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**STAGE 1B ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD  
RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY**

**BLOCK 1883. LOT 13-20 & 27.**

**45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue  
Borough of Brooklyn. Kings County, New York.**

Prepared For:

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# BLOCK 1883. LOT 13-20 & 27

45-59 Taaffe Place  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

On May 13, 17 and 24, 1999 City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants completed a field reconnaissance level archaeological survey of the Block 1883; Lot 13-20 & 27 Site, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Archaeological field work was carried out by Stephanie Roberg-Lopez, Gail T. Guillet, Luis A. Lopez and Jorge Lopez. Preparation of the final report and the Field Reconnaissance Map was completed by Stephanie Roberg-Lopez, Principal Investigator. Ceramic analysis, production of the report and photographs were completed by Gail T. Guillet.

## **PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION**

**(SEE ALSO, STAGE 1A LITERATURE REVIEW, CITY/SCAPE, SEPTEMBER 1998 AND APRIL 1999)**

The project area includes Lots 13-20 and 27 located within Block 1883 in the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. (Map 1) Lots 13-20 are located on the east side of Taaffe Place at the intersection of Little Nassau Street, and Lot 27 is located mid-block on the west side of Kent Avenue. Although the lots are currently identified with the numbers listed above, the street numbers have changed over time. Lot 20 was originally known as 45 Graham Street and is now known as 45 Taaffe Place. Lot 19 was formerly known as 47 Graham Street and is now known as 47 Taaffe Place. Lot 18 appears never to have had a street address, but would logically have been known as 49 Graham Street and now as 49 Taaffe Place. Lot 16 would have been 53 Graham Street, but at some point the lot was combined with Lot 15 and was jointly known as 55 Taaffe Place. For the purposes of our investigation it is identified as 53 Taaffe Place. Lot 15 was formerly known as 55 Graham Street and is now known as 55 Taaffe Place. Lot 14 was formerly known as 57 Graham Street and is now known as 57 Taaffe Place. Lot 13 has been identified in the Brooklyn City Directories as 7 Graham Street, then as 59 Graham Street and is now known as 59 Taaffe Place. Finally, Lot 27 and 28 (now combined and known as Lot 27) were formerly known as 332 and 334 Kent Avenue and then as 796 and 798 Kent Avenue. At some time in the past the properties identified in 1918 as 796 Kent Avenue and 798 Kent Avenue were combined and the property is now referred to as 796 Kent Avenue.

At the present time all nine lots are vacant. The area is closed off by heavy chain link fences and access is blocked by chained gates. There is virtually no vegetation growing on the parcels. Much of the Taaffe Place land surface is paved with concrete and the remaining areas exhibit a surface of hardpan gravel. Lot 27, located on Kent Avenue, is covered with a dense litter of auto parts, including engines and tires, as well as miscellaneous debris. It is also paved with concrete and asphalt. The rear of the lot is covered with wood and metal refuse to a considerable depth (4'). This lot appears to have been used as a local unregulated dumping ground. The only structures currently standing on the entire project area are two 2'x 8' plywood shacks abutting the street on 57 Taaffe Place. The overall elevation of the project area is consistent with street levels recorded on historic maps. Elevation at the intersection of Taaffe and Little Nassau Street is 18.25 feet above sea level and appears to have remained unchanged for at least the last century. Along both Taaffe Place and Kent

Avenue, the lots have retained their original elevations at the street edge. On 59 Taaffe Place, however, the elevation where the rear boundary meets the rear boundary of the Kent Avenue lots is notably lower by approximately two feet. This discrepancy in elevation at the junction of these lots would appear to be caused by the deep overburden at the rear of the 796 and 798 Kent Place lots.

## HISTORIC SENSITIVITY

The Archaeological and Historic Sensitivity Evaluation prepared by City/Scape documented that no fewer than nine historic houses and numerous associated outbuildings had once stood on these nine lots. (Map 2) In addition, the 19<sup>th</sup> century occupants of these houses have been identified and are as follows:

Address	Owner	Dates	Occupation
59 Taaffe Place/7 & 59 Graham (Lot 13)	Edward McNamara	1853 -1879	Laborer/ Porter
57 Taaffe Place/57 Graham (Lot 14)	Stephen Wood	By 1869 to 1876	Unknown
55 Taaffe Place/55 Graham (Lot 15)	John Gillen	By 1867 to 1897	Porter
53 Taaffe Place/53 Graham (Lot 16)	R. Anderson	By 1867 to 1883	Unknown
(Lot 18) No street address given	Elizabeth Cross	By 1867 to c. 1891	Unknown
47 Taaffe Place/47 Graham (Lot 19)	1) J. Devlin 2) George Heilburger	1) In 1868 2) 1868-1891	Unknown
45 Taaffe Place/45 Graham (Lot 20)	Terrence Devlin	By 1867 to 1894	Unknown
796 Kent Avenue/332 Kent Avenue (Lot 27)	1) Peter Clark 2) Patrick McCann	1) 1849 - 1870 2) 1870 - 1897	1) Grocer 2) Grocer
798 Kent Avenue/334 Kent Avenue (Lot 28)	1) John McCoy 2) Hannah McCoy	1) 1854 - c. 1867 2) 1867-1887	1) Milkman 2) Widow

An evaluation of known destruction episodes at the Block 1883 site strongly indicated that, although these nine houses had been destroyed, the backyard areas extending to the rear property line had not been profoundly disturbed. The presence of historic sub-surface features such as privies and cisterns was judged to be highly probable, warranting an

archaeological field reconnaissance level survey. The testing was limited to the rear yard area, as the strata within the historical foundations would have been profoundly disturbed during the destruction episodes. The testing plan, designed in consultation with the New York City Landmarks Commission, involved the excavation of a series of backhoe trenches in areas identified as having the potential to contain historical cultural materials. This testing plan is itemized in the Analysis and Statement of Archaeological Potential.

Lot	Date Built/ Sewer Date	Conditions in 1880s	Conditions in 1918	Archaeological Potential
Lot 13	By 1850 No sewer data	1880: frame bldg.	4-story dwelling, shed mid-lot, 1 story shed at rear	Bldg. predates sewer; potential for privy/ cistern complex
Lot 14	By 1850 Sewer 1868	1880-98: dwelling	Vacant lot	Written off by LPC, 2-99
Lot 15	By 1850	1886: store ground floor of bldg., 3- story dwelling at rear	3-story dwelling at front; 3-story dwelling at rear; W.C. mid-lot	Potential for deposits in W.C., possible cistern if not disturbed by subsequent building
Lot 16	By 1850 Sewer 1868	Vacant lot; 1898: new building on front	4-story brick tenement, stores ground floor; W.C. mid-lot	Potential for deposits in W.C. & original privy on rear lot if not destroyed
Lot 18	By 1898	1886: Vacant lot; 1898: shed at rear	1-story shed rear of lot	Written off by LPC, 2-99
Lot 19	By 1850 Sewer 1868	1886: Bldg., store ground floor	3-story dwelling, 3 small structures at rear	Configuration existed until demolition c. 1950-1977; potential for privy and/or cistern
Lot 20	By 1850 No sewer data	1880-98: dwelling at front; 2 small structures mid-lot.	4-story dwelling w. 2-story dwelling at rear; shed at mid-lot probable privy	After 1918 lot completely built, no archaeological potential
Lot	Date Built/ Sewer Date	Conditions in 1880s	Conditions in 1918	Archaeological Potential

Lot 27	By 1849 Possible sewer 1867	2 story dwelling w. 1 story shed in rear	3 story dwelling w. 2 extensions & store on ground floor	Bldg. predates sewer; potential for privy/cistern complex
Lot 28	By 1854 Sewer 1867	3 story dwelling w. extensions	3 story dwelling w. extensions	Bldg. predates sewer, potential for privy and/or cistern complex

It should be noted that Lots 14 and 18 were eliminated from testing by the New York City Landmarks Commission at an earlier date. In addition, the Stage 1B Evaluation prepared by City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants concluded that Lot 20 had been profoundly disturbed over what is effectively 100% of its surface. As a result these lots were neither tested nor considered in the Stage 1B Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Survey.

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SETTING

The project area lies within the larger prehistoric archaeological zone identified as Prehistoric New England. (Map 3) The area is routinely divided for study into major river drainages, as these waterways and their associated lands comprised the geophysical and political boundaries recognized by the indigenous groups themselves. Along with distinct waterways such as the Hudson, the Connecticut and the Housatonic, large inland and peninsular areas such as Long Island and Cape Cod are treated as discrete environmental units (Snow 1980:5). The majority of prehistoric New England (as defined by Map 3) is generally treated as a single physiographic unit. Only Long Island, Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod are identified as being northern expressions of the coastal plain that broadens and dominates the landscape to the south (Snow 1980:6).

The entire New England land surface was covered by the Wisconsin glaciation that receded only 12,000 to 10,000 years ago. The soils of Long Island are a direct result of this glacial episode, and are dominated by deep, strongly acid soils that have developed in unconsolidated sand and clay (Snow 1980:6). The soils of the project area are classic glacial deposits, associated with the Harbor Hill terminal moraine that represents the maximum line of advance of the second glaciation episode on Long Island. (Map 4) The prehistoric forests of Long Island, unlike those of the mainland, were dominated by yellow pine and hardwood forests.

## PREHISTORIC BACKGROUND

New England, particularly Southern New England including the Hudson, Thames and Connecticut drainages, has emerged as one of the richest archaeological zones in the northeastern United States. The reasons for this are several, the most important being the cluster of prime waterways that enrich the landscape and the fertile seacoast that marks its southern border. The prehistoric inhabitants of this region had ready access to very high

quality raw materials for tool making, and the moderating influence of the ocean maintained a climate significantly milder than those regions to the north. As the first native Americans, indeed the first humans, entered the area during the Paleo-Indian period some 12,000 years ago, their logical route would be along the open seacoast and the mighty river systems that were the "super highways" of the times. Not only humans, but also the post-Pleistocene mega fauna, the mammoth, the mastodon and the caribou that inhabited this tundra-like area would be logically drawn to these corridors. Mammoth and mastodon finds are densely clustered just south of Long Island with one find just south of the project area. (Map 5) As the great ice sheet began to retreat from southern New England both the hunter, the Paleo-Indian, and the hunted began to move into this region.

Research indicates that the post glacial landscape was tundra-like, the colonizing grasses, sedges and herbs supporting a variety of large and small game animals. Among the fauna were giant beaver, giant ground sloth and horse, all of which became extinct, as well as the caribou, musk-ox and bison that persist to modern times.

Paleo-Indians, as these small bands of nomadic hunter-gatherers are called by archaeologists, appear to have entered the previously uninhabited northeast from the south and west. Their sites, identified primarily by characteristically fluted points, are found all over North America. It has traditionally been assumed that these nomadic peoples were strictly "big game" hunters, however that assumption has been called into question by the discovery of fish, bird, small mammal bones and some plant remains found in association with Paleo-Indian sites. It now seems that in addition to the large animals that comprised their principal food source, the Paleo-Indians also hunted small game and gathered a wide variety of plants to support their diet. Paleo-Indian sites are quite rare in the archaeological record, and have been found in association with major waterways such as the Hudson, quarry zones such as the Wallkill Valley, and most notably for our present investigation, at the Port Mobil site on Staten Island. (Map 6)

The Archaic period in New England is better represented than the Paleo-Indian. It is divided into four stages: the Early Archaic, the Middle Archaic, the Late Archaic and the Terminal Archaic. In many important respects, the nature of life in the Archaic period was little different from the nomadic lives lived by the Paleo-Indians, however, during the time span of the Archaic significant changes in the environment occurred. The tundra-like landscape began to give way, first to spruce forest and then to a forest composed of various conifers, hemlocks and hardwoods. As the hardwood forests advanced northward, a new ecosystem became available, an ecosystem that provided a range of nuts (in particular the acorn), grasses and tubers that supported both the smaller game of the Archaic period and the human population as well.

Like the Paleo-Indian culture, Archaic occupations are found throughout New England. In eastern New York this period is divided into a series of phases, Vergennes, Vosburg, Sylvan Lake, Wading River and Snook Kill. There are indications that Archaic man was by this time exploiting shellfish, a fact of particular importance on Long Island. The Archaic period, however, is still dominated by the hunting and gathering lifestyle.

The Archaic period on Long Island is followed by the Transitional Stage. Chief among the general characteristics that separate the Transitional Stage from the earlier periods is the use of stone vessels. With soapstone as the most common raw material, these vessels were extremely heavy and were later replaced by pottery vessels of various types.

The Woodland Stage, like the Archaic is divided into several substages, including the early Woodland Stage, the Middle Woodland Stage and the Late Woodland Stage. Sites used by Woodland groups tend to be away from the major waterways and are frequently located on inland streams. In later periods there is some indication of the presence of palisaded villages. Around these sites, on the alluvial plains of nearby streams, the Indian fields were located. Horticulture, although practiced in other parts of North America at an earlier date, does not appear in this area until c. 1000 AD. The changeover to cultivation of a variety of domesticates, among them maize, beans, gourds, sumpweed and sunflower, created a marked change in the pattern of land use and settlement. With the advent of sedentary occupations the character of sites changed.

Long Island takes front stage during the Transitional Period as the locus of the highly distinct Orient Culture. This Transitional phase is identified by the diagnostic Orient Fishtail projectile point, by the use of soapstone vessels whose raw materials were most likely quarried in Rhode Island and in Bristol Connecticut, by distinctive burials and by the intense exploitation of shellfish. It is possible that the supply of large game was being exhausted on Long Island as early as 900 BC, making exploitation of these alternate food sources a necessity for survival (Ritchie 1980:166). We must take particular note of the fact that contact with mainland New England was clearly an easy and frequent occurrence at this time, with passage across the narrows between Long Island, Staten Island, Manhattan Island, the lower Hudson drainage and southern New England a common occurrence. Important sites in close proximity to the project area include Muskeeta Cove, Wilkins, Grantville B and Clason's Point.

On Long Island the Transitional, particularly the later period, is hallmarked by the Sebonac Phase. The Sebonac sites are large occupations located on well-drained sites on bays and tidal streams close to available sources of marine shellfish. Typical of these sites are deep shellfish middens, abundant pit structures and elaborate burials. This implies stable communities with people living in circular rush wigwams up to twenty feet in diameter made of grass or rush harvested from the tidal marshes and wetlands that were abundant on prehistoric Long Island.

The Sebonac Phase is followed on western Long Island by the Bowman's Brook phase of the East River tradition. Bowman's Brook sites are located on tidal streams or coves, and typically contain large village occupations with associated shell middens and pit structures. Unlike the Sebonac peoples, the Bowman's Brook culture did not focus on highly ritualized mortuary practices, although dog burials have been noted (Ritchie 1980:271).

By the time the Europeans arrived, the dominant indigenous groups on Long Island were the Montauk speakers of the eastern tip of the island, the Quiripi-Unquachog speakers



of central Long Island (closely associated with Connecticut groups) and Munsee speakers on the western tip of Long Island, who were referred to by Johan de Laet as Nawaas (Snow 1980:87). (Map 7)

Population figures are difficult to calculate due to the lightning speed with which European diseases wiped out the indigenous population. Snow states that "There is almost no data on which to base a population estimate for the middle and lower Connecticut and central Long Island populations". With the coming of first the Dutch, then the British settler, the indigenous population of Long Island decreased to its current negligible size.

## **PREHISTORIC SENSITIVITY**

Four prehistoric archaeological sites are identified in the general vicinity of the project area. The first of these is located near Flatbush Avenue between 6th Avenue and Carlton Avenue (NYSM Site #3606), approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the project area. The other three sites are located in the vicinity of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, less than a quarter of a mile west of the project area. Although prehistoric peoples would have ranged over all of Long Island, archaeological investigations indicate that habitation sites were situated in proximity to water sources such as tidal creeks, substantial streams and wetland areas. Upland areas, away from water, would have been used for hunting. (Smith 1950:101)

Although no fresh water flowed across the project area, an examination of early maps indicates that a stream (Wallabout Creek) and associated salt marshes were located immediately north of the site. The stream flowed just north of present day Flushing Avenue, while the salt marsh extended into Block 1882, now the site of the Borough of Brooklyn Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity service station. Based on the predictive model developed by the LPC, the juxtaposition of the site to the stream and salt marsh greatly increases the likelihood that prehistoric peoples may have utilized the project area. It is likely that several of the roads in the vicinity of the project area, particularly the historic "Road to Wallabout" which follows the general line of Flushing Avenue in the vicinity of the project area corresponds with older Native American paths, and that prehistoric peoples passed this way on a regular basis going from the Wallabout area to the interior of Long Island. Despite these facts, probable alterations to the land surface (including grading to establish a level surface for construction in the 19th century), combined with the construction (including excavation for basements) and subsequent demolition of the structures formerly located on the site, greatly decreases the probability of encountering significant, intact prehistoric cultural material from the project area. Based on this assessment, it would be unlikely that the project area would yield prehistoric cultural resources.

In the process of trenching, however, the Principal Investigator included an evaluation for prehistoric resources when examining all strata uncovered and soils recovered.

## **TESTING STRATEGY**

The testing strategy for the project area was dictated by the conclusions and recommendations stated in the archaeological and historical sensitivity evaluation. As a



result, the Stage 1B archaeological survey of the site focused on the six lots in the project area not previously eliminated from testing by the New York Landmarks Commission or by conclusions reached during the Stage 1B Evaluation. (Lots 13, 15, 16, 19, and 27/28). The historic house foundations on the site identified and documented in the Stage 1A Literature Review and the Stage 1B Evaluation were ruled out as profoundly disturbed. The remaining rear portion of the lots then became the focus of testing. The features most likely remaining on the site are the privies and cisterns dating to the 19th century occupation of the houses.

Since privies are most commonly found at the far rear of these house lots and cisterns most commonly found directly behind the house structures themselves, it was recommended that five foot wide trenches be mechanically excavated along the rear boundaries of the lots and along the rear foundation walls of the historic houses. As a part of this examination, rear foundation walls, should they remain intact, would be exposed, measured and photographed. Because the 1918 Sanborn Insurance Map indicated a number of additional structures, such as water closets and sheds, additional test trenches were added to the overall testing strategy to target specific features that were not within the scope of the initial two trenches per lot.

This testing strategy formed the basis of the research design employed by City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants to identify any historic cultural remains that might be present on the project area.

## **FIELD METHODOLOGY**

Field methodology for the Block 1883 site consisted of several stages of investigation. These included:

1. A walkover and visual inspection of the area to assess the probable depth of the non-stratified overburden and to determine if the surface exhibited the presence of artifacts related to the historic houses. In addition to examining the site itself, extant houses from the period under study that still remain on the block, specifically those flanking the site on Kent Avenue, were very carefully examined for comparative purposes and to verify the accuracy of the historic maps as guides to the location of the historic house foundations. This also served to confirm or rule out any changes in the elevation of the site that might indicate either a filling or a removal episode.
2. The excavation of a stratigraphic control test to establish the stratigraphy of the site and to identify the depth and composition of the sterile glacially deposited sub soils.
3. The controlled mechanical excavation of 15 trenches of various dimensions, 5 directly behind the house foundations, 7 more at the rear of the lots and 3 specific loci on the site that had the potential to contain subsurface features. This controlled testing was designed to locate cistern and privy features and document the location of house foundation walls and other structures.
4. Cleaning, measuring, photographing and drawing all features exposed through the combination of mechanical and hand excavation employed in testing.

5. Covering all exposed features with plastic tarps and backfilling to protect these resources.
6. Photographic documentation of the overall site.

Because of the readily available information on the historic location of structures on this site, it was not difficult to focus the testing on areas of highest potential.

When features were encountered, all associated loose soils were passed through a 0.25 inch steel mesh screen and the materials remaining in the screens were carefully examined for historic and prehistoric artifacts. Items recovered were assigned to the feature from which they were obtained. (Appendix A: Artifact Catalogue)

## FIELD RESULTS

Despite the volume of historic data available on the project area, a number of archaeological questions remained to be answered before introducing mechanical equipment to the excavation. Initial excavation was devoted to assessing the condition of the site and establishing a stratigraphic control. By examining the ground level of the extant row houses, it seemed clear that no overburden had been introduced to alter the historic elevation of most of the site. The single exception was the previously mentioned contrast in elevation at the junction of the rear boundaries of Lots 13 and 27/28, a difference of approximately two feet. This contrast was due to the overburden dumped on Lot 27/28.

A site datum was established at the northwestern corner of the project area (Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Map). Datum was set at ground level at an altitude of approximately 18 feet above sea level.

### LOT 13 - 59 TAAFFE PLACE

<b>EDWARD McNAMARA</b>
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<b>OWNER 1853-1879</b>
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The first test trench excavated on the site was placed along the rear boundary of Lot 13. Because there was a layer of soil and debris piled in the southeastern corner of the lot, it had first to be cleared of this overburden. (Photo 1-2) Once this was done the backhoe operator was instructed to open a trench 5 feet wide and five feet deep removing soils in arbitrary one foot strata. The principal investigator examined the sediments and all cultural materials encountered as the testing proceeded. The placement of this trench was to designed to uncover any traces of a 19th century privy that might be associated with Edward McNamara, who is known to have owned a house built on this site from 1853 to 1879. (see Stage 1B Evaluation of Archaeological Potential) Since no sewer connection was made on this lot before 1868, the probability of encountering a privy feature was quite high.

The trench began at the southeastern corner of the lot where a stratigraphic control was excavated. The backhoe operator dug to a depth of eight feet in one foot increments in

order to expose a profile of the sediments. The initial layers contained modern construction debris mixed with red-orange sand (10YR 4/6). From a depth of four feet to eight feet, the soils were typical Long Island natural yellow brown sediments (10YR 6/4). No features or artifacts of pre-modern date were encountered.

As the trench was excavated northward across the 25' width of the rear boundary of the lot, a scattering of artifacts began to appear in the soil, primarily of recent date, but including an occasional oyster shell or ceramic fragment. When the trench extended to the northeastern corner of the lot, the archaeologists noted several field stones in the backhoe bucket and interrupted mechanical excavation, turning to hand excavation with shovels and trowels. (Photo 3) After carefully removing unstratified debris, the team uncovered a circular stone feature three feet in diameter. Working within the walls of this stone structure, the team hand excavated and screened a layer of soil approximately six inches deep. This stratum produced a dense deposit of mid 19th century artifacts, including kaolin pipe bowls and stems, glass bottles, ceramics, a comb fragment and a belt buckle. Several artifacts produced identifiable hallmarks allowing for a tentative *terminus post quem* of 1854. (see Appendix A: Artifact Catalogue & 59 Taaffe Place Privy photos) This date is consistent with the original occupation of the house. Once the feature was identified, cleaned, measured and photographed it was protected with a heavy gauge tarp and prepared for reburial in anticipation of a Stage 2 excavation. (Photo 4) Before reburial, the feature was examined during a site visit by Amanda Sutphin of the New York City Landmarks Commission.

The next trench excavated on Lot 13 was placed along the southern boundary of the lot at 50' west of datum. (see Diagram 1 & 2) This locus corresponds to the location of a small building indicated on the 1918 Sanborn Insurance Map. The 10' by 10' trench was designed to expose any building foundations or structures that might correspond to the feature indicated on the historic map. At approximately two feet below surface, a wall of modern brick was encountered by the backhoe. Mechanical excavation was halted, and the crew used trowels and shovels to expose a recent brick feature, possibly a water closet. Modern clay sewer pipe was mortared into the bottom of the structure, and no artifacts of any significant age were recovered. (Photo 6)

The next trench was placed along what was estimated to be the rear foundation of the historic house in an effort to confirm the house location, assess its mode of destruction and locate a cistern associated with the original structure. The trench, 25' by approximately 5', did succeed in uncovering the most southern section of rear wall foundation, however the remaining foundation wall had been destroyed, and the debris of the shattered rear foundation wall littered the trench. (Photo 5) A careful examination of the trench profile as well as all cultural materials failed to turn up the historic cistern. The cistern appears to have been destroyed along with the rear foundation of the historic house. After photographing and measuring the modern brick feature and the remaining section of rear house foundation wall, all test trenches were backfilled.

After excavating three trenches on Lot 13, archaeologists succeeded in identifying all historic structures indicated on the 1918 Sanborn Map, and additionally identifying the

original privy associated with the c.1850 home of Edward McNamara, who owned the property between 1853 and 1879.

#### LOT 15 - 55 TAAFFE PLACE

**STEPHEN WOOD**

**OWNER 1867-1876**

Lot 15 is located two lots to the north of Lot 13. (see Diagram 1 & 2) As discussed above, Lot 14 has been eliminated from testing by the New York City Landmarks Commission. Unlike the other lots on the site, Lot 15 contained more than one large scale structure. In addition to the house located on the street fronting on Taaffe Place, a three-story brick dwelling appears at the rear of the lot on historic maps. Based on Sewer Department records, the date of construction for the rear dwelling is 1873. The depth of the foundations excavated during the construction of these houses renders the sediments below profoundly disturbed. However, since there were two large structures present, the lot was tested for possible multiple privy features which were likely to have been located along the northern boundary of the lot. These privies, if encountered, would be associated with either the Schneider family who lived in the house until 1869, or to John Gillen and his family, who purchased the house in 1869, the year the sewer connection was made. Assuming that these features continued to exist for a while after the sewer connection was made, it is possible that they could be associated with both families.

The first subsurface test excavated was an 9' x 12' trench placed in the northeastern corner of the lot. This would have been the logical location of a privy feature, or the more modern water closet replacing it. Historic maps indicate a small structure in this location. The 9' x 12' trench revealed a brick foundation measuring 8' by 11', the exact dimensions indicated on the 1918 Sanborn map for the water closet feature. The brick foundation was underlain by a substantial brick paved floor. (Photo 7) No artifacts of any significance were recovered from this foundation or from the fill associated with it. In order to test thoroughly for a possible very early privy, the backhoe operator was instructed to remove the northeastern portion of the brick floor and excavate to a depth of 8 feet below surface. Since privies of this era often extended to 12' below surface, it was hoped that some type of early deposit would still be present, sealed in by the brick floor. However, only clean sand was encountered below the water closet's brick floor. The brick foundation was cleaned, measured, photographed and drawn. The trench was then backfilled.

Attention was then turned to the narrow strip of land along the northern lot boundary that might have possessed historic water closets or privies. Although the 1904 Sanborn Map showed no structures in this area of the site, the 1918 Sanborn Map indicates a small structure that might have been a water closet. To identify this structure, a 5' by 15' trench was opened along this border, and the soils and trench profiles were examined for evidence of structures or 19th century artifacts. A limited amount of brick debris and demolition debris mixed with sand was encountered along this trench, however no features or artifacts of any

age were noted. Since no structures or features were identified in this test, the trench was photographed and backfilled.

The final test on Lot 15 was a five foot wide trench placed across the entire 25' width of the parcel where the rear foundation wall would have been located. The trench quickly revealed this feature, including the steps leading into the rear of the basement. The wall was somewhat damaged during the destruction of the building, but intact enough to make the positive identification. (Photo 8) The rear foundation wall was then measured, drawn and photographed. After locating and identifying the rear foundation wall, the excavation team widened the trench in an effort to locate a cistern feature associated with the original house. Midway along the trench, approximately three feet from the rear foundation wall, the team uncovered the brick beehive cistern. Once the distinctive pattern of bricks capping the cistern was noted, mechanical excavation was halted and the excavation team cleared and exposed the circular brick walls. (Photo 9) The cistern feature was measured, drawn and photographed. It was then covered with a heavy mil plastic tarp and the trench was backfilled. (Photo 10)

Testing on Lot 15 concluded after the excavation of these three trenches. Any privy features that might have existed during the time preceding hookup to the city sewer appear to have been destroyed either by the construction of more recent buildings or by the destruction episode that removed the historic buildings. The rear foundation of the original house was located and identified, and the original beehive cistern feature was located and identified as well. The cistern was covered and protected for future examination and the trenches were backfilled.

#### LOT 16 - 53 TAAFFE PLACE

<b>JOHN GILLEN</b>	<b>OWNER 1867-1897</b>
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Lot 16 presented a different building layout when compared to the other lots on the site. In 1898 an old law tenement building was constructed covered approximately 65% of the lot, leaving a relatively small rear yard area for testing. (See Diagram 1 & 2) Despite the fact that these structures are recent relative to the houses on the adjoining lots, the story is somewhat more complex than the 1898 scenario would indicate. Research on this structure reveals that a 1 and 1/2 story house did exist on the lot as far back as 1867, predating the sewer hookup. This house, valued in 1870 at \$600, was owned by one R. Anderson, who continued to own the structure until 1883, when he sold it to John Gillen, his next door neighbor. In 1887, the house was devalued to \$480, and the notation "F & R" accompanies the lower assessment for the lot. This is presumed to mean "Fire and Removed", which would explain the dramatic drop in assessed value for this lot. The lot remained vacant from 1887 to 1891, at which point a 29' x 50' structure identified as "new built" is listed for the property. This 1891 construction would have eradicated any cistern feature that would have been located behind the original house, however the potential remained for the presence of an original privy feature. The northeastern corner of the lot shows a small building identified as



a water closet in 1918, possibly built over the original privy. Other subsurface features of interest, such as more recent water closets might also continue to exist behind the tenement building, and these possibilities dictated the testing strategy on this lot.

The first subsurface test was a trench excavated in the northeastern corner of the lot. After removing only two feet of overburden, the backhoe turned up several mid 19th century ceramic fragments. Mechanical excavation was halted at this point, and the excavation team worked with shovels and trowels to expose the original privy feature, which remained intact. (Photo 16) A sample of artifacts was recovered from the upper stratum of the feature for dating purposes. (see Appendix A: Artifact Catalogue & 53 Taaffe Place Artifact photos) The feature was then measured, photographed and covered with a heavy mil tarp. The trench was then backfilled.

The next subsurface test was a 5' wide trench excavated north-south along the rear foundation line of the 1898 tenement structure. The tenement's rear foundation wall was quickly identified in the locus indicated on the 1918 Sanborn Map. In addition, an anomalous wall was encountered along the southern boundary of the site, extending from the rear foundation wall. (Photo 11) This anomalous wall appeared to be significantly earlier than the tenement feature, and the excavation team cleared its entire expanse using shovels and trowels. (Photo 12) The team exposed the wall to its base; and shovel tested along the edge in an attempt to identify a workman's trench or other materials that might indicate the walls original function. Soils recovered from the shovel tests were screened, and a number of mid 19th century artifacts were recovered. (Photo 14) This feature does not appear on any map either as the foundation of a structure or as a subsurface feature. Testing succeeded in dating this wall to the original occupation of the lot, however it is doubtful that this feature can contribute significantly to our knowledge of the lifeways of the occupants who constructed it. The wall was cleaned, measured, photographed and drawn. (Photo 13) It was then covered with a heavy mil tarp. The rear foundation wall was cleaned, measured, photographed and drawn, and the trench was backfilled. (Photo 15)

Both trenches excavated on Lot 16 identified the historic structures known to have existed on the lot in the 19th century. Trench one revealed the original mid-19th century privy associated with R. Anderson and trench two identified the rear foundation wall of the 1898 tenement building. An anomalous early field stone wall associated with the earliest occupation of the lot was also identified. The features were protected for future examination and the trenches were backfilled.

#### **LOT 19 - 47 TAAFFE PLACE**

<b>GEORGE HEILBURGER</b>	<b>OWNER 1868-1891</b>
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Lot 19 is located two lots north of Lot 17. As discussed above, Lot 18 had previously been eliminated from testing by the New York Landmarks Commission. The layout of the original house on Lot 19 is identical to others along the block, and as with the other lots tested, the features of interest were the privy and cistern associated with the

original house. This house, associated with J. Devlin at the time the connection was made to the sewer in 1868, but owned by George Heilburger (spelled various ways in the records) between 1868 and 1891, contained a store on the ground floor adding interest to the site. In addition, the 1918 Sanborn Map indicated structures along the northern boundary of the lot that might contain significant archaeological deposits.

To test for the presence of a 19th century privy, a 5' wide trench was excavated at the rear boundary of the lot in the northeastern corner. As with previously excavated trenches, the initial sediments removed were filled with modern debris. In this trench, however, the debris continued downward and changed to a dense deposit of automobile refuse in various stages of decomposition. (Photo 17) The trench was extended to a depth of eight feet in an attempt to reach deposits below the modern debris; however the debris layer extended all the way to the bottom. No early artifacts of any kind were noted or recovered. Had the privy been present in earlier times, the digging and filling would have eradicated it. The trench was extended westward along the border with 45 Taaffe place to attempt to locate traces of the structures indicated on the 1918 map. As the trench continued, more debris was encountered, changing from modern junk to smashed brick and mortar interspersed with timbers, some showing evidence of burning. Midway along the wall, a brick structure was encountered. (see Diagram 1 & 2, Photo 18-19) Mechanical excavation was halted, and the excavation team, using shovels and trowels, exposed the foundation of a water closet. (Photo 20) This structure consisted of two brick boxes with a brick floor. A recent clay sewer pipe extended from the southern wall of the cistern. (see Photo 20) No artifacts of any significant age were recovered from the soils around this feature. The brick water closet was cleaned, measured, photographed and drawn. In an attempt to locate and identify the rear foundation of the historic house, the trench was extended to the estimated house location, and then excavated along the area where the house should have been. Although the backhoe removed large quantities of brick and timber, much of it burned, no recognizable wall or structure of any kind was encountered in the debris. The trench was extended back from the estimated rear wall location in an attempt to identify the original cistern, however this area was filled with jumbled debris as well.

Lot 19 was carefully examined for the presence of cisterns and privies dating to the original house owned by J. Devlin and, subsequently, George Heilburger. The test trench placed along the back of the lot revealed extensive disturbance in the form of a digging and filling episode that had deposited automotive waste and modern trash along the rear of the lot to a significant depth. The extended trench succeeded in exposing the 20th century water closet feature noted on the 1918 Sanborn map. This feature was recorded and reburied. The rear house foundation and associated cistern were not encountered due to massive subsurface disturbance, probably during the destruction of the original house.



**LOT 27 LOT 28 - 796 AND 798 KENT AVENUE**

<b>796 KENT (LOT 27)</b>	<b>PETER CLARK PATRICK McCANN</b>	<b>OWNER 1849-1867 OWNER 1867-1897</b>
<b>798 KENT (LOT 28)</b>	<b>JOHN McCOY HANNAH McCOY</b>	<b>OWNER 1854-1867 OWNER 1867-1887</b>

The final lot tested on the Block 1883 site was Lot 27. The lot is made up of two parcels that are identified on the 1918 Sanborn map as 796 and 798 Kent Avenue. Historically these would have been Lot 27 and Lot 28. Today they have been combined into one lot (Lot 27) and the street address is 796 Kent Avenue. Both these houses were built in 1849-50, and were originally owned by Peter Clark (796 Kent Avenue) and John McCoy (798 Kent Avenue). These lots front Kent Avenue, however the rear boundaries are contiguous with 59 and 57 Taaffe Place, making them part of the overall site and part of the same mid 19th century neighborhood. As with each of the previous lots, the excavation plan focused on the possible presence of the original cisterns and privies. Lot 27 was densely covered with large scale debris, ranging from auto engines to rusted street light poles. (Photo 21-24) As a result, the lot surface required extensive clearing before testing could begin. Once the debris had been removed, a trench was begun in the northwestern corner of 796 Kent Avenue. The backhoe operator was instructed to remove the sediments in one foot strata, and within two feet below surface, mid 19th century artifacts began to occur in the excavated sediments. Mechanical excavation was halted, and the team manually exposed the top of a privy. (Photo 25 & 26) The artifacts occurred in a dense concentration, including 4 fragments of kaolin pipe stems, a hallmarked stoneware beer bottle, embossed medicine bottle, graniteware and diagnostic ceramics. The feature was measured, drawn and photographed then covered with a heavy mil plastic tarp. It was then backfilled to be preserved for further investigation.

The next area of focus was the junction of the two lots in the rear of the yard. (see Diagram 1 & 2) The possibility existed for the presence of the privy associated with 798 Kent Avenue (the McCoy property), and a trench was therefore placed in this locus. The 5' wide trench was excavated 5' north and south of the lot boundary. No pre-modern artifacts were recovered from the trench on the 796 Kent Avenue lot, however fragments of glass and brick began to emerge from the 798 Kent Avenue side of the trench. The trench was widened and deepened on Lot 28, and an enigmatic brick feature was exposed. The feature, constructed of modern bricks, was an oval container measuring 3' by 5'. (Photo 27 & 28) Mechanical excavation was halted and the team manually exposed a layer of coal ash and slag underlain by 20th century soda bottles and debris. The feature was emptied of its contents, all of which were recent. It was then photographed, measured and drawn. The backhoe operator was then instructed to remove the feature's brick floor and extend the trench to a depth of 6'. The exposed strata were composed of clean yellowish brown sand, and yielded no artifacts of any kind.

Testing on 798 Kent Avenue next turned to the southwestern corner of the lot. Since no privy had been identified in the northwestern rear corner, the possibility still remained that the privy was at the opposite side, a mirror image of the 796 Kent Avenue lot. After removing considerable surface debris, the backhoe operator opened a trench in this corner, and removed the strata in controlled one foot increments. Within three feet of the surface, mid 19th century artifacts began to emerge in the sediments and mechanical excavation was halted. The excavation team then hand cleared the sediments, revealing the hallmark circular stone ashlar construction of the original privy. (Photo 29) The privy feature was cleaned, drawn, measured and photographed. It was then covered with heavy mil plastic and the trench was backfilled, protecting the feature for future investigation.

The final test trench on Lot 27 was placed along the historical rear foundation line of the two original row houses in an attempt to identify the original cisterns associated with the houses. A five foot wide trench was begun at the northern boundary of 796 Kent Avenue and excavated to six feet in depth. The rear house foundation was located, although it had essentially been knocked down. A small brick feature made from more modern materials was identified at the rear foundation (Photo 30), however it produced no artifacts and was connected to modern ceramic pipe. This was probably an early 20th century plumbing feature. The entire expanse of the rear foundation area of Lot 27 was mixed brick and mortar debris. The trench was extended back from the foundation in a effort to identify the original cistern feature, however the entire subsurface yielded only mixed demolition debris. When the trench was extended to the junction of Lot 27 and Lot 28 the sediments changed dramatically in nature. The backhoe began to immediately encounter yellow brown sand with no inclusions. Lot 28 appears to have been filled with clean sandy fill, probably following the destruction and removal of the original house. The trench was extended back from the foundation line in an effort to identify the original cistern feature associated with the row house, however the test continued to encounter only clean sandy fill. Both trenches were then backfilled.

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

A walkover reconnaissance was completed on the Block 1883 site located in the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. After reviewing the Archaeological and Historical Sensitivity Evaluation completed for the project area, a testing strategy was created for the site focusing on the possible presence of original cisterns and privies associated with the now destroyed historic houses.

A total of 15 test trenches were excavated on the site with the following results:

- **LOT 13** - A mid 19th century privy, associated with Edward McNamara (owner of the property from 1853-1879 )was identified, recorded and reburied pending further investigation. (Appendix B: Artifact Photos)
- **LOT 15** - A mid 19th century cistern, associated with John Gillen (owner between 1869 and 1897) was identified, recorded and reburied pending further investigation. (Appendix B: Artifact Photos)

- **LOT 16** - A mid 19th century privy, associated with R. Anderson (owner between 1867 and 1883) was identified, recorded and reburied pending further investigation. (Appendix B: Artifact Photos)
- **LOT 27/28** - Two mid 19th century privies, one on 796 Kent Avenue associated with Peter Clark (owner between 1849 and 1870) or Patrick McCann (owner between 1870 and 1897) and a second on 798 Kent Avenue associated with John McCoy and his wife Hannah McCoy (owners from 1854 to 1887) were identified, recorded and reburied pending further investigation. (Appendix B: Artifact Photos)

An early fieldstone foundation wall was identified in Lot 16, however this feature was judged to have minimal potential to contribute to our knowledge of the lives of the mid 19th century inhabitants of the this Brooklyn neighborhood. It is therefore recommended that no further investigation be undertaken for this feature.

City water was available in Taaffe Place as early as 1861-62 (Tax Assessment Records), with sewer connections being made by 1867. Sewer Department records indicate that a number of the residents of Taaffe Place and Kent Avenue were connected to sewer in 1867-68. Once water and sewer were available, the cisterns and privies no longer in active use were frequently used as garbage receptacles in both urban and rural homes, and, based on our investigation, it is likely that all of the features identified on the Block 1883 site contain stratified deposits. Because these stratified deposits would likely yield information that will contribute to our knowledge of the lifeways of the residents of this Brooklyn neighborhood (referred to as the Eastern District) in the 19th century, it is the recommendation of City/Scape: Cultural Resource Consultants that a Stage 2 Data Recovery Excavation focusing on these features be undertaken on the Block 1883 site.

The specific research questions to be addressed in the Stage 2 data recovery program are designed to provide information concerning life in this neighborhood of Brooklyn, which was strongly Irish in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is likely, though not absolutely certain, that this neighborhood was also strongly associated with the Brooklyn Navy Yard, as well as shipping and ship building. Based on the materials recovered from the features on Block 1883, the research issues fall into several categories:

1. **Ethnicity**

The surnames associated with the project area are Irish, Scottish, English and German. The majority of the adults were Irish, suggesting that this a neighborhood was ethnically homogeneous. The German speaking family, who lived on Lot 19 (47 Taaffe Place) are not represented in the deposits, but is it possible to distinguish between the refuse of the English-speaking families born in the United States and those born abroad?. Is there any significant diversity among the various families evidenced in the refuse discarded, whether it be food stuffs, beverage and medicine bottles, tablewares, and the like?

2. **Occupation and Trade networks**

The area is close to the Brooklyn Navy Yard and industries that were related to the work

of the Navy Yard. We know from the City Directories and the Census Records that a variety of occupations were represented, including two grocers (Peter Clark and Patrick McCann), a milkman (John McCoy), a laborer (Edmund McNamara) and a porter (John Gillen). None of these occupations are clearly related to the industrial activities of the area, but most of the houses were inhabited by more than one family. Are the occupations of other residents reflected in the refuse? It appears that the owners of the stores were occupants of the buildings in which their business was located? Is this reflected in the refuse? Were home industries represented?

3. Economic Status of Working Class Population

Although the dates of the sewer connections suggest that families made connections as soon as they were available, the several instances in which the tax assessments were lowered and the one instance in which the City of Brooklyn took a property may indicate a population that was becoming economically disadvantaged. The types of consumer goods and foodstuffs present in the privy and cistern deposits may increase our knowledge of the economic circumstances of this population in Brooklyn. Comparisons with other neighborhoods in Brooklyn and Manhattan could provide important insights into a community that may have been economically disadvantaged.

4. Buying Patterns of Working Class Neighborhood

In one or two instances the same goods were retrieved from more than one deposit. In all cases the goods retrieved were similar. Graniteware was the predominant tableware. Only one privy provided evidence of highly decorated tableware, suggesting, perhaps, a somewhat higher standard of living. Can we identify buying patterns among this population. Is it possible to pinpoint the stores from which they made their purchases? How does the material culture represented in these deposits compare, for example, with those recovered at the Bishop Mugavero Geriatric Center Site in Cobble Hill (several miles from the project area) or from the Archaeological Data Recovery Excavations undertaken at the Shaft 21B Site, two blocks away from Block 1883? Are the buying patterns of some of the families sufficiently different to appear in the deposits? Does this reflect ethnic or economic status?

5. Dietary Profile

Substantial amounts of bone were recovered from the Stage 1B excavations. An analysis of the faunal and floral material present in the deposits would enable us to create a profile of the diet of this Brooklyn neighborhood. What can we learn about the types of food available to them, and the amount of it they consumed? What types of meat were predominant? Did it vary from family to family? Can we see this variety in the material goods of the family? For example, if cuts of meat appropriate for soup and stews are present, is this reflected by the presence of soup plates?

6. Hygiene

Although no toothbrushes were recovered in the materials collected in the Stage 1B excavation, they are frequent in such mid-19<sup>th</sup> century deposits. Along with other personal hygiene items, they reflect an interest in cleanliness and grooming. What can we

learn about the habits of these people through the material discarded in their privies and cisterns? Chamber pots or commodes are represented in the deposits, these items also reflect concerns with sanitation and illustrate the goods available to the inhabitants of this neighborhood.

7. Religion

Given the ethnic background of the inhabitants of this neighborhood, it is likely that many of them were Roman Catholics. Is this reflected in the debris they discarded?

8. Other research issues

In addition to the themes already noted, further information could also be gathered on the social status of the population, gender and details of daily life of a densely populated community in the vicinity of the Brooklyn Navy Yard from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Other issues may relate to the management of the various features. In some cases privies and cisterns were closed immediately after the hook up to water and sewer took place. In other instances it appears that such features were left open for a number of years, providing a convenient dumping place for household refuse of increasing modernity. Do the TPQ's for the various features assist in identifying the kind of management they received?

Although each of these issues would provide sufficient reason for further investigation of the project area, it is the opinion of the consultants, that the most important aspect of the proposed data recovery program is the presence of four privies and one cistern in such a tight area provides us with a virtual "snapshot" of a neighborhood in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Based on the materials recovered in the Stage 1B investigation, these features appear to range in date from c. 1854 (59 Taaffe Place privy) to sometime in the 1880's (55 Taaffe Place cistern). They are not only contemporaneous, but reflect a similar social stratum. When the results of this data recovery program are compared with those from other sites in the same general area, we will be able to paint an increasingly full picture of the complexities of life in the Eastern District between 1850 and 1900.

## RECOMMENDED SCOPE OF WORK

- Trenching

The consultants will arrange for a backhoe and operator to reopen the four previously excavated privies and the cistern to expose the features described above. The backhoe operator will then strip away fill of varying depths that presently covers the features to provide access to them. At the completion of the work the backhoe operator will return to fill the features on the site.

- Excavation of features

Plans for the project call for excavations that will be deeper than the depth of the features exposed during the Stage 1B survey. Because the features cannot be preserved, it is proposed to carefully dismantle the brick cisterns and the privies from

the outside to gain access to the deposits in the interior. Each feature will be excavated in halves in order to determine the stratigraphy of the deposit. The removal of the outside walls and the excavation of the upper deposits in each of the features will be by arbitrary levels. Once historic deposits have been reached, excavation will proceed by 6" intervals to sterile soils.

The soils from the excavations will be passed through 1/4 inch steel hardware mesh, and the screens examined for cultural material. Careful records will be kept of soil profiles, and drawings and photographs will identify the levels at which cultural material is recovered. All artifacts will be bagged and labeled prior to removal to the laboratory.

In the course of excavation, soil samples will be recovered for microscopic examination.

- Laboratory Processing

All artifacts collected from the excavated features will be taken to the laboratory. The specific archaeological laboratory tasks include the cleaning and processing of all recovered material.

When the analysis of the cultural material is complete, an artifact catalogue will be created.

A number of independent analyses will need to be undertaken. Some of these will require outside consultants. Food remains, including bone, will be examined and identified by an outside consultant. Samples will have been taken for parasite and pollen analysis. These samples will also be analyzed by an outside consultant. It is also possible that the pipes recovered from the excavations will be analyzed by a person familiar with the dating and morphology of smoking implements. Glass will likewise be sent to a specialist in 19<sup>th</sup> century glass. The ceramics will be analyzed in-house. The outside consultants will prepare reports that will be included in the final Stage 2 report.

- Report Preparation

Following the completion of the field work, artifact analysis, and the work of the outside consultants, a Stage 2 Data Recovery report will be prepared. The report will consist of the results of the excavations, the artifact catalogue, an analysis of the material recovered, and responses to the research questions posed above, along with appropriate drawings, photographs, and figures.

Upon completion of the final report, a copy should be provided to the client with four copies presented to the Landmarks Commission for their review. It is recommended that the artifacts excavated be housed at an appropriate facility to ensure that they are available for future reuse and analysis.



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# APPENDICES

## **LIST OF APPENDICES**

**Appendix A: Artifact Catalogue**

**Appendix B: Field Record and Artifact Photographs**

**Appendix C: Map and Diagrams**

**APPENDIX A**  
**ARTIFACT CATALOGUE**

**59 TAAFFE PLACE (LOT 13)****OWNER: EDWARD MCNAMARA – 1852 TO 1879****FEATURE IDENTIFIED: PRIVY**

Category of Artifacts	List of Artifacts Recovered
Smoking	1 broken kaolin pipe bowl, 2.8 cm wide, 05 cm thick at top, height 3.9, no markings
	1 complete kaolin pipe bowl, 2.6 cm wide, 0.4 cm thick at top, height 3.8 cm, no markings
	1 complete kaolin pipe bowl, 2.5 cm wide, 0.2 cm thick, height 4.4. cm, indecipherable stamp on stem side of bowl
	3 fragmts Kaolin pipe stems
Bottles	1 green glass blob top mineral water bottle, case molded; <b>M. CROWELL/72 &amp; 74 HALL STREET/BROOKLYN, N.Y./THIS BOTTLE/NOT TO/BE SOLD.</b> No date. 72 & 74 Hall Street located 6 blocks to west between Flushing & Park.
	1 oval olive green glass fragmt – probable medicine bottle, no markings, 6.5 x 3.4 cm
	2 lt green blue glass fragmts (mend) – medicine bottle, no markings, 5.0 x 3.9 cm at shoulder, 2.1 cm diameter at lip
	1 paneled & chamfered brown glass fragmt; “LEN’S” raised lettering on narrow side, 4.5 x 6.1 cm. Tentative identification: Mrs. S. A. Allen’s World’s Hair Restorer, 355 Broome Street, NY, c. 1855-1890, hair color preparation.
Misc. glass	2 fragmts window glass, 6.4 x 3.5 x 0.3 cm & 6.7 x 4.7 x 0.2 cm
	1 curved fragmt clear glass, 4.5 x 2.1 x 0.2 cm; possible lamp chimney
	1 clear glass fragmt, 5.6 x 1.9 cm – possible goblet or drinking glass
	1 clear glass bottle fragmt; 7.3 x 3.5 x 1.0 cm
	1 glass fragmt; burned; 4.1 x 2.5 x 0.7 cm
Kitchenware	1 fragmt yellowware with white slip & 2 blue stripes, 5.8 x 4.6 cm; probable bowl
	1 fragmt redware with incised stripe (string line); 2.8 x 2.0 cm; too small to identify type of vessel
	2 fragmts brown glazed paneled Rockingham pitcher; 11 x 8 cm & 9.0 x 5.0 cm. Dark brown glaze on interior & exterior; handle portion & spout portion; raised decoration (possible flower) on larger fragmt.

**59 TAAFFE PLACE (LOT 13)****OWNER: EDWARD MCNAMARA – 1852 TO 1879****FEATURE IDENTIFIED: PRIVY**

Category of Artifacts	List of Artifacts Recovered
Tableware	
	1 fragmt graniteware; 3.1 x 2.8 cm; lower part of mark – Ribbon with “MON” on lower portion of ribbon & “NSTONE CH/RURIA POTTERY. Etruria Pottery operated under changing partnerships from 1865 - c. 1871, when Ott & Brewer became partners (1871-93). Located in Trenton, NJ, this large pottery offered wide variety of table & sanitary wares in ironstone, as well as early American manufactured belleck (Miller, 1995:149 & Lehner, 1988:140).
	1 fragmt graniteware with mark, 6.4 x 4.4. cm; Mark: unidentified – crown in front of cloth over a rod with finial, no lettering or initials; apparently a saucer or small plate.
	Graniteware plate fragmt, 10.0 x 6.7 cm, rim with low relief wheat pattern, no foot
	Graniteware plate fragmt, crazed, 7.3 x 3.8 cm; footed
	Graniteware saucer fragmt; 7.6 x 3.6 cm; footed
	Graniteware saucer fragmt; 5.2 x 4.4 cm.
	Graniteware plate fragmt, 4.7 x 2.4 cm; footed
	Graniteware plate fragmt, 3.8 x 3.1 cm, footed
	Graniteware fragmt, 3.8 x 3.2 cm; possible plate; “fleur-de-lis” type design.
	Graniteware fragmt, 7.2 x 2.8 cm; octagonal shape – possible cup
	Graniteware fragmt, 4.6 x 3.5 cm; octagonal shape – probable cup
	Graniteware cup fragmt, 5.2 x 3.7 cm;
	Graniteware cup fragmt, 5.2 x 3.6 cm
	7 medium sized graniteware fragmts – various sizes
	7 small graniteware fragmts – various sizes
Transferware & colored pieces	1 fragmt Blue Willow rim sherd, 3.9 x 3.6 cm, traditional English border – probable English manufacture. (Same pattern recovered at 55 Taaffe Place)
	1 fragmt blue & white transferware, 5.8 x 1.8 cm; too small to identify pattern, apparently a shelter on edge of lake – may be a Blue Willow piece related to rim sherd
	1 fragmt creamware with green leaf pattern, 2.0 x 1.1 cm
	1 blue feather edge plate rim sherd, 5.9 x 3.1 cm
Personal & sanitary ware	1 handle fragmt with design & green stripe, 4.5 x 4.2 cm –handle of shaving mug-type vessel

**59 TAAFFE PLACE (LOT 13)****OWNER: EDWARD MCNAMARA – 1852 TO 1879****FEATURE IDENTIFIED: PRIVY**

Category of Artifacts	List of Artifacts Recovered
	2 fragmts graniteware (mends), 5.1 x 5.0 cm, thick rim and curvature suggests commode fragments
	1 black fine toothed comb fragmt – not a nit comb – probably 20 <sup>th</sup> rather than 19 <sup>th</sup> century item
	Belt buckle, 6.7 x 4.9; rusted and corroded
Gardening	1 clay flower pot rim fragmt – c. 1854 (Beaudet, 1990: 115)
	2 clay flower pot fragmts
Food stuff	1 oyster shell
	3 quahog fragmts
	1 fragmt unidentified bone – probably spine
Other	Several pieces of material – green
	Several pieces of leather
	4 fragmts unidentified material



**55 TAAFFE PLACE (LOT 15)****OWNER: JOHN GILLEN – 1869 TO 1899****FEATURE IDENTIFIED: CISTERN**

Category of Artifacts	List of Artifacts Recovered
Bottles	1 blue-green glass blob top mineral water bottle, case molded; <b>WEHMHOFER BROS./327-333/EWEN STREET/BROOKLYN, E.D./REGISTERED/1892</b> . Raised “W” on shoulder of bottle & trade mark “W” over an elongated “B” in center of bottle between “Registered” & “1892” Ewen Street has been changed to Manhattan Avenue.
	1 blue-green glass blob top mineral water bottle, case molded; <b>F. DAVID/488-492/FLUSHING AVE/BROOKLYN</b> ; Mark on back: Anchor set at an angle with “F” on upper side & “D” on lower side. No date. Today the address would be on Flushing either on corner of Bedford three blocks from project area.
Tableware	1 fragmt blue & white painted rim sherd, 1.9 x 1.8 cm; lattice pattern and solid blue edge.

**53 TAAFFE PLACE (LOT 16)****OWNER: R. ANDERSON – 1867 TO 1883****FEATURE IDENTIFIED: STONE FOUNDATION**

Category of Artifacts	List of Artifacts Recovered
	1 lt green-blue blob top mineral water bottle, case molded; C. <b>McGINNESS/36/SPENCER ST/BROOKLYN</b> ; on reverse a triangle with <b>TRADE MARK</b> above it & date <b>1876</b> in center of triangle. Spencer Street is 5 blocks east of project area, address was probably on Spencer near Myrtle Avenue.
Misc. glass	1 fragmt curved blue molded glass, 2.8 x 2.8 cm; possible candy dish or similar vessel.
Kitchenware	1 brown glazed fragmt, 3.3 x 2.2 cm – possible handle fragment
	1 curved rim sherd, 2.6 x 1.8 cm; white interior & exterior, exterior decorated with brown stripes of several tones
	1 curved fragmt, 2.4 x 1.1 cm; white interior & exterior, exterior decorated with pink stripe
	1 stoneware fragmt, 10.5 x 5.0 cm at base; brown glazed interior – probable storage jar
	1 creamware fragmt, 5.0 x 2.0 cm at base – possible preserve jar
Tableware	1 creamware fragmt, 3.5 x 1.5 cm; footed & slightly curved – possible bowl
	1 creamware fragmt, 3.1 x 3.1 cm; footed & slightly curved – possible bowl
	1 graniteware fragmt, 5.4 x 3.1 cm; footed & slightly curved – probable bowl
	1 graniteware fragmt, 3.8 x 3.3 cm; slight curve suggests vessel rather than plate, raised “rope” pattern
	1 graniteware fragmt, 12.0 x 2.3 cm; curved vessel with raised pattern
	1 fragmt of blue & white transferware, 8.4 x 5.0 cm; oval cover of vessel such as a teapot; pattern includes birds, flowers, on latticework
	1 blue & white transferware rim sherd, 4.8 x 2.5 cm; design includes ship
	1 fragmt blue & white transferware, 2.7 x 2.0 cm; unidentified vessel
	2 fragmts blue & white transferware (mend), 5.2 x 2.6 cm; Blue Willow pattern, same pattern as from privy on Lot 13 (59 Taaffe Place)
	2 fragmts blue & white transferware (new break), 5.9 x 3.7 cm; rim sherd, leaf pattern (not Blue Willow)
Personal & sanitary ware	1 fragmt redware, 4.8 x 3.9 cm; red glaze interior & exterior, exterior has black splotchy markings – common pattern for chamber pot or commode.
Food stuff	1 cow tooth, 5.1 x 2.5 cm
	3 fragmt quahog shell

**53 TAAFFE PLACE (LOT 16)****OWNER: R. ANDERSON – 1867 TO 1883****FEATURE IDENTIFIED: PRIVY**

<b>Category of Artifacts</b>	<b>List of Artifacts Recovered</b>
Smoking	1 kaolin pipe bowl, 2.5 x 2.5 cm, 0.3 cm thick; indecipherable mark on stem side; round rather than oval shape of pipes from privy on Lot 13;
Bottles	1 olive green wine bottle base, width 7.6 cm, height 11.0 cm
Kitchenware	Redware fragmt, 4.1 x 2.7 cm; unidentifiable curved vessel
	1 brown glazed storage jar fragment, 10.0 x 4.0 cm
Tableware	1 creamware fragmt, 9.0 x 4.0 cm; footed & slightly curved – possible bowl
	1 creamware fragmt, 7.5 x 4.0 cm; footed & slightly curved – possible bowl
	1 creamware fragmt, 3.8 x 2.5 cm; unidentified vessel, slightly curved side
	1 graniteware fragmt, 5.4 x 3.1 cm; footed & slightly curved – probable bowl
	3 rim fragmts (1 vessel), 16.2 x 6.5 cm; very white glazed utilitarian bowl
	1 blue spongeware saucer fragmt, 13.0 x 7.0 cm; heavy, utilitarian piece
	1 brown & white transferware fragmt, 3.5 x 2.5 cm; footed and slight curve – possible plate; marked “S CABL”, image of two arches of bridge or like structure
	3 blue & white transferware rim sherds, 9.5 x 4.0 cm; floral design rim with various flowers (broken in excavation)
	1 fragmt blue & white transferware, 4.1 x 3.1 cm; slightly curved piece, probable Blue Willow vessel
	1 fragmt graniteware, 11.5 x 7.0 cm; unidentified vessel, glazed white on interior, exterior has beige (buff) colored band decorated with round “pearls” and “rope,” green and black strip above and black stripe below – probable 20 <sup>th</sup> century piece
Gardening	1 clay flower pot fragmt, 3.5 x 3.1 cm; red glazed interior

**796 KENT AVENUE****OWNER: PETER CLARK - 1849 – C. 1870****PATRICK MCCANN – 1870-1897****FEATURE IDENTIFIED: PRIVY**

<b>Category of Artifacts</b>	<b>List of Artifacts Recovered</b>
Smoking	4 fragmts kaolin pipe stem, 5.2 x 0.6 cm, 5.4 x 0.7 cm, 4.3 x 0.6 cm, 3.9 x 0.7 cm.
Bottles	Pottery beer bottle, marked "WCL & CO", height 24 cm, base 8.5 cm, buff exterior, brown glaze interior
	Wide mouthed clear glass medicine bottle, height 13.0 cm, base 6.0 x 3.5 cm, embossed on broad side within panel - <b>TARRANT &amp; CO/DRUGGISTS/NEW YORK</b>
Kitchenware	Stoneware jug, top and portion of handle, stamped "THOMAS . . .", buff exterior, brown glaze interior, bore 3.5 cm, 7.0 cm x 6.0 cm
	Salt glazed stoneware crock with Albany slip interior, rim fragmt, 7.5 x 5.0 cm
	Yellowware pie plate, 2 fragmts – no join, but color suggests one vessel, 17.0 x 8.0 cm, 19.0 x 6.0 cm
	Yellowware slope sided bowl, 3 fragmts – no join but color suggest one vessel, decorated with inverted scallop on rim, 9.0 x 6.2 cm, 14.0 x 7.0 cm, 5.3 x 4.2 cm
	Yellowware vessel, type unknown – color suggests one vessel, 3.8 x 2.5 cm; 4.1 x 2.7 cm, 4.2 x 3.5 cm, 6.1 x 2.6 cm
	Rim fragmt yellowware vessel, type unknown, 6.2 x 5.5. cm
	Brown stripe on cream rim fragment, 3.3 x 2.5 cm – possible bowl
Tableware	Graniteware, 3 fragmts, ovoid shaped bottom, 7.2 x 3.7 cm, 4.4 x 2.3 cm, 4.4 x 2.5 cm
	3 Graniteware fragmts, heavily crazed, color and depth of brim suggests one plate, 15.0 x 11.2 cm, 10.0 x 6.0 cm, 6.0 x 3.3 cm
	Graniteware soup bowl, 17.0 x 10.0 cm
	Graniteware cup fragmt, 5.7 x 5.6 cm
	Graniteware cup fragmt, rim sherd, 4.5 x 4.1 cm
	Graniteware saucer fragmt, 7.2 x 4.5 cm
	Graniteware fragmt, slightly curved, 7.3 x 5.0 cm
	Graniteware fragmt, slightly curved, 4.6 x 3.8 cm
	6 small graniteware fragmts, various sizes
	Graniteware handle, twisted rope with knot, 9.5 x 1.5, angle suggests handle of tureen or similar lid rather than handle of teapot or the like
	2 fragmt scallop edge plates with blue "feathering" – two separate plates, 9.0 x 7.8 cm, 6.3 x 4.6 cm

**796 KENT AVENUE****OWNER: PETER CLARK - 1849 – C. 1870****PATRICK MCCANN – 1870-1897****FEATURE IDENTIFIED: PRIVY**

<b>Category of Artifacts</b>	<b>List of Artifacts Recovered</b>
Tableware	Blue & white transferware fluted rim sherd, straight-sided vessel, possible cup or cachepot, 4.6 x 3.2 cm
	Blue & white transferware, 2 fragmts, Chinese pagoda and background scene, 3.0 x 2.7 cm, 3.1 x 3.1 cm; scene resembles Spode pattern
	Blue & white transferware with hand painted interior, 2 fragmts, possible bowl, 4.3 x 3.7 cm, 4.5 x 2.7 cm
	4 small blue & white transferware fragmts, various patterns, including spongeware
	Black & white transferware fragmt, 2.3 x 1.8 cm
Child's toys	White dome of sugar bowl or similar vessel, part of child's tea set, painted with springs & yellow dots for flowers
Sanitary ware	White graniteware, possible base of commode, 10.0 x 6.0 cm
	Graniteware spout of vessel such as bed warmer or possible urinal, 6.0 x 6.5 cm
Gardening	Clay flowerpot rim fragmt, 10.0 x 9.0 cm, slightly fluted rim with painted green stripe below, body is marked by diamond pattern

**798 KENT AVENUE (Lot 28)****OWNER: HANNAH P. MCCOY – PRIOR TO 1870 – 1887****ANNIE MCCANN – 1887 - 1897****FEATURE IDENTIFIED – PRIVY**

<b>Category of Artifacts</b>	<b>List of Artifacts Recovered</b>
Bottles	Clear glass sour pickle jar, faceted body, round top, height 16.0 cm, base 6.0 x 4.0 cm, top 4.0 x 4.0 cm. Part of paper label adhering to jar: <b>SO-R P—ES/ALUM – NCES/W—BROS. MFG. CO./MPHIS, TENN.</b> Numeral “5” embossed on base.
	Second example of “sour pickle jar”, no label. Embossed on base “T”
	2 fragmts of broken base of same sour pickle product. Embossed on base “T”
	Broken top of same sour pickle product
	2 fragmts condiment jar similar in size and shape to sour pickle jars above, height 5.0 cm, base 6.0 x 4.0. Base embossed “4”
	Clear glass 6-sides condiment jar with screw top, height 11.0 cm, base 4.0 cm in diameter, top 4.3. Embossed on base “4” and “624”
	Clear glass broken base of several sized H. J. Heinz condiment jar, height 7.0 cm, marked “H.J. HEI..” Base also embossed “162-
	Broken top of clear glass milk bottle, height 8.0 cm, top 5.5 diameter.
	Clear glass square bottle with prescription lip, body 4.0 x 4.0 cm, top diameter 2.1. Marked on 3 sides: <b>MAKES/GALLON/DELICI - - MANUF/THE CHA- PHILA.</b>
	Brown glass medicine bottle with prescription lip, closed with cork, partial contents remain, height 7.5 cm, base diameter 5.1 cm, top diameter 2.1 cm
	Lt green glass square condiment jar with round top, height 9.0 cm, top 4.0 cm diameter
	Lt green broken top of blob top “mineral water” type bottle, height 8.5 cm
	Lt green broken top of beverage bottle, clamp cap, height 8.5 cm
	Sherd of mineral water bottle, 4.9 x 4.6 cm, marked “...TLE/OLD” (presumably “Bottle Not To Be Sold”)
	Lt green base, 6.9 c 4.9 cm
	Clear glass base, 5.0 x 4.5 cm, possible tumbler
Misc. glass	Fragment of ruby glass, 3.0 x 2.4 cm, appear to be part of round object
Smoking	Fragmt of kaolin clay pipe stem, 3.4 x 0.8 cm
Kitchenware	Yelloware fragmt, 4.0 x 3.5 cm
	Blue & white spongeware bowl fragmt, 4.1 x 2.7 cm
Tableware	Scalloped edge plate rim sherds with tint of light green and embossed design, 6.9 x 5.2 cm, 5.8 x 4.6 cm, 5.3 x 4.9 cm. No mends



798 KENT AVENUE (Lot 28)

OWNER: HANNAH P. MCCOY – PRIOR TO 1870 – 1887

ANNIE MCCANN – 1887 - 1897

FEATURE IDENTIFIED – PRIVY

Category of Artifacts	List of Artifacts Recovered
	Graniteware fragmt, possible soup bowl, 11.5 x 7.5 cm
	Graniteware cup fragmt, 4.3 x 5.1 cm,
	Graniteware cup fragmt, 6.0 x 3.9 cm
	Graniteware cup fragmt, 5.7 x 4.6 cm
	Graniteware plate fragmt, 5.0 x 4.5 cm, low relief pattern at inner edge of brim
	Graniteware cup fragmt, 6.1 x 4.1 cm
	Graniteware, curved fragmt, 5.5 x 4.6 cm
	Graniteware, curved fragmt, 5.0 x 4.0 cm
	Graniteware plate sherd, 2.7 x 2.8 cm. Marked: <b>TONE CHINA</b> below inferred British Royal coat of arms with motto " <b>DIEU ET</b> " Mon Droit. Not identifiable
	10 graniteware fragmts, various sizes
	White saucer fragmt, not graniteware, 4.6 x 3.6 cm
	White china saucer fragmt edged with pink, 4.1 x 2.8 cm
	White china curved fragmt, 4.9 x 3.9 cm. Hand painted decoration with gray leaves.
	White china rim sherd with low relief design and teal green decoration, 2.5 x 2.1 cm
	Graniteware plate rim fragmt, 7.0 x 6.2 cm. Edged in gold design
	Graniteware curved fragmt, 5.1 x 6.0 cm. Possible bowl or cachepot. Rim edged in light blue with gold design beneath
Ornamental objects	Pink bisque fragmt, slightly curved, 2.1 x 2.6 cm. Impressed design of two crossed batons (bones ?) and "- in Ger- -"
Personal	Comb, possible tortoiseshell, 10.0 across at top, 5.0 cm deep
Sanitary ware	3 graniteware fragmts of possible commode, rim sherd 6.0 x 2.8 cm, body sherd 6.5 x 4.4 cm, base sherd 5.4 x 5.1 cm
Misc. pieces	Bright red glazed tile, 4.1 x 3.0 cm. Appear to be bathroom tile or similar
	White ceramic bar with holes at either end, 8.0 x 1.4 x 1.4 cm. Has appearance of electrical ground or similar

**APPENDIX B**

**FIELD RECORD AND  
ARTIFACT PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Photo 1:** Excavation began on Lot 13 (59 Taaffe Place). Vegetation at rear of lot covered substantial debris. Using mechanical equipment this was removed to front of lot to expose area of investigation.



**Photo 2:** Debris was piled on front of lot in area of former house for later removal. Soil that had been dumped on property was carefully removed to expose original land surface.



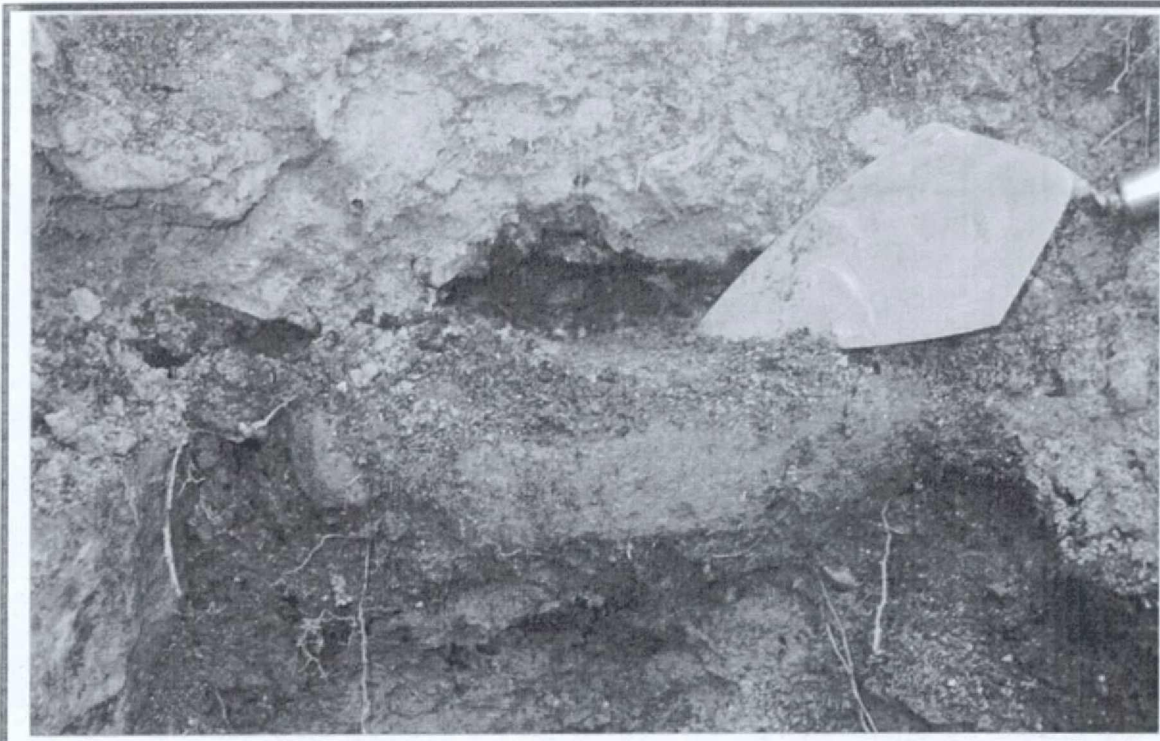


**Photo 3:** Immediately below original ground surface in northwest corner of Lot 13 an intact privy was encountered. Hand excavation revealed circle of stones and numerous artifacts.

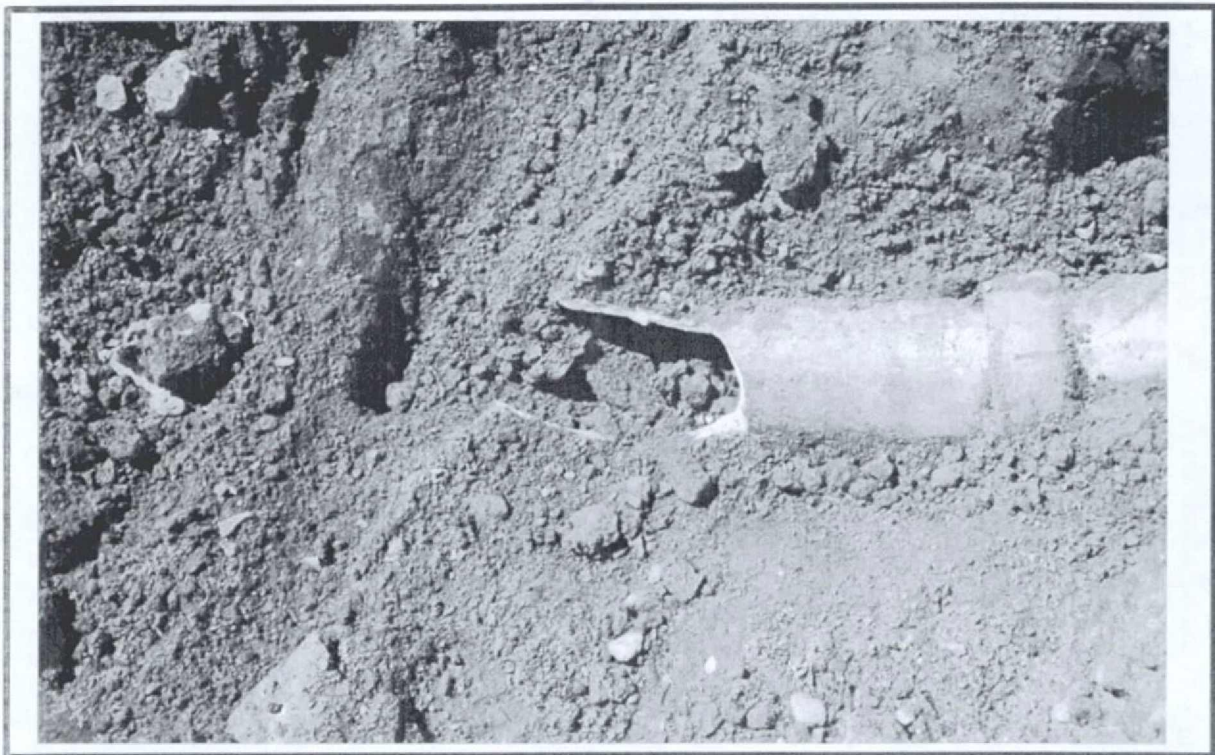


**Photo 4:** Artifacts recovered were consistent with materials dating to second half of 19<sup>th</sup> century. Feature was covered with tarp and protected from the elements and possible vandalism by a layer of soil.



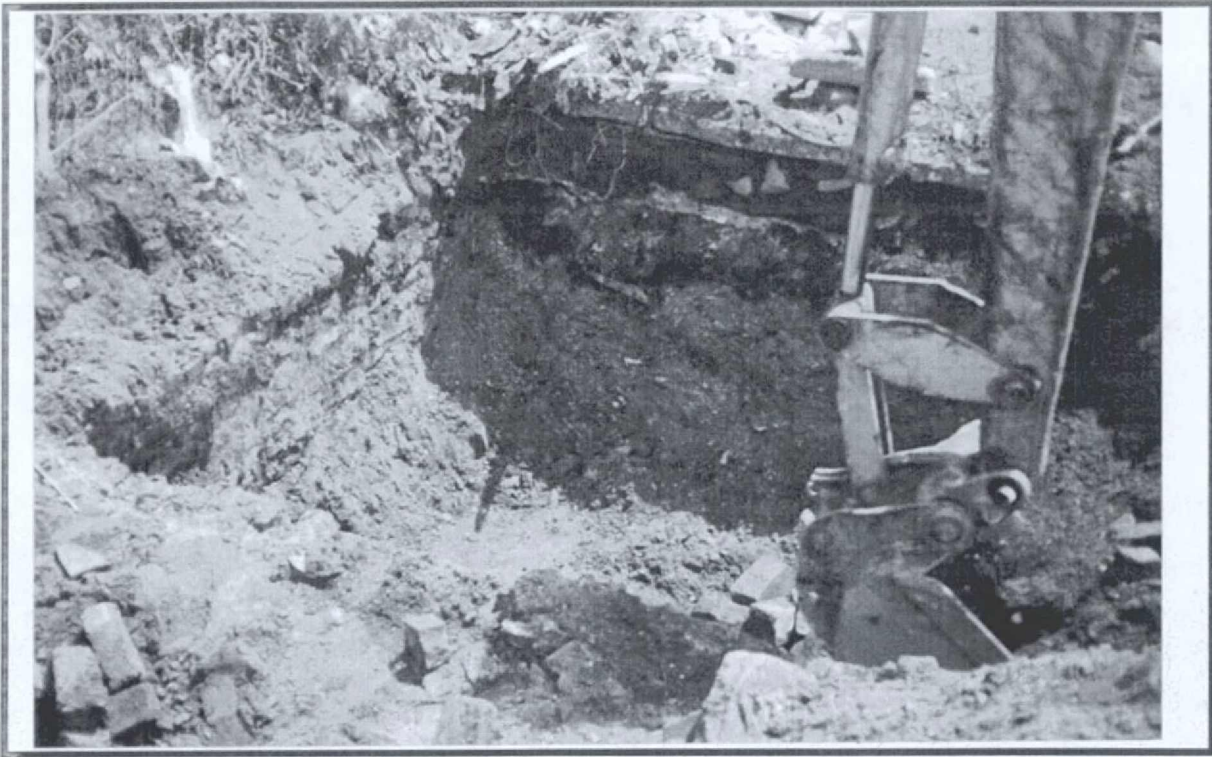


**Photo 5:** Rear foundation wall of house on Lot 13 was located. It appears to have been demolished and portions of it shoved into rear yard at time the house was removed from the property.

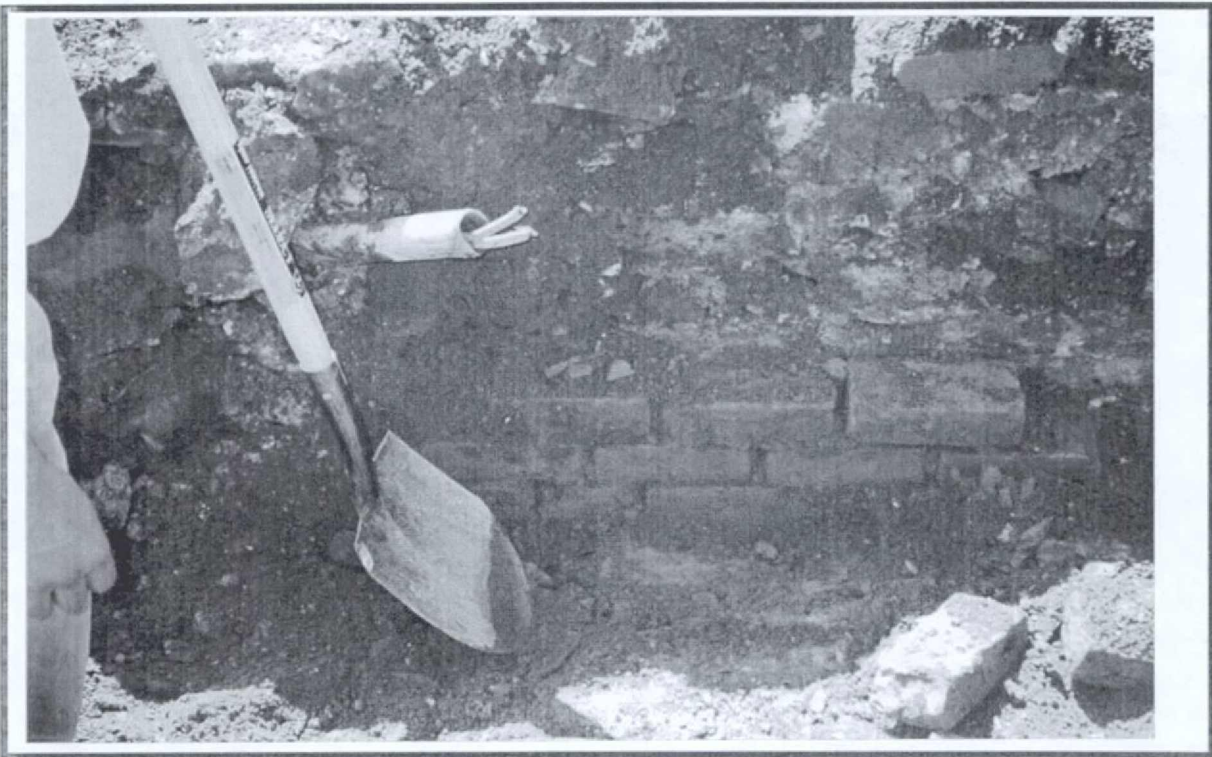


**Photo 6:** Mechanical excavations were undertaken in an effort to locate a cistern at rear of house. Modern sewer pipe and possible water pipes were uncovered. Excavation extended across width of Lot 13, but no evidence of a cistern was uncovered.



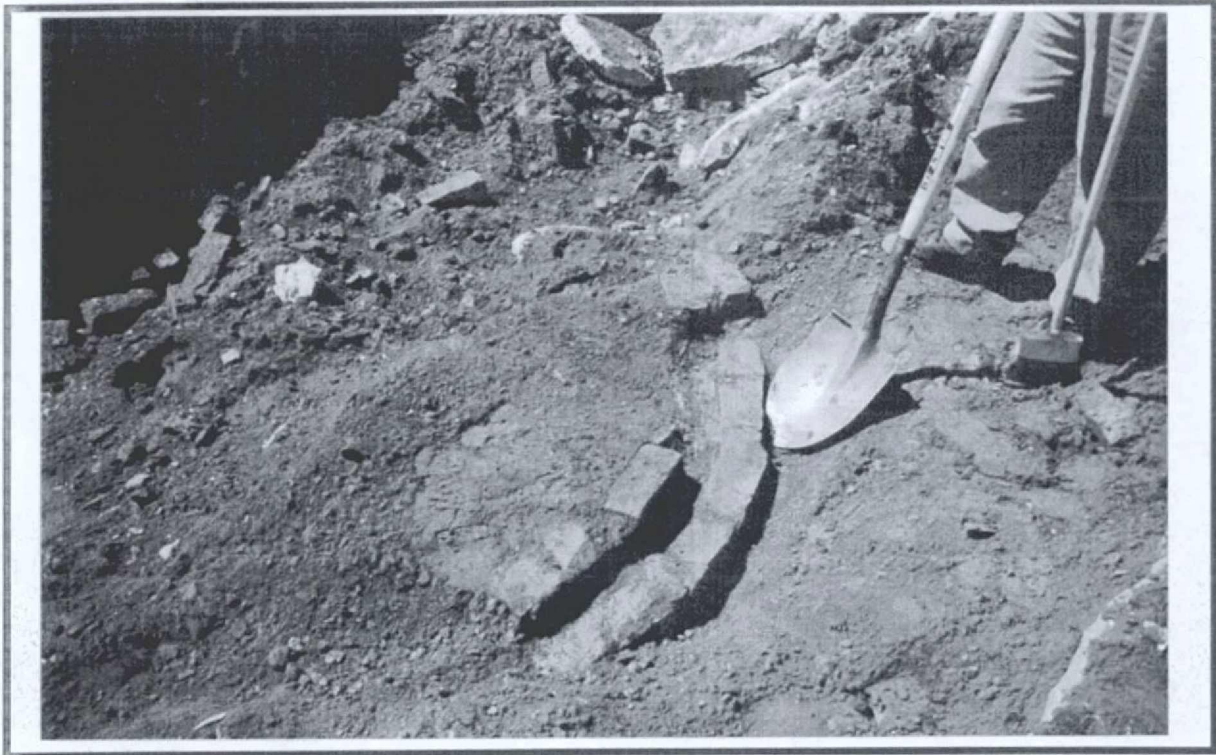


**Photo 7:** At rear of Lot 15 (55 Taaffe Place) a square a brick structure was uncovered. It was excavated to a brick and concrete floor. No artifacts of significance were recovered. This structure (1 story extension of rear dwelling on lot) appears on 1904 Sanborn map of property.



**Photo 8:** Rear foundation wall at front of Lot 15 was exposed. Area approximately six to ten feet behind house was then systematically excavated to search for possible cistern.



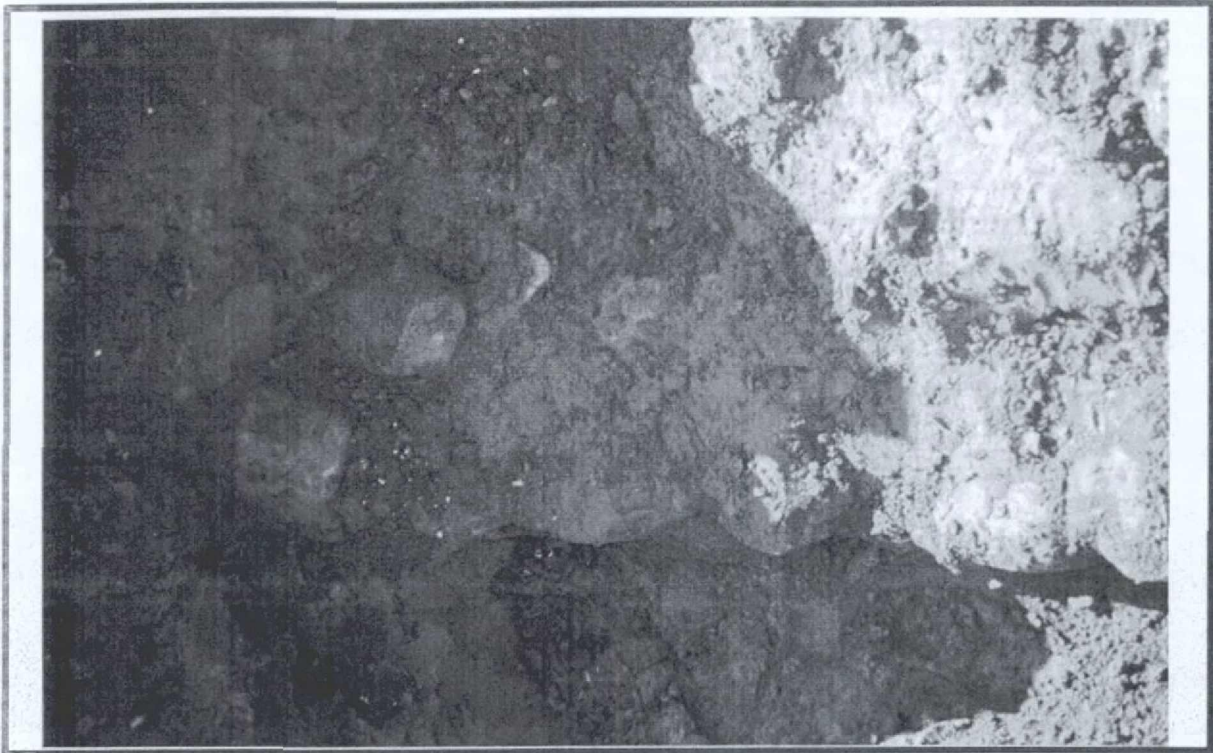


**Photo 9:** Approximately ten feet behind house foundation a brick cistern was uncovered. Hand excavation revealed apparently intact cistern. Two blob top case molded mineral water bottles (one dated 1892) were recovered immediately outside cistern.

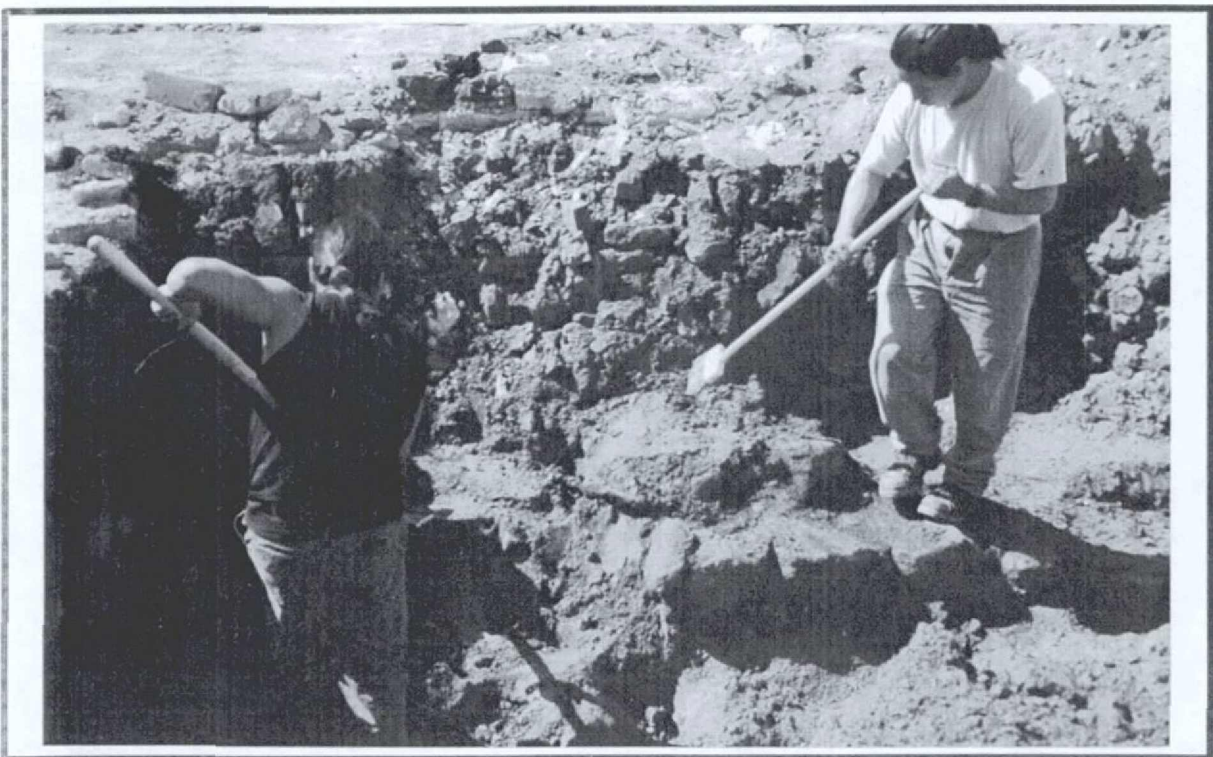


**Photo 10:** Cistern was covered with tarp and protective layer of soil placed over it.



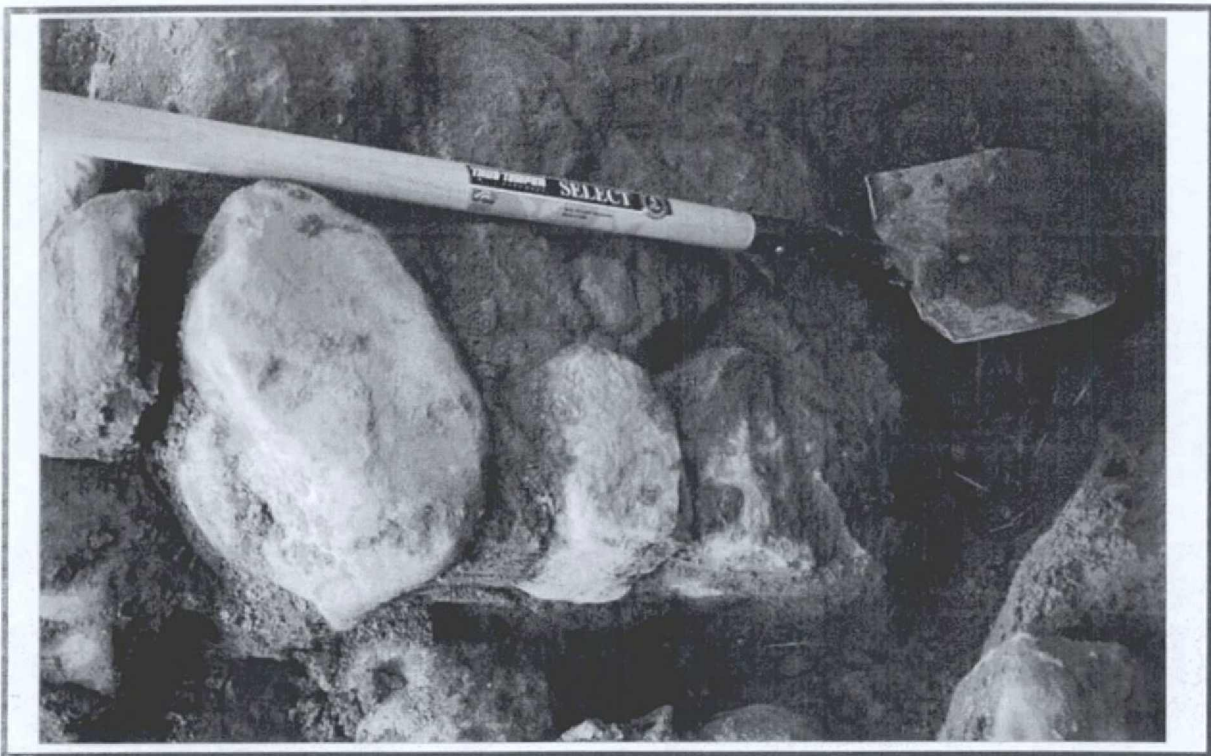


**Photo 11:** Just beyond rear wall of the old law tenement on Lot 16 (53 Taaffe Place) a stone foundation was revealed. The structure associated with this foundation does not appear on any map examined.

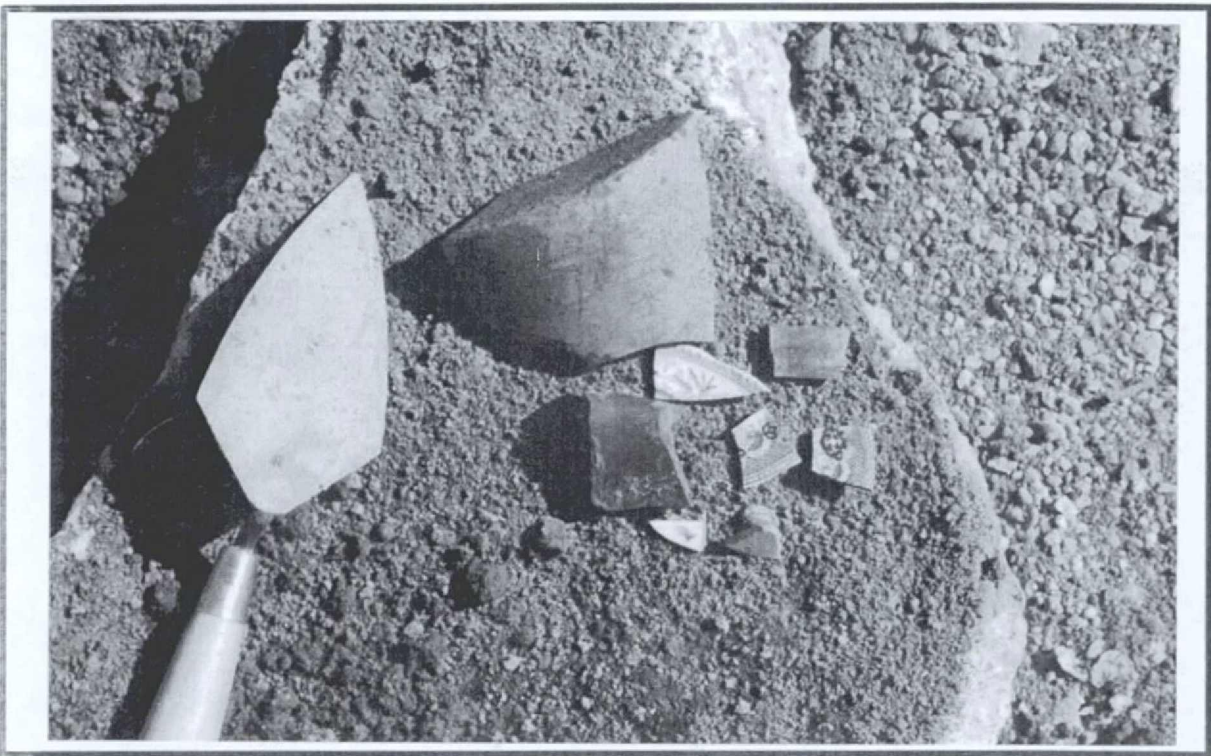


**Photo 12:** Area of stone foundation was hand excavated and artifacts associated with it collected. Foundation abutted southern property line.





**Photo 13:** Excavated stone foundation on Lot 16 was measured and photographed.

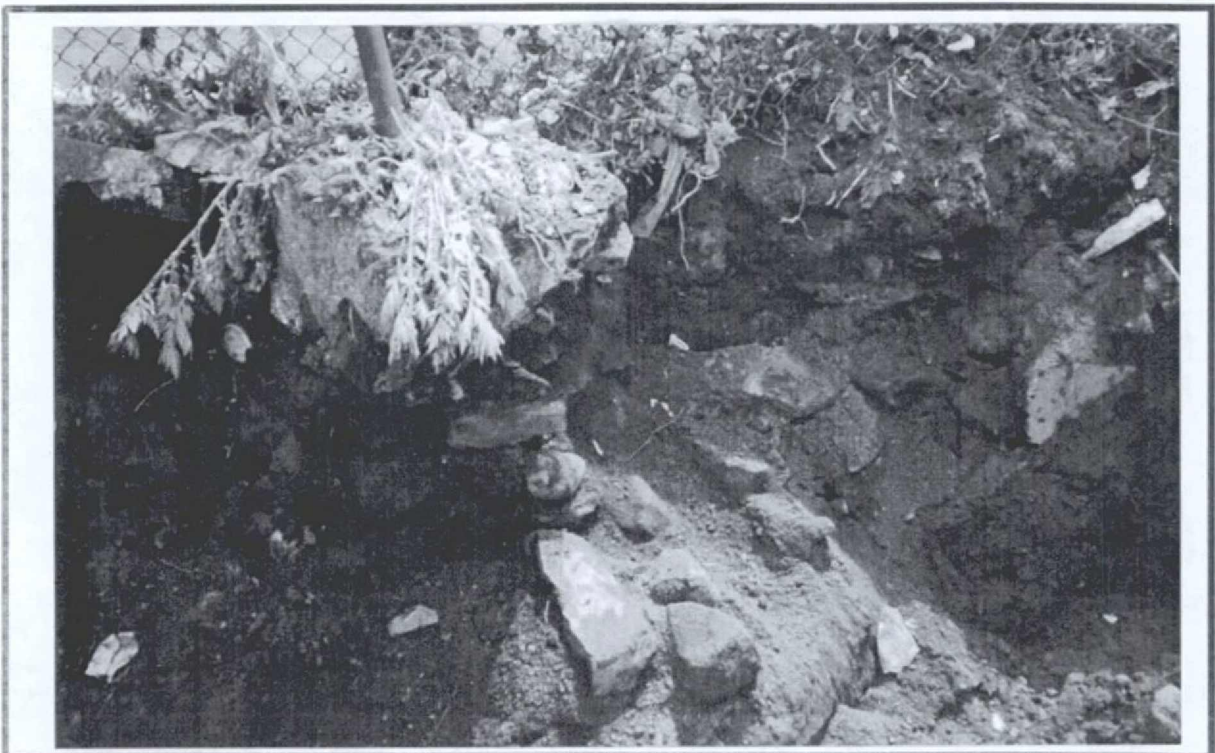


**Photo 14:** Selection of artifacts from stone foundation on Lot 16 were photographed in the field. Included stoneware fragment, rim shard from redware commode, two rim shards of Blue Willow, a rim shard of blue transferware (pattern included ship), and two shards of graniteware.





**Photo 15:** To facilitate further investigation, if it was deemed warranted, the stone foundation was covered with a tarp and a protective layer of soil placed over it.



**Photo 16:** At the rear of Lot 16 (53 Taaffe Place) a feature identified as a privy was uncovered in the northwest corner of the lot. This lot had been redeveloped in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, but the privy may be contemporaneous with the privy located on Lot 13 (59 Taaffe Place).



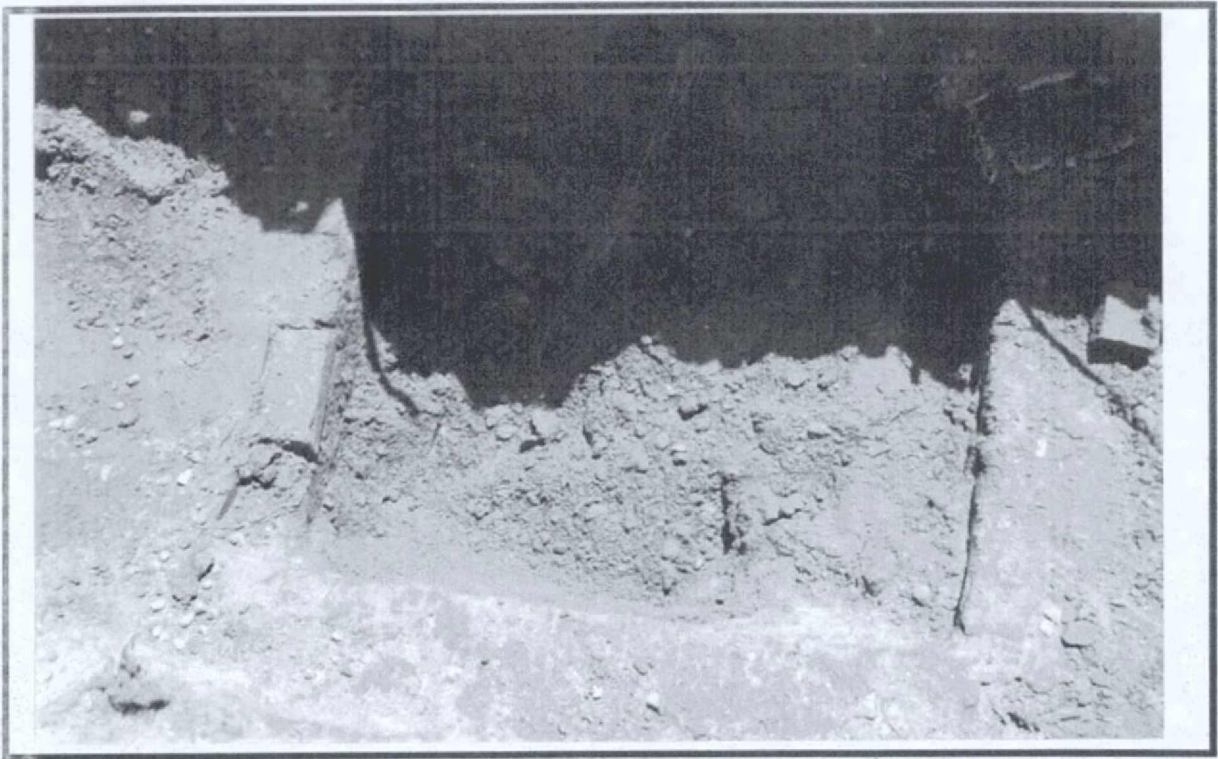


**Photo 17:** Searching for a possible privy, the rear of Lot 19 (47 Taaffe Place) was excavated to reveal that it had been previously disturbed and refilled with materials brought from off-site. Although several artifacts dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century were recovered, it was concluded that the rear of the lot had been completely disturbed. No evidence of a privy was seen.

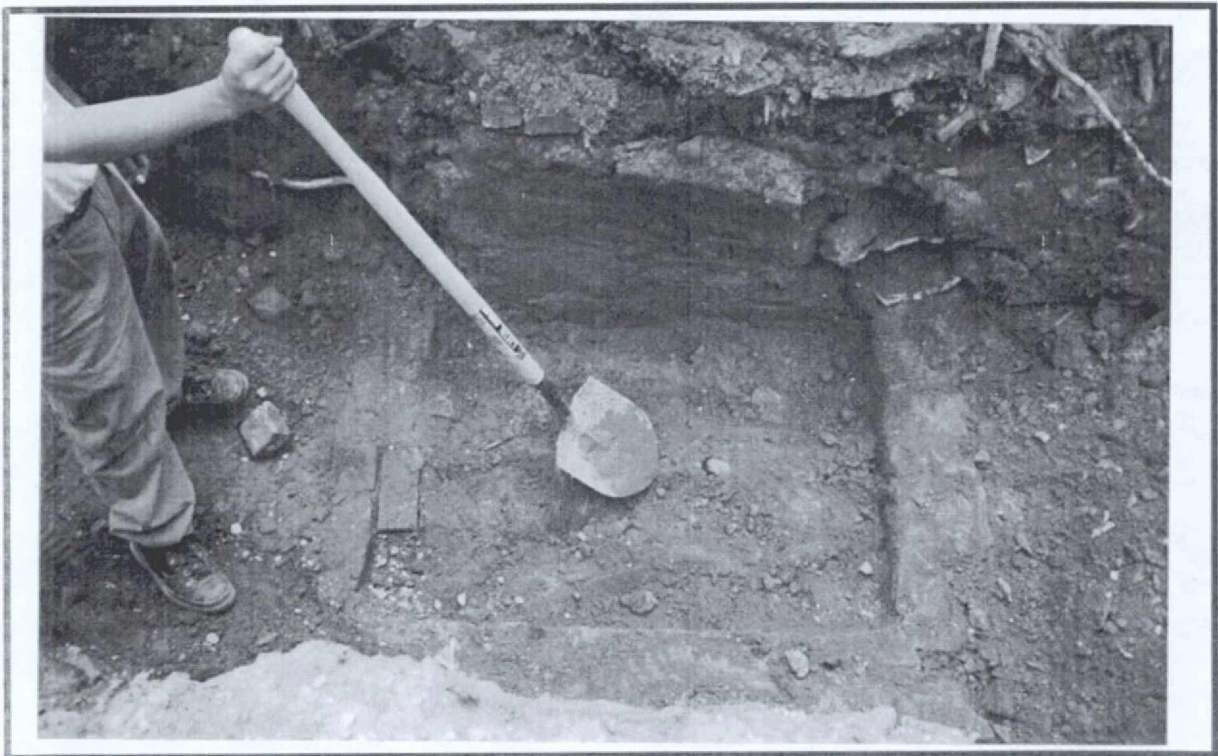


**Photo 18:** On the northern property line of Lot 19 in mid-lot a brick structure was revealed in an area that is identified by the initials "W.C." on the 1904 Sanborn map of the property.





**Photo 19:** Hand excavation revealed a modern sewer pipe entering this structure from the west. A strong odor of sewage was present as the feature was opened up. Virtually no artifacts were recovered.



**Photo 20:** The entire area around the feature was excavated and measurements taken. No further investigation of Lot 19 is proposed, and the feature was buried.



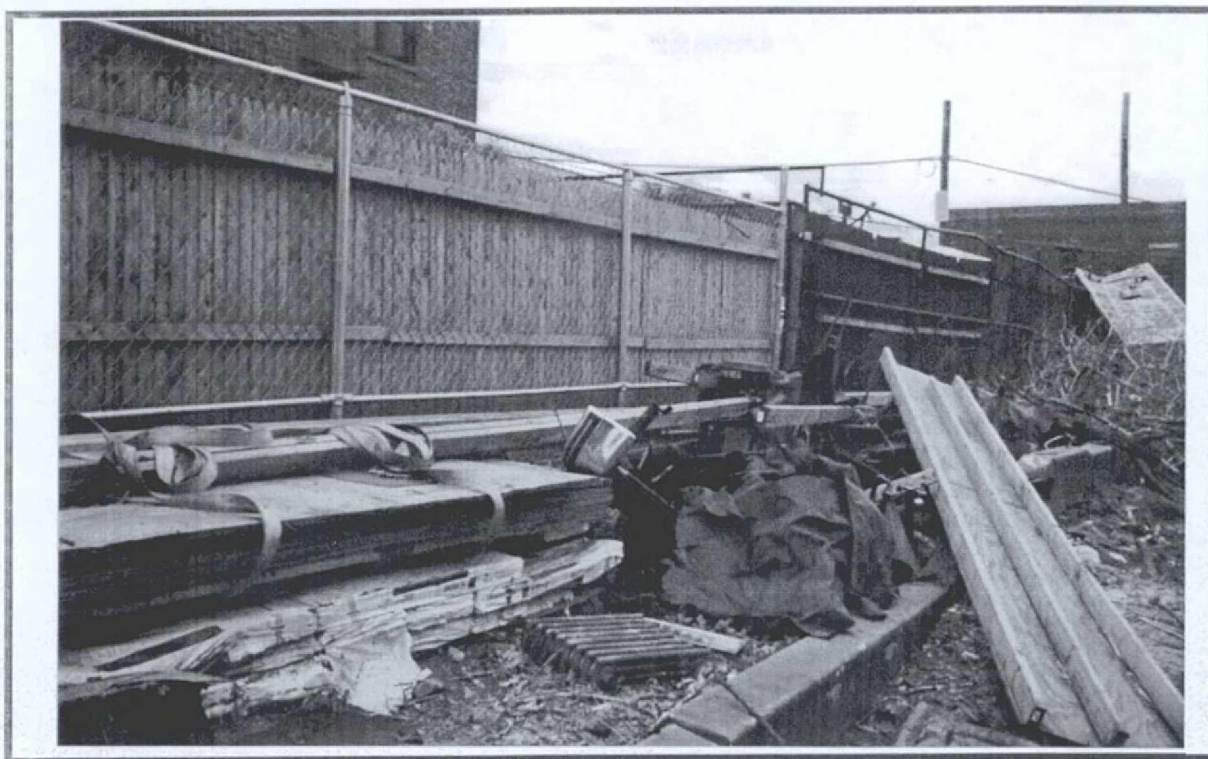


**Photo 21:** Conditions of Lot 26 (796 Kent Avenue) were extremely difficult. Trash of all kinds covered the rear portion of the lot. View is to northwest into Taaffe Place portion of the project area.



**Photo 22:** View to southwest shows trash on the rear portion of Lot 26. Beneath the surface debris was a substantial mound of trash-filled dirt that appears to have been dumped on the property.-





**Photo 23:** View along edge of Lot 26 shows construction materials and other debris piled along the fence. This portion of the yard has a low cement wall that creates a raised area on the southern side of the lot. View is toward the southwest.



**Photo 24:** At rear of lot extensive debris been bulldozed against the property line fence. The soil was filled with automobile parts, broken bedsprings, and the like. All of this had to be removed to expose the historic ground surface for excavation.





**Photo 25:** Below the historic ground surface a lens of coal ash and numerous artifacts suggested the presence of a privy in the northwest corner of Lot 27 (796 Kent Avenue).



**Photo 26:** Hand excavation revealed the remains of a stone privy lining. Excavation was halted, the feature covered with a protective tarp, and the excavation was backfilled.





**Photo 27:** Below a concrete floor that had been poured at the rear of the lot an oval feature was revealed. Hand excavation was undertaken to clean the edges of the feature and determine its extend and, if possible, use.



**Photo 28:** The oval feature was constructed of modern brick and filled with coal ash and modern debris. No historic materials were identified in the fill removed. No further investigation is planned and the excavation was backfilled.





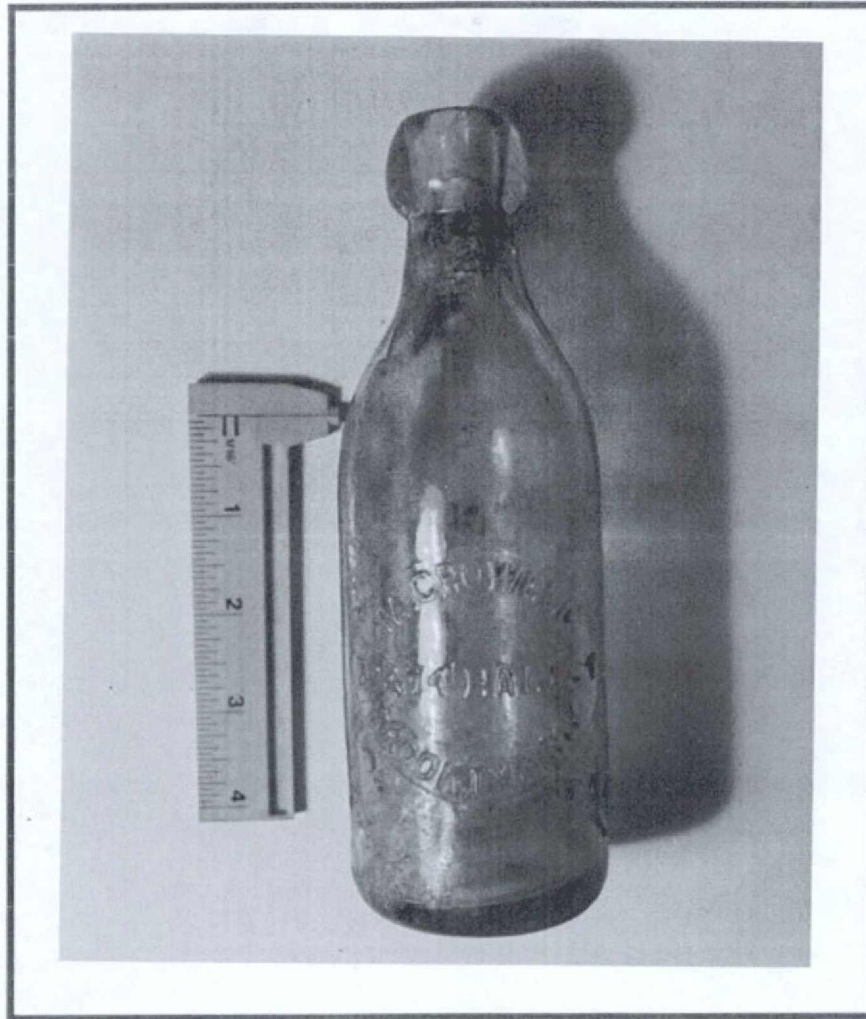
**Photo 29:** In the southwest corner of Lot 28 a feature was uncovered. Hand excavation revealed a well-built ashlar stone lined privy. Artifacts consistent with a 19<sup>th</sup> century deposit were collected. The feature was covered with a protective tarp and the excavation backfilled.



**Photo 30:** On Lot 27 a modern brick feature was uncovered behind the house foundation. A duct similar to those used to reline chimneys entered the lower portion of this brick pit. It was possibly related to the furnace. No further investigation is planned, and the trench across Lot 27 & Lot 28 was backfilled.

APPENDIX B

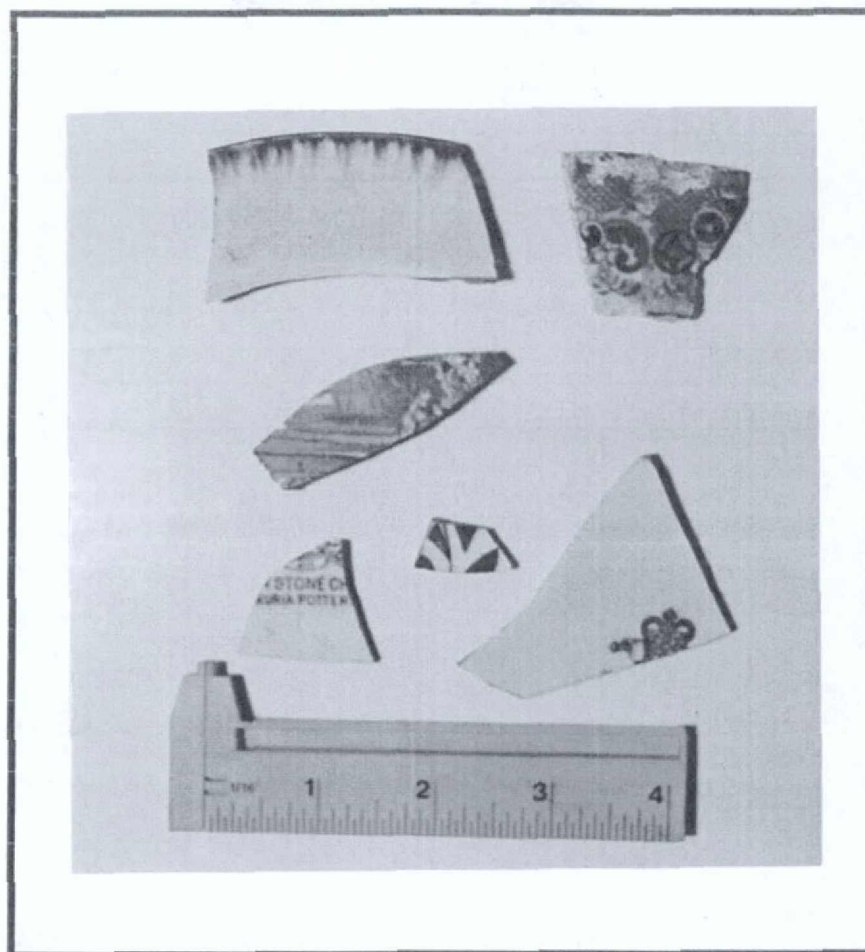
ARTIFACT PHOTOGRAPHS



### 59 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

Category of Artifact	Description
Bottle	Blue-green glass blob top mineral water bottle, case molded; Embossed: <b>M. CROWELL/72 &amp; 74 HALL STREET/BROOKLYN, N.Y./THIS BOTTLE/NOT TO/BE SOLD</b> . No date. 72 & 74 Hall Street located 6 blocks to west between Flushing and Park near the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

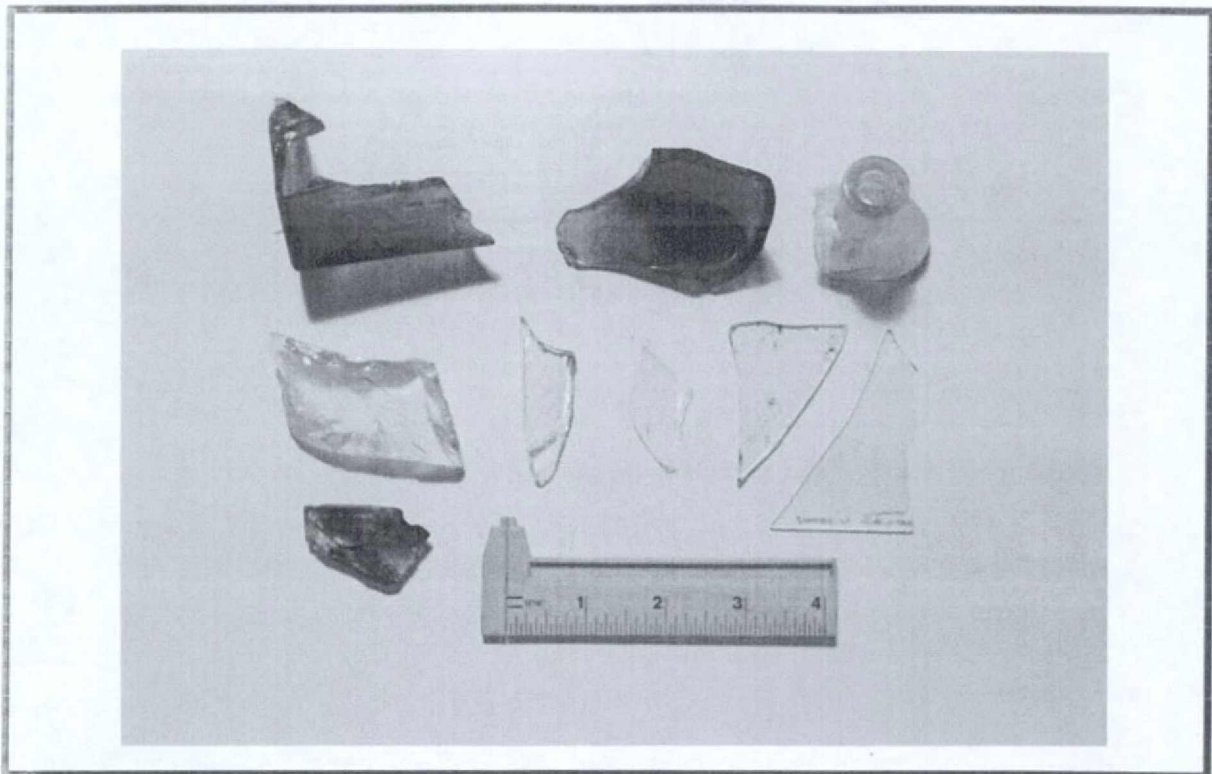




### 59 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

	Category of Artifact	Description
Upper left	Tableware	Scalloped edge blue feather painted rim sherd, 5.9 x 3.1 cm
Upper right		Blue Willow rim sherd, 3.9 x 3.6 cm, traditional English border
Center left		Blue/white transferware fragmt, 5.8 x 1.8 cm, possible Blue Willow
Center		Creamware with green leaf patter, 2.0 x 1.1 cm
Lower left		Graniteware fragmt, 3.1 x 2.8 cm, marked "NSTONE CH/RURIA POTTERY." Manufactured by Etruria Pottery, Trenton, NJ. 1865-c. 1871. (Miller, 1995:149 & Lehner, 1988, 140)
Lower right		Graniteware fragmt, 6.4 x 4.4 cm, unidentified mark – crown in front of cloth draped rod with finial.





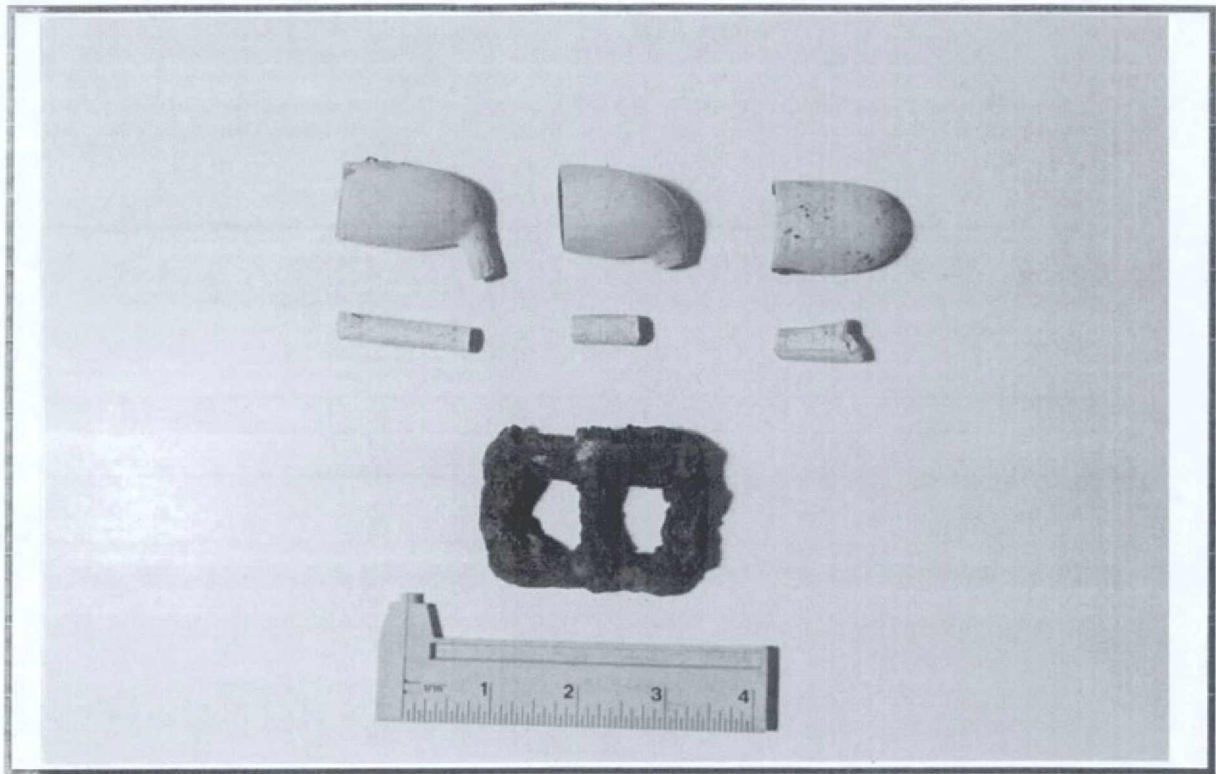
### 59 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

	Category of Artifact	Description
Upper row	Bottle	Paneled & chamfered brown glass fragmt, embossed "LEN'S" on side, 4.5 x 6.1 cm. Tentative identification: Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer, 355 Broom St., NY. C. 1855-1890. Hair color preparation. Based on lead, reportedly caused paralysis.
		Olive green fragmt, 6.5 x 3.4 cm, probable medicine bottle
		2 lt green blue fragmts (mend), prescription lip, 5.0 x 3.9 at shoulder
Center row		Clear glass bottle fragmt, 7.3 x 3.5 x 1.0 cm
		Clear glass fragmt, 5.6 x 1.9 cm, possible goblet or tumbler
		Clear glass fragmt, 4.5 x 2.1 x 0.2 cm, possible lamp chimney
		2 sherds window glass, various sizes
Lower left		Burned glass fragmt, 4.1 x 2.5 x 0.7 cm



### 59 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

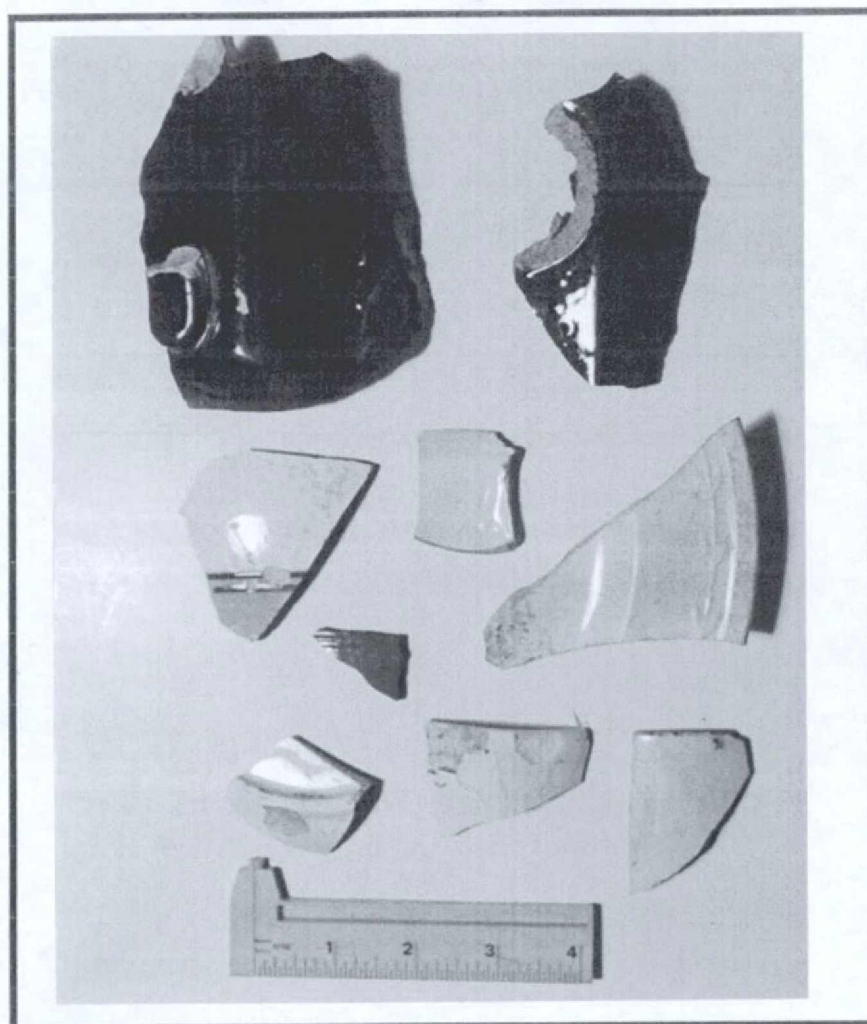
	Category of Artifact	Description
Left row	Personal	Handle with design & green stripe, 4.5 x 4.2 cm, possible shaving mug handle
	Sanitary ware	2 fragmnts graniteware (mends) 5.1 x 5.0 cm, thick rim & curvature suggests commode
	Personal	Black fine toothed comb fragmnt – not nit comb, c. 20 <sup>th</sup> century
Center row	Food stuff	Unidentified bone, probably spine
		Oyster shell
		3 quahog shell fragmnts
Left row	Gardening	Clay flower pot rim fragmnt, c. 1854 (Beaudet, 1990:115)
		2 clay flower pot fragmnts, various sizes



### 59 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

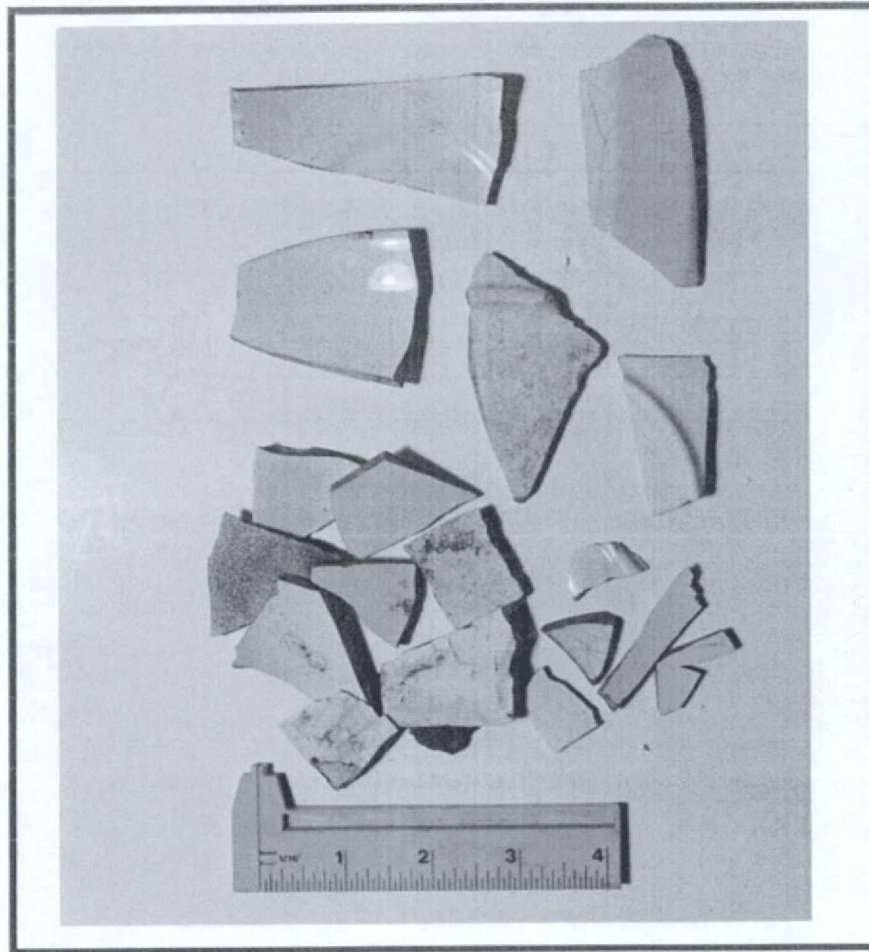
	Category of Artifact	Description
Top Row	Smoking	Kaolin pipe bowl, no markings, 2.5 x 4.4 cm, 0.2 cm thick at top
		Kaolin pipe bowl, no markings, 2.6 x 3.8 cm, 0.4 cm thick at top
		Kaolin pipe bowl, broken in half, no markings, 2.8 x 3.9 cm, 0.5 cm thick at top
Center Row		3 fragments Kaolin pipe stem, all broken
Bottom Row	Personal	Rusted & corroded belt buckle, 6.7 x 4.9 cm





### 59 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

	Category of Artifact	Description
Upper row	Kitchenware	Rockingham pitcher, handle & spout fragmts.
Center row		Yellowware fragmt, white slip & blue stripes, 5.8 x 4.6 cm, probable bowl
	Tableware	Graniteware rim sherd, low relief fleur-de-lis pattern, 3.8 x 3.2 cm
		Graniteware plate fragmt, low relief wheat pattern, 10.0 x 6.7 cm
	Kitchenware	Redware fragmt, glazed interior & exterior, incised stripe, 2.8 x 2.0 cm
Lower row	Tableware	3 Graniteware fragmts, various vessel types & sizes



### 59 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

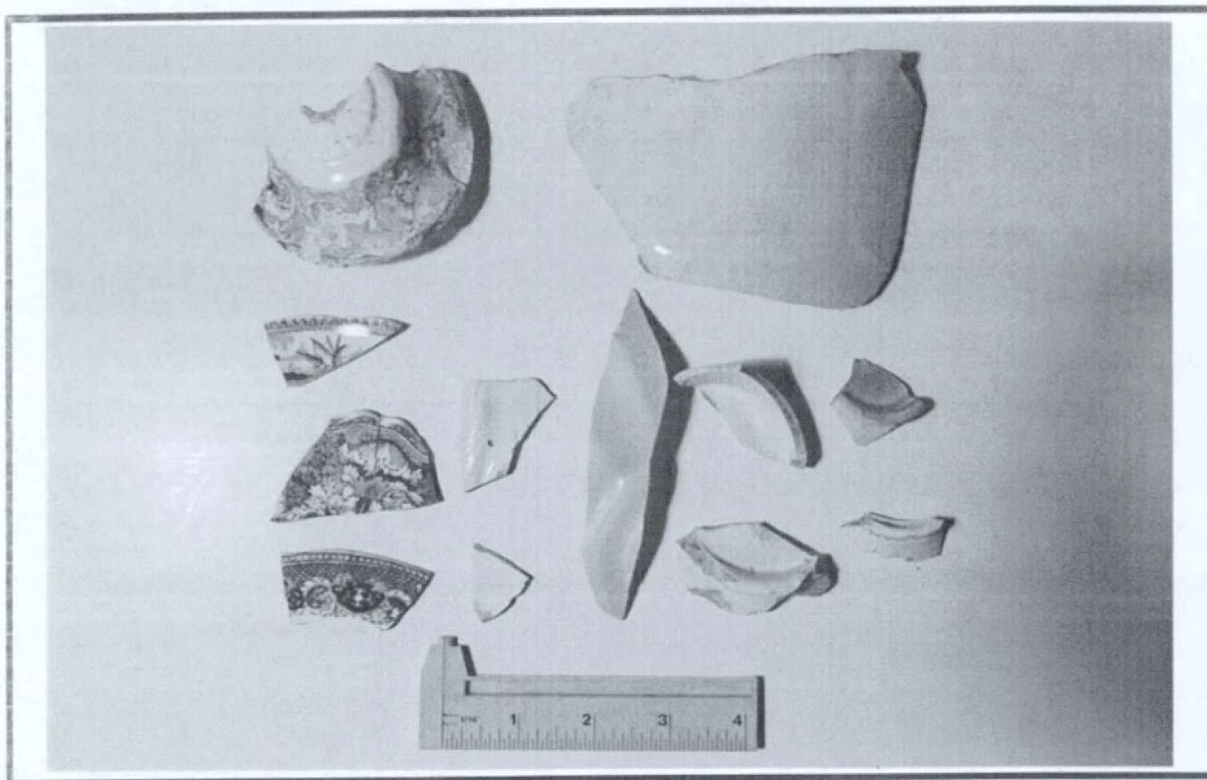
	Category of Artifact	Description
Upper row	Tableware	Graniteware saucer fragmt, 7.6 x 3.6 cm
		Graniteware cup fragmt, octagonal shape, 7.2 x 2.8 cm
Center row		Graniteware saucer fragmt, 5.2 x 4.4 cm
		Graniteware plate fragmt, 4.7 x 2.4 cm
		Graniteware plate fragmt, 3.8 x 3.2 cm
Lower row		Graniteware fragmts, various vessels





### 55 TAAFFE PLACE: CISTERN

	Category of Artifact	Description
Left	Bottle	Blue-green glass blob top mineral water bottle, case molded; Embossed: <b>WEHMHOEFER BROS./327-333/EWEN STREET/BROOKLYN, E.D./REGISTERED/1892</b> . Raised "W" on shoulder of bottle, trademark "W" over elongated "B" in center of bottle between "Registered" & "1892". (Ewen Street is now Manhattan Avenue.
Middle	Tableware	Blue/white fragmt, painted rim sherd, 1.9 x 1.8 cm. Lattice pattern and solid blue edge
Right	Bottle	Blue-green glass blob top mineral water bottle, case molded; embossed <b>F. DAVID/488-492/FLUSHING AVE/BROOKLYN</b> . Mark on reverse, embossed anchor set at angle with "F" on upper & "D" on lower side. Address would be at Flushing & Bedford.



### 53 TAAFFE PLACE: STONE FOUNDATION

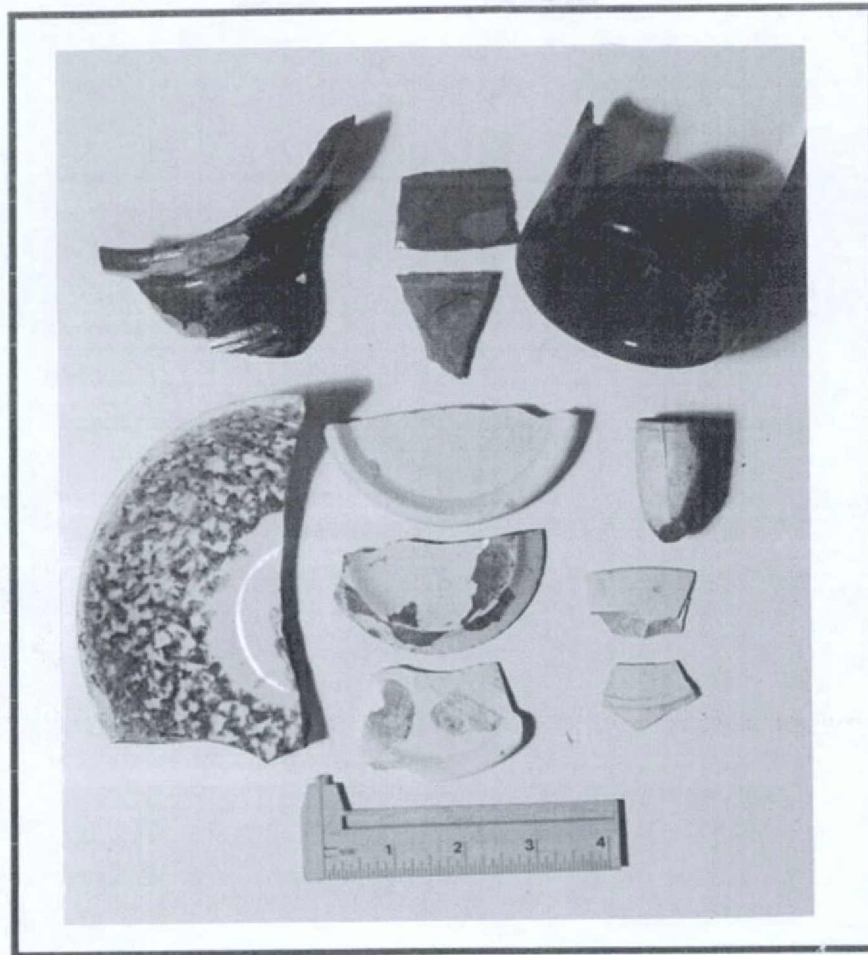
	Category of Artifact	Description
Upper left	Tableware	Blue/white oval lid. Pattern: birds & flowers on latticework. 8.4 x 5.0 cm.
Upper right		Graniteware vessel, possible pitcher, paneled, 11.5 x 7.8 cm
Vertical row below teapot lid		Blue/white transferware rim sherd, design includes ship
		2 Blue/white transferware rim sherds. Leaf pattern.
		2 Blue/white Blue Willow rim sherds.
Vertical row right of blue & white sherds		Graniteware, curved vessel, raised "rope" pattern, 3.8 x 3.3 cm
		Small sherd with trace of blue, vessel type unknown, 2.7 x 2.0 cm
Below graniteware pitcher sherd		Graniteware, curved vessel with raised design, 12.0 x 2.3 cm
		3 footed bases of probable bowls
	Kitchenware	1 creamware sherd, possible preserve jar, 5.0 x 2.0 cm





## 53 TAAFFE PLACE STONE FOUNDATION

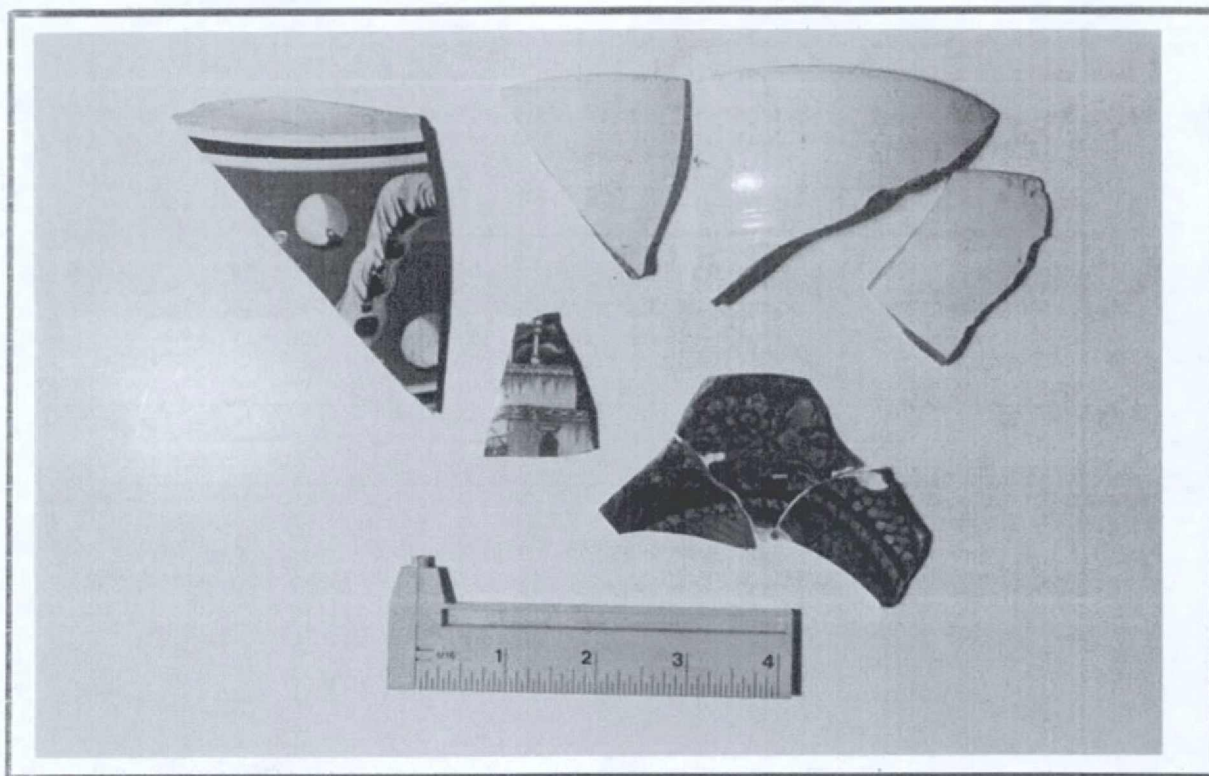
Location	Category of Artifact	Description
Upper left	Kitchenware	Stoneware sherd (base) with Albany slip interior, 10.5 x 5.0 cm
Upper right	Beverage	Olive green wine bottle base, pontil mark, 6.6 x 4.6 cm
Far right		Blue green blob top case molded mineral water bottle, C. <b>MCGINNESS/36/ SPENCER/ BROOKLYN/</b> 1876 in center of triangle
Center & far left	Food stuff	3 clam shell fragments
		1 cow tooth
Right of cow tooth	Kitchenware	1 rim sherd, white with brown stripe decoration on exterior, probable bowl, 2.6 x 1.8 cm
		1 sherd with pink stripe, probable bowl, 2.4 x 1.1 cm
Bottom row	Decorative object	Bright blue pressed glass sherd, possible candy bowl, 2.8 x 2.8 cm
	Sanitary ware	Redware chamber pot, rim sherd, 4.8 x 3.9 cm
	Kitchenware	Redware handle fragment, 3.3 x 2.2 cm



### 53 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

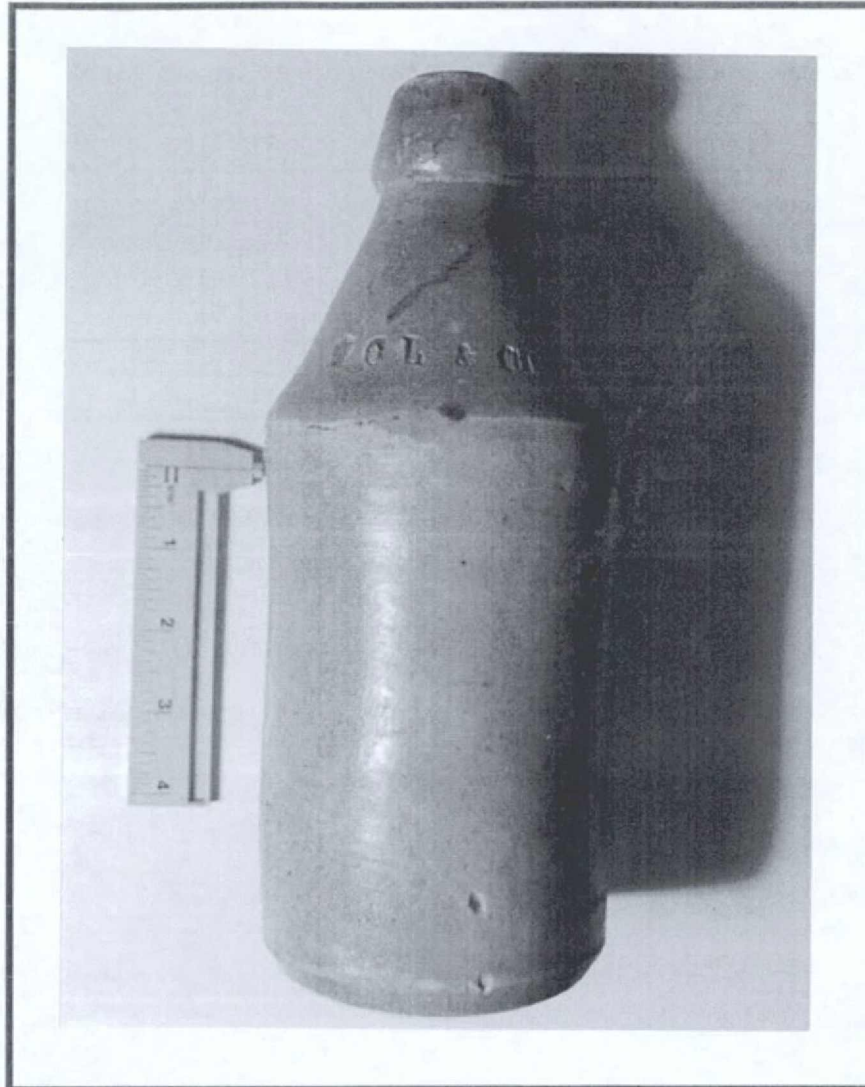
	Category of Artifact	Description
Left row	Kitchenware	Brown glazed rim sherd, storage crock/jar, 10.0 x 4.0 cm
	Tableware	Blue/white spongeware saucer fragmt, 13.0 x 3.1 cm
Center row	Kitchenware	Glazed redware sherd, slightly curved, 4.1 x 2.7 cm
	Gardening	Clay flower pot sherd, red glazed interior, 3.5 x 3.1 cm
	Tableware	3 bowl fragmts, various materials & sizes
Right row	Bottle	Olive green wine bottle base, 7.6 x 11.0 cm
	Smoking	Kaolin pipe bowl, 2.5 x 2.5 cm, thickness at top 0.3 cm
	Tableware	Graniteware rim sherd, slightly curved, 3.8 x 2.5 cm
		Brown/white transferware plate fragmt, marked "S CABLE", image of two bridge arches, 3.5 x 2.5 cm





### 53 TAAFFE PLACE: PRIVY

	Category of Artifact	Description
Upper left	Tableware	Graniteware/pottery sherd, unidentified vessel, glazed white interior, exterior decorated with beige band with "pearls" and "rope", black band above, black & green band below, 11.5 x 7.0 cm
Upper right	Kitchenware	3 rim sherds, utilitarian pottery bowl, bright white glaze
Center	Tableware	Blue/white transferware sherd, slightly curved, Chinoiserie design, probably Blue Willow, 4.1 x 3.1 cm
Lower right		3 Blue/white transferware rim sherds, broken in excavation. Dark blue floral design with various flowers, 9.5 x 4.0 cm.



**796 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY**

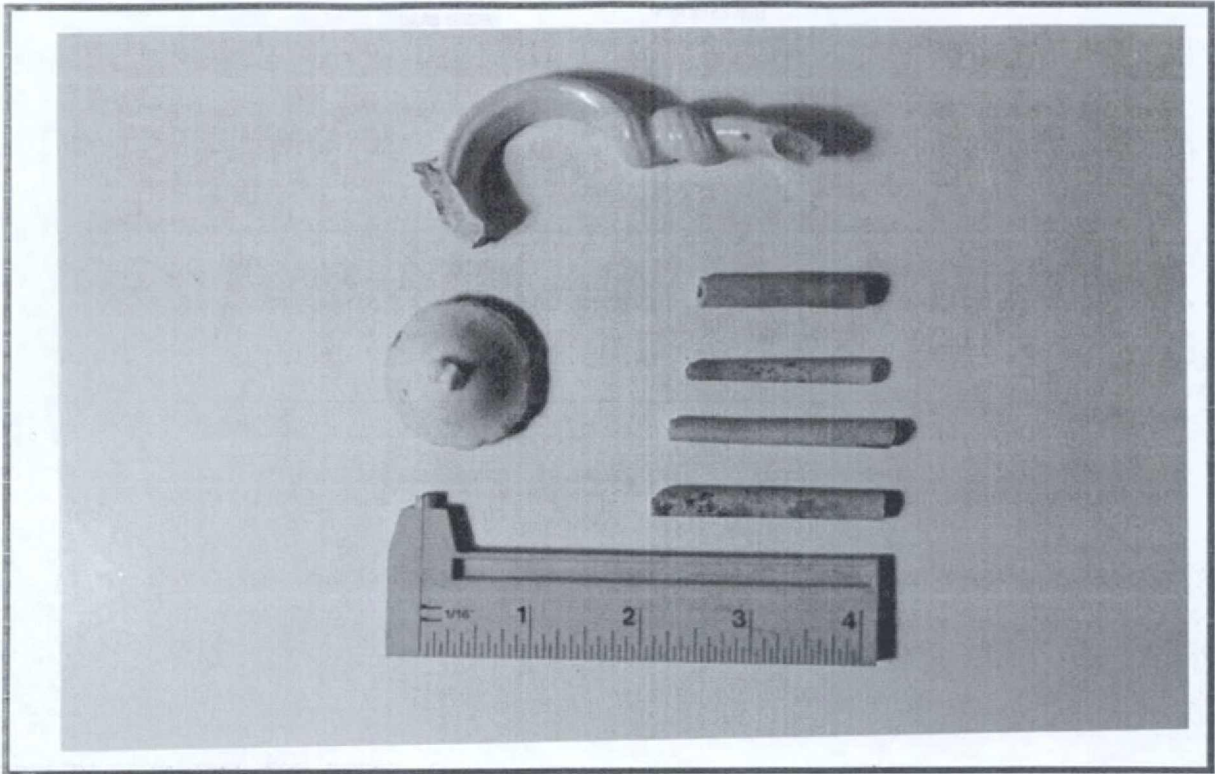
Category of Artifact	Description
Bottle	Stoneware beer bottle stamped "WCL & CO.", height 24 cm, base 8.5 cm, buff exterior with brown glaze interior.



**796 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY**

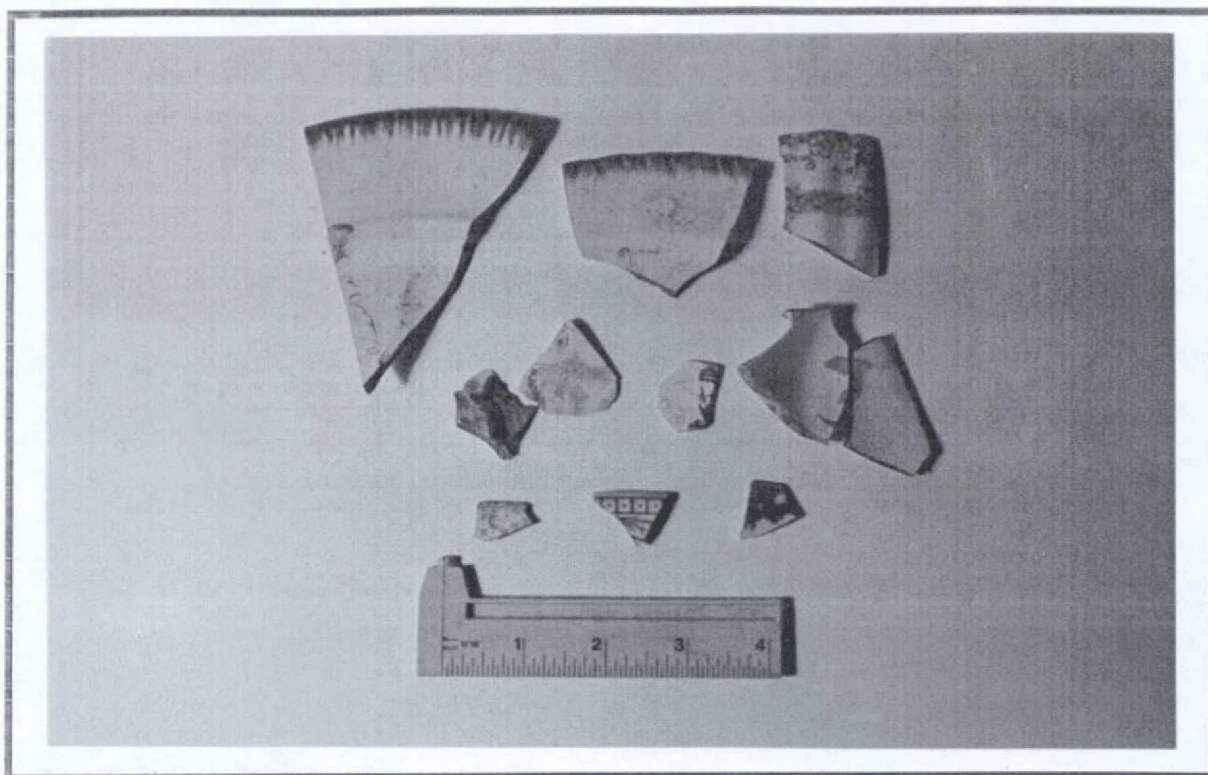
	Category of Artifact	Description
Top row	Kitchenware	Stoneware jug, top & portion of handle, stamped "THOMAS", buff exterior, brown glaze interior.
		Salt glazed stoneware crock with Albany slip interior, rim fragmt, 7.5 x 5.0 cm.
	Sanitary ware	Graniteware spout of vessel such as hot water bottle or possibly urinal, 6.0 x 6.5 cm
Bottom row	Gardening	Clay flower pot rim fragmt, 10.0 x 9.0 cm, slightly fluted rim with painted green stripe below, body marked with diamond pattern
	Bottle	Wide mouth clear glass medicine bottle, height 13.0 cm, base 6.0 x 3.5 cm, embossed on broad side within panel "TARRANT & CO/DRUGGISTS/NEW YORK"





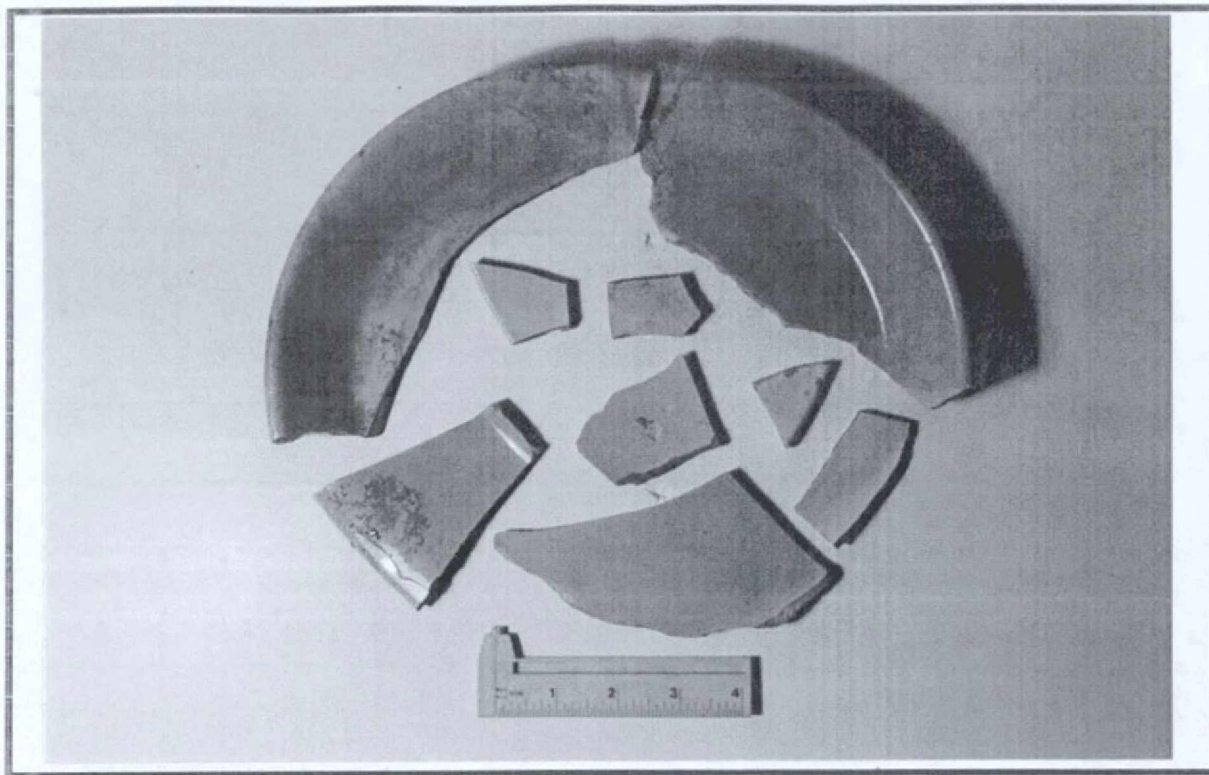
**796 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY**

	Category of Artifact	Description
Top row	Tableware	Graniteware handle, twisted rope with knot, 9.5 x 1.5 cm, angle suggests handle of tureen or similar lid
Center left	Child's toys	White graniteware dome of sugar bowl or similar vessel, part of child's tea set, painted with springs & yellow dots for flowers
Right	Smoking	4 fragmts kaolin pipe stems, various lengths, no apparent mends



**796 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY**

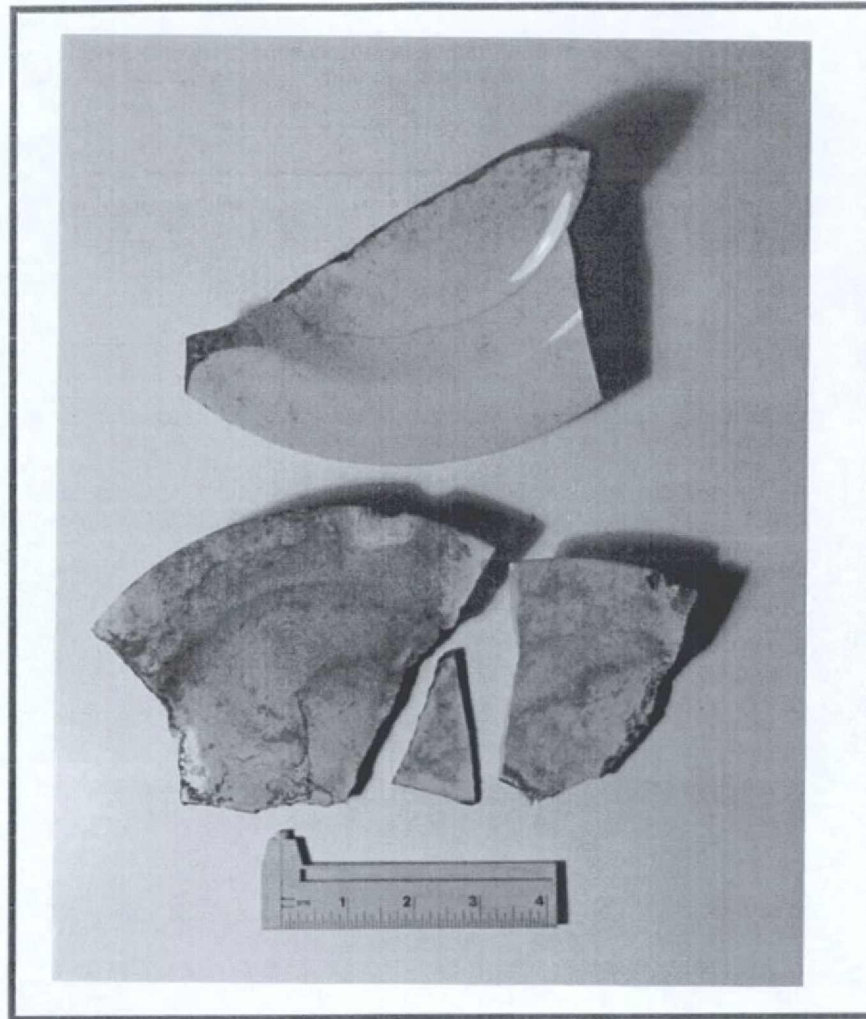
	Category of Artifact	Description
Top row	Tableware	2 fragmts scallop edge plate rims with blue feathering – two separate plates, 9.0 x 7.8 & 6.3 x 4.6 cm
		Blue/white transferware fluted rim sherd, straight-sided vessel, possible cup or small cachepot, 4.6 x 3.2 cm
Middle row		Blue/white transferware, 2 fragmts, Chinese pagoda & background scene, resembles Spode pattern
		Black/white transferware fragmt, 2.3 x 1.8 cm
		Blue/white transferware with hand painted interior, 2 fragmts, possible bowl
Bottom row		3 small fragmts blue/white transferware, various patterns.



**796 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY**

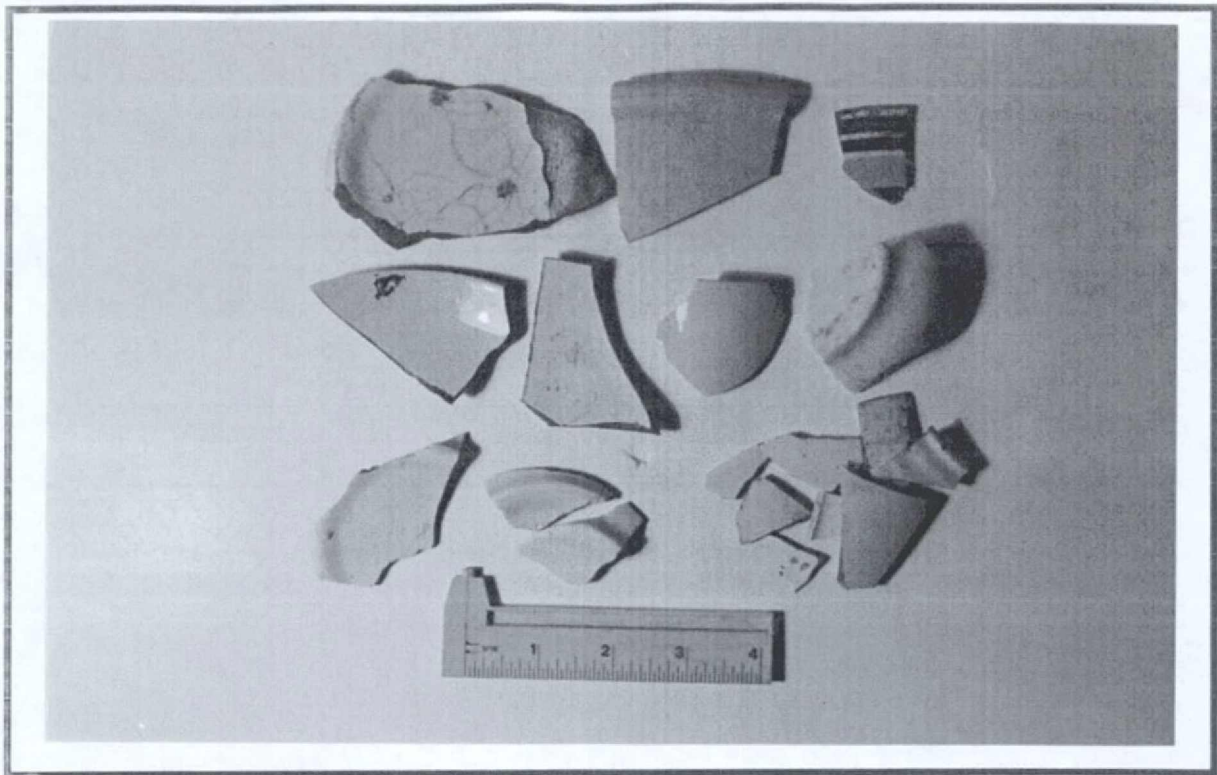
	Category of Artifact	Description
Top row	Kitchenware	2 fragmts yellowware pie plate, no join but color suggests one vessel, 17.0 x 8.0 cm & 19.0 x 6.0 cm
Center		4 fragmts yellowware, various vessels and sizes
Lower row		Yellowware sloped sided bowl, no join, but color suggests one vessel. Rim sherd has low relief scallop design on edge.
		Yellowware fragmt, vessel type unknown





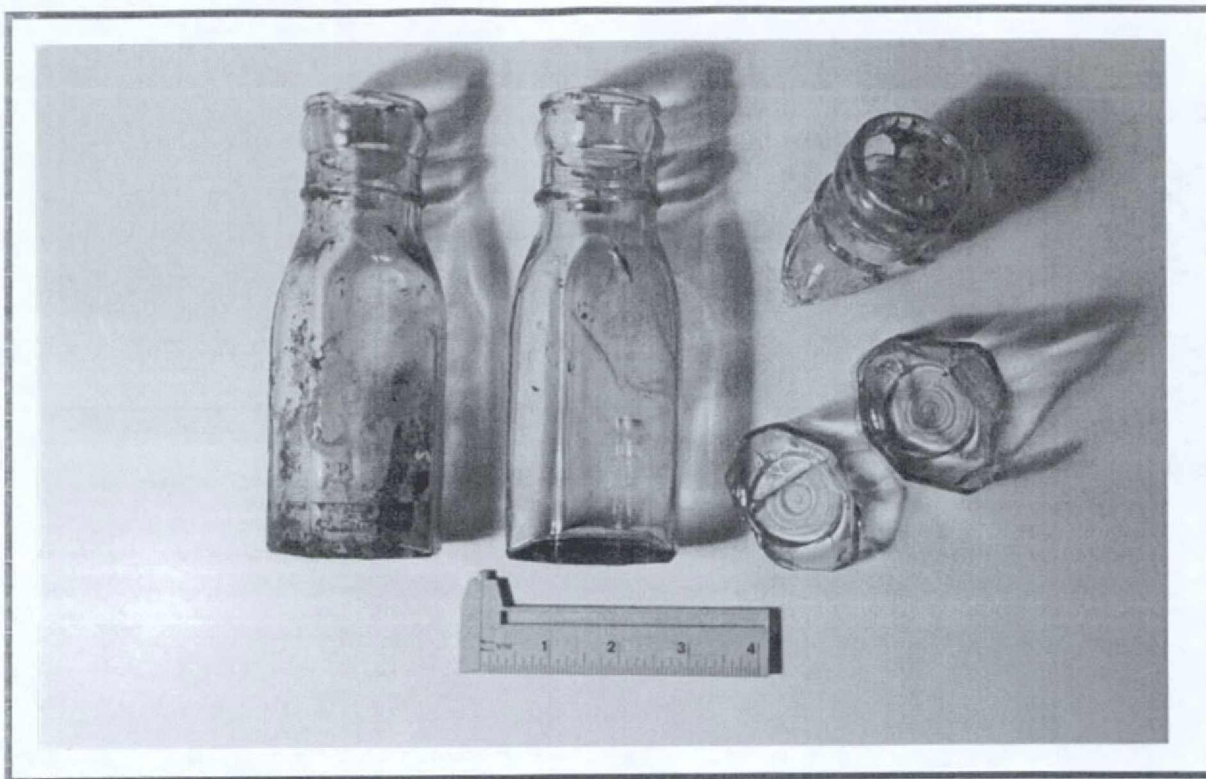
**796 KENT AVENUE:      PRIVY**

	Category of Artifact	Description
Top center	Tableware	Heavy graniteware soup bowl, rim sherd, 17.0 x 10.0 cm2 fragmts scallop edge plate rims with blue feathering – two separate plates, 9.0 x 7.8 & 6.3 x 4.6 cm
Lower row		Graniteware plate fragmts, heavily glazed and perhaps burned, color and depth of brim suggest one plate



**796 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY**

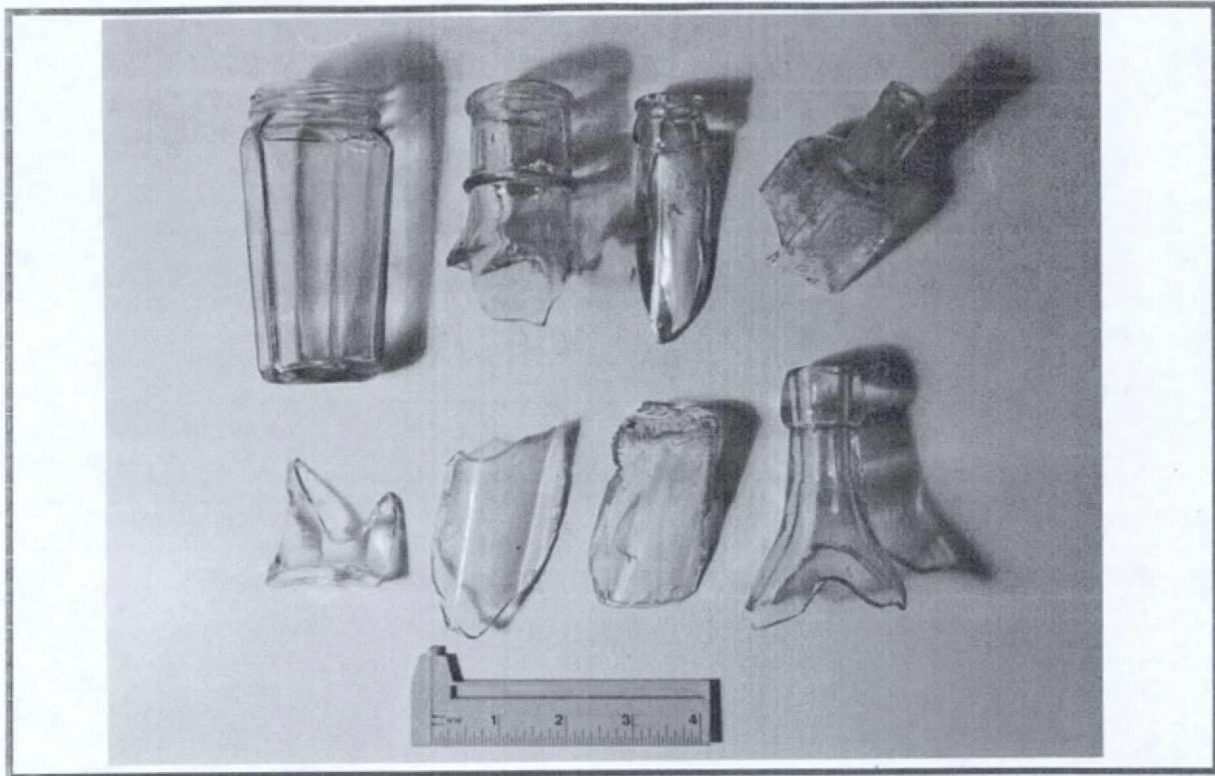
	Category of Artifact	Description
	Tableware	Various fragmts of graniteware, including cups, saucers, plates collected from 796 Kent Avenue privy
Upper right	Kitchenware	Stoneware crock sherd, buff glaze on interior and exterior
		White bowl fragmt with brown painted decoration



### 798 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY

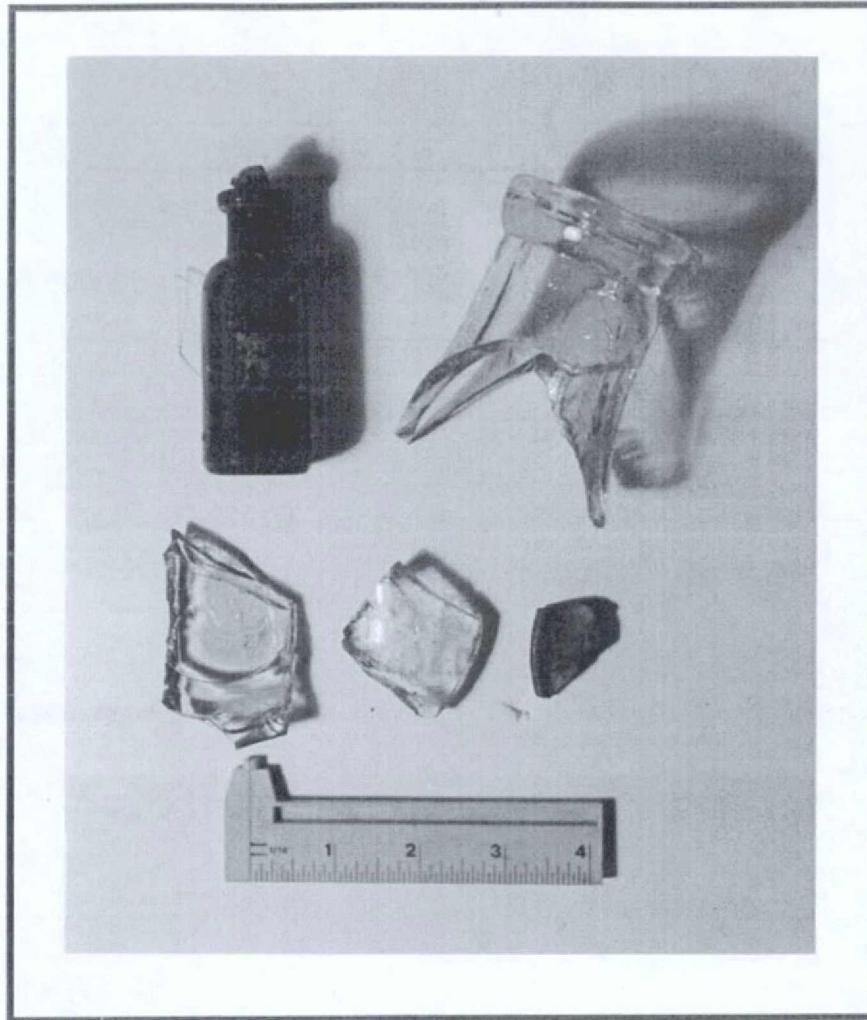
	Category of Artifact	Description
Left	Bottle	Clear glass sour pickle jar, faceted body, round top; part of paper label adhering to jar: <b>SO-R P —ES/ALUM — NCES/W—BROS. MFG. CO./MPHIS, TENN.</b> Numeral "5" embossed on base.
Center		Second example of same "sour pickle jar", no label. Embossed with "T" on base
Right		Broken top of same sour pickle product
		2 clear glass fragmts same type of condiment jar
		2 clear glass fragmts same type of condiment jar





### 798 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY

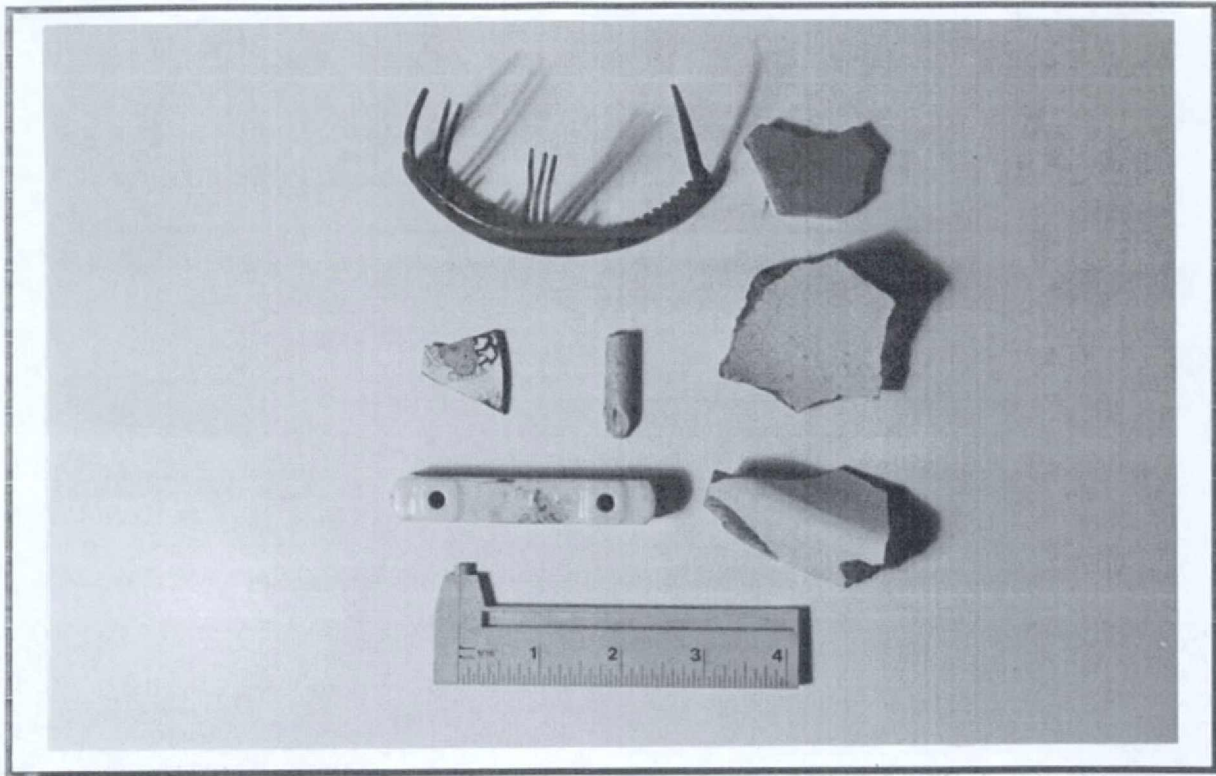
	Category of Artifact	Description
Top row	Bottle	Clear glass 6-sided condiment jar with screw top, Embossed on base "4" and "624"
		Lt green square condiment bottle with round top, similar to cathedral style condiment bottle
		Lt green top of beverage bottle, clamp cap
		Clear glass square bottle with prescription lip. Embossed on 3 sides as follows: <b>MAKES/GALLON/DELICI--MANUF/THE CHA-/PHILA</b>
Bottom row		Clear glass base, octagonal shape, possible tumbler
		Curved clear glass fragmt, possible medicine or liquor flask
		Broken base of condiment jar, embossed <b>H.J. HEI--</b> . Base also embossed "162"
		Lt green blob top mineral water bottle



### 798 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY

	Category of Artifact	Description
Upper left	Bottle	Brown glass medicine bottle with prescription lip, closed with cork, partial contents remain.
Upper left		Broken clear glass top of milk bottle, indecipherable mark on shoulder
Bottom row		Sherd of green mineral water type bottle
		Lt green mineral water bottle sherd, embossed ... <b>TLE/OLD</b> (presumably "Bottle Not To Be Sold")
		Deep red fragmt, ruby glass, appears to be part of round object, perhaps base of ornament or small glass

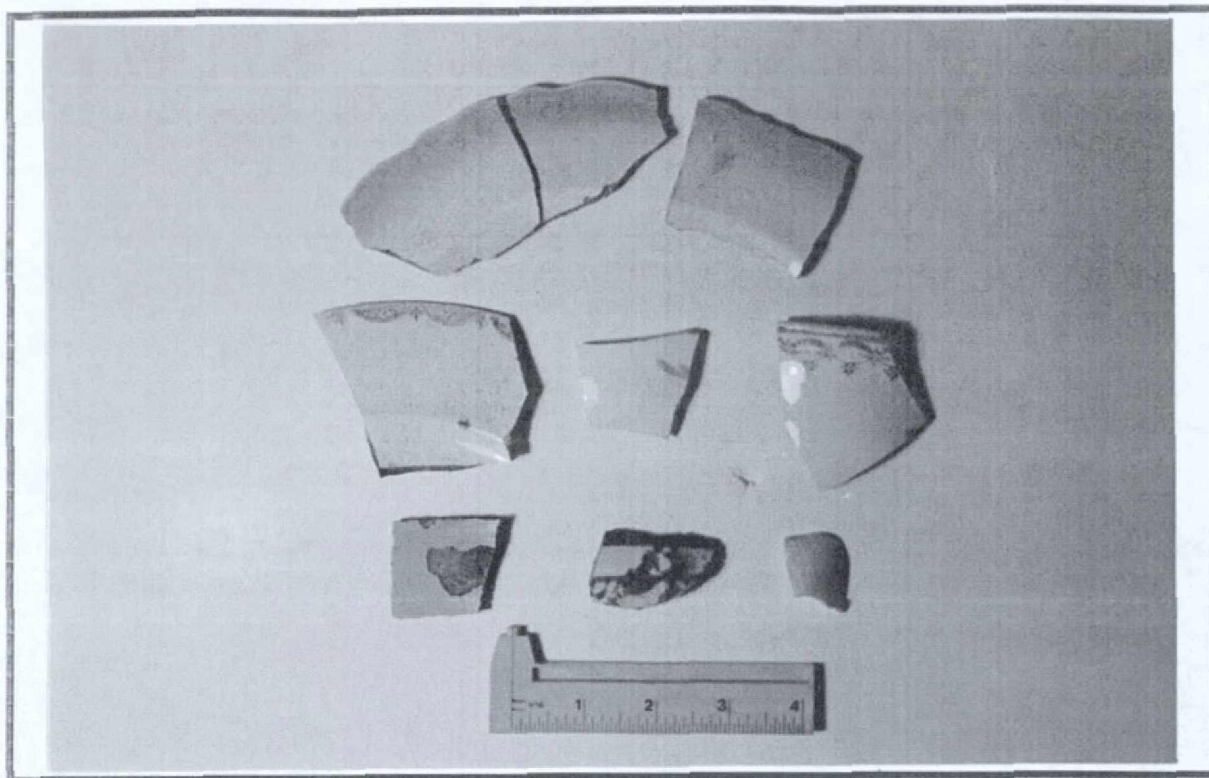




### 798 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY

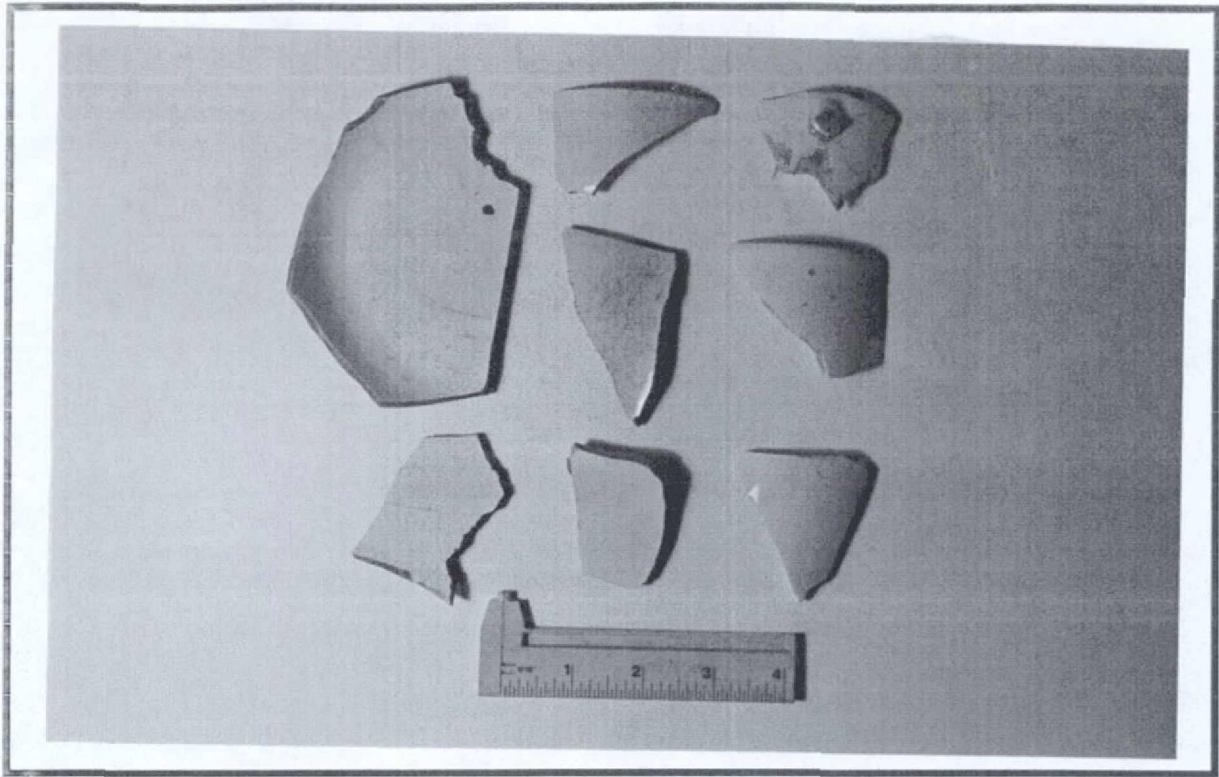
	Category of Artifact	Description
Top row	Personal	Comb, possibly tortoiseshell, 10.0 across top, 5.0 deep
	Misc. pieces	Bright red fragmt of tile, similar to bathroom or kitchen tile. 20 <sup>th</sup> century
Center row	Tableware	Blue/white sherd, unidentified object
	Smoking	Kaolin pipe stem fragmt
	Sanitary ware	Graniteware fragmt, base of commode
Bottom row	Misc. pieces	Ceramic bar with holes at either end, has appearance of electrical ground or similar type of object
	Sanitary ware	Graniteware fragmt, rim sherd of commode





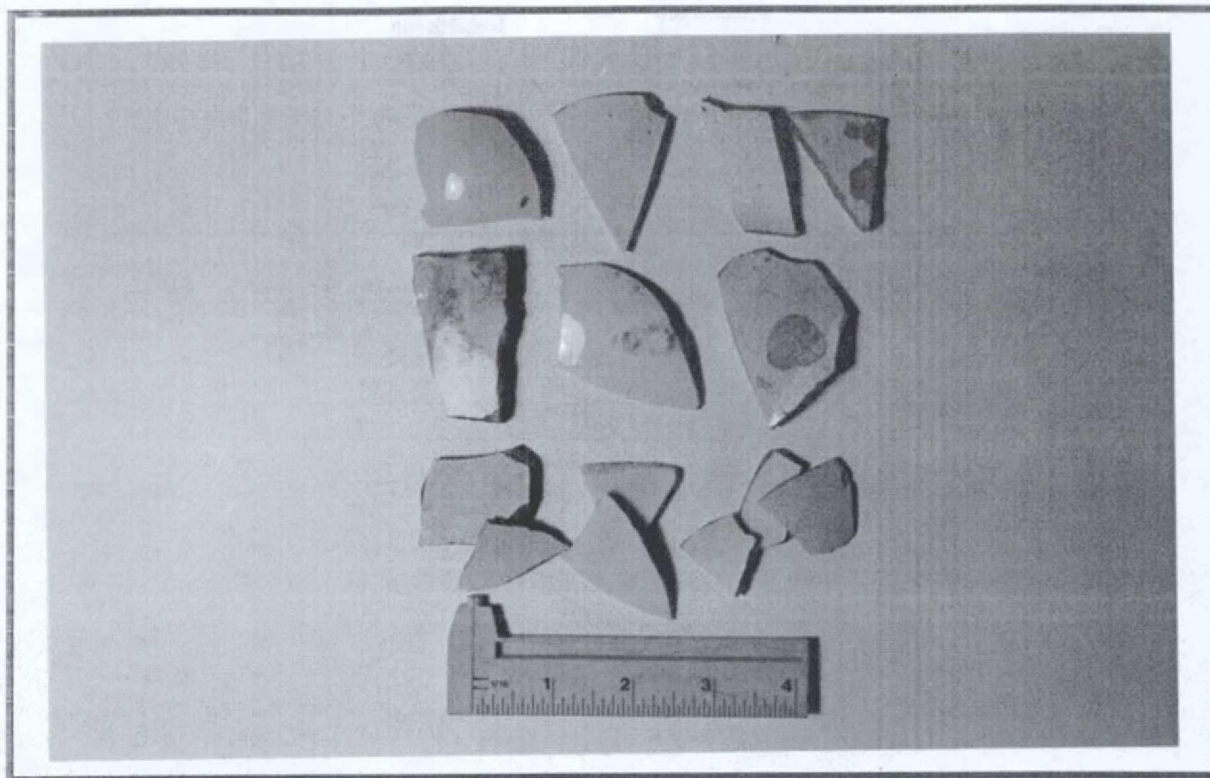
### 798 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY

	Category of Artifact	Description
Top center	Tableware	Scalloped edge plate rim sherds with tint of light green and embossed design, one mend
Center row		Graniteware rim fragmt, edged in gold design, 7.0 x 6.2 cm
		White china sherd, curved, hand painted gray leaves
		Graniteware rim sherd, curved, edged in light blue with gold design below, possible bowl or cachepot
Bottom row	Kitchenware	Yellowware fragmt, 4.0 x 3.5 cm, no identification possible
		Blue/white spongeware bowl fragmt, 4.1 x 2.7 cm
	Ornamental Object	Pink bisque fragmt, slightly curved, 2.1 x 2.6 cm, Impressed design of two crossed batons (bones?) and "—in Ger—"



**798 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY**

Category of Artifact	Description
Tableware	Various pieces of graniteware collected from 798 Kent Avenue privy, includes plate and cup fragments



### 798 KENT AVENUE: PRIVY

Category of Artifact	Description
Tableware	Various pieces of graniteware collected from 798 Kent Avenue privy, includes plate and cup fragments



**APPENDIX C**

**MAPS AND DIAGRAMS**

## MAP & DIAGRAM LIST

### MAPS

- Map 1: Location Map including Project Area. USGS Topo. 7.5 Minute Series. Brooklyn Quad. Scale: 1:12,000.
- Map 2: 1918 Sanborn Map of Project Area. Vol. 3, Pl. 52. Scale: 60' = 1"
- Map 3: Modern political New England & prehistoric New England as defined by its constituent river drainages. (Taken from Snow, 1980: Fig. 1.1) No scale
- Map 4: Physiographical Map of North End Embayed Section of Atlantic Coastal Plain. (Eisenberg, 1978: Fig. 4) No scale.
- Map 5: Mastodon & Mammoth Finds on Submerged Continental Shelf. Scale: No scale included. (Snow, 1980: Fig. 3.1) No scale.
- Map 6: Paleo-Indian Sites, including Port Mobile on Staten Island. (Eisenberg, 1978: Fig. 1) No scale.
- Map 7: Distribution of major cultural units in aboriginal New England around A.D.1600. Scale: No scale included. (Snow, 1980:Fig. 2.1) No scale.

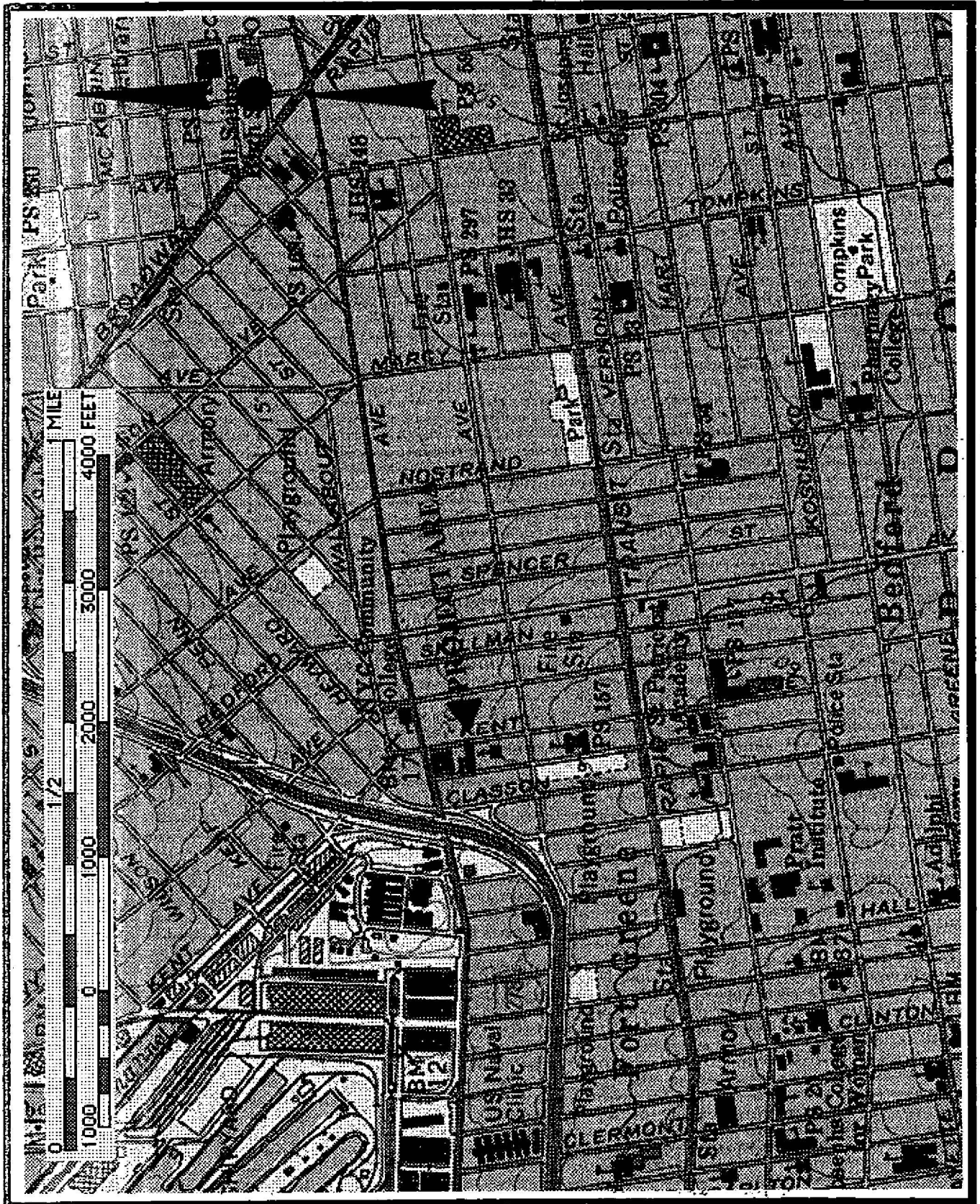
### DIAGRAMS

- Diagram 1: Archaeological Field Reconnaissance Map. Scale: 1" = 100'
- Diagram 2: Test Trench Layout Superimposed over 1918 Sanborn Map of Project Area. Not to scale.

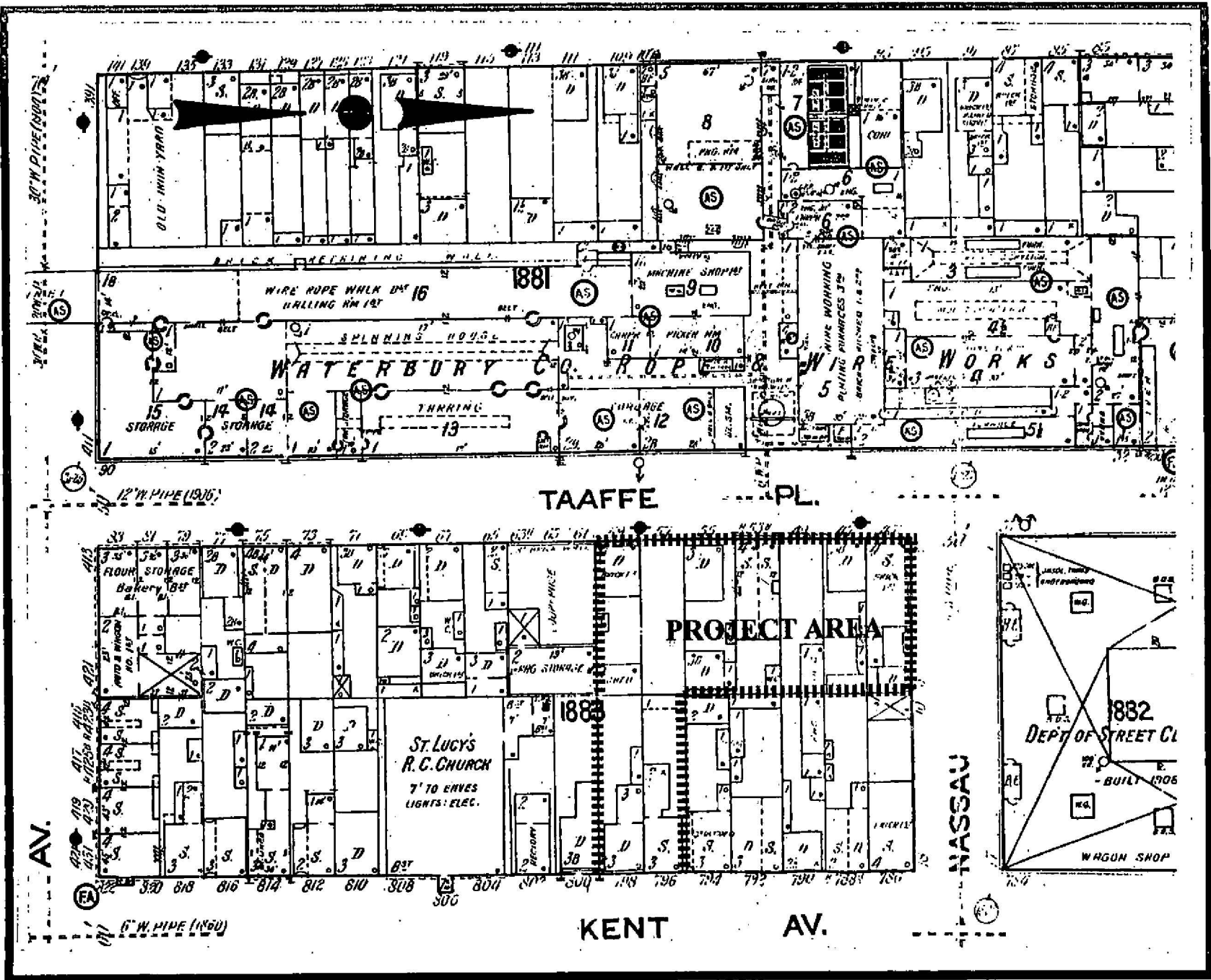
Appendix C: Maps & Diagrams

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27. 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue. Borough of Brooklyn. Kings County, New York.

Map 1: Project Area. USGS Topo, 7.5 Minute Series. Brooklyn Quad. Scale: 1:12,000









Map 5: Mastodon & Mammoth Finds on Submerged Continental Shelf, Snow, 1980; Fig. 3.1)

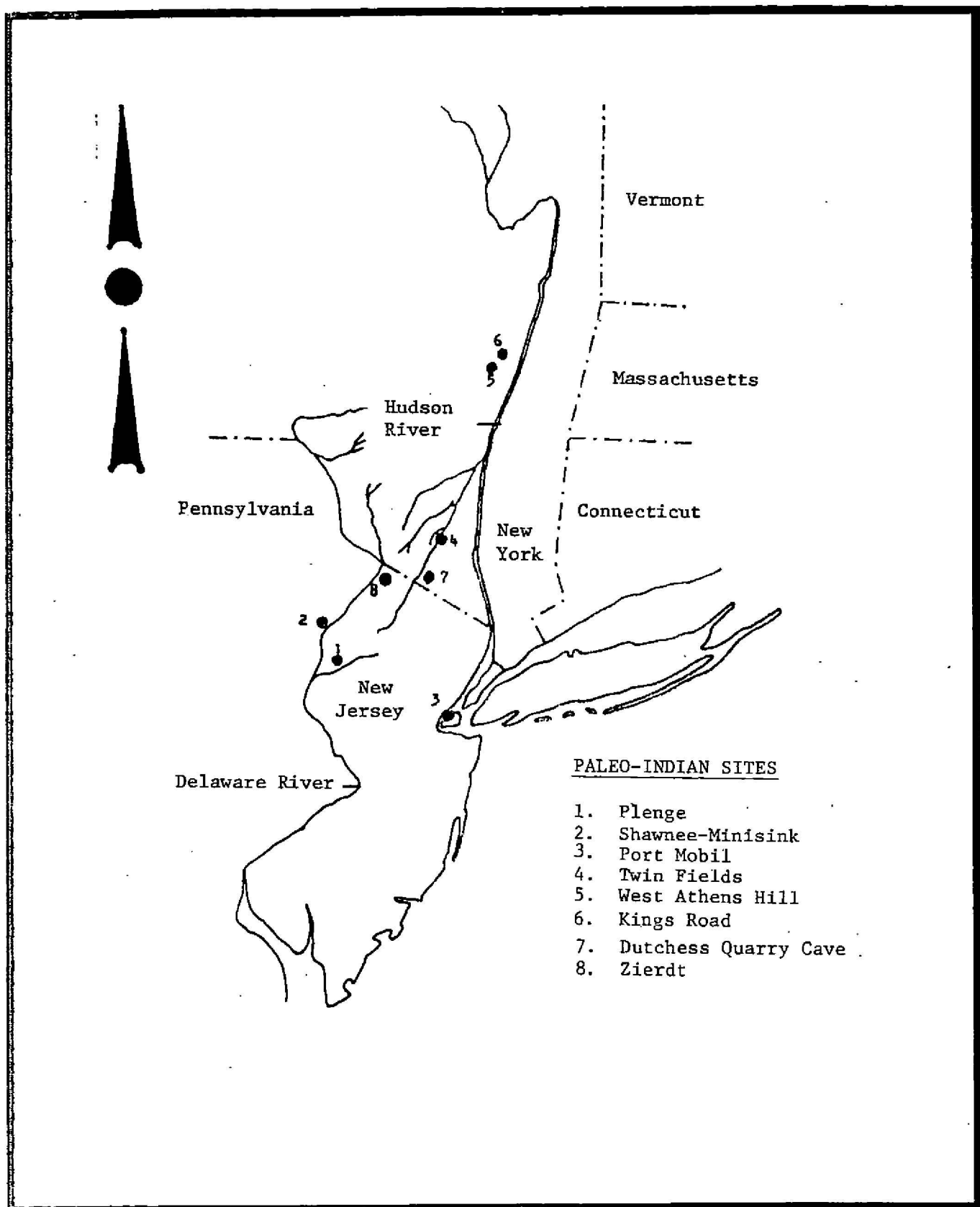




Appendix C: Maps & Diagrams

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

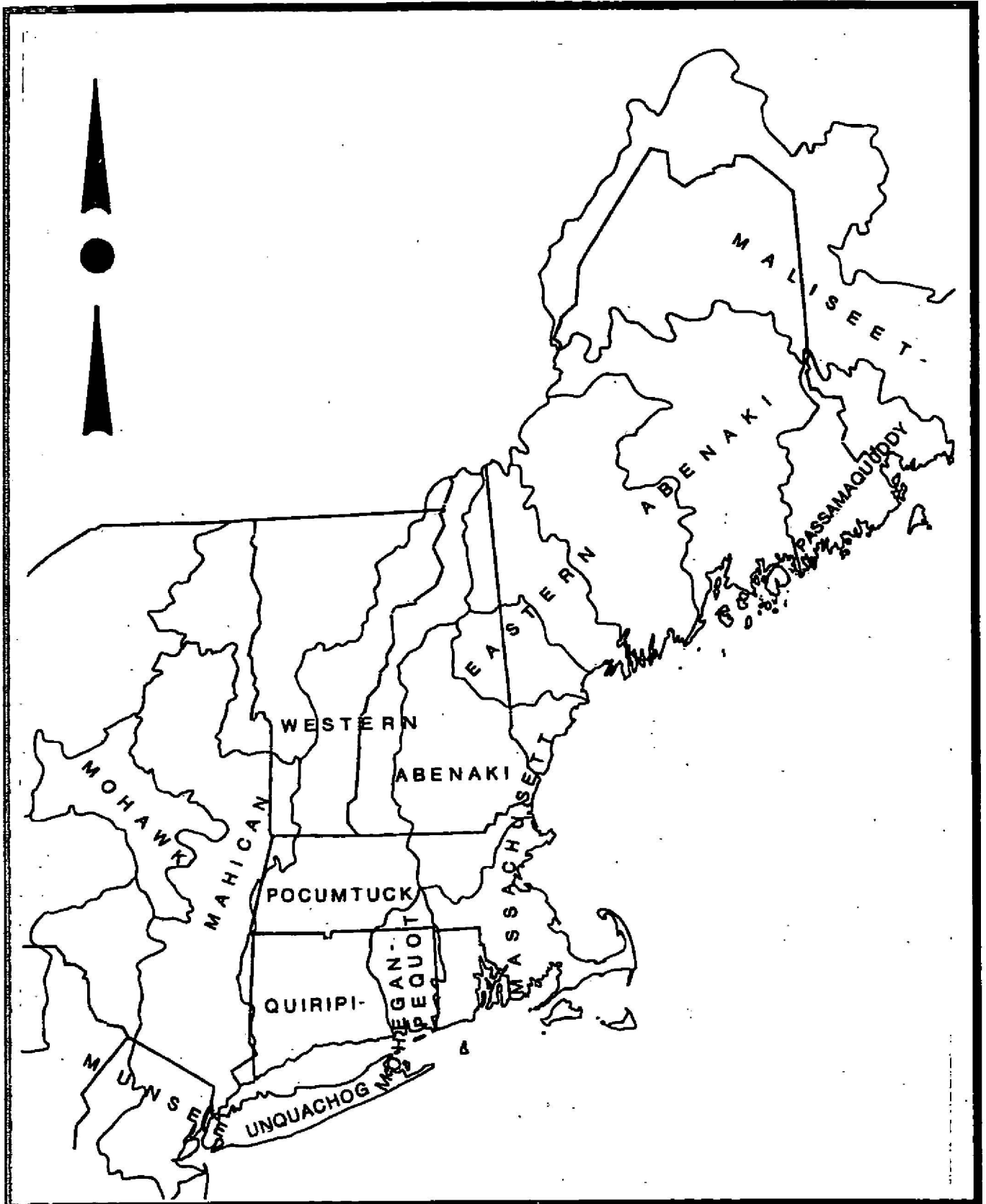
Map 6: Paleo-Indian Sites, including Port Mobil on Staten Island. (Eisenberg, 1978: Fig. 1)



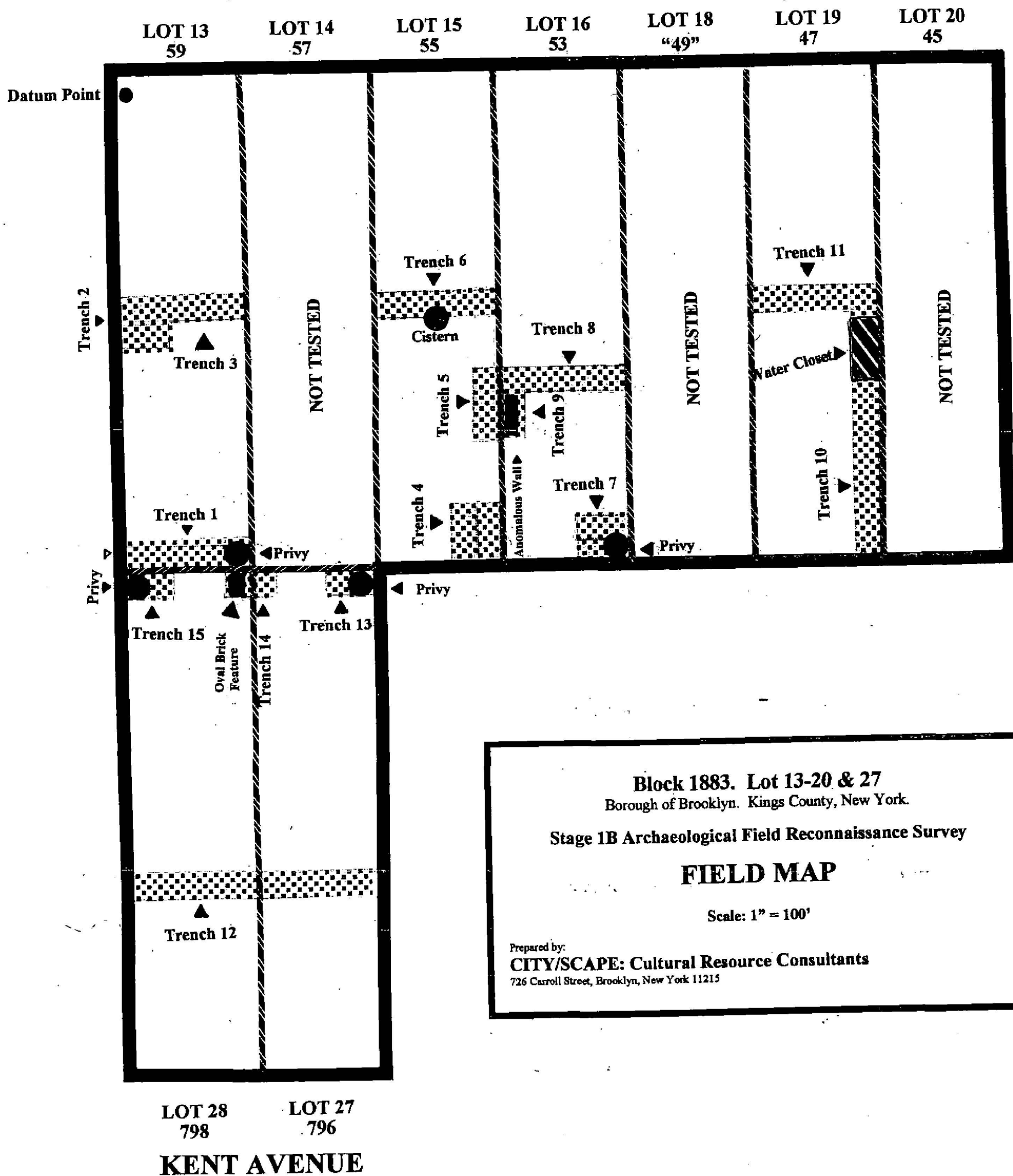
Appendix C: Maps & Diagrams

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27, 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue, Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

Map 7: Distribution of Major Cultural Units in Aboriginal New England c. AD 1600. (Snow, 1980: Fig. 2.1)



# TAAFFE PLACE





Appendix C: Maps & Diagrams

Block 1883, Lot 13-20 & 27. 45-59 Taaffe Place & 796 Kent Avenue. Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York.

Diagram 2: Test Trench Layout Superimposed over 1918 Sanborn Map of Project Area. Not to Scale.

