MAUJER STREET

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN SITES
PHASE 1A ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
MAUJER STREET COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Prepared for the New York City Department
of Housing Preservation
and Development, Office
of Development

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Date
July, 1992
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INTRODUCTION

The New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Office of Development proposes to erect 3-story rowhouses on various lots within three city blocks of the Maujer Street community in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn (Figure 1). The lots to be developed, as shown on Figures 2 and 3, are:

Block 2785 - bounded by Union Avenue, Grand, Lorimer, and Maujer Streets - Lots 42 and 43.

Block 2791 - bounded by Union Avenue, Maujer, Lorimer and Ten Eyck Streets - Lots 7, 8, 10, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 27, 32, 33, 35, 37, 41, 43, 44, 45, and 46.

Block 3022 - bounded by Union Avenue, Ten Eyck, Lorimer, and Stagg Streets - Lots 5, 7, 8, and 10.

As part of the City's environmental review procedures, the City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) has noted that the site may have been part of the historic village of Williamsburg and requires a Phase 1A Documentary Study of the project parcels. The purpose of the report is to outline the known history of the site, to assess its archaeological potential, and to identify any areas that might warrant further investigation.

Currently there are brick buildings on Lots 18 and 23 (#30-38 Maujer Street), occupied by (moving from right to left in Photo 5) Alexander Auto Body Parts, Atlas Knitwear Mills and a 1 story garage. The remaining lots are vacant. Some are used for parking (Photos 6 & 7), others are littered with debris (Photos 1 & 2), while others are enclosed by fences (Photos 3, 4, & 8).
METHODOLOGY

Background research entailed a number of tasks, each contributing to an understanding of prehistoric and historic land use within and surrounding the project area. The goal of the research was to provide information on the nature and scope of potential cultural resources, and the degree and nature of subsurface disturbance. In order to accomplish the tasks, several phases of research were performed including documentary research, cartographic analysis, site files review, and a field visit.

Documentary Research

Primary and secondary source material was researched in order to document the prior usage of the parcels. These resources included pertinent archaeological assessment reports as well as local and regional source material for data on prehistoric and historical settlements. Also researched were city directories, Brooklyn Buildings Department records, Brooklyn water and sewer records, Brooklyn City Register land transfer information. It should be emphasized that, as is often the case, there are gaps and sometimes contradictions in the archival sources; the task is to compile and reconcile them so as to present as complete an account of previous land use as possible.

Cartographic Analysis

Historic maps and atlases were obtained from the Brooklyn Historical Society, and Brooklyn and Manhattan branches of the New York City Public Library. The Brooklyn Historical Society, usually the most valuable source for historical maps and atlases for Brooklyn, has received a conservation grant and the needed maps have been removed for conservation. This is a good thing for the maps, but means that they are unavailable for study for a number of months. Also missing from Borough Hall are all maps pertaining to the project area that were entered in the City Register list of historic maps.

Site Files Review

Site file reviews were conducted by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the New York State Museum Education Department, to determine if prehistoric or historic materials had previously been reported in the vicinity of the project area. The agencies provided an assessment of archaeological sensitivity based on previously developed models. See the Appendix to this report.

Field Visit

Two field visits were conducted at which time photographs were taken of the current conditions of the project parcels. (See Photographs 1-8).
PREHISTORIC ERA

The Maujer Street Community Development site was classified by LPC as sensitive for potential historical resources associated with the early village of Williamsburgh. However, HPI has included this prehistoric overview and assessment for potential sensitivity since early European settlements were often located on preferred Native American site types.

It is now widely accepted that people first entered the Americas between the great ice ages over 40,000 years ago. They came across Beringia, a large land mass that narrowed to become the Bering Strait. At the end of the Wisconsin ice age, following the retreating glacier which had covered the northeastern United States, the first Native Americans reached New York State between 13,000 and 10,000 years ago. By the time of European contact, Native American populations spanned Long Island. These inhabitants were the last of a series of prehistoric cultural groups that roamed and settled in the southern New York area.

The archaeological evidence of the Indian occupation of Long Island is generally divided into four periods, based on changing diet, tool kit, and the presence of ceramics and agriculture - in essence, the material remains of cultures adapting to a variety of pressures. These periods are known as the Paleo-Indian (c.13,000 to 10,000 years ago), the Archaic (c. 10,000 to 2,700 years ago), the Woodland (c. 2,700 to 500 years ago) and the European Contact Period (c. 500 to 300 years ago). The settlement patterns of each period varied with resource availability so it is necessary to understand the prehistoric environment of the project area to appreciate the potential of prehistoric exploitation in the area.

Paleo-Indian sites in southern New York have been located along the Hudson River and tributaries on bluffs and ridges, and on ridge tops where deciduous trees dominated. However, on Long Island it is often difficult to locate Paleo-Indian sites as the rise in the sea level since that time period has inundated coastal sites (Saxon 1978:202). Fluted points, diagnostic of Paleo-Indian populations, have not been found in Kings or Queens County (Ibid.:252).

The subsequent Early Archaic stage is scantily represented in the archaeological record of Long Island. Often artifacts of this period are found in multi-component sites also representing the later Middle and Late Archaic periods. These multi-component sites are also situated on tidal inlets, coves and bays. By about 7,000 years ago environmental changes had promoted the establishment of seasonally available resources, and the flora and fauna of Long
Island were much as they are today. The established biotic communities provided a stable resource base for Archaic Indians, and settlement patterns began to reflect a seasonal pattern of resource exploitation. By the Late Archaic period the sea level was near its present level. As a result, sites of this period were not inundated, and numerous ones have been encountered, particularly along the coast and along inland salt creeks (Skinner 1932:16). Following the Late Archaic, the Transitional Archaic is found on Long Island, with the majority of sites along rivers and streams and minimal evidence for inland sites (Kearns and Kirkorian 1986: 8).

The Woodland period is characterized by the introduction of the bow and arrow and ceramics. Towards the end of the Woodland period, and possibly not until the later Contact period, maize horticulture was introduced into the Native American subsistence practices. Sites of this period are usually found on second terraces or well drained soils along fresh water sources. Late Woodland period Long Island sites have been noted on bays and tidal streams (Ritchie 1980:265).

By the seventeenth century western Long Island was inhabited by Native Americans of the Delaware group, speaking a Munsee dialect, when the first Europeans arrived. The impact of the European colonization of Long Island drastically altered the lifestyles of Native Americans. "There is some information on Native American land use available from the study of land transfers and early settlers' accounts. This provides a general picture of the settlement pattern of the Contact Period Native American groups in Brooklyn. There is a pattern of Contact Period villages and planting fields along the north shore of Brooklyn and Queens...from Gowanus to Wallabout Bay...and in the vicinity of Flushing Bay" to the west and east of the project area (TAMS 1988:4).

While numerous prehistoric sites have been found in Brooklyn, none have been recovered in the proximity of the Maujer Street project site (Lightfoot 1985:60). The Appendix includes site file review data from the New York State Museum and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. "The requested sensitivity rating from the State Museum is not definitive since the "physiographic characteristics of the location are mixed." However, the Maujer Street site, either presently or during the prehistoric period, does not exhibit the physiographic characteristics associated with a "higher than average probability of prehistoric occupation or use" such as waterways, swamps, rock faces, and chert deposits.
The Maujer Street site is located southwest and outside the seventeen century development of the Bushwick village. It is, however, within the bounds of the later nineteenth century "City of Williamsburgh" (Figure 4). The paucity of prehistoric site information may be a direct result of development construction associated with Williamsburg and poor recordings rather than an absence of aboriginal activity. However, the lack of site information may also be a direct result of minimum archaeological potential. It is very likely that the project site area did not possess sufficient favorable features to encourage prehistoric settlement. According to Grumet's authoritative Native American Place Names in New York City, there were no Native American planting fields or habitation sites in the project area (Grumet 1981:71). As outlined above, archaeological site data indicates settlement preferences through time for high ground bordering tidal creeks, marshes, and embayments and, to a lesser extent, the lower ground at the edge of tidal marshes. According to pre-development topographic maps (e.g., 1781, Figure 5), the project site apparently never afforded the Native American population of the various culture and time periods these physical features.

Ethnographic accounts place a Native American trail along the current path of Flushing Avenue, approximately 12 blocks to the south of Maujer Street (Grumet 1981:71). This transportation route connecting the interior of the island to the head of the Newtown Creek probably did bring Native Americans to the project area but there is no indication that substantive subsurface evidence of a possible presence was ever a part of the Maujer Street project site. Because of the site's distance from a source of fresh water, it is unlikely to have been used by Native Americans for any type of long-term encampment or village site. The brief use of the site as a hunting or harvesting area probably would not have resulted in cultural deposits sufficient to justify further prehistoric archaeological investigation of the site.
HISTORICAL ERA

During the 17th century the Dutch acquired what is now metropolitan New York, and named it New Netherlands. In the 1620s, the governing body of the Netherlands granted administrative control to the Dutch West India Company. Although a 1629 charter permitted grants to farmers, the area that is now Brooklyn remained largely unsettled. It was not until Wouter Van Twiller, the director of New Netherlands, and his associates Van Corlear, Hudde and Van Kouwenhoven bought land in 1636 from local Indians, that settlements in Brooklyn began. Van Twiller's purchase of fifteen thousand acres was unsanctioned by the Dutch West India Company who nullified the purchase in 1652 (Ment 1979:12).

The purchase of smaller tracts took place in 1636 by William Bennet and Jacques Bentyn who acquired 930 acres at Gowanus from the Indians, and shortly thereafter in 1637 Joris de Rapalje purchased a tract of land near Wallabout Bay (Stiles 1867:23). Director Willem Kieft legitimized the purchases by providing patents for these tracts in the 1640s (Ment 1979:12). By the 1640s, most of the land currently in Kings County had been bought from the Indians. Early plantations were owned by Swedes, Dutch, French, and Norwegians.

What is now Brooklyn originally consisted of a number of small villages. The northern part of the area was the town of Bushwick, established in 1660; the portion to become Williamsburgh was low-lying farmland and shore area west of the Bushwick Village settlement (Figures 4, 5, and 6). Brooklyn was the site of the Battle of Long Island during the Revolutionary War, but fighting took place in southern Brooklyn, far from the project site. Williamsburgh was founded in 1810, received its first village charter in 1827 and it's second in 1835, and was consolidated with Brooklyn in 1855 (Reynolds 1852:23).

The village was "named after Col. Jonathan Williams, its surveyor and grand-nephew of Benjamin Franklin. Richard M. Woodhull started the community when he purchased thirteen acres of land at the foot of today's South 2nd Street [west of the project area], in 1802. He commissioned Williams to survey it, established a ferry to New York (Manhattan), and quickly went bankrupt (1811)" (Willensky and White 1988:682). This interest in the suburban housing and industrial potential of the Williamsburgh area was given further impetus by the establishment of a distillery in 1819 near South 2nd Street. "Williamsburg in the middle-nineteenth century was a popular resort; its hotels near the Brooklyn Ferry [considerably west of the project area] attracted a wealthy, cosmopolitan crowd---" (WPA 1939:455).
Urban development began in earnest after 1835 in which year an act was passed by the New York State Legislature appointing several Williamsburgh residents as commissioners "to designate and locate all streets and roads to be laid out" (Digest of the Acts 1857). The resultant street grid is clearly shown on a map of 1845 (Figure 7) which states that the town population was then 11,550. Grand Street, one of the older thoroughfares in the area, was the first to undergo significant construction activity. Union Avenue (see Figure 8) was opened along the project blocks in 1836 (Armbruster 1942:310). Maujer Street was named for alderman Daniel Maujer, the name replacing "Remsen Street" for Abraham Remsen who had previously owned the project area acreage. Ten Eyck Street (originally Wycoff named for another early landowner) was opened in 1852. Lorimer Street was named for John Lorimer Graham and James Lorimer Graham, two land jobbers of 1836 (Armbruster 1942:218).

The town grew "from a place of some 3000 people in 1835 to a city of nearly 40,000 in 1852, as it became a favorite home for the skilled workers employed in the booming shipyards on both banks of the river" (Spann 1981:184). "The EVENING POST attributed the rapid growth of Williamsburgh to the increased facilities presented for communication between the two cities within the last two or three years, and also the cheaper rates of houses'" (quoted in Spann 1981:184).

A study of land transaction records for the project area blocks at the Brooklyn City Register reflects the activity described above. The Remsen estate, which owned all three project blocks in 1827, began to sell off lots about 1830. From that date to the turn of the century, there are many owners and transactions recorded. The blocks were lotted before mid-century, generally in 25'x 100' plots though actual development was spotty for another quarter of a century (see Figures 7, 8, 9, and 10 that are dated 1845, 1850, 1852, and 1869). An 1850 map was the first that could be located that shows structures on the project blocks and an 1848-9 Directory confirmed that there were residences and businesses by that time on some lots within the project blocks.

By 1886 (Figures 11 and 12) the project blocks are illustrative of full-fledged mixed-use urban development with the emphasis on multiple housing. The blocks hosted two, three, or four story dwelling/stores with a typical mix of schools, churches, and industries (e.g. a brewery is noted on Block 2791 on the 1869 Dripps map). Atlases from succeeding years (e.g. 1898 Figure 13, 1907 Figure 14, 1929 Figure 16, 1935 Figure 17, 1942 Figure 18, 1947 Figure 19 and 1951 Figure 20) show relatively little change in the physical fabric of the project parcels.
However, the lack of change owes less to neighborhood stability than to the stasis sometimes produced by poverty; the economic viability of the area began to decline, taking with it the impetus for progressive change. "The most telling impact on the community came from the opening of the Williamsburg Bridge in 1903. Overnight the community changed from a fashionable resort --- to an immigrant district absorbing the overflow from New York's Lower East Side" (Willensky and White 1988:687) and "sealed its fate as a slum" (Wright 1983:560).

Writing in 1939, a WPA historian noted that "Williamsburg, the area extending fanwise from the Williamsburg Bridge to Flushing and Bushwick Avenues, has a large polyglot population. The neighborhood, formerly the most congested residential area in Brooklyn, has lost some sixty thousand inhabitants since the 1920's. Here, with the erection in 1936-7 of Williamsburg Houses, a PWA construction project, began Brooklyn's first experiment in large-scale low-rent housing" (WPA 1939:455). Williamsburg Houses, are only a few blocks southeast of the project blocks: Maujer to Scholes street and Leonard Street to Bushwick Avenue.

As in 1939, the project area is still a multicultural neighborhood and the economic reverses it has known has produced a mix of vacant lots, small commercial enterprises, and multiple family dwellings in old buildings. It is suprising that Block and Lot folders contained no demolition date information for the structures that once occupied the currently vacant lots that comprise most of the project parcels. However, it is probable that the buildings that were razed were those that were built during the late 19th and early 20th centuries and gradually deteriorated over the decades. In the 1950s, for example, the captions with photographs taken on Maujer Street a block east of the project block commented on the shabbiness of the buildings and the vicinity (Figures 21 and 22 from the Brooklyn Public Library neighborhood files). The aim of the Maujer Street Community Development Plan is to revitalize the neighborhood.
LOT HISTORIES

From the date of the Dripps map - 1850 - to the present, maps and atlases were consulted in order to ascertain the land use history of the project parcels. This proved to be very difficult, for several reasons. Some dependable sources, such as the Brooklyn Historical Society, have sent pertinent atlases to the conservator. Copying maps/atlases usually creates some distortions and/or blurring; in some cases this has already happened with the only copies available for the researcher to use. Relating lot lines and building configurations from one atlas to another was particularly tedious for this project. For example, the Dripps atlases of both 1850 and 1869 were enlarged twice for study because they are so critical to the evaluation of land use on the parcels prior to utility installation. To have indicated the individual project lots with graphic conventions on each map would have obliterated important data, so only the project blocks are outlined except for Figures 1, 2, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 23.

Because of time gaps in the range of available maps, other data sources, such as Buildings Department records, and the 1848 Directory mentioned above [This book was perused in its entirety; subsequent editions are simply too voluminous to examine at this level of inquiry since they are arranged alphabetically rather than by street address].

Utility installation records were researched in order to acquire as full an account as possible of when utilities were laid in the streets, and were thus available, and if possible, when hook-ups to individual lots occurred. Here again, there are gaps in the record and a certain amount of contradiction. Nevertheless, the general chronology is that subsequent to the completion of the Ridgewood Reservoir in 1858, Brooklyn had its municipal water supply first used in the same year to extinguish a fire. In 1859 a total of 123,916 miles of pipe were laid, with the number growing steadily with each year (Stiles 1884, Vol.1:587). According to the card catalogue arranged by street in the Brooklyn Sewer Records and Permit Office, sewers were laid in Maujer Street and Lorimer Street by 1860 in the project blocks. There are no dates for Union Street in the card catalogue. However, in the 1868 Annual Report of the Nassau Water Department, another (1859) water source for Brooklyn, sewers were built in Union Avenue from Broadway to the summit north of Stagg Street (which includes the project blocks) in that year (Nassau Water Department 1869: 53). No official records were found for Ten Eyck Street, but some of the Permit numbers for individual lot hook-ups indicate the existence of sewer lines in the street prior to 1867.
The volumes containing sewer hook-up drawings, permit numbers, dates, and some other data, also presented problems. Volumes 1, 2, 3, and 8 are missing from the archives. Volume 4 begins in 1867, so all numbers lower than the numbers in Volume 4 predate 1867; that assumption is noted in the lot histories where applicable.

A history for each lot was compiled and they comprise the next section of this report. The lot histories, arranged by blocks, are preceded by a page containing data applicable to the entire block rather than individual lots.

When reading the following lot histories, the reader may want to refer to Figures 8 through 20.
LOT HISTORY

Block 2785

Pertinent property transactions in block listings at Brooklyn City Register from the earliest to 1894. These volumes do not give individual lot numbers.

First to 1894:

- Town of Bushwick to Peter Praa, no date
- Molinaer to John Vandervoort, 1804
- Remsen to Remsen, 1827
- Other early owners: Truslow, Richardson
- Williamsburgh Fire Ins Co.
- Leeds and Comstock to Brown, 1836
- Remsen to Westen, 1839
- Westen, John to Epraim D. Brown, 1847
- Richardson, Edwin to Anna Sherman, 1848 (& back)
- Brown, James to Alexander Reid, 1860 (& back)
- Ephraim Brown to Bernard Galleghe, 1867
- & William Lamb who immediately sold to individuals: Michael McElroy
- Henry McIntyre
- Jacob Ernst
- Mary Sugden [?]
- James Brown to Edmund Schwindel, 1871
- James Brown to Frederick Miller, 1873

Many owners and transactions up to 1894.
LIST OF LOTS AND STREET NUMBERS

Block 2785
Lot 42 #37 Maujer
Lot 43 #39 Maujer

Block 3022
Lot 5 #90 Union
Lot 7 #94 Union
Lot 8 #96 Union
Lot 10 #12 Ten Eyck Street

Block 2791
Lot 7 #110 Union
Lot 8 #112 Union
Lot 10 #12 Maujer
Lot 16 #24 Maujer
Lot 17 #26 Maujer
Lot 18 #28 or 30 or both
Lot 23 #38 Maujer
Lot 24 #40 Maujer
Lot 25 #42 Maujer
Lot 27 #46 Maujer
Lot 32 #433 Lorimer
Lot 33 #431 Lorimer or #39 Ten Eyck
Lot 35 #37 Ten Eyck
Lot 37 #27-33 Ten Eyck
Lot 41 #23-25 or 27 Ten Eyck
Lot 43 #21 Ten Eyck
Lot 44 #19 Ten Eyck
Lot 45 #17 Ten Eyck
Lot 46 #15 Ten Eyck
Block 2785
Lot 42 (Lot 13), #37 Maujer

No Block and Lot folder. Lot is 25'x100'

Directory 1848-9 - Marky Ryan, mason
Patrick Cullivan, grocer

Sewer: Sewer hook-up Permit #20450.3. This volume is missing, but it is pre-1867 (date of first extant volume), so assume 1860 when sewer was first available on Maujer Street in this block.

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - small building
1852 Field - in property marked "F. Brown", though no structure shown
1869 Dripps - small building
1886 Robinson - building occupies approx. 1/3 lot, with small rear lot addition
1898 Belcher-Hyde - building covers approx. 2/3 lot, no outbuilding
1907 Bromley - same as 1898
1929 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1898
1942 Sanborn - same as 1898 except 1 story outbuilding at rear of lot. Labeled 4 story.
1945 Sanborn - same as 1942
1951 Sanborn - same as 1942

Lot deeded to City in 1982 by NY Commissioner of Finance.

No known disturbance to rear 1/3 except 1 story outbuilding
Middle 1/3 may also be undisturbed since no basement indicated on 4 story c. 1898 building.

Archaeological Potential: Potential sensitivity for backyard deposits.
Block 2785
Lot 43 (Lot 12), #39 Maujer

Block and Lot folder. Lot is 25'x100.
N.B. 1898 25'x60'
DEM 1903

Directory 1848-9 - Beson, laborer
Joseph Bissan
M. Bezar, laborer

Sewer: Permit #19058.3 early volume (pre-1867), so assume 1860 when sewer was first available for Maujer Street in this block according to Sewer Inspector tracing #3245.

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - small building
1852 Field - in property marked "F. Brown", though no structure shown
1869 Dripps - small building
1886 Robinson - building occupies approx. 1/3 lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - building covers approx. 2/3 lot
1907 Bromley - same as 1898
1929 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1898
1942 Sanborn - same as 1898. Labeled 4 story.
1945 Sanborn - same as 1942
1951 Sanborn - same as 1942

No data on demolition except 1903 entry mentioned above which does not agree with Atlases. Lot deeded to City in 1982 by NY Commissioner of Finance.

No known disturbance to rear 1/3 of lot. Middle 1/3 may also be undisturbed since no basement indicated on 4 story c. 1898 building.

Archaeological Potential: Potential sensitivity for backyard deposits.
Block 3022

Pertinent property transactions in block listings at Brooklyn City Register from the earliest to 1894. These volumes do not give individual lot numbers.

First to 1894:
- Town of Bushwick to Peter Praa n.d.
- Molinaer, Abraham to John Vandervoort 1804
- Remsen to Remsen 1827

Other early owners are:
- Richardson
- Scholes

Many transactions from 1831 through 1894 with more and more individual names. Steffan, Bullock, and O'Donhue appear c. 1850.

The Nassau Water Board Report states that sewers were laid in Union Avenue from Broadway to the summit north of Stagg Street in 1868. This would include the project blocks.
Block 3022 - Lot Histories

Lot 5, #90 Union Avenue - Current lot originally was two lots (Lots 5 and 6, #90 and #92 Union Avenue

Block and Lot Folders:
N.B. 1887 29'x90' bldg. 1 story Sunday School. Had indoor plumbing and 8'deep cellar.
DEM. 1896
N.B. 1905
DEM 1915

Directory, 1848-49: #92 Union Avenue - Jacob Wolf, carpenter
Jacob Schewer, tanner

Sewer: Sewer hook-up for both lots Permit # 52048.7 July 1879,
John Carrol.

Map Data:
1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - no building
1886 Robinson - #90: building at front of lot, one in middle, and stable at rear.
#92: brick building on front 3/4 of lot with stable at rear.
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromely - frame building, "Italian church," on Lot 5, #90, and Lot 6, #92 is vacant.
1925 Drawing from Block and Lot files (see Figure 15) shows 6 story brick tenement house with 3 stores, part of side yard vacant
1929 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1925 drawing
1935 Sanborn - same as 1925
1947 Sanborn - same as 1925


Archaeological Potential: According to the 1848 Directory the lot was occupied, but that disagrees with the other documentary sources which indicate a c. 1879 date. But even if there were pre-sewer buildings, the yard areas later probably underwent major construction impact from one building with a basement and later from a 6 story brick tenement; therefore there is low potential sensitivity for intact backyard deposits.
Block 3022 - Lot Histories

Lot 7, #94 Union Avenue

Block and Lot Folders:
Bldg. plan in 1964 covers 1/2 lot with cellar. Alterations in 60s show frame 22'x30'+ with 60' rear yard.

Directory, 1848-49: Charles Goedecke, Tailor

Sewer: Sewer hook-up Permit # 3/17/68 for __ Kavanah

Map Data:
1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - building on front 1/3 of lot
1886 Robinson - one building on front 1/3 of lot and another on rear 1/3 of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - front building the same as 1886, rear building removed
1925 Drawing from Block and Lot files (see Figure 15) shows 3 story frame building with vacant store on ground floor
1929 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1925 drawing
1935 Sanborn - same as 1925 drawing except small 1 story additions on rear corners of building
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935


Archaeological Potential: Sewer permit matches atlases as to first structure c. 1868, which would have had sewer hook-up, although Directory indicates earlier occupation. The researcher's experience with documentary material involving 17th, 18th, and 19th century spelling of proper names and 19th century street addresses is that they are often variable and/or unreliable and should be substantiated with other documents if at all possible. Therefore, in this case, the available evidence of the sewer date and atlas are accepted as more accurate and indicate that the lot has low potential sensitivity for backyard archaeological resources.
Block 3022 - Lot Histories

Lot 8 #96 Union Avenue

Block and Lot Folders:
N.B. in 1921

Directory, 1848-49: Peter Flore, watchglass cutter

Sewer: Sewer hook-up Permit 46125.6. (No entry on map, but number indicates c. 1875)

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - 3 or 4 buildings cover the lot
1886 Robinson - 4 buildings covering entire lot. Rear 2 buildings
apparently front on Ten Eyck Street and are #8 and #10
Ten Eyck
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - 2 or 3 buildings shown
1925 Drawing from Block and Lot files (see Figure 15) 3 story frame
on corner, (#96 Union), 1 story frame story directly
behind it on Ten Eyck, followed by 2 story frame at #8 Ten
Eyck, followed by 2 story frame at #10 Ten Eyck
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 3 buildings cover lot
1935 Sanborn - 4 buildings cover lot
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

Owned by NYC at least 1982 through 1987 when deeded to Block 1339

Archaeological Potential: There is potential for backyard deposits
from occupations preceding the c.1875 hook-up with a sewer line.
On the other hand, there have been several building episodes since
that time, although no basements are indicated. Also, no vacant
yard space, which could have hosted features such as privies, is
shown on atlases. Thus, there are other lots within the project
area that contain relatively higher potential sensitivity for
cultural resources.
Block 3022 - Lot Histories

Lot 10 #12 Ten Eyck Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory, 1848-49: No entry. There are no entries at all for Ten Eyck (originally Wyckoff Street) which was opened in 1852.

Sewer: No entry was found

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - a building on front of lot
1886 Robinson - building on front 1/3 of lot has rear addition
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - same as 1886
1935 Sanborn - same as 1886
1947 Sanborn - same as 1886. 3 story dwelling with 1 story rear addition


Archaeological Potential: In the absence of contradictory documentary evidence, it may be assumed that the first building shown on a atlas in 1869 had utilities in place using the earliest date of availability of c.1860. Therefore, this lot has low potential for archaeological sensitivity.
Block 2791

Pertinent property transactions in block listings at Brooklyn City Register from the earliest to 1894. These volumes do not give individual lot numbers.

Earliest to 1894:
- Town of Bushwick to Peter Praa n.d.
- Molinaer, Abraham to John Vandervoort 1804
- Remsen to Remsen 1827
- Remsen to Schols 1831

Other early owners:
- Richardson
- Johnson
- Truslow

Roberts starts buying property 1840
Morrel, Thomas to John L. Graham 1834
Graham, Jane to Andrew Johnston who bought & sold a lot of property 1849

No J. Manson – maybe J. "Munz"?
Many transactions through 1894
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 7, #110 Union Street

Block and Lot Folders: Alteration 1927 shows 2 houses on lot, front and rear. 3 stories, 25'x40'. Share W.C. in rear yard between 2 bldgs.

Directory 1848-9: No entry, but several nearby on Union St.

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit #41447.6 5/20/73 for Dr. Frickenstein

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - 2 buildings, one at front and one at rear of lot
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - 1 building on front of lot
1886 Robinson - 2 buildings, one at front and one at rear of lot. Each occupies about 1/3 of lot, so middle 1/3 vacant
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886 except small rear addition to building (which is brick) on front of lot
1907 Bromley - same as 1898
1929 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1898
1935 Sanborn - same as 1898. Building on front of lot is 3 story brick dwelling with 3 story frame addition. Building on rear of lot is 2 1/2 story dwelling.
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

Deeded by New York City to Ambrosina Construction Inc. in 1984.

No known disturbance to middle 1/3 of lot, known to be site of W.C.

Archaeological Potential: Potential sensitivity for backyard deposits.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 8, #112 Union Street

Block and Lot Folders: NB 1878, permit #39 for stable. Two bldgs on lot, originally rear bldg. was 2 story frame stable. Mr. John Groppe/Grosse/Groffe owner in 1878 when stable built.

1915 - new toilets.

1926 - 4 families and store

Directory 1848-9: No entry, but several nearby on Union St.

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit #219972.3. Volume missing, but pre-1869, assume 1868, date of availability according to Nassau Water Board report.

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - small building on front of lot
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - hard to decipher, looks like several structures
1886 Robinson - Brick building on front 1/2 of lot (it is larger than the 1850 structure), vacant in middle, frame stable on rear of lot

1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - same as 1886
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 3 story building on front 1/2 of lot, then 2 story building
1935 Sanborn - 4 brick structures cover lot except for small strip (approx 6'x 25') in middle portion

1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

Deeded by New York City to Ambrosina Construction Inc. in 1984.

Circa 1850 building pre-dated sewer installation, but it was replaced by larger building, and rear yard also impacted by subsequent construction, although no basements in these structures are noted.

Archaeological Potential: There is a possibility of potential sensitivity for backyard deposits, but due to construction it is probable that only a very small undisturbed space, at best, could remain. There are other lots within the project that contain relatively higher potential.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 10, #12 Maujer Street

Block and Lot Folders:
NB 1888.
1904 Alt. 8 families. Owner: Roberts
1938 "old Building" 2 families in basement
27'x30' 2 families on each of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd floors.

Directory, 1848-9: No entry

Sewer: Sewer hook-up Permit # 690.1 would be in the first volume (missing), so assume 1860.

Map Data:
1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - no building
1886 Robinson - brick building on rear 1/3 of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromely - same as 1886
1929 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1935 Sanborn - same as 1886. Labeled Dwelling, 3 stories with basement
Sanborn 1947 - same as 1935

Deeded by New York City to Ambrosina Construction Inc. in 1984.

Archaeological Potential: There is low potential sensitivity for backyard deposits because sewer was in place or hooked-up concurrent with first building.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 16, #24 Maujer Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory 1848-9: Jacob Darmstadt, porter

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit #19608.3 Volume missing, but pre-1867, assume 1860 because of availability by that date.

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - building on front 1/3 of lot
1886 Robinson - buildings on front 1/3 of lot, 2 story addition behind it, structure on rear 1/3 of lot.
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - building on front 1/3 of lot with addition, no building on rear of lot.
1929 Belcher-Hyde - probably the same as 1947
1935 Sanborn - same as 1947
1947 Sanborn - 3 story frame dwelling on front 1/3 of lot, 2 story frame addition behind it. 2 story brick dwelling on rear 1/3 of lot

Archaeological Potential: Sewer permit matches atlases as to first structure c. 1868, which would have had sewer hook-up, although Directory indicates earlier occupation. The researcher's experience with documentary material involving 17th, 18th, and 19th century spelling of proper names and 19th century street addresses is that they are often variable and/or unreliable and should be substantiated with other documents if at all possible. Therefore, in this case, the available evidence of the sewer date and atlas are accepted as more accurate and indicate that the lot has low potential sensitivity for backyard archaeological resources.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 17, #26 Maujer Street

Block and Lot Folders:
1889 NB - 25'x50' 3 story building for a store and 4 families. Owner is Mrs Hildebrandt who lives on Mayer Street. Same configuration in 1938 which is latest document date.

Directory 1848-9 no entry

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit #46908.6 Page in volume missing, but would be in mid-1870s.

Map Data:
1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - building on front 1/3 of lot
1886 Robinson - building with rear addition on east side covering approx. 1/2 of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - building with rear addition on east side covering approx 1/2 of lot, apparently like 1886, although this contradicts the NB information in Block and Lot folder
1907 Bromley - same as 1898
1929 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1898
1935 Sanborn - 3 story brick dwelling, given street #26 and #28 (though same lot) with rear addition on east side. Probably same configuration as on earlier atlases
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

Archaeological Potential: A structure existed on the lot before sewer connection in the mid-1870s. Rear 1/2 of lot had no known disturbance except a small shed shown on 1935 atlas. Lot has potential sensitivity for backyard deposits.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 18, #30, 32, 34, 36 Maujer Street. This lot was once 3 or 4 lots; there has always been some confusion with lot and street numbers in sewer, property, and atlas records. The following account reconciles the data as much as possible.

Block and Lot Folders:

#36 & #34 Maujer: 1888 Alteration Permit for 2 lots 50'x100') located 150' west of Lorimer street which would be #36 & #34: lists then present building as theater, site of "old brewery". Alterations to include restaurant and ballroom.

1916 Demolition Permit

#34 Maujer: 1904 Alteration stated that the building was 50'x100' covering two lots. [same one as above?]

#32 Maujer: 1909 Alteration Permit to remove water closet from yard and put in 22'x32' dwelling.

A 1916 drawing shows plans for Gluck Bros iron works listed for #34 Maujer, but actually covers #38, #36 & #34 Maujer. No record for building at #32 & #30 which is shown on 1929 atlas.

Directory: 1848-9 no entry

Sewer: #36 - Permit #1782.1 volume missing, but permit number indicates pre-1867, probably early 1860s

#34 - Permit #18095.3 volume missing, pre-1867

#32 - Permit #46447.6 page missing, c.1875

#30 - Permit #21726.4 1867 for Mrs. Ward

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - there appear to be 4 structures associated with the Lot 18 area

1852 Field - part of the lot is with the property of J.L. Graham, and the other portion has no notation

1869 Dripps - there are buildings on each lot, though not possible to determine their configuration. "Brewery" is written in the path of Remsen (Maujer) Street above the buildings
Archaeological Potential: The configuration of lots and buildings on what is the current Lot 18 changed over time. The two large 3 and 4 story brick buildings that currently occupy this lot (Photo 5) replaced earlier structures between 1916 and 1929. The associated demolition and construction activities most probably destroyed any cultural resources from previous occupations (at least two) of the parcels. The buildings were occupied at least from 1916 through 1947 by Gluck Brothers iron works that made metal tables. Alexander Auto Parts and Ajax Knitwear now are housed within the buildings. This lot is considered to have low potential for important or intact subsurface cultural resources.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories
Lot 23, #38 Maujer Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory 1848-9 no entry

Sewer: Sewer Permit #16575.3 Volume missing: pre-1867

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - within property belonging to J.L. Graham
1869 Dripps - building on front portion of lot
1886 Robinson - building on front 1/3 of lot, then vacant space, then building on rear of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886. Frame buildings
1907 Bromley - same as 1886
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 3 story building on front of lot, then 1 story building in middle, then 2 story with basement building at rear

1935 Sanborn - entire lot covered with 3 buildings associated with Gluck Bros. Table Manufacturing next door on Lot 18
1947 Sanborn - 3 story "office" on front 1/3, then brick building, then 2 story (with basement) "storage". Same configuration as 1929

Current Sanborn - same configuration as 1929

Archaeological Potential: Low potential sensitivity for homelot/backyard deposits since utilities were apparently hooked-up concurrently with erection of first structure on the lot.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 24, #40 Maujer Street

Block and Lot Folder:
1881 NB for 4 families. 6' foundation below ground/curb.

Directory 1848-9: no entry

Sewer: Sewer Permit #2555.4 in 1869 for Pelt [Peuth?]

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Fields - within property of J.L. Graham
1869 Dripps - no structure
1886 Robinson - building front 1/2 of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - building on front 1/2 of lot
1907 Bromley - building on front 1/2 of lot and small building at rear of lot
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 3 story building on front of lot, another building on rear portion of lot
1935 Sanborn - 3 story brick dwelling on front 1/2 of lot and 3 story frame dwelling on rear of lot
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

New York City to Mario Avallone in 1984

Archaeological Potential: There is low potential sensitivity for backyard deposits because sewer was in place or hooked-up concurrent with first building episode.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 25, #42 Maujer Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory 1848-9: no entry

Sewer: Sewer Permit #1562.1 Volume missing, but this entry would be in the first volume beginning in 1860.

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Fields - within property of J.L. Graham
1869 Dripps - building on front approx. 1/3 of lot
1886 Robinson - building on front of lot with rear addition.
  building on rear approx. 1/4 of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - same as 1886
1929 Belcher-Hyde - building on front of lot is 3 stories with 2 story rear addition; no structure on rear of lot except small shed in southwest corner
1935 Sanborn - same as 1929, labeled "dwelling"
1947 Sanborn - same as 1929

New York City to Mario Avallone in 1984

Archaeological Potential: There is low potential sensitivity for backyard deposits because sewer was in place or hooked-up concurrent with first building episode.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 27, #46 Maujer Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory 1848-9: no entry

Sewer: Sewer Permit #1550.1. Volume is missing, but the entry would be in Volume 1 which begins with 1860, so early installation.

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - building on lot
1852 Field - within property belonging to J.L. Graham
1869 Dripps - building on rear of lot
1886 Robinson - buildings on front and rear of lot with middle 1/3 vacant
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886, except middle portion only about 1/4 of lot
1907 Bromley - same as 1898
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 3 story building covers front 1/2 of lot with 1 story building covering rear 1/2 of lot
1935 Sanborn - same as above, buildings labeled "waste paper"
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

Archaeological Potential: An early, pre-sewer building on the lot replaced by larger buildings with sewers. However, the 1 story building that covered the middle part of the lot was not noted as having a basement. Although there is potential sensitivity for backyard deposits beneath the footprint of the 1 story building, there are other lots within the project area that contain relatively higher potential for undisturbed resources.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 32, #433 Lorimer Street

Block and Lot Folders:
1893 NB 24.5'x65'. Lot is 24.5'x100' 4 stories, 8 families. Absentee owner/builder. Indoor plumbing.

Directory 1848-9: no entry

Sewer: Sewer Permit #16539.3 Volume missing, but pre-1867.

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Fields - within J.L. Graham property
1869 Dripps - building on front of lot
1886 Robinson - building on front of lot and small structure at rear of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - building on front 1/2 of lot
1907 Bromley - same as 1898
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 4 story on front 1/2 of building
1935 Sanborn - 4 story brick dwelling as above
1947 Sanborn - same as above

New York City deeded to Kyu Sik Chung in 1984

Archaeological Potential: There is no evidence of a building on the lot before 1869 when sewer was already installed, so the parcel is rated as having low potential for backyard resources.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories
Lot 33, #431 Lorimer Street

Block and Lot Folders:
1876 NB 25'x50'. 3 stories and 6 families. Casper Benner, builder.
1912 new sinks and toilets
1923 NB for addition. Plot plan shows outbuildings, but no indication of cellars in them. Same in 1956: "unexcavated below garage and storage rm". Side yard.

Directory: 1848-9: no entry

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit #16222.3. Volume missing, but sometime before 1867.

Map Data:
1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Fields - within property belonging to J.L. Graham
1869 Dripps - building on front of lot, possibly one in middle
1886 Robinson - buildings cover lot except for side yard to the north
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - same as 1886
1929 Belcher-Hyde - looks similar to 1886
1935 Sanborn - 4 buildings on lot: front 1/2 has 3 story store, then 1 story frame addition leaving side yard, then rear 1 story brick garage [?], then 2 1/2 story dwelling with basement, then tiny shed at back of lot.
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

New York City to Kyu Sik Chung in 1984

Archaeological Potential: Although it is possible that privies or cisterns existed on the lot for a limited period, the documentary evidence suggests otherwise. Therefore, the NYCLPC criterion that availability of utilities (clearly indicated by the records of other lots on the project site) before or at the same time the first known building episode is found is a reason for considering that parcels have low potential for homelot resources. Also, there are other lots within the project area that contain relatively higher potential.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 35, #37 Ten Eyck Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory: 1848-9 No entries at all for Wycoff/Ten Eyck Street; street opened in 1852.

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit #64956.8 Volume is missing, but it is a number indicating post-1880.

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Fields - within property of J.L Graham
1869 Dripps - building on front of lot
1886 Robinson - building on front 1/2 of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - building on front 1/2 of lot
1907 Bromley - same as 1886
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 4 story building covering over 1/2 of lot
1935 Sanborn - brick 4 story dwelling on front 1/2 of lot
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935 except for 1 story shed at rear of lot

Deeded from Commissioner of Finance to NYC in 1986

Archeological Potential: High potential for backyard resources from at least a decade of occupation since buildings pre-date sewer hook-up and there is no known disturbance in the back yard.
Lot 37, #29-33 Ten Eyck  This lot once consisted of three lots.

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory: 1848-9 No entries at all for Wycoff/Ten Eyck Street; street opened in 1852.

Sewer: #29 Ten Eyck Street - sewer Permit #80885.10
#31 Ten Eyck Street - no listing
#33 Ten Eyck Street - sewer Permit #B6793.17 (the meaning of the letter "B" and thus the date of the permit are not known)

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1952 Fields - within property belonging to J. Munson and J.L. Graham
1869 Dripps - possibly a building on #33, other two vacant
1886 Robinson - 3 separate lots. Not possible to read exactly, but possibly buildings on all 3 lots
1898 Belcher-Hyde - appears to be same as 1907
1907 Bromley - #33 Ten Eyck: 2 frame buildings with small space in between.
    #31 and #29 Ten Eyck: brick building covering both lots entirely
1929 Belcher-Hyde - Lot 7 (present configuration) is labeled one story "garage"
1935 Sanborn - 1 story "Plumbing and Fixture Assembly" with concrete floors
1947 Sanborn - 1 story "garage"

Deeded from Commissioner of Finance to NYC in 1986

The map/atlas data is very difficult to decipher; there is no Block and Lot folder; the sewer hook-up notations are incomplete and/or confusing.

Archaeological Potential: It is possible that privies or cisterns existed on one or more of the original lots for a limited period; however the documentary evidence is scant and inconclusive. Therefore, the NYCLPC criterion that availability of utilities (clearly indicated by the records of other lots on the project site to be before 1867) before or at the same time the first known building episode (possibly c.1869) is found is a reason for considering that parcels have low potential for homelot resources. Also, there are other lots within the project area that contain relatively higher potential.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 41, #23-27 Ten Eyck Street  This lot once consisted of three lots.

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory: 1848-9 No entries at all for Wycoff/Ten Eyck Street; street opened in 1852.

Sewer: #27 Ten Eyck - Permit #696.1 - would be in first volume, so c.1860
#25 Ten Eyck - Permit #28958.5 in 1870 for ___ Bawer
#23 Ten Eyck - no entry located

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - within property of J. Munson
1869 Dripps - building on #27 and possibly #25 Ten Eyck: not possible to be certain
no building on #23 Ten Eyck
1886 Robinson - #27 Ten Eyck - "X" [stable or storage] building on front approx 1/3 of lot
#25 Ten Eyck - "X" [stable or storage] building on front approx 1/3 of lot
#23 Ten Eyck - irregular brick building on front 1/2 of lot
1898 Belcher-Hyde - #27 Ten Eyck - "X" building covers entire lot
#25 Ten Eyck - "X" building same as 1886, then vacant space, then rear building
#23 Ten Eyck - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - #27 Ten Eyck - same as 1898
#25 Ten Eyck - "X" building same as 1886, then another "X" building, then rear structure same as 1898
1929 Belcher-Hyde - #27 & #25 Ten Eyck - 1 story "garage"
#23 Ten Eyck - 2 story building with rear addition and side/rear yard. Could be the same as before, but not possible to tell exactly.
1935 Sanborn - #25 &#27 Ten Eyck - 1 story building (same as 1929) labeled "Plumb'g W. Ho." Appears to occupy rear of #23 Ten Eyck
#23 Ten Eyck - brick dwelling, 2 stories and basement with 2 story (basement) brick addition at left rear with 2 story frame addition behind that, leaving yard space on the right
1947 Sanborn - #25 &#27 Ten Eyck - same building configuration as 1929 & 1935, labeled "garage" for 90 cars
#23 Ten Eyck - same as 1935
Deeded from NYC to Fairchild Rlty Ltd in 1885 and mortgaged back to NYC on same day.

Archaeological Potential: Although it is possible that backyard features existed on one or all of the lots before utility installation, circumstantial evidence from sewer records and atlases suggest otherwise. Therefore, the NYCLPC criterion that availability of utilities (clearly indicated by the records of other lots on the project site) before or at the same time the first known building episode is found is a reason for considering that parcels have low potential for homelot resources. Also, there are other lots within the project area that contain relatively higher potential.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 43, #21 Ten Eyck Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory: 1848-9 No entries at all for Wycoff/Ten Eyck Street; street opened in 1852.

Sewer: no entry was found

Map Data:

- 1850 Dripps - no building
- 1852 Field - no notation
- 1869 Dripps - probably a building on front portion of lot
- 1886 Robinson - building on front portion of lot. Lot is 75' deep.
- 1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
- 1907 Bromley - same as 1886
- 1929 Belcher-Hyde - 2 1/2 story building on front of lot with 1 story addition
- 1935 Sanborn - 2 1/2 story dwelling with 3 attached additions. 1 story "coop" at rear of irregularly shaped lot
- 1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

Deeded from NYC to Fairchild Rly Ltd in 1885 and mortgaged back to NYC on same day.

Archaeological Potential: Although it is possible that privies or cisterns existed on the lot for a limited period, the documentary evidence suggests otherwise. Therefore, the NYCLPC criterion that availability of utilities (clearly indicated by the records of other lots on the project site) before or at the same time the first known building episode is found is a reason for considering that parcels have low potential for homelot resources. Also, there are other lots within the project area that contain relatively higher potential.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 44, #19 Ten Eyck Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory: 1848-9 No entries at all for Wycoff/Ten Eyck Street; street opened in 1852.

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit #23133.4 in 1868 for ---Beck

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - building on front portion of lot
1886 Robinson - buildings on front and rear portions of lot with small vacant space in between
1898 Belcher-Hyde - same as 1886
1907 Bromley - building on front portion of lot only
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 3 story building on front 1/2 of lot, then vacant space, then 2 story building at rear
1935 Sanborn - 3 story brick dwelling, then space, then 2 story frame dwelling. Like 1929
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

Deeded from NYC to Fairchild Rlty Ltd in 1885 and mortgaged back to NYC on same day.

Archaeological Potential: Although it is possible that privies or cisterns existed on the lot for a limited period, the documentary evidence suggests otherwise. There was a sewer connection in 1868 and the first building that can be found is shown in 1869.

Therefore, the NYCLPC criterion that availability of utilities (clearly indicated by the records of other lots on the project site) before or at the same time the first known building episode is found is a reason for considering that parcels have low potential for homelot resources. Also, there are other lots within the project area that contain relatively higher potential.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 45, #17 Ten Eyck Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

Directory: 1848-9 No entries at all for Wycoff/Ten Eyck Street; street opened in 1852.

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit #47795.6 in 1876 for John Murphy

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no entry
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - no building. Within property marked "Roberts"
1886 Robinson - building on front 1/2 of lot. Building in the rear of the lot appears to belong to the lot facing Maujer Street since lot is noted as 100' instead of the usual
1898 Belcher-Hyde - building on front 1/2 of lot
1907 Bromley - building on front portion of lot.
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 3 story building on front of lot.
1935 Sanborn - 3 story dwelling on front 1/2 of lot
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

Archaeological Potential: Although it is possible that privies or cisterns existed on the lot for a limited period, the documentary evidence suggests otherwise. There was a sewer connection in 1876 and the first building that can be found is shown in 1886. Therefore, the NYCLPC criterion that availability of utilities (clearly indicated by the records of other lots on the project site) before or at the same time the first known building episode is found is a reason for considering that parcels have low potential for homelot resources. Also, there are other lots within the project area that contain relatively higher potential.
Block 2791 - Lot Histories

Lot 46, #15 Ten Eyck Street

Block and Lot Folders: no folder

**Directory:** 1848-9 No entries at all for Wycoff/Ten Eyck Street; street opened in 1852.

Sewer: Sewer connection Permit # 55563.7 1880 for John Murphy

Map Data:

1850 Dripps - no building
1852 Field - no notation
1869 Dripps - no building. Within property marked "Roberts"
1886 Robinson - building on front 1/2 of lot. Building in the rear of the lot appears to belong to the lot facing Maujer Street since lot is noted as 75' instead of the usual 100' in depth
1898 Belcher-Hyde - building on front 1/2 of lot
1907 Bromley - building on front portion of lot.
1929 Belcher-Hyde - 3 story building on front of lot.
1935 Sanborn - 3 story brick dwelling on front 1/2 of lot
1947 Sanborn - same as 1935

**Archaeological Potential:** Although it is possible that privies or cisterns existed on the lot for a limited period, the documentary evidence suggests otherwise. Therefore, the NYCLPC criterion that availability of utilities (clearly indicated by the records of other lots on the project site) before or at the same time the first known building episode is found is a reason for considering that parcels have low potential for homelot resources. Also, there are other lots within the project area that contain relatively higher potential.
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The possibility of intact prehistoric remains being found on the project site is low, based on documentary sources. There are no known sites within a mile radius of the project site (see Appendix), nor does it seem to have possessed the physical characteristics over time that would have made it a preferred habitation or procurement site for Native Americans. While an occasional artifact might be recovered despite the disturbance of various building episodes, there is minimum probability of the recovery of significant resources from the prehistoric period.

Similarly, while isolated artifacts from the 17th and 18th centuries might be found, there is no record of usage or activity pointing to the existence of any specific or important resource category for those periods. The project site was between the original settlements of the villages of Bushwick and Williamsburgh, and apparently functioned only as farmland until after the turn of the 19th century (Figures 4, 5, and 6).

Once development of the block began, there are types of archaeological resources that could have been deposited and remain undisturbed. One category of resource is remains from industrial and/or commercial enterprises. Two of the four original lots now part of Lot 18 on Maujer Street hosted a brewery and later an entertainment complex in the late 19th to early 20th century. From c.1916 until after 1947 new buildings on the lots were occupied by Gluck Brothers iron works that made metal tables. Other uses of the buildings have taken place since then. Whether or not subsurface remains from the early brewery/restaurant complex are intact is extremely doubtful because of subsequent construction episodes; whether or not subsurface remains from the iron works are intact is unclear. But the integrity of the sub-surface remains is not the only issue. Rather, the likelihood that any such remains would offer significant archaeological research potential is the important question. The industrial components - the process, the machinery, and the type of plant - for both breweries and iron works are well documented and described in drawings, publications such as those devoted to industrial archaeology, and books. The buildings that housed the iron works still stand; material objects that may have been discarded during the functioning life of the factory, if any have survived subsequent building uses, are not likely to yield substantive or unique data on the topic that is not readily available from documentary sources.
Another category of resource is yard features, particularly deep shaft features such as privies and water cisterns. These buried features sometimes contain "time capsules" of stratified deposits that are extremely valuable to the archaeologist in studying and reconstructing past lifeways. If utilities were in place or available when structures were first placed on the lots, it would obviate the need for the shaft features. Therefore every effort was made to ascertain the dates of availability and actual connection to sewer and water lines in relation to the first construction episodes for each of the project site parcels.

Five lots were identified as having the potential to contain intact yard features. They are marked on Figure 23 and are:

1) Lot 42 #37 Maujer Street  Block 2785
   The 1848-9 Directory and the 1850 Dripps map indicate that the lot was occupied by that time. A sewer connection was made between 1860 and 1867. There is no known disturbance to the rear 1/3 of the lot except for a 1 story outbuilding, and the middle 1/3 of the lot may also be relatively undisturbed since no basement is shown for the 4 story c.1898 building which replaced earlier structures. The lot is vacant since the demolition of that building. (See Photo 7.)

2) Lot 43 #39 Maujer Street  Block 2785
   The 1848-9 Directory and the 1850 Dripps map indicate that the lot was occupied by that time. A sewer connection was made between 1860 and 1867. There is no known disturbance to the rear 1/3 of the lot, and the middle 1/3 of the lot may also be relatively undisturbed since no basement is shown for the 4 story c. 1898 building which replaced earlier structures. The lot is vacant since the demolition of that building. (See Photo 7.)

3) Lot 7 #110 Union Street  Block 2791
   Buildings are shown on the lot on 1850 and 1869 maps prior to the 1873 sewer connection. There is no known disturbance on the middle 1/3 of the lot where features may have been located. (See Photo 8.)

4) Lot 17 #26 Maujer Street  Block 2791
   A structure existed on the lot by 1869 before the sewer connection in the mid-1870s. There is no known disturbance on the rear 1/2 of the lot except for a small shed shown on a 1935 atlas. (See Photo 6.)

5) Lot 35 #37 Ten Eyck
   A structure existed on the lot by 1869 before the sewer connection after 1880. There is no known disturbance in the rear 1/2 of the lot except for a shed shown on a 1947 atlas. (See Photo 2 and 3.)
Of the five lots identified as having potential to host backyard resources, two of them - Lot 7, #110 Union Street and Lot 17, #26 Maujer Street are at present privately owned and would present serious access problems for the Department of Housing Preservation. Therefore, with LPC's agreement, these lots should, in the interests of expediting the City's attempt to provide low cost housing for its citizens, be exempted from further consideration.

The remaining three lots were not part of the original settlement of Williamsburgh which was several blocks west of the project block, and were developed later in time c. 1845. Although they may contain backyard features from a limited period (approximately 15 to 20 years) of the late second quarter and third quarter of the 19th century, there may well be other sites in Brooklyn that have already been studied or may become available for study that have comparable or better potential for the existence, type, and quality of resources that can more adequately serve current research goals.

However, if field testing to ascertain the presence or absence, extent, and type of cultural resources is mandated by the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC), it should be undertaken after the three lots are cleared for construction, but before construction begins. When the parcels are available for close on-site inspection, the archaeologists performing the testing procedures should, with the aid of the maps and atlases contained in this report, carefully inspect the sensitive lots in order to plot the loci to be tested as precisely as possible. After this is done, a testing plan using professionally accepted procedures would be devised and submitted to LPC for consultation and approval.

Concurrent with or prior to field testing, if required, intensive Second Level documentary research may also be required by LPC in hopes of finding names of occupants of the lots during the historical period for which testing is being conducted. Since most of the lots in the project area were occupied by tenants rather than owners, one cannot locate occupant names in the usual sources such as deed records. Also, business directories and census records are rarely arranged by street address, so that the researcher needs names of residents to start with. Therefore, there is a strong probability that with the attendant difficulties, the attempt to locate information about the families or businesses with whom artifacts might be associated in order to establish a context in which to study and evaluate any cultural resources that might be recovered, may not be productive.
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CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
THE COINCIDENCE OF THE TWO DATUMS IS APPROXIMATELY THE MEAN LOW WATER

SCALE 1:24,000

1 MILE
Furnished by the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development

NOTE: ONLY OUTLINED LOTS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED IN DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH.

TAX MAP
Note: Only outlined lots are to be considered in documentary research.

Furnished by the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development

Sanborn Map

Maujer Street Community Dev. Plan

Scale: in British Miles
Bushwick Village and Surrounding Farm Land
From Armbruster, 1912.
1845 Issac Vieth
A Map of the Village of Williamsburgh.
1850 Matthew Dripps
Map of the City of Brooklyn,
also the Village of
Williamsburgh.
Scale: 1"=500'
1852 Thomas W. Field
Map of the City of Williamsburgh and Town of Bushwick
including Greenpoint.
No scale
E. Robinson 1886 Atlas
of the Borough of Brooklyn
E. Robinson 1886 Atlas
of the Borough of Brooklyn

Figure 12

James Schools
Map No. 415
Figure 13

Tracing from the 1898-99 Belcher-Hyde Atlas of the Borough of Brooklyn showing the project lots
Figure 14

Tracing from the 1907 Bromley Atlas of the Borough of Brooklyn showing the project lots.
Tracing from a 1925 drawing in the Block and Lot folder for Block 3022 showing project Lots 5, 7, 8.
1929 Belcher-Hyde Atlas of the Borough of Brooklyn showing the project blocks
See Volume Three: Borough of B

Scale 60 Ft. to One Inch.
1951 Sanborn Atlas of the Borough of Brooklyn showing Block 2785
1950s Photograph of #73 Maujer Street from the Brooklyn Public Library Neighborhood File
1950s Photograph of #73 Maujer Street from the Brooklyn Public Library Neighborhood File
NOTE: ONLY OUTLINED LOTS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED IN DOCUMENTARY RESEARCH.

SHOWING LOTS WITH ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Furnished by the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development

GRAND ST.

MAUJER ST.

TEN EYCK ST.

STAGG ST.

LORIMER ST.
Vacant lots on Ten Eyck Street at Union Avenue. Looking south
Lots 5, 7, 8, and 10, Block 3022
Vacant lots on the north side of Ten Eyck Street

Looking north - northeast

Looking left to right, Lots 46, 45, 44, 43, 41, & 37

Block 2791
Vacant lots on the north side of Ten Eyck Street. Looking north-northwest.

Looking right to left: rear portions of Lots 32 and 33, Lot 35, white building not in project area, Lots 37, 41, 43, 44, 45, & 46, apartment buildings not in project area. Block 2791.
Vacant lots on the north side of Ten Eyck Street
Looking northeast toward corner of Ten Eyck and Lorimer Street.
Lots 32 and 33, Block 2791
Project parcels on south side of Maujer Street. Looking southeast toward intersection of Maujer and Lorimer Streets. Looking from right to left: brick building housing Alexander Auto Parts, brick building housing Atlas Knitwear Mills (both Lot 18) 1 story garage (Lot 23), vacant lot (Lots 24 and 25). Block 2791
Vacant lots on south side of Maujer Street. Looking south at Lots 16 and 17, Block 2791

Photograph 6

Vacant lots on north side of Maujer Street. Looking north at Lots 42 and 43, Block 2785

Photograph 7
Vacant lots at the corner of Maujer Street and Union Avenue. Looking east at Lots 7 and 8, Block 2791
APPENDIX
EVALUATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY FOR PREHISTORIC (NATIVE AMERICAN) SITES

Examination of the data suggests that the location indicated has the following sensitivity rating:

**MIXED PROBABILITY OF PRODUCING PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA.**

The reasons for this finding are given below:

- [ ] A recorded site is indicated in or immediately adjacent to the location and we have reason to believe it could be impacted by construction.
- [ ] A recorded site is indicated some distance away but due to the margin of error in the location data it is possible the site actually exists in or immediately adjacent to the location.
- [ ] The terrain in the location is similar to terrain in the general vicinity where recorded archaeological sites are indicated.
- [ ] The physiographic characteristics of the location suggest a high probability of prehistoric occupation or use.
- [ ] The physiographic characteristics of the location suggest a medium probability of prehistoric occupation or use.
- [ ] The physiographic characteristics of the location suggest a low probability of prehistoric occupation or use.
- [ ] Evidence of cultural or natural destructive impacts suggests a loss of original cultural deposits in this location.
- [ ] The physiographic characteristics of the location are mixed, a higher than average probability of prehistoric occupation or use is suggested for areas in the vicinity of either present or preexisting bodies of water, waterways, or swamps. A higher than average probability is suggested for rock faces which afford shelter or for areas sheltered by bluffs or hills. Areas in the vicinity of chert deposits have a higher than average probability of use. Distinctive hills or low ridges have an average probability of use as a burying ground. Low probability is suggested for areas of erosional steep slope.
- [ ] Probability rating is based on the assumed presence of intact original deposits, possibility under fill, in the area. If near water or if deeply buried, materials may occur submerged below the water table.
- [ ] Information on other sites may be available in a regional inventory maintained at the following location(s).

**COMMENTS:**

**cc:**  N.Y.S. Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau
NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM: OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHEOLOGIST
PREHISTORIC SITE PROJECT SCREENING FILE: USE REQUEST FORM

Screening file site locations are by generalized .5 mile circle.

NAME: Patsy Kernan

BUSINESS ADDRESS: P.O. Box 331 Riverside CT 06878

AGENCY/COMPANY/INSTITUTION REPRESENTED: Historical Perspectives

PURPOSE OF REQUEST: Identify the proposed project, contractor, and nature of the work.

1st Choice: Project identifier

EVENTUAL DISTRIBUTION OF DATA: (Specify range of data use and distribution, publication, reproduction, etc).

REQUESTED APPOINTMENT: Appointments are on the hour between 9 a.m. and 12 noon on Wednesdays.

1st Choice: Date: __________ Time (or any): __________ 2nd Choice: Date: __________ Time (or any): __________

Appointments may be made by phone on Tuesday mornings or may be requested by mail. Requests should be mailed at least 2 weeks in advance of appointment date. You will be notified of your appointment date by mail.

U.S.G.S. 7.5' MAPS REQUESTED: (indicate if 15' maps)

Brooklyn

FOR THE FOLLOWING PLEASE ATTACH

a copy of:
1. The project map
2. Site data list

The following site(s) may be within or adjacent to the project area.

If so, please provide the location of:

SITE #: __________________________ 7.5' MAP

I understand that the information provided is to be used solely for the preparation of an environmental impact statement as required by State or Federal law and must be marked and maintained as 'Confidential': for use only as required by State or Federal Law or with the written permission of the State Archeologist.

(Signature) __________________________ (Date) 5/13

Please provide a sensitivity rating for the attached project area

Indicate which you prefer

☑ Mail my response (addressed envelope attached)

☐ Hold my response for pick-up on (give date & time)