

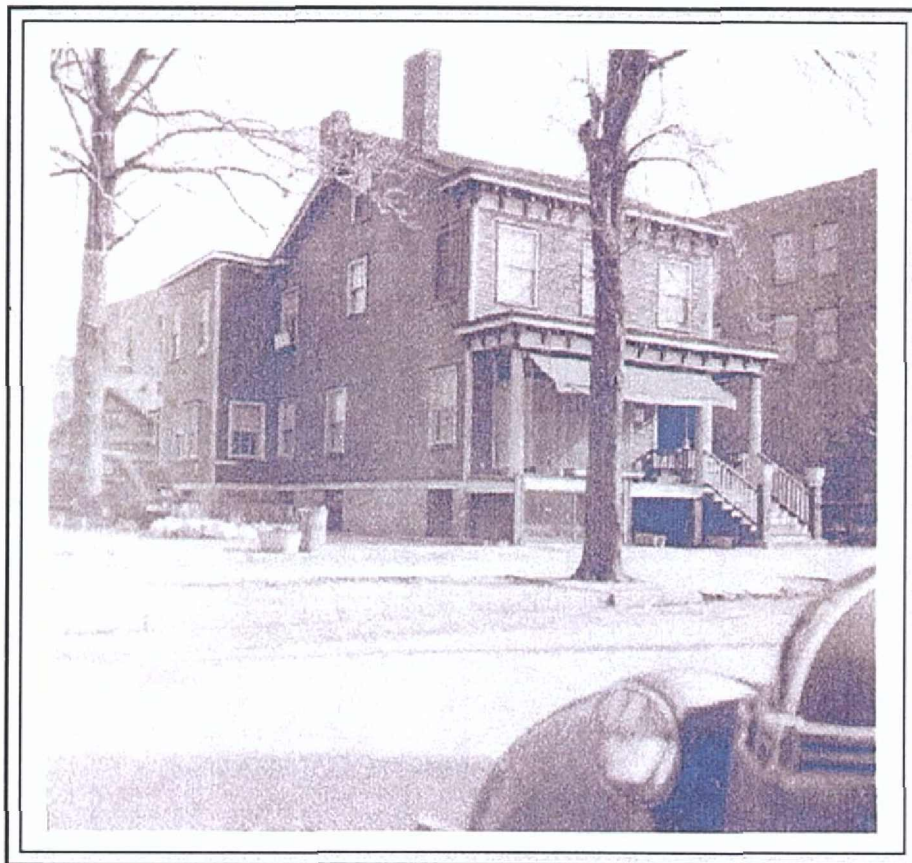
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**Phase 1A Archeological Documentary  
Investigation**

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Project Name  
**Jamaica Mid-Block Development Project  
Jamaica, Queens County,  
New York**

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February 2002**

**PHASE IA ARCHEOLOGICAL  
DOCUMENTARY INVESTIGATION:  
JAMAICA MID-BLOCK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
JAMAICA, QUEENS COUNTY, NEW YORK**

Prepared for

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## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

John Milner Associates, Inc. (JMA) conducted a Phase IA documentary archeological investigation for the Jamaica Mid-Block Development Project, located in downtown Jamaica, Queens County, New York. The investigation consisted of background research and a field reconnaissance of the Project Area. Due to the nineteenth- and twentieth-century construction, occupation, and subsequent demolition of structures within the Project Area, it is the opinion of JMA that prehistoric archeological resources are unlikely to be located within the Project Area. However, additional archeological work conducted for the Project should account for the possibility (however unlikely) that prehistoric archeological resources could be located within the Project Area.

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Numerous middle to late nineteenth-century residences were located on sections of Block 9757 (Lots 20, 22, and 29) (Site A); Block 9760 (Lots 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 120) (Site B); and Block 9761 (Lots 18, 26, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70) (Site C). Analyses of map-documented structures on these lots and historical research concerning the former occupants who resided on these lots are included in this report. Additionally, a Sunday School (later Masonic Temple) and three twentieth-century commercial buildings were also located on Block 9761, Lot 26 (Site C), although in the opinion of JMA, archeological resources associated with these structures are unlikely to yield significant information about the past. In the opinion of JMA, the lots within the Project Area that formerly contained nineteenth-century residences may contain potentially significant historic archeological deposits associated with the occupants of those residences.

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THE INVESTIGATION

John Milner Associates, Inc. (JMA) has completed a Phase IA documentary archeological investigation for the Jamaica Mid-Block Development Project (the Project) located in downtown Jamaica, Queens County, New York. The information and recommendations contained in this report are intended to assist Project proponents and reviewing agencies in complying with the requirements of the New York City Environmental Quality Review Act (CEQR), and/or Section 14.09 of the New York State Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Law, and/or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The purpose of the Phase IA investigation is to identify previously recorded archeological or historic sites and assess the likelihood for the presence of previously unrecorded cultural resources within the Project's area of potential effect. All research and report preparation were conducted in accordance with the New York Archeological Council's *Standards for Cultural Resources Investigations and the Curation of Archeological Collections* (NYAC 1994) recommended for use by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP).

### 1.2 PROJECT LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Greater Jamaica Development Corporation is planning to develop portions of three blocks located in downtown Jamaica, Queens County, New York (Figure 1). The proposed construction is known as the Jamaica Mid-Block Development (the Project). Proposed construction includes offices and commercial uses on Block 9757 (Lots 20, 22, and 29) (Site A), an apartment building on Block 9760 (Lots 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 120) (Site B), and a public parking garage and retail space on Block 9761 (Lots 18, 26, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70) (Site C). Currently each of these three areas is being used as a parking lot. The Project also includes the acquisition of a four-story public parking garage located on Lot 18 of Block 9756 (Site D). Collectively, these lots constitute the Project Area referred to in this report (Figure 2).

Current Project plans do not include the demolition of the parking garage on Site D or other disturbances to this parcel. As a result, historical information concerning the past land use and occupants of Site D is not included in this report, although Block 9756 is represented on the historic maps included as figures in this report. The proposed construction on Sites A, B, and C has the potential to impact prehistoric or historic archeological resources that may be located within the Project Area.

This report includes sections on the environmental setting and history of the Project Area (Section 2), research methods (Section 3), previously recorded cultural resources in the vicinity of the Project Area (Section 4), and the results of background research concerning the Project Area (Section 5). A summary of findings and conclusions is included in Section 6.

## 2.0 ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXTS

### 2.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING AND HISTORY

The reconstruction of past environmental settings is crucial to understanding the contexts in which prehistoric Native American peoples lived. The retreat of the Pleistocene glaciers dramatically altered the climate, topography, sea levels, and distribution of floral and faunal communities in the northeastern United States. Archeologists consider the availability of natural resources including plants, animals, fresh water, and raw materials to be critical factors in past human settlement and cultural systems.

The surficial geology and topography of Queens was largely shaped by the recession of the glaciers at the end of the Pleistocene, starting ca. 18,000 B.P. (Before Present). After 18,000 B.P. global temperatures gradually warmed and the glaciers began the slow process of melting and retreating northward. The Ronkonkoma Moraine, an enormous deposit of mixed sands, silts, clays, and boulders deposited ca. 15,300 B.P., marks the final advance of the glaciers. The Ronkonkoma Moraine forms the southern side of Long Island extending from Lake Success at the border of Queens and Nassau counties to Montauk Point (Boesch 1997; Snow 1980). A few centuries later the retreating ice paused again, depositing a second band of sediments identified as the Harbor Hill Moraine. The Harbor Hill Moraine extends southwest across Queens from Little Neck Bay, across Brooklyn and Staten Island, and into New Jersey.

The moraines formed a dam for the glacial meltwaters running south from the ice sheets, resulting in the formation of Glacial Lake Flushing. Lake Flushing covered most of present-day Manhattan and the Bronx, and the northwest quarter of Queens. Lacustrine and fluvial sediments associated with Lake Flushing and its drainages immediately underlie the ground surface across most of Queens (Schuberth 1968, cited in Boesch 1997). Lake Flushing drained about 12,500 B.P., when the Harbor Hill Moraine was breached. After 12,500 B.P. the former lakebed would have been a marshy plain characterized by small hills and rises overlooking the ponds and marshes (Boesch 1997). During the Pleistocene, vast quantities of water were trapped as ice in the glaciers. As a result, sea levels were considerably lower than at present and large tracts of the continental shelf were exposed as dry land (Snow 1980). Sea levels did not reach their current levels until around 7,000 B.P. Throughout the early Holocene, Queens was located well inland from the coast (Boesch 1997).

In the late glacial and early post-glacial period, the landscape of Queens would have been characterized by tundra vegetation supporting a diversity of fauna including mammoth, mastodon, caribou, horse, giant beaver, sloth, elk, moose, and peccary (Boesch 1997; Funk 1976; Ritchie 1980; Snow 1980). After 12,000 B.P., the tundra environment gradually included more cold-adapted evergreen species. This environment has been characterized as open park-like woodlands, constituted primarily of spruce, pine, and later fir with a ground cover of lichens, and small quantities of deciduous species such as oak and hornbeam (Snow 1980). Palynological evidence indicates that vegetative and corresponding faunal communities changed concurrently with the warming climate. A pine-birch-alder forest complex was established by 9,000 B.P. and was followed by generally more-temperate deciduous forest complexes (Snow 1980). These forests achieved an essentially modern character, with corresponding faunal communities, by about 4,000 B.P. (Boesch 1997).

## 2.2 PREHISTORIC PERIOD CULTURAL CONTEXTS

Evidence from known archeological sites reveals dramatic cultural changes occurred throughout the long period of human occupation in southeastern New York. Environmental changes and technological innovations influenced subsistence practices and choices of settlement location of prehistoric Native American groups. The availability and changing importance of ecological resources affected the distribution of camping sites, special activity sites, and village locations across the landscape. Settlement locations and cultural practices were also affected by increasing exchange and social contact between Native American groups in the later prehistoric periods and the influence of Europeans in the Contact and Colonial periods.

The prehistory of Eastern North America is commonly divided into three major temporal periods: Paleo-Indian, Archaic, and Woodland. These periods are each characterized by distinctive subsistence practices, social organization, settlement systems, and material culture. The definition of these cultural systems and an explanation for changes in culture through time provide a structure upon which archeological research questions can be framed. Archeologists continually debate many details regarding chronology, adaptation, and culture change, but a generally accepted outline of regional prehistory is presented here. A discussion of known archeological sites in the Borough of Queens is included.

### *The Paleo-Indian Period, ca. 12,500 to 10,000 B.P.*

Radiocarbon age estimates of sites associated with Paleo-Indian fluted points indicate that human beings first occupied the northeastern United States about 13,000 B.P. (Levine 1990). The distinctive lithic components of Paleo-Indian assemblages consist of long, fluted projectile points and a variety of end scrapers, side scrapers, knives, graters, and perforators (Fiedel 2000; Funk 1976; Ritchie 1971). This toolkit is superbly designed for hunting, butchering, and animal-processing activities. The association of fluted Clovis points with extinct megafauna such as mammoth and mastodon at sites in the western and southern United States suggests that Paleo-Indians were largely dependent on big-game hunting for subsistence (Fiedel 2000). However, no clear evidence has been found for Paleo-Indians hunting Pleistocene fauna other than caribou in the northeastern United States. Like historically documented hunters and gatherers, Paleo-Indian subsistence patterns were likely very dependent on the collection of a variety of fruit and vegetable resources (Funk 1976; Levine 1990; Ritchie 1980; Snow 1980). Paleo-Indian peoples probably lived in small, mobile bands, and their choice of settlement seems to have been conditioned by access to upland forest resources, low-lying swamp areas, medium- to large-sized drainages, and high-quality lithic sources (Fiedel 2000; Funk 1976).

Evidence for Paleo-Indian occupations in the New York City region comes from scattered surface finds of fluted projectile points on Staten Island and Long Island. One fluted point has been recovered from an unidentified location in the Bayswater section of Queens (Boesch 1997). In the middle nineteenth-century, mastodon bones were dug up near Baisley Pond in Jamaica and Springfield Creek (Onderdonk 1967), although these skeletons were not associated with Paleo-Indian artifacts. Fishermen have recovered numerous mammoth and mastodon teeth from the now-submerged continental shelf, indicating that the exposed portions of the continental shelf were habitable in the early Holocene period (Snow 1980). Many archeologists assume that numerous Paleo-Indian and Early Archaic period sites in the New York City area were located off the present coastline and were subsequently inundated by post-glacial rising sea levels (Boesch 1997).

*The Archaic Period, ca. 10,000 to 2,700 B.P.*

The Archaic period subsumes a diverse group of hunting and gathering cultures that occupied North America throughout the dramatic environmental changes of the early Holocene. Archaic cultures in the Northeast are generally characterized as small, mobile social groups, and their sites are usually small and lacking permanent structures, fortifications, extensive storage pits, and elaborate mortuary remains (Ritchie 1980). Archaic settlement and subsistence practices in southeastern New York were organized around seasonal movements between coastal and inland riverine areas, with a reliance on both woodland and aquatic resources (Tuck 1978).

The Early Archaic period (ca. 10,000 to 8,000 B.P.) is poorly represented in the Northeast generally (Snow 1980), perhaps due to relatively unfavorable or inhospitable climatic conditions during the period (Funk 1976). Very few Early Archaic sites have been excavated or radiocarbon dated in the Northeast; as a result these sites are usually identified by the presence of projectile points that resemble types found in better-documented, stratified sites in the southeastern United States. Early Archaic sites are identified based on the presence of diagnostic Kanawha, Le Croy, Stanly, Hardaway, and Palmer projectile points, in association with a variety of scrapers, choppers, and ground-stone woodworking tools (Ritchie and Funk 1971; Snow 1980). Environmental changes in the early Holocene resulted in a reduction in the number of exploitable game species available. In response, Early Archaic peoples adapted their subsistence practices to a riverine-, coastal-, and lacustrine-oriented fishing-based economy (Boesch 1997).

The Middle Archaic (ca. 8,000 to 6,000 B.P.) is often characterized as a period of adaptation to the emerging temperate climatic conditions of the Holocene, including the exploitation of a wide variety of floral and faunal species similar to those of the modern era (Snow 1980). Middle Archaic sites in the Northeast are identified by diagnostic Neville, Stark, and Merrimack projectile point types and the appearance of several new technological innovations including stone gouges and axes, large ground-stone semi-lunar knives, notched net-sinkers and plummetts, and ground-stone spear-thrower (or atlatl) weights (Dincauze 1971; Snow 1980). The only Early and Middle Archaic materials that have been recovered in Queens were from sites located on the high ground bordering Little Neck Bay (Boesch 1997).

The Late Archaic period (ca. 6,000 to 3,000 B.P.) in southeastern New York is identified by the presence of distinctive narrow-stemmed projectile points (Tuck 1978). Local variants of this tradition include Lamoka, Wading River, Sylvan Lake or Sylvan Stemmed, Taconic, and Bare Island projectile points (Fiedel 1986; Ritchie 1971). The foraging economy of the Late Archaic was based on the scheduled exploitation of specific seasonally available resources, including an emphasis on marine resources as evident from large shell middens on coastal and riverine sites (Ritchie 1980; Schaper 1993; Snow 1980). Substantial population growth is indicated by significantly greater numbers of sites in the area, the larger size of some sites, and the diversification of exploited environments. Sites in Queens with Late Archaic components are located on areas of high ground along bays and inlets on the north shore, near estuaries, and along major interior streams (Boesch 1997).

The Terminal Archaic (or Transitional period, ca. 3,500 to 2,700 B.P.) is characterized by technological innovations and subsistence practices that are often viewed as precursors to developments that occurred in the subsequent Woodland period. In southeastern New York, distinctive Orient Fishtail projectile points serve as a diagnostic marker of this period, along with carved steatite (or soapstone) vessels (Ritchie 1971, 1980; Snow 1980). Sites with Terminal

Archaic components have been identified on areas of high ground bordering bays and inlets on the north shore of Queens (Boesch 1997).

*The Woodland Period, ca. 3,000 B.P. to European Contact*

The Woodland period is often distinguished from earlier prehistoric periods by significant changes in technology (notably the widespread production and use of ceramics), an intensification of subsistence practices (often including the domestication of plants), increasing trends toward sedentism and larger settlements, and changes in social organization (Ritchie 1980; Versaggi 1999). Woodland sites are distinguished from earlier periods by the appearance of fired clay ceramic vessels in the archeological record.

During the Early Woodland period (ca. 2,700 to 2,000 B.P.) Native American groups continued the hunting, gathering, and fishing practices of the Terminal Archaic, supplemented by an increase in shellfish collecting as evidenced by large shell middens located on sites near the coast or estuaries (Boesch 1997; Funk 1976; Snow 1980). The Early Woodland in New York State has traditionally been identified by the presence of diagnostic Meadowood and Adena projectile points (Ritchie 1971, 1980). The distribution of these points and related evidence for elaborate mortuary ceremonialism within the state are generally restricted to central and western New York (Ritchie 1980; Snow 1980; Tuck 1978). Many researchers have recently begun to question whether Adena and Meadowood are appropriated diagnostics of the Early Woodland in the Hudson Valley and southeastern New York, arguing that projectile point chronologies for the Terminal Archaic and Early Woodland need to be reevaluated (Versaggi 1999). Rossville points serve as another diagnostic marker of Early Woodland occupations in the region and are usually recovered in association with coastal shell middens. Vinette I pottery, a thick, grit-tempered ware decorated on interior and exterior surfaces with impressed cordage or fabrics, represents one of the earliest ceramic traditions in the region (Lenik 1989; Ritchie 1980; Tuck 1978). Evidence for the Early Woodland occupation of Queens is limited to sites located around Little Neck Bay (Boesch 1997).

The Middle Woodland period (ca. 2,000 to 1,000 B.P.) in eastern New York is characterized by changes in social and economic organization, including increasing trends toward sedentism and long-distance exchange of smoking pipes and lithic materials. Diagnostic artifacts from the Middle Woodland include Fox Creek stemmed and lanceolate projectile points, Jack's Reef points, Greene points, and a variety of decorated pottery styles (Funk 1976; Kostiw 1995; Ritchie 1971; Snow 1980). Most Middle Woodland sites in Queens are located near estuaries, although smaller sites have been identified inland. Middle Woodland components have been identified at sites near Little Neck Bay and in Captain Tilly Park (Boesch 1997).

In southeastern New York, the Late Woodland period (ca. 1,000 to 400 B.P.) is divided into the Bowman's Brook and subsequent Clasons Point phases. These cultures are known from large village sites near tidal pools and small coves, often characterized by numerous pits for cooking, storage, and the disposal of refuse (Ritchie 1980), as well as smaller activity sites. The Late Woodland economy in Queens seems to have been oriented primarily toward marine resources, supplemented by horticulture and seasonal hunting and gathering (Boesch 1997; Ritchie 1980; Snow 1980). Diagnostic artifacts for the period include Levanna and Madison style points (Ritchie 1971) and distinctive types of pottery including Bowman's Brook Incised and Stamped, East River Cord Marked, Munsee Incised, Castle Creek Beaded, and Wickham Punctate and Incised (Lenik 1989; Ritchie 1980). Late Woodland sites in Queens include large village sites near major rivers and estuaries that were probably occupied on a permanent basis, and smaller interior sites used for seasonal hunting and foraging. Late Woodland occupations in Queens

include the Wilkins, Clearview, Aqueduct, and Oakland Lake sites, as well as sites in Sanford Neck and Baywater, and numerous shell middens (Boesch 1997).

## 2.3 HISTORIC PERIOD CULTURAL CONTEXTS

In the Late Woodland and Early Contact periods, the lower Hudson Valley and coastal areas of New York were inhabited by Munsee-speaking groups of the larger Lenape (or Delaware) cultural group of Native Americans (Burrows and Wallace 1999; Goodard 1978; Snow 1980). The Munsee generally lived in multifamily longhouse structures about 20 feet wide and up to 100 feet long. These houses were usually arranged as loose clusters in hamlets as opposed to nucleated villages. In addition to speaking a similar dialect of the Eastern Algonkian language, Munsee groups generally shared similar modes of subsistence, settlement, social organization, and forms of material culture (Goodard 1978; Snow 1980). In the early seventeenth-century, the fur trade served as the primary motivation for Dutch colonization of the lower Hudson Valley. Interactions with the Dutch and participation in the fur trade resulted in rapid and dramatic changes in the economy, social relations, and material culture of local Delaware groups (Burrows and Wallace 1999; Goodard 1978).

### *Contact and Colonial Periods*

Scholars variously identify the seventeenth-century Delaware inhabitants of Queens as the Matinecock, Canarsee, and Rockaway Indians. These designations are frequently mislabeled as tribes, but more likely represented social groups based on common identification with localities, kinship relations, or shared totems (Boesch 1997; Goodard 1978). Munsee communities in Queens included Rockaway [loosely translated as sandy place], Matinecock [at the lookout point], Maspeth [bad water place], and Jamaica [beaver place] (Grumet 1995). The origin of the name Jamaica has been attributed to a group of Native Americans identified as the Jameco, Jemaica, or Yemecah Indians, who lived near Jamaica Bay in the seventeenth-century (Tooker 1911). Contact period settlements are recognized in the archeological record by small quantities of European-manufactured goods, such as metal kettles, tools, projectile points, ornamental brass cones, glass beads, bottles, jugs, and cloth, among larger quantities of Native American material culture and refuse (Lenik 1989; Goodard 1978). Contact period components in Queens have been reported from the Yameco (or Jameco), Little Neck Village, Maspeth, Sanford's Point, Wilkins, Duryea Farm, College Point, and Linnaen Gardens sites (Beauchamp 1900; Boesch 1997; Bolton 1934; Parker 1922).

The government of Holland formally established the colony of New Netherlands in 1614, claiming exclusive rights to trade on all lands between the Connecticut and Delaware rivers. The seat of government for this new colony was at New Amsterdam, a small Dutch fort on Manhattan Island. In 1621 the charter for the colony was transferred to the Dutch West India Company, an armed mercantile association formed to serve as the agents of Dutch colonialism in the New World. Dutch colonists began to settle in increasing numbers at New Amsterdam in 1624 (Burrows and Wallace 1999). Many English colonists began settling in Queens in the 1640s. Dutch authorities granted each village a name and established the Dutch style of government (Peterson and Seyfried 1995). English colonists from Massachusetts and eastern Long Island settled at Jamaica in 1656. These settlers secured a patent for the land from the Dutch colonial government, which designated the village Rustdorp (Seyfried 1995).

Throughout the New Amsterdam colony, the growth of the European population and encroachment upon Native American lands led to increasing tensions between the two groups.

Furthermore, competition for access to the fur trade resulted in rivalries and strained relations among Native American groups in the region (Goddard 1978). The introduction of European diseases in the early seventeenth-century resulted in the decimation of Native American populations. These losses were compounded by casualties in wars both among Native groups and with the colonists (Brasser 1978). Dean Snow (1980) has estimated that prior to European contact, the total Munsee population in the lower Hudson and Delaware drainages was between 24,300 and 51,300 people; he estimates the post-epidemic population for the same region to be only 4,500 people. On Long Island, the total population of Native Americans was reduced to an estimated 1,200 people by 1650. By the American Revolution, only 100 or 200 Native Americans still lived on Long Island (Boesch 1997).

The Dutch West India Company surrendered the New Netherlands colony to the English in 1664. In 1683 the New York colony was reorganized into 12 counties (Burrows and Wallace 2000). The village of Jamaica was selected as the seat of Queens County and was the location of the court and county clerk's office (Seyfried 1995). A former Indian trail became an important thoroughfare, linking Jamaica to the ferry across the East River that linked Brooklyn to Manhattan. In 1703 this road was designated the King's Highway and the colonial legislature authorized its extension to East Hampton. In Queens, the King's Highway became Jamaica Avenue (Peterson and Seyfried 1995). Due to its location along the principal thoroughfare from the City to Long Island, the village gradually developed throughout the eighteenth-century into a commercial center (JCC n.d.).

During the American Revolution, the residents of Jamaica (like most of Queens) remained loyal to the Crown, and many British officers and troops were garrisoned in private homes and the countryside (Burrows and Wallace 2000; Seyfried 1995). The British Army consumed many local resources during their occupation, including dismantling the village courthouse, jail, and other structures for building materials (HPI 1998; Munsell 1882). Following the Revolutionary War, Jamaica and the surrounding rural villages began to prosper by supplying agricultural products to the growing population of New York City. The sparsely settled village and rural character of the surrounding countryside in the late eighteenth-century are illustrated in the 1782 Taylor map of Jamaica (Figure 3).

### *The Nineteenth Century*

In 1804 the village is reported to have contained about a hundred houses, three churches, and an academy (HPI 1998). Jamaica's rural character, and the establishment of horseracing grounds, attracted wealthy New Yorkers to build country estates near the village. Perhaps the best known of these estates is the Rufus King Mansion, located on Jamaica Avenue immediately west of the Project Area and downtown Jamaica (see Section 4.3). By 1836 Jamaica had grown into a "neat and pleasant village" with 140 houses and numerous churches, stores, and inns (Fitts and Klein 2000; HPI 1998).

Throughout the nineteenth-century, Jamaica's development was encouraged by the construction of transportation networks linking the village to New York City. In 1809 the road to New York (Jamaica Avenue) was rebuilt by the Brooklyn, Jamaica and Flatbush Turnpike Company, which operated as a private toll road until 1897 (HPI 1998). The Brooklyn and Jamaica Railroad was completed in 1834 and leased in the same year to the Long Island Railroad (Gottlieb 1988). The construction of the railroad led to a burst of development, including the draining of Beaver Pond in 1835 and the subdivision of larger lots into smaller parcels for construction (Fitts and Klein 2000). The emerging commercial character of downtown Jamaica is illustrated in the 1842

Johnson map of the village (Figure 4), which depicts numerous stores and residences concentrated along Fulton Street (Jamaica Avenue) and adjacent side streets.

In 1866 horse-drawn rail cars were constructed on Jamaica Avenue, connecting Jamaica to the New York City ferries in Brooklyn (Fitts and Klein 2000; Gottlieb 1988). Along with the Long Island Railroad, the horse-drawn rail service helped to transform Jamaica from a rural village to a suburb of New York. In the 1870s, 1880s, and 1890s the developed center of Jamaica greatly expanded as large estates and farms were subdivided for single-family, middle-class homes. The growing middle-class neighborhood was mainly located on the cross streets between Jamaica and Hillside Avenues (Fitts and Klein 2000). An expanding working-class neighborhood, composed of both native-born and immigrant families, developed in Jamaica south of the Long Island Railroad tracks (Fitts et al. 2000). In the rural outlying areas of the town, market gardening continued to be the principal economic activity of many residents (JCC n.d.; Munsell 1882).

Early twentieth-century accounts provide differing descriptions of the aesthetic, economic, and moral character of Jamaica in the late nineteenth-century. An interview with Rev. George E. Tilly, a Methodist minister, in 1912 provides descriptions of residences and businesses in Jamaica prior to the Civil War (LIDP 1935). According to Tilly, in 1856 no streets ran north from Fulton Street (Jamaica Avenue) between Washington Street and Grand Street. Most of the land north of Jamaica Avenue was farmland. Tilly describes many of the wealthy residences constructed in the mid-nineteenth-century north of Jamaica Avenue (many depicted in Hardenbrook 1895; Figure 5).

According to a 1938 *Long Island Press* article, in 1895 Jamaica “had already assumed a foremost place on Long Island in business matters and was beginning to erect more dignified structures in accordance with its ambitions in this respect” (LIDP 1938). The Jamaica Town Hall exemplifies the grandeur of some late nineteenth-century buildings in Jamaica (Figure 6, QPBL n.d). The Town Hall, formerly located on the northeast corner of Jamaica Avenue and Parsons Boulevard (immediately south of the Project Area), was constructed in 1883 and served as a jail, opera house, and hospital; the building was demolished and replaced by the Jamaica Health Center in 1952 (Gottlieb 1988).

Descriptions provided by a former training school principal provide a less-alluring image of Jamaica in the 1890s:

When I saw Jamaica for the first time, more than 30 years ago, it was a country village of five or six thousand people. It had the reputation of being a quiet, law-abiding, but somewhat sleepy and unprogressive town. The word “dead” as a descriptive adjective, was not infrequently applied to it...

The old Plank Road, and its parallel horse car track on Fulton Street, long a feature of Jamaica, being hopelessly out of repair, was passing out of use... In the spring and autumn and at other times of heavy rains, Fulton Street, unpaved, was often a slough and the other streets of the village also unpaved, were frequently almost impassable.

Having no sewer system the drainage of the village was very bad. Cesspools constructed on the premises of every respectable householder helped to relieve the condition but these, usually covered, sometimes uncovered and seldom cleaned out, were a constant menace to the public health. Some residents obtained their water supply from wells on the premises, not far from cesspools,

and some had running water from 'Lockwood's new water system'...(McLachlan 1928)

A referendum for incorporating Queens, Brooklyn, and Staten Island as boroughs of New York City was passed in 1894 (Burrows and Wallace 2000). The resulting consolidation of greater New York City in 1898 provided funds to modernize many aspects of Jamaica's infrastructure. Improvements to Jamaica at the turn of the century included paving Fulton Street (Jamaica Avenue) and the construction of a municipal sewer system (Fitts and Klein 2000; Fitts et al. 1998; HPI 1998).

### *Twentieth Century*

Jamaica's growth as an important commercial center continued in the early twentieth-century. In 1919 the Jamaica Board of Trade (later Jamaica Chamber of Commerce) was established (Gottlieb 1988) and began publishing the *Jamaica Jinjer*, a monthly pamphlet that promoted the development of local business. Many large corporations established storefronts and offices in Jamaica, including the Merrick Amusement Company, United Cigar Company, Jamaica Gas Light Company, New York Telephone Company, Jamaica Water Supply Company, New York & Queens Electric Light & Power Company, and Shore Instrument Company (Booth 1921). A number of cinemas, department stores, and nightclubs occupied the central commercial district of Jamaica by the 1930s, including the J. Kurtz & Sons Furniture Stores (Section 4.3; Fitts and Klein 2000).

Between 1898 and 1910 the population of Jamaica grew from 6,500 to 58,200 (Seyfried 1995). New transportation networks were constructed to meet the needs of the growing population, which in turn fueled the dramatic population boom. A surface train line on Jamaica Avenue went into operation in 1903 and was replaced by the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company's elevated train line in 1918 (dismantled in 1979). The Eighth Avenue subway line reached Jamaica in 1938 (Gottlieb 1988; HPI 1998). Jamaica became increasingly urban in character in the 1930s and 1940s, with many middle-class residents migrating to the suburbs of Nassau County after World War II (Fitts and Klein 2000).

By the 1950s Jamaica was among the "leading railroad centers of the United States" and had a population of over 200,000 people; the commercial district of Jamaica contained more than 1,000 retailers doing an annual business of \$250 million (JCC n.d.). However, as the middle-class population of Jamaica continued to leave for suburban communities farther out on Long Island, many of the large businesses (including the department stores on Jamaica Avenue) closed, contributing to the economic decline of the area. Declining real-estate values in the latter half of the twentieth-century encouraged large numbers of immigrant and working-class families to settle in the area. The present population of Jamaica is composed primarily of minority and immigrant families (Seyfried 1995).

## 3.0 METHODS

### 3.1 ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Primary and secondary source materials were consulted to determine if the Project Area contains, or has the potential to contain, prehistoric or historic archaeological resources. JMA personnel reviewed site file data from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (in Boesch 1998) to identify previously recorded prehistoric archaeological sites in the vicinity of the Project Area (Section 4.1) and to assess the prehistoric archaeological sensitivity of the Project Area. The results of site file research, and review of secondary source materials concerning the prehistory of Queens, were used to construct the prehistoric cultural context for the Project Area.

Historic maps in the collections of the Queens Borough Public Library Long Island Division (QBPL) and the New York Public Library (NYPL) were examined to identify structures that previously occupied the Project Area and to assess the likelihood for the Project Area to contain historic archaeological resources. Historic maps included George Taylor's 1782 *A Map of the Pass at Jamaica Long Island* (Figure 3), Martin Johnson's 1842 *Map of the Village of Jamaica* (Figure 4), E. W. Conklin's 1868 *Map of the Village of Jamaica* (Figure 7), Frederick W. Beers' 1873 *Atlas of Long Island* (Figure 8), Matthew Dripps' 1876 *Map of the Village of Jamaica* (Figure 9), and Chester Wolverton's 1891 *Atlas of Queens County* (Figure 10), and topographic maps produced by the City of New York Topographical Bureau in the early twentieth-century (BEA 1910, Figure 11). Insurance atlases produced by the E. Belcher Hyde and Sanborn Map Companies dating from the 1890s through 1990 provided detailed information on the structures that formerly occupied the Project Area. These atlases included the 1891 and 1897 Sanborn (Figure 12), the 1901, 1907, 1910, and 1913 Hyde (Figures 13, 14, 15, 16), and the 1925 Sanborn (Figure 17) atlases. Two versions of the 1931 Hyde atlas, corrected to reflect changes through 1941 (Hyde 1931a [1941]; Figure 18) and 1990 (Hyde 1931b [1990]; Figure 19), respectively, provided more recent information concerning the Project Area. These maps provide a relatively thorough history of the structures that formerly occupied the Project Area.

Additional information concerning the history of construction on lots in the Project Area was sought at the Queens Borough Department of Buildings, and information concerning past ownership of lots in the Project Area was sought at the Bureau of the City Register of Queens County. Unfortunately, because Queens County was not part of New York City prior to 1898, tax records and other ownership records are not readily available for the nineteenth-century. Cultural resources management reports from previous projects in the vicinity of the Project Area, as well as primary and secondary historical sources, were used to construct a historic-period cultural context for the Project Area and further inform the archaeological sensitivity assessment.

The earliest clearly indicated structures within the Project Area were depicted on the 1842 Johnson survey (Figure 4), and the growth of Jamaica from a village to a progressively more urban commercial center intensified during the middle nineteenth-century. Most of the historic map-documented structures in the Project Area are first indicated on maps from the 1860s or 1870s. The identification of residences, businesses, and occupants of the Project Area on these historic maps provided the basis for additional historical research concerning the former occupants of the Project Area. Accordingly, the bulk of background research included in this report pertains to the occupants of lots within the Project Area beginning ca. 1842 (see Section 5).

The names of past occupants of the lots in the Project Area, when identified on historic maps, in directories, or in property ownership records, were located in the Federal Census Population Schedules for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 (USBC 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880). Because addresses were not recorded as a part of nineteenth-century census records, former occupants of the Project Area could be located only when they were identified on historic maps or from other sources. Census records include information concerning household size and composition, as well as the age, sex, birthplace, occupation, and wealth of household members. Census records examined for the Project are included in Appendix A.

### 3.2 SITE RECONNAISSANCE AND EXISTING CONDITIONS

In order to document existing site conditions and assist with the archeological sensitivity evaluation, JMA personnel conducted a preliminary site reconnaissance on March 1, 2001. The purpose of the reconnaissance was to observe any unusual topographic features or other indications of previous disturbance that would assist in assessing the potential for archeological resources to be present within the Project Area. JMA personnel also photographed the Project Area and previously recorded historic architectural resources in the vicinity of the Project Area (see Section 4.3) during the site reconnaissance.

Project development plans include the acquisition of Site D (Block 9756, Lot 18), currently occupied by a four-story parking garage (Plate 1). Project plans do not currently include the demolition of this garage or other disturbances of this lot. Accordingly, no historical research or archeological sensitivity assessment was conducted for this parcel.

Site A (Block 9757, Lots 20, 22, and 29) (Plate 2), Site B (Block 9760, Lots 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 120) (Plate 3), and Site C (Block 9761, Lots 18, 26, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70) (Plate 4) are all currently vacant of structures and utilized as public parking lots. With the exception of the Masonic Temple formerly located in the northwest corner of Site C (see Section 5.3), any structures that previously stood on these lots were demolished by 1941 (see Section 5; Hyde 1931a [1941], 1931b [1990]; Figures 18, 19). It is unclear when the Masonic Temple was demolished (see Section 5.3).

The three parking lots slated for Project development are relatively level with no remarkable topographic features. The ground level of the parking garage on Site D slopes gently from the east side (160<sup>th</sup> Street) to the west (Parsons Boulevard). The present topography of the Project Area appears to be essentially identical to the topography documented by the City of New York Topographical Bureau in 1910 (BEA 1910, Figure 11). Nineteenth-century construction, occupation, and subsequent twentieth-century demolition of earlier structures likely resulted in extensive disturbance to limited areas of the Project Area. However, the general similarity of present topographic conditions with those documented in the BEA 1910 survey (Figure 11) indicates that the Project Area has not been extensively modified by filling or grading in the twentieth-century.

## 4.0 PREVIOUSLY RECORDED CULTURAL RESOURCES

### 4.1 PREHISTORIC AND CONTACT PERIOD ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

JMA personnel conducted research to identify previously recorded prehistoric archeological sites in the immediate vicinity of the Project Area. The review included examination of the site files of the New York State Museum (NYSM), the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), and the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC; summarized in Boesch 1997).

**Jameco**, or **Jemeco**, or **Yameco** (NYSM 4531, LPC 8, 48; Beauchamp 1900; Boesch 1997; Bolton 1934; Parker 1922) is a Native American village site with Woodland and Contact components. During the Contact period, Native Americans reportedly referred to the village as "Jemeco", which is reported to translate as Beaver Pond. Some scholars have questioned the authenticity of this name for a local Indian group and as the source of the present name for Jamaica (HPI 1998). Location information for the site is imprecise and contradictory. The OPRHP and NYSM site files place the village generally in the northern section of Baisley Pond Park, approximately one-and-a-half miles south-southeast of the Project Area. However, earlier recorders (e.g., Beachamp 1900; Bolton 1934; Parker 1922) all describe the village as being located on the Beaver Pond. Beaver Pond was drained in 1835 to make room for residential and commercial development (Fitts et al. 2000). A late eighteenth-century map of Jamaica (Figure 3; Taylor 1782) depicts the location of Beaver Pond immediately southwest of the center of the village, in the area currently bounded by Beaver Road and 158<sup>th</sup> Street. The location of the pond on this early map indicates that the Native American village could have been within a quarter-mile of the Project Area.

**Mechawanienk**, or "old path or trail" (Grumet 1981; HPI 1998) is a Native American trail, the route of which became the King's Highway in the eighteenth-century and ultimately present-day Jamaica Avenue (Peterson and Seyfried 1995). Accordingly, the trail would have passed immediately south of the Project Area. A second path, approximately following the present course of 150<sup>th</sup> Street and Sutphin Boulevard, connected the village of Jameco to this trail.

**LPC Site # 74** (Boesch 1997) refers to a site at Archer Street west of Parson Boulevard, located approximately two blocks south-southwest of the Project Area. No additional information is available concerning the contents or temporal affiliation of this site.

**ACP-Quns**, (NYSM 4546, LPC 26, 76; Boesch 1997; Parker 1922). The New York State Museum indicates that Arthur C. Parker identified "traces of occupation" in a large general area, beginning approximately a half-mile northeast of the Project Area and extending approximately one-mile east-northeast along Hillside Avenue. Boesch (1997; cites Marshall 1926) indicates that arrowheads and other artifacts have frequently been recovered in Jamaica.

**LPC Site # 73A** (Boesch 1997) is a site with a possible Middle Woodland component, located in Captain Tilly Park approximately a half-mile northeast of the Project Area.

**LPC Site # 78** (Boesch 1997) refers to Native American artifacts that were reportedly recovered from "fill of unknown provenience" in Rufus King Park, located two blocks west of the Project Area.

## 4.2 HISTORIC ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

A review was also conducted to identify previously recorded historic archeological resources in the immediate vicinity of the Project Area. JMA personnel examined the site files of the New York State Museum (NYSM), and the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) to identify previously recorded historic sites. Additionally, cultural resource reports from other projects in the vicinity of the Project Area were examined for information concerning historical archeological sites. Information contained in these reports was also used in the development of Historic period cultural contexts (Section 2.3) for this report.

**Historic Jamaica** (OPRHP A081.01.0104, NYSM 7460) refers to the approximate extent of the ca. 1900 Village of Jamaica. The district boundaries are Hillside Avenue on the north, Merrick Boulevard on the east, 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the south, and Sutphin Boulevard on the west. The Project Area is located in the center of this district. In 1975 Joel Klein reported the archeological potential of this district to the NYSM and OPRHP, after conducting excavations on a portion of Block 10100. The OPRHP site file indicates that Historic Jamaica is potentially eligible for National Register Historic District status, and that in 1975 urban development and construction were rapidly destroying the archeological integrity of the area.

Since 1975, numerous cultural resources investigations have occurred within the limits of the Historic Jamaica district. These projects indicate the rich historic archeological potential in the vicinity of the Project Area, when relatively undisturbed archeological deposits can be successfully located.

In 1983, Phase II archeological investigations were conducted prior to the construction of the Social Services Administration Building located on the block immediately west of the Project Area, on the south side of Jamaica Avenue between 153<sup>rd</sup> Street and Parsons Avenue. The Phase II investigations identified five areas that contained archeological deposits associated with hotels that had stood on the block in the nineteenth century (OPRHP A081.01.0152; PSI 1983).

In 1998, Phase II and III archeological excavations were conducted prior to the construction of the Queens Family Court and Families Court Agencies facilities. These excavations were conducted on Blocks 10092 and 10093, located on the south side of Jamaica Avenue between 150<sup>th</sup> Street and 153<sup>rd</sup> Street (opposite King Park), immediately west of the Social Services Administration building (above). Phase II investigations on Block 10093 revealed the foundation of an early nineteenth-century carriage factory; the foundations were disturbed and lacked intact significant deposits. The Phase III excavations on Block 10092 recovered artifacts from six features associated with three early twentieth-century immigrant households. The recovered assemblages revealed many details about the lives of the lots' inhabitants and provided information on how these immigrant families assimilated into American society (Fitts et al. 2000).

In 1998, Phase II and III archeological excavations were conducted in anticipation of the construction of One Jamaica Center, a proposed multiplex cinema and retail center, located on Block 10100. This block is immediately south of the Project Area, and is located between Jamaica Avenue and Archer Avenue and between Parsons Boulevard and 160<sup>th</sup> Street. The excavations recovered artifacts from six features associated with two nineteenth-century wealthy middle-class households, and with a series of hotels and saloons that occupied the block in the nineteenth- and early twentieth-centuries (Fitts and Klein 2000).

### 4.3 HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES

JMA personnel identified numerous previously recorded historic architectural resources within a half-mile of the Project Area. Previously identified architectural resources include those designated New York City Landmarks and properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. For those properties located immediately adjacent to the Project Area, descriptions are taken directly from the *Guide to New York City Landmarks* (NYCLPC 1998: 239-241).

The **Grace Episcopal Church and Graveyard** are located on Jamaica Avenue west of Parsons Boulevard, immediately southwest of Site D (see Plate 5). The Grace Episcopal Church Complex was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.

Grace Episcopal Church and Graveyard, 155-03 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica (Dudley Fields, 1861-62; chancel, Cady, Berg & See, 1901-02; graveyard, c. 1734-). Grace Church was founded in 1702 as the official church of the British colonial government. The congregation has worshipped at the site on the main street of Jamaica since 1734. The present church, a rough-cut brownstone Early English Gothic-inspired structure with a tall spire, is the third at this location. The early twentieth-century chancel compliments the design of the original building (NYCLPC 1998: 239).

**La Casina** is located on Block 9757, south of Site A, on 160<sup>th</sup> Street (see Plate 6). The structure was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990.

La Casina, (also known as La Casino), now Jamaica Business Resource Center, 90-33 160<sup>th</sup> Street, Jamaica (c. 1933). A rare surviving example of Streamlined Modern design, this metal and stucco façade was designed for a nightclub and restaurant and reflects the jazzy, streamlined motifs of fashionable Depression-era nightclubs. Erected in the heart of Jamaica's commercial center, the building was restored by Li-Saltzman architects in 1994-95 (NYCLPC 1998: 239-240).

The **Office of the Register** (now Jamaica Arts Center) is located on the south side of Jamaica Avenue, directly opposite the southern terminus of 161<sup>st</sup> Street, a half-block south of Sites A and B (see Plate 7). The Office of the Register was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

The Register, now the Jamaica Arts Center, 161-04 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica (A.S. Macgregor, 1898). An excellent example of a public building in the neo-Italian Renaissance style, the former deeds registry, designed by a Queens architect, was erected in the year that Queens became a part of New York City (NYCLPC 1998: 240).

A **Sidewalk Clock** from ca. 1900 is designated a New York City Landmark and is located on northwest corner of Jamaica Avenue and 162<sup>nd</sup> Street, south of Site B. The clock was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985.

Sidewalk Clock, 161-11 Jamaica Avenue (1900). This handsome clock, one of two surviving in Queens, was probably erected by a jewelry store. The clock is crowned by a Greek-inspired acroterion (NYCLPC 1998: 240).

The **J. Kurtz & Sons Store** is located on the south side of Jamaica Avenue between Union Hall Street and Guy Brewer Boulevard, a half-block south of Site C. The building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.

J. Kurtz & Sons Store, 162-24 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica (Allmendinger & Schlendorf, 1931). The former J. Kurtz & Sons furniture store is one of the finest examples of Art Deco architecture in Queens and a building of great prominence on the commercial thoroughfare of Jamaica Avenue. As one of the architects recalled, the brick building, with its black-and-white glazed tile pylons, polychromatic terra-cotta panels, and prominent vertical sign, was designed to be as 'modern and colorful' as the contemporary furniture displayed inside (NYCLPC 1998: 240).

The **First Reformed Church of Jamaica** is located on the southeast corner of Jamaica Avenue and 152<sup>nd</sup> Street, one block west of the Project Area. The church is a New York City Landmark and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. The church was built in 1858, with an addition built in 1902. The present structure was the third church built on the site, serving a congregation established in 1702 (NYCLPC 1998: 237-238; OPS 1981).

The **Rufus King House**, or King Manor, is located in King Park, two blocks west of the Project Area. The mansion is a New York City Landmark and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974. King was a delegate to the Continental Congress, a three-term senator from New York, and Minister to England appointed by George Washington. The house was originally built between 1733 and 1755, King constructed additions after purchasing the house in 1805, and the City undertook major restorations of the interior and exterior in 1989 (NYCLPC 1998: 239; OPS 1981).

**Saint Monica's Church** is located on 160<sup>th</sup> Street south of Archer Avenue, one-and-a-half blocks south of the Project Area. The Roman Catholic church, built in 1856, is a New York City Landmark and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. The building is currently owned by the State and located on the campus of York Community College. The building is deteriorating and has stood vacant since 1973 (NYCLPC 1998: 240).

**Prospect Cemetery** is located on the corner of 159<sup>th</sup> Street and Beaver Road, two-and-a-half blocks south of the Project Area. The four-acre burial ground is the oldest cemetery in Queens, established in 1668, and is a New York City Landmark (NYCLPC 1998: 240).

## 5.0 RESULTS OF BACKGROUND RESEARCH

Information derived from historic maps, census records, and other sources provided the basis for assessing the potential for archeological resources to be present within the Project Area. In the middle to late nineteenth-century the Project Area contained numerous domestic residences, as well as a Sunday school, and later meeting halls. Archeological deposits containing household refuse and debris associated with the domestic residences could provide information concerning the occupants' lifestyles, social class, and consumer habits.

In the nineteenth century, domestic refuse was typically disposed of in deep subterranean features such as cisterns, wells, privies, and garbage pits. Before the installation of running water and sewer lines in New York, urban residents relied on wells and cisterns to provide fresh water, and used privies as receptacles for human waste. When these features were abandoned, usually due to unsanitary conditions, structural deterioration, or the switch to indoor plumbing, the features served as convenient receptacles for household garbage (Fitts et al. 1998). Modern water utilities were installed in Jamaica in 1899, public sewers in 1901 (HPI 1998), and free municipal garbage collection did not become available until the very late nineteenth-century (Fitts et al. 1998). Thus, intact archeological deposits of household refuse from the late nineteenth-century may be extant within the Project Area. Background research contained in this report emphasizes the period between ca. 1842 and 1899, as significant historic archeological resources that may be located within the Project Area most likely originated during that period.

### 5.1 SITE A (BLOCK 9757, LOTS 20, 22, AND 29)

On nineteenth- and early twentieth-century historic maps Site A is consistently shown as a single lot occupied by one structure.

#### 5.1.1 THE JAMES H. LODGE HOUSEHOLD

The earliest structure indicated on Site A is depicted on the 1842 Johnson map of Jamaica (Figure 4). The structure is identified as the residence of "J.H. Lodge". A business directory imprinted as an inset on this map lists "Jas. H. Lodge, Blacksmithing, Washington Street" (Johnson 1842). Another smaller structure is identified as "J.H. Lodge" on this map, located on the west side of Washington Street (across the street), and just south of the residence, outside of the Project Area. This smaller structure was likely the workshop of James Lodge, but does not appear on the later maps of the area.

The Lodge residence is depicted on the 1868 Conklin, 1873 Beers, 1876 Dripps, and 1891 Wolverton maps (Figures 7, 8, 9, 10). Each of these maps indicates that the main house was the only structure on the lot; however, small outbuildings, sheds, and other secondary structures are typically not included on nineteenth-century maps. The 1891 Sanborn atlas (Figure 12) indicates that the structure was a two-story frame dwelling, with a front porch facing North Washington Street (facing west, now 160<sup>th</sup> Street), and two one-story frame additions off the back (east) end of the main house.

Based on the identification of the structure as the residence of J. H. Lodge on historic maps between 1842 and 1891, the James Lodge household was identified in the Federal Census Population Schedules for Jamaica for the years 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880 (see Appendix A). James Lodge is listed as the head of the household in 1850, 1860, and 1870, and his profession is

identified as blacksmith. According to the census data, James Lodge was born in England around 1805, and it is unclear when (prior to 1842) he arrived in Jamaica. In 1850, James lived with his wife, Elizabeth (born ca. 1818 in New York), their six young children, and Charles L. Smith (age 77), possibly Elizabeth's father (USBC 1850). In 1860 their oldest son, William J. Lodge, age 22, is listed as a clerk (USBC 1860). By 1870 William and his younger brother James had moved out of the house, leaving James and Elizabeth with their three daughters Ann, Sarah, and Mary (USBC 1870). Between 1870 and 1880 James Lodge died, leaving Elizabeth as the head of household in the 1880 census. At that time their oldest daughter Ann and youngest son James, who worked in the retail drygoods business, lived in the house along with Sarah (the middle daughter) and her husband, George R. Jones, a milkman (USBC 1880).

In the 1897 Sanborn Atlas (Figure 12), the former Lodge residence is identified as the "Chub Club[house]." The depiction of the structure indicates that the front porch was modified to wrap around the front and southwest corner of the main two-story structure. The two rear additions both appear to have been modified to two-stories. No additional structures are depicted on the lot. In a later recollection, Dr. Archibald C. McLachlan describes the establishment:

the Chub Club in which there was a bar and to which some of the more convivial citizens and so called 'good sports' belonged (McLachlan 1928).

The structure on Site A is consistently identified as a "Club House" on the 1901, 1907, and 1910 Hyde atlases (Figures 13, 14, 15). The function of the structure is not indicated on the 1913 Hyde (Figure 16) or 1925 Sanborn (Figure 17) atlases, suggesting that perhaps the Chub Club was defunct by 1913. No structure is depicted on the 1931 Hyde [corrected through 1941] atlas (Hyde 1931a [1941]; Figure 18), indicating that the former Lodge residence, later the Chub Club, was demolished by 1941. Site A is depicted as a parking lot on the 1931 Hyde [corrected through 1990] atlas (Hyde 1931b [1990]; Figure 19).

## 5.2 SITE B (BLOCK 9760, LOTS 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, AND 120)

The earliest depicted structures on Site B appear on the 1868 Conklin survey (Figure 7). Throughout the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-centuries, four relatively large lots, occupied by three structures, were along Herriman Avenue [now 161<sup>st</sup> Street], and four smaller lots were located along Union Avenue [now 162<sup>nd</sup> Street], occupied by at least one household as early as 1868. Each occupied lot, including information concerning the structures and residents, will be discussed separately below.

### 5.2.1 THE BRENTON HOUSEHOLD

The northernmost nineteenth-century lot on Herriman Avenue within Site B contained the residence of "B.J. Brenton" as early as 1868 (see Figure 7). The lot immediately south and adjacent to the Brenton residence is indicated as the property of "J. L. Brenton" on the 1868, 1873, and 1876 maps (Figures 7, 8, 9), but does not appear ever to have contained any structures. The Brenton household appears in the Federal Census Population Schedules for the Village of Jamaica as early as 1850, and possibly they resided in the house on Herriman Avenue as early as 1850.

The Brenton residence is depicted on historic maps as the only structure on these two lots between 1868 and 1925. As indicated on the 1891 Sanborn atlas (Figure 20), as well as the 1901, 1907, 1910, and 1913 Hyde atlases (Figures 13, 14, 15, 16), the main house faced Herriman

Avenue and was a two-and-a-half story frame building with a porch on the southwest corner. A large two-story addition and smaller one-story addition were attached off the back of the main house. Although dimensions are not indicated on earlier maps, the basic size and configuration of the house do not appear to have been substantially modified since the first depiction of the house in 1868 (Conklin 1868).

In the 1850 Federal Census Population Schedules (Appendix A), James L. Brenton is listed as the head of household and his occupation is identified as a printer. His household included his wife, Elizabeth, their two sons Benjamin and James (ages 18 and 16, both identified as druggists), their daughter Sarah (age seven), and two apprentices (USBC 1850). In 1860 the composition of the household was minimally changed. James Brenton's apprentices no longer resided with the family, and the household had acquired a domestic servant named Mary Brewer (USBC 1860). In 1870 James L. Brenton, publisher, remained the head of household. His eldest son, Benjamin (now 40), was employed as a bookkeeper and lived at this address with his wife, Annetta, and two small children. James (age 27, an exchange broker) and Elizabeth (formerly Sarah E., a schoolteacher) also lived with their parents. Ann Connors, an Irish-born domestic servant, also resided with the family (USBC 1870).

In 1880 Benjamin J. Brenton, James and Elizabeth's oldest son, is listed as the head of household, and his occupation is identified as a bookkeeper. He lived with his wife and four children, as well as his widowed father, brother, and sister. H. Zimmanelli, a schoolteacher from Illinois, lived in the house as a boarder. The family employed two servants, Sarah Meagan and Ellen Nagel (USBC 1880).

The structure appears to have continued to serve as a domestic residence until at least 1925 (Figure 17). The two lots associated with the Brenton household were sold by "The Estate of Benjamin J. Brenton" to Leone and Adelia Granello in 1922 (Queens County n.d. Liber 2440: Page 49943). By 1941, the house had been demolished and its former location was part of a parking lot (Hyde 1931a [1941]; Figure 18).

### 5.2.2 THE STOOTHOFF HOUSEHOLDS

The Stoothoff family occupied the two houses immediately south of the Brenton residence on Herriman Avenue in the 1860s and 1870s. On the 1868 Conklin, 1873 Beers, and 1876 Dripps maps (Figures 7, 8, 9) these two structures are identified as the residences of the "Estate of J. C. Stoothoff" and of "Mrs. S. Stoothoff." These houses were located on a page break in the 1891 Wolverton atlas (Figure 10); however the structures are evidently identified as the residences of the "Hardenbrook" and "Waters" families.

The two houses appear to have had very similar layouts. Each consisted of a two-story main house with a front porch facing Herriman Avenue, with a small one-story addition off one of the back corners of the main house (Sanborn 1891; see Figure 20). Both houses are depicted on all historic maps through the 1925 Sanborn atlas (Figure 17) and were demolished by 1941 (Figure 18). Photographs of both of these houses were located in the Queens Borough Public Library Long Island Division, Historic Photograph Archives (Figure 21; QBPL n.d.). One of these photographs is dated January 1940, and both appear to have been taken at the same time. The houses were apparently demolished soon after.

Sarah Stoothoff and John C. Stoothoff appear in the 1860 Federal Census Population Schedules (USBC 1860; see Appendix A) for the Village of Jamaica as consecutive entries, indicating that both households were likely in residence at the two houses on Herriman Avenue by 1860. In

1860, Sarah Stoothoff, age 36 and with no occupation indicated, is listed as the head of household. She lived with her two daughters and one son. John C. Stoothoff, age 66, is listed as the head of the other household. He lived with his wife, Catherine, their three daughters, and an 11-year-old boy named Cornelius Eldert. John C. Stoothoff's household was also located in the 1850 Census for the Town of Jamaica (USBC 1850; see Appendix A), where John's occupation is listed as a farmer. It is unclear if John Stoothoff lived on Herriman Avenue in 1850; he may have relocated his household to the village upon retiring from farming, some time between 1850 and 1860.

Both Stoothoff households were also located in the 1870 Federal Census Population Schedules. Sarah Stoothoff's 21-year-old son, William is listed as the head of household and his occupation is identified as a clerk in a dry goods store. In 1870 Sarah Stoothoff also lived with her oldest daughter, Catherine, age 26 and with no occupation indicated. By 1870, John C. Stoothoff had died, leaving his wife, Catherine, age 77, as the head of household. She continued to live with her three daughters and the young man named Cornelius Eldert, a clerk in an insurance company (USBC 1870).

Sarah Stoothoff's household was also located in the 1880 Population Schedules. She is listed as living with only her 35-year-old daughter, Catherine. The heirs of John and Catherine Stoothoff were not located in the 1880 census, suggesting that they had moved by this time (USBC 1880).

### 5.2.3 THE RICHARD BRUSH HOUSEHOLD

On the 1868 Conklin survey (Figure 7) two structures are depicted on the eastern side (facing Union Avenue, now 162<sup>nd</sup> Street) of Site B. At least one of these structures is identified as the residence of "R. Brush" on the 1873 Beers (Figure 8) and 1876 Dripps (Figure 9) maps. In the 1891 Sanborn atlas (Figure 20) and later maps, three structures are clearly indicated within the Project Area on Union Avenue. The southernmost of these structures is identified as a fire hose house. North of the fire hose house is a small two-story frame dwelling with a 1-story rear addition. The northernmost structure is a relatively large two-and-a-half-story frame dwelling with a long front porch along the façade facing Union Avenue.

The Richard Brush household was identified in both the 1850 and 1870 Federal Census Population Schedules (see Appendix A; USBC 1850, 1870), although only the 1870 entry can be positively associated with the residence on Union Avenue. In 1870 Richard Brush, age 69, is identified as a hardware merchant. He lived with his wife, Ellen, daughter Mary (age 35), and son, John (age 32), whose occupation is identified as a hardware store clerk, likely employed in his father's store. The Brush household employed a domestic servant, Irish-born Maggie Madden (age 18). A 40-year-old woman named Susan Gaffwright also lived with the family. The family of Sarah Rapplea, including two young boys and one adult male, also lived either in the same house as the Brush family or on the premises. This likely indicates that the Brush residence was a two-family house or contained a rented apartment:

According to *A Descriptive Review of the Manufacturing and Mercantile Industries of the City of Brooklyn and the Towns of Long Island and Staten Island* (Edwards 1883), Richard Brush was a successful businessman and active as a leading citizen in the community. His hardware business and contributions to the community are described with high praise:

Richard Brush, Hardware, etc., Fulton and North Washington Streets. —This gentleman has been engaged in the business since 1825. His store contains an endless assortment of hardware of every description, crockery in all its branches,

and a large assortment of paints, oils, and glass, while within a commodious building situated on North Washington Street... Mr. Brush is the oldest merchant in the place, and came here from Huntington L. I., of which he is a native, being born in the year 1800. He has filled several prominent positions of trust and honor with credit to himself and satisfaction to his fellow citizens, by whom he is highly esteemed. In 1832 the Reformed Dutch Church owed in a great measure its existence to his liberality and judicious management, and in 1858, when destroyed by fire, the new church that arose owed the success of its erection to the same enterprise and benevolence. His well-directed efforts are duly appreciated, and have contributed to make his one of the foremost houses in its line in the place (Edwards 1883: 421).

Based on this description, Richard Brush was a long-term resident and important businessman in the community. Although the Brush residence is not identified in the 1891 Wolverton atlas (Figure 10), the store on Fulton and North Washington is clearly indicated, suggesting that the Brush household continued to reside in the village. In 1891 Richard Brush would have been 91 years old, indicating that by this time the management of his store likely passed to his son John (see Appendix A) or to other parties.

The two residential structures were demolished some time between 1925 (Sanborn 1925, Figure 17) and 1941 (Hyde 1931a [1941], Figure 18). A Fire Department facility was constructed immediately south of the Project Area on Union Avenue sometime between 1913 (Hyde 1913, Figure 15) and 1925 (Sanborn 1925, Figure 16). It is unclear if the two-story structure identified as a fire hose house in the 1891 Sanborn atlas (Figure 20) continued to be used for that purpose after the Fire Department facility was constructed.

### 5.3 SITE C (BLOCK 9761, LOTS 18, 26, 66, 67, 68, 69, AND 70)

In the late nineteenth-century, the western side (i.e., along Union Avenue, now 162<sup>nd</sup> Street) of Site C was divided into four lots, one occupied by a Sunday school and lecture hall, the other three by domestic residences. The eastern side of the lot (i.e., along Johnson Avenue, now 163<sup>rd</sup> Street) was part of a larger unoccupied lot in the late nineteenth-century and was undeveloped until the early twentieth-century. Each occupied lot, including information concerning the structures and residents, will be discussed separately below.

#### 5.3.1 THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL AND FREE MASONS LODGE

The First Dutch Reformed Church Lecture Hall is first depicted on the 1868 Conklin (Figure 7) and 1873 Beers (Figure 8) maps. After the congregation's second church burned to the ground in 1857 (the same year it was completed), the church built a "Lecture Room" on Union Avenue (Noonan 1959). Services were held in this building until a new church was completed in 1859 (Munsell 1882; Noonan 1959).

The 1891 Wolverton map and 1901, 1907, and 1910 Hyde atlases (Figures 10, 13, 14, 15) identify the structure as a Sunday School. Henry Onderdonk, Jr. (1884) refers to the building as the "Consistory Room" on Union Avenue and notes that Sunday School was taught on the premises. According to Noonan's (1959) *The Story of the First Reformed Church of Jamaica, New York*, the "chapel" continued to be used by the Reformed Church for various activities until 1900, when the property was sold to the "Masonic Temple." It is unclear from these sources when, between 1900 and 1913, the change in ownership and function of the structure occurred.

The Jamaica Lodge of the Society of Free Masons was incorporated by charter in 1864 (Munsell 1882) and moved to the Union Hall Location in the early twentieth-century. Historic maps beginning with the 1913 Hyde atlas identify the structure as the Masonic Temple (Hyde 1913, 1931a [1941], 1931b [1990]; Sanborn 1925; Figures 16, 17, 18, 19). The Masonic Temple is no longer standing in the Project Area; however the 1931 Hyde atlas that is corrected through 1990 (Hyde 1931b; Figure 19) depicts the structure as still standing. It is unclear when the structure was demolished.

### 5.3.2 THE RICHARD RHODES HOUSEHOLD

The structure on the lot immediately south of the Reformed Church Lecture Hall is identified as the residence of "R. Rhodes" on the 1868 Conklin, 1873 Beers, and 1876 Dripps maps (Figures 7, 8, 9). The 1901, 1907, 1910, and 1913 Hyde atlases (Figures 13, 14, 15, 16) indicate that the main house was a two-and-a-half story frame structure, with a large two-story wing on the south side, and a small one-story addition off the rear of the house. A small porch is depicted facing Union Avenue off the main house (Sanborn 1897).

The Federal Census Population Schedules (see Appendix A) indicate that Richard Rhodes, age 62 in 1870, was a relatively wealthy, retired shoe and boot dealer. In 1870, Richard lived with his wife, Mary, 13-year-old son, Richard, and an 87-year-old woman also named Mary Rhodes, likely the elder Richard's mother. Stephon Shannon, a 21-year old insurance clerk, also lived with the family and was likely a boarder or relative (USBC 1870). In 1880, Richard and Mary still lived in the house with their son, Richard, now listed as age 21 and a clerk in a store. The older woman (Mary Rhodes) and boarder (Stephon Shannon) no longer resided in the household, but the Rhodes family had employed a live-in domestic servant named Bella Dunnell (USBC 1880).

No other structures are depicted on this lot on any of the historic maps. The house appears in the 1925 Sanborn atlas (Figure 17), but appears to have been demolished by 1941 (Hyde 1931a [1941]; Figure 18). The lot is depicted as a parking lot in Figure 19 (Hyde 1931b [1990]).

### 5.3.3 THE AMBERMAN HOUSEHOLD

On the lot immediately south of the Rhodes household, a structure identified as the "I. Amberman" residence is depicted on the 1868 Conklin, 1873 Beers, and 1876 Dripps maps (Figures 7, 8, 9). The Amberman residence was a relatively large house, consisting of a two-and-a-half story main house facing Union Avenue (now 162<sup>nd</sup> Street) with consecutive two-story and two-and-a-half story additions off the back of the main house (Hyde 1901, 1907, 1910, and 1913; Figures 13, 14, 15, 16). The 1891 Wolverton atlas (Figure 10) depicts a small outbuilding at the extreme rear of the household's lot in the southeast corner, although this outbuilding is not depicted on any of the other historic maps.

Isaac Amberman's household was located in the 1850 Federal Census Population Schedules for the Town of Jamaica (USBC 1850; see Appendix A), although it is unclear whether he resided in the village on Union Avenue at that time. In 1850 Isaac Amberman, age 28, is identified as a farmer, living with his wife, Phebe (age 28), and newborn daughter May. Their household also included a hired laborer, Irish-born John Mooney, age 40.

Although the Amberman residence is not depicted on a historic map until 1868, census records indicate that the Amberman household resided in the Project Area before 1860. The households of Isaac Amberman and John Carpenter, Amberman's neighbor to the immediate south (see

below), are listed consecutively in the 1860 Population Schedules (USBC 1860; see Appendix A). This reflects the practice of nineteenth-century census takers going "door-to-door" when conducting their surveys and indicates that the two families were neighbors by 1860.

In 1860 Isaac Amberman possessed a modest estate and lived with his wife, Phebe, and young son, Theodore (USBC 1860); May's absence from the census likely indicates that she died early in childhood. Amberman's profession is not listed, although the 1870 census identifies him as a retired merchant at the age of 47. In 1870, an 80-year-old man named Samuel Higbi also resided with the Amberman family (USBC 1870).

In both the 1860 and 1870 Federal Census Population Schedules, a second family is indicated as sharing the same dwelling with the Amberman household (USBC 1860, 1870). Given the large size and layout of the house as indicated in the insurance atlases, the large rear addition was likely occupied by renters, while the Ambersmans would have resided in the front section of the house. In 1860 the Amberman's tenants were apparently relatives. The second family included Lewis Wood, a 24-year-old printer, his wife, Lavina, their newborn son, Franklin, and a 60-year-old man named Cornelius Amberman. In 1870, the Amberman's tenants were 82-year-old Mary Stouttenberg, 50-year-old Jane Champlain, and Jane's two daughters, Dorcas (age 25) and Alice (age 17), both identified as dressmakers.

The Amberman household was not identified in the 1880 Population Schedules (USBC 1880). The house on this lot was extant in 1925 (Sanborn 1925; Figure 17) but was demolished by 1941 (Hyde 1931a [1941]; Figure 18).

#### 5.3.4 THE CARPENTER HOUSEHOLD

The "J. Carpenter" residence is first indicated on the 1868 Conklin survey (Figure 7), located immediately south of the Amberman residence. J. Carpenter is also indicated as living at this location on the 1873 Beers (Figure 8) and 1876 Dripps (Figure 9) maps. As depicted on the 1901, 1907, 1910, and 1913 Hyde atlases (Figures 13, 14, 15, 16) the house was a rather large affair, and appears to have been characterized by rounded porches or bay windows typical of late nineteenth-century Victorian architecture. The dwelling consisted of a large two-and-a-half story main house facing Union Avenue with a two-story addition off the rear. The 1907, 1910, and 1913 Hyde and 1925 Sanborn atlases indicate a small one-story outbuilding or shed behind the house in the southeast corner of the lot. Both structures were demolished by 1941 (Hyde 1931a [1941]; Figure 18).

The John Carpenter household was identified in the 1860 Population Schedules (USBC 1860; see Appendix A) immediately following Isaac Amberman's household, indicating that they were neighbors by this time (see above). In 1860 John Carpenter (age 74) was the head of a household that included his wife, Alberta, a 36-year-old woman named Catharine Carman, and her two young daughters, Jane and Mary. John Carpenter's profession (or former profession) is not listed, but he possessed a considerable estate. The household of a James B. Carpenter, a 24-year-old merchant and his family, was identified in the 1870 Population Schedules (USBC 1870; see Appendix A) for the Village of Jamaica. It is unclear if John and James B. Carpenter were relatives, or if the James B. Carpenter household represents later occupants of the same structure. A household for J. Carpenter was not located in either the 1850 or 1880 Population Schedules (USBC 1850, 1880).

### 5.3.5 THE HARDENBROOK LOTS

The eastern portion of Site C (i.e., along Johnson Avenue, now 163<sup>rd</sup> Street) did not contain any depicted structures on the 1868 Conklin, 1873 Beers, 1876 Dripps, and 1891 Wolverton maps (Figures 7, 8, 9, 10). The Beers 1873 and Dripps 1876 maps indicate that this parcel was part of the back lot of the "Hardenbrook and Bro." business that faced Fulton Street (now Jamaica Avenue). The larger vacant lot is identified as the property of "W. Hardenbrook" in the 1891 Wolverton atlas (Figure 10).

The earliest recorded structures on this lot are two dwellings that appear in the southeast corner of the Project Area in the 1897 Sanborn atlas. These dwellings are depicted in the 1901 Hyde atlas (Figure 13) as relatively large houses; the occupants of these dwellings are not indicated on any of the historic maps. Between 1910 and 1913 (Figures 15, 16) three additional structures were built in the northern section of the lot facing Hardenbrook Avenue (now 163<sup>rd</sup> Street). These structures are depicted as two-story brick buildings and were likely storefronts or commercial properties. All five of these structures appear on the 1925 Sanborn atlas (Figure 17). The southernmost dwelling was demolished by 1941 (Hyde 1931a [1941]; Figure 18), but the other four buildings remained standing. The two northernmost structures also appear on the 1931 Hyde atlas that is corrected through 1990 (Hyde 1931b; Figure 19).

## 6.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

### 6.1 PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

The Project Area is located in an area that would have been attractive for Native American occupation. The Project Area is situated on level ground (BEA 1910), near a large body of water (the Beaver Pond, drained in 1835), and in a rich lacustrine and forested environment. At least four previously recorded archeological sites are located within a half-mile of the Project Area (Section 4.1). However, prehistoric archeological deposits typically occur within three or four feet of the original ground surface. This makes prehistoric sites in urban environments highly susceptible to disturbance and destruction from recent and modern construction and development activities (HPI 1998). Additional archeological work conducted for the Project should account for the possibility (however unlikely) that prehistoric resources could be located within the Project Area.

### 6.2 HISTORICAL ARCHEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY

In the middle to late nineteenth-century, domestic residences were located on Sites A, B, and C. Archeological deposits containing household debris associated with these residences have the potential to provide information concerning domestic life in nineteenth-century Jamaica, as well as address research questions concerning the occupants' lifestyles, social class, and consumer habits. In the nineteenth-century, domestic refuse was commonly deposited in shaft features such as wells, cisterns, privies, and garbage pits, typically located in the backyards of urban residences. Household disposal practices changed after the introduction of modern water utilities, indoor plumbing, municipal sewer systems, and garbage-collection services in the very late nineteenth- and early twentieth-centuries. As a result, significant archeological deposits associated with these residences dating to after ca. 1900 are not anticipated to be present in the Project Area.

A summary of the archeological potential for each of the lots within the Project Area is included below. Any archeological fieldwork conducted for the Project should emphasize the identification of shaft features and other sealed deposits, likely located in the rear yard areas behind the former locations of the dwellings on the lots.

### 6.3 CONCLUSIONS

**Site D** is currently occupied by a four-story parking garage. Project plans do not currently include demolition or other disturbances to this lot. Unless Project plans are revised to include potential disturbances to this lot, potential archeological deposits located on Block 9757, Lot 18, are unlikely to be impacted by Project development activities.

9756

**Site A** (Block 9757, Lots 20, 22, and 29) is currently occupied by a parking lot. In the nineteenth-century (from at least 1842 to the 1890s) the household of James Lodge, an English-born blacksmith, occupied the lot. By 1897 the structure was transferred to the Chub Club, a social club, which used the building as a clubhouse. Potentially significant archeological deposits associated with the James Lodge household may be located on Block 9757, Lot 4.

**Site B** (Block 9760, Lots 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 120) is currently occupied by a parking lot. The northernmost dwelling formerly located on this parcel was the household of

James (and later Benjamin) Brenton from perhaps 1850 (or earlier) through ca. 1900. According to Federal Census data, the Brenton family appears to have been an upper middle-class household. Residents of the household were employed primarily as professionals, and the family retained live-in domestic servants. Potentially significant archeological deposits associated with the Brenton household may be located on Block 9760.

The lots south of the Brenton household on Site B were occupied by two households composed of members of the Stoothoff family from at least 1860 to at least 1880. Both households were composed of relatively small families, apparently well off, with men employed in professional occupations. Potentially significant archeological deposits associated with the Stoothoff households may be located on Block 9760.

A lot on the east side of Site B was the residence of the Richard Brush household in the middle to late nineteenth-century. Richard Brush was a noted businessman (hardware retailer) and active in the community. The Brush household represents a late nineteenth-century upper middle-class household. Potentially significant archeological deposits associated with the Richard Brush household may be located on Block 9760.

Site C (Block 9761, Lots 18, 26, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70) is currently occupied by a parking lot. The northwest corner of this parcel was occupied by the Dutch Reformed Church Lecture Hall/Sunday School from 1857 until around 1900, after which time the building served as a Temple for the Society of Free Masons in Jamaica. Archeological remains of these institutions are likely limited to foundation remains of the structure. In the opinion of JMA, archeological remains of the Sunday School/Masonic Temple are unlikely to provide information concerning these institutions that is not available from historical records.

The lot south of the Sunday School/Masonic Temple was occupied by the Richard Rhodes household in the 1860s, 1870s, and 1880s. Richard Rhodes was a relatively well-off shoe and boot merchant, and the family retained a live-in domestic servant as of 1880. Potentially significant archeological deposits associated with the Richard Rhodes household may be located on Block 9761.

The lot immediately south of the Richard Rhodes household on Site C was occupied by the family of Isaac Amberman in the middle to late nineteenth-century. Isaac Amberman was a farmer turned merchant with a small family. In 1860 and 1870 an additional family, likely tenants, is indicated as living with the Amberman family at this location. Potentially significant archeological deposits associated with the Amberman household may be located on Block 9761.

The lot immediately south of the Amberman household on Site C was occupied by the J. Carpenter household in the 1860s and 1870s. The John Carpenter household appears to have been relatively well off. Potentially significant archeological deposits associated with the Carpenter household may be located on Block 9761.

The lots located on the east side of Site C did not contain any structures prior to the middle to late 1890s. Two houses are depicted in the southeast corner of this lot in 1897. Three additional brick buildings are depicted along 163<sup>rd</sup> Street north of the two houses in 1913. Potentially significant late nineteenth-century archeological deposits associated with the two southernmost dwellings may be located on Site C. In the opinion of JMA, while historical archeological deposits associated with the three northern buildings are may be present within the Project Area, such deposits are unlikely to be of potential significance because of the relatively late date of building construction.

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## FIGURES

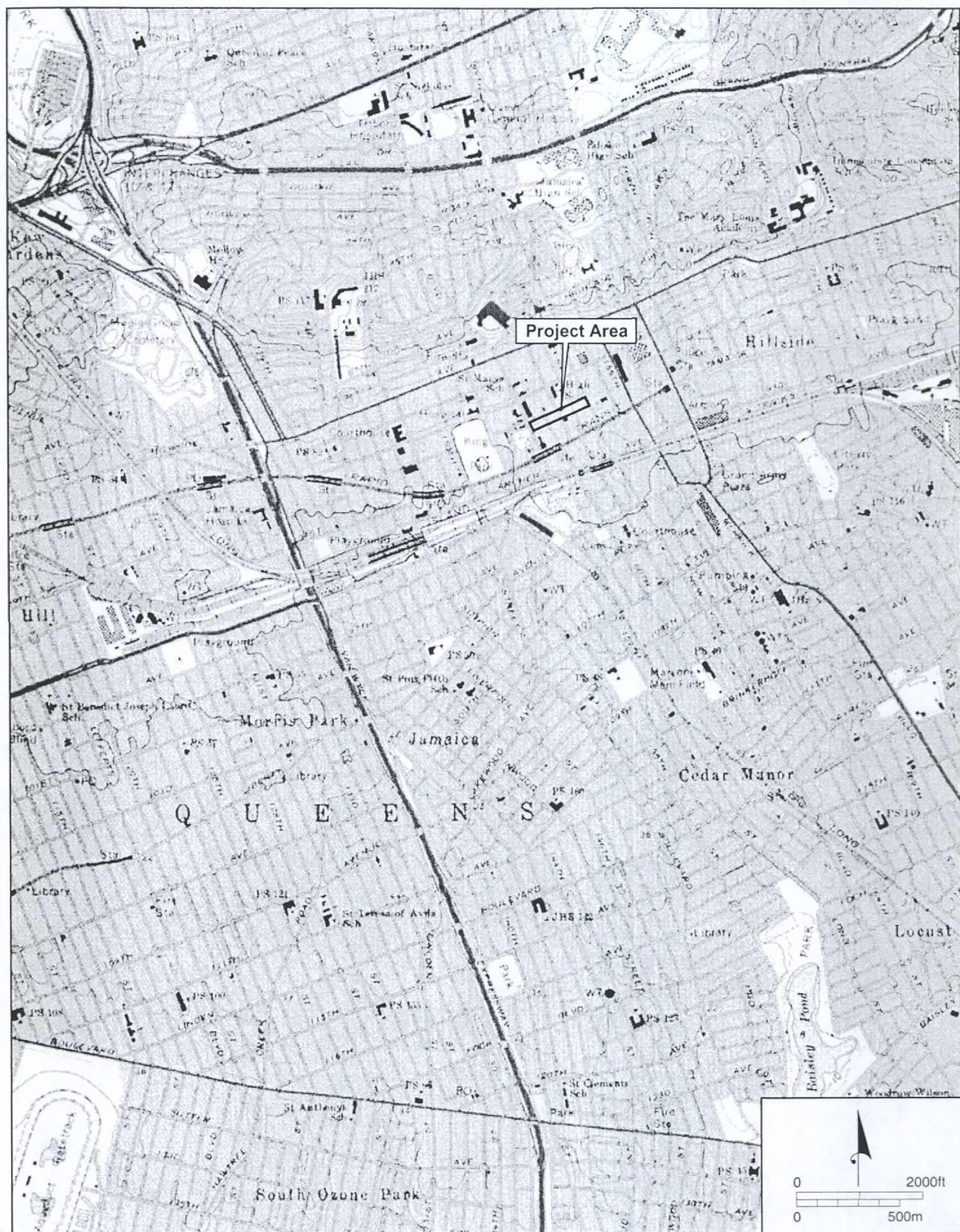


Figure 1. Detail of Jamaica, NY 7.5 minute series USGS (1966) quadrangle showing the location of the Jamaica Mid-Block Development Project Area.

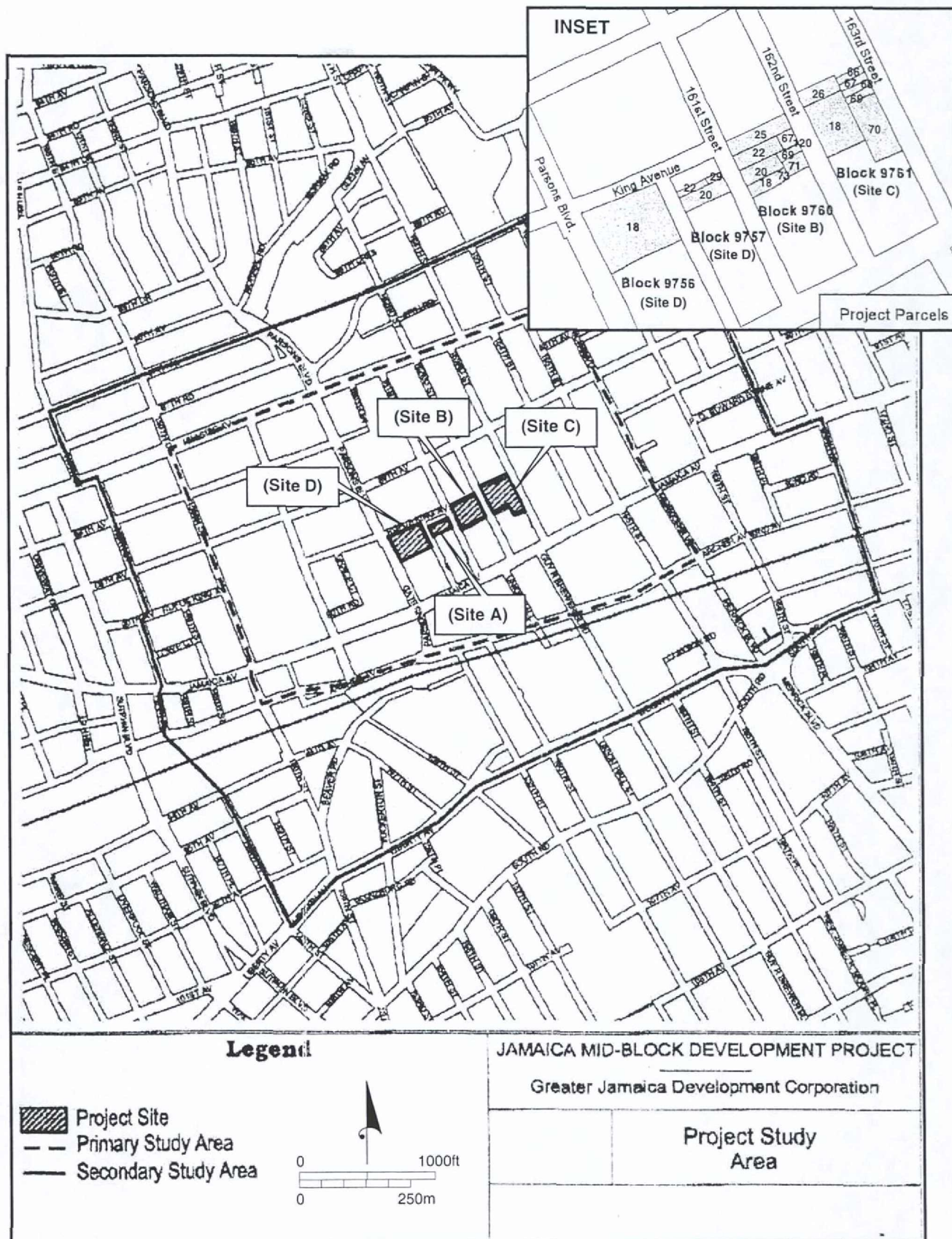


Figure 2. Locations of proposed development and construction activities.

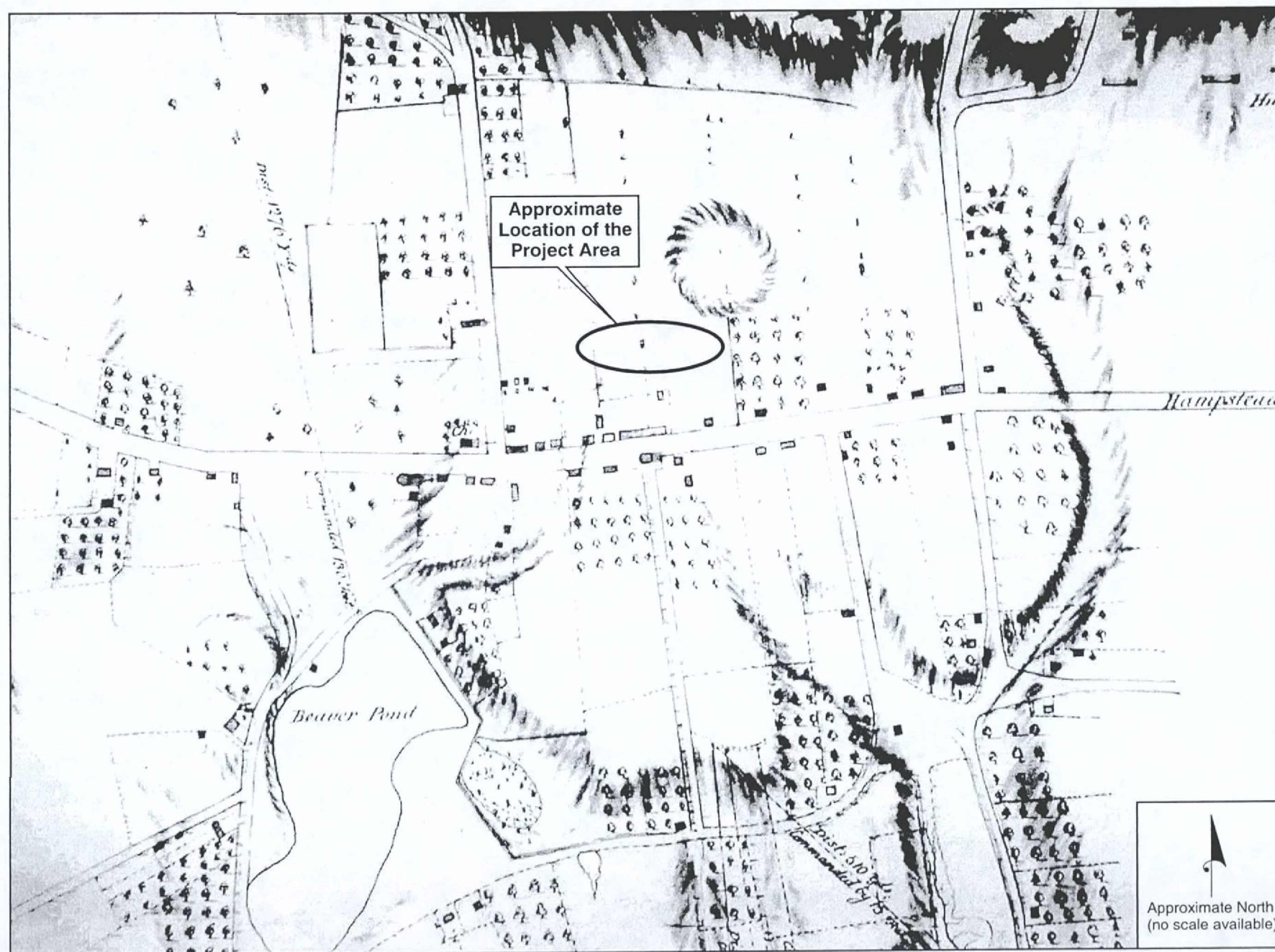


Figure 3. The Village of Jamaica as shown on the 1782 Taylor survey.

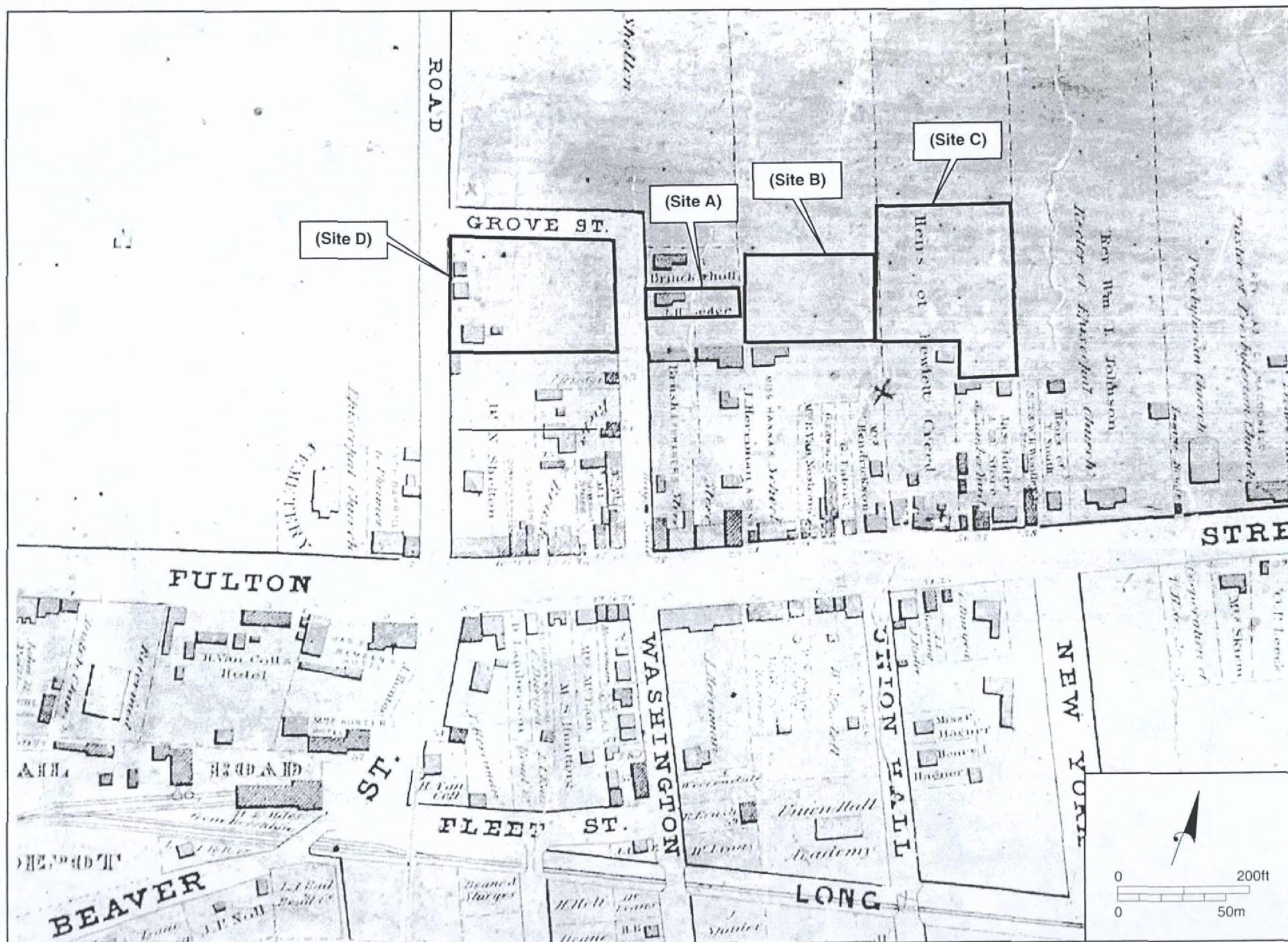


Figure 4. The Project Area as shown on the 1842 Johnson survey.

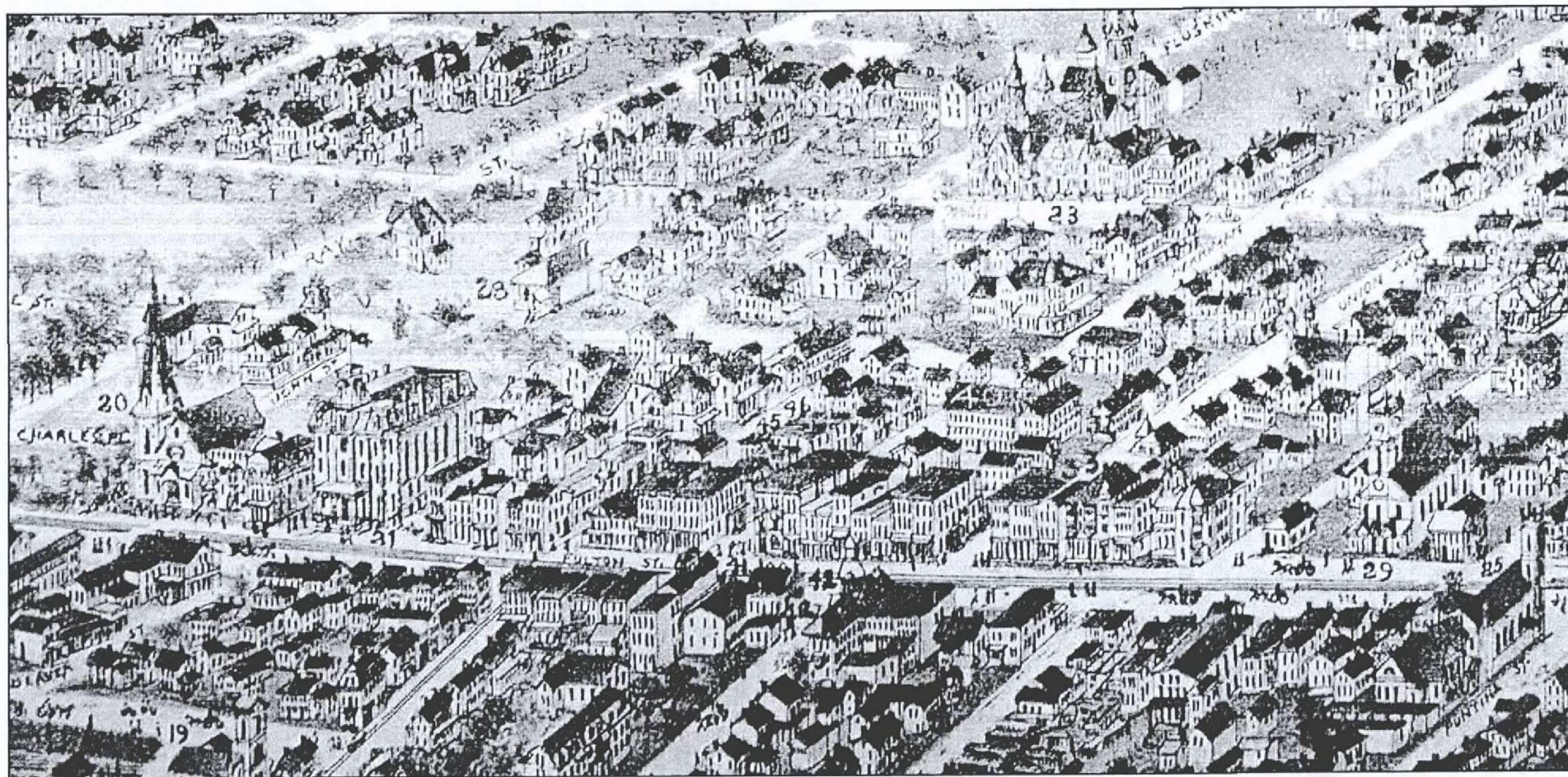


Figure 5. Central Jamaica in the late nineteenth-century, including the Project Area, as rendered by David L. Hardenbrook (1895).

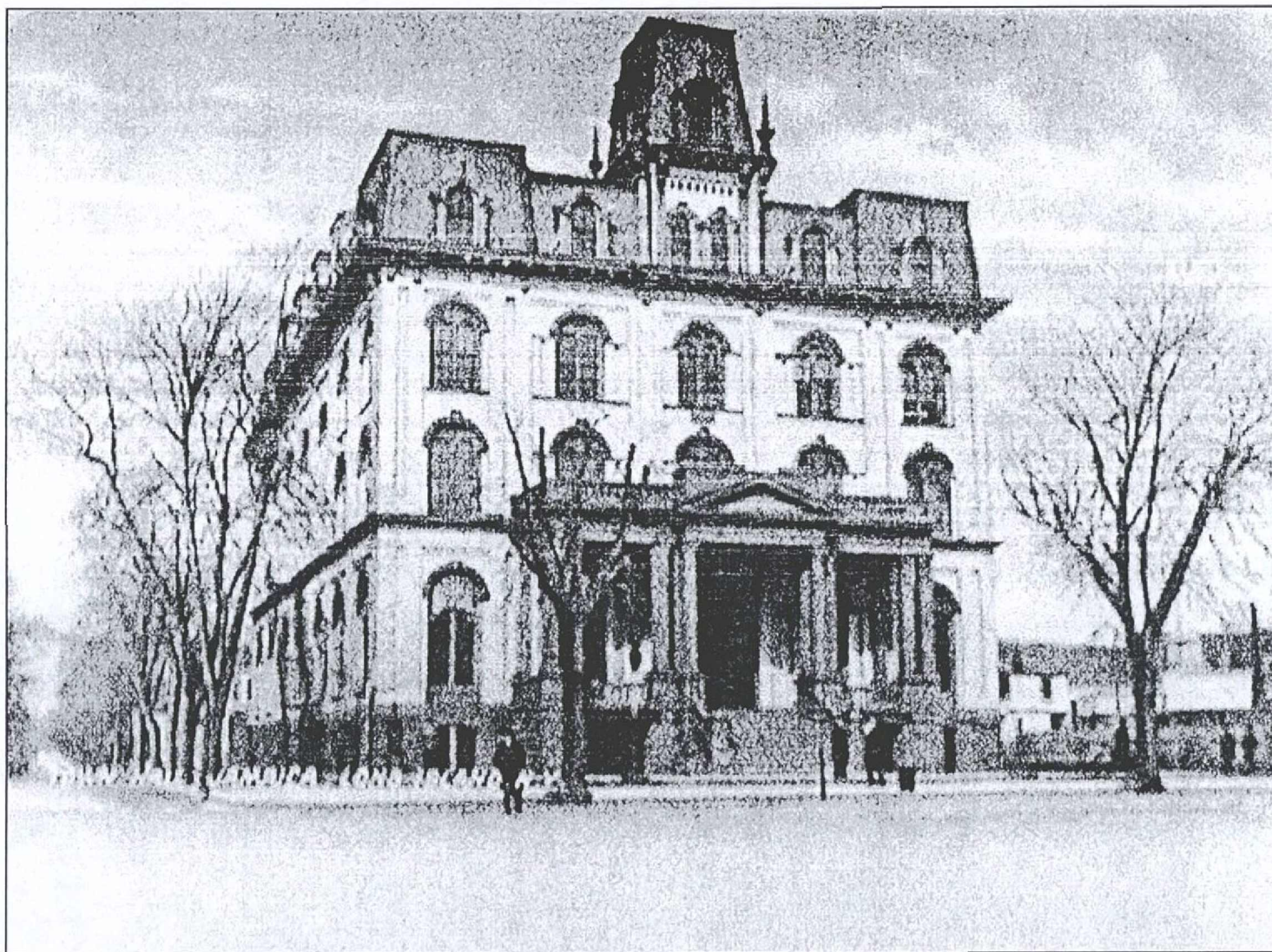


Figure 6. The Jamaica Town Hall, formerly located on the corner of Parsons Boulevard and Jamaica Avenue, was constructed in 1883 and demolished in 1952 (photograph from the Queens Borough Public Library Long Island Division, Historic Photograph Archives Record No. 22465).

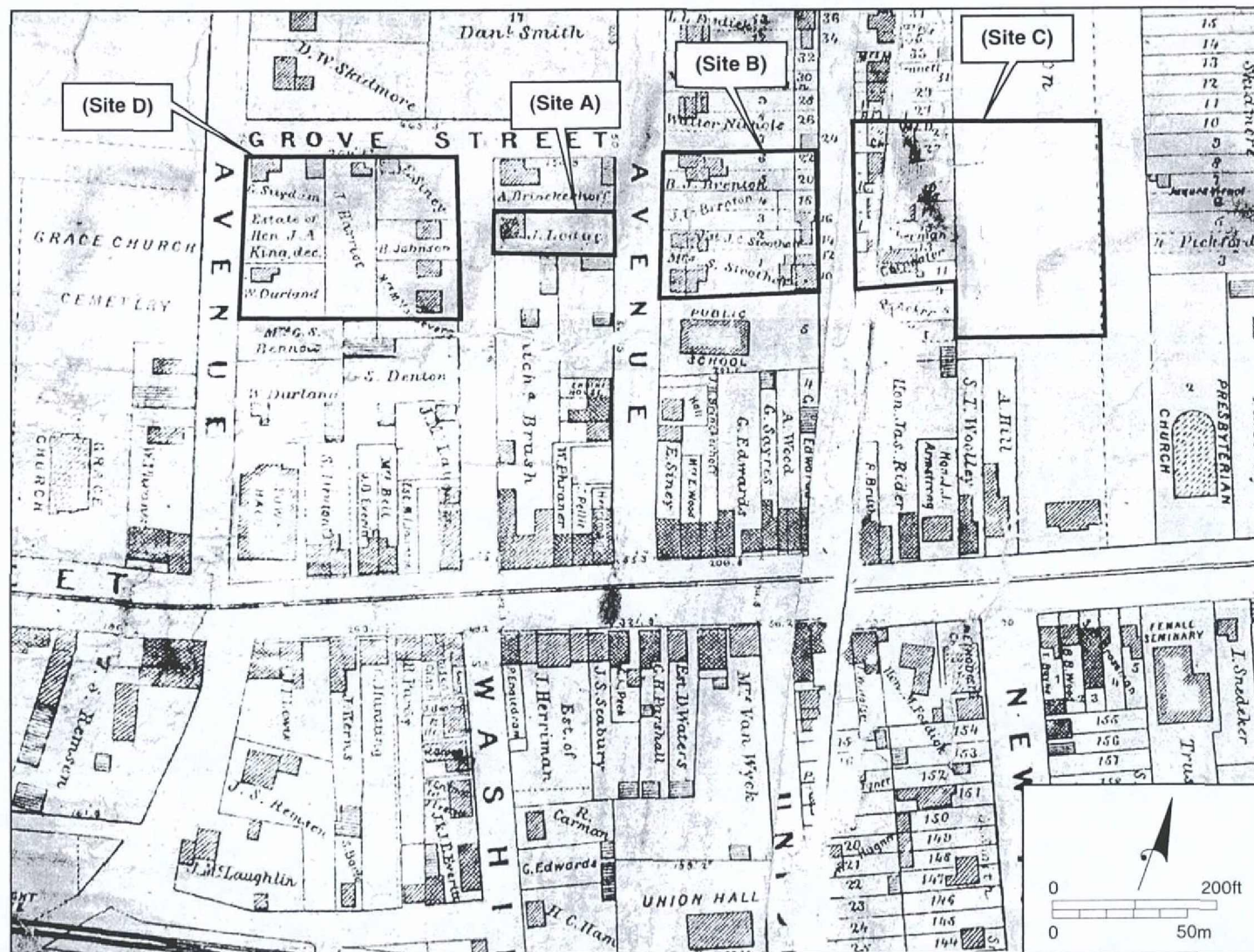


Figure 7. The Project Area as shown on the 1868 Conklin survey.

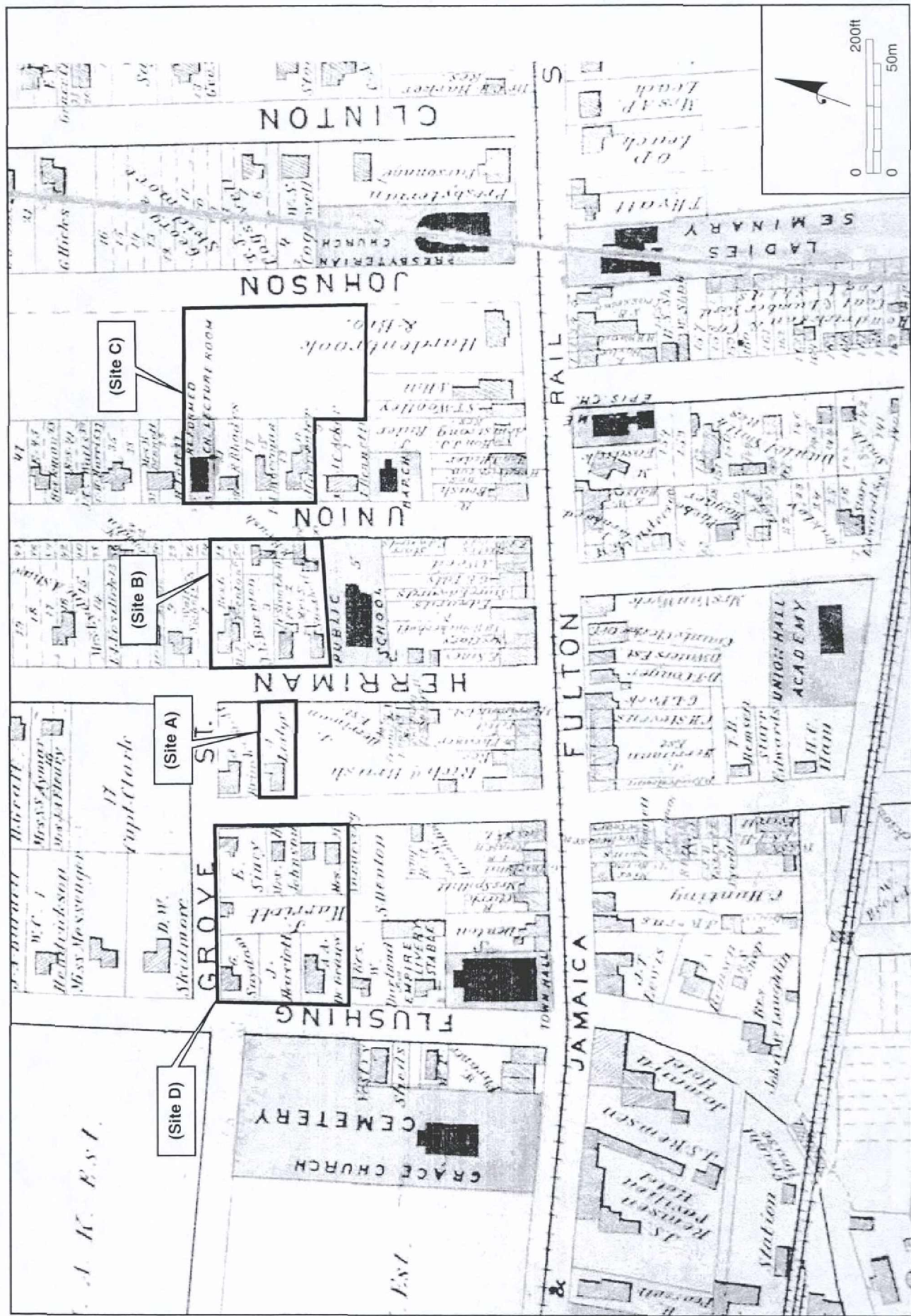


Figure 8. The Project Area as shown on the 1873 Beers atlas.

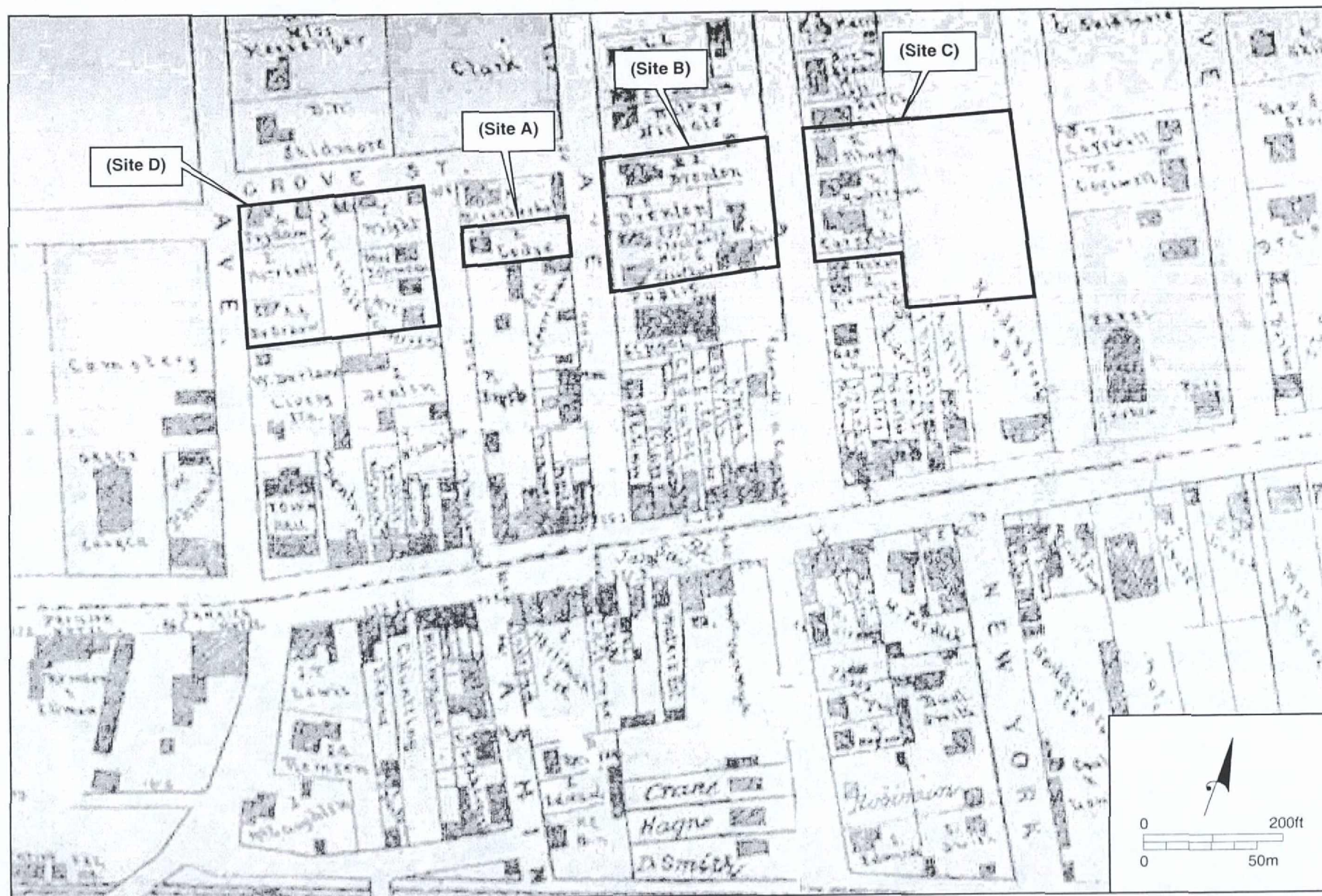


Figure 9. The Project Area as shown on the 1876 Dripps survey.

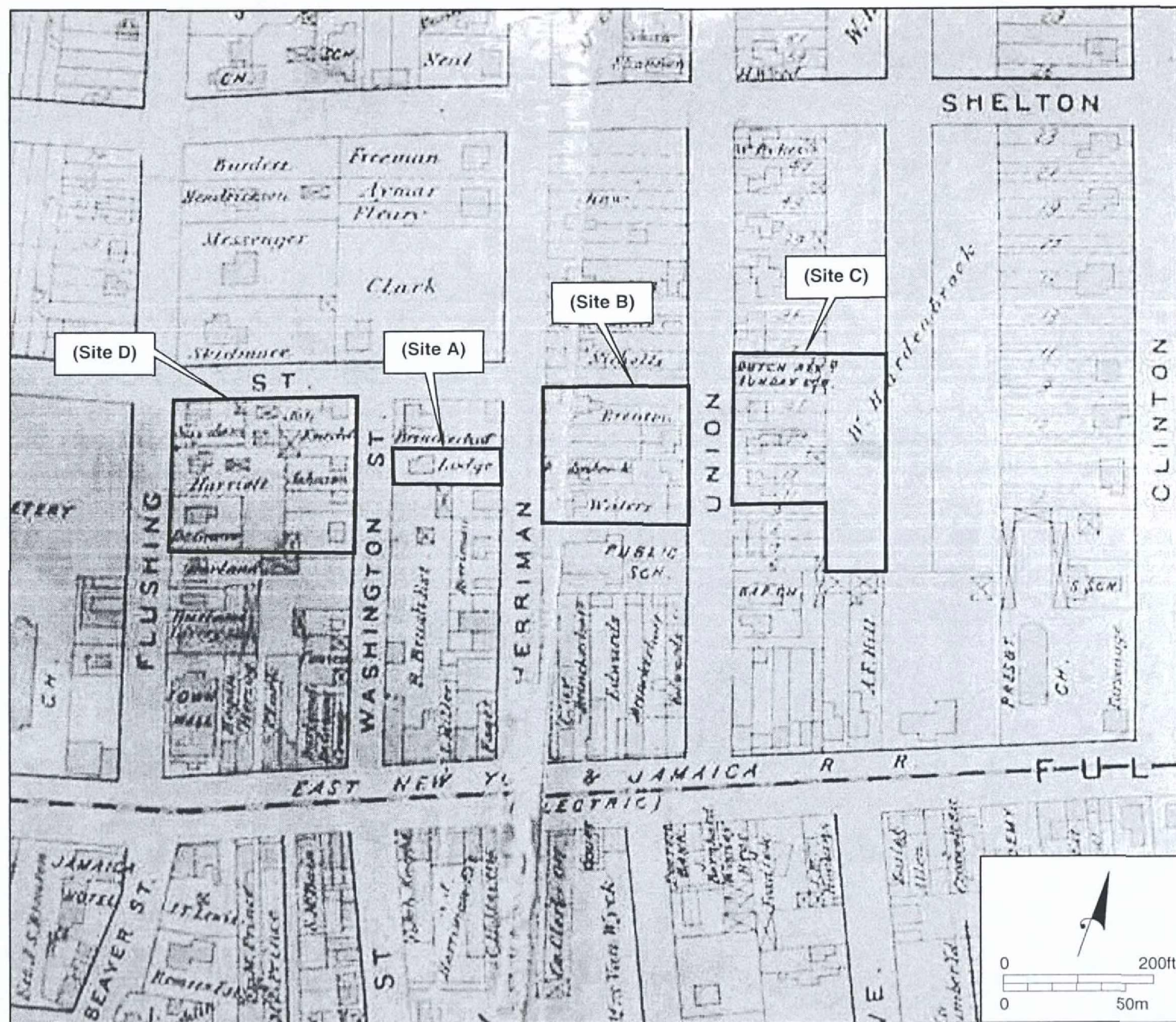


Figure 10. The Project Area as shown on the 1891 Wolverton atlas.

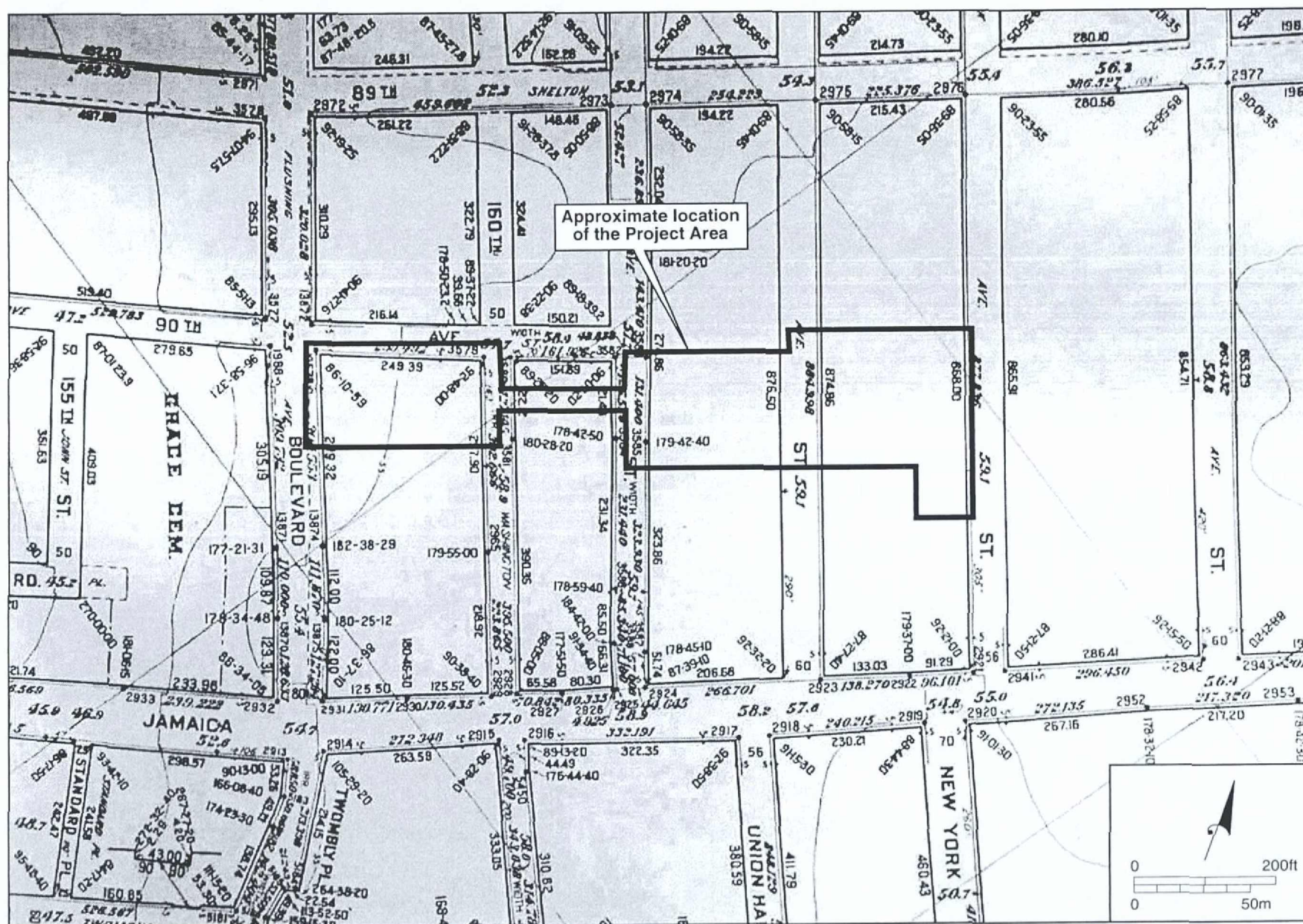


Figure 11. Early twentieth-century topography of the Project Area (BEA 1910).

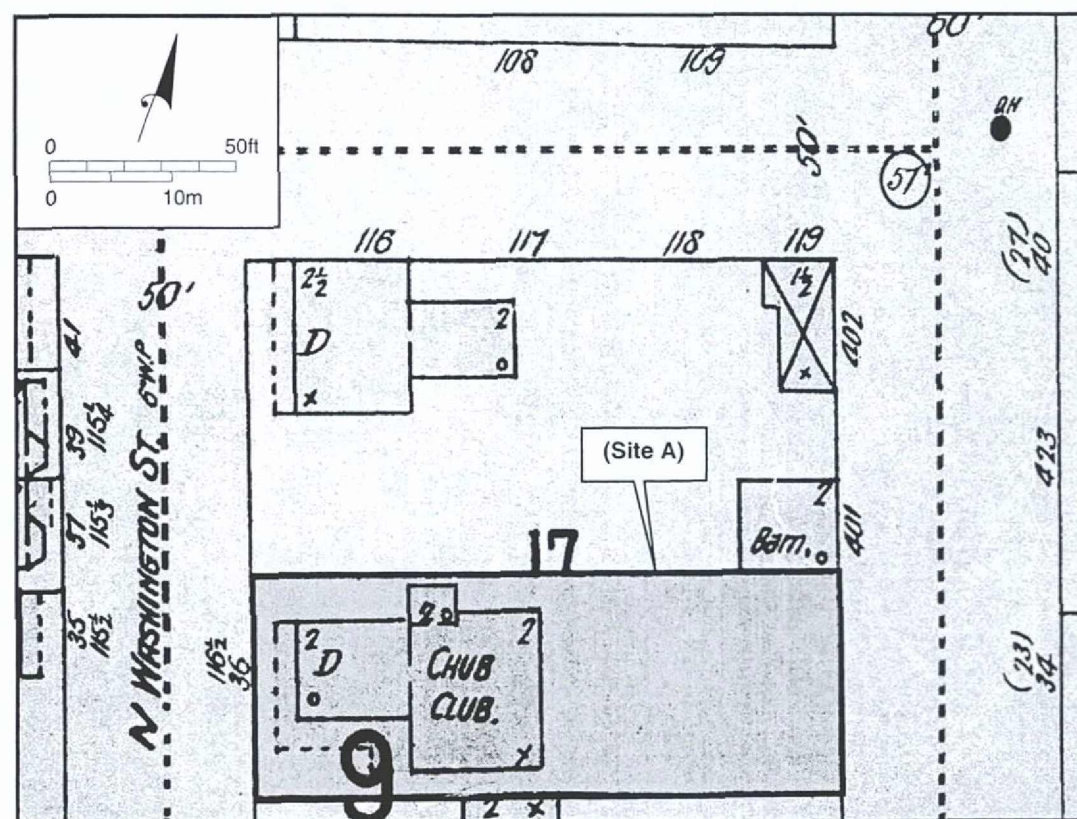
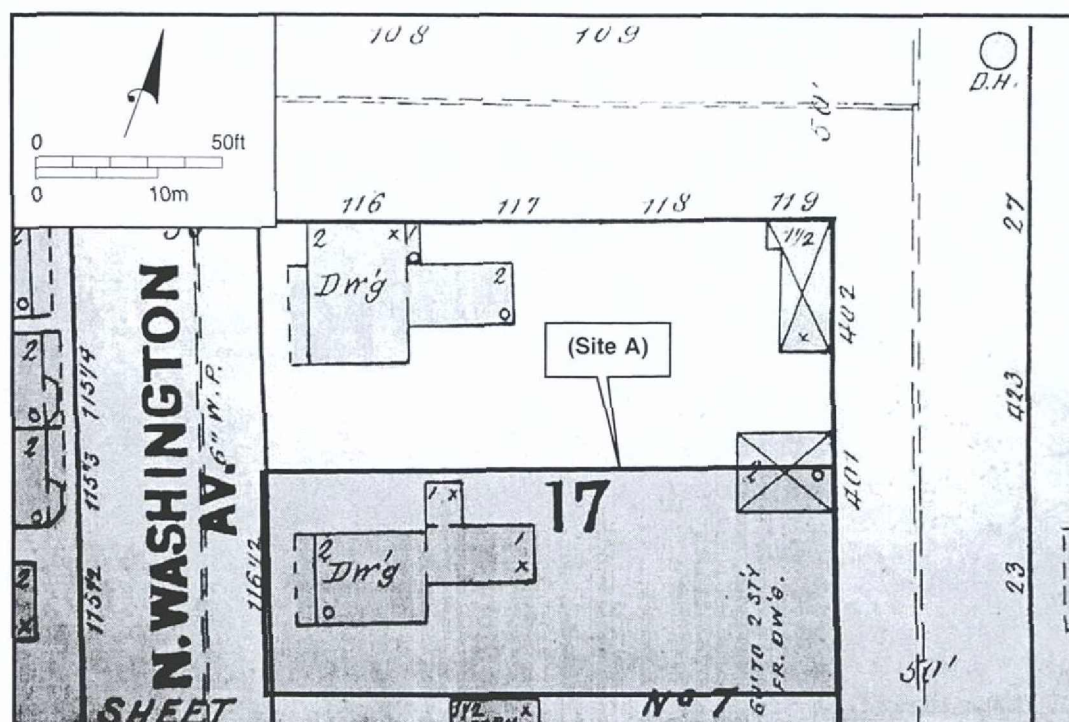


Figure 12. Site A as depicted on the 1891 Sanborn (above) and 1897 Sanborn (below) atlases.

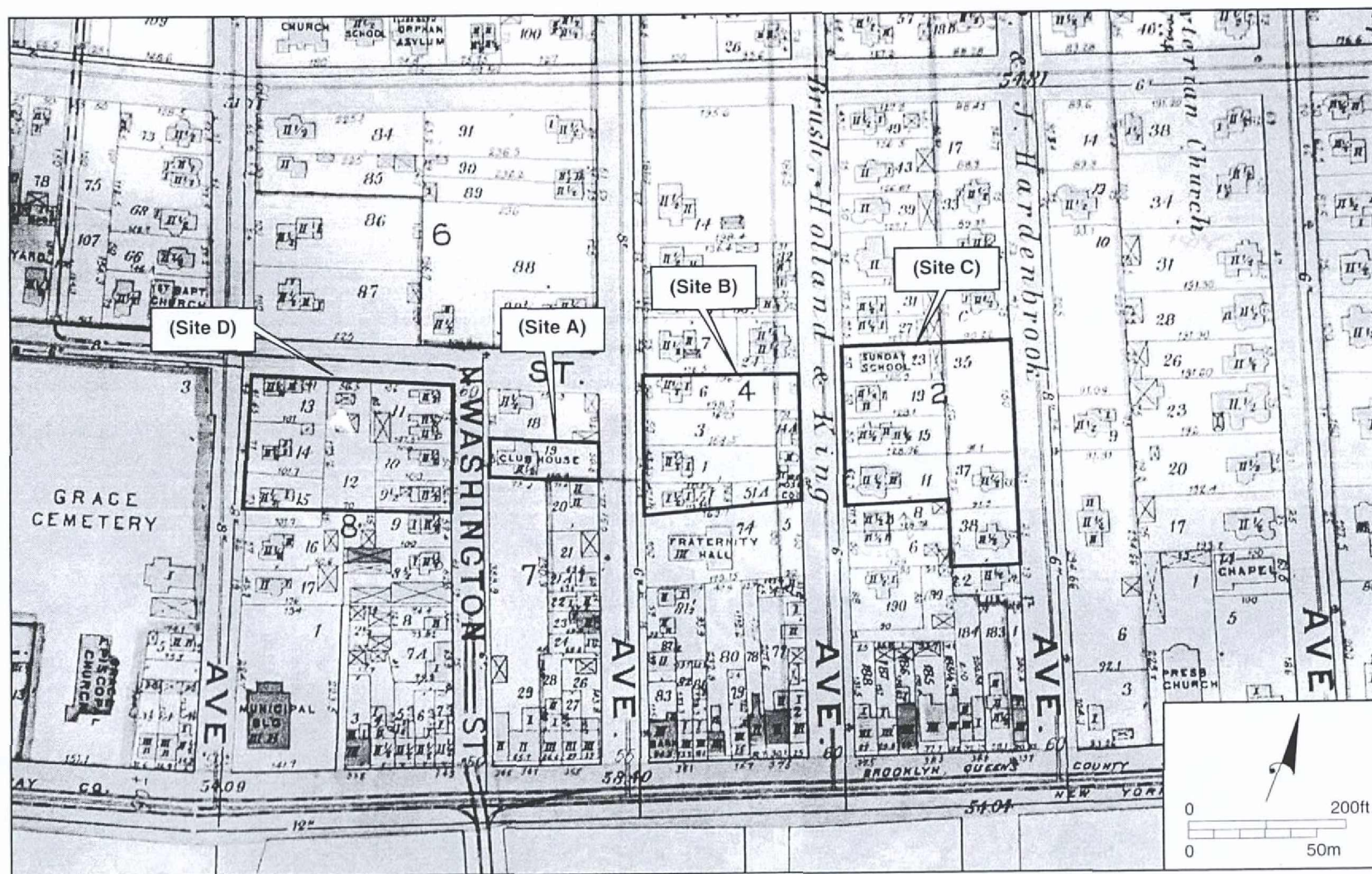


Figure 13. The Project Area as shown on the 1901 Hyde atlas.



Figure 14. The Project Area as shown on the 1907 Hyde atlas.

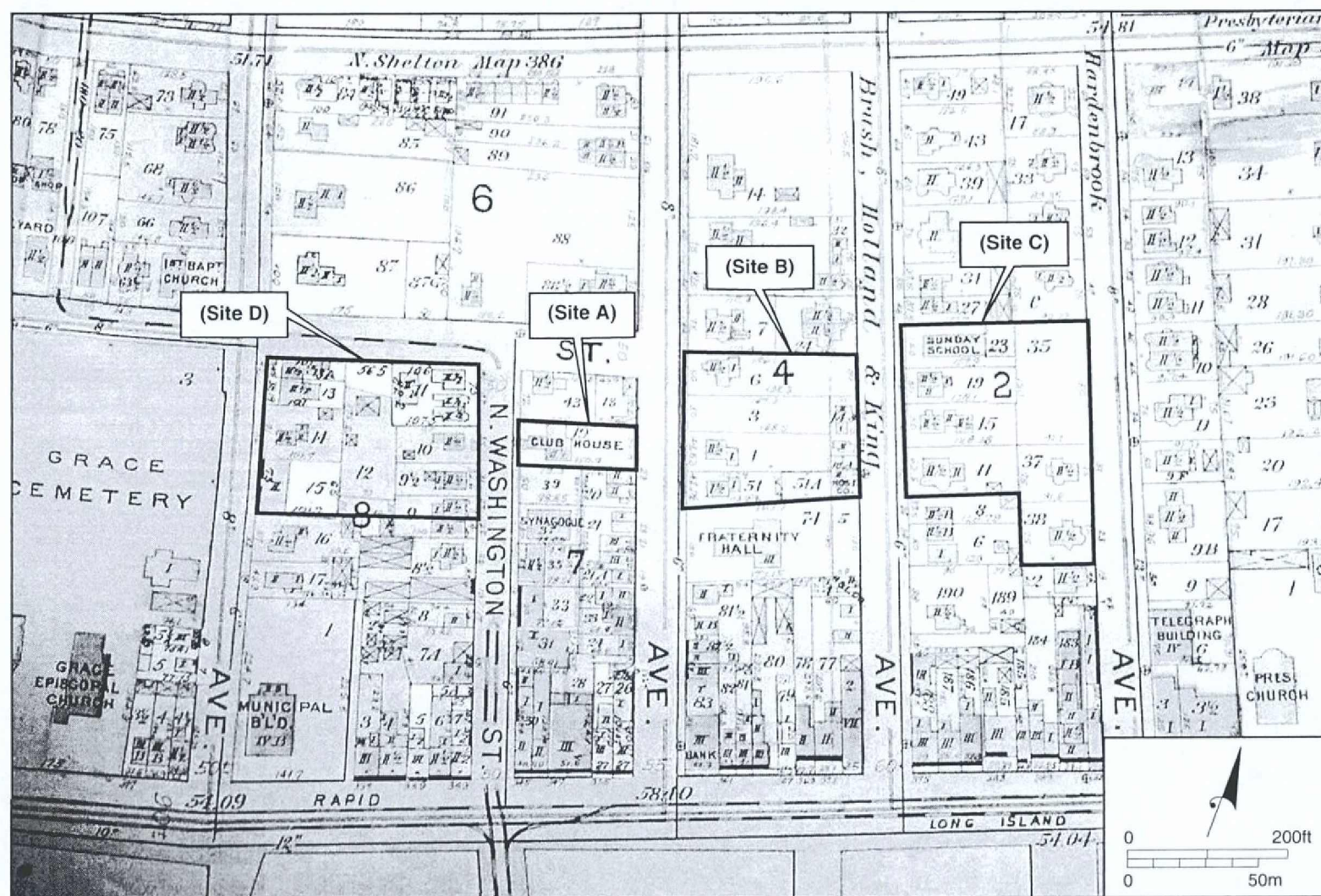


Figure 15. The Project Area as shown on the 1910 Hyde atlas.

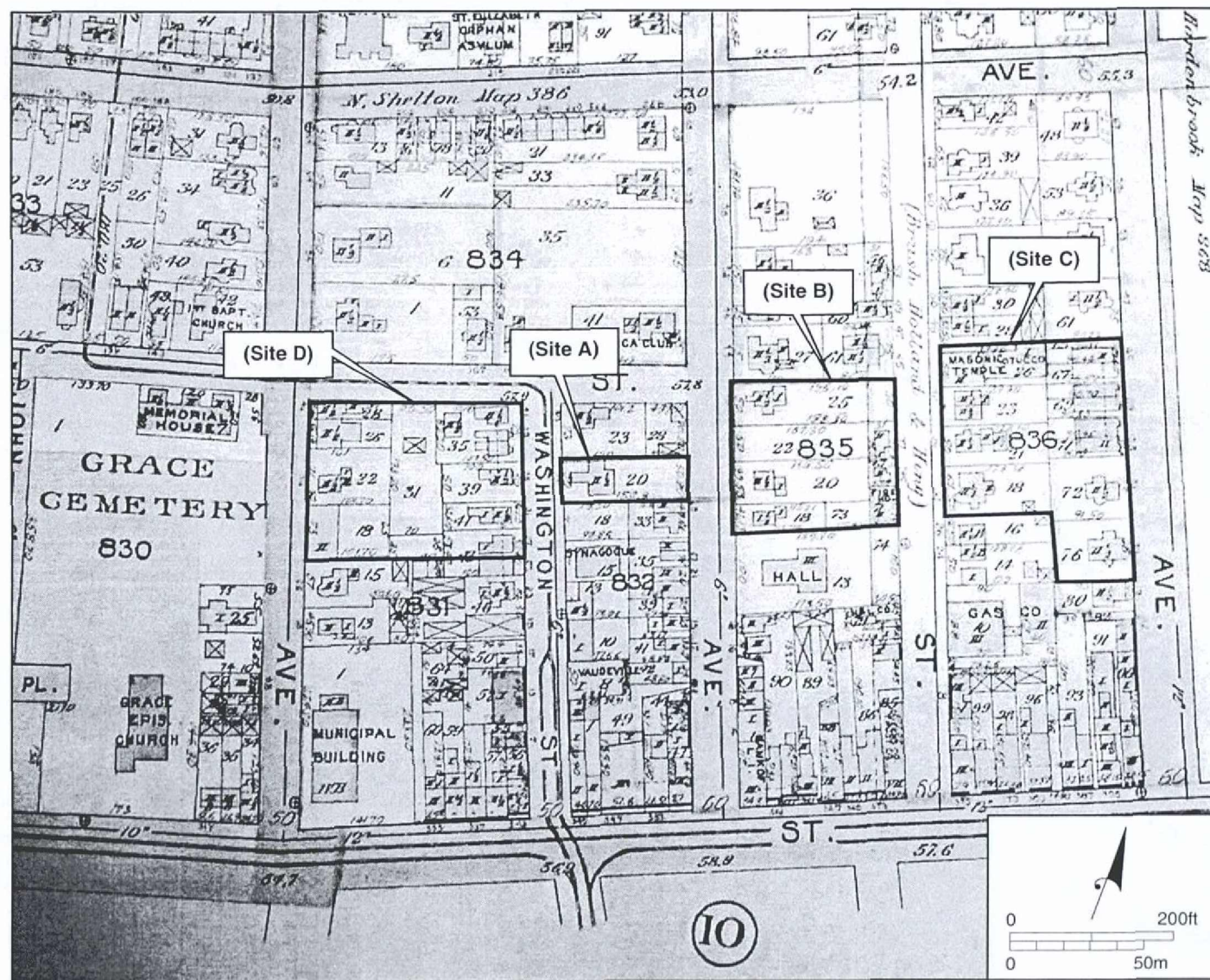


Figure 16. The Project Area as shown on the 1913 Hyde atlas.

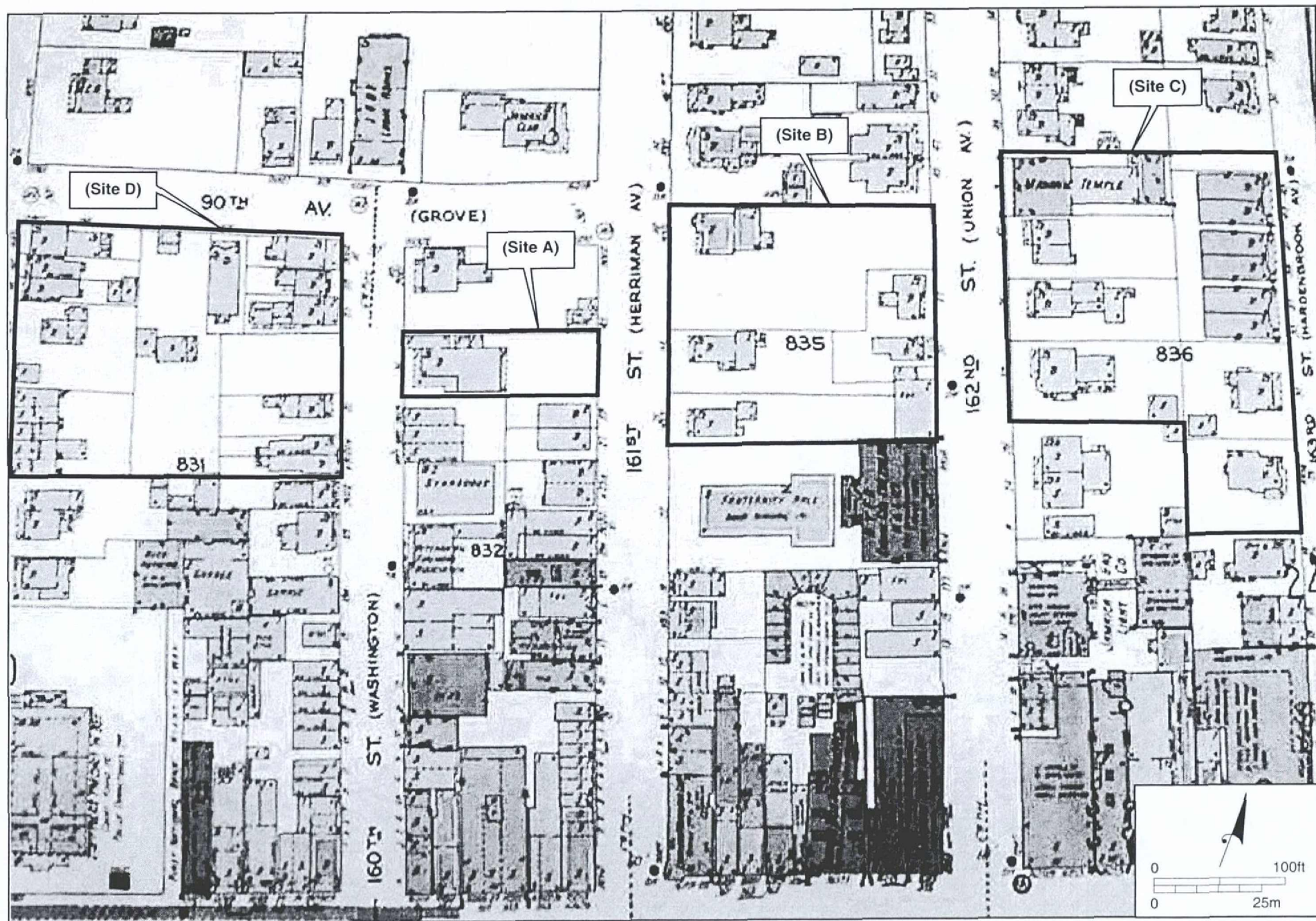


Figure 17. The Project Area as shown on the 1925 Sanborn atlas.



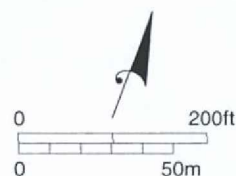
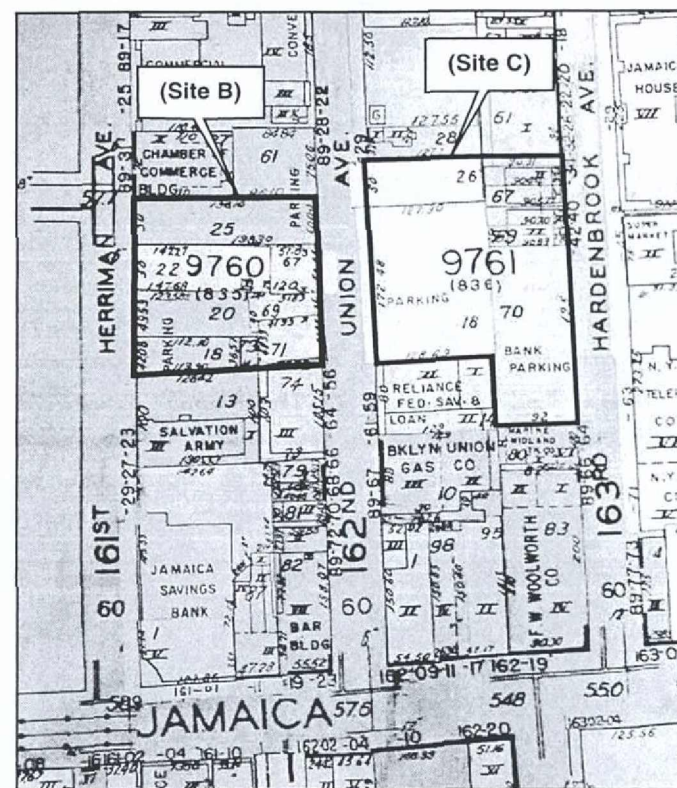
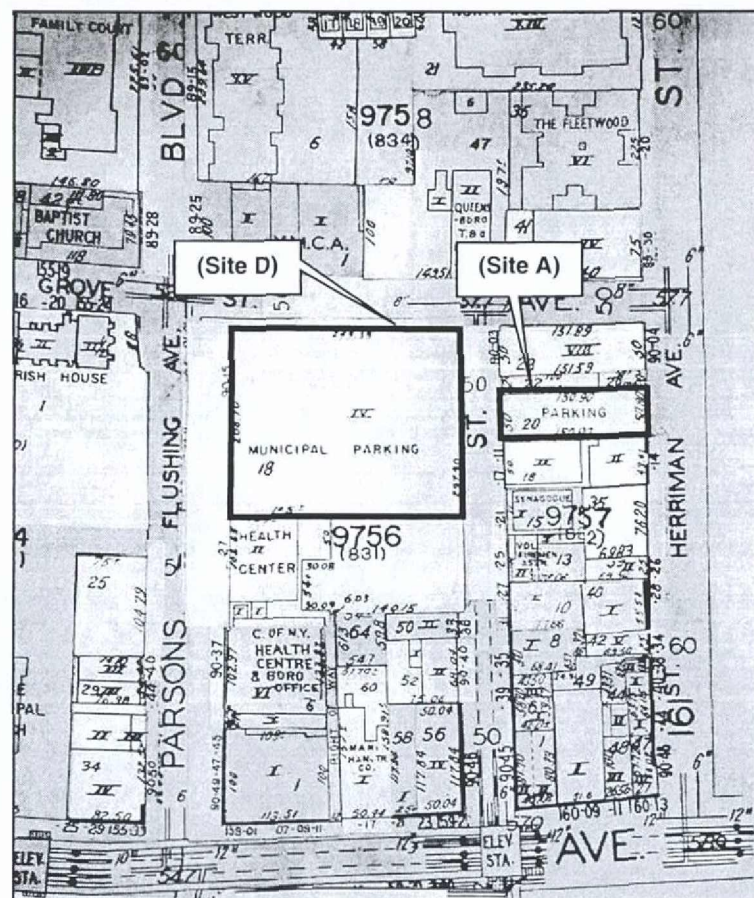


Figure 19. The Project Area as shown on the 1931 [corrected through 1990] Hyde atlas (Hyde 1931b).

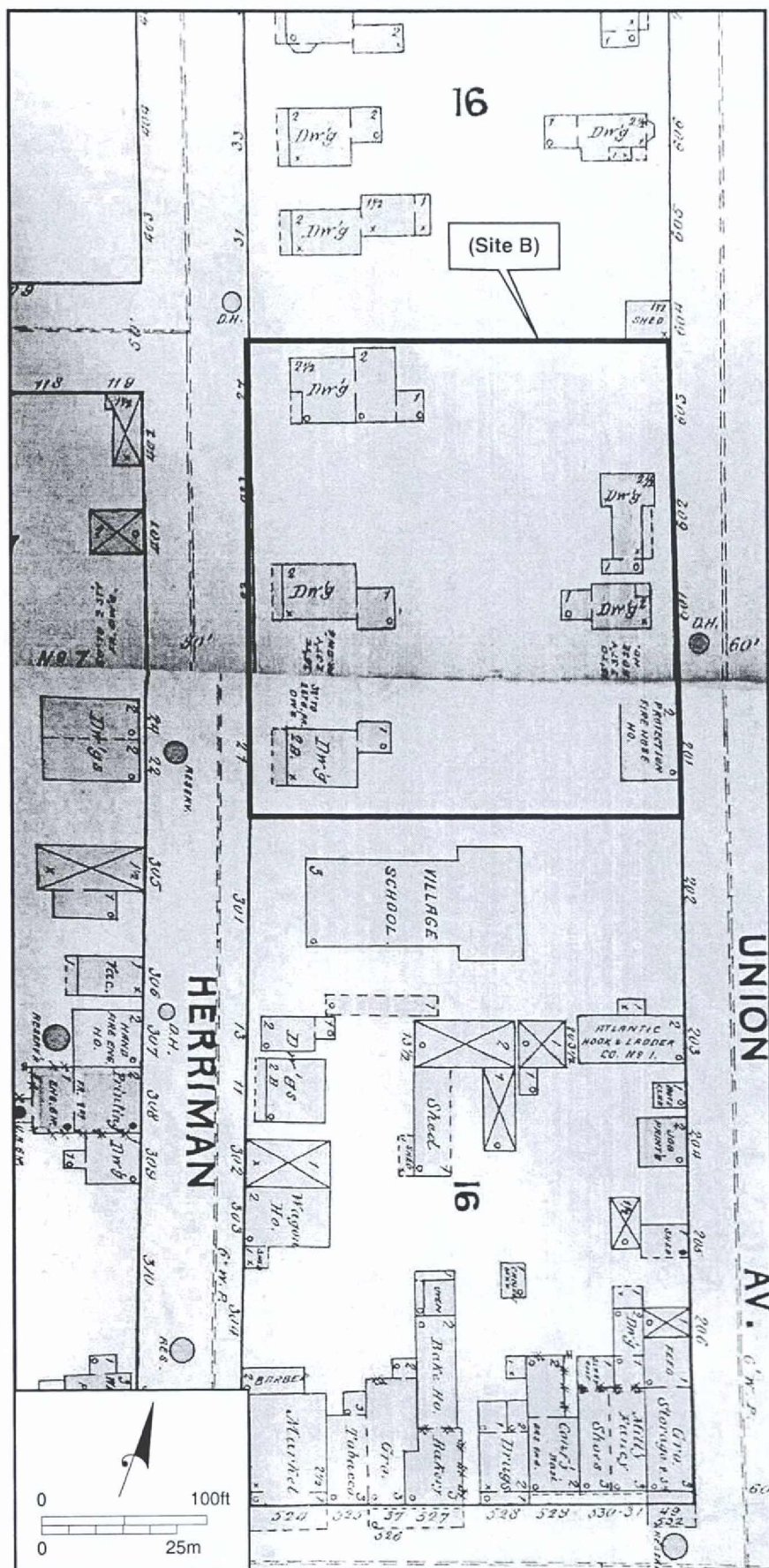


Figure 20. Site B as depicted on the 1891 Sanborn atlas.

## PLATES



Plate 1. Site D is currently occupied by a four-story parking garage; photographed from the corner of Parsons Boulevard and 90th Avenue, view to the southeast.

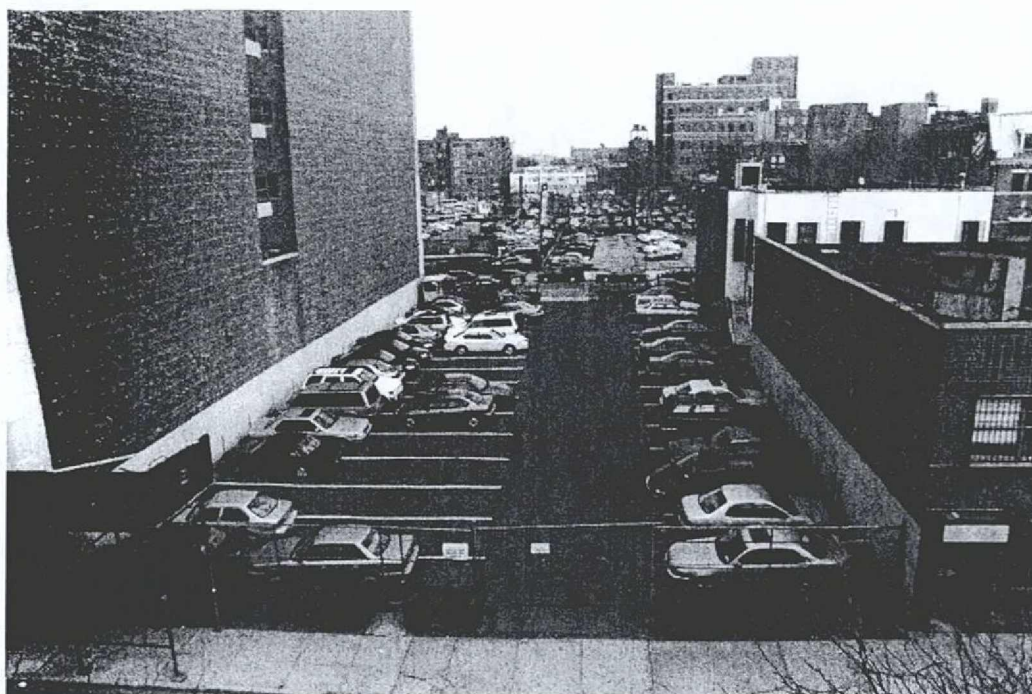


Plate 2. Site A is currently vacant of structures and occupied by a parking lot; photographed from the roof of the parking garage on Block 9756, view to the east.



Plate 3. Site B is currently vacant of structures and occupied by a parking lot; photographed from the corner of 161st Street and 90th Avenue, view to the east.



Plate 4. Site C is currently vacant of structures and occupied by a parking lot; photographed from 162nd Street, view to the east.



Plate 5. The Grace Episcopal Church, located on Jamaica Avenue southwest of Block 9756, is a New York City Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

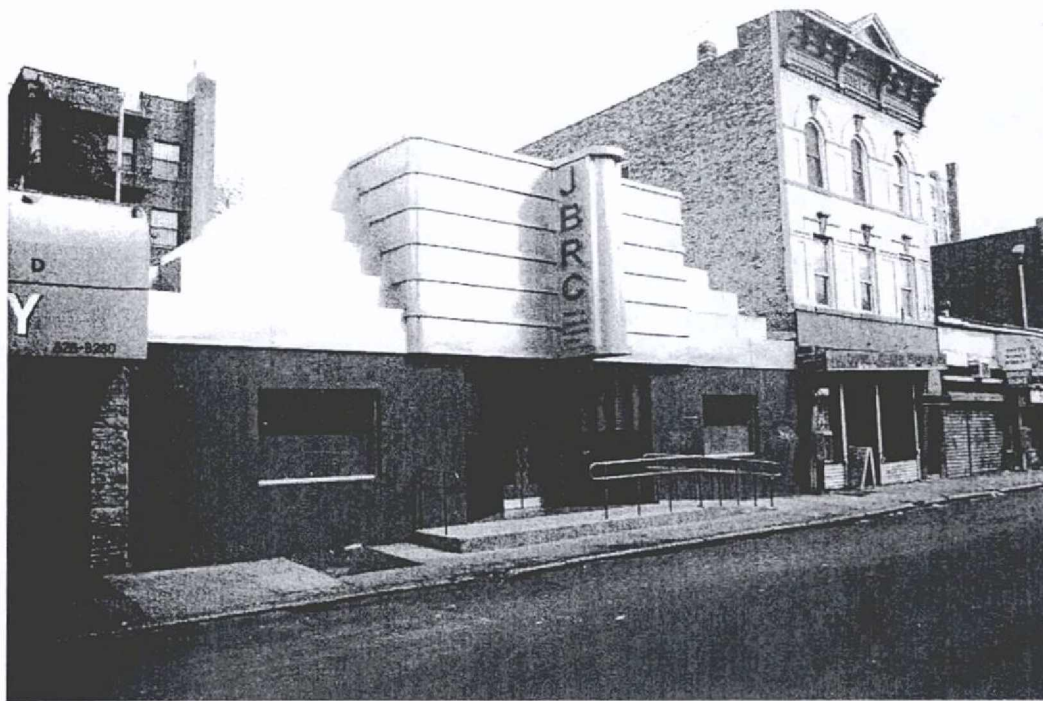


Plate 6. La Casina (now the Jamaica Business Resource Center), located south of the Project Area on 160th Street, is a New York City Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

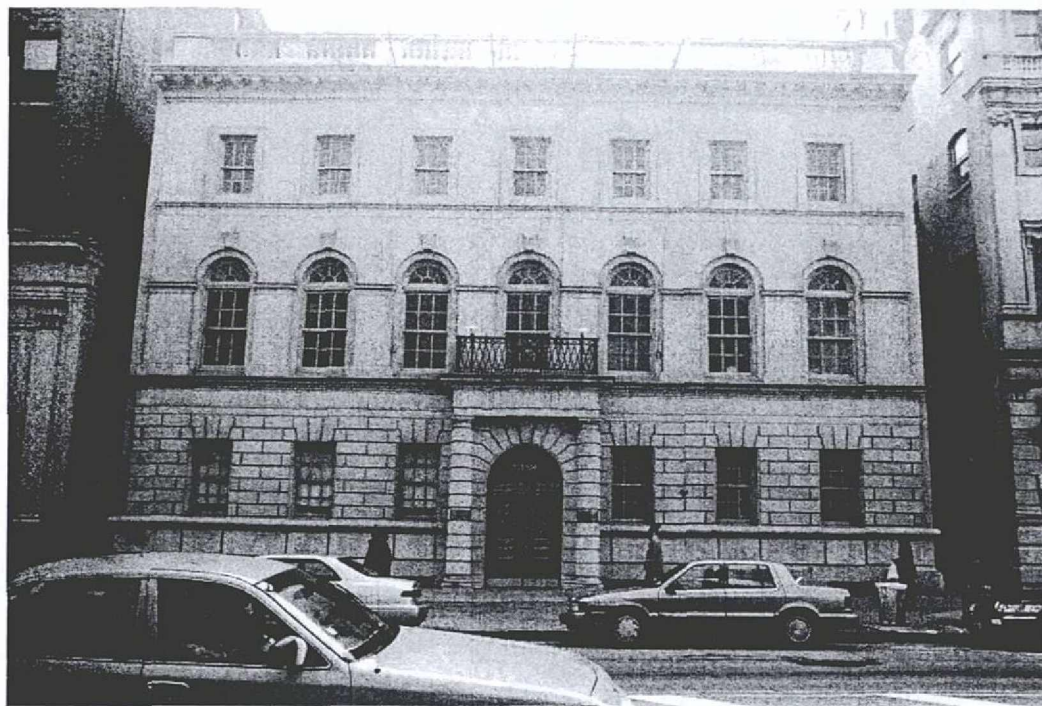


Plate 7. The Office of the Register (now the Jamaica Arts Center), located on Jamaica Avenue one half block south of the Project Area, is a New York City Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**APPENDIX A:**  
**CENSUS DATA**

## APPENDIX A: CENSUS DATA

Federal Census data provided information concerning household size and composition for the nineteenth-century occupants of the Project Area.

Site A (Block 9757, Lots 20, 22, and 29)

### *1850 Census*

Census #	Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Place of Birth
Family # 369	Lodge, James H.	45	M	Blacksmith	England
	—, Elizabeth M.	32	F		New York
	—, William J.	13	M		New York
	—, Ellen E.	10	F		New York
	—, James A.	7	M		New York
	—, Sarah C.	3	F		New York
	—, Mary B.	3/12	F		New York
	Smith, Charles L.	77	M	None	New York

### *1860 Census*

Census #	Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Estate	Place of Birth
Dwelling # 641 Family # 709	Lodge, James H.	53	M	Blacksmith	\$1,200 (Real) \$200 (Personal)	England
	—, Mary E.	46	F			New York
	—, William J.	22	M	Clerk		New York
	—, Ann E.	20	F			New York
	—, James A.	17	M			New York
	—, Sarah C.	17	F			New York
	—, Mary B.	9	F			New York

Site A (Block 9757, Lots 20, 22, and 29), continued

1870 Census

Census #	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Profession	Estate	P.O.B.	Foreign Parents
Dwelling # 875 Family # 763	Lodge, James	65	M	W	Blacksmith	\$2,500 (Real)	England	Father, Mother
	—, Elizabeth	50	F	W	Keeping House		New York	
	—, Ann	27	F	W	No Occupation		New York	Father
	—, Sarah	24	F	W	No Occupation		New York	Father
	—, Mary	19	F	W	No Occupation		New York	Father

1880 Census

Census #	Name	Color	Sex	Age	Relationship to Head of Household	Marital Status <sup>1</sup>	P.O.B.	Profession	P.O.B. Father	P.O.B. Mother
Dwelling # 30 Family # 37	Lodge, Elizabeth M.	W	M	65		W	NY	Keeping House	NY	NY
	—, Ann E.	W	F	40	Daughter	S	NY	At Home	England	NY
	—, James A.	W	M	37	Son	M	NY	Retail Drygoods	England	NY
	Jones, George R.	W	F	29	Son in Law	M	NY	Milkman	NY	NY
	—, Sarah C.	W	F	31	Daughter	M	NY	At Home	England	NY

<sup>1</sup> In the 1880 Census data, the key for Marital Status: S = Single, M = Married, and W = Widowed or Divorced.

**Site B (Block 9760, Lots 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 120)**

*1850 Census<sup>2</sup>*

<b>Census #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Place of Birth</b>
Dwelling # 303 Family # 318	Brenton, James J.	44	M	Printer	New York
	—, Elizabeth	42	F		Rhode Island
	—, Benjamin J.	18	M	Druggist	Rhode Island
	—, James E.	16	M	Druggist	New York
	—, Sarah E.	7	F		New York
	Anderson, Cornelius R.	18	M	Apprentice	New York
	Crawford, Lewis L.	16	M	Apprentice	New York
Dwelling # 342 Family # 365	Brush, Richard	50	M	Merchant	New York
	—, Ellen G.	49	F		New York
	—, William F.	21	M		New York
	—, Richard	20	M		New York
	—, Sarah E.	18	F		New York
	—, Mary	16	F		New York
	—, James F.	14	M		New York
	—, John D.	12	M		New York
	Martin, Eliza	20	F		Ireland
Dwelling # 604 Family # 647	Stoothoff, John C.	56	M	Farmer	New York
	—, Catherine	58	F		New York
	—, Ellen	18	F		New York
	—, Mary	16	F		New York
	—, Anna	13	F		New York

<sup>2</sup> For Sites B and C, the earliest structures and residences depicted on historic maps are on the 1868 Conklin survey and in the 1873 Beers atlas. Street addresses are not included in the census records. Thus while the 1850 and 1860 household census data included here clearly relates to the ca. 1870 occupants of the Project Area, it not possible to determine with absolute certainty that these households lived at the same address (i.e., within the Project Area) in 1850 and 1860.

Site B (Block 9760, Lots 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 120), continued

1860 Census

Census #	Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Estate	Place of Birth
Dwelling # 963 Family # 1058	Brenton, James J.	50	M	Printer	\$1,500 (Personal)	New York
	——, Elizabeth E.	48	F			Rhode Island
	——, Benjamin J.	28	M	Clerk	\$1,500 (Personal)	Rhode Island
	——, James E.	24	M	Clerk	\$300 (Real)	New York
	——, Sarah E.	17	F			New York
	Brewer, Mary A.	18	F	Servant		New York
Dwelling # 647 Family # 715	Stoothoff, Sarah	36	F		\$10,000 (Real) \$300 (Personal)	New York
	——, Annabella	18	F			New York
	——, Catherine	14	F			New York
	——, William	10	M			New York
Dwelling #648 Family # 716	Stoothoff, John C.	66	M		\$1,000 (Real) \$5,000 (Personal)	New York
	——, Catharine	68	F			New York
	——, Ellen	24	F			New York
	——, Mary	21	F			New York
	——, Anna	19	F			New York
	Eldert, Cornelius	11	M			New York

Site B (Block 9760, Lots 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 120), continued

1870 Census

Census #	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Profession	Estate	P.O.B.	Foreign Parents
Dwelling # 933 Family # 1072	Brenton, James L.	62	M	W	Publisher		New York	
	—, Elizabeth	60	F	W	Keeping House		Rhode Island	
	—, Benjamin	40	M	W	Bookkeeper		Rhode Island	
	—, Annetta H.	27	F	W	No Occupation		New York	
	—, Theodora	6	F	W	Attending School		New York	
	—, Laura C.	1	F	W			New York	
	—, James E.	34	M	W	Exchange Broker		New York	
	—, Elizabeth	24	F	W	School Teacher		New York	
	Connors, Ann	50	F	W	Domestic Servant		Ireland	Father, Mother
Dwelling # 930 Family # 168	Stoothoff, Catherine	77	F	W	Keeping House	\$5,000 (Real) \$5,000 (Personal)	New York	
	—, Ellen	37	F	W	No Occupation		New York	
	—, Mary	35	F	W	No Occupation		New York	
	—, Anna	33	F	W	No Occupation		New York	
	Eldert, Cornelius	21	M	W	Clerk in Insurance Co.		New York	
Dwelling # 895 Family # 1033	Stoothoff, William	21	M	W	Clerk in Dry Goods Store		New York	
	—, Catherine	26	F	W	No Occupation		New York	
	—, Sarah	50	F	W	Keeping House	\$2,000 (Real) \$5,000 (Personal)	New York	
Dwelling # 738 Family # 789	Brush, Richard	69	M	W	Hardware Merchant	\$2,500 (Real)	New York	
	—, Ellen G.	69	F	W	Keeping House		New York	
	—, Mary	35	F	W	No Occupation		New York	
	—, John	32	M	W	Clerk in Hardware Store		New York	
	Madden, Maggie	18	F	W	Domestic Servant		Ireland	Father, Mother
	Gaffwright, Susan	40	F	W	No Occupation		New York	
Family # 790	Rapplea, Sarah	38	F	W	Keeping House		New York	
	—, Martin	13	M	W	Attending School		New York	
	—, Richard	11	M	W	Attending School		New York	
	—, Isaac	43	M	W	Retail Grocer		New York	

Site B (Block 9760, Lots 18, 20, 22, 25, 67, 69, 71, 73, and 120), continued

1880 Census

Census #	Name	Color	Sex	Age	Relationship to Head of Household	Marital Status	Profession	P.O.B.	P.O.B. Father	P.O.B. Mother
Dwelling # 54 Family # 69	Brenton, Benjamin J.	W	M	48		M	Bookkeeper	RI	NY	RI
	—, Annetta H.	W	F	35	Wife	M	At Home	NY	NY	NY
	—, Theodora	W	F	16	Daughter	S	At School	NY	RI	NY
	—, Laura G.	W	F	10	Daughter	S	At School	NY	RI	NY
	—, Mabel F.	W	F	7	Daughter	S		NY	RI	NY
	—, Cranston H.	W	M	5	Son	S		NY	RI	NY
	—, James J.	W	M	74	Father	W	Editor + Proprietor L.J.D.?	NY	NY	NY
	—, James E.	W	M	45	Brother	S	Stock Broker	NY	NY	RI
	—, Lizzie	W	F	36	Sister	S	At Home	NY	NY	RI
	Zimmanelli, H.	W	F	21	Boarder	S	Teacher	Illinois	B. Ayres	NY
	Meagan, Sarah	W	F	22	Servant	S	Servant	NY	Ireland	Ireland
	Nagel, Ellen	W	F	20	Servant	S	Servant	Ireland	Ireland	Ireland
Dwelling # 56 Family # 71	Stoothoff, Sarah	W	F	60		W	Keeping House	NY	NY	NY
	—, Catherine	W	F	35	Daughter	S	At Home	NY	NY	NY

Site C (Block 9761, Lots 18, 26, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70)

*1850 Census*

Census #	Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Place of Birth
Dwelling # 612 Family # 655	Amberman, Isaac	28	M	Farmer	New York
	——, Phebe	29	F		New York
	——, May A.	8/12	F		New York
	Mooney, John	40	M	Labourer	Ireland

*1860 Census*

Census #	Name	Age	Sex	Occupation	Estate	Place of Birth
Dwelling # 654 Family # 723	Amberman, Isaac	37	M		\$2,500 (Real) \$2,500 (Personal)	New York
	——, Phebe	38	F			New York
	——, Theodore	4	M			New York
Family # 724	Wood, Lewis M.	24	M	Printer	\$200 (Personal)	New York
	——, Lavinia	22	F			New York
	——, Franklin	6/12	M			New York
	Amberman, Cornelius	60	M		\$4,000 (Personal)	New York
Dwelling # 655 Family # 725	Carpenter, John	74	M		\$1,500 (Real) \$9,000 (Personal)	New York
	——, Alberta	71	F			New York
	Carman, Catharine	36	F			New York
	——, Jane A.	11	F			New York
	——, Mary A.	10	F			New York

Site C (Block 9761, Lots 18, 26, 66, 67, 68, 69, and 70), continued

1870 Census

Census #	Name	Age	Sex	Color	Profession	Estate	P.O.B.	Foreign Parents
Dwelling # 1291 Family # 1498	Rhodes, Richard	62	M	W	Retired Merchant	\$5,000 (Real) \$5,000 (Personal)	New York	
	——, Mary A.	55	F	W	Keeping House		New York	
	——, Richard W.	13	M	W	Attending School		New York	
	——, Mary	87	F	W	No Occupation		New York	
	Shannon, Stephon	21	M	W	Insurance Clerk		New York	
Dwelling # 965 Family # 1102	Amberman, Isaac	47	M	W	Retired Merchant	\$5,000 (Real) \$5,000 (Personal)	New York	
	——, Phebe	46	F	W	Keeping House		New York	
	——, N. Theodore	14	M	W	Attending School		New York	
	Higbi, Samuel	80	M	W	No Occupation	\$6,000 (Personal)	New York	
Family # 1103	Stouttenberg, Mary	82	F	W	No Occupation	\$5,000 (Personal)	New York	
	Champlain, Jane	50	F	W	Keeping House		New York	
	——, Dorcas	25	F	W	Dress Maker		New York	
	——, Alice	17	F	W	Dress Maker		New York	
Dwelling # 728 Family # 778	Carpenter, James B.	24	M	W	Merchant		New York	
	——, Matilda	22	F	W	Keeping House		New York	
	——, James B.	6/12	M	W			New York	
	——, Charles H.	18	M	W	No Occupation			
	——, Elizabeth	45	F	W	No Occupation		New York	

1880 Census

Census #	Name	Color	Sex	Age	Relationship to Head of Household	Marital Status	Profession	P.O.B.	P.O.B. Father	P.O.B. Mother
Dwelling # 85 Family # 104	Rhodes, Richard	W	M	68		M	Retired Boot + Shoe Dealer	NY	NY	NY
	——, Mary A.	W	F	42	Wife	M	Keeping House	NY	NY	NY
	——, Richard W.	W	M	21	Son	S	Clerk in Store	NY	NY	NY
	Dunell, Bella	W	F	19	Servant	S	Servant	NY	NY	NY