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HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES INC.



Stage 1A

Archaeological Assessment

18 Platt Street
[AKA 12 Platt]
Manhattan, New York

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Stage 1A
Archaeological Assessment
18 Platt Street
Manhattan, New York

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I. INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

The construction of a 115-space accessory parking garage for an off-site residential building is planned for 18 Platt Street, Block 69, Lot 23 in Lower Manhattan (Figure 1). Block 69 is bordered to the north by Platt Street, to the east by Gold Street, to the south by Maiden Lane, and to the west by Pearl Street. The project site, located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Platt and Gold Streets, currently contains three buildings (10 Gold Street, 12 Platt Street, and 14-20 Platt Street) which will be demolished for the new single-story structure.

Historical Perspectives, Inc. was retained to complete a Stage IA archaeological assessment of the project area. Several sources of data were researched in order to determine the character of potential cultural resources at the site. Much of the information was gathered at the New York Public Library's Map Division and Local History Room. A review of Block and Lot files at the New York City Municipal Archives and public utility installation at the Municipal Reference Library was also conducted. In addition, data files at the New York State Museum, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission were reviewed for information regarding recorded sites in and around the project area. Finally, a site visit and photographic record was conducted in order to assess the current conditions of the lot (Photographs 1-3).

Over thirty maps and atlases depicting the project area provided invaluable information on the changing topography of the project site, as well as furnishing information on the building history of Block 69. Mid-nineteenth century City Directories were also examined for data relevant to the historical development and occupation of the site. Local histories were researched for the historical background of the project area. One of the most helpful historical resources was I. N. P. Stokes' *Iconography of Manhattan Island*, which yielded abundant information on the historic development of Manhattan. In addition, Ann L. Buttenwieser's *Manhattan Waterbound* furnished data on the growth of the East River waterfront. William Ritchie's *The Archaeology of New York State* provided information and details regarding Native American lifeways during the prehistoric era. Ritchie also provided valuable descriptions of prehistoric sites and artifacts recovered within New York State. Finally, various archaeological reports were

consulted for descriptions of urban commercial and domestic sites, as well as specific information on any identified prehistoric and historical sites near the present project area.

The purpose of this Phase 1A Archaeological Assessment Report, in accordance with the established CEQR Manual Guidelines, is to determine the presence and type of any cultural resources which may be below the surface of the Platt Street project plot. Although the block and the surrounding area will be discussed in the report, the evaluation of cultural resource sensitivity will be based upon the area to be directly impacted by the proposed construction.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Manhattan Island lies within the Hudson Valley region and is considered to be part of the New England Upland Physiographic Province (Schuberth 1968:10). The underlying geology is made up of "gneiss and mica schist with heavy, intercalated beds of coarse grained, dolomitic marble and thinner layer of serpentine" (Scharf 1886:6-7). The land surface in the metropolitan area was carved, scraped, and eroded by advancing and retreating glaciers during the three known glacial periods. After the final glacial retreat during the Post-Pleistocene, glacial debris, a mix of sand, gravel, and clay, formed the many low hills or moraines that constitute the present topography of the New York City area. Formed following the last of the three glacial periods, Manhattan Island is marked by these low hills, surrounded by rivers, and has a large protected deep water bay.

The project site is located on the east side of Lower Manhattan (see Figure 1). During the late Prehistoric and early Historical Periods the project site was adjacent to a low-lying meadow on the southeastern slope of a hill. A freshwater stream flowed east through the southern portion of the block toward the East River. Throughout the historical period, the desire for new commercial, waterfront real estate spurred investors, politicians, and tradesmen to enthusiastically support landfilling activity along the East River. At the end of the late prehistoric era the coastline had been near the eastern side of present-day Pearl Street and by the middle of the nineteenth century the shoreline had been extended to its present boundary, three blocks east of the project site, on the east side of South Street.

Historic maps indicate that during the early historical period the coastal area was used as farmland or pastureland. The southern tip of Manhattan, on both the east and west sides was the location of most waterfront activity (wharves, slips, and warehouses). To the north only a few docks and slips were present. As the city expanded and the population grew, the commercial waterfront extended up the East River transforming the landscape from an agricultural to an urban setting.

The most recent U.S.G.S. topographical map shows the project area as a well defined urban setting at an elevation of approximately 15 feet above sea level (see Figure 1). Three abutting structures are currently standing on Lot 23, a six-

story building on the corner (14-20 Platt Street), a four-story building at 12 Platt Street, and a three-story building at 10 Gold Street (Photographs 1-3).

III. PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW

Archaeologists have divided North American prehistory into three periods, the Paleo-Indian, Archaic, and Woodland. The latter periods are generally divided into subperiods using the appellations Early, Middle, and Late. Changes in the prehistoric environment, the characteristics of prehistoric peoples, and the cultural artifacts that were left behind enable archaeologists to present a chronological framework for the prehistory of North America. What follows is a brief overview of these periods with emphasis on the characteristics of, and archaeological evidence for, each period in the New York City area.

Paleo-Indian Period (10,000 - 7,000 B.C.)

Near the end of the Wisconsin glacial age the first humans crossed into North America via a narrow land bridge in the vicinity of the Bering Strait. Paleo-Indians were nomadic hunters and are identified by their utilization of a distinctive artifact, the fluted point. Archaeological evidence suggests that although Paleo-Indians were limited in number and traveled in small groups, they soon spread across the continent following the migration patterns of the game animals they depended upon for subsistence (mastodon, elk, caribou, bison). Perhaps due to the transitory nature of these people, little remains of their culture but lithic material.

During this period, the environment was slowly changing from glacial conditions toward a deciduous woodland setting. The favored location for Paleo-Indian sites, repeated throughout the later periods, were well-elevated large fertile valleys close to a fresh water source. Animals dating from this time period have been identified and excavated in New York State, particularly in the vicinity of former glacial lakes and moraines (Ritchie 1965: 9-16). Although no identified "kill sites" have been found in the Northeast, a few camp sites have been discovered in New York State. (For a detailed discussion on Paleo-Indian, Archaic, and Woodland sites in New York see Ritchie 1980). The closest recorded Paleo-Indian site to the project area is Port Mobil, a small camp site, recovered in Staten Island (Ritchie 1980: 1,3,7).

Archaic Period (7,000 - 1,000 B.C.)

The Archaic period was marked by the availability of a larger variety of plants and small-game as the post-glacial peoples exploited the now dominant deciduous woodland environment. A decrease in the population of big-game animals encouraged the hunting of smaller game including the white-tailed deer, moose, wild turkey, and rabbit. Archaic peoples also exploited the marine environment. Archaeological evidence indicates that early Archaic peoples continued to travel seasonally. Their group movements, however, were within well-defined territorial boundaries and the camp sites that have been recovered indicate that they were repeatedly occupied over time.

A marked increase in the number and size of archaeological sites dating from the Archaic period suggests that the population had expanded and Archaic peoples were becoming more settled. The establishment of specific territories and the greater impact on the landscape have enabled archaeologists to examine different cultural phases that occurred at this time. A phase has been defined "as a recurring complex of distinctive archaeological traits" representing an individual cultural group (Ritchie 1965: xvi). The Lamoka, Vosburg, and Brewerton phases are among those identified in New York State by Ritchie (1980).

A number of small multi-component sites have been recovered in New York. These sites are usually located near fresh water ponds, tidal inlets, coves, and bays as these locales provided abundant resources. Sites discovered in coastal areas around New York City indicate that by the Late Archaic Period there was a distinct reliance upon shellfish, particularly oysters and clams. At a large multi-component site in Staten Island, the assemblage recovered contained artifacts dating from the Early Archaic to the Late Woodland Period. Although the site was repeatedly occupied over time, the majority of the materials recovered indicate that most of the activity took place during the Late Archaic Period (Historical Perspectives, 1996).

Woodland (1,000 B.C. - c.1600 A.D.)

Characterized by the introduction of pottery and horticultural activity, as well as the establishment of clearly defined trade networks, Woodland period sites were also typically located near a large fresh water source. During this period primary habitation sites, or villages, had increased in

size and were permanent (year-round) settlements. Secondary sites, where specific activities took place (e.g., shellfish gathering and/or processing, tool making), were usually situated near the location of the resource.

Although the use of cultigens was evident in many areas of North America during the Early Woodland, it was not until near the end of the Middle Woodland stage (c.800-1000 A.D.) that agriculture may have played a part in the economy of New York State culture groups. By the Late Woodland, cultigens had become an essential element in daily life. The introduction of agriculture brought about a major change in settlement patterns as larger villages, some fortified or palisaded, were established. One such site was noted by the early Dutch explorer Adriaen Block, who described seeing "large wigwams of the tribe on Castle Hill" in the Bronx (Skinner 1919: 76). With the creation of more permanent sites came the development of extensive trade networks for the exchange of goods between the coastal and inland areas.

Much of what is known about the Late Woodland Period has been acquired from the documentary record. Using legal documents and early ethnohistoric accounts, archaeologists have been able to learn much about the Native groups that were present upon contact with Europeans. One example is the journal of Robert Juet who traveled with Henry Hudson on his 1609 voyage. Juet provided a description of the native population encountered and the exchange of "Indian Wheate" (maize) and tobacco for beads and knives (Van Zandt 1981: 10-11). In *Native American Place Names in New York City* (1981), Robert Steven Grumet categorized data from historical documents and the work of previous scholars in an attempt to synthesize and verify known information on Native American sites, pathways and culture groups.

Grumet notes that the 1610 Velasco map used the name *Manahata* as the designation for the native inhabitants of lower Manhattan (1981: 24). The Manhattan Indians were identified on Dutch seventeenth-century maps but not on many other documents. In addition, no individual Manhattan Indian was referred to by name in the documentary record. The Manhattan Indians were probably only about 300-500 in number and were last identified in the historical record in 1680 when they were described as the former inhabitants of Manhattan Island. Most likely, following 1626, when the infamous sale of Manhattan Island occurred, they

moved to join the Wiechquaesgeck (who were in northern Manhattan, the Bronx, and Westchester).

Grumet created a map of known Native American land use, place names and trails that were identified by earlier historians and ethnographers on Manhattan Island (Figure 2). No trail or place name is depicted in the location of the project site. The closest one shown, several blocks to the north of the site is "Ashibic," a name that was given to the former ridge in the vicinity of Beekman Street. Grumet's research indicates that both the ridge and a nearby marsh were "obliterated by subsequent development" (Grumet 1981: 3).

IV. HISTORICAL PERIOD

In the early seventeenth century, several European nations were attempting to establish world-wide trade connections. The Dutch West India Company, formed by a group of merchants, focused their attention on the Americas. In 1623 the Company received a grant for all of the land rights on Manhattan Island (Buttenwieser 1987: 25). After setting aside parcels of land for Company use and the colony's fortifications, land was granted to individual settlers for private homes and gardens. The majority of these settlers were merchants and fur traders requiring access to the commercial shipping routes. As a result, many of the early land grants were located on the southern tip of Manhattan Island. In fact, the early village of New York was located there, just below Wall Street, which served as its northern boundary.

The land to the north of the village, which included the project site was the location of several land grants. The project site was a portion of the Cornelis Van Tienhoven land grant of 1644 (Stokes 1915-27, Vol. 6: 155; Figure 3). In 1902, historian John Innes wrote the following account of the Van Tienhoven property:

Standing about the year 1655, at the junction of this lane with the river road, - or at the corner of the modern John and Pearl streets [one block east and one block north of the project site, - and looking up the broad, grassy lane of nearly the width of the present John street], one saw before him at the top of a moderate ascent, a low-roofed Dutch farmhouse, with its stoep, its swinging half-doors, its small-paned and heavy-shuttered windows, and its capacious exterior chimneys... On the left of the lane, and occupying a warm southeastern exposure upon the slope of the hill, was a garden of large size, - probably of at least an acre in area, - the site of which is now traversed by the modern Platt Street. Back of this garden was a somewhat rough hillock site [of which the project site was a part] used for pasturage purposes; along its wet and springy sides the common celandine displayed its yellow flowers thickly; this plant was called by Dutch the gouwe, and the hill became known as the Gouwenberg, which name was in the course of time corrupted by the English into Golden Hill, from which the present

irregular street called Gold Street took its origin. The lower portion of that street appears to have been originally a lane giving access from Maagde Paetje, or Maiden Lane, to the pasture field just spoken of (Innes 1902: 310).

In 1671 the Van Tienhoven heirs sold the farm to Jan Smedes who, in turn sold a large portion of it, later known as the Shoemaker's Land, in 1675. The source of the appellation comes from the conveyance which reads "Jan Smedes to John Harpendinck and others, shoemakers" (Stokes 1915-27, Vol.6: 947). The Shoemaker's Land ended west of the project site near William Street. The remaining portion of the farm (containing the project site) was sold in 1677 by Smedes to Hendrick Rycken, a blacksmith. Shortly after, Rycken, sold the farm to Dirck Jansen Vanderclyff in 1681. Innes' description of the site at that time reads:

In the old farmhouse this family resided for many years, and its broad land leading down the hill to the waterside must have been well trodden by the eight or ten small Vanderclyffs, or 'Van Cleefs,' as they came to be called (Innes 1902:317).

The hillside he described is the location of the current project site. Today's Cliff Street recalls the family name and one of the former farm lanes.

Maiden Lane, a block south of the site, "was so named when, as Maagde Paatie (the Dutch equivalent), it was used by lovers along a rippling brook" (WPA 1939:93) . Less romantic, but possibly more accurate, modern historian Joyce Gold maintains that Maiden Lane was an English translation of the Dutch term which pertained to "the young women of New Amsterdam who washed their clothes here and laid them out to dry at a small stream that flowed east to the river" (Gold 1988:77). Figure 4 depicts the outline of the old streambed, the original shore line of the East River, and the former hillside that was in the location of the project site. As described above, the project site was part of Van Tienhoven's hill pasture directly north of Maiden Lane.

It was during the eighteenth century that the urbanization of Manhattan Island began in earnest. The need for more waterfront land promoted the Montgomerie Charter of 1730, which extended the boundary for development around the island to 400 feet (Buttenwieser 1987: 28). Most of the landfilling that took

place from 1700-1776 was conducted by private citizens expanding access to the shoreline (Ibid 1987: 31). In the eighteenth century Golden Hill, part of present Gold Street bordering the project block came to be called Rutgers Hill after a local landowner, presumably Anthony Rutgers, Jr. This new appellation appears on the Lyne Plan of 1728 (Figure 5). The road "began as a path from Maiden Lane to the pasture, which covered the ground bounded by what are now William, John, Fulton and Cliff Streets" (Moscow 1978:54). Platt Street had not yet been laid out.

The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYCLPC) created a series of maps depicting site sensitivity in Lower Manhattan from 1609-1900 (NYCLPC n.d.). The examination of these maps indicates that the only historic resource present within the project block was an eighteenth century tavern. This structure was located on the southeast corner of Block 69 from before 1720 to sometime prior to 1783. While the tavern was not located within the project site, it is representative of the commercial waterfront businesses that were being established in the project neighborhood during the eighteenth century.

Gold Street bordering the project block was shown cartographically as Rutgers Hill throughout most of the eighteenth century. The Directory Plan of 1789 is the first to use "Gold Street" as the title for the road adjacent to the west side of the project site. Stokes reports that the Common Council ordered the extension of Gold Street to Maiden Lane by that date (Stokes 1915-27, Vol.3: 1001).

During the early nineteenth century the continued growth of maritime trade made New York the most important port in the United States. The examination of maps and the listings in the city directories from 1786 onward illustrate a variety of commercial establishments in the project area. Merchants, artisans, and professionals alike often lived and worked in the same buildings. Tanneries were in the area north of the project block; William Street on the west was a dry-goods shopping district; the bustling harbor was a few blocks east. There were neighborhood churches, taverns, markets, schools, and stables, for example, serving the residents.

Documentary sources indicate a shift from an "intimate neighborhood" to a commercial locale around the end of the first quarter of the nineteenth century. With the emergence of the nearby Wall Street area as a financial center and the proximity of the seaport district, the commercial component of the

"neighborhood" began to gain prominence. Archaeological studies on sites in the vicinity also support this conclusion. For example, the 60 Wall Street site only a few blocks away from the Platt Street Garage site, the report states that "with the rise in commercial activity, Wall Street properties increasingly came under the control of companies, which either razed the former dwellings or converted them into commercial properties ... the study area lots fronting Pine Street also changed from mixed commercial/residential use to exclusively commercial and financial occupancy" (Bianci and Rutsch 1987:64). This trend continued throughout the nineteenth and into the twentieth century.

Map Review and Disturbance Record

Historical research found no individuals listed for Rutgers Lane in the "1703 Basic Data Archive" (Rothschild 1990: 185-204). Further, no entries for residents on Rutgers Hill were found in any city directories, the first of which was published in 1786. The earliest cartographic evidence found depicting both the street and buildings that appear to be on the project block are shown on the 1728 Lyne Plan, although none are identified (see Figure 5). The Grim Plan of 1742 depicts small buildings in the vicinity of the project site. However, because of the nature of older maps, it is impossible to determine if these structures are in the exact location of the project site or in the path of what would become Platt Street. The 1755 Maerschallck Plan indicates that a series of structures were present on the project block (Figure 6). Once again, it is difficult to determine the number, location, and size of any buildings present. The Commissioner's Map of 1811 seems to contradict these eighteenth century maps, as it shows no structures present within the project block (Figure 7). It is also possible that the eighteenth century phase of construction was removed by that date in preparation for new buildings.

As the City continued to grow new streets were created in Lower Manhattan, further dividing the larger tracts of land. Platt Street was named for Jacob S. Platt, a wealthy merchant of the 1800s who had acquired considerable property in the area. An 1830/1 city directory, listed Jacob S. Platt as a hardware dealer at 281 Pearl Street whose home was at 88 Cliff Street. His influence and ownership of the land enabled the new street to be laid out and opened in 1834 (Moscow 1978:84). It ran roughly parallel to John Street and reflected the quickening pace of commercial development.

The tax assessments of 1835 are the earliest to identify an owner of the Platt Street project site. The assessments indicate that Jacob Platt was taxed as the owner of 14 through 20 Platt Street, and according to the 1836 tax assessment the site contained the "House of Lawyers." On the opposite corner of Gold and Platt, the southwest corner, was a "store" and a "grocery." Clearly Platt opened the street on his land in order to construct his commercial buildings, thus signaling a second phase of development within the project block.

During the 1840s the Croton Water System was being constructed. An 1842 map indicates that water pipes were laid throughout the entire project area by that date. An examination of the Annual Reports of the Croton Aqueduct Department indicates that sewers were installed along Platt Street in 1848 and along Gold Street in 1850 (Croton Aqueduct Department 1857: 120, 126). By 1851 the commercial nature of the project site had been firmly established. The entries in Doggett's New York City Directory for 1851 shed light on the owners of the project parcels and their businesses. Table 1 shows the location, owners names and business descriptions as presented in the directory for the occupants of the project site. There is no indication that the structures on the site were used for residential purposes. This is supported by the Perris 1852 Atlas of New York which identifies the buildings on the project site as "Brick or Stone Stores," and not as stores with dwellings (Figure 8). Attempts to trace the occupants of the site in both earlier and later directories met with minimal success. Only Irving Van Wart was traceable as he was listed occupying the site throughout the 1840s but not listed after 1853.

Throughout the nineteenth century the five four-story buildings fronting Platt Street were continuously depicted as brick commercial structures (Figure 9). The two buildings located at 10 and 12 Gold Street, were 6 and 5-story commercial structures respectively. The oldest of the current standing structures, that represents the third phase of development, is the four story brick building with a basement located at 12 Platt Street. Built prior to 1885, this building is shown on an 1893 map of the project area (see Figure 9). In 1891, the structure at 10 Gold Street was replaced by a 3-story timber-frame brick building with a basement. This building, which is still standing, is the southern boundary of the project site.

Table 1. Occupants of the Project Site in 1851.

<u>Address</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Business</u>
12 Platt	S.C. Hills Irving Van Wart	agent com[ercial] mer[chant]
14 Platt	Benjamin Mooney Huesman & Co. L. Huesman B. H. Huesman C. A. Trenkamps	com[ercial] mer[chant] bristles employee employee employee
16 Platt	G. V. Pomeroy E. W. Andrews E. Ponvert	agent agent bags
18 Platt	Mor. L. Samuel & Co. Edwin Dunn Boyd & Riply Samuel Boyd Erastus L. Riply Guilford Manufacturing Co. William Parker E. J. Cowley	com[ercial] mer[chant]s employee hardware employee employee cutlery agent
20 Platt	Edwin Hunt	hardware
10 Gold	Haskell, Merrick and Bull L. S. Haskell T. B. Merrick B. W. Bull	wholesale druggists employee employee employee
12 Gold	Bradshaw & Perlee Albert Bradshaw R. N. Perlee D. B. Pike William Wakeman T. S. Smith Longbotham & Co. J. H. Longbotham Charles Jenkins Marriott & Atkinson Moulson Brothers John Moulson	importers employee employee hardware shirtmaker bookbinder paper employee employee steel hardware employee

During the first quarter of the twentieth century, many of the other nineteenth century buildings in the project area were demolished for new, larger structures. The buildings fronting 14-20 Platt Street and 12 Gold Street were removed for the construction of a large 6-story commercial structure that was built into the slight north-south rise of the former hillside (Figures 10 and 11). Constructed in 1922, the most recent standing structure on the project site has steel I-beam support columns with cinder block and brick exterior walls. At present, the basements of each of the three standing structures are linked.

Prehistoric Potential

Constant construction and modifications made to the landscape present an ideal opportunity to examine the urban locale for the possible recovery of buried cultural material. In general, the prehistory of coastal New York is poorly understood, which is why it is so important to research potential sites. The ranking for prehistoric potential by the New York State Museum is "high" in this area, however, there are no recorded prehistoric sites or isolated finds in the vicinity of the project site. The State Museum's ranking for prehistoric sensitivity, which is based partially on proximity to a water source, has perhaps awarded this locale more potential than the site merits. In addition, the hill that was formerly present on the site during the prehistoric era was cut down dramatically in the eighteenth century, leaving only a slight rise in this location.

Historical Potential

Although there was clearly a documented historical presence within the project site, the constant modifications and development of this urban locale has limited the potential for the presence of significant historical archaeological resources. The early usage of this site as farmland with a possible hillside garden would have left a limited imprint on the landscape. This imprint would not have survived the development of the project site and the leveling of the former Rutgers Hill. Because there was no documented residential component to this site the presence of shaft features (e.g., privies, wells) related to domestic activities is also highly unlikely.

The eighteenth century division of the project area into blocks and the expanding village of New York beyond Wall Street soon established the commercial nature of this location that continued through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Documentary research indicates that most of the businesses located on the site were transitory. They also appear to have been retail operations and not manufacturing centers. The initial eighteenth century occupation was replaced by the nineteenth century buildings constructed after the opening of Platt Street in the 1830s. These were in turn, replaced by the standing late nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings. The construction of the current buildings, which each contain basements, would have obliterated the footprints of these earlier structures.

Cartographic research indicates that these former buildings covered almost the entire project site. Therefore, the majority of business conducted in all phases of the commercial development of the block, would likely have been within the structures. There was only a limited area behind the buildings for the disposal or deposition of materials. The review of historic maps found that the only open rear lot space within the project site was located behind the buildings at 12 and 14 Platt Street (see Figure 11). The area behind 12 Platt Street would have been a small alley location, less than 10 feet by 14 feet in size, and the small open area behind 14 Platt Street measures less than 8 feet by 8 feet. It is unlikely that these very small rear lots areas would have seen undisturbed accumulations of historically significant materials as they would clearly have been disturbed during each of the demolition and construction phases on this block.

At 14 Platt Street, the small back lot area is located at the southeast corner of the 6-story building and would have been greatly disturbed not only by its construction, but also by the construction of the neighboring building to the south located at 10 Gold Street (see Figure 11). The depth of excavation and the construction impact zone for these buildings would have been significant as each structure has a basement. The back lot at 12 Platt Street would have been similarly disturbed by the construction of the building with a basement on that lot as well as at 10 Gold Street, the adjacent lot to the south. Research indicates that the commercial operations that were once located on the site would have left a minimal imprint on the landscape.

V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Because the project site was located on a hillside adjacent to marshland during the prehistoric era and extensive land manipulation and historical development has occurred in this location, it is highly unlikely that any prehistoric remains, if they ever existed on the site, would have survived. While it is possible that a random prehistoric artifact may be uncovered at the site, the prehistoric archaeological potential on the project site is considered to be very low.

The development of the project site and the leveling of the terrain (Rutgers Hill) in this location would have obliterated any possible remains of an outbuilding or garden related to the Van Tienhoven's early hill pasture or the Vandercliff farm. Although the commercial development of the project area is notable in the history of New York City, the documented historical disturbance to the project site in the form of building construction and demolition would have clearly obliterated the remains of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century commercial structures. The documented construction activity would also have disturbed the very small open areas between buildings at 12 and 14 Platt Street.

At present, three extant structures, dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, almost completely cover the entire project site. The remnants of any possible isolated historical feature on the site would have been removed or severely disturbed during basement and foundation excavation for these standing structures. Because the site has been determined to have little or very low sensitivity for intact buried cultural resources, no further archaeological consideration is recommended.

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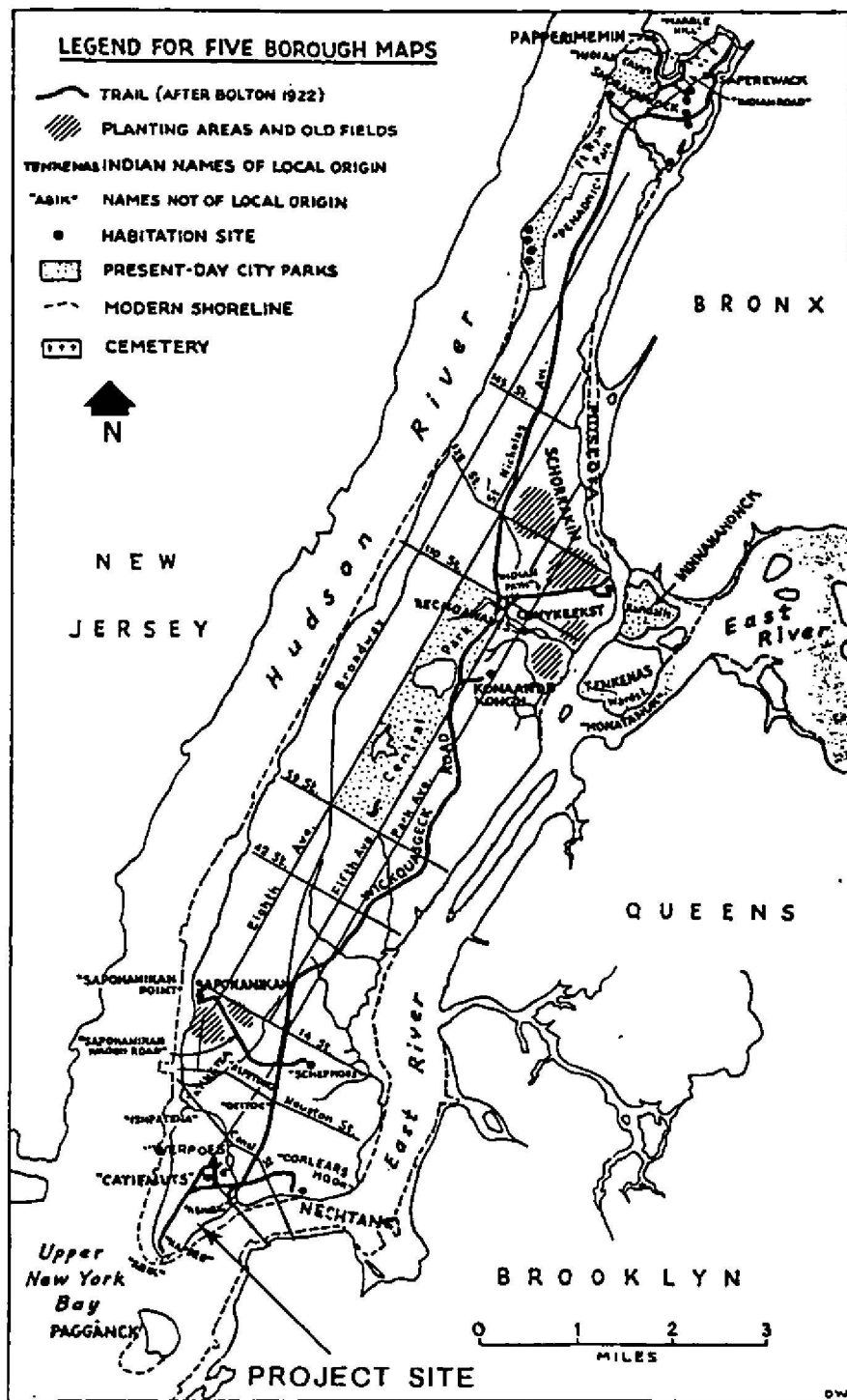


FIGURE 2. GRUMET, MAP OF INDIAN TRAILS, 1981.

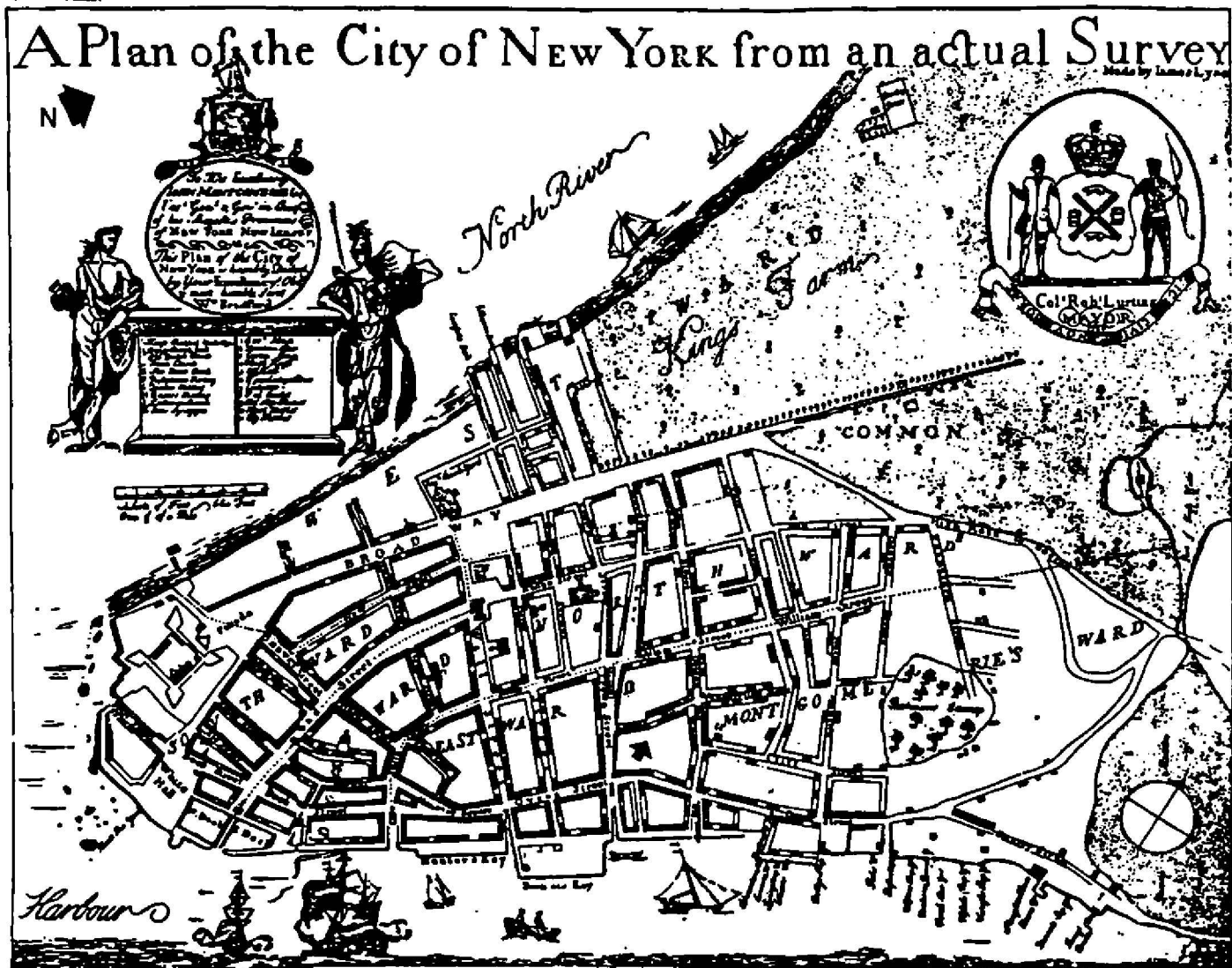


FIGURE 5. THE LYNE PLAN, 1728. NOT TO SCALE.

Plan of the City of NEW YORK from an actual Survey, Anno Domini MDCCLV

FIGURE 6

By F Maerschalck
City Surveyor

REFERENCE.

- | | |
|--|---|
| A The Fort | 10. Meal Market |
| B Trinity Church | 11. Fly Market |
| C Old Dutch Church | 12. Burtons Market |
| D French Church | 13. Oswego Market |
| E New Dutch Church | 14. English Free School |
| F Presbyterian Meeting | 15. Dutch Free School |
| G Quakers Meeting | 16. Peter's Courtlands Sugar House |
| H Baptist Meeting | 17. Joseph Griswold Des |
| I Lutheran Church | 18. Still House |
| K Jews Synagogue | 19. Wileys Livingstone |
| L St. George's Chapel | 20. R. Laffort's In Comp. D ^o |
| M Moravian Meeting | 21. Tho ^t Vutar Distillhouse |
| N New Lutheran Meeting | 22. Robert Croffish D ^o |
| 1. Governors House | 23. J ⁿ Burling D ^o |
| 2. Secretarys Office | 24. James Burling D ^o |
| 3. Custom House | 25. J ⁿ Leuke D ^o |
| 4. Peter Livingston & Co Sup ^o h ^o | 26. Benj ^o Blagge D ^o |
| 5. City Hall | 27. Jews Burial Ground |
| 6. Byards Sugar House | 28. Poor House |
| 7. Exchange | 29. Powder House |
| 8. Fish Market | 30. North House |
| 9. Old Slip Market | 31. Gales |

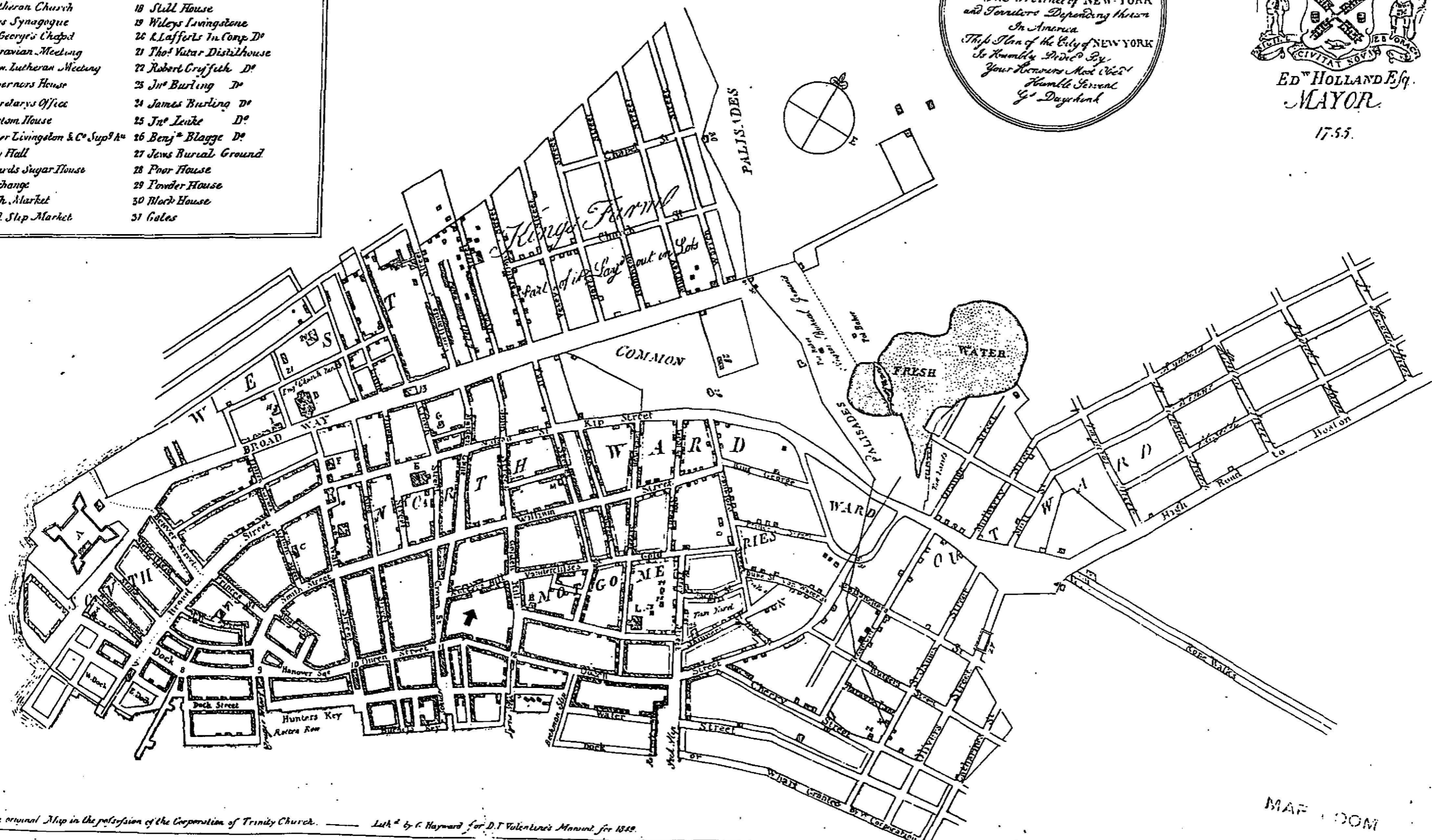
Scale 1520 to 1/8 of a Mile

To the Honorable
JAMES DE LANCEY Esq
Lieutenant Governor and
Commander in Chief on and over
The Province of NEW-YORK
and Territories Depending thereon
In America
This Plan of the City of NEW-YORK
is Humbly Dedicated By
Your Honors Most Obedt^t
Humble Servant
G^t Daymond



ED^d HOLLAND Esq.
MAYOR.

1755.



MAP ROOM

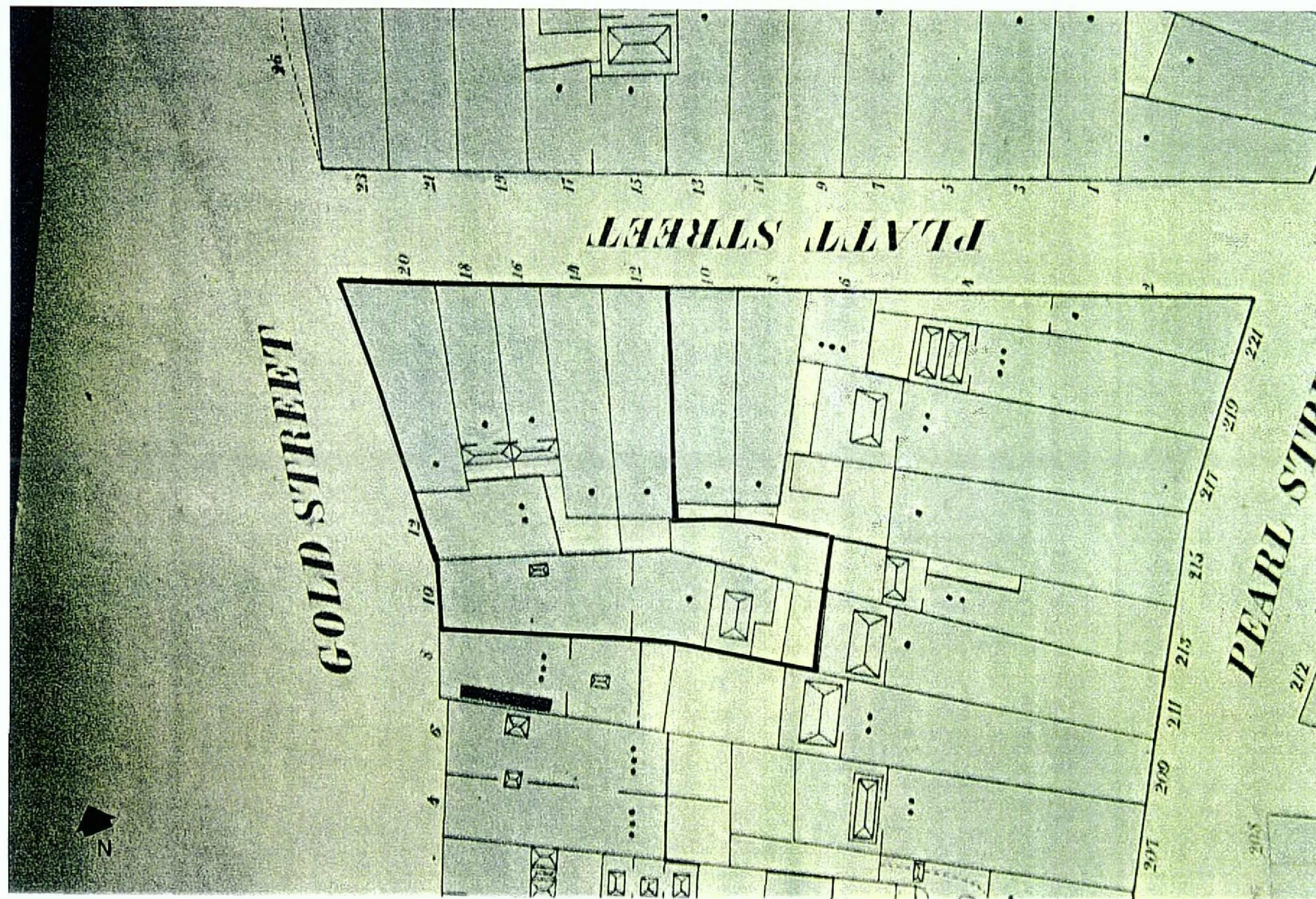


FIGURE 8. PERRIS, MAPS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, 1852. NOT TO SCALE.

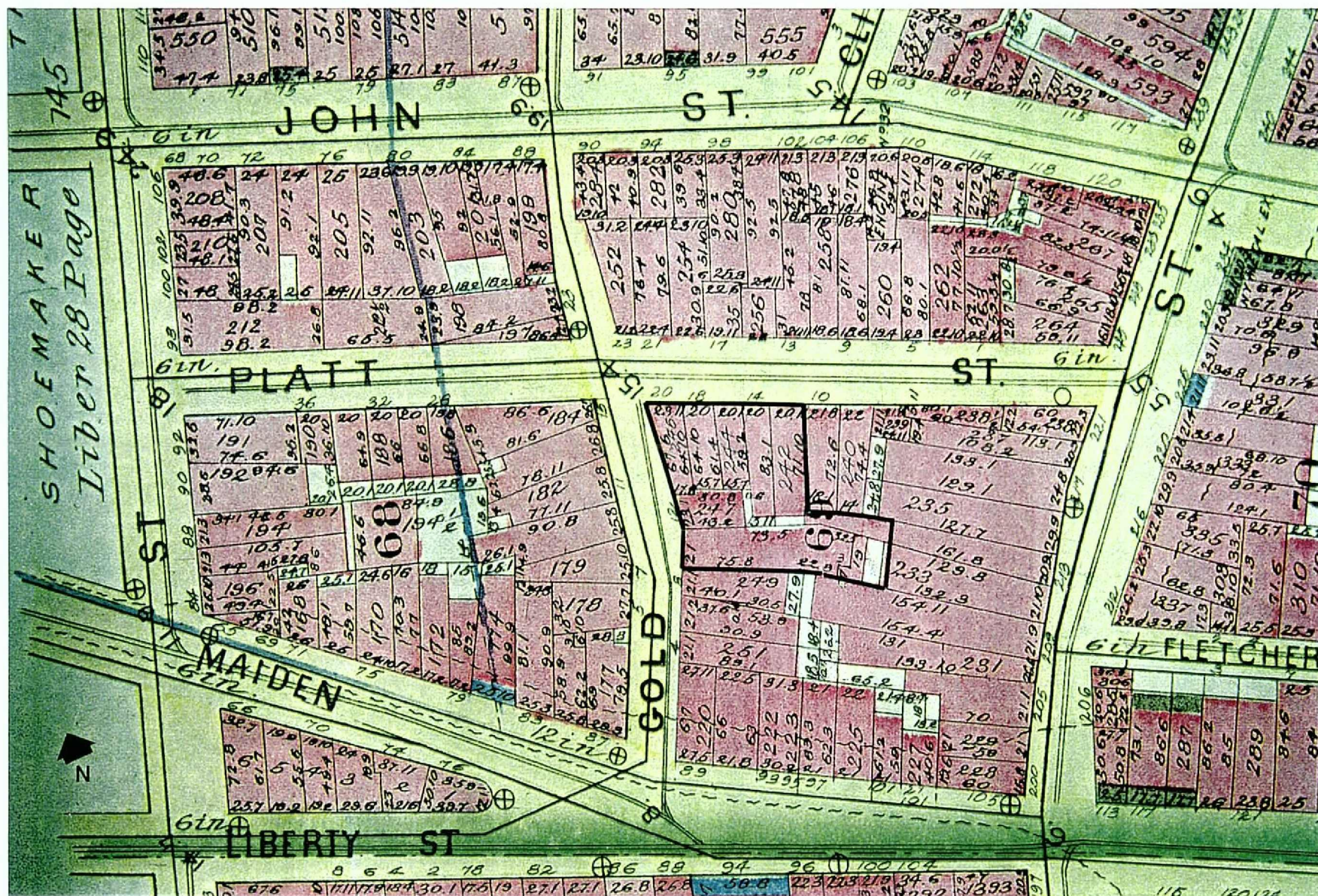


FIGURE 9. ROBINSON, ATLAS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, VOL. 4, 1893. NOT TO SCALE.

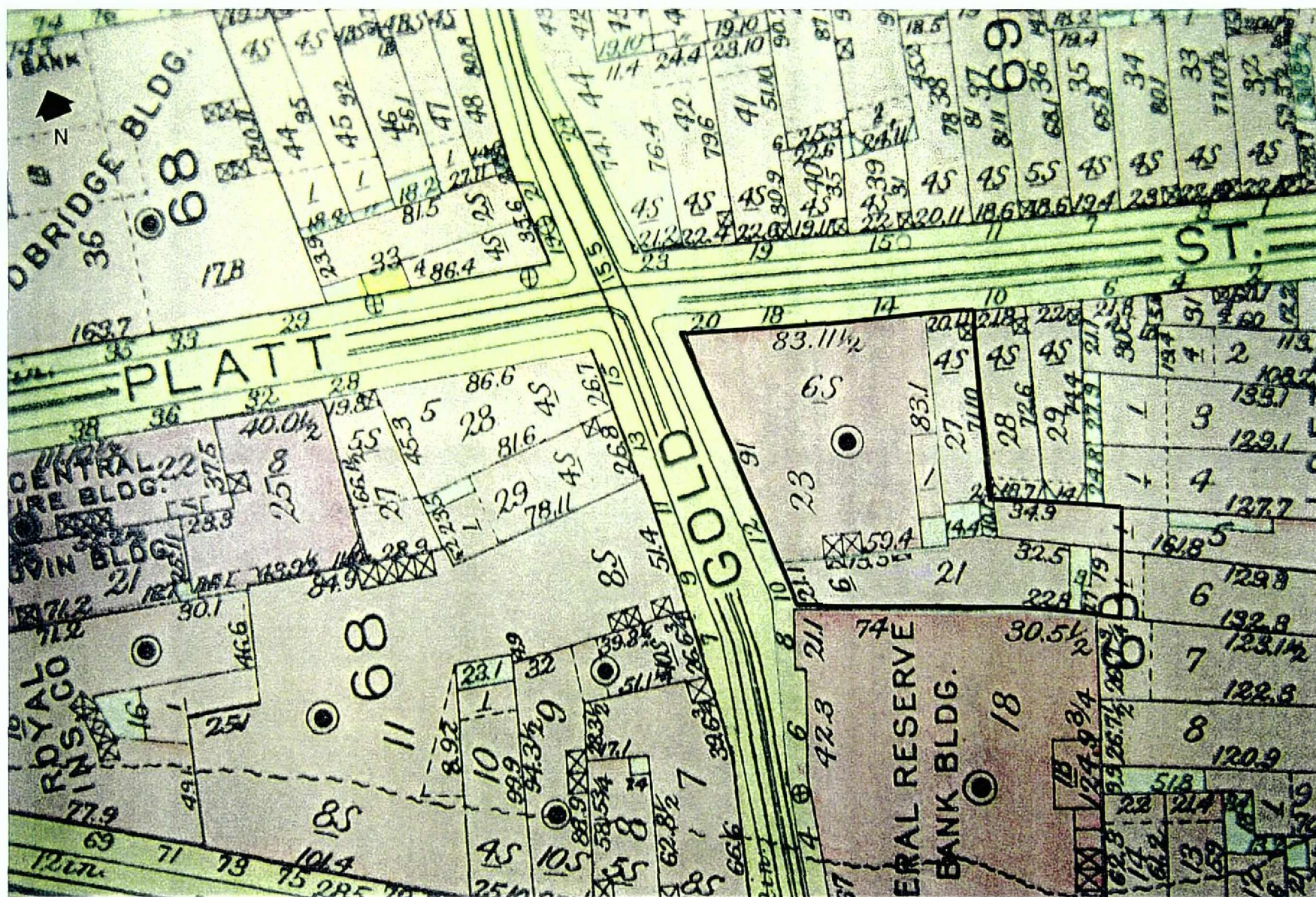


FIGURE 10. BROMLEY, ATLAS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, VOL. 1, 1926. NOT TO SCALE.

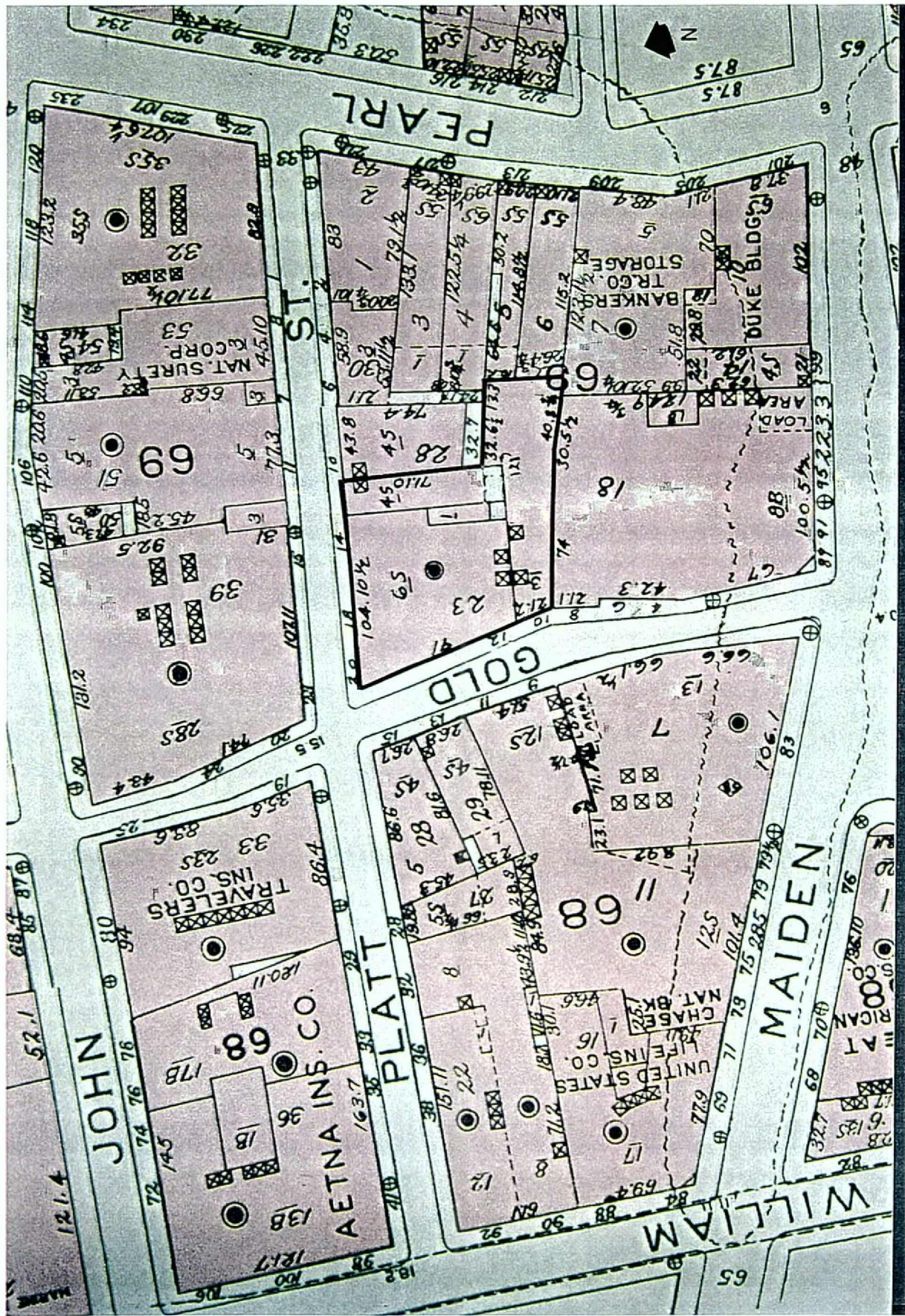


FIGURE 11. BROMLEY, ATLAS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, VOL. 1, 1959. NOT TO SCALE.



Photograph 1. Corner of Platt and Gold Streets.
Looking East from 14-20 Platt Street
Toward 12 Platt Street.



Photograph 2. Corner of Platt and Gold Streets.
Top Four Floors at 14-20 Platt Street.



Photograph 3. Corner of Platt and Gold Streets.
Looking South from 14-20 Platt Street
Toward 10 Gold Street.

APPENDIX



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic
Preservation

File search results:

1.	A061-01-1273	Sheridan Square	historic
2.	A061-01-1285	Washington St. Urban Renewal	historic
3.	A061-01-1304	City Hall Park	historic
4.	A061-01-0604	209 Water St.	historic
5.	A061-01-0623 D0-23	Telco Block	historic
6.	081-01-0001 N/A	structure	
7.	061-01-0014 N/A	structure	
8.	A061-01-1283	Barclays Bank Site	historic
9.	A061-01-1284	Assay Site	historic
10.	A061-01-0490	The Battery/Castle Clinton	historic
11.	A061-01-0491	Municipal Ferry Piers	historic
12.	A061-01-1271	175 Water Street	historic
13.	A061-01-1282	Broad Street Plaza Site	historic
14.	A061-01-1286	Expansion of NYU Library	historic
15.	A061-01-0074	Empire Stores Monitoring	historic
16.	A016-01-0179	Fulton St. dock remnant	historic
17.	A016-01-0102	Corporation House	historic

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE FILE SEARCH
 NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM
 CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTER
 ALBANY, NEW YORK

NYSM SITE #	OTHER SITE #'S	SITE NAME	TIME PERIOD	SITE TYPE	SOURCE OF DATA	15' QUAD NAME	7.5' QUAD NAME	REPORTER NAME	PROJECT NAME OR #
4059	ACP NYRK-9	NO INFO	NO INFO	VILL AGE		STATON ISLAND QUAD	JERSEY CITY QUAD	PARKER	NO INFO
4060	ACP NYRK-(UN NUMBERED)	NO INFO	NO INFO	VILL AGE		BROOKLYN QUAD	BROOKLYN QUAD	PARKER	NO INFO

2/20/92 To: CECE KIRKORIAN, HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

Project: Topo. Maps: BROOKLYN, JERSEY CITY
BIA(Initials) Anthropological Survey, NYSM

New York State Museum Prehistoric Archaeological Site Files

EVALUATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY FOR PREHISTORIC (NATIVE AMERICAN) SITES

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

HIGH 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