

HISTORICAL
PERSPECTIVES INC.



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study

**482 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot 28
Brooklyn, Kings County, New York
LPC # HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CO. (NYS)/ER.K**

Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study

**482 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot 28
Brooklyn, Kings County, New York**

LPC # HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CO. (NYS)/ER.K

Prepared For:

Eli Weiss
482 Franklin Ave Realty LLC
c/o Joy Construction Corporation
40 Fulton Street, 21st Floor
New York, NY 10038

Prepared By:

Historical Perspectives, Inc.
P.O. Box 529
Westport, CT 06881

Authors:

Cece Saunders, M.A., R.P.A.
Julie Abell Horn, M.A., R.P.A.
Nancy S. Dickinson, M.A.
Christine Flaherty, M.A.

December 2012

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EPDSCO, Inc. completed a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) on Block 1997, Lot 28, the site of a proposed multi-story development on Franklin Avenue in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. The site is located on the west side of Franklin Avenue, between Jefferson Avenue and Fulton Street, and consists of a vacant, L-shaped parcel, approximately 23,000 square feet in area (Figures 1-3). The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission's (LPC) initial findings in response to the ESA, states that a "review of archaeological sensitivity models and historic maps indicates that there is potential for the recovery of remains from the 19th Century Ormond Street Congregational Church cemetery on the project site" and a documentary study will help "to clarify these initial findings and provide the threshold for the next level of review, if such review is necessary" (Santucci 11/14/12). The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is the area that could be affected by project development. The APE for the proposed project includes the entire project site.

This Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR), and to comply with the standards of the LPC (LPC 2002; CEQR 2012).

Archival research and interviews with local historians have shown that the 482 Franklin Avenue project site was located in the historic Bedford Corners neighborhood, which was settled in the eighteenth century and until the nineteenth century contained a number of important historic structures and early roads. The area was near the Battle of Brooklyn, and during the Revolutionary War was occupied by the British troops and their allies. Many of the Colonial period houses endured through the nineteenth century, before being razed to make way for new development.

The project site itself, despite its location several blocks from the Bedford Corners crossroads, appears to have been undeveloped and used as farmland or woodland through the mid-nineteenth century. None of the historic maps or archival research indicates any use of the project site for other purposes during this period. More specifically, research aimed at identifying the locations of historic cemeteries in the Bedford Corners area confirms that none of these burial grounds were located within the project site. Figure 4 illustrates the locations of the different graveyards identified in the archival literature, and shows that most were several blocks east of the project site, on the east side of Cripplebush Road, which roughly corresponds to modern Bedford Avenue. The "Negro Burying Ground" was located approximately 2500 feet to the southeast, near the modern intersection of Nostrand Avenue and Bergen Street. A well-known Revolutionary War camp, which also was known to contain a burial ground, was situated approximately 2000 feet to the south of the project site, at the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Bergen Street. The archival research revealed that the Ormond Street Congregational Church, founded in the 1850s and located at the northwest corner of Block 1997, and which was identified by the LPC as a potential resource associated with the project site, never had its own cemetery.

The project site was developed in the late 1860s, with a large residence occupied by David M. Stone and his wife, servants, and gardeners from ca. 1869-1895. At the time that Stone moved to the site, Franklin Avenue already had been provided with piped water and sewers, and it is assumed that the house would have been hooked up to these municipal resources at the time it was built, negating the need for any wells, privies, or cisterns, which frequently provide sealed archaeological deposits on urban sites. After Stone's death, the property was purchased by the Unity Club, a Jewish philanthropic organization, who used the building for its headquarters, enlarging the structure to include both a three-story and one-addition to house amenities such as ball rooms and bowling alleys. From 1914-1943, the property was owned and occupied by the Loyal Order of Moose, a fraternal club. From 1943-1973, the site was occupied by the Holy Trinity Baptist Church and Open Door Community Center. Since 1973, the property has been vacant.

The Bedford Corners neighborhood has undergone a significant transformation from its eighteenth and nineteenth century configuration. The historic houses that once dotted the area have been demolished to allow new development. Historic cemeteries, including the one associated with the Revolutionary War campground, have been disturbed and/or destroyed by road and building construction. And the historic Bedford Corners crossroads – Cripplebush Road, the old Jamaica highway, and the Clove Road – have long since been demapped and incorporated into the modern city grid. Perhaps the one exception is a very short stretch of Clove Road that still exists in the Crown Heights neighborhood south of Bedford, just south of Montgomery Street between Nostrand and New York Avenues (see Photograph 4).

While the entire Bedford Corners neighborhood, which includes the project site, was once an important eighteenth and nineteenth century locale, and depending on later disturbance, may still be sensitive in spots for archaeological resources associated with this era, the research conducted by HPI for this particular project has not indicated any site-specific archaeological sensitivity. It is HPI's conclusion that no historic cemeteries or other historic period archaeological resources should exist within the 482 Franklin Avenue project site. Based on these conclusions, HPI recommends that no further archaeological studies are necessary.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. METHODOLOGY.....	1
III. CURRENT CONDITIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING	2
A. CURRENT CONDITIONS	2
B. TOPOGRAPHY AND HYDROLOGY	2
C. SOILS	2
IV. BACKGROUND RESEARCH/HISTORICAL OVERVIEW	2
V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	5
VI. REFERENCES	7

FIGURES

PHOTOGRAPHS

FIGURES

1. Project site on *Brooklyn, N.Y. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle* (U.S.G.S. 1995).
2. Project site and photograph locations on *Sanborn Building and Property Atlas of Brooklyn* (Sanborn 2007).
3. Project site on aerial photograph (New York City GIS 2010).
4. Project site on *Map of Bedford Corners in 1766-7 and 1867* with cemeteries highlighted (Stiles 1867).
5. Project site on *Plan of the Battle of Brooklyn, August 27th 1776* (Stiles 1867).
6. Project site on *Map of the City of Brooklyn, and Village of Williamsburg* (Butt 1846).
7. Project site on *Sidney's Map of Twelve Miles around New-York* (Sidney 1849).
8. Project site on *Map of the City of Brooklyn* (Dripps 1869).
9. Project site on *Atlas of the Entire City of Brooklyn* (Bromley 1880).
10. Project site on *Atlas of the City of Brooklyn* (Sanborn 1908).
11. Photograph of 482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, c. 1922 (New-York Historical Society).

PHOTOGRAPHS
(see Figure 2 for locations of 1-3)

1. 482 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot 28. View: west to east, Franklin Ave. in rear; Bedford Branch Library on right.
2. 482 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot 28. View: northwest to southeast, Bedford Branch Library in left rear.
3. 482 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot 28. View: southeast to northwest, St. Peter Claver R. C. (red brick) Church in left rear.
4. Possible remnant of the 18th Century Clove Road in Crown Heights. Intersection of Clove Road and Montgomery Street. View: north to south.

I. INTRODUCTION

EPDSCO, Inc. completed a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) on Block 1997, Lot 28, the site of a proposed multi-story development on Franklin Avenue in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. The site is located on the west side of Franklin Avenue, between Jefferson Avenue and Fulton Street, and consists of a vacant, L-shaped parcel, approximately 23,000 square feet in area (Figures 1-3). The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission's (LPC) initial findings in response to the ESA, states that a "review of archaeological sensitivity models and historic maps indicates that there is potential for the recovery of remains from the 19th Century Ormond Street Congregational Church cemetery on the project site" and a documentary study will help "to clarify these initial findings and provide the threshold for the next level of review, if such review is necessary" (Santucci 11/14/12). The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is the area that could be affected by project development. The APE for the proposed project includes the entire project site.

This Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of the City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR), and to comply with the standards of the LPC (LPC 2002; CEQR 2012). The HPI project team consisted of Project Manager Cece Saunders, M.A., R.P.A., who conducted archival research, interviews, and wrote portions of the report; Christine Flaherty, M.A., who assisted with the archival research and completed the report graphics; Nancy Dickinson, M.A., who also conducted archival research and interviews; and Julie Abell Horn, M.A., R.P.A., who completed the remainder of the report.

II. METHODOLOGY

The specific request of LPC was to clarify the presence/absence of a cemetery potentially associated with the mid-19th century Ormond Street Congregational Church. As such, methods employed for this study focused only on the history of the project site during the historic era. No precontact period resources are expected on this site. The present study entailed review of various resources.

- Both Daniel Pagano and Amanda Sutphin of LPC were contacted concerning the source of the notation on the burial ground. Both acknowledged incomplete information in the agency file but referenced a paper notation on a possible community burial ground. The notation was based on input in 1993 from Joan Maynard, former Executive Director of what is now known as the Weeksville Heritage Center, who passed away in 2006. Daniel Pagano suggested HPI contact Wilhelmena Rhodes Kelly of Brooklyn who might have some data on the possible association.
- Interviews were conducted with local historians, including Bedford Branch Library librarian Nicholas Franklin; Weeksville Heritage Center archivist, Jennifer Scott, who has gone through the Joan Maynard collection several times; Ben Gocker, Brooklyn Public Library's Brooklyn Collection; and Wilhelmena Rhodes Kelly, published historian on Crown Heights and Bedford Stuyvesant.
- Nineteenth century conveyance records, city directories, census records and Brooklyn newspaper accounts were reviewed.
- Primary and secondary sources concerning the history of the Bedford and Weeksville neighborhoods and specific events associated with the project site and vicinity were reviewed at the New York Public Library, the Brooklyn Public Library, the Brooklyn Historical Society, the library of HPI, and using online resources.
- Historic maps and photographs were reviewed at the New York Public Library, the Brooklyn Public Library, the Brooklyn Historical Society, the library of HPI, and using various online websites. These maps and photographs provided an overview of the topography and a chronology of land usage for the project site. A selection of these maps and photographs has been reproduced for this report.
- A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was provided for the property, completed by EPDSCO in October 2012.
- Department of Building records were reviewed for the ESA and indicate the earliest records on file date to the 1920s.
- Last, a site visit was conducted by Cece Saunders and Nancy Dickinson of HPI to assess any obvious or unrecorded subsurface disturbance (Photographs 1-3; Figure 2).

III. CURRENT CONDITIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

A. Current Conditions

As noted in the Introduction, the project site is accessed from Franklin Avenue, and consists of a ca. 23,000 square foot L-shaped vacant parcel (Photographs 1-3). The site is covered with weeds, bushes, and several mature trees, and is enclosed by a chain link fence with a locking gate on Franklin Avenue. The ground surface is not visible under the vegetation, and there are small piles of debris on the lot. There is a slight depression or ditch in the extreme southern limit of Lot 28, paralleling the foundation wall of the abutting building.

The eastern portion of the project site is bounded by the Bedford Branch Brooklyn Public Library on the south and a multiple story apartment building on the north. The remainder of Block 1997, which roughly surrounds the interior portion of Lot 28, contains single family row houses along Jefferson Avenue, the St. Peter Claver Roman Catholic Church at the corner of Jefferson Avenue and Claver Place, additional row houses and apartment buildings along Claver Place, and commercial buildings along Fulton Avenue, which back up to the southern end of the L-shaped Lot 28. Public School 3 is located on the east side of Franklin Street, across from the project site.

B. Topography and Hydrology

Early maps of the vicinity of the study area record the topography and environment of the project site prior to nineteenth- and twentieth-century road construction and other development. The earliest detailed map, the 1844 Coastal Survey, shows that the entire area north of what is now Atlantic Avenue in the vicinity of the project site was a relatively flat area used as farmland. No fresh water sources are recorded anywhere within the study area vicinity on the coastal survey (U.S.C.S. 1844).

The earliest recorded numerical elevations are derived from topographic maps and real estate atlases. The 1891 topographical map, which records conditions at an unknown, pre-1891 date when there were no structures on the study site, shows that the project site straddled the 60-foot contour line (Bien and Vermeule 1891). The modern topographic map, as well as real estate atlases, shows that elevations of the project site area range from 60-70 feet, suggesting that despite any grading and filling of the area, there has been little overall change in elevation over time.

C. Soils

According to the soil survey for New York City, the project site falls within a very large soil mapping unit designated Pavement & buildings, till substratum, 0 to 5 percent slopes, and described as:

Nearly level to gently sloping, highly urbanized areas with more than 80 percent of the surface covered by impervious pavement and buildings, over glacial till; generally located in urban centers (USDA 2005:14).

No soil borings have been undertaken on the project site.

IV. BACKGROUND RESEARCH/HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The project site falls within the Brooklyn neighborhood of Bedford, which first was settled by local Brooklyn residents in 1662. The early settlement of Bedford was situated at the crossroads of the old highway to Jamaica (which ran roughly between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue and was later known as the Brooklyn and Jamaica Turnpike), the Clove Road to Flatbush on the south (portions of which are in the approximate location of the southern portion of Bedford Avenue), and the Cripplebush Road to Newtown on the north (in the approximate location of the northern portion of Bedford Avenue), and extended about a quarter mile in all directions from this intersection (Stiles 1867, Vol. I:158; *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 9/11/1887). Development in Bedford was concentrated around the crossroads, and the project site, being several modern blocks from that intersection, appears to have remained undeveloped during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and likely was used as farmland or woodland. Conditions in the Bedford area are shown on the 1766-1767 Ratzler map as well as a map published by Stiles using the Ratzler base map but providing annotations (Figure 4). Both maps indicate that there were no buildings or other features on the project site, or immediately surrounding it. The site was at the northern end of an

oblong parcel fronting Fulton Street, which along with several adjacent parcels, belonged to Rem Remsen, and later Barent Lefferts and Rem Lefferts, who were members of the large Lefferts family whose name still survives as nearby Lefferts Boulevard (e.g. Butts 1846 [Figure 6], Colton 1849; Beers 1874; Hopkins 1880). There was a house somewhere on the large Remsen/Lefferts parcel noted by Stiles that was torn down in ca. 1840 (and probably corresponds to the house numbered “11” on Figure 4 at the northwest corner of the crossroads and well outside the project site).

Additionally, the Stiles map shows the location of a number of local cemeteries, including the Bedford Village burial ground and the Remsen family burial ground, both east of modern Bedford Road and more than 500 feet east of the project site, and the “Negro burying-ground” located near Nostrand and St. Mark’s Avenues, some 10 city blocks southeast of the project site. Two articles in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* from 1887 further describe the various burial grounds in the Bedford Corners area.

Just north of Fulton street, about midway between Bedford avenue and Arlington place, where W. Payne’s carpet cleaning establishment now is, was formerly located the burial ground of Bedford village, and still further north the Lefferts family burial ground occupied what is now the bed of Halsey street. Still further north, on the Cripplebush road, the Remsens had their family burying ground about midway of the block, between Halsey and Hancock streets, a short distance east of the present line of Bedford avenue. On the Clove road, just north of what is now Bergen street, about midway of the block between Rogers and Nostrand avenues, was the negro burying ground for Bedford village (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 6/12/1887).

Just east of the [Cripplebush] road, or ninety-six feet from the southeast corner of Bedford avenue and Halsey street, was formerly the Bedford village burying ground. It extended eastward 131 feet 9 inches, occupying the present bed of Halsey street, and forty feet of Mr. Payne’s grounds. In the rear of this burying ground, or what would be east of it, in the bed of Halsey street, for forty feet more, was the Lefferts’ family burying ground, while on the opposite side of the Cripplebush road, about on the line of Bedford avenue north of Avon Hall was the Remsen family burying ground. When Halsey street was cut through and improved, the dust of many of the departed was removed to other cemeteries... (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 8/14/1887).

Another *Brooklyn Daily Eagle* article mentions a differently named burial ground – the Wyckoff burying ground – which was located in close proximity to the previously described cemeteries, on the south side of Halsey Street and one lot east of Bedford Avenue. It was still maintained in the 1880s as such, by local resident William Payne (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 9/27/1885). The locations of these different cemeteries are highlighted on the Stiles map (Figure 4).

During the Revolutionary War, the Brooklyn area was the site of one of the first battles of the conflict, and later was occupied by the British. Bedford was a natural crossroads for moving troops (e.g. Field 1869), and during the Battle of Long Island (a.k.a. the Battle of Brooklyn) on August 27, 1776, served as a staging area for the British army, as shown on a recreation by Stiles (Figure 5). After the Americans retreated from the area, the British controlled Kings County and Long Island, and Stiles notes that during the ensuing years there were British and Hessian camps in the Bedford area, with officers residing in local houses, and the headquarters at Judge Lefferts house, at the southeast corner of the Bedford Corners crossroads. During the winter of 1780-1781, a large stationary camp was built on the farm of Barent Lefferts in the area west of Franklin Street and south of Bergen Street, about five blocks south of the project site. Huts and barracks were built by excavating trenches in the ground and covering the hole with a pitched roof of planks and a stone fireplace. Officers camped in the woods outside the stationary camp. Stiles notes that the camp was still visible on the landscape as of 1852, and relics as well as human skeletons were often found when grading the camp area (Stiles 1867, Vol. I:320-321; Kelly 2009:12-13).

The project site appears to have remained vacant through the mid-nineteenth century. Maps made of the area (e.g. U.S.C.S. 1837, 1844, 1863; Butts 1846 [Figure 6]; Sidney 1849 [Figure 7], Colton 1849) show no development within the project site, with buildings on other blocks limited to lots fronting the major roadways in the area. In 1829, the Wallabout and Bedford Turnpike (later known as the Jamaica Road and the Old Bedford Road) opened between Wallabout and Bedford Corners (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 9/11/1887; 8/6/1893). The 1849 Colton map labels it as “Jamaica Road;” later maps indicate it as Bedford Road or Old Bedford Road, not to be confused with modern

Bedford Avenue, which runs along a portion of the former Cripplebush Road that was the original route leading north from the Corners. The Old Bedford Road ran northwest-southeast and skirted the northeast corner of modern Block 1997. It appears to have been discontinued by the early 1850s when local land speculators purchased those portions of the abandoned roadbed that now ran through city blocks (e.g. Liber 228, 1850: 201). The 1855 Dripps map does not show the road anymore (the 1863 U.S.C.S. map shows only a small remnant), and by issuance of the 1869 Dripps map (Figure 8), it was shown only as a dotted line.

Beginning in the early 1850s, there was a building boom in the Bedford area, with much land speculation occurring along the Fulton Street corridor (e.g. Miller 1851). One of the speculators was Richard L. Crook, a builder who acquired numerous parcels during this period and in many cases erected buildings on speculation, including within the project site block. Accompanying this development activity was the introduction of city services, including water and sewer lines under the adjacent streets during the 1850s and 1860s.

On Block 1997, one of the first developments was for construction of what became the Central Congregational Church, on newly laid out Ormond Place (now Claver Place). The building was constructed in 1853 by Richard Crook, who intended to sell it on speculation to a Protestant congregation with a neighborhood population. In February 1854 several local residents rented the church for a period of two years, and that April the church was dedicated, with the first services were led by the Reverend Henry W. Parker. The property, on the southeast corner of Ormond Place and Jefferson Street, measured 100 by 130 feet. The church was 64 feet along its front, and 80 feet deep, with a lecture and school room in the basement. The bell tower was 180 feet high. An ecclesiastical society was formed that fall, under the Central Congregational Society of Brooklyn, and in November the church, consisting of 30 members, was officially formed. When the initial lease of the church expired in 1856, the members were unable to raise the money to buy the building, and for a time they worshipped elsewhere, but in November 1856 were at last, with the financial aid of several other local churches, able to purchase the church. In 1863 the church was renovated inside and out. In 1865 the church purchased the adjoining lot at 13 Ormond Place and built a parsonage. In 1867 the galleries were expanded so as to seat 175 people, and the basement was extensively improved. The rental of pews became a popular fund raiser. By the 1860s, membership numbered about 350 (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 4/24/1854; Stiles 1870, Vol. III:803-804). The congregation outgrew the church soon afterwards, and in 1872 moved to a new building several blocks away on Hancock Street between Franklin and Bedford Avenues. The old church on Ormond Place later was remodeled (the spire and bell tower were removed) and in 1921 became home to the St. Peter Claver Roman Catholic Church, serving the local African-American community (Kelly 2007:29).

Richard Crook also acquired much of Lot 28 during the 1850s. What would become a major portion of Lot 28 was sold by Richard and Caroline Crook to Charles N. Kinney in 1855 (Liber 398, 1855: 520). A dozen years later, in 1867, Charles N. Kinney sold his 200 foot frontage on Franklin Avenue to John N. Bradley (Liber 750, 1867: 463). Despite these land transactions during the 1850s, the first development of the project site appears to have occurred in the mid-1860s. David M. Stone, the editor of the *New York Journal of Commerce*, who had moved to the state in 1849 from Philadelphia and was living on Pearl Street in Brooklyn until 1867, acquired land on Block 1997 and a large house, which was located on the portion of his land that includes the project site. The 1869 Dripps map (Figure 8) illustrates the house and property, attributed to D.M. Stone, probably soon after it was purchased. The map also shows the church, and numerous other lots on the block, most of which had by this time been developed with structures. Similar conditions are shown on the 1880 Bromley map (Figure 9).

The Stone property attracted much attention, because it was a large residence, home to a wealthy and somewhat eccentric man, and contained extensive exotic gardens and greenhouses, which were open to the general public for viewing. Stone and his wife, who had no children, lived in the large house with several servants and a full-time gardener who tended to the grounds (Federal census 1870, 1880). The 1888 Sanborn map show that glass “hothouses” and a large coach house were located at the rear of the Stone property, in the central portion of the block. Stone was a member of the Central Congregational Church from the time he moved to the Bedford area, and one of the most prominent (and wealthiest) members. He consistently led the bidding for the rental of the best pew over the years. The newspapers frequently commented on Stone’s lifestyle and his property, with several lengthy articles describing the contents of the gardens alone (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 11/7/1886; 8/7/1892). Stone also was called out for using too much water on his property to keep his fountains continuously flowing during a water shortage (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 9/3/1880). Over the years, Stone continued to expand and improve his property.

For example, in 1891, four years before his death, Stone purchased from George and Bridget Buckley an interior portion of Block 1997, roughly 30 feet by 20.2 feet, to enlarge his holdings (Liber 2124, 1891: 73).

One newspaper article from 1893, two years before Stone's death, gave a detailed description of the house and grounds:

Mr. Stone's residence is a substantial and comfortable one of brick located at the northern end of his grounds, which comprise about one and one-half acres. It is partially hidden by the foliage of large trees and its south side is covered with the Virginia creeper. There is a row of trees along the sidewalk in front of the grounds and another row – elms and chestnuts – running parallel inside the inclosure, while scattered through the grounds are several willows and pines and in the rear fruit trees, a grape arbor and extensive greenhouses. The lawn is set off here and there with a boxbush or palm tree, numerous cacti and other tropical plants, while the broad lawn is adorned with flower beds laid out in various shapes and planted in quaint and artistic designs, composed of multi colored plants so as to present kaleidoscopic colors and a variety of novel forms to please the eye. In the center of the background a fountain plays, while in the middle of the grounds an elm tree, with its trunk covered with American ivy, presents a unique feature (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 8/6/1893).

Stone died in 1895; his wife had died in 1887. At his death, his probate indicated a large amassment of wealth, which was divided among a number of family members and friends (*New York Times* 4/3/1895, 5/1/1895). The large Franklin Street property was divided following his death, with the southern portion purchased for construction of the Bedford Branch public library, and the northern L-shaped portion comprising the project site purchased by the Unity Club, a Jewish philanthropic organization. The Unity Club had been recently formed as a merger of the Lawrence Club of the Western District and the Friendship Club of the Eastern District. The former Stone mansion was to be retrofitted for use by the club, including planned ball and banquet rooms, billiard rooms and bowling alleys (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 7/8/1896; *New York Tribune* 7/16/1896). In 1902, a three-story brick addition was completed to the original house (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 12/29/1901; 1/26/1902). The 1908 Sanborn map (Figure 10) illustrates the project site at the time it was occupied by the Unity Club, and shows a long one-story with basement addition on the rear of the building.

By 1914, the Unity Club had outgrown its quarters on Franklin Street, and moved to a new space at Bedford Avenue and Dean Street (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 1/11/1931). The Franklin Street building and lot was purchased by the Loyal Order of Moose, a fraternal and social organization. At the time of the sale in 1914, the former mansion house contained a ball room, dining room, bowling alleys in the basement, and a tennis court and field in the yard (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 4/10/1914). The Moose Club was shown as the occupant of the project site on the 1929 Hyde map and the 1932 Sanborn map. A historic photograph of the building during the time it was occupied by the Moose Club was taken in 1922 (Figure 11).

In 1943, the Holy Trinity Baptist Church, whose own building recently had burned down, purchased the former Moose Club building at 482 Franklin Avenue for use as a youth center and church. The facility was called the Open Door Community Center, and served an inter-racial community (*Brooklyn Daily Eagle* 9/3/1944). Its pastor since 1922, the Reverend Dr. Thomas S. Harten, also served as the President of the Afro-Protection League (*New York Age* 3/11/1950). The 1951 Sanborn map notes the project site building as containing a community center, and Sanborn maps from 1962 and 1965 note the building as a church. The Holy Trinity Baptist Church continued to be listed as the property occupant until 1973, when the building was demolished (DOB records). Since that time, the property has been vacant.

V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Archival research and interviews with local historians have shown that the 482 Franklin Avenue project site was located in the historic Bedford Corners neighborhood, which was settled in the eighteenth century and until the nineteenth century contained a number of important historic structures and early roads. The area was near the Battle of Brooklyn, and during the Revolutionary War was occupied by the British troops and their allies. Many of the Colonial period houses endured through the nineteenth century, before being razed to make way for new development.

The project site itself, despite its location several blocks from the Bedford Corners crossroads, appears to have been undeveloped and used as farmland or woodland through the mid-nineteenth century. None of the historic maps or archival research indicates any use of the project site for other purposes during this period. More specifically, research aimed at identifying the locations of historic cemeteries in the Bedford Corners area confirms that none of these burial grounds were located within the project site. Figure 4 illustrates the locations of the different graveyards identified in the archival literature, and shows that most were several blocks east of the project site, on the east side of Cripplebush Road, which roughly corresponds to modern Bedford Avenue. The “Negro Burying Ground” was located approximately 2500 feet to the southeast, near the modern intersection of Nostrand Avenue and Bergen Street. A well-known Revolutionary War camp, which also was known to contain a burial ground, was situated approximately 2000 feet to the south of the project site, at the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Bergen Street. The archival research revealed that the Ormond Street Congregational Church, founded in the 1850s and located at the northwest corner of Block 1997, and which was identified by the LPC as a potential resource associated with the project site, never had its own cemetery.

The project site was developed in the late 1860s, with a large residence occupied by David M. Stone and his wife, servants, and gardeners from ca. 1869-1895. At the time that Stone moved to the site, Franklin Avenue already had been provided with piped water and sewers, and it is assumed that the house would have been hooked up to these municipal resources at the time it was built, negating the need for any wells, privies, or cisterns, which frequently provide sealed archaeological deposits on urban sites. After Stone’s death, the property was purchased by the Unity Club, a Jewish philanthropic organization, who used the building for its headquarters, enlarging the structure to include both a three-story and one-addition to house amenities such as ball rooms and bowling alleys. From 1914-1943, the property was owned and occupied by the Loyal Order of Moose, a fraternal club. From 1943-1973, the site was occupied by the Holy Trinity Baptist Church and Open Door Community Center. Since 1973, the property has been vacant.

The Bedford Corners neighborhood has undergone a significant transformation from its eighteenth and nineteenth century configuration. The historic houses that once dotted the area have been demolished to allow new development. Historic cemeteries, including the one associated with the Revolutionary War campground, have been disturbed and/or destroyed by road and building construction. And the historic Bedford Corners crossroads – Cripplebush Road, the old Jamaica highway, and the Clove Road – have long since been demapped and incorporated into the modern city grid. Perhaps the one exception is a very short stretch of Clove Road that still exists in the Crown Heights neighborhood south of Bedford, just south of Montgomery Street between Nostrand and New York Avenues (see Photograph 4).

While the entire Bedford Corners neighborhood, which includes the project site, was once an important eighteenth and nineteenth century locale, and depending on later disturbance, may still be sensitive in spots for archaeological resources associated with this era, the research conducted by HPI for this particular project has not indicated any site-specific archaeological sensitivity. It is HPI’s conclusion that no historic cemeteries or other historic period archaeological resources should exist within the 482 Franklin Avenue project site. Based on these conclusions, HPI recommends that no further archaeological studies are necessary.

VI. REFERENCES

Beers, J.B. & Co.

1874 *Farm Line Map of the City of Brooklyn*. Section 4.

Bien, Joseph Rudolph and C.C. Vermeule

1891 *Atlas of the Metropolitan District and adjacent country comprising the counties of New York, Kings, Richmond, Westchester and part of Queens in the state of New York, the county of Hudson and parts of the counties of Bergen, Passaic, Essex and Union in the state of New Jersey ...* From original surveys by J.R. Bien and C.C. Vermeule, the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey and the Geological Survey of New Jersey. Published by Julius Bien & Co., New York.

Bromley, G. W. and Co.

1880 *Atlas of the Entire City of Brooklyn, New York*. G. W. Bromley & Co., New York.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle

1880 Municipal: Will There be a Water Famine? September 3, 1880.

1885 New Buildings. The Site of the Ancient Village of Bedford. September 27, 1885.

1886 Gardens of Brooklyn: Mr. David M. Stone's Greenhouses and What They Contain. November 7, 1886.

1887 At Bedford Corners. June 12, 1887.

1887 Cripplebush Road. August 14, 1887.

1887 Old Brooklyn Roads. September 11, 1887.

1892 Two Brooklyn Gardens That Delight the Passerby With Vistas of Plants and Flowers. August 7, 1892.

1894 About Brooklyn People. September 30, 1894.

1896 Union of Two Clubs. July 8, 1896.

1901 Among the Clubs. December 29, 1901.

1902 News of the Clubs. January 26, 1902.

1914 Unity Club Bought by Order of Moose. April 10, 1914.

1931 Governor to Attend Dinner to Steingut. Unity Club, Where Event Will Be Held Next Month, Has Colorful History – Many Political Movements Had Birth There. January 11, 1931.

Brooklyn Historical Society Land Conveyances

1850 Liber 228, page 201. City of Brooklyn to Crook. 10/28/1850.

1855 Liber 398, page 520. Richard and Caroline Crook to Charles N. Kinney. 6/28/1855.

1867 Liber 750, page 463. Charles N. Kinney to John N. Bradley. 4/6/1867.

1891 Liber 2124, page 73. George and Bridget Buckley to David M. Stone. 8/12/1891.

Butt, Richard

1846 *Map of the city of Brooklyn, and village of Williamsburg: showing the size of blocks and width of streets as laid out by the Commissioners, the old farm lines, water line, and all recent changes in streets/laid down from accurate surveys & documents, compiled, lithographed & published by Richard Butt, surveyor, 1846.*

City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR)

2010 *City Environmental Quality Review Technical Manual*. City of New York, Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination. May 2010.

Colton, J.H.

1849 *Map of the city of Brooklyn, as laid out by commissioners, and confirmed by acts of the Legislature of the state of New York : made from actual surveys, the farm lines and names of original owners, being accurately drawn from authentic sources, containing also a map of the Village of Williamsburgh, and part of the city of New-York : compiled from accurate surveys & documents and showing the true relative position of all.*

Dripps, Matthew

1855 *Map of the City of Brooklyn, as consolidated January 1st, 1855*. M. Dripps, New York.

1869 *Map of the city of Brooklyn: being the former cities of Brooklyn & Williamsburgh and the town of Bushwick, as consolidated January 1st, 1855 by an act of the legislature of the State of New York ... showing also a part of the City of New York*. M. Dripps, New York.

EPDSCO

2012 *Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, 482/484 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot #28, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11238*. Prepared for Realty Within Reach, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Federal Census for Brooklyn

1860 Available electronically. <<http://www.ancestry.com>>. Accessed 11 December 2012.

1870 Available electronically. <<http://www.ancestry.com>>. Accessed 11 December 2012.

1880 Available electronically. <<http://www.ancestry.com>>. Accessed 11 December 2012.

Field, T.W.

1869 *Plan of the Positions and Movements of the British and American Army on the 26th and 27th of August 1776 on Long Island with projections of the modern streets.*

Hopkins, G.M.

1880 *Detailed estate and old farm line atlas of the city of Brooklyn.*

Hyde, E.B.

1929 *Desk atlas, borough of Brooklyn, City of New York.*

Kelly, Wilhelmena Rhodes

2007 *Images of America: Bedford-Stuyvesant*. Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, S.C.

2009 *Images of America: Crown Heights and Weeksville*. Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, S.C.

Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC)

2002 *Landmarks Preservation Commission Guidelines for Archaeological Work in New York City*.

Miller and Company

1851 *Map of 63 lots & gores in the 7th & 9th Wards of the city of Brooklyn, to be sold at auction by James Cole on Thursday, 18th Decr., 1851, at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchge., N.Y.* On file at the Brooklyn Historical Society.

New York Age

1950 Holy Trinity Baptist Church and Dr. Thos. S. Harten Fulfill Need in B'klyn. March 11, 1950.

New York Times

1895 Death of David M. Stone. April 3, 1895.

1895 David M. Stone's Will Probated. May 1, 1895.

New York Tribune

1896 The Stone Homestead Sold. July 16, 1896.

Ratzer, Bernard

1766-1767 *Plan of the City of New York, in North America.*

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company

1888 *Insurance Maps of Brooklyn, N.Y.* Sanborn Map Co., New York.

1908 *Insurance Maps of Brooklyn, N.Y.* Sanborn Map Co., New York.

1932 *Insurance Maps of Brooklyn, N.Y.* Sanborn Map Co., New York.

1951 *Insurance Maps of Brooklyn, N.Y.* Sanborn Map Co., New York.

1962 *Insurance Maps of Brooklyn, N.Y.* Sanborn Map Co., New York.

1965 *Insurance Maps of Brooklyn, N.Y.* Sanborn Map Co., New York.

2007 *Insurance Maps of Brooklyn, N.Y.* Sanborn Map Co., New York.

Santucci, Gina

2012 Environmental Review, Landmarks Preservation Commission. November 14, 2012.

Sidney, J.C.

1849 *Sidney's Map of Twelve Miles around New-York.*

Stiles, Henry R.

1867 *A History of the City of Brooklyn.* Vol. 1. Brooklyn.

1869 *A History of the City of Brooklyn.* Vol. 2. Brooklyn.

1870 *A History of the City of Brooklyn.* Vol. 3. Brooklyn.

United States Coast Survey (U.S.C.S.)

1837 *From Brooklyn to Fort Hamilton and Gowanus Island.* United States Coast Survey.

1844 *Map of New-York Bay and Harbor and the Environs.* U.S. Coast Survey, Washington D.C.

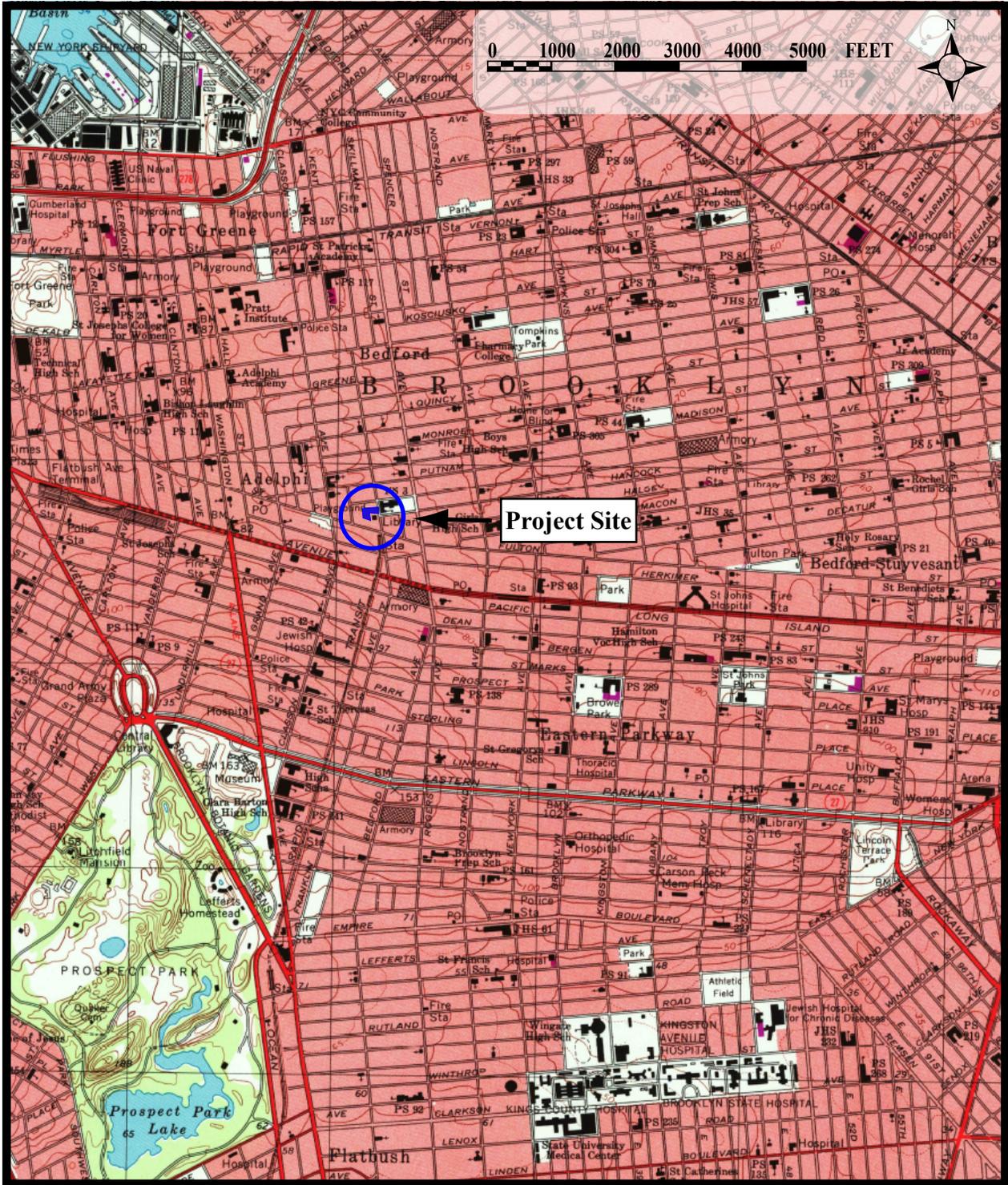
1863 *Williamsburg and Brooklyn.* United States Coastal Survey Topographic Maps Series.

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

2005 *New York City Reconnaissance Soil Survey.* United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Staten Island, NY.

United States Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.)

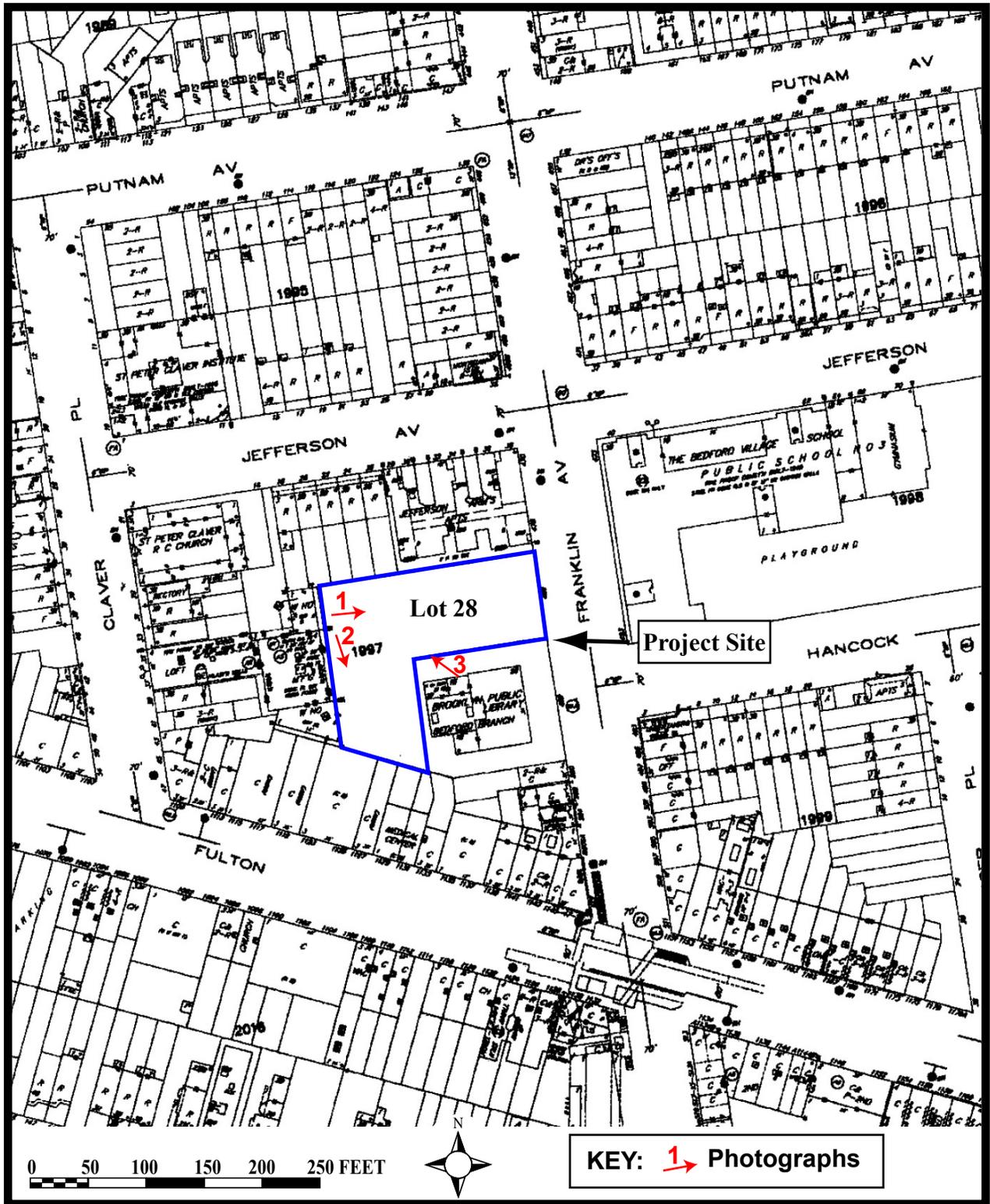
1995 *Brooklyn, N.Y. 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle.*



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
 482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
 Block 1997, Lot 28



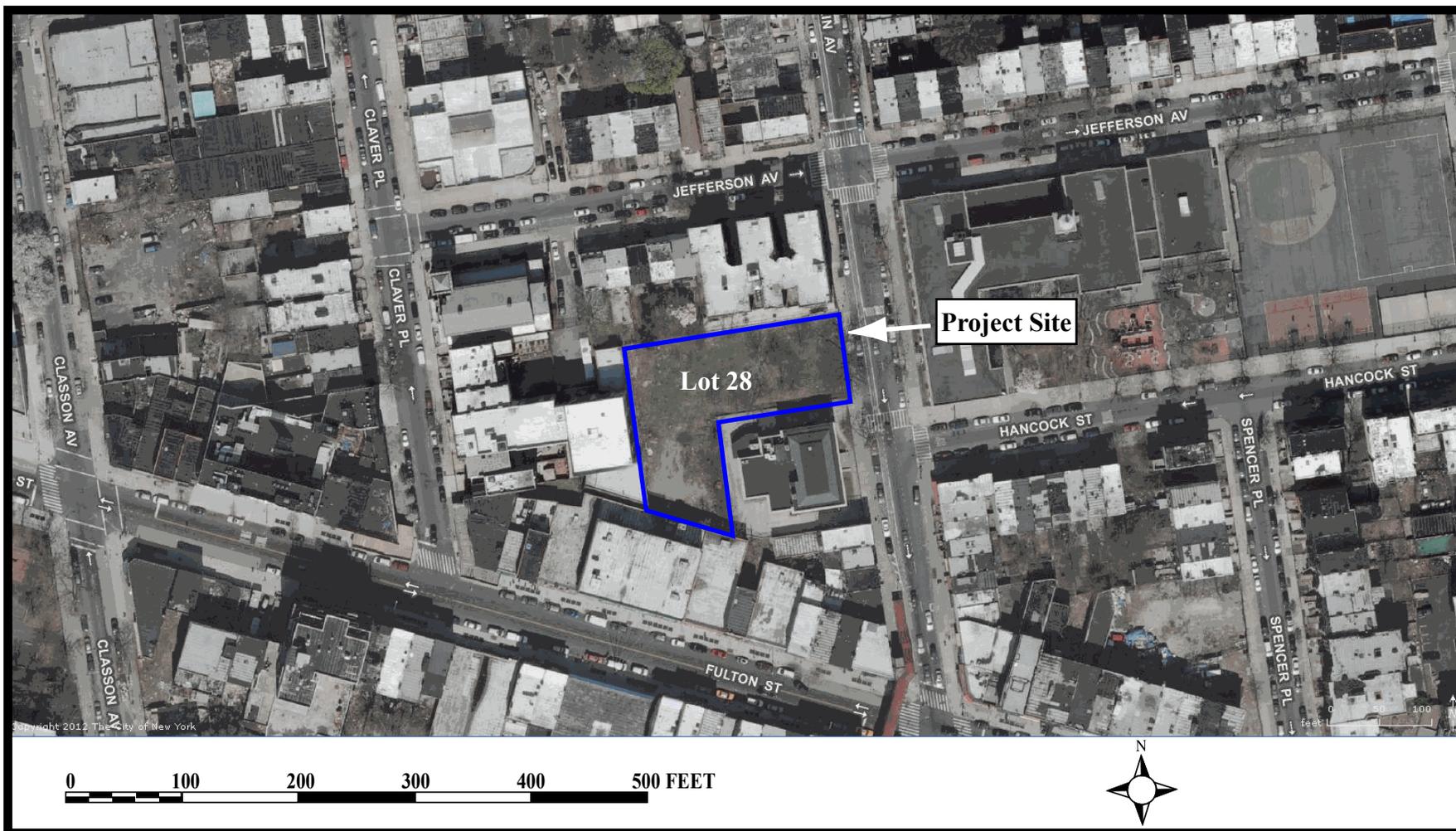
Figure 1: Project site on *Brooklyn, N.Y. 7.5 Minute Quadrangle* (U.S.G.S. 1995).



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
 482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
 Block 1997, Lot 28



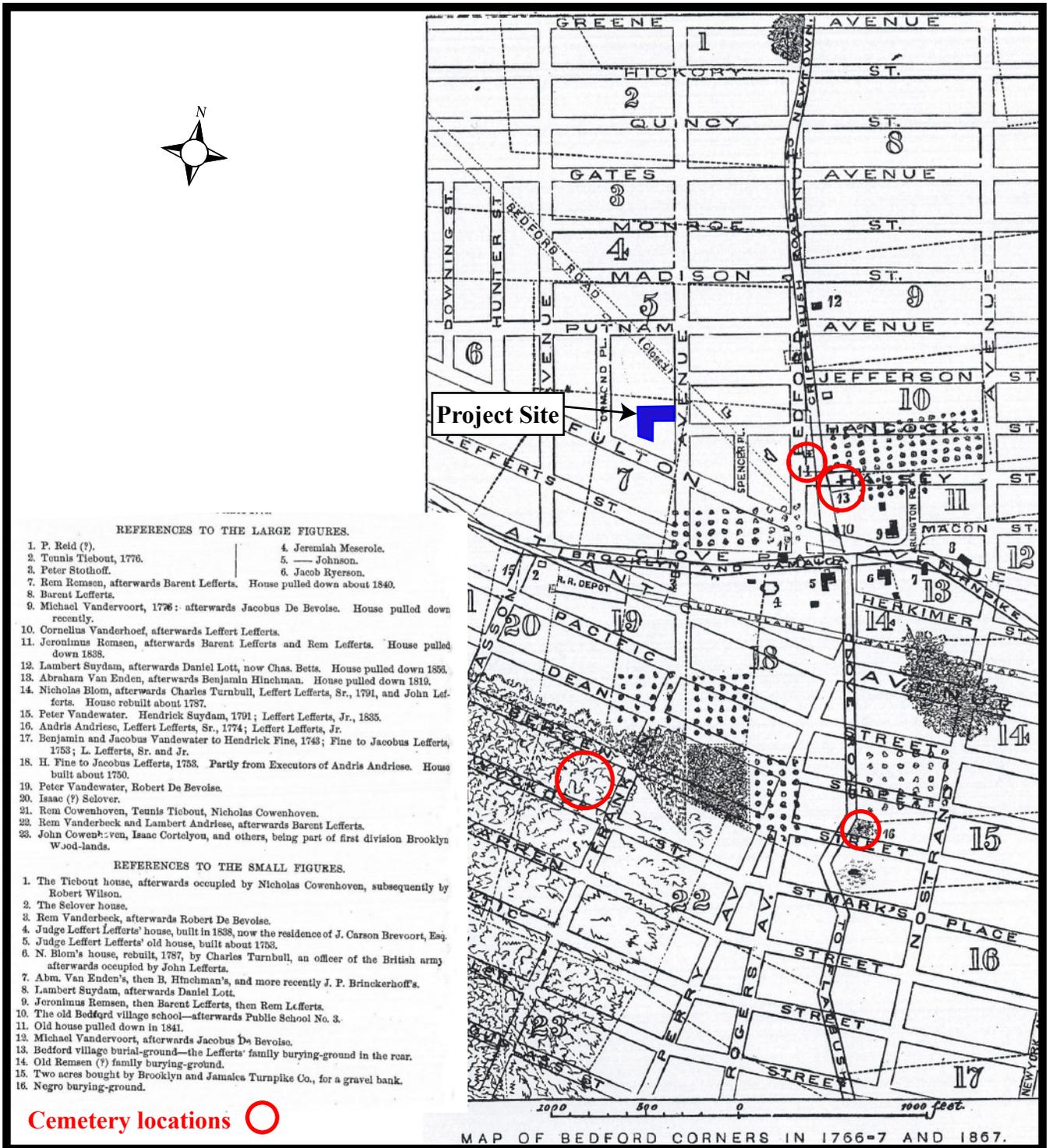
Figure 2: Project site and photograph locations on *Sanborn Building and Property Atlas of Brooklyn* (Sanborn 2007).



**Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
Block 1997, Lot 28**



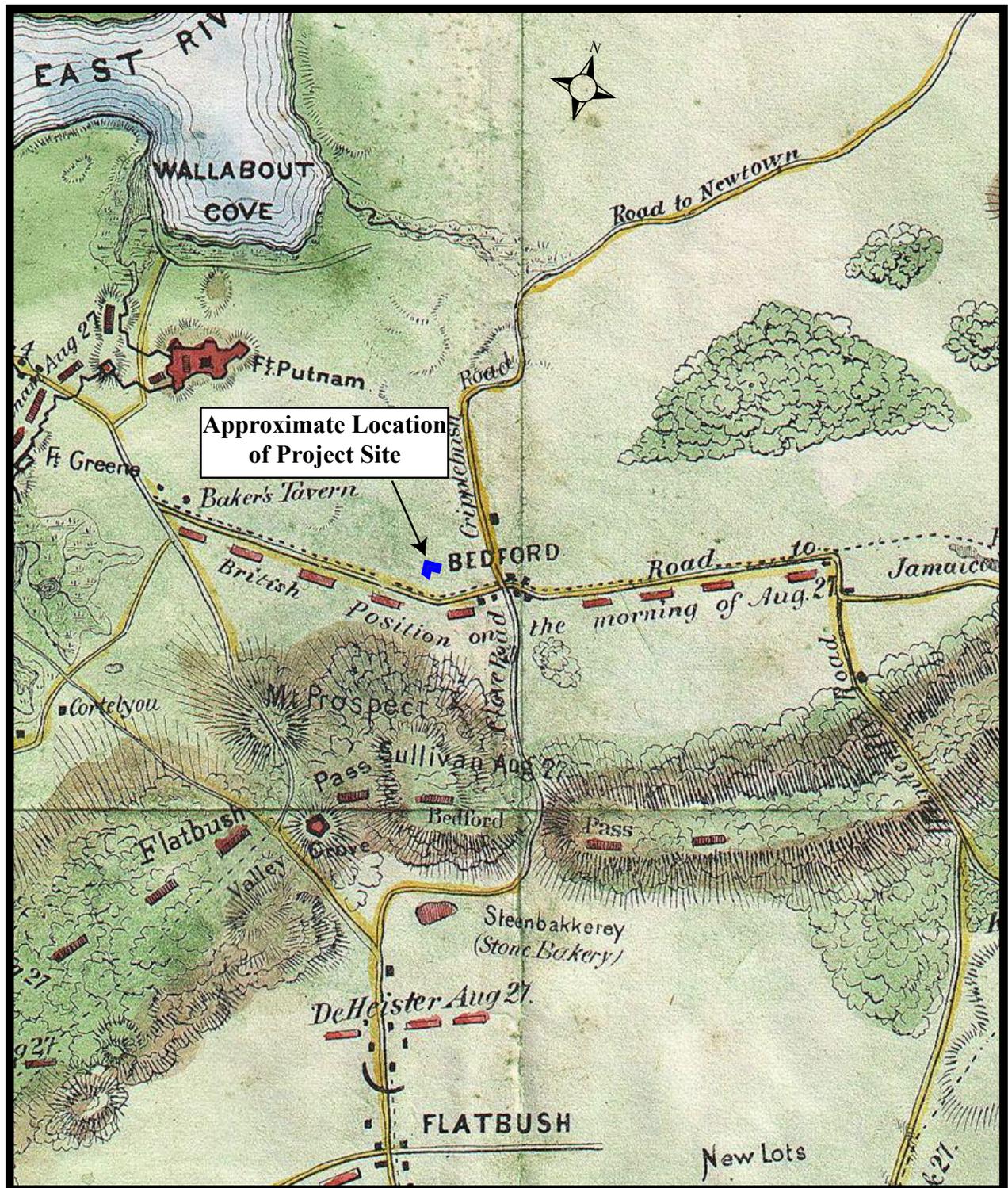
**Figure 3: Project site on aerial photograph
(New York City GIS 2010).**



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
Block 1997, Lot 28



Figure 4: Project site on *Map of Bedford Corners in 1766-7 and 1867* with cemeteries highlighted (Stiles 1867).



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
 482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
 Block 1997, Lot 28



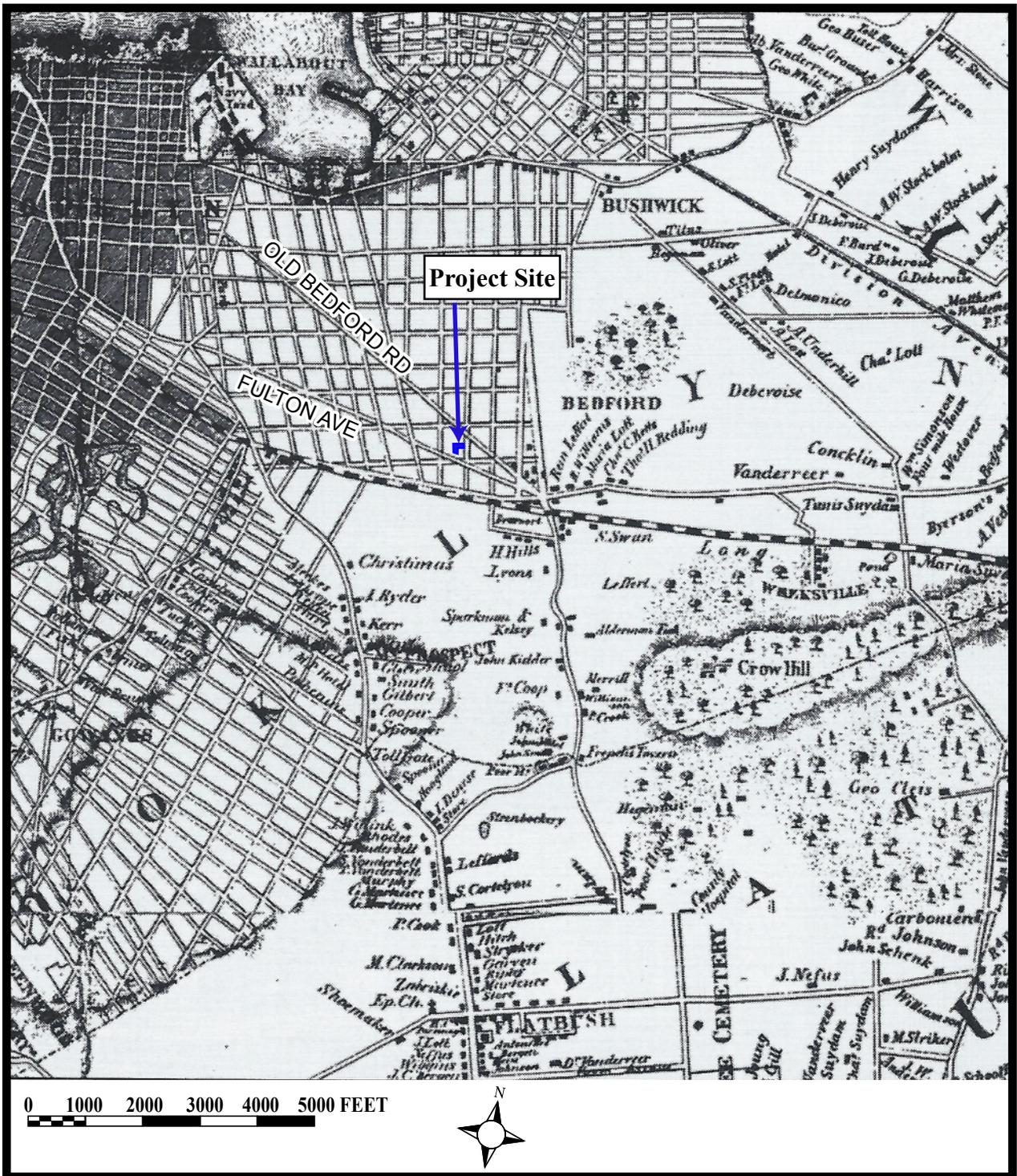
Figure 5: Project site on *Plan of the Battle of Brooklyn, August 27th 1776* (Stiles 1867).



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
Block 1997, Lot 28



Figure 6: Project site on *Map of the City of Brooklyn, and Village of Williamsburg* (Butt 1846).



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
 482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
 Block 1997, Lot 28



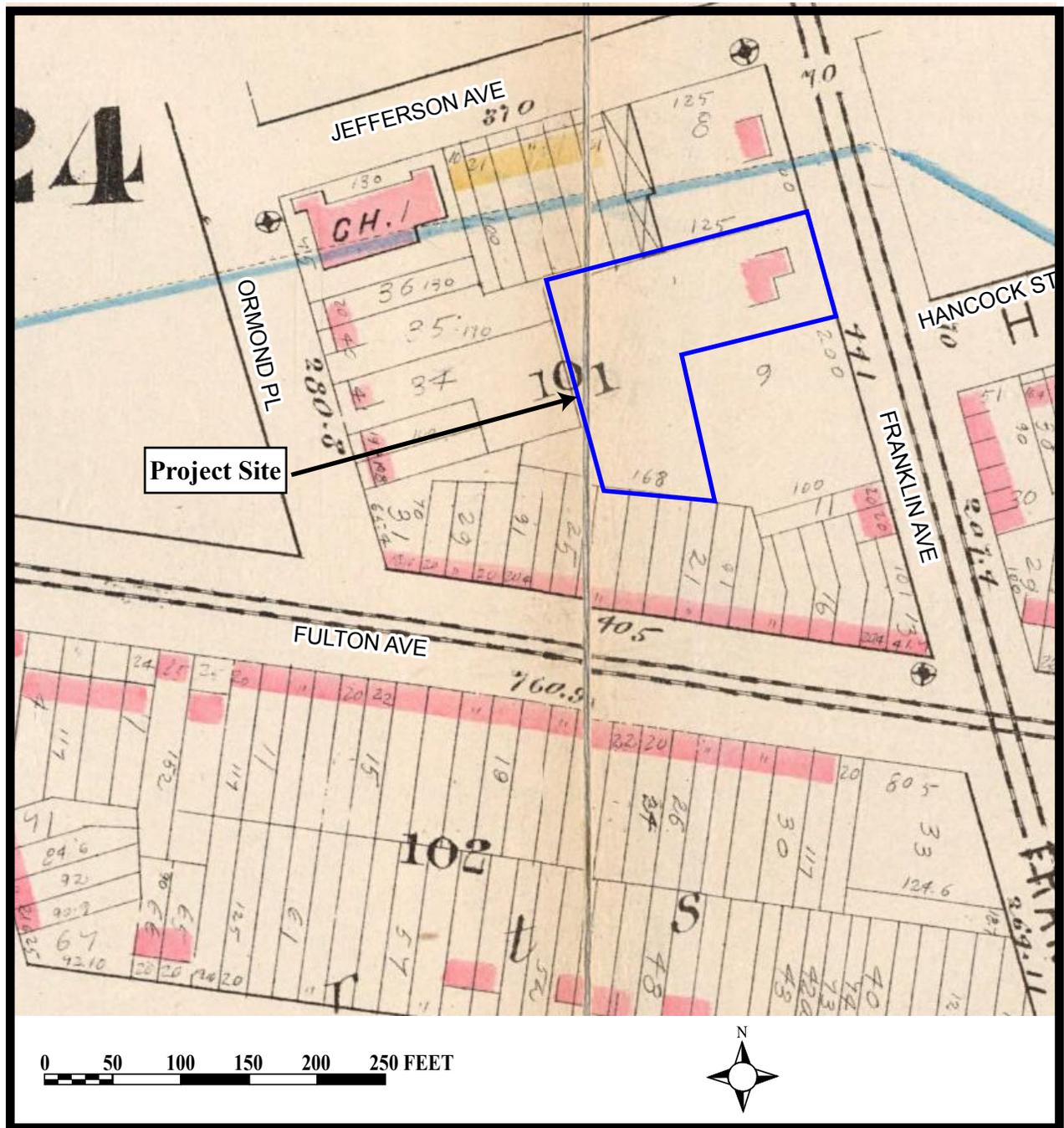
Figure 7: Project site on *Sidney's Map of Twelve Miles around New-York* (Sidney 1849).



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
Block 1997, Lot 28



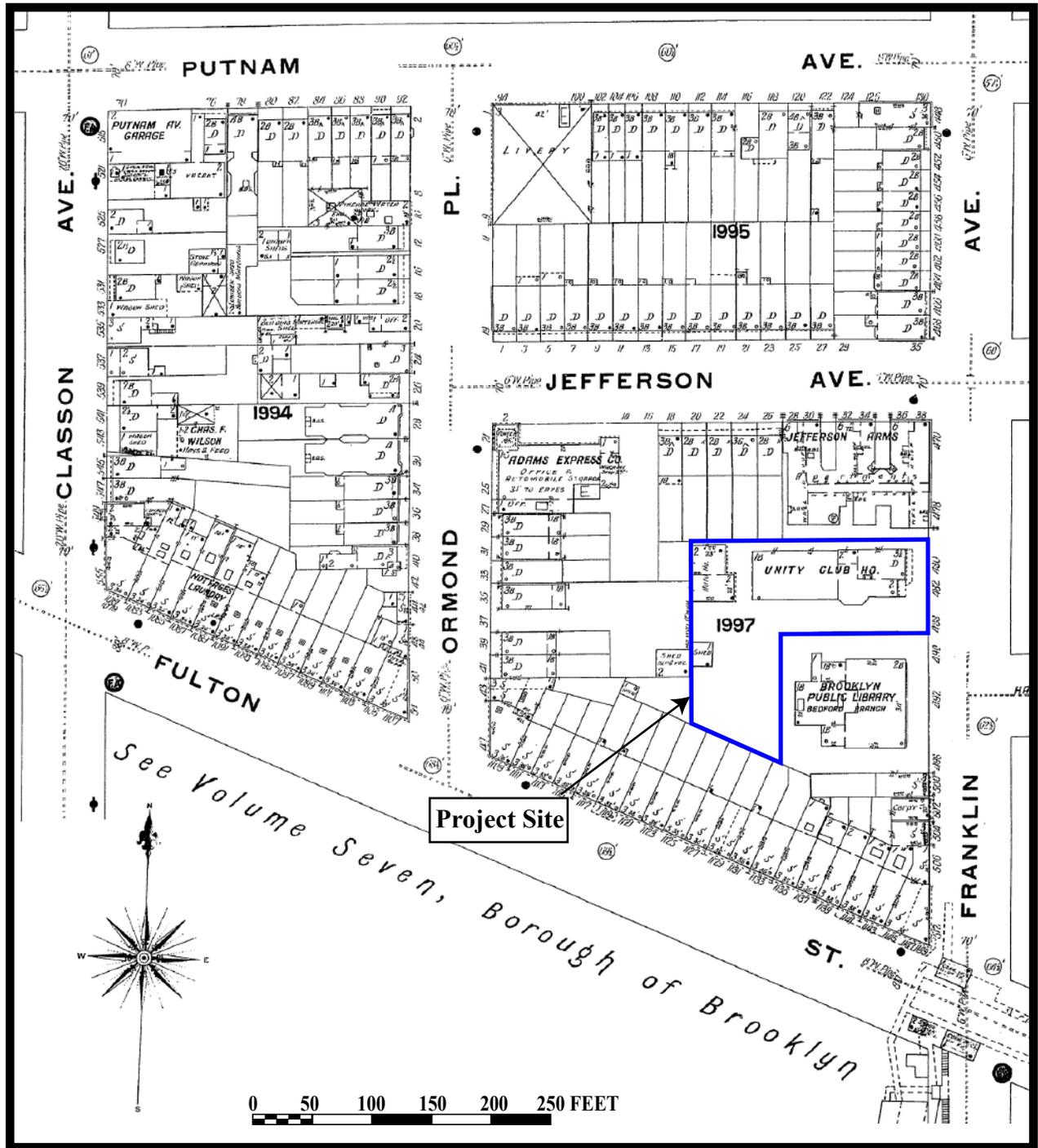
Figure 8: Project site on *Map of the City of Brooklyn* (Dripps 1869).



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
 482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
 Block 1997, Lot 28



Figure 9: Project site on *Atlas of the Entire City of Brooklyn* (Bromley 1880).



Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
 482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
 Block 1997, Lot 28



Figure 10: Project site on *Atlas of the City of Brooklyn* (Sanborn 1908).



**Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study
482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, New York
Block 1997, Lot 28**

**Figure 11: Photograph of 482 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn, c. 1922
(New-York Historical Society).**





Photograph 1: 482 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot 28
View: west to east, Franklin Ave. in rear; Bedford Branch Library on right.



Photograph 2: 482 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot 28
View: northwest to southeast, Bedford Branch Library in left rear.



**Photograph 3: 482 Franklin Avenue, Block 1997, Lot 28
View: southeast to northwest, St. Peter Claver R. C. (red brick) Church in left rear.**



**Photograph 4: Possible remnant of the 18th Century Clove Road in Crown Heights.
Intersection of Clove Road and Montgomery Street.
View: north to south.**