1260 K



# SCHOLES STREET URBAN RENEWAL AREA HOUSING SITE

CEQR NO. 89-179K

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## HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES INC.



#### PHASE 1A ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

#### SCHOLES STREET URBAN RENEWAL AREA HOUSING SITE

CEQR NO. 89-179K

Prepared for the New York City Department

of Housing Preservation And Development, Office

of Development

Prepared by Hi

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#### INTRODUCTION

The New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Office of Development, proposes to erect eighteen three story houses on the Scholes Street Urban Renewal Area Housing Site in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn (Figure 1). The project site, as shown on Figures 2 and 2A, is located in Block 3037 and consists of Lots 1,12,13,14,18,19,56, and 57. The block is bounded on the west by Bushwick Avenue, on the north by Stagg Street, on the east by Waterbury Street, and on the south by Scholes Street.

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 early 19th century village of Bushwick Green and requires a Phase 1A Documentary Study of the project parcel. 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.

The lots that form the project parcel are currently vacant. Lot 1, (#223 - #239 Scholes Street) which originally consisted of several smaller lots, was cleared at some point in the past, but has been the recipient of dumped debris, especially old tires (Photos 1,2,3). Lots 56 and 57 (#247 and #245 Scholes Street) are covered with pavement and slope from north to south (Photo 4). Lots 18 and 19 (#252 and #254 Stagg Street) are vacant, though littered with debris, with a dirt surface (Photo 6). The houses covered with white siding to the east of the lots are presumably the same type and age as the buildings that originally stood on project Lots 18 and 19. Photograph 5 shows the rear of these buildings taken from Scholes Street looking north toward Stagg Street. Lots 12,13, and 14 (#240,242,244 Stagg Street) have been cultivated as an Operation Greenthumb garden plot (Photo 7).

#### 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 land usage of the parcels. These resources included local and regional histories, source material for data on prehistoric settlements, city directories, Brooklyn Buildings Department records, census data, Brooklyn water and sewer records, Brooklyn City Register land transfer information, and pertinent archaeological assessment reports.

#### Cartographic Analysis

Historica maps and atlases were obtained from the Brooklyn Historical Society and the New York City Public Library in order to research the topography of the site through time and to augment other documentary sources as to the usage and building record of the lots during the historical era. The full range of available maps was studied; however, Bushwick did not become part of Brooklyn until 1855 so some of the usually valuable maps for consultation, such as the Butts 1846 and the Perris 1855, do not extend into the area.

#### 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 of based on previously developed models. See the Appendix to this report.

#### Field Visit

Two field visits were conducted at which times photographs were taken of the current conditions of the project parcels.

#### PREHISTORIC ERA

At 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 tears 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 The established biotic Island were much as they are today. 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 1968:8).

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).

There is no specific information on the aboriginal exploitation of the project site. While numerous prehistoric sites have been found in Brooklyn, none have been recovered in the proximity of the Scholes 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 paucity of site information may be a direct result of early construction/development 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 because of the unexceptional characteristics of the project site. 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., 1849 Sidney, 1852 Riker and 1852 Dripps) the project site apparently never afforded the Native American population of the various culture and time periods these physical features. (Figure 7)

A Native American trail did run along the current path of Flushing Avenue, approximately 11 blocks to the south of Scholes Street (Grumet 1981:71; Figure 3). This transportation route connecting the interior of the island to the head of the Newtown Creek probably brought 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 Scholes Street project site.

#### HISTORICAL ERA

#### Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries

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 Kouwenhovan 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.

According to historian Eugene Armbruster, settlement in the project area began about 1638 (Armbruster 1942:32), but the town of Bushwick was not founded and laid out until 1660 when Governor Stuyvesant ordered that people gather in villages which might afford them protection against the Indians who were angered by the governor's policies (Bushwick Savings Bank 1923:11). Stuyvesant christened the new village 'Boswijck,' or "town of the woods" which was corrupted to Bushwick (WPA 1939:460). He situated it on Wood Point Road, a widened Indian trail, which connected the settlement with Newtown Creek (Stiles 1867-69:328) The Bushwick Road, on which the project site is located, led south away from Wood Point Road and it was known as New Bushwick Lane until 1704 (Kramer 1971:np).

By 1674 Bushwick was under English rule. In 1687 the Parisht of the town of Boswick (Bushwick) was granted, which did not include what became the village of Williamsburgh to the northwest (Stiles 1869:351). Although there was little growth in Bushwick during the 18th century, the farms thrived, providing crops to the city on Manhattan Island.

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. Although the area saw no action, there was occupation by foreign troops at, for example, the Van Ranst farm 150 yards north of the Bushwick Church shown on Figure and several blocks north of the project site. "Some of the soldiers returned at the end of the war and established homes" (WPA 1939:460).

The original settlement of Bushwick was located in the vicinity of Bushwick Avenue and Metropolitan Avenue, about 7 blocks north of the project parcels (Figure 4). Figures 5 and 6 show the Bushwick settlement with the approximate location of the project site in the farm lands which surrounded the small village.

By the end of the 18th century there were two settlements, Bushwick Green (the original Het Dorp settlement shown on Figure 4), and Bushwick Crossroads to the south near Flushing Avenue. Bushwick Road ran north-south between them, and it is on the old Bushwick Road between the two villages that the project site was located (Figure 7) In fact, the road ran through the site which was divided between two farm parcels.

The parcel west of Bushwick Road, (which did not become Bushwick Avenue until 1852), was part of the Meserole property while the area to the east of the road belonged to the Schenck family holdings. The homesteads of these two families were not located on the project site (e.g. the Schenck farm house was on Flushing Ave. near Wood Point Rd.) and there are no known structures during the farm period that lasted well into the second half of the 19th century.

#### Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

Land developers became interested early in the 19th century in the suburban housing and industrial site potential of what would become the Williamsburg, Greenpoint, and Bushwick sections of Brooklyn. For instance, Richard Woodhull was active in the Williamsburg area as was Neziah Bliss in Greenpoint (Kearns, Kirkorian, Schneiderman-Fox 1989:12). However, Bushwick, Which separated from Williamsburg in 1840, was slower to change from rural to urban than the other two sections. The population of the village had grown from 798 in 1798 to only 5000 in 1850 (Bushwick Savings Bank 1923:23).

Bushwick was consolidated into the City of Brooklyn in 1855 and "shortly after consolidation, land speculators purchased farms and subdivided them for anticipated housing needs" (Kramer 1971:np). Streets were laid out in 1854, the year before annexation, but few actually existed in what was still really

farmland (Armbruster 1912:49). Development "received some impetus during the few years of prosperity at the close of the Civil War" (Ibid.:28). Also, there was population growth caused by the large influx of German immigrants in the second half of the 19th century. Still, it was not until c.1880 that the urbanizing transition truly began (Bushwick Savings Bank 1923:23).

Stagg Street and Scholes Street had been laid out from Union Avenue (west of the project site, see Figure 8) eastward to Bushwick Avenue by 1835 (Dikeman 1870:46). The grid is shown thus on the Sidney Map of 1849, and the Dripps Maps of 1850 and 1852. However, according to Armbruster, they were not actually opened until 1853 and 1850 respectively (Armbruster 1942:280, 302). East of Bushwick Avenue, Dikeman reports that Stagg and Scholes were laid out as far east as Bogart Street by 1854 (Dikeman 1870:49). The 1869 Dripps (Figure 8) is the first to show this grid in place.

When the street grid was laid out, the two parts of the project site were on two separate blocks on either side of Bushwick Avenue (Figure 8). Block 79 was west of Bushwick and had been part of the Meserole property; Block 934 was east of Bushwick and had been part of the Schenck farm. When Bushwick Avenue was realigned and the portion of it between the two old blocks closed in 1884 (Kramer 1971:np), the blocks were consolidated to the present configuration as Block 3037 although the old layout is visible on the 1886 Robinson Atlas (Figure 9).

The first map located that shows buildings on the project site is the Dripps Map of 1869 (Figure 8). There is definitely a structure - or structures - on what would become Lot 1 on the corner of Scholes and Bushwick with the label "Schy----[?] Brewery." (The building on the corner of Bushwick and Stagg was a police precinct station and never associated with Lot 1.) To the east of Bushwick there are three small buildings but it is not possible to definitely determine whether or not they are on the project site, although they appear too far east. Also, there is no evidence from documents other than maps that any buildings existed on Lots 56 and 57 at this early date. There are no buildings on Stagg Street within the project site.

From the date of the Dripps map - 1869 - to the present, maps and atlases were consulted in order to ascertain the land use history of the project parcels. Because of time gaps in the range of available maps, other data sources, such as Buildings Department records, were researched in order to acquire as full an account as possible. A history for each lot was compiled and they comprise the next section of this report. The following paragraphs summarize the findings to give an overview of the project parcels in general.

The first known structures on Lots 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 56, and 57 were erected in the 1880s. They were two and three story frame buildings used as multi-family dwellings; some also contained stores. Additions were common to the rear of the buildings and in the backyards. Due to the burgeoning manufacturing and industrial activity in the area and the large number of immigrants at that period, low-income housing was in demand to accomodate the rising number of factory workers and blue-collar laborers, and often store keepers lived in the apartments above their shops. Ownership of the lots changed hands many times over the years, but there seems to have been little change in usage during the approximately one century span of their existence.

The history of Lot 1 is quite different from the others. usage as a brewery began circa 1869 according to a notation on an 1869 map, the earliest record of buildings on the block that could be located . There were numerous breweries in the vicinity during "Malt and hops, barley and barrels, beer and ale. this period. Obermeyer and Liebman, Ernest Ochs, Claus Lipsius, Danenberg and Coles. The history of Bushwick has been the history of brewing. Beer came to Bushwick in the middle of the 19th century when a large German population emigrated here after unsuccessful uprisings in the Fatherland in 1848 and 1849" (Willensky and White 1988:676). Ernest Ochs' brewery occupied this corner lot, beginning about 1879, for approximately 30 years during which period several buildings were erected. The buildings on the lot, except for #239 Scholes Street, were demolished about 1914. It is ironic that the #239 building housed an illicit distillery at one point in time after the demise of the impressive Ochs Brewery enterprise. It is unclear whether any other buildings were erected on the lot between the Ochs occupation and before a supermarket was built on the corner c.1953 and removed after 1979.

#### LOT HISTORIES

When reading the following lot histories, the reader may want to refer to Figures 8 - 19 which are copies of the 1869 Dripps, 1886 Robinson, 1898 Hyde, 1908 Bromley, 1912 Hyde, 1921 Hyde, 1929 Belcher Hyde, 1933 Sanborn, 1933 corrected to 1951 Sanborn, the 1933 corrected to the present Sanborn, and a skeleton Sanborn map.

### #223 through 239 Scholes - Lot 1 (#239 lot history is listed separately and follows)

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps building[s?] on corner may be facing street which was then Morrel, later to become Bushwick Ave. Labeled "?chyl---[?] Brewery"
- 1880 Bromley [Use the tracing of a portion of the 1886 Robinson Figure 10 for lot reference since a legible copy of this map could not be obtained] Portion of lot east of Bushwick Ave. in Block 934 has no structures. Portion of lot west of Bushwick in Block 79 has 3 frame buildings on Lots 3,4,& 6 facing street which would become Bushwick. No label. Same lot numbers and configuration as 1886 Robinson.
- 1886 Robinson (See tracing, Figure 10 and copy of map, Figure 9)
  Mixture of frame and brick bldgs. Frame buildings on corner
  may be same as shown on 1869 Dripps, although cannot be
  certain. They probably face Bushwick and are lots 3 and 4.
  Lots 2, 1, 2A, 2B, and 2C, are next, moving east and have
  frame buildings with rear spaces. One brick building on Lot
  6 where there was a frame building in 1880. Another brick
  building toward middle of parcel Lot 26? Can't tell its
  eastward extent across path of Bushwick Ave (Lot 66 in 1898).
  These 2 buildings appear the same as in 1898 with an
  additional one added behind #239.
- 1898 Hyde Portion of Lot 1 west of Old Bushwick Ave. is Lot 66 and a brick bldg has replaced 1886 frame buildings on Lots 2,1,2A,2B, & 2C. Others the same as 1886. Portion of Lot 1 east of old Bushwick Ave. is Lot 62 and has brick stable/outbuilding building in rear behind #239 Scholes which appears to be associated with Lot 62. Labeled "Ernest Ochs Brewery"
- 1908 Bromley Similar, but not exactly like 1898. Labeled "Ernest Ochs Brewery."
- 1912 Hyde 8 bldgs, some joined. "I, III, IV" story and stable/outbuildings and some vacant space. Brick and frame. Labeled "E. Ochs Brewery"
- 1921 Hyde Vacant except for #239 Scholes.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Vacant except for #239 Scholes.
- 1933 Sanborn Vacant except for #239 Scholes.
- 1933/1951 Sanborn Vacant except for #239 Scholes.
- 1933/current Sanborn Vacant.
- Skeleton Sanborn showing previous buildings shows large building occupying sw corner of block, presumably supermarket referred to in documents listed below.

#### Sewer Records:

1870 22 feet east of Bushwick. Staats [Means that a sewer was placed 22 feet east of Bushwick in 1870 on property belong to Mr. Staats.]

1871 NE corner of Bushwick. Staats

1886 81 feet east of Bushwick. Ernest Ochs

1891 125 feet east of Bushwick. Ernest Ochs

#### Deed Records:

-

Prior to 1895, no street or lot numbers given. First Ochs transaction in 1879 when he was grantee from John Wood. Other transactions through 1890 when he is listed as owner of Lot 1. Ochs grantor to NY & Bklyn Brewing Co in 1906.

NY&BBCo. grantor to Henrietta Grum in 1938.

Treas of City of NY to City of NY in 1953.

Other transactions as late as 1979 when sold to Lloyd Capital Corp.

#### Water Department Records:

No date of initial hook-up

1931 is first entry - owner is Interboro Brewing. Lot is 2591/2 x 100. Bldg at #239 is 3B.

1942 - Illicit distillery according to Examination Report: refers to #239 Scholes.

1943 - owner is City of New York. 3B with garage in rear - refers to #239 Scholes.

1952 - "all Bldgs on this plot demolished"

1956/57 - New bldg on west two thirds of lot is 1 story supermarket.

1967 - still a supermarket.

#### Buildings Department Records:

Block and Lot Folder has 4 N[ew] B[uilding] entries for 1880,1881,1888,1890.

1880: Stable application by Ochs and Lehnert. On premises NE corner of Scholes St. and Boulevard [sic]. Lot is 100'front x 51' rear x 120'deep; Bldg is 50'x51'x28'x42' and 2 stories.

1881:Plans for building 20' E of Bushwick Ave. for Ochs and Lehnert. Foundation is pilings on brick footings which extend upward through 2 cellar stories to furmenting [sic] room to ice chamber to attic.

1888: 59' east of Bushwick for building 22'x50', 1 story with cellar, for Ernest Ochs.

1890: Application for 3 bldgs: "storage house, lager beer, machine house, and boiler house." Lot 125'x100 and bldg 65'x50'. 4 story (65' high) brick bldg with tin and corrugated iron roof. Cost 28 thousand.

1914: Demolition Permit for "NE Cor Scholes & Bushwick" for \$2000 to Israel Yacknick.

Comments: There were structures, labeled "Brewery," on the lot by 1869, prior to Ernst Ochs first purchase in 1879. Ochs remained until c.1912 totaling more than 30 years and several building episodes occured during his ownership. At least two later building episodes are indicated by demolition permits in 1914, 1952, and post 1979 and by the erection of a supermarket in the 1950s. First sewer date is 1871, but reasonable to assume the brewery labeled on the 1869 map must have had a water supply and waste disposal/drain system.

#### #239 Scholes Street - Lot 1

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps No building.
- 1880 Bromley No building. The part of the block east of Bushwick Avenue, on which #239 was located, was Block 934 at this time.
- 1886 Robinson Lot 25, now Block 79 (after closing of Bushwick Ave within this block). Frame bldg on front 1/2 of the lot.
- 1898 Hyde Lot 62. Bldg appears more set back than in 1886.
  A stable building, part of Ochs Brewery, extends into rear of lot.
- 1908 Bromley Lot 1. Frame bldg on front 1/2 of lot with rear jog. Brick bldg across rear as in 1898.
- 1912 Hyde as in 1908. Only a few feet between rear of building and brick bldg in rear. Front building is "II1/2B"[asement].
- 1921 Hyde Frame bldg. Looks set back. All other bldgs on Lot 1 removed.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Frame on front 1/2 of lot with 1 story set-back and rear 2 story addition. 3B[asement].
- 1933 Sanborn 3B "D"[welling] with setback, 2B addition on rear and small 1 story addition back of that.
- 1933 corr 1951 Same as 1933 except labeled "vac" "open" and 2 one story outbuildings on rear of lot.
- 1933/current Vacant.

#### Sewer Records:

No record in sewer books specific to this lot. Other hook-ups on the current Lot 1 occured between 1871 and 1891 on earlier lots.

#### Deed Records:

A number of pre-1895 entries for block, but neither lot nor street numbers are given.

WPA indicates Lot 1 owned by Ernest Ochs in 1890.

Ochs grantor to NY & Bklyn Brewing Co. in 1906.

NY&BBCo. to Henrietta Grum in 1938.

Treas of City of NY to City of NY in 1953.

Transactions as late as 1979.

#### Water Dept Records:

No date of initial hook-up available.

- 1931 is first entry when owner is Interboro Brewing. Lot is 259' x 100'. Building at #239 is 3B [3 stories with basement].
- 1942 Illicit distillery according to Examination Report
- 1943 Owner is City of New York. 3B with garage in rear.
- 1952 "all Bldgs on this plot demolished"
- 1956/57 New building on west 2/3 of lot is 1 story super market, but does not include #239.
- 1967 Same as above.

#### Buildings Department Records:

Block and Lot folder has records for all of Lot 1 which includes former Lots 6,5,4,3,2,1,2A,2B,2C,26,25. #239 was Lot 25. No document pertaining specifically to #239 was in the folder.

Comments: The first building was erected between 1880 and 1886. Sewer was available; it was hooked up on lots to the west between 1871 and 1891. Maps and atlases indicate that this lot may have been part of the corner brewery complex, although its usage is unknown. There is no evidence that the original building was replaced during the years. However, it looks different on various maps, so it was repeatedly altered at least. Apparently the lot has been vacant since 1952.

#### #245 Scholes Street - Lot 57

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps May have a small bldg on front of lot; impossible to be certain which lot is built upon, though it appears too far east for project parcels. N[ew] B[uilding] permit for 1880 would support this interpretation.
- 1880 Bromley Lot 22. Small frame building.
- 1886 Robinson Lot 22. Small frame building on front of lot.
- 1898 Hyde Lot 22. Building on front 1/2 of lot and
- stable/outbuilding at rear.
- 1908 Bromley Lot 57. Frame bldg on front 1/2. No rear bldg.
- 1912 Hyde III story frame bldg a little larger than 1/2 of lot. No rear bldg.
- 1921 Hyde Same as 1912.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Same as above with 1 story bldg at rear of lot.
- 1933 Sanborn 3 story "Apts." Nothing on rear of lot.
- 1933/1951 Sanborn Same as 1933.
- 1933/current Vacant.

#### Sewer Records:

Connected in 1896. Owned by "Mrs. Konar."

#### Deed Records:

A number of pre-1895 entries for block, but neither lot nor street numbers are given.

WPA book - 1915 is only entry: Barbara Knorr to Sophia Knorr 1965-1980 book - only entry: belongs to City in 1979

#### Water Records:

No initial hook-up date available.

First entry is 1914 when owned by Mrs. Knorr at 247 Scholes: both buildings have cellar storage, 3 floors with 2 families each, and storage bldgs in rear.

1977 - Bldg demolished.

#### <u>Buildings Department Records:</u>

Block and Lot Folder - N[ew] B[uilding] 1880: 24'x24'x27' deep. 1 story on front of lot, no cellar. Owner: John Knorr.

Comments: It is probable that there was a replacement of the original 1880 small (24'x27') building in 1896 when a sewer hook-up took place. It is also possible that there was a new building between 1908 and 1912 according to Water Department documents and map evidence, although there is no record in the Block and Lot folder. Therefore there may have been a dwelling on the lot for 16 years before a sewer hook-up. There were various episodes of rear storage buildings to complicate the lot history, but there is no way to assess their subsurface disturbance impact.

#### #247 Scholes Street - Lot 56

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps May have a small bldg on front of lot; impossible to be certain which lot is built upon, though they appear too far east to be project parcels.
- 1880 Bromley no building.
- 1886 Robinson Lot 21. Frame bldg on front 1/2 of lot. Frame outbldg to rear of lot.
- 1898 Hyde Lot 21. Same as 1886.
- 1908 Bromley same as before except for additional outbuilding between other two bldgs.
- 1912 Bromley "III" story frame as above, except that attachment of middle bldg to main bldg is apparent. (Knorr Bros. cooper shop is next door, though not a project parcel.)
- 1921 Hyde Additional structures in the middle of the lot.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Lot 56. 3 1/2 story frame with two 1 story outbldgs to the rear of lot.
- 1933 Sanborn 3 story "Art Glass Works" with several bldgs.
- 1933/51 Sanborn configuration same as above, but labled only "S"[tore].
- 1933/current Vacant.

#### Sewer Records:

Connected May 12, 1890. Owner "Known" [Knorr?]

#### Deed Records:

A number of pre-1895 entries for block, but neither lot nor street numbers are given.

WPA book - 1915 is only entry: Barbara Knorr to Sophia Knorr. 1965-1980 book - Only entry: owned by City in 1979.

#### Water Dept Records:

No initial hook-up date available.

1914 first entry - owner Mr. Knorr at 247 Scholes. Has cellar storage, 3 floors with 2 families each, and storage bldgs in rear. From c.1920 to c.1936, seems to be in box/egg crate storage business. Next after 1936 are Inspection Reports 1956-60 saying "N.B. never started."

1965 bldg demolished.

#### Buildings Department Records:

No Block and Lot folder.

Comments: Sometime between 1880 and 1886 a building was erected. The sewer was connected in 1890. So a building may have existed for 4 years to 10 years before sewer hook-up. The subsurface disturbance impact of additional structures on the lot cannot be assessed through documents.

#### #254 Stagg Street - Lot 19

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps No building.
- 1880 Bromley No building.
- 1886 Robinson Lot 32. Frame bldg on front 1/2 of lot. Apparently identical to bldgs on either side of it.
- 1898 Hyde Lot 32. Same as 1886.
- 1908 Bromley Same as above.
- 1912 Hyde Lot 19. III story frame, same as before, apparently. Same as or connected to its neighbors.
- 1921 Hyde Same as above.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Lot 19 same as above showing connection with other bldgs from #252 through #262. Lots are 25' x 100' and buildings cover 1/2 of lot.
- 1933 Sanborn Same as above.
- 1933/51 Sanborn Appear to be same as since 1886.
- 1933/current Vacant, although those adjoining at #256 and #258 still standing.

#### Sewer Records:

Book 8, which would contain record of hook-up is missing from department.

#### Water Records:

No initial hook-up date available.

1914 is first entry. Absentee owner. Cellar storage. 1st floor mixed use with rear dwellings. Shows 2 additions used for storage, but they have no water.

1917: Garage extension, but it doesn't show on subsequent drawings. 1938: Putting bath tubs in kitchen in place of wash tubs. Still there in 1955, the last entry. Plugged in 1981.

#### Deed Records:

A number of pre-1895 entries for block, but neither lot nor street numbers are given.

WPA - 1933 is last entry. Ownership records indicate lot teamed with surrounding lots.

1965-1980 entries - One City Dept to another in 1972, then sold to 20J Properities in 1975 and back to City. City of NY definitely owned it in 1979.

#### Buildings Department Records:

Block and Lot Folder - 1918 - Plumbing Alteration. It is referred to as an "old" building, 25'x55', with 3 stories housing 10 families. One "6 inch house sewer" already in place. Alteration to install WCs on each floor and in rear bldg, but a note says rear extension to be removed. Drawing shows unattached rear dwelling. More plumbing work in the 1930s.

Demo[lition Permit] #124 on 2/9/81 for 3 story frame bldg with 6 families.

Comments: A building was erected between 1880-1886. No sewer records exist, but the plumbing was called "old" in 1918. Along with record of bldgs on Lots 12, 13, and 14 that had toilets from their erection in 1881, and next door on Lot 18 which had a yard toilet and is part of the same group of buildings as this one, strongly suggests outdoor toilets, probably from when buildings were first erected. Certainly known that utilities were available based on Lots 12, 13, and 14 and Lot 1.

#### #252 Stagg Street Lot 18

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps No building.
- 1880 Bromley No building.
- 1886 Robinson Lot 31. Frame bldg on front 1/2 of lot. Apparently attached to 5 bldgs to the east of it.
- 1898 Hyde Lot 31. Same as 1886.
- 1908 Bromley Same as above, but with rear addition visible.
- 1912 Hyde Same as above, but with 2 one-story additions to the rear.
- 1921 Hyde Main bldg same as above with only the larger and later 1 story addition visible.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Lot 18. Original configuration of 3 story frame bldg.
- 1933 Sanborn Same as above. "Apts"
- 1933/1951 Sanborn Same as above.
- 1933/current Vacant.

#### Sewer Records:

Book 8, in which hook-up record would be, is missing from department.

#### Water Records:

No initial hook-up date available.

1914 is first entry: owner Jacobson. Cellar (storage). 3 floors with 2 families. Shows yard. A hook-up in 1931, but no way to tell if it is the first one or not.

1956 added hot water to same 2 family dwelling. Plugged 1981.

#### <u>Deed Records</u>:

A number of pre-1895 entries for block, but neither lot nor street numbers are given.

 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{WPA}}$  - 1925 is last entry. Ownership record indicates lot is teamed with surrounding lots.

1979 - owned by City.

#### Buildings Department Record:

Block and Lot folder - 1918 - Plumbing Alteration for new water closets on each of 3 stories [note similarity to Lot 19, next door.]. "Old connections to Yard Toilets Broken and Sealed." On the accompanying drawing, a yard toilet is shown behind the dwelling to the rear of the lot adjacent to the west lot line; a 4 inch pipe leads from it to Stagg Street. Notation near yard toilet: "Connections broken and sealed. Site disinfected and filled with fresh earth."

Demo[lition Permit] #123 on 2/9/81 for 3 story frame with 6 families.

Comments: probably had yard toilets from beginning because available since c.1870 according to Lot 1 records, and building erected between 1880 and 1886.

#### 244 Stagg Street - Lot 14

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps No building.
- 1880 Bromley No building.
- 1886 Robinson Lot 49, in old path of Bushwick Ave. Frame bldg on about front 2/3 of lot. Rear frame bldg width of lot.
- 1898 Hyde Lot 49. Covers front 1/2 of lot. No rear bldg. May be like #242 and #240 Stagg Street.
- 1908 Bromley As above with rear jog on bldg. Definitely like #242 and #240.
- 1912 Hyde As above. Labeled "IV storys."
- 1921 Hyde As above, though appears a little larger than 1/2 of the lot.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Lot 14. 4 story frame.
- 1933 Sanborn As above: "Apts".
- 1933/51 Sanborn As above.
- 1933/current Sanborn Vacant.

#### Water Records:

No initial hook-up date available.

1914 Examination Report shows 4 stories and cellar. Cellar storage and 2 families per floor. Shows yard.

1939 last entry. Plugged in 1981.

#### Deed Records:

A number of pre-1895 entries for block, but neither lot nor street numbers are given.

WPA -In 1930s and 1940s seems to be owned by same people as #242 and #240.

Transactions in 1950s and between 1965 and 1980, but can't really tell what is happening. Sold to de la Rosa who may have owned other two lots.

1981 Jose de la Rosa grantor to 680 Howard Ave. Corp Inc.

#### Sewer Records:

1881 - "Private sewer" installed for Tunnis and Wilson.

#### Buildings Department Records:

No Block and Lot folder.

Demo[lition Permit] #1197 on 12/9/81 for 4 story frame, 8 family tenement.

Comments: Sewers installed when buildings erected.

#### 242 Stagg Street - Lot 13

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps No building.
- 1880 Bromley No building.
- 1886 Robinson Labled Lot 17 and Lot 48. Frame bldg on front 1/2 of lot. In path of old Bushwick Road.
- 1898 Hyde Lot 48. Same as above
- 1908 Bromley As above with rear jog on bldg. Like #240 and #244 Stagg Street.
- 1912 Hyde As above, IV story.
- 1921 Hyde As above.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Lot 13. 3 story frame.
- 1933 Sanborn Dotted line down middle of bldg, labeled "S"[tore] on each side.
- 1933/51 Sanborn As above.
- 1933/current Sanborn Vacant.

#### Water Records:

No initial hook-up date available.

Examination Report in 1914. Cellar and 4 stories. Cellar storage and 1st floor mixed use. 2 families per floor. Shows yard. 1941 last entry. Plugged in 1981.

#### Sewer Record:

1881 - "Private sewer" for Tunnis and Wilson.

#### Deed Records:

A number of pre-1895 entries for block, but neither lot nor street numbers are given.

WPA -In 1930s and 1940s seems to be owned by same people as #242 and #240. Transactions in 1950s and between 1965 and 1980, but can't really tell what is happening. Sold to de la Rosa who may have owned other two lots.

1981 Jose de la Rosa to 680 Howard Ave. Corp Inc.

#### Buildings Department Records:

No Block and Lot folder.

Demo[lition Permit] #1196 on 12/17/81 for a 4 story frame bldg with 8 families and 2 stores.

Comments: Sewer installed when building erected.

#### 240 Stagg Street - Lot 12

- 1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps, 1852 Riker no buildings. Bushwick Ave. in place.
- 1869 Dripps No building.
- 1880 Bromley No building.
- 1886 Robinson Lot 18. In path of old Bushwick Avenue. Small frame building on rear of lot.
- 1898 Hyde Lot 63. Same rear bldg. May be a bldg on front of lot, but difficult to decipher.
- 1908 Bromley Frame bldg with jog like #242 and #244 Stagg Street.
- 1912 Hyde As above. IV stories.
- 1921 Hyde As above.
- 1929 Belcher Hyde Lot 12. 4 story frame.
- 1933 Sanborn As above "Apts".
- 1933/51 Sanborn As above.
- 1933/current Sanborn Vacant.

#### Water Records:

No initial hook-up date available.

1914 Examination Report. Absentee owner. 1937: 4 stories and cellar. Shows yard. Note in 1940 says all baths "in kitchen on high legs (1 1/2 feet) and are used as combination bath and water tubs." 2 families per floor and cellar for storage.

#### Sewer Records:

1881 - "Private sewer" for Tunnis and Wilson.

#### Deed Records:

A number of pre-1895 entries for block, but neither lot nor street numbers are given.

WPA -In 1930s and 1940s seems to be owned by same people as #242 and #240 Stagg Street. Transactions in 1950s and between 1965 and 1980, but can't really tell what is happening. Sold to de la Rosa who may have owned other two lots.

1981 Jose de la Rosa to 680 Howard Ave. Corp Inc.

#### Buildings Department Records:

Block and Lot folder - only entries are alteration permits in 1930s when the bldg is described as a 4 story old law tenement with a 6 inch "house sewer line."

Demo[lition Permit] #1195 on 12/7/81 for a 4 story frame bldg with 8 families.

Comments: Sewer installed when building erected.

#### 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 away from the locus of the village of Bushwick Green by several blocks (Figures 5.6.7), and apparently functioned only as farmland until after the mid-nineteenth century according to various maps (1849 Sydney, 1850 Dripps, 1852 Dripps and 1852 Riker - Figure 7), and other documentary sources as summarized in the Lot History section of this report.

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 homelot 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 for each of the project site parcels.

Despite intensive research efforts, the record remains incomplete and initial dates of sewer or water line installation cannot always be satisfactorily proved. The Water Division, Department of Environmental Protection, has no available records of initial hook-ups prior to the 20th century. Several visits to the office produced no dates of activity prior to 1935, which is obviously too late, and staff repeatedly stated that if there are earlier records they no longer have access to them. In another DEP office, the Bureau of Water Register, the Chief Inspector was very cooperative and spent time searching for and explaining the record folders in his department's archives. Data from these records was helpful and is included in the lot histories. Dates of initial

sewer hook-ups were found for Lots 12,13,14,57, and 56, but were missing for Lots 18 and 19. It was impossible to assign exact dates for the specific lots originally contained within the current Lot 1.

The first known construction after the farm period of the five lots facing on Stagg Street was when structures were built between 1880 and 1886. The documents indicate that they were tenements housing several families, often with stores on the ground floors. There is no extant record of the date of initial water hook-up, but water and sewer service were available at the time of construction. Water lines are shown along Stagg and Scholes Streets, and Bushwick Avenue on the 1886 map (Figure 9) and there is a record of a sewer hook-up on Lot 1 of the project site as early as 1870 (see lot histories, Page 12). "Private sewers" were installed in Lots 12, 13, and 14 (#240, #242, #244 Stagg Street) in 1880 coinciding with the erection of the buildings. The record for Lots 18 and 19 (#252 and #254 Stagg Street) is not as clear-cut, but circumstantial evidence strongly suggests that they, too, had back yard toilets dating from when the buildings were erected (see lot histories, And clearly utility hook-ups were available. Pages 18-20). further archaeological consideration of these lots is warranted.

A small frame structure was built on Lot 57 in 1880. If it was a dwelling, it may have needed a privy for waste disposal and a cistern for water collection. The existence of these features cannot be proved, but can be inferred from the fact that a new building shape appears on the 1898 atlas and the first record of a sewer connection for the lot is 1896. Therefore, there may have been a c.16 year period during which cisterns and/or privies were in use. On the other hand, the small structure (24'x27') may have been used for a function that did not require waste or water management. Next door, the first building appeared between 1880 and 1886; there is a sewer connection date for 1890. Therefore, there could have been a 4 to 10 year period in which cisterns and/or privies were in use.

While there may have been privies and/or cisterns on Lots 56 and 57 for a limited period during the late 19th century, it cannot be conclusively proved from documents. Therefore the NYCLPC criterion that availability of utilities (clearly indicated by the records of other lots on the project site) is a reason for considering parcels non-sensitive for homelot resources may be applicable in this instance. Also there may be other sites in Brooklyn with comparable or better potential where the evidence for the existence of resources is more compelling and can thus more adequately serve research goals.

The configuration of lots and buildings in what is the current Lot 1 changed over time. The first known buildings, facing the street that would become Bushwick Avenue, are shown on an 1869 map (Figure 8) and were part of a brewery. Ernest Ochs purchased property in Lot 1 from c.1879 to c.1890 and his brewery occupied the space during that time and until c.1912. During his tenure there were several building episodes until all buildings on the lot, with the exception of one at #239 Scholes Street, were razed The building at #239 Scholes, erected between 1880 and c.1914. 1886 was repeatedly altered or replaced as shown on atlases, and was demolished between 1933 and 1951. No other buildings are known for sure to have occupied the remainder of Lot 1 until supermarket was placed on the corner of Scholes and Bushwick in The first record of a sewer connection on a 1956 (Figure 19). parcel within Lot 1 was in 1870; however, it is reasonable to assume that the brewery labeled on the 1869 map must have had a water supply and waste disposal/drain system. There is no extant date for initial water or sewer hook-up for #239 Scholes Street, but the availability of utilities is clear.

Bushwick was known for its breweries during the latter part of the 19th and into the 20th century. Making beer is an ancient process, and almost every town or village in the northeast had its local brewery. German immigrants to the United States during the 19th century gave rise to the production of lager beer with its need for cool temperatures. The shift in the type of production, including the kinds of machinery and buildings needed, is an interesting subject and one that has been well documented (for example: Susan K. Appel's article, "Artificial Refrigeration and the Architecture of 19th Century American Breweries," in INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY, Vol. 16, No.1, 1990). Ernest Och's brewery was a typical example and one of a number located nearby as seen from atlases from the period (e.g. Figures 8 and 10 shown a brewery across the street to the south).

Whether or not subsurface remains from the Ochs complex might be relatively intact on Lot 1 is unclear. But the integrity of 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. As noted, the Ochs Brewery was a good example of its type of industry. However, the industrial components - the process, the machinery, and the plant are well documented. For example, types of machinery are drawn and described in articles such as Ms. Appel's, and the plans of the Ochs factory buildings are in the Brooklyn Buildings Department Material objects that may have been Block and Lot folder. discarded during the life of the factory or the remains of building foundations are not likely to yield substantive or unique data on this topic that is not readily available from documentary sources.

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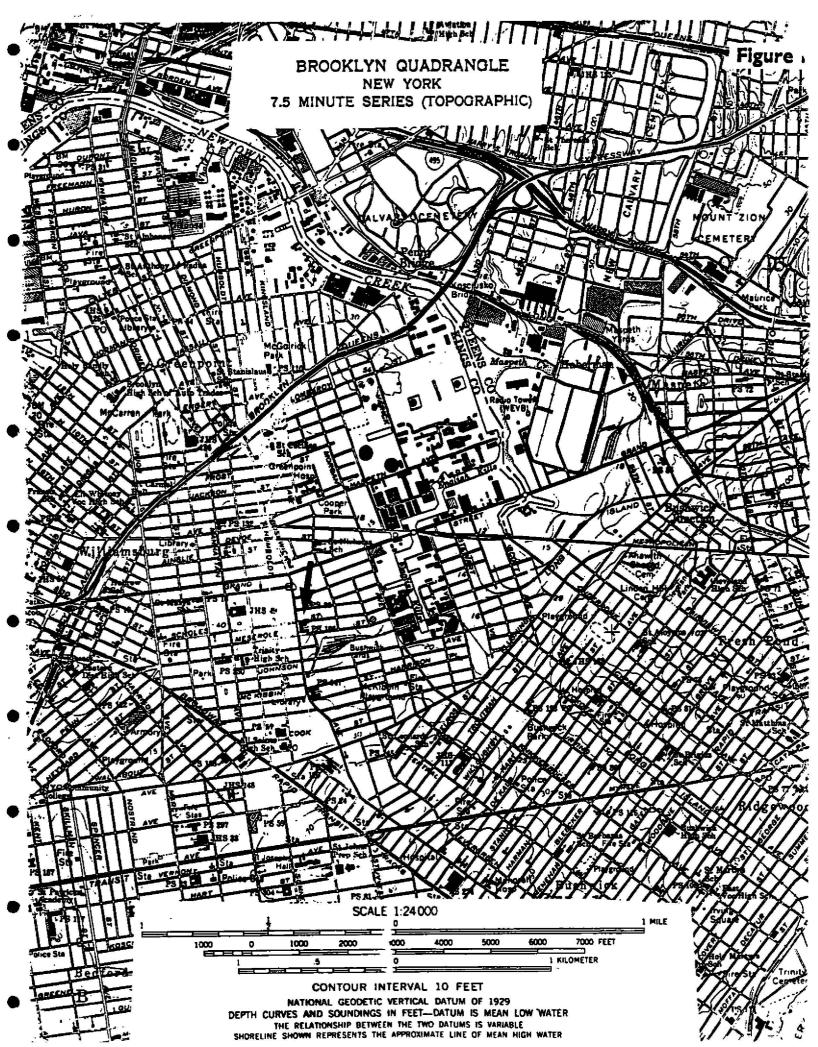
TAMS Consultants, Inc.

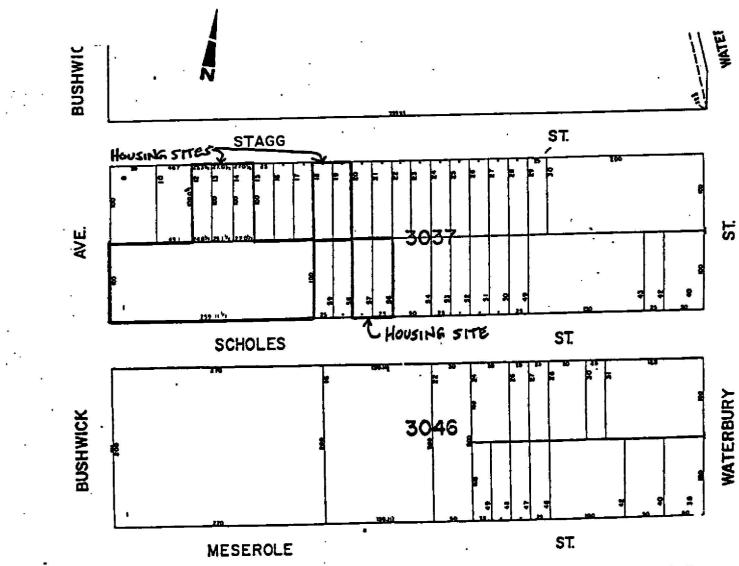
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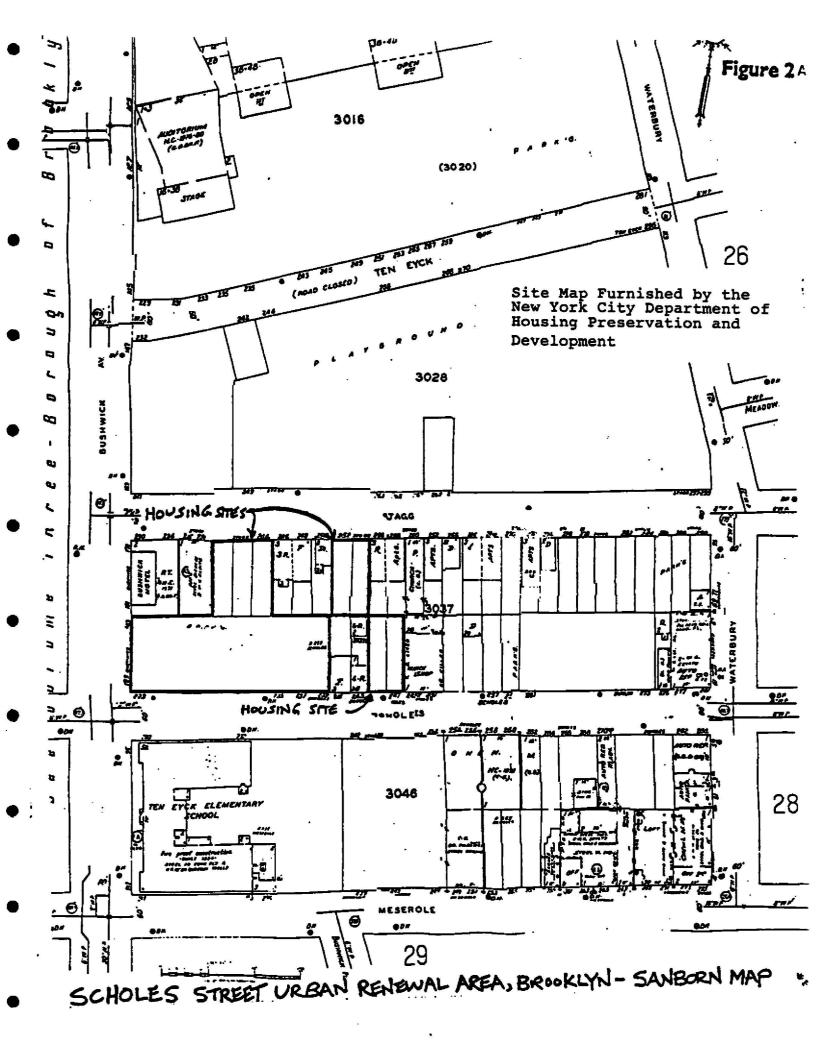
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SCHOLES STREET URBAN RENEWAL AREA, BROOKLYN - TAX MAP

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

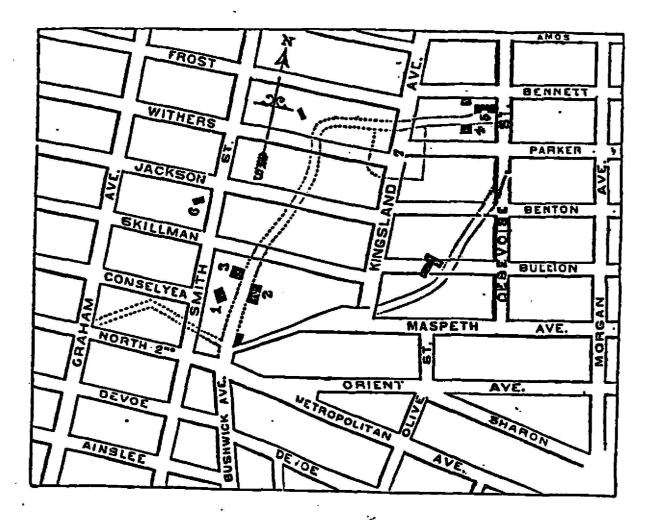


70 / BROOKLYN



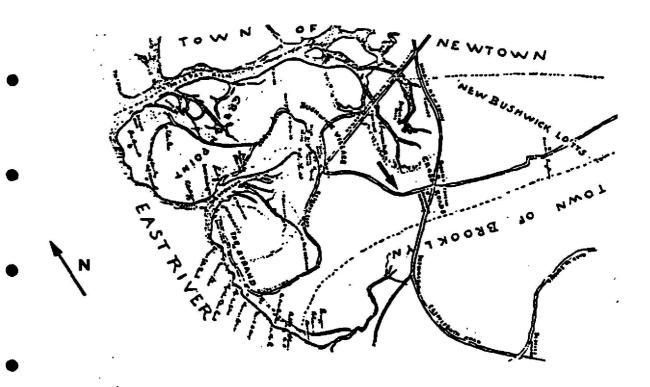
Photocopied from Grumet: 1981

Project area is five blocks south of Ainslee Street



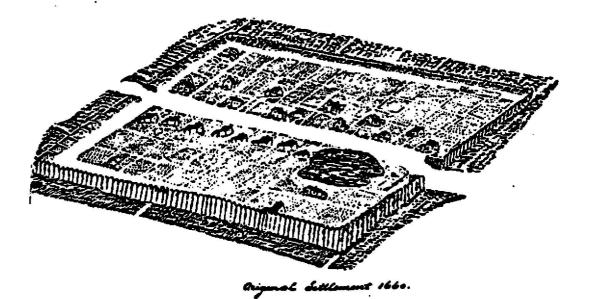
HET DORP, OR BUSHWICK GREEN.

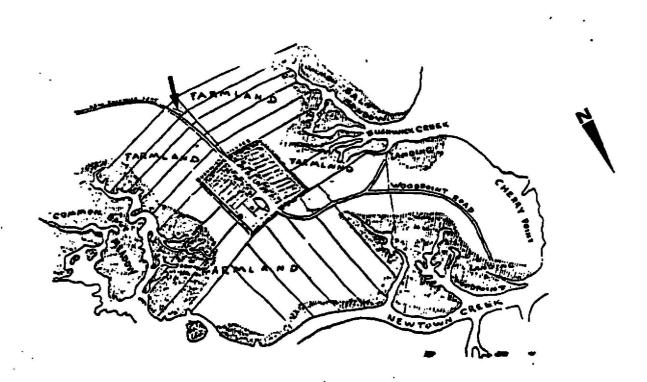
- 1. Bushwick Church.
- 2. Town House.
- 3. School House.
- 4. De Voe Houses. (See page 374).
- 6. Conselyca House. (See pp. 373, 374).
- 7. Old Bushwick graveyard (see page 374), shown by dotted line.



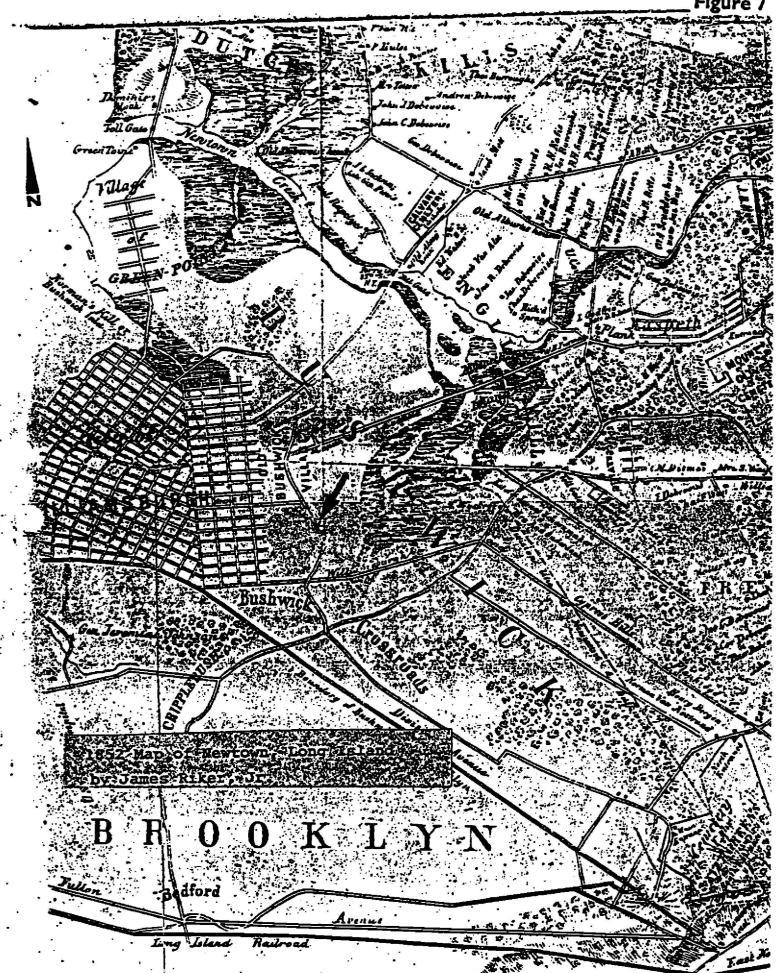
Bushwick Village and Surrounding Farmlands From Armbruster, 1912.

Figure 6

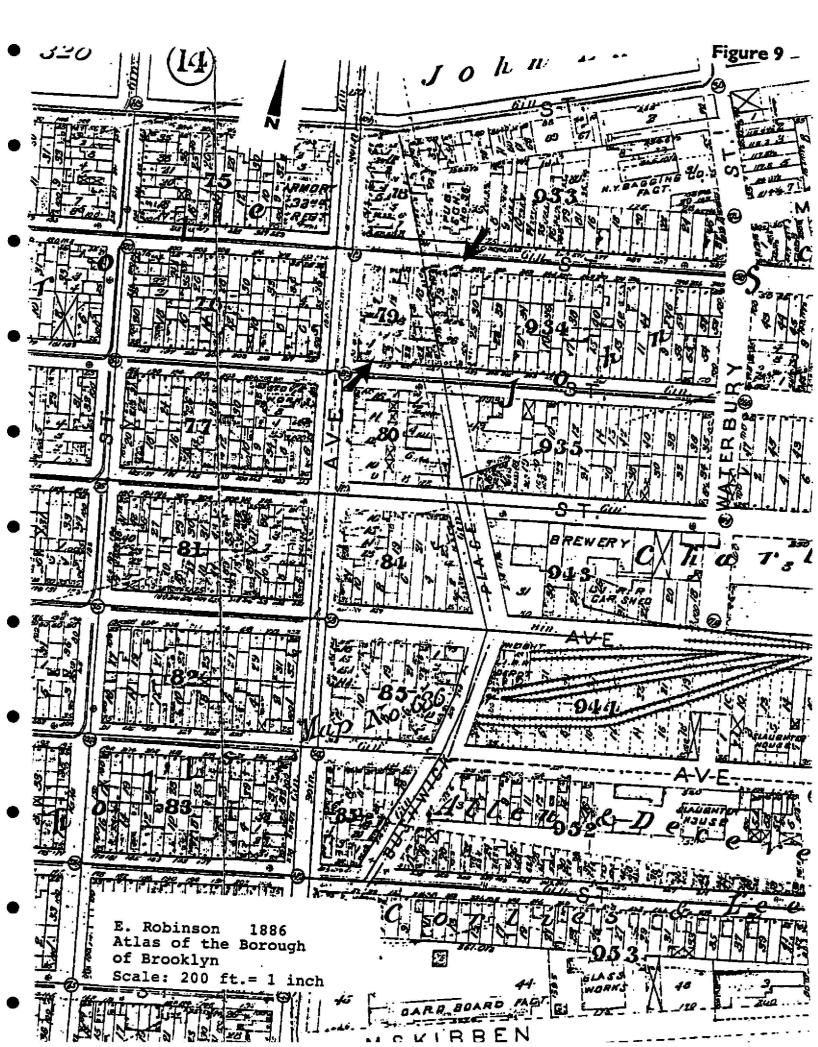




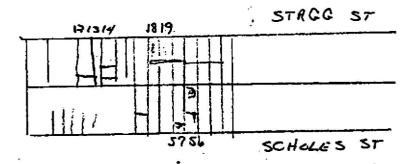
Bushwick Village and Surrounding Farm Land Prom Armbruster, 1912.



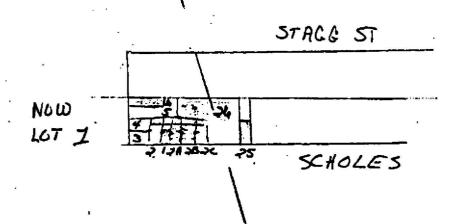


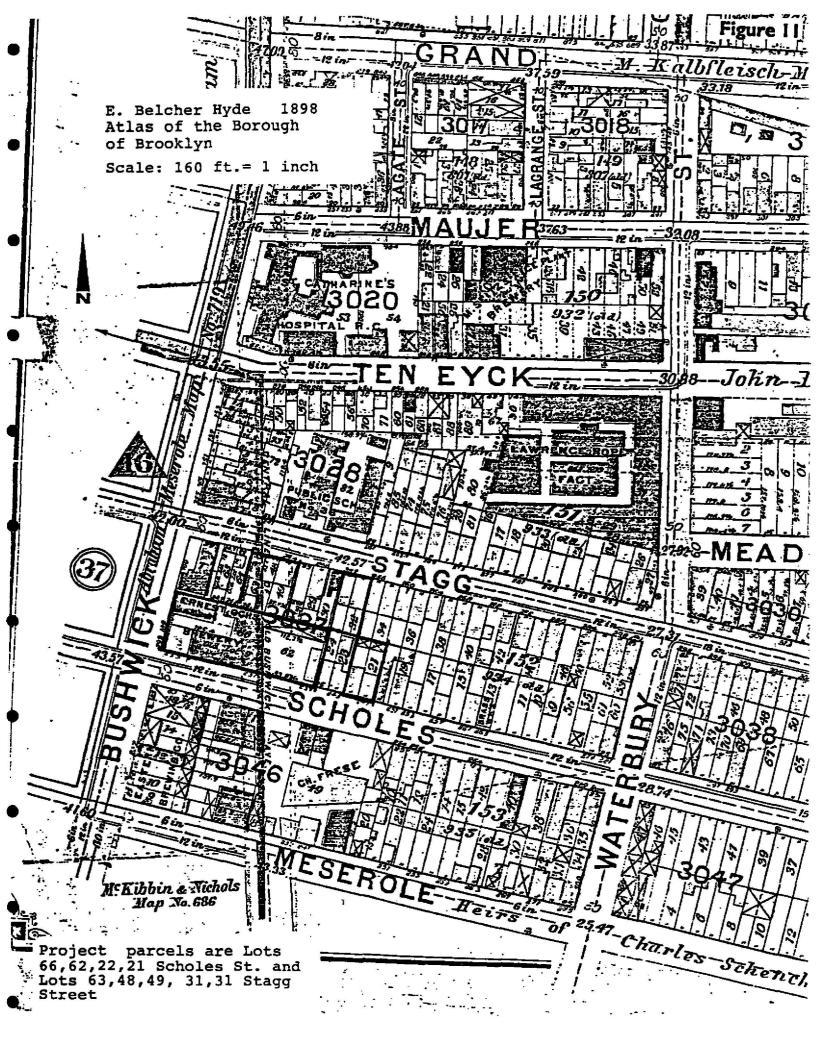


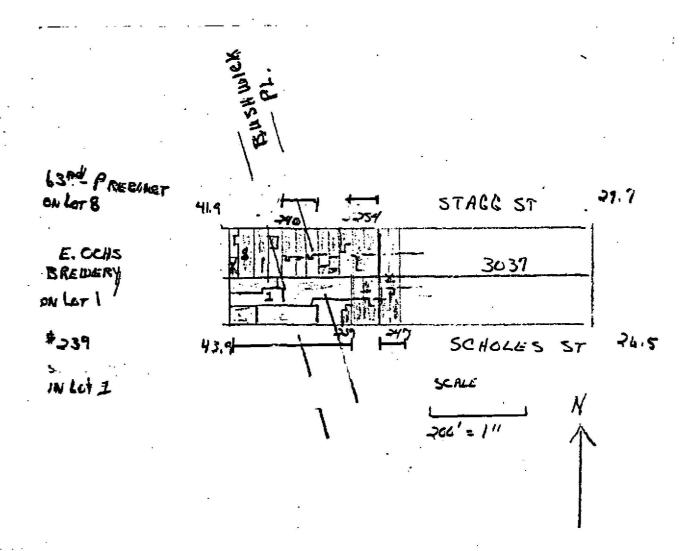
1886. Tracing from Robinson Atlas of Brooklyn



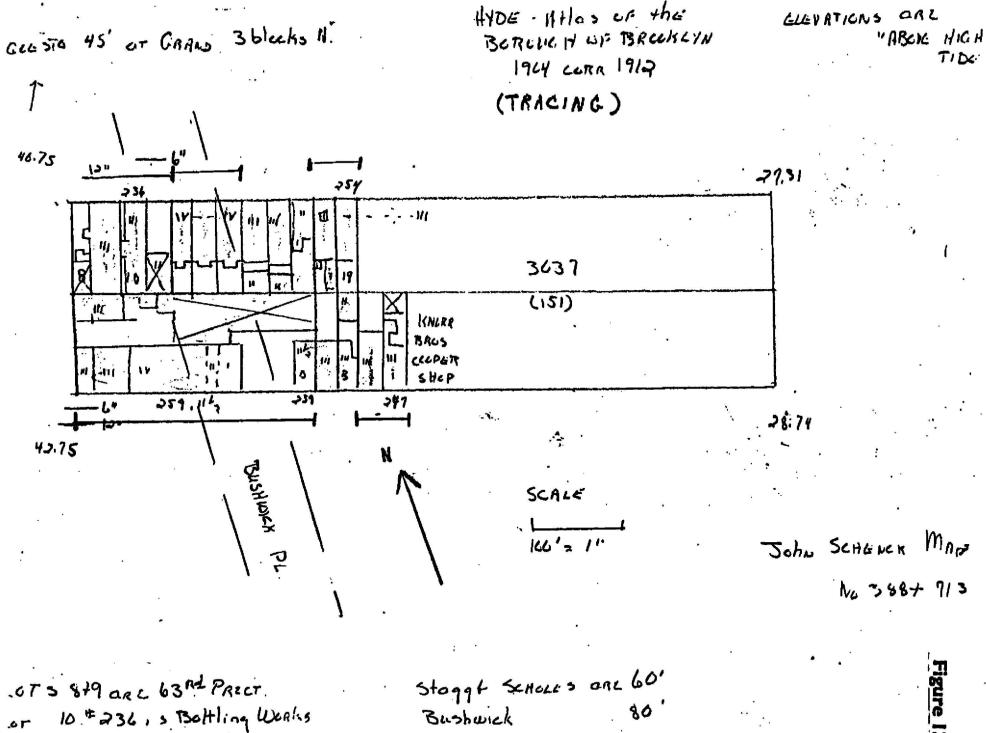
Numbers are Lot Designations







1908. Tracing from Bromley Atlas of Brooklyn

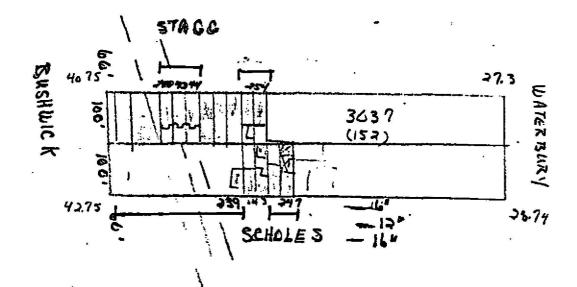


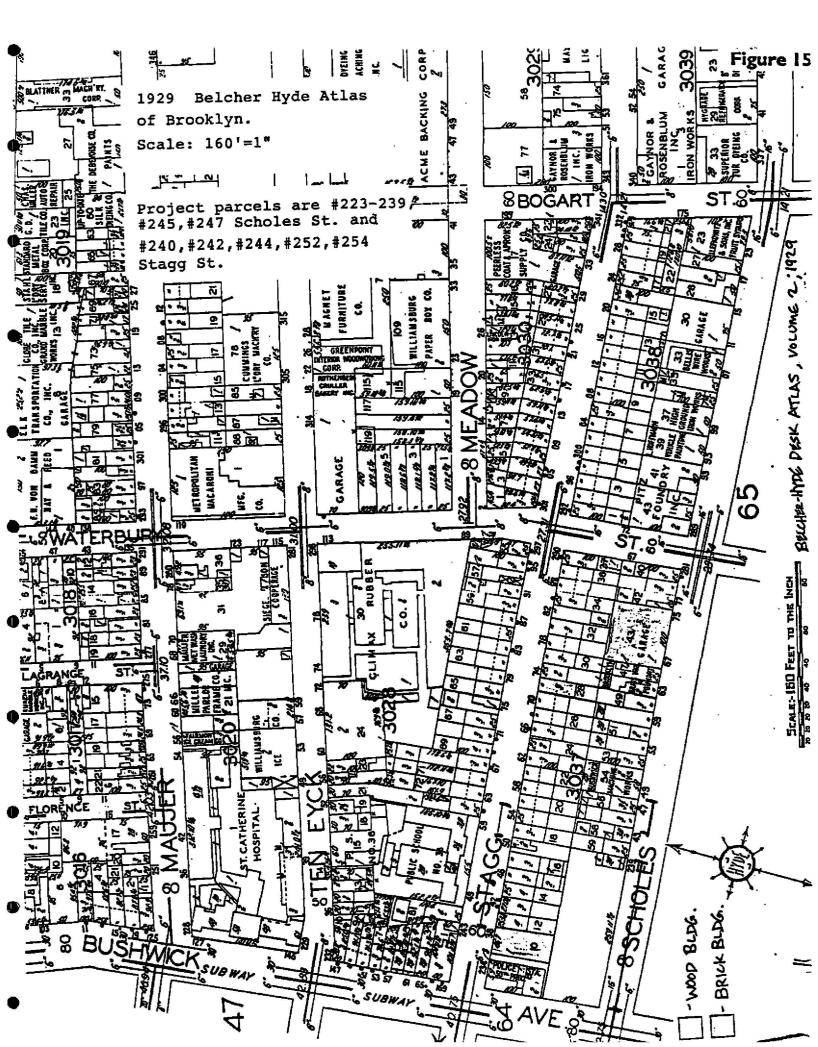
WATER BURY

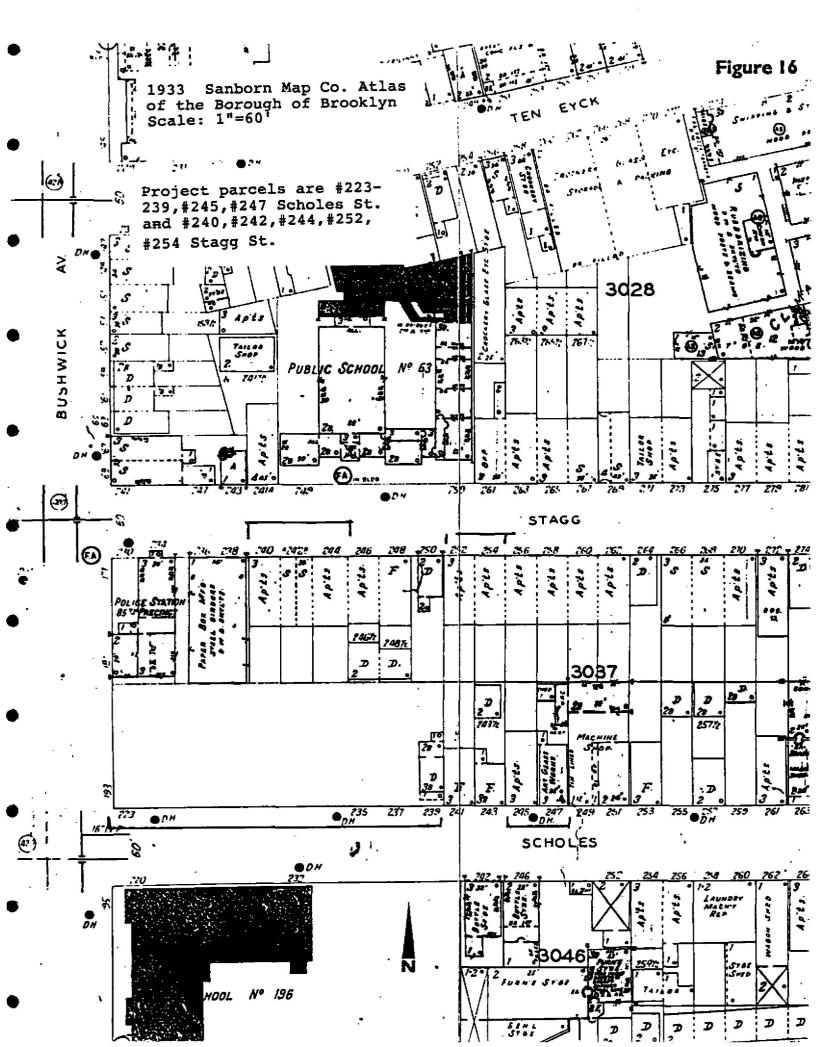
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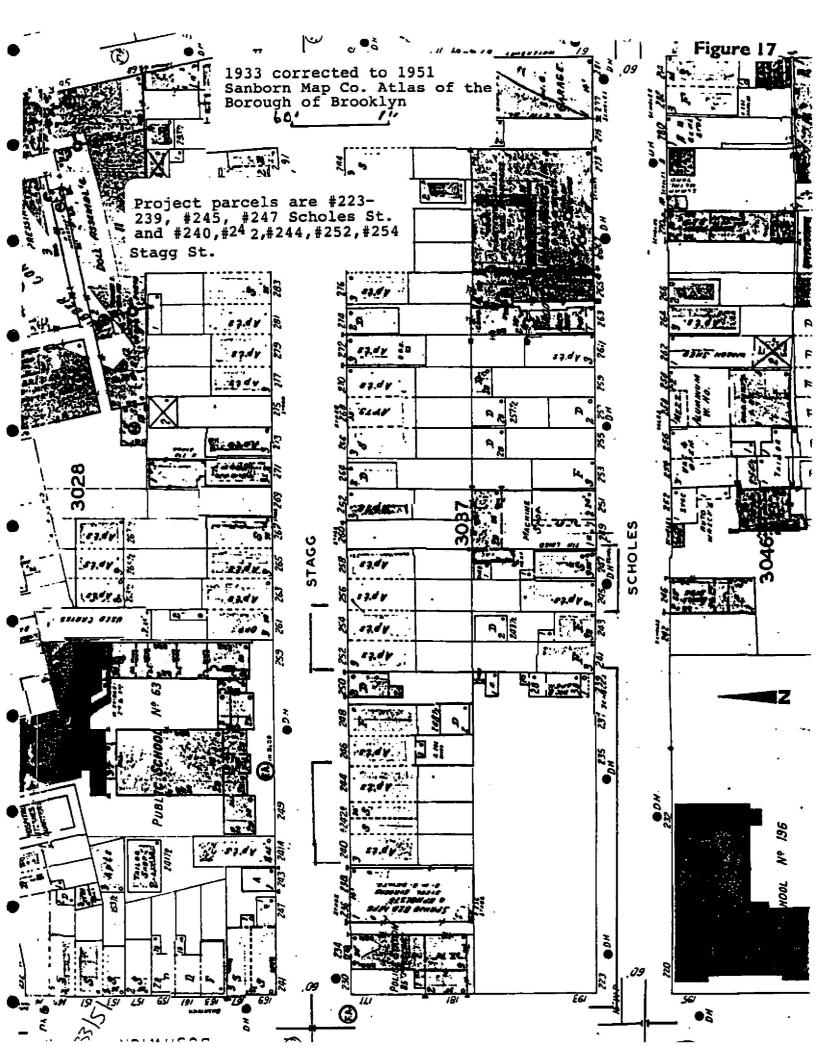
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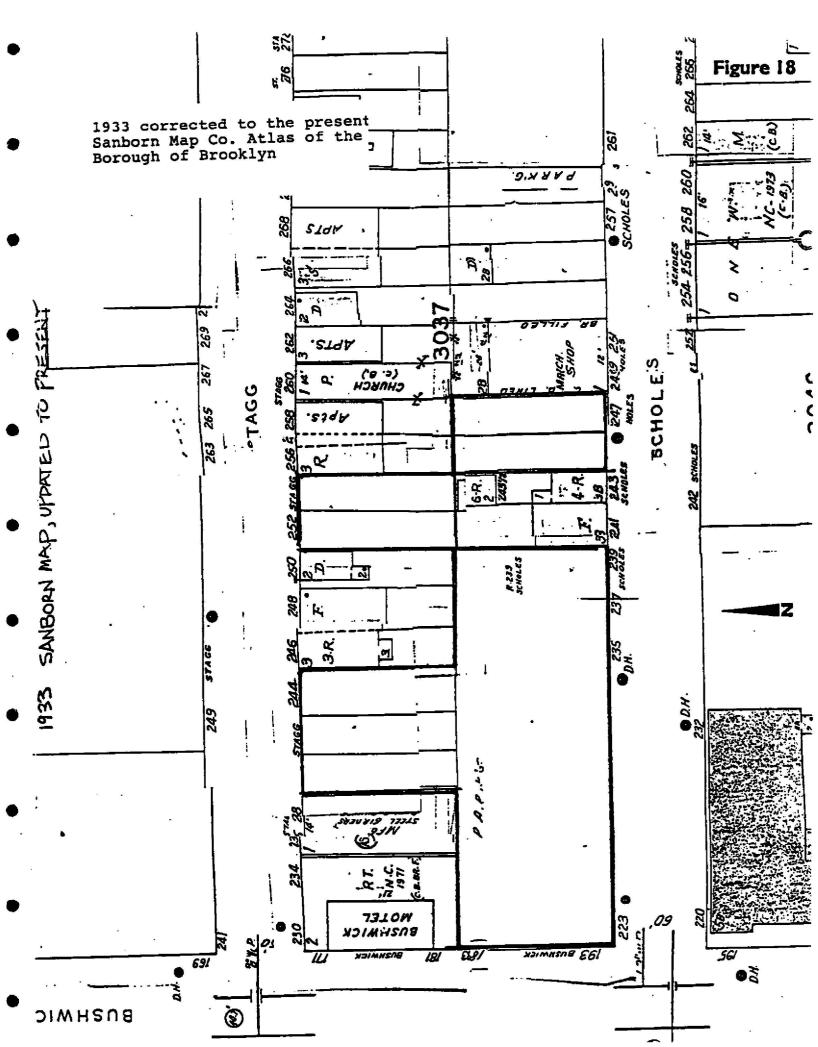
1921. Tracing from Hyde Atlas of Brooklyn

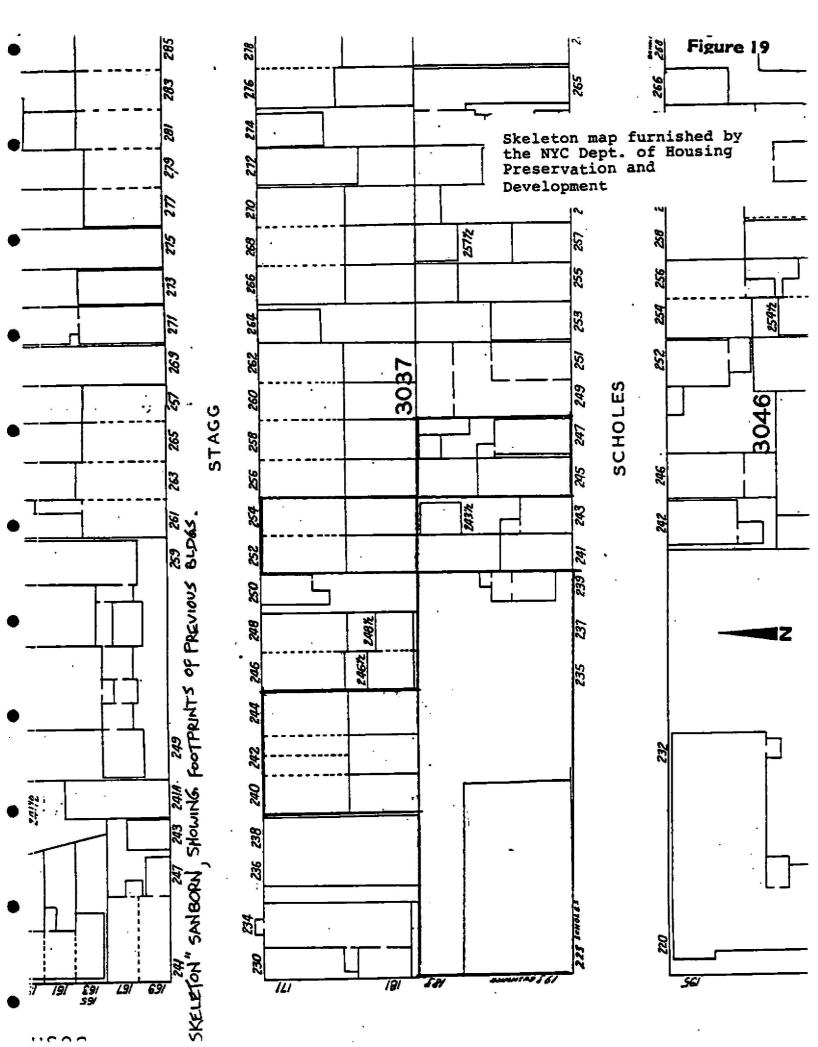












State inventoried archaeological site data from five resource evaluation reports, listed below, was compiled to assist in assessing the archaeological potential of the Scholes Street Project Site. The following map depicts this compilation.

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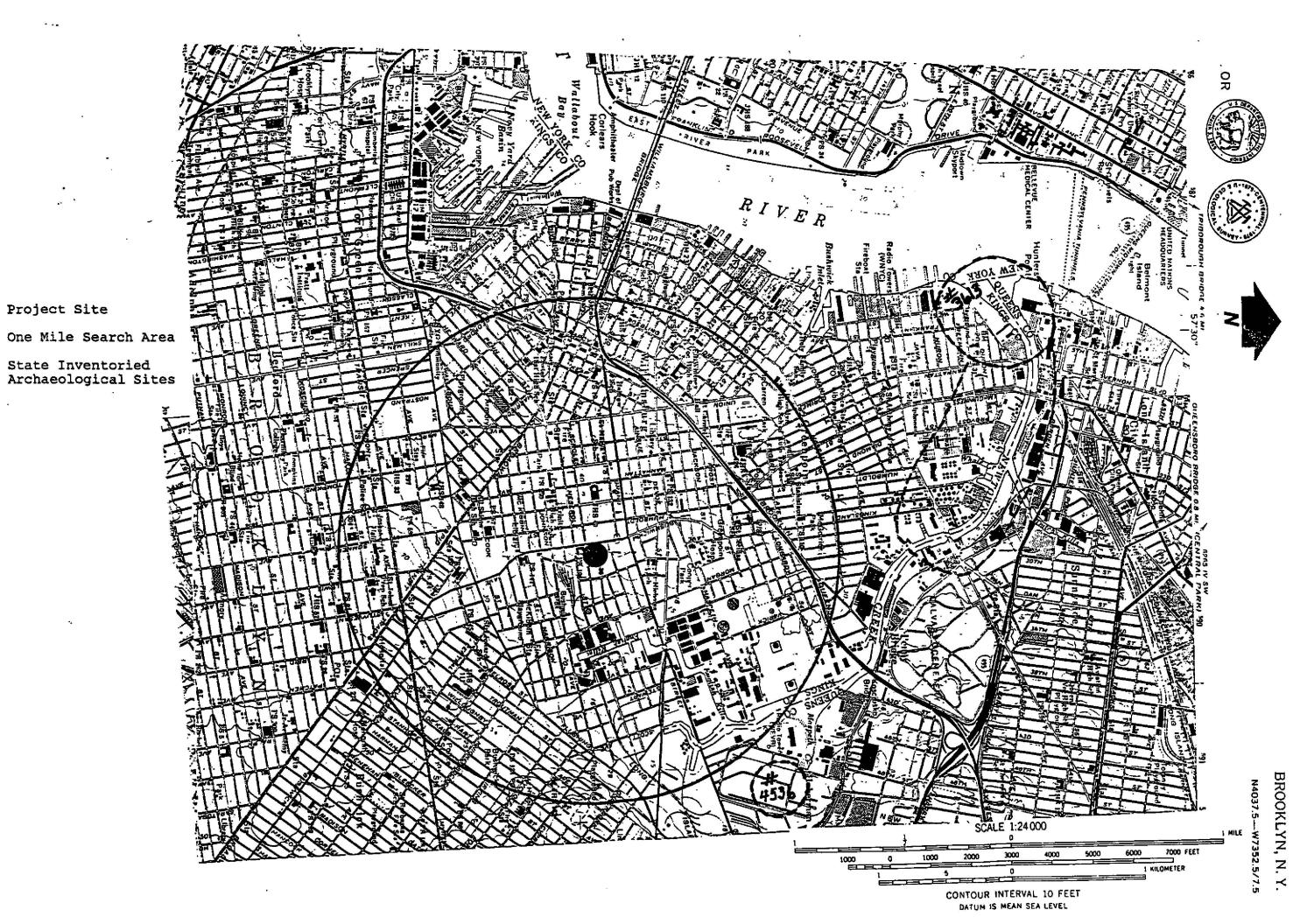
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Lot 1 - looking northeast toward Stagg Street

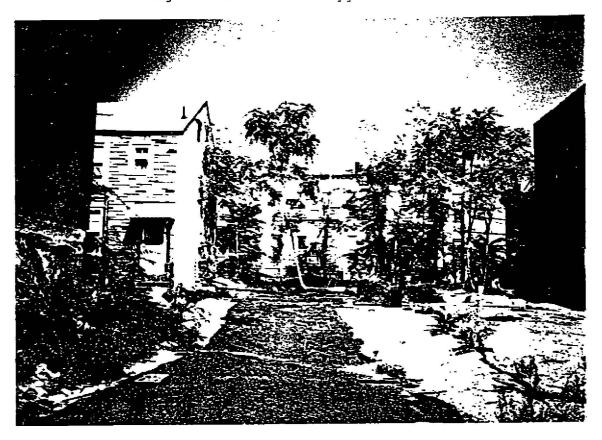


Photograph 3

Lot 1 - =139 Scholes Street, looking north



Lots 57 and 56 - =245 and 24 Scholes Street. Looking north toward Stagg Street.



Photograph E

Same view as above. Note white buildings in rear of photo. They are Lofs 21 and 21 Stagg Street seen from the rear and may be same housing stock as what was once on Lots 18 and 19, Photograph 6.



Lots 18 and 19 - =252 and =254 Stagg Street Locking south



242, 244 Starpy Street. Trem Stary Street. View of lots 12, 13, and 14 - #240, Looking south toward Scholes Street