separating Brooklyn and Staten Island. Due to the presence of the moraine, the coastline along the Narrows was largely composed of dry upland prior to modern urban development. The 1898 USGS map indicates that between 7,000 and 9,000 feet to the northeast and southeast, numerous small ponds were located in the immediate vicinity of the moraine's southern extent. Farther south along Brooklyn's southern coastline beyond the area of moraine, the coastline was more consistently covered with inundated wetland areas. Groundwater is expected to be situated at depths of 10 to 15 feet below the current ground surface (CBRE 2015).

D. SOILS

The Web Soil Survey maintained by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s National Resource Conservation Service indicates that the project site is situated in an area characterized by a single soil type, the Urban Land-Greenbelt Complex. These soils are typically found in well-developed urban areas with slopes of 0 to 3 percent. The typical profile of this soil type is summarized in **Table 2-1**. Three shallow soil borings advanced near the northwestern corner of the project site confirm the presence of layers of sand to a depth of up to 16 to 22 feet beneath the topsoil/sod layer (CBRE 2016).

Table 2-1
Project Area Soils

Series Name	Typical Soil Profile			Slope (%)	Drainage	Landform
	Level	Soil Horizon Depth (inches)	Soil Type			
Urban Land-Greenbelt Complex (UGA)	M	0 to 15	Cemented Material	0 to 3	n/a	Summit
	2^C	15 to 79	Gravelly Sandy Loam			
Sources: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey: https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov (accessed August 2023).						

E. ASSESSMENT OF LANDSCAPE MODIFICATION IN THE 20TH CENTURY

The 1898 USGS map (see **Figure 3**) depicts the project site in a generally level area with a slight slope up to the east between the waterfront and a point east of Narrows Avenue, which was situated at an elevation of 20 feet above mean sea level. The contour lines shown on the 1898 USGS map are similar to those seen on the 1855 Gilbert coastal survey, the oldest map with seemingly detailed topographical data.

Modern topographical information obtained from Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) analysis as published by the City of New York in 2017¹ indicates that the ground surface in the eastern portion of the project site in the vicinity of what is now the school's parking lot is situated at an elevation of 20 feet relative to the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88). In the area of the burial ground, the ground surface slopes up slightly to the northeast to a maximum elevation of 24 feet NAVD88. As described in **Chapter 4, "The Historic Period,"** the burial ground as it currently exists represents a 20th century renovation that altered the ground surface at the time of the renovation and not the burial ground's ground surface as it existed during the burial ground's period of active use. The ground surface beneath the school slopes up to the northwest between elevations of 20 and 26 feet NAVD88; the slope is a result of the modifications to the ground surface that occurred during the construction of the school and the Genesis wing, both of which have basement and/or sub-basement levels.

¹ Issued by the New York City Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications (DoITT) in 2019.

A. PRECONTACT CONTEXT

Archaeologists have divided the time between the arrival of the first humans in northeastern North America and the arrival of Europeans more than 10,000 years later into three periods: Paleo-Indian (11,000-10,000 BP), Archaic (10,000-2,700 BP), and Woodland (2,700 BP–AD 1500). These divisions are based on certain changes in environmental conditions, technological advancements, and cultural adaptations, which are observable in the archaeological record.

PALEO-INDIAN PERIOD

Human populations did not inhabit the Northeast until the glaciers retreated more than 11,000 years ago. These new occupants included Native American populations referred to by archaeologists as Paleo-Indians, the forebears of the Delaware—also called the Lenape Indians—who would inhabit the land in later years. Archaeological evidence suggests that the Paleo-Indians were likely highly mobile hunters and gatherers who utilized a distinct style of lithic technology, typified by fluted points. They appear to have lived in small groups of fewer than 50 individuals (Dincauze 2000) and did not maintain permanent campsites. In addition, most of the Paleo-Indian sites that have been investigated were located near water sources. Because of the close proximity of Paleo-Indian sites to the coastline, few have been preserved in the New York City area. Of the few Paleo-Indian sites that have been discovered in New York City, nearly all have been found on Staten Island.

ARCHAIC PERIOD

The Archaic period has been sub-divided into three chronological segments, based on trends identified in the archaeological record which reflect not only the ecological transformations that occurred during this period, but the cultural changes as well. These have been termed the Early Archaic (10,000–8,000 BP), the Middle Archaic (8,000–6,000 BP), and the Late Archaic (6,000–2,700 BP) (Cantwell and Wall 2001). The Late Archaic is sometimes further divided to include the Terminal Archaic (3,000-2,700 BP). The abundance of food resources that arose during this period allowed the Archaic Native Americans to occupy individual sites on a permanent or semi-permanent basis, unlike their nomadic Paleo-Indian predecessors. Fishing technology was developed during the Middle Archaic in response to an increasing dependence on the area's marine resources. Tools continued to be crafted in part from foreign lithic materials, indicating that there was consistent trade among Native American groups from various regions in North America throughout the Archaic period.

The rising sea levels and rapid development of the area, as well as the dominance of coniferous forests at that time generated a habitat ill-fit for human habitation (Boesch 1994), and few Early Archaic sites have been identified in New York City. Most of those that have been identified are located on Staten Island, including Ward's Point at the southwestern tip of the island; Richmond Hill; the H. F. Hollowell site; and the Old Place site. Sites such as Ward's Point—a domestic habitation location that due to lowered sea levels was originally inland—tend to be deep and stratified and have yielded stone tools related to cooking, woodworking, and hide processing. The many years of constant occupation caused the artifacts to be deeply buried under more recent debris deposits (Cantwell and Wall 2001). However, at the Old

Place Site, the only artifacts that were discovered—stone tool assemblages—were found at relatively shallow depths of around 42 inches or 3.5 feet (Ritchie 1980).

There are also few Middle Archaic sites in the region. The majority of these tend to consist of large shell middens, which are often found near major watercourses such as the Hudson River, although stone points have also been found in such locations. These sites were in great danger of obliteration because of their proximity to the shrinking coastlines thousands of years ago. Unlike the Early and Middle periods, many Late Archaic sites have been found throughout the New York City area. Late Archaic habitation sites are often found in areas of low elevation near watercourses, and temporary hunting sites are often located near sandy areas (Boesch 1994).

Finally, many Terminal Archaic sites from all across the city have provided examples of what archaeologists call the “Orient” culture, which is characterized by long fishtail stone points and soapstone bowls. Extremely elaborate Orient burial sites have been found on eastern Long Island (Ritchie 1980).

WOODLAND PERIOD

The Woodland period represents a cultural revolution of sorts for the Northeast. During this time, Native Americans began to alter their way of life, focusing on a settled, agricultural lifestyle rather than one of nomadic hunting and gathering. Social rituals become visible in the archaeological record at this time. Composite tools, bows and arrows, domesticated dogs, and elaborately decorated pottery were introduced to Native American culture, and burial sites grew increasingly complex. Woodland-era sites across North America indicate that there was an overall shift toward full-time agriculture and permanently settled villages. Woodland sites in New York City, however, suggest that the Native Americans there continued to hunt and forage on a part-time basis. This was most likely due to the incredibly diverse environmental niches that could be found across the region throughout the Woodland period (Cantwell and Wall 2001; Grumet 1995).

B. PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED NATIVE AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES NEAR THE PROJECT SITE

In general, Native American habitation sites are most often located in coastal areas with access to marine resources and near fresh water sources and areas of high elevation and level slopes of less than 12 to 15 percent (NYAC 1994). The pre-development landscape of the project site included a level upland area along the waterfront in the vicinity of ample marine resources. The original ecological setting suggests that the project site would have been an ideal location for a seasonal camping or resource acquisition/processing site. However, it is unclear if reliable sources of fresh water were present in the immediate vicinity, and the proximity of the site to the waterfront—less than 100 feet—may have made it subject to tidal fluctuations over many millennia.

Further indication of the potential presence of Native American activity near a project site is indicated by the number of precontact archaeological sites that have been previously identified in the vicinity. Information regarding such previously identified archaeological sites was obtained from various locations including the site files of OPRHP and NYSM, and from published accounts. One previously reported archaeological site has been identified within one mile of the project site in databases maintained by OPRHP and NYSM and accessed via CRIS (see **Table 3-1**). The project site is located within a generalized area of archaeological sensitivity as mapped by OPRHP; however, that buffer was designated relative to a historic period archaeological site.

Table 3-1

Previously Identified Precontact Archaeological Sites within One Mile of the Project Site

Site Number	Distance to Project Site	Time Period	Site Type	Additional Source(s)
NYSM 3605	3,500 feet	Precontact	Cache of lithic tools initially discovered in 1837	Parker (1920)
Sources: CRIS database.				

A. THE EARLY HISTORY OF NEW UTRECHT

New York was “discovered” by Giovanni de Verrazano in 1524 and explored by Henry Hudson in 1609, thus marking the beginning of European occupation in the area. By 1621, Brooklyn had become part of a Dutch colony and the States-General in the Netherlands chartered the Dutch West India Company (“WIC”) to consolidate Dutch activities in the New World (Burrows and Wallace 1999). In the 17th century, the WIC began to purchase large tracts of land from local Indigenous communities. The WIC began to purchase land in northwest Brooklyn in the late 1630s (Bolton 1975). It has been speculated that the sale of Brooklyn land “saved New Netherland from being abandoned by the West India Company” (Armbruster 1918: 3).

The western end of Long Island was settled in the first half of the 17th century by predominantly Dutch and Walloon (French Protestants from Belgium who fled to escape persecution) families (Stiles 1867). In 1638, land was granted to any individual who promised to establish a farm in the area (Armbruster 1918). Six independent towns were established in the second and third quarters of the century including New Utrecht, which was first settled by Dutch colonizers in 1639 (Stiles 1867). The WIC purchased the tract of land that would become the town of New Utrecht from Indigenous groups in 1645 (*ibid*). While at first the WIC granted patroonships—a patroon was the “feudal chief” of a small colony of fifty or more individuals (Stiles 1867: 20)—they found that farms were more successful if the land was granted directly to individual farmers. Therefore, the land was given the name Brooklyn, which is derived from the Dutch *Bruijkleen*, meaning “a free loan, given to a tenant or user for a certain consideration” (Armbruster 1914: 20). The name went through several changes throughout the Dutch and English colonial periods; from *Bruijkleen* to *Breukelen* to *Brookland* and, finally, to *Brooklyn*. English settlements were established throughout Brooklyn during the mid-1600s. In 1664, the English took control of the colony, and it was renamed “New York” (Stiles 1867).

B. THE COLONIAL OCCUPATION OF THE PROJECT SITE AND THE BARKELOO FAMILY BURIAL GROUND

What is now that portion of the Bay Ridge neighborhood in the vicinity of the project site was historically known as “Yellow Hook,” a name associated with the color of the sand during colonization in the 17th century (New Utrecht Historical Notes ca. 1900). Conveyance records summarizing the early ownership history of the project site are presented in **Table 4-1**. That portion of the Village of New Utrecht located south of the line of Bennet’s Lane—now 79th Street to the south of the project site—and west of Sixteenth Avenue was granted to a Dutch colonizer named Jaques Cortelyou (*ibid*). Cortelyou’s daughter, Maria, married fellow Dutch colonizer Willem Barkeloo and they inherited the western portion of the Cortelyou farm after 1697; the two families would continue to intermarry in future generations (Bergen 1881; Spell 1953). Willem’s father, Harman Jans Van Borculo, emigrated to the New World and settled in New Utrecht in 1672 (Spell 1953). Willem and Maria had four children: Jaques (also spelled Jacques) Barkeloo; Harmanus Barkeloo, Sr.; Wilmetian Barkeloo; and Helen Barkeloo Blau (*ibid*).

Table 4-1
Summary of Selected Conveyance Records

Date	Liber	Page	Grantor	Grantee	Other
2/10/1718	4	161	Jaques and Altie Cortelyou and Peter and Deborah Cortelyou	William and Mary Borkelo	Land in New Utrecht
5/7/1732	5	69	William and Maria Barkeloo	Harmanus Barkeloo	£4,000; land in New Utrecht and a woodlot in Nayack woods with fences, roads, houses, barns, kitchens, stables, wells, waters, brooks, ponds, pools, beaches, swamps, gardens, orchards, woods, quarries, mines, and minerals
5/15/1801	7	260-272	Harmanus Barkeloo (dec'd)	Harmanus Barkeloo (Jr); Jacques Barkeloo; Maria Cropsey; Willempie Bennet; Sara Duryea	Agreements and legal documents regarding division of Barkeloo's estate among his children based on will dated 9/28/1752
1/25/1819	12	303	Maria Barkeloo, widow of Jaques	Heirs of Jaques Barkeloo	Quit claim for house and lot of land (half acre) at Yellow Hook
5/6/1833	36	91	Nathan B. Morse, Master in Chancery	Maria Cortelyou	[Document missing from FamilySearch collection]
8/20/1834	42	233	Maria Cortelyou of New Utrecht	Charles R. Cornell of Brooklyn and Latham Cornell of Troy, NY	\$7,000; 36-acre farm in Yellow Hook, Town of New Utrecht bounded to the north by Bay Ridge Avenue; to the east by Third Avenue; to the south by the Bergen family property; and to the west by the Narrows; excludes the family burial ground, ownership of which was reserved by the Cortelyou family and its heirs in perpetuity. Subject to Mortgage Liber 25, Page 88.
11/14/1840	93	150	Charles R. and Maria W. Cornell of Brooklyn and Latham and Sarah B. Cornell of Troy, NY	Charles Prince of New York	\$8,000; same parcel granted in Liber 42, Page 233; excepts the burial ground enclosed in a fence
12/16/1868	896	536	Elizabeth P. Child, heir of Charles Prince	John Mackay	\$40,000; includes 14.95-acre farm and water lot but excludes family burial ground, which was enclosed in a fence
Note: Dates included herein are document dates and may differ from the dates the conveyances were formally recorded by the Kings County Clerk.					
Sources: New York Land Records collection at FamilySearch.com.					

Harmanus Barkeloo, Sr. (1707-1753) inherited that portion of his family's farm that contained the project site, and he lived there with his wife, Sarah Terhune, and their nine children: John Barkeloo (b. 1734); William Barkeloo (d. before 1766); Harmanus Barkeloo, Jr. (1745-1788); Willempje Barkeloo Bennett (b. 1739); Sarah Barkeloo Duryea (b. 1741); Annetje Barkeloo (d. before 1766); Jacques Barkeloo (b. 1747); Mary or Maria Barjkeloo Cropsey; and Margaretta Barkeloo (Spell 1953).

By 1801, both Jaques and Harmanus Barkeloo would inherit their parents' land and maintain homes in the vicinity of the project site, though it appears that the project site itself was included in that portion later owned by Jaques (Kings County Conveyance Liber 7, Pages 260-272). Jaques Barkeloo married Maria Bogert, who later remarried Simon Cortelyou after Jaques' death in 1813. That year, an individual named

Jaques Barkeloo advertised the sale of a 32-acre farm in Yellow Hook that was within one mile of a public landing place and one mile of the Dutch Reformed Church (*The National Advocate* 1813). The property was described as developed with “a good dwelling house, a large new barn...a thrifty young orchard of grafted fruit, and a well of water near the door” (ibid). That portion of the farm now included within the project site appears to have been included within a portion of the ancestral estate that was transferred to Maria Barkeloo Cortelyou by a master-in-chancery in 1833 (Kings County Conveyance Liber 36, Page 91). Two coastal surveys published in the decade after the sale—drafted by Renard in 1837 and Hassler in 1844—depict precursors to modern Third Avenue and Bay Ridge Avenue to the east and north of the project site, but do not depict any buildings within the project site itself (see **Figure 4**). Houses are depicted on the maps along the waterfront more than 250 to 400 feet to the northwest and southwest of the project site.

During the 17th and 18th centuries, many large landowners in what is now the borough of Brooklyn established small family cemeteries on their farms for the purposes of interring family members, and occasionally other associated people who worked or lived there, including neighbors and enslaved persons (Meade 2020). The Barkeloo family also maintained a burial place on their farm (described in detail below). In 1834, more than a century after her ancestors first moved to the colonial village of New Utrecht, Maria Barkeloo Cortelyou transferred the land out of the family when she sold it to Charles R. Cornell, a resident of the City of Brooklyn, and his brother, Latham Cornell, a resident of the City of Troy, NY (Kings County Conveyance Liber 42, Page 233). The property sold at that time was 36 acres in size but a clause was inserted into the deed reserving ownership of the family burial ground located on the property, which was to remain under the ownership of the heirs of Maria Cortelyou in perpetuity.

SIZE AND LOCATION OF THE BARKELOO FAMILY BURIAL GROUND

As described previously, like many farm-owning families in Kings County in the 18th and 19th centuries, the Barkeloo family maintained a small family burial ground on their property. The burial ground is mapped on the 1890 Robinson map, which depicts it as a green rectangular area measuring approximately 18 by 25 to 30 feet, or 450 to 540 square feet/0.01 acres partially within the future streetbed of Mackay Place (see **Figure 5**). This is smaller than many other family cemeteries that were established in New York City, many of which were established in square parcels measuring 66 feet on each side, or an area of more than 4,300 square feet (Meade 2020: 244). In 1923, the burial ground was reported to be 27 by 20 by 15 feet (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 1923). The existing enclosure surrounding the burial ground is larger than that seen in 1890 and measures approximately 27 feet along its eastern boundary; 35 feet along its western side, and 71 feet along its northern and southern sides. The burial ground was previously enclosed with a white picket fence (Bloom 1923). The 1890 Robinson map depicts the burial ground largely within Mackay Place, which had not yet been constructed. A ca. 1875 map of the property of John Mackay as filed with Kings County (reproduced in Henry 2018) depicts the burial ground within the former Lot 22 at the northeast corner of the site, with only the northwest corner of the burial ground projecting into the adjacent sidewalk. This is consistent with the current northern boundary of the burial ground, which encroaches onto the sidewalk by 2 to 3 feet.

Graves were reportedly disinterred from the burial ground over the years, some allegedly during the middle of the night, and the fence-enclosed plot grew smaller and smaller before the fence posts were stolen for use as firewood (Bloom 1923). The disinterment of remains over time may have resulted in the decrease in the size of the burial ground enclosure on the 1890 map. Even though the burial ground was excluded from property transfers throughout the 19th century (see **Table 4-1**), the burial ground is not mapped as a distinct lot on most historical maps depicting property divisions, including historical tax

maps maintained by New York City.¹ A historical newspaper report suggests that in 1926, human remains were encountered during foundation work for an apartment building under construction 60 feet² from what is now the burial ground's fenced boundary (*Brooklyn Daily Times* 1929). This account could not be corroborated with other contemporary newspaper accounts, but if it is accurate, it could indicate that historically the burial ground was larger.

USE OF THE BURIAL GROUND AND KNOWN/SUSPECTED INTERMENTS AND DISINTERMENTS

Sources differ with respect to how many individuals were interred within the burial ground. In 1914, a list of twelve tombstone inscriptions or other burial records collected from a “private source” was prepared by William A. Eardeley (Eardeley 1916). Eardeley suspected that the list was incomplete and that other individuals, including members of the Stillwell family, were likely interred in the burial ground. Historian Charlotte Bangs (1912) estimated that as many as 40 to 50 individuals were interred in the burial ground. The list of suspected burials within the burial ground from documentary sources and a marker placed within the burial ground by the Bay Ridge Historical Society in 1984 is included in **Table 4-2**. It is unclear if the marker represents confirmed burials within the burial ground or if it represents Barkeloo family members who died while the burial ground was in active use and are presumed to be buried there.

Harmanus Barkeloo, Jr., (1745-1788) was a veteran of the Revolutionary War and served as a Second Lieutenant in the New Utrecht militia and fought in the Battle of Brooklyn (ibid; Bloom 1923). He died intestate in 1788, and the administrators of his estate included his wife, Elizabeth Duryea Barkleoo, Abraham Duryea, and Jaques Barkleoo (Ancestry.com 2011). His grave is frequently reported to be within the burial ground, and his remains were a key reason why the burial ground was restored by the Daughters of the American Revolution [DAR] in the 20th century (described below). However, the grave of Harmanus Barkeloo is also reported to be in New Jersey, where he died of smallpox while returning to Brooklyn from Pennsylvania in 1788 (*Plainfield Courier News* 1935). In 1935, a grave and tombstone bearing Barkeloo's name and birth/death dates was disinterred from a family burial ground on the Cornell farm and reinterred at the Old Dutch Parsonage in Somerville, New Jersey (ibid). An image of the relocated graves, including the tombstone of Harmanus Barkeloo, can be seen on the website Find-a-Grave.³ No other members of the family or other people known or suspected to have been interred within the Barkeloo Family Burial Ground are known to be buried in the burial ground in New Jersey.

Reports of graves having been disinterred and the remains relocated to other cemeteries could not be verified. The remains from many family cemeteries in the 19th century that were disinterred were relocated to Green-Wood Burial ground, which opened northeast of the project site in 1838 (Meade 2020). However, the individuals believed to have been interred in the family burial ground could not be located in Green-Wood's burial records. The possibility exists that burials could have occurred between the late 17th and early 19th centuries that were either unmarked or that were marked with stones that degraded or were damaged.

¹ <http://gis.nyc.gov/taxmap/>

² This reference presumably refers to the construction of the brick houses located between 29 and 39 Mackay Place—opposite the project site on the northern side of Mackay Place—ca. 1926.

³ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/7902706/harmanus-barkeloo>

Table 4-2

Known and Suspected Interments in the Barkeloo Family Burial Ground

Name	Date of Birth	Date of Death	Other
Cornelia Barkeloo	October 3, 1805	October 27, 1806	Father: Evert Barkeloo
Catharine Barkeloo	July 12, 1807	September 22, 1827	Father: Evert Barkeloo
Elizabeth Barkeloo	1783	1784	
Eida Barkleoo	November 29, 1809	September 23, 1818	Father: Evert Barkeloo
Evert Barkeloo	November 22, 1776	April 26, 1826	Parents: Jaques and Catherine Barkeloo
Harmanus Barkeloo	ca. 1705	ca. 1752	
Harmanus Barkeloo	1745	1788	Wife: Elizabeth Duryea
Jaques Barkeloo	February 21, 1747	April 8, 1813	First wife: Catharine Suydam Second wife: Maria Bogert Parents: Hermanus Barkeloo and Sarah Terhune Stone standing in 1912
Thorine Barkleoo	Unknown	May 3, 1788	Husband: Jaques Barkeloo Grave covered with beech tree in 1932
Willem Harmanse Van Barkeloo	ca. 1666	ca. 1725	
Wilmettian Barkeloo	ca. 1698	ca. 1721	
William Barkeloo	1780	1781	
Maria Bogert Barkeloo Cortelyou	September 23, 1768 or August 1769*	September 9, 1841 or 1842*	First husband (m. 1789 or 1791): Jaques Barkeloo Second husband (m. 1817): Simon Cortelyou Stone standing in 1914
Maria Cortelyou	ca. 1669	ca. 1721	
Simon Cortelyou	March 11, 1746	August 15, 1828	Parents: Peter Cortelyou and Angenietje/Agnes De Hart; Wife: Sarah (m. 1763)
Sarah Van Wyck Cortelyou	1743	March 3, 1816	Husband: Simon Cortelyou (m. 1763)
Maria Barkeloo Cropsey	1730	1799	Parents: Harmanus and Sarah Barkeloo
Caspar Cropsey	Unknown	Unknown	
Elizabeth Duryea	1745	1820	
Margaretta Barkeloo Wardell	January 16, 1798	August 11, 1835 or 1834*	Husband: Jacob Wardell Father: Evert Barkeloo Stone found buried in 1923
Catharine Suydam Barkeloo	1734 or July 5, 1753*	May 24, 1788	Husband: Jaques Barkleoo Father: Hendrick Suydam Stone standing in 1914
Harriet Suydam	November 13, 1782	January 5, 1828	Husband: Evert Barkeloo Father: Tunis Suydam
Sarah Terhune Barkeloo	ca. 1710	ca. 1760	
Catherine (Infant)	1766	1766	
Elizabeth (Infant)	1780	1780	
Johaness (infant)	Unknown	Unknown	
Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Stone standing in 1914, but illegible
Notes:	*Indicates inconsistency between Eardeley's 1914 stone transcriptions and the marker placed on the site in 1984. The extent to which these burials have been confirmed is unknown and this list may represent known members of the Barkeloo and Cortelyou families rather than known interments within the burial ground.		
Source:	Bangs 1912; Eardeley 1916; Bloom 1923; <i>Brooklyn Daily Eagle</i> 1932; Bogart 1959; granite marker placed in the burial ground by the Bay Ridge Historical Society 1984		

USE OF FORCED LABOR ON THE BARKELOO FARM

CENTURIES OF ENSLAVEMENT IN BROOKLYN

Slavery was an integral component of social and economic life in what is now the Borough of Brooklyn between the 17th and early 19th centuries. Slavery was not abolished in New York State until 1827, following a period of gradual manumission, and Brooklyn's economy therefore benefitted from centuries of forced labor (Berlin and Harris 2005). The portion of Brooklyn's population occupied by free and enslaved individuals of African descent rose from nearly 18 percent at the beginning of the 18th century to more than 32 percent at the century's end (Greene and Harrington 1981). While the role of forced labor in Brooklyn is not well documented in the historical record, enslaved persons were present in large numbers on farms throughout the county—representing “the highest proportion of slaveholders and slaves in the North” (Linder and Zacharias 1999: 81). The labor of enslaved persons helped Brooklyn become a center for agriculture in the region, and farmers of European descent generated significant profits, allowing the system to thrive for hundreds of years and remain more prevalent in Brooklyn than in other parts of New York City in the years leading up to 1827 (Linder and Zacharias 1999).

A diary maintained between 1828 and 1830 by Adriance Van Brunt—whose farm was located in the vicinity of the Gowanus Canal to the north of the project site, but whose family also owned farms in New Utrecht—confirms that even after the end of slavery, many individuals of African descent continued to work as indentured servants and the extent to which they were truly free is unclear as others continued to profit from their labor (AKRF 2018). The continued presence of formerly enslaved persons within the homes of their former enslavers was noted across Brooklyn in the years following emancipation but decreased toward the middle of the 19th century (Linder and Zacharias 1999). The Van Brunt diary refers to those individuals who continued to perform labor following emancipation as “bound” and makes references to salaries paid to individuals of African descent, which were less than those paid to persons of European descent, as well as payments made to the “masters” of indentured servants living on other farms.

ENSLAVED PERSONS ON THE BARKELOO AND CORTELYOU FARMS

Jaques Barkeloo (1747-1813) would inherit the portion of his family's land in the vicinity of the project site where he lived with his wife, Maria Bogert. Maria would continue to live there with her second husband, Simon Cortelyou, after Jaques' death in 1813 (Eardeley 1916). Cortelyou's family owned large tracts of farmland throughout New Utrecht. Additional land in the area was owned by Jaques' brother, Harmanus Barkeloo, Jr., and his widow, Elizabeth Duryea Barkeloo, and their descendants. Census records for New Utrecht, Kings County taken in 1790, 1800, and 1820 recorded enslaved persons or free people of color residing in homes owned by the Barkeloo or Cortelyou families (see **Table 4-2**). As the division and development of the land during the Barkeloo's ownership is unknown and it is unclear which member of the family historically owned or occupied the project site, all members of the Barkeloo families living in New Utrecht have been included in **Table 4-2**, as are records for Simon Cortelyou following his marriage to Jaques' widow Maria in 1817.

Table 4-2

Evidence of Enslavement in Census Records for Barkeloo/Cortelyou Family 1790-1830

Census Year/Location	Head of Household	Household Composition	Other
1790 New Utrecht	Elizabeth Barkuloo	2 Free White Males Age 16+ 3 Free White Males Age <16 3 Free White Females 5 Enslaved Persons	Presumably the widow of Harmanus Barkeloo, Sr.
	Jaques Barkuloo	2 Free White Males Age 16+ 5 Free White Males Age <16 4 Free White Females 3 Other Free Persons	
1800 New Utrecht	Elizabeth Barculow	1 Free White Male Age 10<15 3 Free White Males Age 16<25 2 Free White Males Age 26<44 1 Free White Female Age 10<15 1 Free White Female Age 26<44 1 Free White Female Age 45+ 7 Enslaved Persons	
1800 New Utrecht (cont'd)	Herman Barculow	1 Free White Male Age <10 1 Free White Male Age 16<25 1 Free White Female Age 10<15	
	Jaques Barculow	2 Free White Males Age 10<15 1 Free White Male Age 16<25 1 Free White Male Age 45+ 3 Free White Females Age <10 2 Free White Females Age 16<25 1 Free White Females Age 16<44 1 Other Free Person 1 Enslaved Person	
	John Barculow	1 Free White Male Age 16<25 1 Free White Female Age <10 1 Free White Female Age 16<25 1 Other Free Person	
1820 New Utrecht	Harmanus H. Barkulow	1 Free White Male Age <10 2 Free White Males Age 10<14 1 Free White Males Age 45+ 2 Free White Females Age <10 1 Free White Female Age 10<16 1 Free White Female Age 26<45 1 Free Male of Color Age <14 1 Free Female of Color Age 14<326	

Table 4-2, cont'd

Evidence of Enslavement in Census Records for Barkeloo/Cortelyou Family 1790-1830

Census Year/Location	Head of Household	Household Composition	Other
1820 New Utrecht	Simon Cottelyea	1 Free White Male Age <10 1 Free White Male Age 10<14 1 Free White Male Age 16<26 1 Free White Male Age 26<45 1 Free White Male Age 45+ 1 Free White Female Age <10 2 Free White Females Age 16<26 1 Free White Female Age 16<26 2 Free White Females Age 26<45 2 Free White Females Age 45+ 3 Enslaved Males Age <14 1 Enslaved Male Age 14<26 2 Enslaved Males Age 26<45 1 Enslaved Male Age 45+ 3 Enslaved Females Age <14 1 Enslaved Female Age 14<26 1 Enslaved Female Age 26<45 1 Enslaved Female Age 45+ 1 Free Female of Color Age <14 1 Free Female of Color Age 14<26	3 Members of house engaged in agriculture
Notes: Several households associated with the Barkeloo family were recorded in the New Utrecht area in the 1810 census; however, enslaved persons or other people of African descent were not included among the residents at that time.			
Source: Federal census records accessed via Ancestry.com			

As shown in **Table 4-2**, the household of Elizabeth Barkeloo included five enslaved people in 1790 and seven enslaved people in 1800. The home of Jaques Barkeloo included three free persons of unknown—and possibly African—descent in 1790 and one free person of African descent and one enslaved person of African descent in 1800. No people of African descent, either free or enslaved, were recorded in any of the Barkeloo family households in 1810, suggesting they may have manumitted their enslaved persons before that time. This is consistent with birth records of enslaved people in New Utrecht, which indicate that between 1801 and 1808, at least three enslaved children were born to enslaved mothers “owned” by Jaques and Harmanus H. Barkeloo, the son of Harmanus Barkeloo, Jr. and his wife, Elizabeth (see **Table 4-3**). Harmanus H. Barkeloo, included two free people of African descent who could have been formerly enslaved persons living in the home following their manumission.

Table 4-3

Birth Records of Enslaved Persons Enslaved by the Barkeloo/Cortelyou Families

Name of Enslaved Person	Name of Enslaver	Birth Date	Other
Fillis	Jaques Barkuloo	2/8/1801	Mother also enslaved on Barkuloo farm
Tom	Harmon H. Barkuloo	12/9/1805	Mother also enslaved on Barkuloo farm
Michael	Harmon H. Barkuloo	12/7/1808	Mother also enslaved on Barkuloo farm
Harry	Simon Cortelyou	6/14/1803	Mother also enslaved on Cortelyou farm
Stephen	Simon Cortelyou	1/7/1806	Mother also enslaved on Cortelyou farm
Sarah	Simon Cortelyou	12/8/1808	Mother also enslaved on Cortelyou farm
Susan	Simon Cortelyou	1/29/1812	Mother also enslaved on Cortelyou farm
Hannah	Simon Cortelyou	10/16/1814	Mother also enslaved on Cortelyou farm
Source: Kings County Commissioner of Records 1909			

Simon Cortelyou, who acquired the property of Jaques Barkeloo after his 1817 marriage to Barkeloo's widow, Maria Bogert, was from a large enslaving family. The 1820 census indicates that his household included at least thirteen enslaved persons and two free persons of African descent. Birth records indicate that at least five enslaved children were born to mothers enslaved by Cortelyou between 1803 and 1814. While those births pre-dated his marriage to Maria Barkeloo, it is possible that he brought enslaved people to the Barkeloo farm when he relocated there or that their stolen labor was otherwise utilized to run the households and farms in the vicinity of the project site.

POTENTIAL FOR ENSLAVED PERSONS TO BE BURIED ON THE BARKELOO FARM

Many families in Brooklyn and the surrounding metropolitan area that were responsible for the enslavement of persons of African descent maintained burial grounds for enslaved persons on their farms (Meade 2020). While burial places for enslaved people were poorly documented, other enslavers are known to have interred the bodies of enslaved persons in proximity to the burial places reserved for members of the enslavers' family (Meade 2020). The possibility therefore remains that undocumented burials of enslaved persons could have occurred in the vicinity of the family burial ground or elsewhere on the larger Barkeloo farm.

C. RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT SITE IN THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURIES

As described previously, Maria Cortelyou sold the Barkeloo family farm to Charles and Latham Cornell in 1834. It is unclear if the Cornell family lived on the property before they sold it to Charles Prince, then a resident of Manhattan, in 1840 (Kings County Conveyance Liber 93, Page 150). The deed recording Prince's purchase continued to indicate that ownership of the family burial ground remained within the Barkeloo-Cortelyou family. The 1844 Hassler coastal survey (see **Figure 4**) depicts the project site as a small part of a large, undivided farm. However, by the publication of the 1852 Connor map, the southwestern corner of the former Barkeloo farm had been subdivided into three smaller lots, two of which were within the project site in addition to the southern side of the Prince property. These three parcels are discussed in detail below.

PRINCE/CHILDS/MACKAY PARCEL

Charles Prince is shown as the owner of a large parcel lining the northern side of the project site on the 1852 Connor map, and the Prince house was located to the north of the site. Charles Prince does not appear as a resident of New Utrecht in the 1850 federal census. In the 1855 New York State census, the residents of a frame house included Charles Prince, Sr., his son, Charles C. Prince, daughter Elizabeth T. [sic] Child, and an Irish domestic servant named Mary Lee. Prince died intestate in 1856, and the property was inherited by his sole heir, Elizabeth P. Child (Ancestry.com 2011). Estate papers filed with Kings County after Charles Prince's death include an inventory of the contents of a dwelling in New Utrecht, including furniture, art, clothing, books, and various household wares and furnishings (ibid). The inventory lists the rooms in which the items were found, including a cellar, a garret/attic, and a barn. "Mrs. Childs" is identified as the property owner on the 1859 Walling map, though the name "Prince" again appears on the 1860 Higginson map of Brooklyn. Elizabeth Childs continued to reside in New Utrecht as documented in the 1860 census. The 1860 federal census continues to identify Elizabeth Childs as a resident of New Utrecht. Childs, age 45, lived with Edward E. Childs, age 35, Charles Engles, age 11, and a 23-year-old domestic servant named Winifred O'Brien. Elizabeth, Edward, and Charles were all born in Connecticut while Winifred was born in Ireland.

In the closing months of 1868, Elizabeth Childs sold the nearly 15-acre property (which included a water lot) to John Mackay. While the John Mackay who owned land in this area has previously been reported to be John W. Mackay (1831–1902), who amassed a massive fortune during the Gold Rush and maintained homes in New York, San Francisco, and Europe (Benardo 2006; *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 1902), the John Mackay who owned and resided on the project site appears to be a different person with the same name.

Mackay's property is depicted in detail on the 1873 Beers map of Brooklyn, which indicates that the project site covered only the southern portion of the Mackay estate (see **Figure 6**). The map also shows that he owned other houses in the area. The Mackay family could not be located in the 1870 federal census; however, the 1880 census identifies New Utrecht resident John Mackay as a 41-year-old Scottish immigrant whose occupation is listed as "ex-broker." He shared his house with his wife, Catherine G. Mackay, their six children John W., Lilly, Frederic D., Catherine G., Joseph W., and Mary F. Mackay, and Gustava Johanson, a Swedish woman employed as a domestic servant.

Through the publication of the 1890 Robinson atlas, the portion of the Mackay estate included within the project site is depicted as vacant. The 1890 map suggests that it had been subdivided into lots for pending development, and also continues to depict the Barkeloo Family burial ground in the northeastern corner of the site. The map depicts the proposed line of what is now Mackay Place, although the proposed line as depicted on the map appears to be located south of where it was later developed. The map also depicts the Mackay portion of the project site as divided into lots for development, and it appears that the family began to sell portions of their land around this time; the Mackay portion of the project site was divided into three smaller properties at that time. The Mackay family retained ownership of the central parcel, which was later known as 20-24 Mackay Place. By the publication of the 1893 Sanborn map (see **Figure 7**), a large two-and-a-half-story wood frame dwelling with a front porch was constructed on the portion of the project site retained by the Mackay family on the south side of Mackay Place. At that time, Mackay Place was not fully constructed and was not an open thoroughfare. The 1905 Sanborn map (see **Figure 8**) depicts the same house as 20-24 Mackay Place and indicates that it had been altered through the addition of a three-story hexagonal tower at its northeast corner.¹ This house was occupied by Elizabeth M. Lott, the daughter of John and Catharine Mackay, at the time of her death in 1934.² The house appears the

¹ An image of this house in the 1940s can be found here: <https://nycma.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/s/v29g16>.

² Death certificate available at: <https://a860-historicalvitalrecords.nyc.gov/view/6280284>

same on historical maps published through 1934, and it was demolished before the publication of the 1950 Sanborn map.

The lots to the east and west of 20-24 Mackay Place were acquired in 1892 by developer Edward Freel, whose heirs would continue to own portions of the land until 1945 (Henry 2018). In 1892, John and Catherine Mackay sold the eastern portion of the project site including the former Barkeloo family burial ground and the irregularly shaped lots that separated Narrows Avenue from the Regan Parcel to the south (described below) (*Real Estate Record and Builder's Guide* 1892). Freel purchased that portion of the former Mackay parcel located west of 20-24 Mackay Place from George Blair the same year (ibid).

Freel does not appear to have developed the portions of the Mackay parcel that he acquired in 1892. The 1934 Bromley atlas depicts a row of five brick houses at 37 to 45 71st Street, the first known developments in that portion of the project site. These houses were constructed in 1927 by the Regan Construction Company using plans drawn by architect J.A. Boyle (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 1927). These buildings were demolished after the publication of the 1950 Sanborn map, which depicts the four houses—two pairs of attached houses—at 45 to 51 (formerly 37 to 43) 71st Street as two-story dwellings with front porches and garages on the ground floor.¹ The corner building at 55 (formerly 45) 71st Street was a two-story dwelling with a front porch and a small garage in the rear yard to the north.² A 1951 aerial photograph appears to depict the Mackay parcel as entirely vacant.³

REGAN PARCEL

A parcel of land occupied by the Regan family was located immediately south of the former Prince/Mackay estate. The property angled from the southwest corner of the project site to the area south of the Barkeloo Family Burial Ground in the northeast portion of the site. The lot was first sold to John Henry Battjer by Charles Prince in 1847 (Kings County Liber 163, Page 356). It is unclear if Battjer or his family resided on the property and the earliest residents of the lot could not be identified with certainty. A house at the western end of this lot—within what is now the footprint of Xaverian High School—is identified on the 1852 Connor map and the 1857 Gilbert Coastal survey, though the name(s) of the owner(s) is not identified. The 1859 Walling map appears to identify the owner as “Mrs. M. Boyle.” Margaret Boyle is identified as a neighbor of Elizabeth Childs in New Utrecht in the 1860 federal census. Boyle lived with what appear to be her six children ages 9 to 26. A second family was recoded in her household that included 68-year-old Margaret A. Cropsey, 22-year-old Edwin Boyle, and 3-month-old Nathaniel Boyle.

The 1873 Beers map identifies the owner as O. Regan, and the 1890 Robinson atlas identifies the owner as “Mrs. Regan.” The 1870 federal census recorded a 38-year-old woman named Alice Regan as a resident of New Utrecht and indicates that she shared her home with Mary McBride, a 35-year-old domestic servant. According to the census, both Regan and McBride were Irish emigrants and Regan owned real estate valued at \$50,000. The 1880 census suggests that Alice Regan continued to reside on the property with her father, James Tonry, who worked as a carpenter; her stepmother, Rebecca; and her half-sister, Rebecca. James, Rebecca, and Rebecca Tonry were all born in Ireland.

By the publication of the 1893 Sanborn map (see **Figure 7**), the Regan parcel had been divided into two smaller lots, each developed with a two-story wood frame house. The smaller of the two houses was

¹ Images of these houses in the 1940s can be found here: <https://nycma.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/s/889qm3> and here: <https://nycma.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/s/10w219>.

² An image of this house in the 1940s can be found here: <https://nycma.lunaimaging.com/luna/servlet/s/lbysd4>.

³ <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/instant/media/index.html>

located at 101 Shore Road and had a one-story, wood-frame outbuildings and a one-and-a-half-story wood frame shed to the rear. The other building was located at 102 Shore Road and featured an undeveloped rear yard covering the remainder of the Regan parcel. The 1898 Hyde atlas depicts the two parcels as a single property still owned by the Regan family and depicts additional outbuildings to the east of the houses. The house at 102 Shore Road was demolished before the publication of the 1926 Sanborn map, but the house and barn at 101 Shore Road were demolished before the publication of the 1950 Sanborn map.¹ A 1951 aerial photograph depicts the parcel as entirely vacant.

MUSPRATT PARCEL

The Muspratt Parcel was located to the south of the Regan Parcel, and only its northern/northeastern portion extended into the project site. This parcel was the northernmost of two identical plots of land sold to William Hamilton and John W. Muspratt by Charles Prince in 1846 (Kings County Conveyance Liber 154, Page 278). The second parcel is situated to the south of the project site. A small sliver of that southern parcel measuring less than 1,000 square feet extended into the southern end of the project site. After Hamilton, that parcel was owned by members of the Smith and Rorke/Rourke families. No map-documented structures associated with the southern parcel were identified. The remainder of this discussion will summarize the occupation and development histories of the Muspratt parcel only.

Hamilton sold his share in the property to Muspratt, then a resident of New Orleans, in 1850 (Kings County Conveyance Liber 293, Page 141). The owner of the house on this parcel is identified as J. Muspratt on the 1859 Walling map; J.W. Muspratt on the 1873 Beers map, Muspratt on the 1890 Robinson atlas, and J.M. Muspratt on the 1898 Hyde atlas. In 1890, the Muspratt house was located south of the project site closer to Shore Road, but a second building on the property was located within the project site.

The 1850 federal census identifies William Hamilton, an Irish merchant, as a resident of New Utrecht. The 1860 federal census identifies English immigrant J.W. Muspratt as a resident of New Utrecht and indicates that while he did not have an occupation at that time, he owned \$15,000 worth of real estate and had a personal estate of \$1,000. Muspratt lived with his wife, Kate, a native of Ireland, and their son, William, who was born in New York. The census indicates that the Muspratts shared their home with two other families: Irish immigrants James O'Brien, a laborer, and his wife, Ann, and a Scottish clerk named Richard Rowland, who lived with his wife, Annie M. Rowlands, and their daughter, Fanny. The 1870 federal census recorded a retired merchant named John Muspratt as a resident of New Utrecht. He shared his home with his wife, Catherine (spelled Cathren in the census), and their three young daughters. Both John and Catherine were born in Ireland and their children were all born in New York. The census notes that John Muspratt owned real estate valued at \$15,000. The 1880 federal census continues to record the five members of the Muspratt family in the same household.

The 1893 Sanborn map depicts two buildings within the project site on the Muspratt parcel. Near the southwestern corner of the project site was a two-story brick-lined wood frame dwelling. At the eastern end of the project site within what is now the footprint of Xaverian High School, was a double two-and-a-half-story brick-lined wood frame house with porch stairs extending east or west from all four corners of the building. The 1898 Hyde atlas depicts an additional wood frame barn or stable to the east of the house within the project site. The 1905 Hyde atlas and 1905 Sanborn map (see **Figure 8**) depict a second two-story, wood-frame double house in this location as well as a small, one-story wood frame outbuilding to the north. These same buildings continue to be shown on the 1926 Sanborn map and the 1934 Bromley

¹ These houses are not included in the City's collection of tax photographs from the 1940s and were presumably demolished before those photographs were taken.

atlas (see **Figure 9**). The 1950 Sanborn reflects the demolition of all these buildings with the exception of the easternmost double house. The 1951 aerial photograph depicts the former Muspratt parcel as entirely vacant.

D. CONSTRUCTION OF THE XAVERIAN CAMPUS IN THE MID-20TH CENTURY

The Catholic Church acquired the project site in 1947 and transferred the vacant parcel to Xaverian High School in 1956 (Henry 2018). The school was founded by the Brothers of St. Francis Xavier in 1955. The order was founded in Belgium in the early 19th century and is dedicated to a mission of educational service (*Bay Ridge Home Reporter* 1957). Their first Brooklyn school was opened in 1920 (*ibid*). Archbishop Thomas E. Molloy, the head of the Brooklyn Diocese, invited the Xaverian Brothers to open the school, which was initially designed to support the education of 1,200 male students (*The Tablet* 1956a). The building was designed by architect Henry V. Murphy (*ibid*). Ground was broken in June 1956 and the school was to be built for an estimated cost of \$2,400,000 (*the Tablet* 1956b).

The first class of freshmen started in September 1957 and the school was dedicated on December 3, 1957, the feast day of St. Francis Xavier (*Bay Ridge Home Reporter* 1957). The school was originally constructed with academic facilities, a gymnasium, and a library on the lower floors and residential quarters for up to 45 Xaverian Brothers that also featured a chapel, kitchen, recreation rooms, a library, and a reception room (*ibid*). The addition now known as the Genesis wing was constructed in 1980.

E. MODIFICATIONS TO THE BURIAL GROUND IN THE 20TH CENTURY

In 1914, three stones survived within the burial ground, which was “in the tall brush at the south west corner of Narrows Avenue and Mackay Place; between seventieth and seventy-first streets; many bodies have been removed” (Eardeley 1916:47). The burial ground was reportedly in a state of neglect in the early 20th century, described as “a sadly neglected, rubbish-covered spot” (Bangs 1912: 174). In 1923, the burial ground was reported to be covered with illegally dumped ash and garbage (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 1923). As a result, the Spirit of '76 Chapter of the DAR chose to renovate and restore the burial ground to ensure that veteran Harmanus Barkeloo’s grave would be preserved (Bloom 1923). The DAR was likely guided by patriotic motivations and intended to renovate the cemetery in accordance with their mission to preserve the memory of those whose efforts resulted in the American victory following the Revolutionary War. However, the accuracy of the memorialization efforts is unclear and the renovations appear to have been designed to represent early 20th century customs rather than to emulate burial practices and tombstone iconography that was common in the late 18th century. As described previously, Harmanus Barkeloo may in fact be buried in New Jersey. Furthermore, it has been suggested that Simon Cortelyou was loyal to the British during the Revolutionary War (Henry 2018).

As part of the restoration, new stones were placed in honor of Harmanus Barkeloo and Simon Cortelyou (Bloom 1923). The restoration also involved excavation in an attempt to recover buried tombstones, and a photograph published in the *Knickerbocker Press* on June 28, 1923 depicts four men in military uniform from the Joseph P. Lynch Post and Robert L. Porter Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) examining a recently excavated stone within the burial ground. The tombstone of Margaretta Barkeloo Wardell was reportedly discovered at a depth of 4.5 feet during the excavation completed as part of this work (Bloom 1923). As part of the DAR’s efforts, the burial ground was cleaned by a local Boy Scout troop and improved by planting two boxwood trees acquired from George Washington’s home at Mount Vernon (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 1923). The renovated burial ground was dedicated in October 1923 (*ibid*).

Maintenance of the restored burial ground was initially handled by the Joseph P. Lynch Post and Robert L. Porter Post, VFW chapters (*Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine* 1926). In 1952, the burial

ground was reported to be in a state of neglect once more, with toppled headstones and “mangy” hedges (Mara 1952). Cub Scout/Boy Scout troops, local religious and civic organizations, and organizations dedicated to honoring the memories of Revolutionary War soldiers, such as the DAR, would continue to maintain the burial ground and hold memorialization ceremonies there throughout the 20th century (*Brooklyn Standard Union* 1930; *Brooklyn Heights Press* 1956; *Bay Ridge Home Reporter* 1960). Shortly after Xaverian High School was constructed, a group of residents raised funds to enclose the burial ground in an iron fence (Milburn 1958). In 1977, the Bay Ridge Historical Society restored the site again, painting the fence enclosure, cleaning up the interior garden, and adding a new lock to the fence (Raphael 1977). Additional commemorative markers were placed there by the Veterans of Foreign Wars in the U.S. in 1935; by an unknown party in 1962; and by the Bay Ridge Historical Society in 1984 (DeVries 2017). The Bay Ridge Historical Society raised money to install a new iron fence around the burial ground in 1980 (General 1980).

As a result of the legal exceptions included in conveyance records, the burial ground remained a separate legal parcel for more than a century, though it does not appear to have been a separate tax lot. In 1948, the project site was conveyed to Rocklyn Realty Corporation, which was affiliated with the Catholic Church and transferred the property to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn on January 2, 1948.¹ On May 28, 1956, the Diocese transferred the site to Xaverian High School (Kings County Conveyance Liber 8454, Page 534). The deed documenting the 1956 sale describes the full dimensions of Block 5883, Lot 1 and does not reference or exclude the former burial ground property. The 1948 transfer of the property from Rocklyn Realty is referenced in a 2016 Correction Deed filed with the New York City Department of Finance on March 16, 2016, that was filed to correct the metes and bounds description in the 1948 deed to include the burial ground parcel within what is now Block 5883, Lot 1 (CRFN 2016000097023).

1

A. CONCLUSIONS

As part of the background research for this Phase 1A Archaeological Documentary Study, various primary and secondary resources were analyzed, including historic maps and atlases, historic photographs and lithographs, newspaper articles, and local histories. The information provided by these sources was analyzed to reach the following conclusions.

PREVIOUS DISTURBANCE

The project site has been disturbed as a result of the construction and demolition of numerous historical structures. The construction of the existing school in the 1950s and what is now the Genesis Wing in the 1980s—both of which have basement and/or sub-basement levels—would have resulted in substantial disturbance across the western two-thirds of the project site. Additional disturbance appears to have occurred in the parking lot, where grading appears to have occurred to create a level parking surface.

PRECONTACT SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

As described in **Chapter 3, “Precontact Archaeological Resources,”** the precontact sensitivity of project sites in New York City is generally evaluated by a site’s proximity to level slopes (less than 12 to 15 percent), watercourses, well-drained soils, and previously identified precontact archaeological sites (NYAC 1994). The project site is located in close proximity to both fresh water and marine resources on what was historically a coastal beach. The project site would therefore have been an extremely attractive place for short-term seasonal occupation and resource acquisition. However, precontact archaeological sites are typically found at relatively shallow depths. Given the extensive disturbance that has occurred across the majority of the project site as a result of the construction of the existing school and parking lot, the project site is determined to have no sensitivity for precontact archaeological resources.

HISTORIC SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

The project site is situated in an area that was settled in the late 17th century and was occupied by descendants the Barkeloo and Cortelyou families between the late 17th and early 19th centuries. The area was later divided into smaller properties and occupied by other families, including that of John Mackay, for whom Mackay Place was named. Substantial portions of the rear yards of three historical parcels are located in what is now the parking lot east of the school. Prior to the late-19th century, the residents of the historical parcels would have relied on domestic shaft features (e.g., wells, privies, and cisterns) for the purposes of water gathering and sanitation. However, such features would most commonly have been located within convenient distances of the historical houses. Water-gathering features would have been located adjacent to structures while privies would have been at a greater distance, though likely within 100 feet of the houses. The portions of the rear yards of the historical parcels that are located within the project site but outside of the footprint of the existing school are at a distance of 100 to 200 feet or more from historical houses predating the late 19th century, when municipal water and sewer networks would

have been available. The project site is therefore determined to have low sensitivity for shaft features associated with the historical occupation of the project site.

The Barkeloo and Cortelyou families maintained a family burial ground on their property that is situated in the northeastern corner of the project site. The burial ground was heavily modified in the early 20th century, when the DAR relandscaped and renovated it. The burial ground's boundaries as mapped in the late 19th century are smaller than its current boundaries, which reflect the 20th century landscape as curated by the DAR (see **Figure 10**). The possibility exists that the burial ground was historically larger than its boundaries as mapped in the 19th century. There is no confirmation that enslaved people of African descent were interred within or near the Barkeloo Family Burial Ground. However, several members of the Barkeloo and Cortelyou families were known enslavers, and the possibility therefore cannot be ruled out. The undisturbed portion of the parking lot to the east of the school is therefore determined to have low to moderate sensitivity for unmarked burials.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the identified historic period archaeological sensitivity of the project site, additional archaeological analysis is recommended in the area indicated on **Figure 10**. Further analysis could include a non-invasive geophysical survey (e.g., ground penetrating radar) to attempt to identify undocumented graves adjacent to the existing burial ground. The utility of such a survey may be affected by the presence of buried infrastructure or utilities that could cause interference in the portion of the parking lot adjacent to the burial ground. In the event that the non-invasive geophysical survey identifies anomalies suggestive of undocumented graves or in the event that the survey is inconclusive, a Phase 1B Archaeological Investigation of the area may be necessary to confirm the absence of undocumented human remains. Any further archaeological investigations should be completed in coordination with LPC. Prior to the completion of any surveying or testing, an Archaeological Work Plan outlining the proposed testing strategy and scope of work should be completed and submitted to LPC for review and concurrence. If human remains are confirmed to be located on the project site, consultation with a descendant community would be required prior to any excavation in or around human remains.

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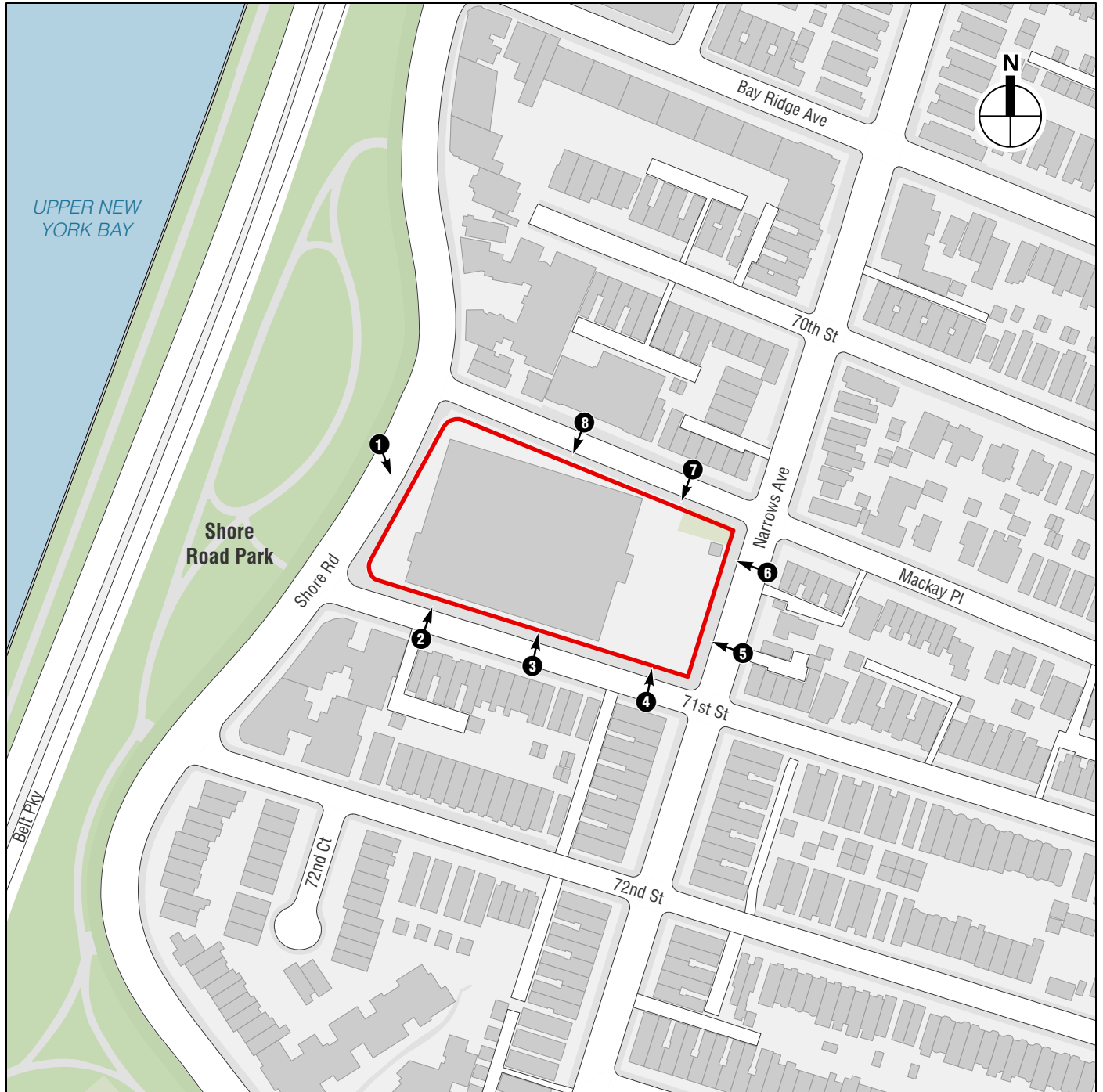
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Figures



-  Project Site
-  Photograph View Direction and Reference Number

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Looking east at the main entrance to Xaverian School at the northeast corner of Shore Road and 71st Street

1



Southern façade of the school looking north from 71st Street

2



Looking north at the southern façade of the Genesis Wing from 71st Street

3



View of the parking lot east of the school looking north from 71st Street

4



View of the parking lot looking west from Narrows Avenue 5



The former Barkeloo Burial Ground at the corner of Narrows Avenue (foreground) and MacKay Place (at right) 6



Looking south at the parking lot from MacKay Place showing the grade change between the sidewalk and the parking lot to the south; the former Barkeloo Burial Ground is to the left of the image

7



The northern façade of the Genesis Wing, looking south from MacKay Place

8



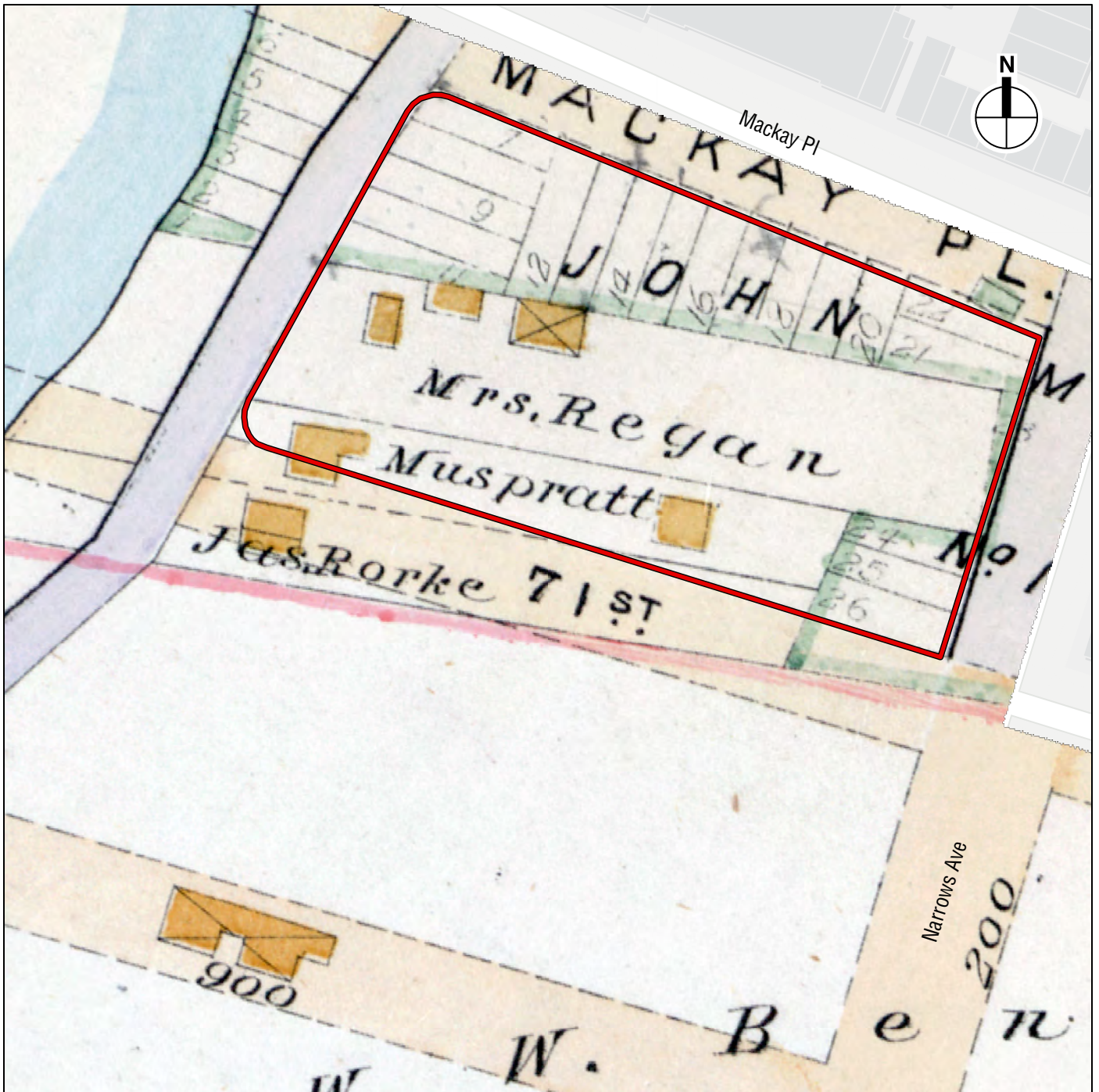
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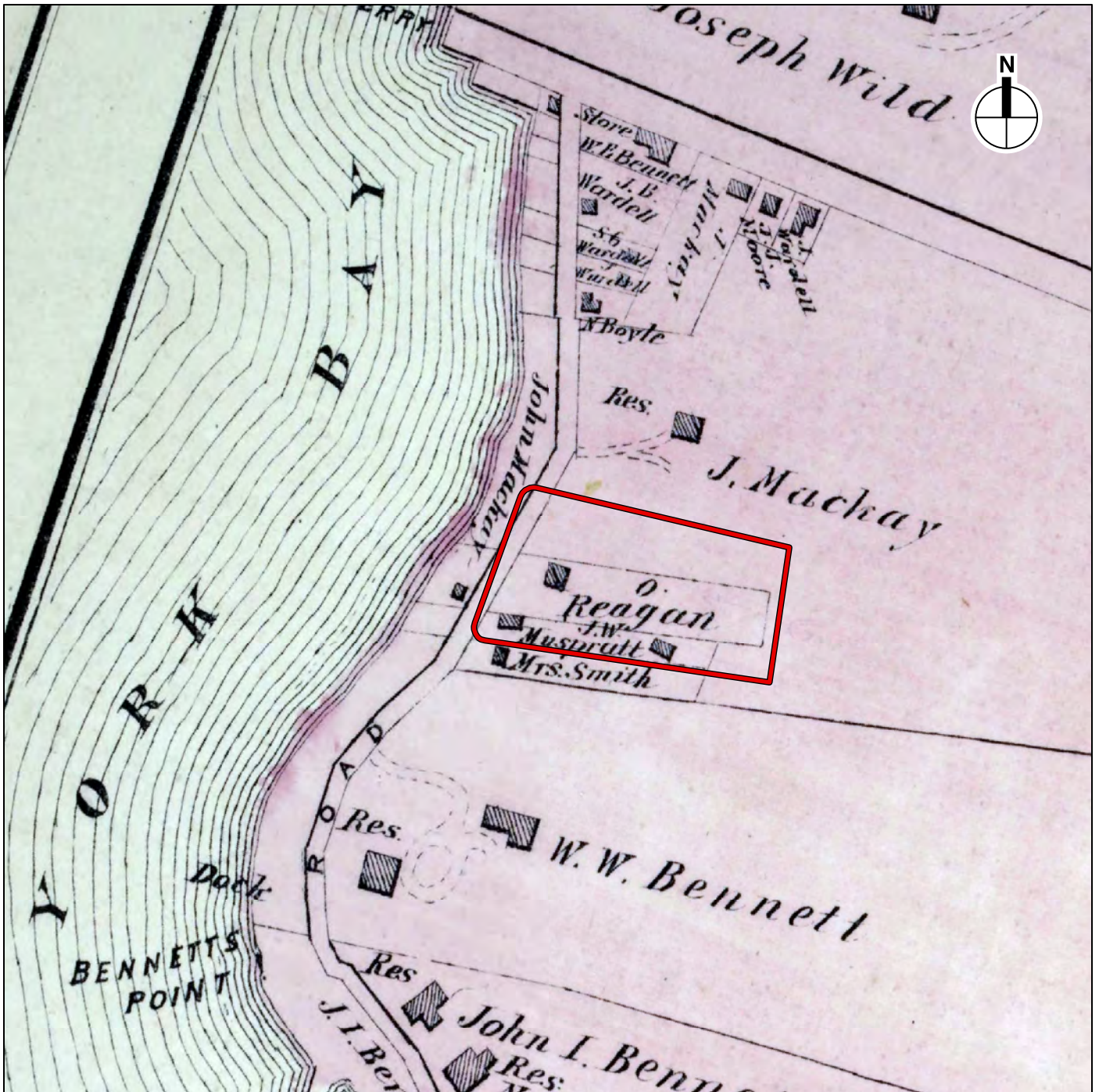
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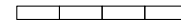


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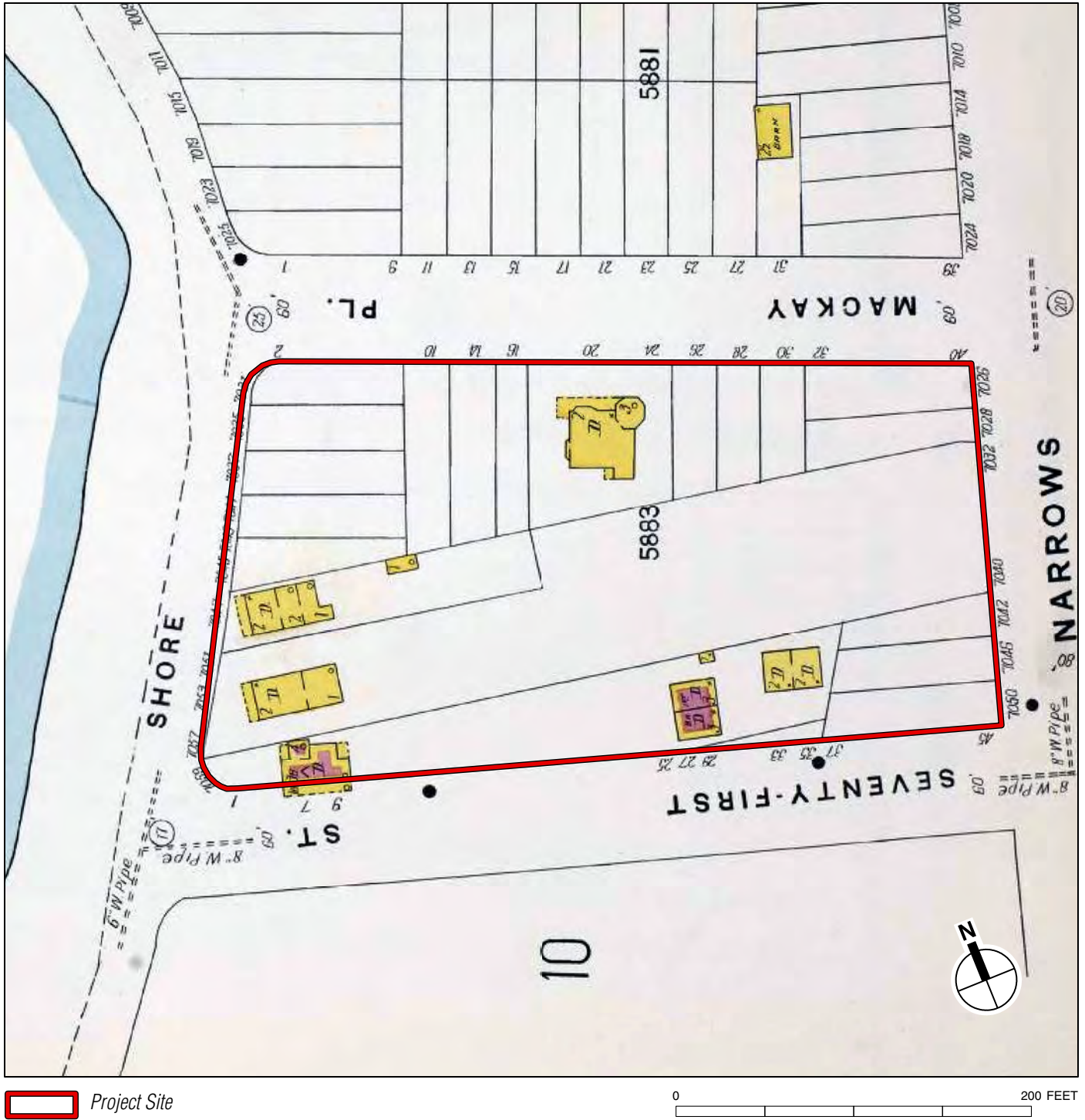


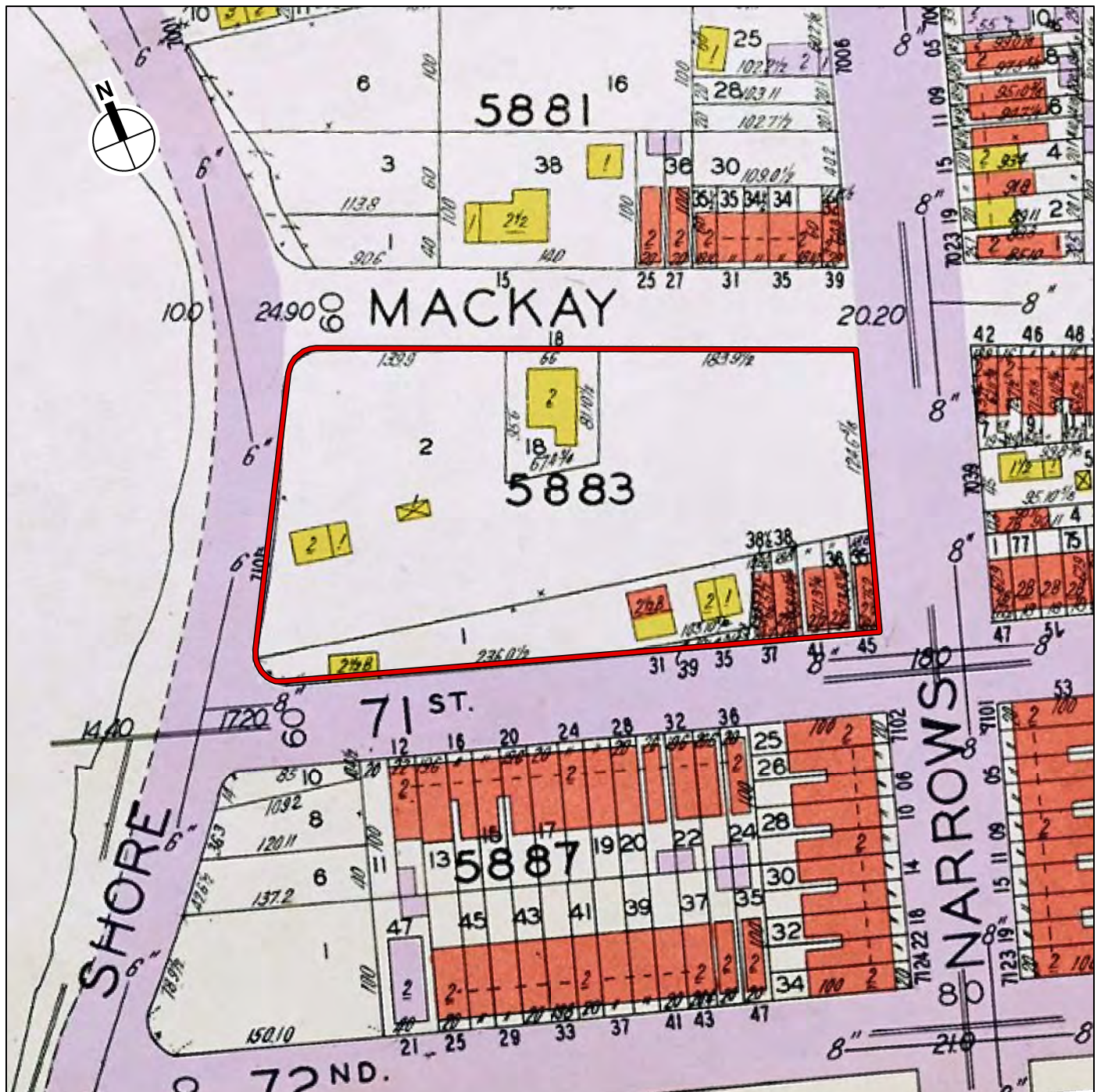
 Project Site

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1893 Sanborn Map
Figure 7









 Project Site

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-  Project Site
-  Area of Archaeological Sensitivity
-  Current Burial Ground boundary
-  Historical Cemetery boundary

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