

Wallabout Historic District Designation Report

July 12, 2011



Cover Photograph:
127-131 Vanderbilt Avenue
Christopher D. Brazee, 2011

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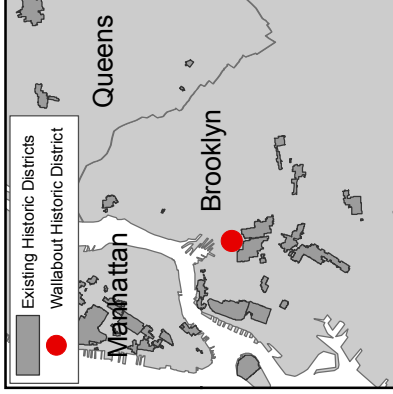
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Wallabout Historic District

Landmarks Preservation Commission
 Wallabout Historic District
 Borough of Brooklyn, NY
 [LP-2445]

Calendared: July 27, 2010
 Public Hearing: October 26, 2010
 Designated: July 12, 2011

 Boundary of Historic District
 Tax Map Lots in Historic District



TESTIMONY AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

On October 26, 2010, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation of the Wallabout Historic District (Public Hearing Item No. 17). The hearing had been duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of law. Fifteen people spoke in favor of designation, including Councilmember Letitia James, State Assembly Member Joseph Lentol, Pratt University President Thomas Schutte, a representative of Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Project Executive Director Michael Blaise Backer, several property owners and residents and representatives of the Historic Districts Council and the New York Landmarks Conservancy. The owner of 118-122 Vanderbilt Avenue, completed in 2008, argued against including it in the designation. There was no testimony in opposition to the designation of the district.

WALLABOUT HISTORIC DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

The Wallabout Historic District consists of the property bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of the eastern curbline of Vanderbilt Avenue and a line extending easterly from the southern property line of 132 Vanderbilt Avenue, continuing westerly along said line across the roadbed of Vanderbilt Avenue and along the southern property line of 132 Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along the western property lines of 132 through 128 Vanderbilt Avenues, easterly along a portion of the northern property line of 128 Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along the western property lines of 126 through 124 Vanderbilt Avenue, westerly along a portion of the southern property line of 118-122 Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along the western property lines of 118-122 through 74 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along the northern property line of 74 Vanderbilt Avenue and continuing across the roadbed to the eastern curbline of Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along said curbline to a point formed by its intersection with a line extending westerly from the northern property line of 69 Vanderbilt Avenue (aka 216 Park Avenue), easterly along said line and the northern property line of 69 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 69 through 71 Vanderbilt Avenue, westerly along a portion of the southern property line of 71 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 73 through 83 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along a portion of the northern property line of 85 Vanderbilt Avenue and the northern property line of interior lot 132, southerly along the eastern property lines of interior lots 132 through 128, westerly along the southern property lines of interior lot 128 and 93 Vanderbilt Avenue to the eastern curbline of Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along said curbline to a point formed by its intersection with a line extending westerly from the northern property line of 117 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along said line and the northern property line of 117 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 117 through 125 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along a portion of the northern property line of 127 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 127 through 141 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along a portion of the northern property line of 143 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 143 through 145 Vanderbilt Avenue, westerly along the southern property line of 145 Vanderbilt Avenue to the eastern curbline of Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along said curbline to the point of the beginning.

SUMMARY

The Wallabout Historic District, consisting of approximately 55 buildings on Vanderbilt Avenue between Myrtle and Park Avenues in Brooklyn, is an architecturally and historically significant collection of mid-19th century houses. More than 60 percent of these structures were constructed in a short span of years between 1849 and 1855. They provide an exceptionally rich and varied portrait of mid-19th century residential architecture and include one of the greatest surviving concentrations of mid-19th century wood houses in the city. Designed in the Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, and neo-Grec styles, the majority of the houses within the district retain numerous original details that lend a cohesive quality to the streetscape.

Wallabout takes its name from a group of Walloons who settled on a bay on Brooklyn's East River waterfront in the mid-17th century. The district occupies a small portion of a Walloon patent that had descended in the Ryerson and Vanderbilt families and had passed to John and Jeremiah V. Spader in the 1820s. In 1833, John Spader sold his farm to Manhattan realtor George W. Pine who developed Clinton Avenue as a villa-lined boulevard. The nearby expansion of the Brooklyn Navy Yard along Wallabout Bay and the opening of Flushing Avenue in the late 1840s prompted the Estate of Jeremiah V. Spader to underwrite the costs of opening Vanderbilt Avenue and to begin selling lots on the west side of the street in the fall of 1849. Almost immediately, the owners of the villas on Clinton Avenue began dividing their lots and selling the land on the east side of Vanderbilt Avenue to developers.

Among the earliest houses were the Greek Revival Style residences of wood turner Richard Pease at 71 Vanderbilt Avenue and brush maker James Letts at 81 Vanderbilt, both completed by the summer of 1850. Other notable Greek Revival houses include the pair of cottages at 143 and 145 Vanderbilt Avenue, erected for merchant Henry Ryer c. 1850, the paired houses at 98 and 100 Vanderbilt Avenue with Doric porticos erected by builder Edward Nevins around 1850-51, and the free-standing house with a Corinthian portico at 102 Vanderbilt Avenue, erected by boatswain Robert Dixon and his wife Laura Dixon around 1855, which was raised to three stories in 1881. The district also includes two rare groups of Gothic Revival Style row houses: 92-94 Vanderbilt Avenue, erected by publisher George C. Morgan c. 1852-54 and 117-121 Vanderbilt Avenue erected for merchant Roswell Hovey in 1852-54. Examples of the Tuscan Villa Style variant of the Italianate, which was relatively rare for urban town houses, include 123-125 Vanderbilt Avenue erected for Mrs. W.A. Dawson in 1853 and 128-132 Vanderbilt Avenue erected for publisher Horace H. Moore in 1852-53. The more common Palazzo Style variant of the Italianate Style is represented by a number of fine examples, including 131 Vanderbilt Avenue and 127-129 Vanderbilt Avenue, erected between 1853 and 1855.

The district is also enriched by a group of buildings from a second wave of construction in the 1870s and 1880s. These include the row of five neo-Grec brownstones at 80-86 Vanderbilt Avenue, the earliest known group of speculative row houses commissioned by oil magnate Charles Pratt, designed by the prominent New York City architect Ebenezer Robert and erected in 1878, and the handsome late Italianate brick and brownstone residence at 90 Vanderbilt Avenue, erected for cooper Jacob Gruner in 1882-84. Bridget Kerns and her husband scrap metal dealer real estate developer James Kerns commissioned two neo-Grec style buildings: the house at 114 Vanderbilt Avenue, a mid-19th century building remodeled in 1884, and the flats building at 116 Vanderbilt Avenue of 1887-88, designed by the prolific Brooklyn architect Isaac D. Reynolds. Also of interest are several mid-19th century frame houses that were

updated with Queen Anne features, including fishscale shingles and decorative window hoods, in the late 1870s and early 1880s.

Located a few blocks from Wallabout Bay and the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the district is also important for its connections with New York City's rich maritime heritage. From its earliest days, the district was home to ship captains, pilots, ferry masters, mariners, boat builders, and workers involved in the shipping industry. Notable residents included Alfred Lowber, captain of the steamship *Ericsson*, who resided at 121 Vanderbilt Avenue from around 1855 to about 1866, Sandy Hook pilot George Sisco, who lived at No. 117 from the 1850s through the 1880s, and pilots Archibald and John Heath, who resided at No. 112 with their father, ship caulker John Heath, in the 1880s. Other long-term occupants included bookseller-publisher James Miller, who resided at 129 Vanderbilt Avenue from about 1855 to around 1864, and clock makers Timothy S. Sperry, partner in Bryant & Sperry (at No. 119, 1857-70, No. 127, 1871-85) and William C. Vosburgh, partner in Crosby & Vosburgh (at No. 127, 1855-67). Decorative painter John Herbold, who lived at 76 Vanderbilt Avenue from the early 1870s to the late 1880s, was residing in the district when he designed the stencil decorations for a suite of offices in the State, War & Navy Building, now the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington, D. C. Sports hero, Lipman (Lip) Pike, who grew up in the district, was residing with his family at 123 Vanderbilt Avenue in 1866 when he was recruited to become one of the first professional baseball players in the country and undisputedly the first Jewish professional player. Lip Pike went on to have an illustrious career – he was the National Association home run champion from 1871 to 1873 and the National League home run champion in 1877.

In the 20th century the blocks between Park Avenue and Flushing Avenue adjacent to the Navy Yard became industrialized. The majority of residents in the district were either skilled tradesmen or blue collar workers employed at the Navy Yard or nearby factories. The Brooklyn Navy Yard was the largest shipyard in the world during World War II and was crucial to the American war effort. But the yard became outmoded in the 1950s and was closed in 1966. As neighborhood factories also closed many residents moved away and some of the district houses became vacant and rundown. In the 1970s new owners began to move in and over time a number of houses were restored. Although some of the houses have undergone alterations and there has been some new construction, the majority of the buildings within the Wallabout Historic District on the whole retain an exceptional level of integrity. This architecturally significant collection of early wood and masonry houses with its many historical associations, particularly its connections to the Navy Yard and New York's maritime industries, represents an important part of the history of Brooklyn and the City of New York.

THE HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE WALLABOUT HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Early History of the Area

Before the Europeans first made contact with Native Americans on what is now called Long Island, large portions of the island, including present-day Brooklyn, were occupied by the Lenape, or Delaware Indians.¹ The Lenape lived in communities of bark- or grass-covered wigwams, and in their larger settlements—typically located on high ground adjacent to fresh water, and occupied in the fall, winter, and spring—they fished, harvested shellfish, and trapped animals. As archaeologist Joan Geismer has noted, the abundance of Native American place names for Wallabout Bay and its surroundings indicate that they “were undoubtedly known and used by local Indian populations.”² It is likely the bay provided quahog or clamming beds for the natives who found great value in shells, which they manufactured into wampum. Used in Lenape ceremonies and valued as trading currency with the Dutch, the Lenape name for Long Island is Sewanhaka, meaning land or island of shells.³ No known Native American sites have been recorded within a one-mile radius of this historic district; however, the district’s location on gently sloping ground about a block from the original shoreline of Wallabout Bay, makes it likely that it was traversed and perhaps used by Native American hunters and gatherers. (The lack of hills or rises probably precludes its use as a campsite.)⁴

¹ This section on the early development of Wallabout is based on John A. Strong, *The Algonquian Peoples of Long Island from the Earliest Times to 1700* (Interlaken, NY: Books, 1997), 152, 163-165; Joan Geismer and Stephen Oberon, *Stage 1-A Cultural Resources Documentary Study and Assessment of Potential Impact, Proposed Navy Yard Cogeneration Facility*, prepared for Blasland and Bouck Engineers, PC, 1993 (on file with Landmarks Preservation Commission Environmental Review Department), 15-26; United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, Lefferts-Laidlaw House, prepared by Merrill Hesch, 1985; Landmarks Preservation Commission [LPC], “Brooklyn Survey: Vanderbilt Avenue Proposed Historic District,” 1977, n.p.; LPC, *Vinegar Hill Historic District Designation Report* (LP-1952), prepared by Donald Presa (New York: City of New York, 1997), 3-5; LPC, *Clinton Hill Historic District Designation Report* (LP-2017) (New York: City of New York, 1981), 3-4; Henry W. Stiles, *The Civil, Political, Professional and Ecclesiastical History and Commercial and Industrial Record of the County of Kings and the City of Brooklyn, New York, from 1683-1834*, 2 vols. (New York: W.W. Munsell & Co, 1884), v. 1, 145.

² Joan H. Geismer, *Documentation of the Wallabout Urban Renewal Area Housing Site (Block 2027) Brooklyn, NY*, (CEQR No. 88-323K), prepared for the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (New York: City of New York, 1988), 14. Native Americans called the bay *Marechkaneck* and the area *Rennegackonck* after the creek the Dutch subsequently named *Waal-bogt*.

³ Adriaen Van Der Donck wrote in 1655 about the manufacture of wampum: “They strike off the thin parts of those shells [sewam] and preserve the pillars or standards, which they grind smooth and even . . . and drill a hole through every piece and string the same on strings, and afterwards sell their strings of wampum in that manner. This is the only article of moneyed medium among the natives, with which any traffic can be driven; an it is also common with us in purchasing necessities and carrying on trade; many thousand strings are exchanged every year for peltries near the seashores where the wampum is only made, and the peltries are brought for sale.” Adriaen Van Der Donck, *A Description of New Netherlands*, ed. and intro by Thomas F. O’Donnell (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1968), 93.

⁴ The 1639 Manatus map indicates evidence of Lenape habitation upon the nearby hills of the Wallabout in what is now known as Clinton Hill and Fort Greene.

In 1637, Joris Jansen Rapalje, a Walloon tavern-keeper residing on Pearl Street in Manhattan, “purchased” 167 morgens (335 acres) of land on an inlet in Northwestern Brooklyn.⁵ Joris Jensen Rapalje and his wife Catalina Trico took up residence on the farm in the 1650s. By then their daughter Sara and son-in-law Hans Hansen Bergen, brothers Pieter and Jan Montfort, and Pieter Caesare Alberti had also established farms in the vicinity of the inlet known as *Waal-bogt* Bay. The Pieter Montfort farm, which extended along Wallabout Bay between present-day Clermont Avenue and Waverly Avenue, was later acquired by Marten Ryerse (Ryerson), husband of the Rapaljes’ daughter Annetje (1645/46-?). This farm passed to Marten and Annetje’s son, Jacobus Ryerse (aka Jacob Ryerson, c. 1677-1749?), who acquired several other properties in Brooklyn. In 1749 Jacobus sold this farm and two other parcels to his son Jan Ryerse (aka John Ryerson, 1715-1780?), husband of Ann Voorhees (1721-?).⁶ These parcels subsequently passed to Jan’s daughter Antje (Ann, 1746-1834) and her husband Jeremiah Vanderbilt (1740-1820).⁷

At the time of the American Revolution, Wallabout was a quiet farming community of about a dozen inter-related families living in houses extending along an old road near the shore of Wallabout Bay, just north of present-day Flushing Avenue. At the beginning of the war, the neighborhood saw action when a fort (originally known as Fort Putnam, later renamed Fort Greene) was constructed on a nearby hill and was involved in the Battle of Long Island. After New York fell to the British, many Continental soldiers who had been taken prisoner were transferred to ships anchored in Wallabout Bay.⁸ As the war progressed the British continued to imprison soldiers and sailors on these ships where over-crowding and squalid conditions led to the deaths of between 11,000 and 12,000 prisoners. Many bodies were simply thrown overboard. Others were buried in hastily prepared mass graves in the mud flats along the bay. According to General Jeremiah Johnson, who grew up in Wallabout, from 1776 until the peace, “the whole of Wallabout was a sickly place during the war. The atmosphere seemed to be charged with foul air from the prison ships, and with the effluvia of the dead bodies washed out of their graves by the tides.”⁹

Among the soldiers imprisoned by the British during the war was the Vanderbilts’ future son-in-law John Meserole, who married Geertje Vanderbilt (aka Gitty or Gertrude, 1766-1801) in 1783.¹⁰ In 1789, the Vanderbilts’ younger daughter Ann (1771-1801) also married a former

⁵ The Native American “system of land tenure was that of occupancy for the needs of a group” and that those sales that the Europeans deemed outright transfers of property were to the Native Americans closer to leases or joint tenancy contracts where they still had rights to the property. Reginald Pelham Bolton, *New York City in Indian Possession*, 2d ed. (New York: Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, 1920; reprint 1975), 7, 14-15; Robert Steven Grumet, *Native American Place Names in New York City* (New York: Museum of the City of New York, 1981), 69, as cited in LPC, *Noho Historic District Extension Designation Report* (LP-2287) (New York: City of New York, 2008), prepared by Marianne S. Percival and Kathryn Horak), 6.

⁶ Kings County, Office of the Register, Liber Deeds and Conveyances, Liber 38, 108.

⁷ In 1811, probably soon after Jan Ryerson died, his real estate was inherited by his daughters Antje and Christintie (aka Syntie,). Wishing to pass the property on to their grandchildren, Antje and Jeremiah bought Christintie’s half interest in the property through a series of transactions that left Jeremiah with a clear title to the property. See Conveyances Liber 38, 109, 111, 113.

⁸ For an account of the prison ships see Edwin G. Burrows and Mike Wallace, *Gotham: A History of New York City to 1898* (NY: Oxford Univ. Press, 1999), 252-254.

⁹ Jeremiah Johnson, *Recollections of Brooklyn and New York in 1776*, quoted in Geismar and Oberon, 20.

¹⁰ John and Geertje Meserole settled near his family in Greenpoint.

Continental soldier, William Spader (1763-1834), from Middlebush in Somerset County, New Jersey.¹¹ After their marriage, the Spaders resided with the Vanderbilts. In 1790, when the federal census was taken, the Vanderbilt-Spader household included four white males, four white females, and seven slaves.¹² Jan Ryerson also resided in Wallabout and his household consisted of two white males, two white females and five slaves. By 1800, the Vanderbilts' sons had died; in January 1801 both Gertrude Meserole and Ann Spader also passed away. William Spader had established his own farm in Wallabout, but later moved to Bedford. The elderly John Ryerson and Jeremiah Vanderbilt both continued to farm in Wallabout with the help of slave labor (Ryerson owned six slaves, Vanderbilt eight).¹³

Early 19th Century Development: Olympia and the Navy Yard

In 1784, Comfort and Joshua Sands bought a portion of the old Rapalje patent comprising 160 acres of land west of Gold Street from the Commissioners of Forfeiture, who had seized the property from John Rapelje, a Loyalist suspected of spying for the British. Comfort and Joshua Sands were brothers and business partners involved in the West India trade,¹⁴ who had made a fortune supplying the Continental army during the Revolutionary War. The Sands laid out some of their land into blocks and lots for a community called "Olympia" as early as 1787. They expected Olympia to become a summer retreat for New Yorkers because of its hilly topography, plentiful water, and refreshing breezes. The Sands also hoped to make Olympia a ship building center; they built wharves and warehouses and established an extensive ropewalk to produce rigging and cables for ships. However, development was limited until another Manhattan shipbuilder John Jackson began to develop the eastern portion of the Rapalje patent facing on to Wallabout Bay. John Jackson together with his brothers Treadwell and Samuel had purchased this 100-acre crescent-shaped tract that included a mill pond and mud flats from the Commissioners of Forfeiture following the war. Taking advantage of the existing dock on the property, the Jacksons built their own small shipyard and about ten houses for their workmen. During the 1790s, the shipyard built the frigate *John Adams*, then one of the largest ships afloat, for the Navy. In 1801 the Jacksons sold the 42-acre shipyard to the United States government

¹¹ For William Spader see "Department of Notes and Queries: Spader-Vanderbilt," *Somerset County Historical Quarterly* 5 (Oct. 1916), 319-320.

¹² United States Census, 1790, Kings County, Brooklyn, 4.

¹³ United States Census, 1800, Kings County, Brooklyn, 12-13. Historian Graham Russell Hodges notes that "Dutch farmers remained the most steadfast slaveholders" and that Kings County had the largest slaveholdings with households of more than ten quite common." See Graham Russell Hodges, *Root & Branch: African Americans in New York & East Jersey, 1613-1863* (Chapel Hill: Univ. of North Carolina Press, 1999), 164. For more on rural slavery and the lives of African Americans in the Federal period and early 19th century see Hodges, *passim*, and Vivienne L. Kruger, *Born to Run: The Slave Family in Early New York, 1626-1827* (PhD Diss.: Columbia University, 1985), now available online @ <http://newyorkslavery.blogspot.com/>.

¹⁴ During the 18th century, participation in the trans-Atlantic "triangular trade" became an integral part of New York City's economy. New York merchants were significant in this highly lucrative Europe-Africa-Americas shipping network that traded enslaved workers from Africa and the Caribbean; manufactured goods; and products from the Caribbean, such as sugar, rum, molasses, tobacco, rice, and cotton. As early as 1720, it has been estimated that one-half of New York ships were involved in Caribbean trade. Located closer to the West Indies, New York surpassed Boston in the domination of the northern Atlantic coast coastal trade. This trade, in turn, spurred a number of profitable local industries, such as shipbuilding and food processing, particularly sugar refining, distilling molasses into rum, and the conversion of tobacco into snuff.

for use as a navy yard. After the shipyard was sold, John Jackson continued to purchase land in Wallabout and began building houses and selling lots in the vicinity of the Navy Yard for residential and industrial purposes. He also established a ferry between Little Street in Brooklyn and Walnut Street (Jackson Street) in Manhattan. In 1805 Jackson joined with Flushing horticulturist William Prince and a number of other prominent Brooklyn businessmen in organizing the Wallabout and Brooklyn Toll Bridge Company.¹⁵ Three years earlier, Prince had organized the Flushing Bridge and Road Company to build a turnpike, which incorporated the first bridge over Flushing Creek, shortening the travel distance between Brooklyn and Flushing by four miles. To shorten the journey by another three miles the Wallabout Company constructed a bridge and causeway across the Wallabout marsh extending from the modern-day intersection of Hudson Avenue and Sands Street to North Elliot Place and Flushing Avenue. The new road spurred development in the Navy Yard area and increased property values in Wallabout.¹⁶

Within the Navy Yard, the United States government constructed the Commandant's Quarters (1805-06, a designated New York City Landmark) and several brick storehouses and offices. At first the yard produced gun boats for ventures against the Barbary and Caribbean pirates. In 1815, the yard launched the *Fulton*, the first steam-powered ocean-going vessel. Outside the yard, new houses went up to house the brass founders, caulkers, joiners, riggers, and sailmakers involved in ship building. Taverns, game rooms and a hotel also opened near the yard. In 1824 the Federal government purchased an additional thirty-five acres on Wallabout Bay for a Naval Hospital. Construction began on the main hospital building in 1830 and was completed by 1838.

Initial Development of Vanderbilt Avenue

By the time Jeremiah Vanderbilt died in 1820, he and his grandson John Spader were living next door to one another in two houses facing the Wallabout Turnpike on the old Montfort patent.¹⁷ Jeremiah had amassed considerable other real estate in Brooklyn and Queens, and soon after his death, John Spader sued for a partition of the estate, which was to be divided equally between Antje (Ann) Vanderbilt and her eight grandchildren.¹⁸ Spader's plea was granted and in

¹⁵ For the Wallabout and Brooklyn Toll Bridge Company see "Old Village Road: Development of a Settlement of Thirteen Persons," *Brooklyn Eagle*, Dec. 25, 1887, 10; LPC, *Vinegar Hill Historic District Designation Report* (LP-1952), 5-6; "Wednesday, February 6," *New-York Commercial Advertiser*, Feb. 11, 1805, 3; "Wallebought Bridge," *American Citizen*, June 18, 1805, 1; "Directors Wallabout Brooklyn Toll Bridge Company," *The Public Advertiser*, June 6, 1807, 2; "Directors Wallabout Brooklyn Toll-Bridge Company," *The Public Advertiser*, June 6, 1808, 3; "Wallabout and Brooklyn Toll-Bridge Company," *The Columbian*, Nov. 29, 1810, 1; "Wallabout Brooklyn Toll-Bridge Company," *The Columbian*, June 5, 1811, 2; "Wallabout & Brooklyn Toll-Bridge Company," *The Columbian*, June 11, 1812, 1; Wallabout and Brooklyn Toll-Bridge Company," *National Advocate*, May 14, 1813, 3; Wallabout and Brooklyn Toll Bridge Company," *National Advocate*, May 18, 1818, 1. For Jeremiah Vanderbilt's death notice see "Died," *National Advocate*, May 5, 1820, 2.

¹⁶ Jeremiah Vanderbilt was on the board of directors of the turnpike company by 1807 and served as the company's treasurer from 1811 until his death in 1820. In 1811, Jeremiah's 22-year-old grandson, John Spader (1789-1860) also became a company director.

¹⁷ United States Census, 1820, Kings County, Brooklyn, Wallabout, 173.

¹⁸ Vanderbilt made a will in 1795 leaving his property to his son John and asking him to provide for his widow. By the time Jeremiah died in 1820, his son was dead and the executors he had appointed 25 years earlier were either elderly or deceased. The surviving executors agreed to relinquish control to John Spader and neighbors Abraham Meserole and General Jeremiah Johnson. Kings County, Office of the Surrogate, Wills Liber 2, 381.

February 1821 Vanderbilt's real estate was put up for auction. For the purposes of the sale the old Montfort patent was sub-divided into several sections.¹⁹ Jeremiah Vanderbilt Spader (1796-1838) bought a 38-acre tract extending roughly from modern-day Flushing Avenue to Willoughby Avenue between Vanderbilt and Clermont Avenues. Antje (Ann) Vanderbilt purchased a 72-acre tract extending from Wallabout Bay to the highway to Bedford (Fulton Street) between modern-day Vanderbilt and Waverly Avenues. Antje Vanderbilt then sold this tract to John Spader and probably moved in with Jeremiah V. Spader and his wife Maria Bergen. The two brothers continued to live side by side and to farm in Wallabout until the 1830s.²⁰

Brooklyn was growing rapidly during this period due to its expanding industries and steam-powered ferry lines that made commuting to Manhattan a simple matter. Its population having more than doubled between 1820 and 1830, Brooklyn was granted its own city charter in 1834. Wallabout, largely undeveloped between the Navy Yard and Naval Hospital but close to the built-up parts of the city, became the focus of intense real estate speculation. In 1833 John Spader took advantage of this trend to sell his farm to George W. Pine, partner in the New York City auction house of Pine & Van Antwerp.²¹ Spader agreed to accept a mortgage on the property against much of the purchase price. As Pine found purchasers for the individual lots Spader released the lots from the overall mortgage in exchange for a payment of principal and interest, thus Spader remained in a sense a partner in the development. The Spader-Pine development was laid out in an unusually generous manner. Clinton Avenue, which ran down the spine of the development from the Jamaica Turnpike Road all the way to Wallabout Bay, was 80 feet wide and developed as a tree-lined boulevard. The individual lots or "sections," as they were referred to in Pine and Spader's deeds of sale, were 100 feet wide and 246 feet deep. Builders and developers began buying up the Clinton Avenue lots, many of which were subdivided into 50 feet wide or 25 feet wide tracts. With the City of Brooklyn about to open Myrtle Avenue from the new City Hall (now Borough Hall) to Nostrand Avenue, Jeremiah V. Spader also succumbed to development pressures and had his farm surveyed and mapped for development. The map that surveyor John Rolfe drew up for Jeremiah V. Spader provided for the opening of three streets – Vanderbilt and Clermont Streets and Adelphia Avenue. Two of these mapped streets, Vanderbilt and Clermont, were partially on Jeremiah Spader's property and partially on the land of the adjacent property owners. In August 1835, Jeremiah Spader and builder William Hunter, Jr., who owned the land to the west of Jeremiah Spader's farm, filed a deed conveying Clermont Street (now Clermont Avenue) between the Wallabout Turnpike and Willoughby Avenue to the City of Brooklyn, so that it could be opened.²² The situation was more difficult with Vanderbilt Avenue, where John Spader had already sold several lots that extended into the road bed of the proposed street.

Over the next few years Clinton Avenue was developed with handsome free-standing villas, including the still surviving Lefferts-Laidlaw House at 136 Clinton Street (main house built c.

¹⁹ Conveyances Liber 12, 675; "In Partition," *New York Daily Advertiser*, Dec. 19, 1820, 3.

²⁰ United States Census, 1830, Kings County, Brooklyn, 236-237; John Spader was also active in Democratic Party politics and held a number of positions in Brooklyn government including town assessor (1824) and Justice of the Peace (1830-31). See the list of Brooklyn town officers in the Brooklyn Directories 1824-31; "Kings County," *National Advocate*, Apr. 22, 1819, 2.

²¹ Pine paid \$62,594 for the property, \$50,000 more than Spader had spent to purchase the land. Conveyances Liber 38, 124, 125; Kings County, Mortgages Liber 26, 264; "A Map of the Property of John Spader & George W. Pine in the Seventh Ward City of Brooklyn," surveyed by Sidney G. Herbert, Nov. 13, 1833, copy on file in the Brooklyn Borough President's Office, Topographic Division.

²² Conveyances Liber 76, 354.

1836-40, southwest wing built c. 1835, moved to present site, c. 1836-40, southeast wing built prior to 1855, a designated New York City Landmark), which incorporated a free-standing temple-fronted portico. Jeremiah Spader seems to have left most of his property undeveloped and continued farming until his death in 1838. The financial panic of 1837 and the depression that followed halted development in the area for a few years, but the opening of Flushing Avenue, which replaced the Wallabout Turnpike, spurred development in the northern part of Wallabout. The first public park in Brooklyn, City Park, now Commodore Barry Park, extending from Flushing Avenue and the newly-mapped Park Avenue between Navy and Nassau Streets, also opened. In 1848 the federal government acquired the land between the Navy Yard and Naval Hospital for an expansion of the Navy Yard. This third parcel was bounded on the north by the low water mark and on the south by Flushing Bay. At the end of the 1840s the new streets at the Wallabout just beyond the Navy Yard were elevated “six to eight feet above the grade of the old country roads.”²³ The marshes and low lying ground both within the yard and on the blocks immediately to the south also began to be filled making the neighborhood more desirable as a place of residence.

In March 1845 Maria Spader, Jeremiah’s widow and the administrator of his estate, placed at auction her carriage horses, carriages, farm wagon, cows, farming equipment, and “1000 loads of building stones,” suggesting that she both was giving up farming and that she had been doing some speculative building either on the farm or one of her late husband’s other properties.²⁴ Four years later, the J.V. Spader Estate announced it would be selling the farm at auction on March 27, 1849.²⁵ In contrast to the treatment of the John Spader farm, the J.V. Spader farm was divided into 100 city lots, most measuring 25 by 100 feet. The terms of sale provided that the lots were to be graded and Vanderbilt Avenue, which had not previously been cut through, was to be graded and paved at the expense of the estate. The estate offered to provide a mortgage of up to 60% of the purchase price of the lots for a term of three years. It seems likely that the auction never took place, but instead in early May the estate began making private sales. Many of the initial transactions for the lots within this district involved multi-lot parcels, often extending through the block to Clermont Avenue. Builder William Hunter, Jr., who owned much of the property on the west side of Clermont Avenue, purchased several lots.

By October the grading and paving of Vanderbilt Avenue between Flushing and Myrtle Avenues had been completed.²⁶ During the autumn of 1849, John Spader, who had regained ownership of the northern portion of the block bounded by Myrtle, Vanderbilt, Park, and Clinton Avenues had his property remapped. This time the lots were smaller than they had been in the 1830s, with the nine lots facing on to Vanderbilt Avenue, measuring 23 by 100 feet or 23 by 115 feet. On November 1 1849, Spader conveyed these lots to hardware merchant Samuel W. Burtis and his son-in-law grocer Ezra Baldwin.²⁷ They immediately began marketing the lots and like

²³“Improvements at the Wallabout,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, May 18, 1848, 3.

²⁴ “Auction Sales,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Mar. 18, 1845, 3; “Corporation Notice,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Oct. 18, 1849, 1.

²⁵ “James Cole, Auctioneer,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Mar. 23, 1849, 2; “Tuesday March 27th,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Mar. 23, 1849, 3. See also the auction map for the sale “Positive Sale of Valuable Building Lots in the City of Brooklyn Belonging to the Estate of Jeremiah V. Spader, decd.,” at the Brooklyn Historical Society, Flat Maps (B P-1849) b. FL. (Copy also on file at the Brooklyn Borough President’s Office, Topographic Division.)

²⁶ “Corporation Notice,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Oct. 18, 1849, 1.

²⁷ Conveyances Liber 204, 105. For Burtis and Baldwin see “Ezra Baldwin Dead,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Apr. 1, 1891, 1. Both Burtis and Baldwin were also directors of a number of fire insurance companies.

the J.V. Spader Estate imposed restrictive covenants on the properties prohibiting noxious uses and establishing a minimum setback of six feet from the street for buildings. The covenants and lot sizes (suitable for the construction of fairly generous townhouses or row houses) set the stage for the future development of the street as a middle-class residential enclave. Development began almost immediately and by 1855 20 houses had been erected on the east side of street and 22 on the west side of the street. The majority of these houses survives and provides an exceptionally rich and varied portrait of residential vernacular architecture on the fringes of the city in mid-19th century.

*Greek Revival Houses, Cottages, and Flats*²⁸

On November 1 1849 Burtis and Baldwin sold a vacant lot at 71 Vanderbilt Avenue to wood turner Richard Pease.²⁹ Pease constructed a 2½-story gable-roofed side-passage double-parlor house with a rear two-story kitchen-bedroom wing on his property and probably built the adjoining mirror-image house at 69 Vanderbilt Avenue for Burtis and Baldwin, who sold the house and lot to bookkeeper Thomas Harris in April 1850. These relatively modest vernacular Greek Revival houses were originally clad with clapboard siding and had molded Greek Revival door enframements with sidelights and transoms and building-wide one-story front porches. Both houses retain their historic molded entrance surrounds and No. 69 appears to retain a historic, perhaps original front door which has been modified by the addition of a large plate glass window. No. 69 and presumably No. 71 originally had Italianate porches with slender multi-shaft posts and delicate arched braces, probably a demonstration of Pease's skills as a wood turner. (The porch columns and braces on both houses have been replaced.)

At about the same time these houses were under construction, merchant Henry Ryer decided to sub-divide his house lot at 140 Clinton Avenue and erect a pair of cottages 143 and 145 Vanderbilt Avenue as income-producing rental units.³⁰ Like No. 69 and No. 71, the Ryer houses are side-passage double-parlor gable-roofed frame buildings with relatively wide, shallow, footprints. Instead of rear kitchen wings, they have masonry basements that would have contained kitchens and family dining rooms. This use of a basement story, according to the influential English writer on landscape and architectural designs John Claudius Loudon, had the virtues of keeping the principal living rooms "drier and consequently warmer and healthier" as

²⁸This discussion on the early Greek Revival buildings in the district is based on National Register of Historic Places, *Wallabout Historic District Registration Form*, prepared by Andrew S. Dolkart, 2010; Charles Lockwood, *Bricks & Brownstone* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1972), 55-97; William H. Pierson, Jr. *American Buildings and Their Architects*, v. 1, *The Colonial and Neo-Classical Styles* (Garden City, NY: Anchor Books, Doubleday, 1976), 430-432; Talbot Hamlin, *Greek Revival Architecture in America* (1944; Rpt. New York: Dover, 1964);

Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 1997), 178-195;

Robert K. Sutton, *Americans Interpret the Parthenon: the Progression of Greek Revival Architecture from the East Coast to Oregon, 1800-1860* (Niwot, Colo: Univ. of Colorado Press; Morrison H. Heckscher, "Building the Empire City: Architects and Architecture," in *Art and the Empire City: New York, 1825-1861* (New Haven and New York: Yale University Press for the Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2000), 169-183.

²⁹ Conveyances Liber 215, 410.

³⁰ Ryer had been one of the first investors to buy property on Clinton Avenue in the 1830s and had resided at 140 Clinton Avenue from about 1837.

well as giving the house “greater dignity of effect.”³¹ The Ryer houses are distinguished by their impressive one-story porches that extend for the entire length of both facades. They have lost their original columns and railings but retain most of their decorative detailing including their bracketed and denticulated cornices. The first-story entrances have eared Greek Revival door and window enframements. The doors retain their original sidelights framed by slender pilasters and transoms. The window openings, which originally extended almost to the floor, have been shortened somewhat and have one-over-one windows in place of their original six-over-six wood sashes. The houses have relatively low second stories. This is a characteristic feature of cottages, a relatively new building type, developed in England to meet the needs of the growing ranks of merchants and professional men. Inspired by the vernacular architecture of the English countryside, cottages were relatively small houses, which were nevertheless fitted up with all the latest conveniences and given a degree of architectural elaboration. Nos. 98 and 100 Vanderbilt Avenue were built by developer Edward Nevins c. 1850-51. Mirror image 2½-story gable-roofed clapboard houses resting on tall brick basements, they have paired entrances spanned by a single porch with Doric columns, pilaster responds and a heavy molded cornice. The entrances retain their historic molded wood surrounds with sidelights and exceptionally large transom windows. No. 98 appears to retain its historic wood window surrounds and historic three-over-three wood window sashes in its attic windows. Both these houses originally had enclosed rear porches at the basement and parlor level with the second-story porches probably used as “tearooms” for informal meals.³² A more modest pair of houses was constructed by carpenter James Brown in 1850-51 at 76 and 78 Vanderbilt Avenue backing on to speculatively-built houses he was erecting at the same time on Myrtle Avenue. Despite their having full-width columned porches (no longer extant) and full-height second stories, these houses were described as “handsome cottages,” in a newspaper article advertising them for sale, presumably because of their modest scale.³³ Today both houses have been refaced (76 Vanderbilt with historic imbricated shingles dating from the late 19th century), but both houses retain historic cornices.³⁴

Of the relatively grand houses from this initial period of development, two houses remain largely intact – 102 Vanderbilt Avenue, built for Laura Dixon, wife of boatswain Robert Dixon, c. 1855, a two-story-plus-basement house, which has a full-width porch with fluted Corinthian columns and a denticulated and bracketed cornice as well as a handsome entrance surround with sidelights and transom (house raised to three stories in 1881), and 81 Vanderbilt Avenue a transitional Greek Revival-Italianate house with three full stories and a large rear kitchen-bedroom wing built for brush maker James C. Letts in 1850, which has a building wide front porch and features a Greek Revival entrance surround with a low triangular pediment

³¹ Quoted in LPC, *Seaman Cottage Designation Report* (LP-2168), prepared by Gale Harris (New York: City of New York, 2005). See the report also for a fuller discussion of raised basements and the cottage type.

³² One of these houses may have been described in an advertisement in November 1850 – “the handsome new frame house ... 22x32 two stories, basement and attic, containing 12 rooms, with inclosed piazza to basement and parlor story, finished in the very best manner by days’ work, with marble mantles, cornices, &c.” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Nov. 25, 1850, 3.

³³ “Tuesday, August 19,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Aug. 7 1851, 3.

³⁴ Two other modest two-story-plus-basement houses survive from this initial period of development – 112 Vanderbilt Avenue, built c. 1851-52 by caulker John Heath for his own use, which retains its historic form but was altered in the late 19th century and again at the end of the 20th century and is currently faced with non-historic materials, and 126 Vanderbilt Avenue, built as a pair with 124 Vanderbilt Avenue by speculator Henry Johnson c. 1852 and sold to Charles W. Johnson, which has lost its peak roof and been extensively altered.

sidelights and a bracketed transom bar and eared window enframements. No. 81 was built as a pair with 83 Vanderbilt Avenue erected for brush maker George W. Brett in 1850.³⁵ In 1850 Brett and his family were listed in the Federal census living next to James C. Letts and his family and their houses have identical valuations, so it seems likely that they were mirror image buildings. By 1855, when the New York State census was taken, the Brett family was sharing No. 83 with two other families. A Perris Insurance map from 1855 shows the façade of No 83 aligned with the front porch of No. 81 and that the rear wings of the two buildings had identical footprints. No. 83 is also considerably taller than No. 81. It seems probable that No. 83 was either built as a single family residence in 1850 and altered for use as a multifamily dwelling between 1850 and 1855 or constructed as a flats building. In either case, this would have been an exceptionally early example of this building type. Both No. 81 and No. 83 are exceptional in that they retain their historic clapboard siding. No 83 also retains its delicately profiled brick moldings. The handsome paired wood-and-glass doors at No. 83 decorated with arched panels and rosettes probably date from the 1860s or 1870s. The simple paneled door and transom at the south end of the façade was a pass-through to the building's rear yard. Both No. 81 and No. 83 also retain exceptionally fine front yard iron railings, ornamented with such typical Greek Revival motifs as palmettos and anthemias.

Three other Greek Revival houses in the district – 110 Vanderbilt Avenue built by James L. Moore or Martha Moore c. 1852-54 and sold to Elizabeth Bradshaw, wife of bookkeeper Thomas Bradshaw; 124 Vanderbilt Avenue, built as a pair with 126 Vanderbilt Avenue by Henry Johnson c. 1852 and sold to John H. James; and 88 Vanderbilt Avenue, built by speculator Daniel Rolfe c. 1858 and sold to Evaline Bennett, wife of printer Aaron Bennett – were reclad with fish-scale shingles and fitted up with new cornices and window trim during the 1870s and 1880s. Nos. 110 and 126 Vanderbilt Avenue continue to “read” as late Victorian buildings; No. 88 Vanderbilt was reclad with non-historic siding in the late 20th century, however it retains its historic form and fenestration pattern. Another early house, the 2½-story-plus-basement house at 73 Vanderbilt Avenue erected c 1851-52 by David S. Ketchum probably to the designs of his brother carpenter-builder Charles Ketchum, who occupied the house for some years, was designed in a transitional style incorporating Greek Revival and Italianate elements.³⁶ It retains original bracketed jambs flanking the entry, sidelights, a denticulated transom bar, and transom windows. In addition, its original clapboard siding was discovered under layers of asbestos and scalloped wood shingles, when the house was restored in the early 1970s. By that time, however, the house has lost its one-story building-wide entrance porch and most of its decorative detailing including the triangular pediment that had once crowned the center second-story window.³⁷ When the house was restored in the 1970s various moldings were removed from an

³⁵ See the party wall agreement between the two owners, Conveyances Liber 225, 170.

³⁶ Historians previously identified as John Spader or Amasa Wright as the builder of the house assuming that “section 19” on the Spader-Pine map of 1833 (actually located farther south on the block) was identical with “lot 19” (now 73 Vanderbilt Avenue) referred to in the May 1851 deed from Burtis and Baldwin to David S. Ketchum. The map of lots conveyed to Burtis and Baldwin was attached to their 1849 deed from John Spader. See Conveyances Liber, 38, 35,332,351; Conveyances Liber, 44, 40; Conveyances Liber 204, 105. Conveyances Liber 246, 90; *Wallabout Historic District Registration Form*, sec. 7, p. 13; LPC, “Brooklyn Survey: Vanderbilt Avenue Proposed Historic District,” 1978.

³⁷ This history of the 1970s alterations is based on correspondence between Elizabeth Kuehn, the owner of the house in the 1970s, and the LPC, historic photographs including the c.1939 Tax Department photo, and LPC staff notes in the “73 Vanderbilt Avenue” Research File.

interior doorway and placed around the front entrance. The eared window enframements and six-over-six window sashes were installed, and decorative trim was added to the bracketed cornice.

*Early Residents*³⁸

Most of the earliest houses in the district were built in pairs by developers, in some cases builders, but more often merchants from Manhattan, Brooklyn, or Queens County with some money to invest in a small speculative development. A few houses were built by artisans and merchants for their own occupancy. These included 71 Vanderbilt, erected by wood turner Richard Pease in 1849-50; 112 Vanderbilt Avenue, built c. 1851-52 by caulker John Heath; and the residences at 81 and 83 Vanderbilt Avenue, built c. 1850, by brush makers James C. Letts and George Betts. In addition to Heath there was another ship caulker, Archibald Cowan, at 108 Vanderbilt Avenue. These men would have been subcontractors involved in a vital aspect of shipbuilding at the nearby Navy Yard. By 1855, Pease sold his house to shipbuilder Robert M. Webb. A number of mariners also made their homes in the district including John Marschalk, who purchased 76 Vanderbilt Avenue in 1851, Richard Ward, who purchased 78 Vanderbilt Avenue in 1853, boatswain Robert Dixon, who erected 102 Vanderbilt between 1853 and 1855 and mariner John West, who was leasing 100 Vanderbilt Avenue from harness business owner James L. Moore by 1853. Two residents, weigher Benjamin Wood, who purchased 81 Vanderbilt Avenue from James C. Letts in 1850 and gauger Richard Ellison, who resided at the no longer extant house at 77 Vanderbilt Avenue, were involved in measuring goods being shipped through the port of New York.³⁹ At least two builders lived in the district, John M. Morgan at 92 Vanderbilt Avenue and Charles Ketchum at 73 Avenue, both occupying houses they probably designed and erected for their merchant relatives as investment properties. There was a hatter, Thomas Brewster, who built 106 Vanderbilt Avenue c. 1850-51, and a clothier, Samuel Olds who moved to 94 Vanderbilt Avenue by 1852. There were also at least two bookkeepers, Thomas Harris at 69 Vanderbilt Avenue and William Bradshaw at 110 Vanderbilt Avenue.

By 1853, as the number of houses increased and more families moved to the block, professionals began to replace some of the first occupants, notably Dr. James Jennings, who purchased 106 Vanderbilt Avenue from Thomas Brewster in 1853. With the neighborhood prospering, developers began to erect larger houses in the fashionable styles of the day, including the Gothic Revival and Italianate styles.

Gothic Revival Houses

Architectural writer Charles Lockwood observes in *Bricks & Brownstones* that “few Gothic Revival style row houses were built in New York in the 1840s and 1850s, and today only a ragged handful remain scattered throughout the city.”⁴⁰ Lockwood argues that despite its

³⁸ This section on early residents in the district is based on United States Census, 1850, Kings County, 11th Ward, City of Brooklyn; New York State Census, 1855, Kings County, 11th Ward, City of Brooklyn, part of the 2nd divided eastern election district; Brooklyn directories, 1850-1856.

³⁹ Conveyances Liber 225, 192; Liber 436, 285. According to the Manhattan 1862 directory Wood worked on the East River piers in Manhattan.

⁴⁰ Lockwood, 99.

rarity, the “Gothic Revival style was a crucial turning point in the architectural history of the city’s row houses [because] it introduced the architectural ideals of the Romantic tradition.”⁴¹ Recalling “the far-away Middle Ages” it employed the “asymmetrical massing, dark-color building materials, and rich ornament thought to complement the picturesque natural landscape.”⁴² This district includes two groups Gothic Revival houses, an unusually large concentration for so small an area.

One of the two groups was erected by book publisher George C. Morgan, who had built the no longer extant house at 77 Vanderbilt Avenue, for his own use.⁴³ In 1852 Morgan purchased two contiguous 25-foot-wide lots on the west side of Vanderbilt Avenue, which he had re-mapped into three 16.8-foot-wide lots and erected the houses at 92, 94, and 96 Vanderbilt Avenue. An antiquarian, who spent his retirement examining and cataloging the gravestones and memorials in Trinity Churchyard in Manhattan, Morgan was very interested in Romantic theories of the picturesque and it seems likely that his interests prompted the use of the Gothic Revival style for these buildings.⁴⁴ The responsibility for the design and construction of the houses probably fell to his builder brother John M. Morgan, who lived at 77 Vanderbilt Avenue with George while these houses were under construction. Frame buildings, these 2½-story-plus-basement houses had central street facing-gables originally pierced by pointed arch windows. No. 96 was raised to three full stories and refaced in the early 1900s; No. 92 and No. 94 retain their gabled rooflines and tall narrow parlor- and second-story windows, except for the center second-story window at No. 94, which has been enlarged. Both houses also retain their picturesque overhanging eaves and center gables. At No. 94 the eaves and gable still retain historic moldings and a portion of the pendant post that extended down from the apex of the gable.

“Suitable to a small genteel family,” the houses were “replete with the modern improvements,” and featured front yards “tastefully laid out with evergreens,” in keeping with the buildings’ Gothic design.⁴⁵ By 1854, John M. Morgan was occupying 92 Vanderbilt Avenue with his daughter Amelia and his artist brother William P. Morgan (c.1782-1865), an early engraver and draftsman, who designed many of the sketches printed by Dr. Alexander Anderson, America’s first wood engraver.⁴⁶

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ The families of George C. and John M. Morgan initially occupied 77 Vanderbilt Avenue. In 1853 George Morgan put the house up for sale. Eventually he leased and later sold the house to the wife of gauger Richard Ellison. See “Died,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Apr 12, 1853; “\$3,500 –For Sale” *New York Times*, Oct. 29, 1853, 5; Conveyances Liber 436, 285.

⁴⁴ George C. Morgan edited and wrote the introduction to *Landscape Views of New England* (New York: Morgan & Waterhouse, 1847), in which he celebrated the “varied and romantic scenery” of the Connecticut landscape. For George Morgan’s involvement with Trinity Church see Walter Barrett, *The Old Merchants of New York* (New York: G. W. Carleton, 1864) v. 3, 284, 285, 290-93. His death notice appeared in the *Brooklyn Eagle*, Nov. 24, 1862, 3.

⁴⁵ “A Neat Cottage House to Let,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Feb. 25, 1854, 3.

⁴⁶ New York State Census 1855; for William P. Morgan see George C. Groce and David H. Wallace, *The New-York Historical Society’s Dictionary of Artists in America 1564-1860* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1957), 8, 454; Clara Erskine Clement and Laurence Hutton, *Artists of the Nineteenth Century and Their Works*, 7th ed. (New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co, 1894), 131; *Who Was Who in American Art, 1564-1975*, editor-in-chief Peter Hastings Falk (Madison, CT: Sound View Press, 1999), 2331; Benson Lossing, *A Memorial of Alexander Anderson, M.D.*

As the three Morgan houses were going up on the west side of Vanderbilt Avenue, merchant Roswell Hovey, who in 1846 had purchased a large tract extending from present-day 110 to 120 Clinton Avenue through the block to 117 to 125 Vanderbilt and had been residing on Clinton Avenue, decided to sub-divide and develop his property. The three 2½-story-plus-basement brick Gothic Revival houses – 117 and 119 Vanderbilt Avenue, built between 1852 and summer 1853, and 121 Vanderbilt, completed by March 1854 were exceptionally fine examples of the style. Nos. 117 and 121 both have asymmetrical compositions featuring projecting angled bays at the basement and parlor levels, stepped tripartite windows at their second stories, and front facing gables at the attic level. No. 121 retains and No. 117 originally had a pointed-arch window in the attic gable. All three houses were likely faced with stucco and had Gothic Revival drip moldings. (The moldings survive at No. 117 and No. 119 but were removed from No. 121 by 1940.) Nos. 117 and 119 are capped by fascia boards decorated with quatrefoils some of which are pierced by windows. (Some of openings on No. 117 have been enlarged to create a larger horizontal window). No. 117 also had a decorative Gothic railing above the bay (now lost) and decorative bargeboards and finials on the gable. Matching decorative features were probably used for No. 121, although the simpler bargeboards and denticulated cornices may have been original to this slightly later house.

In June 1853 Hovey sold 119 Vanderbilt Avenue to James Miller, a bookstore owner with a shop on Broadway in Manhattan. Miller and his family occupied the house for about five years then sold it to attorney Lewis Hurst who may have occupied it for a year, but by 1856 had begun leasing the building to clerk William H. Dusenbury and his family. No. 117 Vanderbilt Avenue was sold to ship pilot George Sisco in July 1853 and remained in the ownership of his family through the 1890s. No. 121 was purchased by Ira Todd who sold it to attorney Elijah Ward in 1855. From 1855 to around 1865 it was occupied by the family of Captain Alfred B. Lowber.

Italianate Houses

The Italianate style came into fashion at about the same time as the Gothic Revival style. There were two main variants of the Italianate – one derived from the villa architecture of the Italian countryside, which usually incorporated asymmetrical massing and irregular ground plans, the other derived from the Renaissance palazzos of Rome, Venice, and Florence.⁴⁷ Two groups of houses in the district reflect the villa variant: Nos. 123 and 125 Vanderbilt Avenue and Nos. 128, 130, 132 Vanderbilt Avenue. Nos. 123 and 125 Vanderbilt Avenue were built by Mrs. W. A. Dawson, who purchased two twenty-foot-wide lots from Roswell Hovey in 1853. These 2½-story-plus-basement houses, like the Gothic Revival houses constructed by Hovey at 117 and 119 Vanderbilt Avenue, are brick (probably originally faced with stucco) and have asymmetrical facades featuring offset gables. Here, however, in keeping with the Italianate style, the gables are lower pitched than in the Gothic Revival houses and the entrance openings and windows are round arched (at No. 123 the parlor level windows have been shortened and original paired arch surrounds have been replaced with flat-headed surrounds). Other Italianate features include the oculus windows in the attic of the entrance bays and the strongly projecting eaves supported by brackets. The 2½-story-plus-basement brick houses at 128 to 132 Vanderbilt

(New York, privately printed, 1872), 75; Frederic Martin Burr, *Life and Works of Alexander Anderson, M.D.: the First American Wood Engraver* (New York: Burr Brothers, 1893), 73.

⁴⁷ On the Italianate Style see Lockwood, 125-168.

Avenue, built for publisher Horace H. Moore in 1852-53, also have asymmetrical facades with projecting bays topped by low-pitched gabled roofs with front-facing gables with bracketed overhanging eaves (brackets removed from Nos. 128 and 130). Here except for the round-arched attic windows, the windows are square-headed and had prominent molded cornices (which still survive at No. 128) and bracketed sills at the second story level (still present at Nos. 132 and 126).

In 1853 builder Wells O. Pettit acquired a 50-foot-wide lot at 131 Vanderbilt Avenue where he erected a 3-story-plus-basement brick house employing the urban variant of the Italianate style inspired by Italian palazzo designs.⁴⁸ The front façade of this large house features a full-width porch with square posts, arched spandrel panels, and a denticulated cornice. The parlor story has a wide round-arched entry and tall round-arched windows, the second story has segmental-arch openings with molded enframements and bracketed sills, and the third story has square-headed openings set off by segmental-arch enframements with bracketed sills. Crowning the façade is an elaborate entablature with arched fascia boards in place of a conventional frieze, prominent scroll brackets, and a denticulated cornice.⁴⁹

The two houses at 137 and 139 Vanderbilt Avenue were also probably erected in 1854 by real estate developer Robert Bage who purchased the Lefferts-Laidlaw House at 136 Clinton Street in April 1854. Bage subdivided the lot and quickly sold the Lefferts-Laidlaw House to another realtor in May 1854. He probably built the two Vanderbilt Avenue houses over the summer and in November sold the buildings to bookseller-publisher James Miller. A few days after purchasing the two properties, Miller sold 137 Vanderbilt Avenue to Elizabeth Sperry, wife of Timothy S. Sperry, retaining No. 139 as an investment property.⁵⁰ These three-story-plus-basement brick-and-brownstone houses also exemplify the urban variant of the Italianate style. In keeping with the trends of the day, they are somewhat taller than the earlier houses in the district, incorporating higher basements and taller ceilings on all floors, reflecting the tendency of builders to build higher and narrower during the 1850s and 1860s to offset the growing costs of city lots and to give their designs greater monumentality. The growing fashion for brownstone is reflected in the use of brownstone facings for the houses' basements (modified) and in the use of brownstone sills and lintels on the upper-story doors and windows. Both houses retain their handsome entrance hoods with elaborate scrolled brackets supporting heavy cornices and No. 137 still retains its bracketed window sills. Their tall, wide, stoops retain their original cast-iron railings with elliptical loop supports, fine examples of this typical Italianate motif.

The last house erected in the district prior to the Civil War was the three-story brick-and-brownstone Italianate-style English basement residence of shoe manufacturer William O. Wilson, built c. 1859-60. English basement houses had low stoops of two or three steps and

⁴⁸Conveyances Liber 515, 332. Petit was listed in the Brooklyn 1854/55 directory as residing on Vanderbilt Avenue between Myrtle and Park Avenues, so he probably was residing in this house when he sold it to Emanuel Pike in July 1854, see Conveyance Liber 368, 476.

⁴⁹This design was repeated the following year for the two 2½-story brick houses erected by builder Richard Seckerson at 127 and 129 Vanderbilt Avenue. These houses were almost identical in design to No. 131 except that the stories are not as high and a half story attic was substituted for the third story. It is not known whether Seckerson and Pettit had some sort of business relationship that led to the same design being used for both projects.

⁵⁰Conveyance Liber 379, 274; Liber 381, 467; Liber 386, 386; Liber 391, 115; Liber 391, 120. The two houses are represented on the Perris map of 1855. In 1859 Miller used a third party to convey ownership of the house to his wife Charlotte. See Conveyance Liber 515, 310, 312.

followed the English tradition of having a reception room and the formal dining room on the first story and the parlor in the front room of the second story. This plan was expressed on the exterior of the house by the use of a brownstone belt course between the first and second stories and by the use of unusually tall second-story windows.

*Residents: Late 1850s and 1860s*⁵¹

During the 1850s and 1860s the district's proximity to the waterfront continued to attract mariners. In addition to John Marschalk and Richard Ward, who continued to reside in the district during this period, Sandy Hook pilot George H. Sisco bought and occupied 117 Vanderbilt Avenue, which remained in the ownership of his family through the 1890s, and Captain Alfred B. Lowber and his wife Kate resided at 121 Vanderbilt Avenue from 1855 to about 1866.⁵² Formerly one of the most respected commanders on the Black Star Liverpool packet line, Lowber, during the time he resided in the district, was captain and part-owner of the *Ericsson*, an ocean-going ship, which sailed between New York and Europe during the 1850s, was chartered by the U.S. Army quartermaster Corps during the Civil War, and in 1865 began sailing to California via Nicaragua.⁵³ John West, who resided at 100 Vanderbilt Avenue and previously had been a ship master, opened a ship chandlery on Wall Street in Manhattan in 1860. William Tiebout, who was also a ship chandler and hardware dealer with a business on Pearl Street in Manhattan, lived at 129 Vanderbilt Avenue from 1859 through the mid 1860s. Ship carpenter Robert M. Webb occupied 71 Vanderbilt Avenue from around 1855 to at least 1867.

Publishers, booksellers, stationers, and printers also played an important part in the district, both as developers and residents. Publishers George C. Morgan (92, 94, and 96 Vanderbilt Avenue), and Horace T. Moore (128, 130, and 132 Vanderbilt) built houses. Bookseller-publisher James Miller and his wife Charlotte invested in several properties (119, 137, and 139 Vanderbilt Avenue) and made their home in a leased house at 129 Vanderbilt Avenue from about 1855 to around 1864. Miller was especially well known for his fine editions of English and American authors including Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Lydia Maria Child, and

⁵¹ This section on the residents in the district in the 1850s and 1860s is based on the New York State Census, 1855; United States Census, 1860, Kings County, NY, 2nd part of the 11th Ward, City of Brooklyn; New York State Census, 1865, part of the 20th Ward, City of Brooklyn; Brooklyn Directories, 1855-69.

⁵² Kate and Alfred Lowber were one of several couples living in the district, which resided in a rental property but owned another house for investment purposes, in their case 129 Vanderbilt Avenue, which Kate Lowber purchased in 1855 and retained until the 1890s.

⁵³ For Lowber see "Captain Alfred Lowber," *Philadelphia Inquirer*, June 14, 1884, 3; "Current Events," *Brooklyn Eagle*, June 5, 1884, 2. The *Ericsson* was a paddle-driven vessel originally built with caloric (hot air) engines designed by Swedish inventor John Ericsson. This famous ship was visited by President Millard Fillmore and President-elect Franklin Pierce with delegations from both houses of Congress in Virginia in 1853. Its first voyage to Europe received extensive press coverage. The ship was later converted to steam and finally to a three-masted sailing ship. See "The Caloric Ship Ericsson – Letter from G.B. Lamar," *New York Times*, Jan. 25, 1853, 6; "The Caloric Ship Ericsson – Visit of the President, the President Elect, and Numerous Distinguished Individuals," *New York Times*, Feb. 25, 1853, 1; "First Trip of the Ericsson," *New York Times*, July 20, 1855, 2; "Shipping," *New York Times*, Aug. 17, 1865, 7; "Palmer's List of Merchant Vessels – Ericsson (1852)," @ <http://www.oocities.org/mppraetorius/com-er.htm>; "Ericsson paddle steamer 1853," @ <http://www.shipstamps.co.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?f+2&t=8786>.

Edward Lear.⁵⁴ Bookseller Samuel Hollinshead and his family lived at 106 Vanderbilt Avenue around 1860. Aaron Bennett, a printer and bookbinder, purchased 88 Vanderbilt Avenue in 1858 and lived there with his family until his death in the 1880s.

Illustrator-engraver William P. Morgan, at 92 Vanderbilt Avenue between 1854 and 1860, was one of three artists who resided in the district. The others were the English-born landscape painter Edmund Aylburton Van Willis (1808-1899), who resided at 128 Vanderbilt Avenue with his wife and nine children in the mid-1850s, and engraver Samuel Wallin, Jr. who resided at 106 Vanderbilt Avenue with his wife and family around 1860, sharing the house with the Hollinsheads.⁵⁵

Two leading clock makers Timothy S. Sperry, partner in Bryant & Sperry, and William C. Vosburgh, partner in Crosby & Vosburgh, also resided in the district. Timothy Sperry was born to a family of Connecticut clockmakers and, according to his obituary in the *New York Times*, was “engaged in the manufacture of tower clocks” for many years and “furnished the clocks for both the City Halls in Brooklyn” and New York City.⁵⁶ Timothy and Elizabeth Sperry at various times owned two houses in the district (127 and 137 Vanderbilt Avenue) but from 1855 to 1870 made their home in rented quarters at 119 Vanderbilt Avenue, sometimes sharing the house with other families. Jane Vosburgh, wife of William C. Vosburgh purchased 127 Vanderbilt Avenue from Elizabeth Sperry in 1855.⁵⁷ Sperry relocated briefly to Chicago, where he had opened a factory, but returned to Brooklyn in 1871 after his business was destroyed in the Great Fire. The Sperrys had repurchased 127 Vanderbilt Avenue from the Vosburghs in 1867 and returned to that house when they moved back to New York.⁵⁸ Their eldest son James A. Bryant became a reporter and eventually city editor of the *Brooklyn Times* and a Bridge Commissioner; their son Frank was a Republican politician who served in a number of Federal and State positions, including assemblyman.⁵⁹ Timothy Sperry retained ownership of No. 127 until 1885.

The district also was home to the family of Emanuel Pike, a Dutch-born Jewish clothing merchant who purchased 131 Vanderbilt Avenue in 1854 but resided in at 123 Vanderbilt Avenue from 1855 to 1866. Emanuel and his wife Jane had ten children, with three sons reaching adulthood: Boaz (1842-?), Lipman (1845-1893) and Israel (aka Jay or Jake, 1853). Boaz was the first in the family to play baseball, and was a hard-hitting infielder for the Atlantic

⁵⁴ For Miller see “Local Business Troubles,” *New York Times*, Jan. 5, 1883, 3; “James Miller, Bookseller, Publisher, and Importer” [1866 advertisement], @ <http://flickr.com/photos/benjclark/1927016154>.

⁵⁵ Both Willis and Wallin are discussed in Groce and Wallace, 658, 691. For Willis see also *Who Was Who in American Art*, 3588.

⁵⁶ “T.S. Sperry,” *New York Times*, Feb. 24, 1895, 5. For Sperry see also “Death of Timothy S. Sperry,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Feb. 24, 1895, 24; “Death of Mrs. Elizabeth A.B. Sperry,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, May 2, 1894, 12; Jeremy Woodoff, “Sperry & Bryant, NY” @ <http://66.216.143.186/showthread.php?t=17864>.

⁵⁷ During the 1860s both William Vosburgh and Timothy Sperry became hoop skirt manufacturers. See “Death of Timothy S. Sperry,” “Brooklyn Skirt Company,” *New York Times*, July 4, 1860, 3. Vosburgh subsequently established W.C. Vosburgh & Co., a successful light fixture manufacturing company. “A Big Factory Gone,” *New York Times*, Apr. 26, 1887, 5; “Leading Manufacturers and Merchants City of Brooklyn: W.C. Vosburgh,” @ <http://www.bklyn-genealogy-info.com/Business/Progress/V/vosburg42/.html>.

⁵⁸ Timothy Sperry then opened a carpet cleaning business.

⁵⁹ “About Brooklyn People,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, June 8, 1879, 2; “Bridge Commissioners,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, June 1, 1895, 1.

Club.⁶⁰ Lipman (Lip) began playing a week after his bar mitzvah joining Boaz on the Brooklyn Atlantic team. He became a star, playing the outfield as well as second and third base and a home run hitter. In 1866, Lip became one of the first professional players and unquestionably the first professional Jewish baseball player when he began receiving \$20 a week to play for the Philadelphia Athletics. As professional baseball developed after 1866, Lip Pike played for most of the leading teams of the day and was the National Association home run champion from 1871 to 1873 and the National League home run champion in 1877. Jay Pike also became a baseball player, playing professionally for the Brooklyn Hartfords in 1877.

Houses and Flats of the 1870s and 1880s

No houses were built within the district between 1860 and 1873. In that year Brooklyn builder William G. Marvin constructed two extremely narrow (12.6 feet wide) 3-story-plus-basement houses at 104 and 104A Vanderbilt Avenue. Compensating for the extreme narrowness of the houses, presumably a reflection of the high cost of land during the post-Civil War period, Marvin built deeper and taller houses than those from the antebellum period. His relatively restrained but handsome late Italianate design features arched entrances set off by brownstone hoods resting on simple scrolled brackets and trabeated windows with brownstone sills and lintels. Capping the facades are impressive neo-Grec wood cornices.

Charles Pratt, the founder of the Astral Oil Company, which became an early component of the Standard Oil Corporation, was a major developer of Brooklyn real estate, especially in the Clinton Hill and Fort Greene neighborhoods.⁶¹ The five houses at 80-86 Vanderbilt Avenue, erected in 1878 are the earliest known group of speculative row houses commissioned by the Pratts and are the work of Ebenezer L. Roberts, a prominent New York City architect “who had previously designed Pratt’s own house at 232 Clinton Avenue (1874; Clinton Hill Historic District), as well as an early Standard Oil Company headquarters building in Manhattan (demolished).”⁶² Like the Marvin houses, these are relatively narrow (15-feet-wide), long, three-story-plus-basement houses. They are faced entirely in brownstone reflecting the increasing fashion for that material and feature the forms and ornament of the neo-Grec style, which was then becoming the preferred style for New York City row houses. In keeping with the style the façades features simple angular forms, squared off edges, flat, abstracted ornament, and incised carving on the door surrounds and brackets supporting the crowning cornice. A number of the houses retain their original paired wood-and-glass paneled doors and neo-Grec railings on their low brownstone stoops.

A second row of five brownstone-fronted neo-Grec style row houses was erected at 85-93 Vanderbilt Avenue by developer George W. Brown in 1880. These are three-story-plus-basement houses, designed and erected by C[evra] B. Sheldon, a Brooklyn builder who worked

⁶⁰ This account of the baseball careers of the Pike brothers is based on Peer S. Horvitz & Joachim Horvitz, *The Big Book of Jewish Baseball* (New York: SPI Books, 2001), 133-135; Robert H. Schaefer, “Lip Pike,” *The Baseball Biography Project* @ <http://bioproj.sabr.org/bioproj.cfm?a=v&v=l&bid=31&pid=11267>; Peter Morris, “Jay Pike,” *The Baseball Biography Project* @ <http://bioproj.sabr.org/bioproj.cfm?a=v&v=l&bid=1575&pid=11265>; “Funeral of Lipman E. Pike,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Oct. 12, 1893, 8; “Lip Pike,” *Wikipedia* @ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lip_Pike; “Lipman “Lip” Pike,” *International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame* @ <http://www.jewishsports.net/BioPages/LipmanPike.htm>.

⁶¹ Examples of Pratt-built houses can be found in both the Clinton Hill and Fort Green Historic Districts.

⁶² *Wallabout Historic District Registration Form*, sec. 8, 4.

extensively in Park Slope and designed a house in the Fort Greene Historic District. They are 20-feet-wide, making them considerably larger than the Pratt houses, and unlike the Pratt houses, which were rental properties, were intended to be sold as private homes. Although many of the facades have been refaced with stucco, Nos. 91 and 93 still retain their pedimented entrance surrounds and No. 89 retains its boldly abstracted neo-Grec cornice. Most of the houses also retain their neo-Grec railings with corner posts decorated knobs and strapwork.

One new house was erected by an owner for his own use – No. 90 Vanderbilt Avenue built for cooper Jacob Gruner (1833-1908) in 1882-1884.⁶³ This handsome 3-story-plus-basement brick house with brownstone trim has a pedimented neo-Grec hood over the wide entry and bracketed cornices above the parlor windows. The building's crowning cornice features a paneled frieze and stylized scroll brackets.

As land costs rose and rents soared making home ownership increasingly difficult for middle-class families in 1870s and 1880s, apartment house living became an increasingly popular alternative. Large apartment houses with amenities such as elevators, public dining rooms, and separate quarters for servants, were erected in great numbers in upper class neighborhoods. Another type of multiple dwelling, the flats building, common in late 19th and early 20th century New York, offered fewer amenities than an apartment building and was designed for somewhat less prosperous, though clearly middle-class, tenants. Two flats buildings were constructed in this district during the 1870s and 1880s. No. 79 Vanderbilt Avenue, designed to house a single family on each of its three stories, was erected in 1877 by builder-developer George Graham as an investment property. Designed by Graham, No. 79 was the last Italianate style building in the district. It has a three-bay-wide brick façade with segmental arch window and door openings, which are enriched with molded cast-iron lintels and cast-iron bracketed sills. No. 116 Vanderbilt is a four-story flats building erected in 1887-88 for by Bridget Kerns and her husband, scrap-metal-dealer-real-estate-developer James Kerns. It was designed by Isaac D. Reynolds (c. 1831-1894), a prolific Brooklyn architect, who designed many of the neo-Grec, Queen Anne, and Romanesque Revival residences within the Prospect Heights, Stuyvesant Heights, and Park Slope Historic Districts and who in 1885 had designed two four-story brick tenements for Kerns on Water Street, near Jay Street.⁶⁴ No. 116 Vanderbilt Avenue is a fine and exceptionally well-preserved example of a neo-Grec flats building. This four-story-plus-basement building is 28-feet-wide, about 75 feet deep, and has a dumbbell plan with side courts at each side of the building to provide light and air to interior rooms. Faced with brick trimmed with stone (painted), the façade features a neo-Grec entrance surround framed by pilasters and stylized brackets and capped by an open pediment. The windows are set off by bracketed stone sills and projecting hoods ornamented with incised decorations. Channeled belt courses and a paneled and bracketed galvanized-iron crowning cornice also add to the decorative effect. The building retains its original paired paneled wood-and-glass doors and double-light transom and most of its original decorative wrought-iron area way fence and gate.

In addition to constructing No. 116, the Kerns also altered the 2½-story brick house at 114 Vanderbilt Avenue, raising the building to three stories and constructing a new brick façade with stone trim designed by carpenter John A. Kelly in 1884. The façade features an elaborate stone hood over the wide entrance decorated with incised foliate forms, window sills supported

⁶³ New Building Application 1920-1882. Listed as completed in the 1884 Brooklyn Tax Records, Block 13, lot 67.

⁶⁴ "Summary of the Week," *American Architect & Building News* [AABN], June 13, 1885, 287

by stylized brackets, and stone window hoods with incised decorations. Capping the façade is an exceptionally fine neo-Grec wood cornice.

The Kerns' residence was one of a number of houses within the historic district that were renovated in the late 1870s and 1880s. In addition to No. 114, three houses had their gabled ½-story attics raised to full third stories – 102 Vanderbilt Avenue, altered in 1881 for James and Jane Hare with a clapboarded addition capped by a handsome neo-Grec cornice; 124 Vanderbilt Avenue raised to three stories in 1879 for Catherine Case and reclad with imbricated wood shingles arranged in a decorative pattern with stripes of fishscale shingles alternating with plain shingles; and 110 Vanderbilt Avenue raised to three stories for Mary Ryan in 1885.⁶⁵ This last house was the most extensively altered, not only was it reclad with fishscale shingles and given new windows with bracketed lintels, but small shed-roofed pent hoods were installed over the windows. Inspired by 17th-century houses on the New England seacoast, the shingling, simple window frames, and pent roofs were features favored by architects working in the Queen Anne and Shingle Styles, such as McKim, Mead & White, and were probably intended to bring the houses up-to-date. Several other owners opted for these now historic alterations – 76 Vanderbilt Avenue still retains its late 19th century shingles; 98 Vanderbilt Avenue has both fishscale shingles and pent hoods above its parlor and second story windows; and 112 Vanderbilt Avenue still retains the pent hood above its entrance, although the window hoods have been removed and the façade resided.⁶⁶

*Late Nineteenth Century Residents*⁶⁷

A major impetus for this new construction in the 1870s and 1880s was the increasing demand for housing in the New York City. Soaring land prices made it very difficult for middle-class families to afford the expense of a private house and skilled mechanics found it utterly impossible. Almost from the time they were first built some of the larger houses in the district had been shared by more than one family; by the 1870s and especially in the 1880s almost all the houses were subdivided into apartments or became boarding houses, catering to couples or single men. Advertisements for apartments and rooms during this period emphasized that the houses had been fitted up with “all improvements,” were in a “pleasant location,” and were served by street “car lines to all ferries.” In the mid-1880s the opening of an elevated line on Park Avenue with a stop at Washington Avenue, made the neighborhood even more desirable.

In addition to its quick commuting distance to downtown Brooklyn and Lower Manhattan, the district's location just a few short blocks from the Brooklyn Navy Yard and the waterfront continued to make it a preferred residence for mariners, Navy Yard workers, boat builders, and businessmen working in trades related to shipping. Among the notable residents were ship caulker John Heath, who continued to reside at 112 Vanderbilt Avenue with his family including his sons Archibald and John, who both became Sandy Hook pilots. Other pilots

⁶⁵ These additions are recorded in the 20th Ward Tax Assessments for block 13, 1879-1885.

⁶⁶ C. 1939 tax photos show that Nos. 88, 100, and 108 Vanderbilt Avenue also had fishscale shingles and window hoods dating from this period.

⁶⁷ This information on the residents in the last quarter of the 19th century is based on United States Census, 1870, Kings County, NY, Part of the 20th Ward; New York State Census, 1875, Kings County, 3rd Election District of the 20th Ward, City of Brooklyn; United States Census, 1880, Brooklyn, Kings County, NY, ED 196; New York State Census, Kings County, 1892, 20th Ward, ED 10 and ED 8; Brooklyn directories, 1870-1899; Lain's Brooklyn Elite Directory of Brooklyn, 1877/78-1882/83.

residing in the district included George Sisco at 117 Vanderbilt Avenue, Charles Hammer at 123 Vanderbilt from the mid 1870s to the early 1880s, Charles Doyle at 80 Vanderbilt Avenue, Thomas Connor and John Meany at 86 Vanderbilt Avenue, and James Hines and William Howell at 126 Vanderbilt Avenue in the 1890s. Ship captain William A. Jones resided with his family at 121 Vanderbilt Avenue in the 1870s and 1880s and ferrymasters Noah and Jacob Riell lived at 128 Vanderbilt Avenue with their families from the mid-1870s to the mid-1880s. James Hare, who purchased 102 Vanderbilt Avenue in 1878, was one of the chief pattern makers at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, involved in creating wax models for castings for ship parts.⁶⁸ Henry Collins, who resided at 108 Vanderbilt Avenue in the 1870s and 1880s, was also a pattern maker, brass founder, and ship joiner. Other ship carpenters included Peter Ogilvie, at 102 Vanderbilt Avenue from about 1870 to 1878, John Scott at 114 Vanderbilt around 1880, and William R. Townsend, at 132 Vanderbilt Avenue in the 1890s. There were at least two Customs Service employees: William Fowler at 100 Vanderbilt Avenue in the late 1870s and early 1880s and Randolph Fuller at 130 Vanderbilt Avenue in the 1890s. An official weigher for the City of New York, Thomas P. Cooper, resided at 131 Vanderbilt Avenue from 1868 to 1882.

As in earlier decades, a few artists also resided in the district. These included the prominent decorative painter John Herbold, who resided with his family at 76 Vanderbilt Avenue from the early 1870s to the late 1880s. While he lived in the house Herbold was responsible for designing the stencil decorations in a suite of offices at the State, War & Navy Building, now the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington, D.C.⁶⁹ During the early 1880s, wood engravers Charles and Arthur Hayman lived with their mother Amelia Hayman at 94 Vanderbilt Avenue. Arthur Hayman was particularly active during this period creating illustrations for fine art editions of literary classics and engravings of contemporary paintings. Silversmith William Bogert and his wife Annie lived at 121 Vanderbilt Avenue for a few years prior to his death in 1881. There was also an early woman photographer, Maria L. Lane, who resided with her family at 114 Vanderbilt Avenue around 1880, and an early woman physician, Dr. Nellie Flint, who lived at 104A Vanderbilt Avenue in the early 1890s. Other residents included a mix of merchants, manufacturers, clerks, professionals, and mechanics.

20th Century⁷⁰

By 1900 many of the families that had lived in the district for decades had moved on, although a few businessmen who had purchased homes in the 1870s and 1880s continued to reside on Vanderbilt Avenue until well into the 20th century. These included Joseph Rosenberg, owner of a fat processing plant, who had moved to the district around 1880, first leasing 104 Vanderbilt Avenue and then purchasing No. 131, where he continued to reside until after 1915.

⁶⁸“Want to Be Foremen,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, Apr. 9, 1889, 6; “Brooklyn Republicans,” *New York Times*, Apr. 12, 1889, 5; “The Competing Candidates,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, May 12, 1891, 6; “Foremen Win,” *Brooklyn Eagle*, May 26, 1891, 6.

⁶⁹“Room 278,” *Life in the White House: The Eisenhower Executive Office Building* @ http://georgewebush-whitehouse.archives.gov/history/eeobtour/room278_nonflash.html.

⁷⁰ Information on residents in the 20th century is based on United States Census, 1900, City of New York, Borough of Brooklyn, ED 309; United States Census, 1910, Brooklyn, NY, Ward 20, ED 464; New York State Census, 1915, Kings County, AD 4, ED 30; United States Census, 1920, Brooklyn, NY, AD 4, 223, 224; New York State Census, Kings County, 1925, AD 4, ED 32; United States Census, 1930, Brooklyn, NY, AD 4, ED 13, ED14; New York City Telephone Directories, Brooklyn, Address Directories, 1929-65

William Critchley, a real estate and insurance broker who resided at 106 Vanderbilt Avenue, in a house purchased by his parents around 1870 and James and Jane Hare who had remodeled 102 Vanderbilt Avenue in 1882; and lived in the district until sometime after 1915. Beginning with the 1880s and largely completed by the 1920s, the blocks between Park Avenue and Flushing Avenues adjacent to the Navy Yard became industrialized, some with massive factory complexes. Although there were still businessmen and a few professionals living in the district, the majority of the residents were skilled tradesmen, office and factory workers, dressmakers, salesmen, and bar tenders. Many residents were involved in ship building and worked at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which in 1904 became one of the Navy's two "battleship yards" (the other was Philadelphia), tasked with producing a new generation of battleships.⁷¹

During World War I the Navy Yard was busy producing ships. The 1920 census reveals that many residents in this district were employed at the yard in occupations such as machinist, shipfitter, riveter, or electrician. Others worked in manufacturing, printing, sales, and office work. Due to a Harding-era disarmament treaty, no new ships were built at the yard between 1919 and 1929, however, the yard continued to house the navy's chemical, electrical, and radio laboratories and its merchant marine training center. Portions of the yard were also used for the manufacture of assorted goods. A few residents, such as packer George Smith, who lived at 79 Vanderbilt, still earned their livings at the Navy Yard. Area residents were employed in the building trades, worked at nearby factories, or were office or department store workers. Ethnically the neighborhood was predominantly Irish and Italian with a mix of Germans, Scandinavians, and Greeks. During the 1930s the percentage of Italians greatly increased. No. 73 Vanderbilt Avenue began to house ground floor shops, initially a radio repair service, later a painting and decorating business.

The Brooklyn Navy Yard reached its peak during World War II. "By the end of the war, BNY was the largest shipyard in the world, employing over 75,000 Workers, with a monthly payroll of between \$15 million and \$16 million."⁷² The residents of the neighborhood prospered during the war and in the postwar boom years. But as modern ships became too big to sail under the Brooklyn Bridge and the Navy Yard's facilities became old and obsolete, the Johnson administration slated the Navy Yard for closure in 1966. By that time many of area factories that had been a source of employment to neighborhood residents were also closing. The construction of the elevated Brooklyn Queens Expressway (completed 1964) above Park Avenue necessitated the demolition of several buildings immediately to the north of this historic district and brought traffic and pollution. The automobile and cheap mortgages made moving to the suburbs easy. Unable to find comparable jobs in the area "hard-pressed resident-owners" stopped making their mortgage payments and simply moved out.⁷³ Speculators began buying properties on the block giving houses "quickie" renovations to qualify for F.H.A. mortgages. By the early 1970s many houses had become vacant and rundown.

⁷¹ This information on the Brooklyn Navy Yard is taken from Thomas F. Berner, *The Brooklyn Navy Yard* (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 1999); Arnold Markoe, "Brooklyn Navy Yard," *Encyclopedia of New York City*, 2nd ed., edit Kenneth T. Jackson (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2010), 180-181 .

⁷²Berner, 83.

⁷³ Alan S. Oser, "About Real Estate: Neighbors Fighting Housing Abandonment," *New York Times*, Dec. 31, 1975, 40. See also "No More Gas Stations on Vanderbilt Avenue Now or Ever," petition signed by neighborhood residents, submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission, Jan. 26, 1973, in the LPC, Wallabout Historic District Research File for 73 Vanderbilt Avenue.

A community coalition formed to halt the deterioration. The neighborhood group began searching for absentee owners and mortgagees, undertook clean-up work, and began looking for potential buyers. When a buyer was located, the neighborhood group would step in to convince the absentee owner or mortgagee to accept a relatively low lump sum payment instead of facing the problems and costs associated with foreclosure. Between 1971 and 1975, 18 houses changed hands on the block, eight of them purchased by “people brought by neighbors.”⁷⁴ Since that time many of the houses within the district have been restored. In March 2010 this block of Vanderbilt Avenue was listed on the New York State Register of Historic Places as part of the five block Wallabout Historic District and in April 2011 the Wallabout Historic District was listed on the National Register. Today this block survives an exceptional enclave of mid-19th century houses, especially noteworthy for its rich collection of Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, and Italianate buildings, dating from a short span of years between 1849 and 1855.

⁷⁴ Oser, 40.

FINDINGS AND DESIGNATION

On the basis of careful consideration of the history, the architecture, and other features of this area, the Landmarks Preservation Commission finds that the Wallabout Historic District contains buildings and other improvements that have a special character and a special historic and aesthetic interest and value and which represent one of more eras in the history of New York City and which cause this area, by reason of these factors, to constitute a distinct section of the city.

The Commission further finds that, among its important qualities, the Wallabout Historic District, consisting of approximately 55 buildings on Vanderbilt Avenue between Myrtle and Park Avenues in Brooklyn, is an architecturally and historically significant collection of mid-19th century houses; that more than 60 percent of these structures were constructed in a short span of years between 1849 and 1855; that they provide an exceptionally rich and varied portrait of mid-19th century residential architecture and include one of the greatest surviving concentrations of mid-19th century wood houses in the city; that designed in the Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Italianate, and neo-Grec styles, the majority of the houses within the district retain numerous original details that lend a cohesive quality to the streetscape; that Wallabout takes its name from a group of Walloons who settled on a bay on Brooklyn's East River waterfront in the mid-17th century and the district occupies a small portion of a Walloon patent that descended in the Ryerson and Vanderbilt families and passed to John and Jeremiah V. Spader in the 1820s; that development within the district began in late 1849 when the Estate of Jeremiah V. Spader opened Vanderbilt Avenue and to began selling lots on the west side of the street and that by the summer of 1850 several houses were completed, including the Greek Revival Style residences at 71 Vanderbilt Avenue and 81 Vanderbilt Avenue; that other notable Greek Revival houses include the pair of cottages at 143 and 145 Vanderbilt Avenue, erected c. 1850, the paired houses with Doric porticos at 98 and 100 Vanderbilt Avenue, built c. 1850-51, and the free-standing house with a Corinthian portico at 102 Vanderbilt Avenue, erected c. 1855; that the district includes two rare groups of Gothic Revival Style row houses at 92-94 Vanderbilt Avenue, built c. 1852-54, and 117-121 Vanderbilt Avenue, constructed between 1852 and 1854, which have asymmetrical compositions and steeply-pitched front-facing gables and incorporate Gothic Revival details such as drip moldings, projecting angled bays, and fascia boards decorated with quatrefoils; that the district also includes two groups of houses in the Tuscan Villa Style variant of the Italianate, which was relatively rare for urban town houses and also incorporates some fine examples of the more common Palazzo Style variant of the Italianate Style, including the brick houses at 131 Vanderbilt Avenue and 127-129 Vanderbilt Avenue, constructed between 1853 and 1855; that in that 1870s and 1880s the district was enriched by the construction of a number of architecturally distinguished Italianate and neo-Grec masonry buildings; that these included the row of five neo-Grec brownstones at 80-86 Vanderbilt Avenue, built in 1878, which are the earliest known group of speculative row houses commissioned by oil magnate Charles Pratt and were designed by the prominent New York City architect Ebenezer Robert; that the prolific architect Isaac D. Reynolds was responsible for the handsome brick and stone flats building constructed for Bridget and James Kerns in the 1887-88; that in the 1870s and 1880s a number of mid-19th century frame houses were updated with Queen Anne features, including fishscale shingles and decorative window hoods, that also contribute to the architectural character of the district; that located a few blocks from Wallabout Bay and the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the district is also important for its connections with New York City's rich maritime heritage and that from its earliest days its residents have included ship captains, pilots, ferry masters, mariners, boat

builders, and workers involved in the shipping industry; that a number of prominent businessmen also made their homes in the district including bookseller-publisher James Miller, and clock makers Timothy S. Sperry and William C. Vosburgh; that decorative painter John Herbold was residing in the district when he designed the stencil decorations for a suite of offices in the State, War & Navy Building, and that sports hero, Lipman (Lip) Pike, who grew up in the district, was residing with his family at 123 Vanderbilt Avenue in 1866 when he was recruited to become one of the first professional baseball players in the country and undisputedly the first Jewish professional player; that during first half of the 20th Century the majority of residents in the district were either skilled tradesmen or blue collar workers employed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard or nearby factories; that through these workers the district continued its ties with New York City's maritime heritage; that following the closing of the Brooklyn Navy Yard in 1966 many residents moved away and some of the district houses became vacant and rundown but in the 1970s new owners began to move in and over time a number of houses were restored; that although some of the houses have undergone alterations and there has been some new construction, the majority of the buildings within the Wallabout Historic District on the whole retain an exceptional level of integrity; that this architecturally significant collection of early wood and masonry houses with its many historical associations, particularly its connections to the Navy Yard and New York's maritime industries, represents an important part of the history of Brooklyn and the City of New York.

Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 74, Section 3020 (formerly Section 534 of Chapter 21) of the Charter of the City of New York and Chapter 3 of Title 25 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, the Landmarks Preservation Commission designates as a Historic District the Wallabout Historic District, consisting of the property bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of the eastern curblineline of Vanderbilt Avenue and a line extending easterly from the southern property line of 132 Vanderbilt Avenue, continuing westerly along said line across the roadbed of Vanderbilt Avenue and along the southern property line of 132 Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along the western property lines of 132 through 128 Vanderbilt Avenues, easterly along a portion of the northern property line of 128 Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along the western property lines of 126 through 124 Vanderbilt Avenue, westerly along a portion of the southern property line of 118-122 Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along the western property lines of 118-122 through 74 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along the northern property line of 74 Vanderbilt Avenue and continuing across the roadbed to the eastern curblineline of Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along said curblineline to a point formed by its intersection with a line extending westerly from the northern property line of 69 Vanderbilt Avenue (aka 216 Park Avenue), easterly along said line and the northern property line of 69 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 69 through 71 Vanderbilt Avenue, westerly along a portion of the southern property line of 71 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 73 through 83 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along a portion of the northern property line of 85 Vanderbilt Avenue and the northern property line of interior lot 132, southerly along the eastern property lines of interior lots 132 through 128, westerly along the southern property lines of interior lot 128 and 93 Vanderbilt Avenue to the eastern curblineline of Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along said curblineline to a point formed by its intersection with a line extending westerly from the northern property line of 117 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along said line and the northern property line of 117 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 117 through 125 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along a portion of the northern property line of 127 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern

property lines of 127 through 141 Vanderbilt Avenue, easterly along a portion of the northern property line of 143 Vanderbilt Avenue, southerly along the eastern property lines of 143 through 145 Vanderbilt Avenue, westerly along the southern property line of 145 Vanderbilt Avenue to the eastern curblineline of Vanderbilt Avenue, northerly along said curblineline to the point of the beginning.

Robert B. Tierney, Chair
Pablo E. Vengoechea, Vice Chair

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BUILDING PROFILES

VANDERBILT AVENUE (EAST SIDE, ODD NUMBERS)

69 Vanderbilt Avenue (aka 216 Park Avenue)

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 40

Date: c. 1850

Architect/Builder: Attributed to Richard P. Pease

Original Owner: Samuel Burtis and Ezra Baldwin (developers); Thomas Harris (owner)

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Greek Revival with Italianate details

Stories: 2 and attic

Material(s): Wood

Significant Architectural Features: Porch, Greek Revival-style door surround with pilasters and side lights, molded window surrounds

Alterations: Re-clad with shingles between c. 1938 and 1978; metal flashing at cornice line; non-historic gutter and leader; skylight in roof

Building Notes: Richard Pease, who was listed as a turner in the 1850 federal census, may have built both 69 and 71 Vanderbilt Avenue, no. 71 for his residence and no. 69 for developers Burtis and Baldwin who sold the house after its completion to Thomas Harris.

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Thomas Harris, bookkeeper, and family. Harris's two daughters were listed as milliners, and his son was listed as an engineer. The 1880 Federal census listed John Troyman, stevedore, and his wife; Margaret and Jane Harris, keeping house; and Frank Mulligan, printer, and family.

Site Features: Concrete steps at rear entrance; front and rear yards



West Facade: Designed (resided)

Porch(es): Altered

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door

Windows: Historic

Roof: Pitched - tar paper

Cornice: Altered

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Historic fence and gate (west facade); non-historic chain-link fence and gate (north facade)

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone; concrete

North Facade: Designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Brick foundation; basement windows sealed with wood; facade clad in shingles; historic wood windows; tar-paper and metal flashing at cornice line; leader on facade; brick chimney visible towards rear of building

East Facade: Designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Stone and brick foundation; facade clad in shingles; historic wood windows and door; concrete porch with possibly historic metal railing; non-historic metal stairs with railings; leader; exposed wiring; tar-paper roof; two brick hutches with shingles and wire lath attached to main building

71 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 39

Date: c. 1849-50

Architect/Builder: Richard P. Pease

Original Owner: Richard P. Pease

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Greek Revival with Italianate details

Stories: 2 and attic

Material(s): Wood



Significant Architectural Features: Porch; Greek-Revival-style door surround with side lights and transom; bracketed cornice

Alterations: Restored after c. 1980s (non-historic siding removed and non-historic porch railing removed); utility box to left of main entry; doorbell at main entry; possibly historic light fixtures at porch ceiling; gutter and leader on facade; skylight in roof

Building Notes: Richard Pease, who was listed as a turner in the 1850 federal census, may have built both 69 and 71 Vanderbilt Avenue, no. 71 for his residence and no. 69 for developers Burtis and Baldwin.

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: Richard P. Pease was the original owner (see *Building Notes*). The 1855 state census listed as residents the families of Robert M. Webb and William Crowd, both ship carpenters. The 1865 state census listed Robert M. Webb, mechanist [sic], and Joshua Payne, mechanist [sic], and family.

West Facade: Designed (historic)

Porch(es): Altered

Door(s): Historic primary door with non-historic security grille

Windows: Replaced

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories)

Notable Roof Features: Brick chimney near ridgeline

Roof: Pitched – asphalt shingles

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in vinyl siding.

73 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 38

Date: c. 1851-52

Architect/Builder: Attributed to Charles J. Ketchum

Original Owner: David S. Ketchum

Type: Free-standing house

Stories: 2, basement and attic

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Special Windows: Arch-headed attic windows on north and south facades (historic sash replaced)

Significant Architectural Features: Attic windows on west facade; Greek Revival-style door surround with side lights and transom; bracketed cornice

Alterations: Porch destroyed and concrete stoop built (after c. 1938); remodeled (1970s), including stripping of asbestos siding, re-creation of part of main entry door surround using moldings from the house's interior, and re-creation of paneled window surrounds

Building Notes: Builder David S. Ketchum also erected a house at 75 Vanderbilt (no longer extant)

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway; alley with non-historic gate along northern property line; vacant lot to south

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Charles J. Ketchum, builder, and family plus servant, and D. Dodge, tanner and currier, and family. The 1860 state census listed Ketchum and family, and Jacob Woods, bookkeeper, and family, and the 1880 Federal census listed residents as a dressmaker and the families of a clothier, a clerk, and a machinist.



West Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Stoop: Not historic stoop (gate under stoop - not historic)

Porch(es): Removed

Door(s): Altered primary door

Windows: Possibly historic (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched – possibly asphalt shingles

Notable Roof Features: Parged brick chimney visible on roof (see South facade)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Possibly historic fence and historic gate(s)

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone; concrete

North Facade: Historic-partially designed-altered (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Painted, shingle-clad facade; two arch-headed attic windows; simple molded cornice

South Facade: Historic-partially designed-altered

Facade Notes: Aluminum-clad facade; two arch-headed attic windows; vinyl flashing at cornice; parged chimney visible on roof; 2-story rear addition with solarium visible; non-historic, 1-story cedar plant shed; security light above

[Vacant Lot] Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 37

Notes: Vacant lot at 75 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Vacant lot enclosed by non-historic fence and salvaged historic fence and gate (not present in c. 1980s tax photo).

[Vacant Lot] Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 36

Notes: Vacant lot at 77 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Vacant lot enclosed by non-historic fence and historic fence and gate.

79 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 35

Date: c. 1877 (NB 160-77)

Architect/Builder: George Graham

Original Owner: George Graham

Type: Flats building

Style: Italianate with neo-Grec cornice

Stories: 3 and low basement

Material(s): Brick; bluestone (sill); cast iron (trim)

Historic Metal Work: Original areaway ironwork removed (after 1978)

Significant Architectural Features: Segmental-arched cast-iron lintels and cast-iron bracketed sills; segmental-arched door hood; neo-Grec-style cornice

Alterations: Aluminum storm windows covering all windows above basement; door hood missing one cast-iron bracket; security light and mailbox at main entry

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1880 Federal census listed the residents as William Goodwin and his wife, Joseph Bennett, laborer, and family, and Ferdinand Marschalk, ship joiner, and family. The 1888-1889 city directory listed George Graham, builder, at this address.



West Facade: Designed (historic, repointed)

Stoop: Altered stoop (gate under stoop - not visible)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Historic (non-basement); basement windows not visible (covered by wire mesh)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Concrete curb; portion of historic fence at basement steps; remainder is non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete and bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Parged and painted brick facade with two chimneys

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Partially painted brick facade

81 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 34

Date: 1850

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: James C. Letts

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Greek Revival/Italianate

Stories: 3

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Historic Metal Work: Original areaway ironwork

Significant Architectural Features: Porch with bracketed and denticulated cornice; Greek Revival-style pedimented door surround with side lights and transom; pedimented door and window surrounds; bracketed and denticulated cornice

Alterations: Non-historic light fixture above main entry; leader on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 83 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: James C. Letts and William G. Brett (see 83 Vanderbilt Avenue) were both listed as brush makers in the 1850 Federal census. The house was sold to Benjamin Wood, a weigher, by 1855 (1855 state census). From the 1860s through the 1880s it was owned by carpenter William Faulkner.



West Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Porch(es): Historic

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door

Windows: Historic (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete; landscaping pavers

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Brick; concrete steps to basement

83 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 33

Date: 1850

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: William G. Brett

Type: Flats building

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3

Material(s): Wood; brownstone; bluestone (stoop)

Historic Metal Work: Original areaway ironwork

Significant Architectural Features: Italianate-style double door with rosettes at main entry, small secondary entry ("horsewalk"), molded window surrounds, and modillioned cornice

Alterations: Converted from a single-family house to a flats building by 1855, probably with the addition of the present 3-story clapboard facade; foundation partially brick, partially concrete; storm windows covering all windows; security light, security camera, and doorbells at main entry; fire escape (before c. 1938); restored (after 1978), including stripping of non-historic siding; leader on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 81 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: William G. Brett and James C. Letts (see 81 Vanderbilt Avenue) were both listed as brush makers in the 1850 Federal census. The 1855 state census listed Brett and family; Thomas Harris, machinist, and family; and Thomas C. Field, cartman, and family.

West Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Stoop: Altered stoop (historic gate under stoop)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

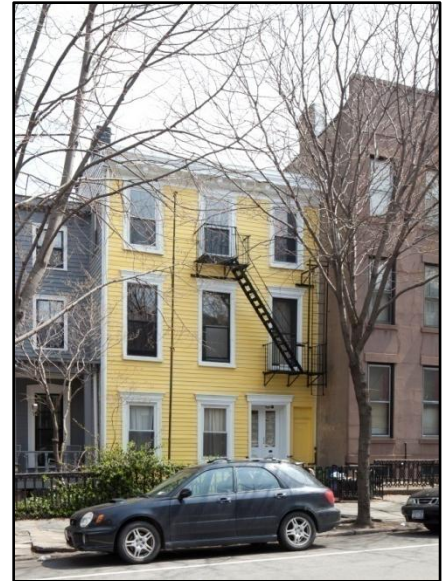
Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

North Facade: Historic-partially designed-altered (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in wood clapboards below porch of 81 Vanderbilt Avenue, vinyl above; window and chimney visible on roof



85 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 32

Date: c. 1880 (NB 336-1880)

Architect/Builder: C.B. Sheldon (architect); C. E. Cozzeno (builder)

Original Owner: George W. Brown

Type: Flats building

Style: Altered neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

Significant Architectural Features: Neo-Grec-style ironwork

Alterations: Cornice removed and replaced with parapet and facade stripped and resurfaced (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); pipe on facade at base; security lights and utility box at main entry; storm windows covering all windows above basement

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (85 through 93 Vanderbilt Avenue)



West Facade: Designed (resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop

Door(s): Original primary door; under-stoop door not visible

Windows: Historic (upper stories); mixed (basement)

Cornice: Removed

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; original fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone; concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Parged brick facade with chimney

87 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 31

Date: c. 1880 (NB 336-1880)

Architect/Builder: C.B. Sheldon (architect); C. E. Cozzeno (builder)

Original Owner: George W. Brown

Type: Flats building

Style: Altered neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick



Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings (one partially missing)

Significant Architectural Features: Neo-Grec-style ironwork

Alterations: Cornice removed and replaced with parapet and facade stripped and resurfaced (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); utility box at foundation; left-hand basement window replaced with louvered vent; security light at main entry

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (85 through 93 Vanderbilt Avenue)

Site Features: Sewer pipe in areaway

West Facade: Designed (resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door; under-stoop door not visible

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories)

Cornice: Removed

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; original fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone; concrete

89 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 30

Date: c. 1880 (NB 336-1880)

Architect/Builder: C.B. Sheldon (architect); C. E. Cozzeno (builder)

Original Owner: George W. Brown

Type: Flats building

Style: Neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick



Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

Significant Architectural Features: Neo-Grec-style bracketed cornice

Alterations: Utility box at foundation; facade stripped and resurfaced (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); left-hand basement window replaced with louvered vent; security light, brackets, and exposed electrical conduit at main entry

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (85 through 93 Vanderbilt Avenue)

West Facade: Designed (resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door; metal security gate at main entry; under-stoop door not visible

Windows: Mixed (upper stories); possibly historic (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories); not historic (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

91 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 29

Date: c. 1880 (NB 336-1880)

Architect/Builder: C.B. Sheldon (architect); C. E. Cozzeno (builder)

Original Owner: George W. Brown

Type: Flats building

Style: Altered neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop newel posts

Significant Architectural Features: Pedimented door hood; molded lintels; neo-Grec-style ironwork

Alterations: Cornice removed and replaced with parapet and facade resurfaced (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); mailbox, doorbells, non-historic light-fixtures, and address plaque at main entry; non-historic metal railings at stoop

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (85 through 93 Vanderbilt Avenue)

West Facade: Designed (resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Replaced primary door; metal security gate at main entry; under-stoop door not visible

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories)

Cornice: Removed

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete



93 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 28

Date: c. 1880 (NB 336-1880)

Architect/Builder: C.B. Sheldon (architect); C. E. Cozzeno (builder)

Original Owner: George W. Brown

Type: Flats building

Style: Altered neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick

Significant Architectural Features: Pedimented door hood

Alterations: Cornice removed and replaced with parapet and facade stripped and resurfaced (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); doorbell and light fixture at main entry

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (85 through 93 Vanderbilt Avenue)



West Facade: Designed (resurfaced)

Stoop: Altered stoop

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door; under-stoop door not visible

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories)

Cornice: Removed

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; original fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete; bluestone

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Parged brick facade

[No Number] Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 132

Notes: Internal unimproved lot to rear of Block 1887, Lot 32

[No Number] Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 131

Notes: Internal unimproved lot to rear of Block 1887, Lot 31

[No Number] Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 130

Notes: Small lot to rear of Block 1887, Lot 30

[No Number] Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 129

Notes: Internal unimproved lot to rear of Block 1887, Lot 29

[No Number] Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 128

Notes: Internal unimproved lot to rear of Block 1887, Lot 28

117 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 17

Date: c. 1852-53

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Roswell Hovey (developer); George Sisco (owner)

Type: Row house

Style: Gothic Revival

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; wood



Special Windows: Three-sided bay window on 1st story; triple-window on 2nd story

Historic Metal Work: Historic railings at stoop

Significant Architectural Features: Drip lintels; Gothic-inspired gable with decorative bargeboard and finials; fascia with quatrefoil ornament

Alterations: Utility box and mailbox affixed to stoop; security light and door bell at main entry; decorative railing on top of three-sided bay window removed (after c. 1938) and replaced by non-historic metal railing; metal flashing at three-sided bay window; 3rd-story pointed-arch window converted to flat-headed window (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); pierced-quatrefoils on fascia altered to one larger window (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); satellite dish on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 119 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Alley with non-historic fence along northern property line; planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: Merchant Roswell Hovey, who resided on Clinton Avenue, built this house, which he sold to pilot George Sisco in 1853. The 1880 Federal census listed the residents as Sisco and his wife; John C. Grinnell, worker in a paint store, and family; and Jane Miller. An 1891 tax assessment indicated that the Sisco family still owned the property.

West Facade: Designed (historic)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (historic gate under stoop)

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door

Windows: Mixed (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched – materials not visible

Notable Roof Features: Chimney visible on roof
Cornice: Altered
Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete
Curb Material(s): Bluestone; concrete
Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Possibly historic fence and gate
Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic)
Facade Notes: Brick facade with metal coping

119 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 16

Date: c. 1852-53
Architect/Builder: Not determined
Original Owner: Roswell Hovey (developer); James Miller (owner)
Type: Row house
Style: Gothic Revival
Stories: 2, basement and attic
Material(s): Brick; wood

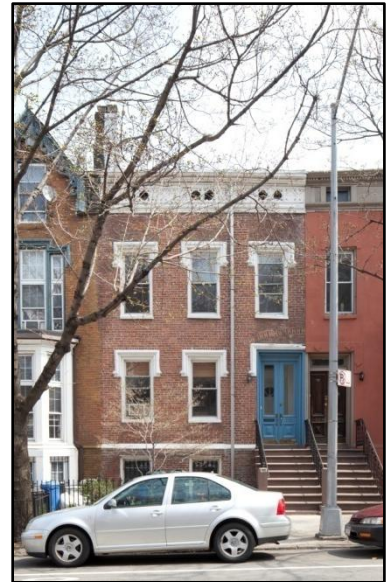
Special Windows: Attic windows
Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings
Significant Architectural Features: Drip lintels, molded cornice with fascia frieze of quatrefoils (three pairs of quatrefoils are pierced for attic windows)

Alterations: Stucco coat removed (after c. 1938); parlor-floor windows made smaller with brick infill (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); intercom box at basement entry; doorbell and non-historic light fixture at main entry; leader on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 117 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: Merchant Roswell Hovey, who resided on Clinton Avenue, built this house, which he sold to bookseller James Miller in 1853. The 1855 state census listed the residents as William H. Dusenbury, secretary of a fire insurance company, and family plus servant. From 1858 to 1870 city directories list clock maker, later hoop skirt manufacturer Timothy S. Sperry at this address. The 1880 Federal census listed William Jones, sea captain, and his wife, and Richard Roberts, in the freight business, and family plus servant.



West Facade: Designed (historic)
Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)
Door(s): Possibly historic primary door
Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)
Security Grilles: Possibly historic (basement)
Notable Roof Features: Chimney visible on roof
Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Possibly historic fence; part of original fence intact; non-historic gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

121 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 15

Date: c. 1854

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Roswell Hovey (developer); Ira Todd (owner)

Type: Row house

Style: Gothic Revival

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; stone; wood

Special Windows: Three-sided bay window on 1st story; triple-window on 2nd story; pointed-arch window on 3rd story

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

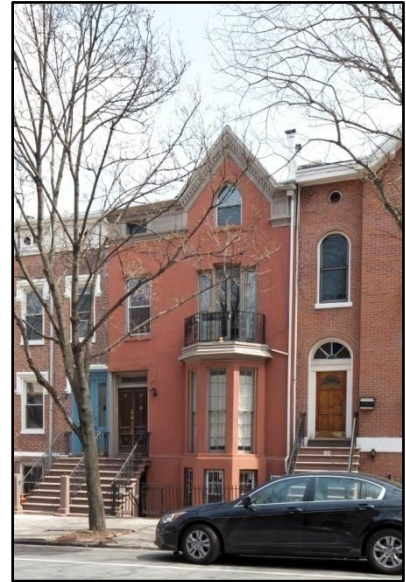
Significant Architectural Features: Gothic-inspired gable with molded and denticulated cornice and paneled fascia with attic window

Alterations: Gothic trim stripped from facade (before c. 1938); facade resurfaced and classical ornament added (after c. 1938); doorbell and non-historic light fixture at main entry; non-historic metal balcony added to top of three-sided bay window (after c. 1980s); leader on facade

Building Notes: Probably built in conjunction with 117 and 119 Vanderbilt Avenue.

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: Merchant Roswell Hovey, who resided on Clinton Avenue, built this house, which he sold to Ira Todd in 1854. Elisha Ward, the second owner, was listed as a counselor of law in the 1852-53 city directory. The 1855 state census listed the residents as Alfred B. Lowber, mariner, and family plus servant. The 1880 Federal census listed William Bogert, silversmith, and his wife, and Henry Fulsom, bookkeeper. The 1881-1882 *Lain's* directory listed William A. Jones, sea captain, and his wife, and George R. Latham, store clerk, and his wife at this address.



West Facade: Designed (historic, resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (historic gate under stoop)

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Mixed (upper stories); mixed (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched - materials not visible

Notable Roof Features: Gable with molded and denticulated cornice; chimney

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Brownstone curb; non-historic fence and gate
Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

123 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 14

Date: 1853

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Mrs. W.A. Dawson (possibly owner and builder)

Type: Row house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; stone

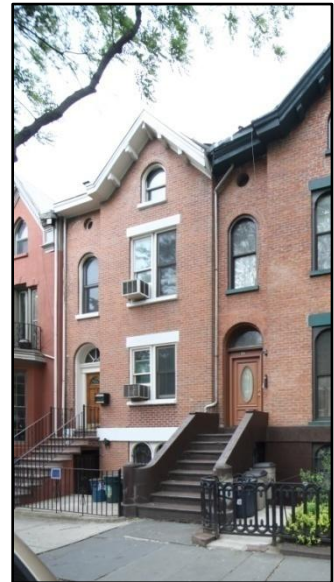
Special Windows: Paired arch-headed windows on basement story; arch-headed window on 2nd and 3rd stories; portal window on 3rd story below cornice

Significant Architectural Features: Recessed entrance bay; arch-headed window and door openings; roundel below cornice; Gothic-inspired gabled roof with bracketed cornice

Alterations: Non-historic light fixture and doorbell at basement entry; mailbox at main entry; 1st-story windows made smaller with brick infill (between c. 1938 and 1978); non-historic metal railings at stoop; leader on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 125 Vanderbilt Avenue

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Emanuel B. Pike, trunk store proprietor (dry goods), and family plus three servants. Pike's son, Lipman Emanuel "Lip" Pike (May 25, 1845 – October 10, 1893) was the first great Jewish baseball player in America and one of the earliest players to be recognized as a professional. The 1870 Federal census listed weigher Thomas P. Cooper, his wife Julia, three children, and a servant living here. The 1880 Federal census listed Mary Sinclair, keeping house, and family, Harriet Hobbie and daughter, and Charles Hammer, pilot, and family.



West Facade: Designed (historic, repointed)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); altered (basement)

Security Grilles: Original (basement)

Roof: Pitched – materials not visible

Notable Roof Features: Gable with bracketed cornice; chimney

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Concrete curb; non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

125 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 13

Date: 1853

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Mrs. W.A. Dawson (possibly owner and builder)

Type: Row house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; stone



Special Windows: Paired arch-headed windows on basement, 1st, and 2nd stories; arch-headed window on 2nd and 3rd stories; portal window on 3rd story below cornice

Significant Architectural Features: Recessed entrance bay; arch-headed window and door openings; roundel/portal window below cornice; Gothic-inspired gabled roof with denticulated cornice

Alterations: Utility box at foundation; security light, doorbell, and mailbox at main entry; leaders on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 123 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1877-78 Lain's directory listed Frank Daniels at this address; in 1881-1882 Lain's listed pilot Charles Hammer and his wife at this address.

West Facade: Designed (historic, repointed)

Stoop: Altered stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Original (basement)

Roof: Pitched - not visible

Notable Roof Features: Gable; chimney

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Brownstone curb; original fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

127 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 12

Date: 1854-55

Architect/Builder: Richard Seckerson (developer)

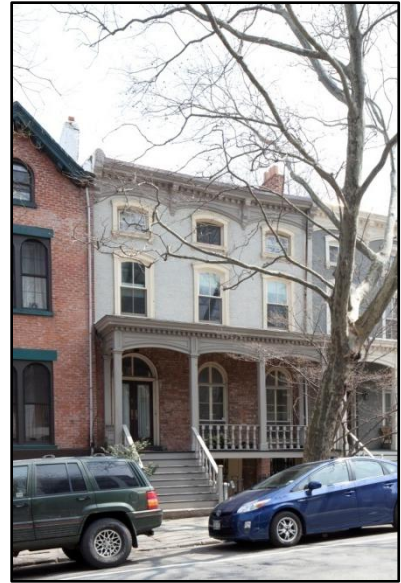
Original Owner: Elizabeth Ann Sperry and Elizabeth Bradshaw

Type: Row house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 2, basement and attic

Material(s): Brick; wood



Special Windows: Arched transoms at 1st-story windows and door

Significant Architectural Features: Historic shutters at basement windows; porch with segmental arches and denticulated cornice; segmental-arched window openings; molded and paneled main entry door surround; molded and bracketed window surrounds; bracketed and denticulated cornice with segmental-arch fascia frieze and finials; attic windows

Alterations: 1st- and attic-story windows covered by storm windows

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 129 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: Jane L. Vosburgh, wife of clock maker, William C. Sperry purchased this house from Elizabeth Ann Sperry and her husband clock maker Timothy S. Sperry in 1855. According to city directories the Vosburghs occupied the house from around 1857 to 1870. The Sperrys repurchased the house in 1867 and, according to city directories, resided here from 1871 1885.

West Facade: Designed (historic)

Porch(es): Historic

Door(s): Historic primary door; non-historic basement door under porch

Windows: Historic (upper stories); mixed (basement)

Security Grilles: Possibly historic (basement)

Notable Roof Features: Chimney

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb material: Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; possibly historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

129 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 11

Date: 1854-55

Architect/Builder: Richard Seckerson (developer)

Original Owner: Kate Lowber

Type: Row house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 2, basement and attic

Material(s): Brick; wood



Special Windows: Arched transoms at 1st-story windows and door

Significant Architectural Features: Porch with segmental arches and denticulated cornice; segmental-arched window openings; molded and paneled main entry door surround; molded and bracketed window surrounds; bracketed and denticulated cornice with segmental-arch fascia frieze and attic windows

Alterations: Windows covered by storm windows

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 127 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: Builder-developer Richard Seckerson sold this house to Kate Lowber, wife of ship captain Alfred Lowber. The Lowbers retained ownership of this house until the 1890s, but resided 121 Vanderbilt Avenue from 1855 to 1869. The 1855 state census listed the residents as James Miller, bookseller, and family plus two servants. Around 1859 the house was leased to ship chandler William Tiebout who was listed here with his family and a servant in the 1860 Federal census. The 1880 Federal census listed Frank Nicholls, superintendent at a life insurance business, and family, and B. Cowan, in the shoe business, and family.

West Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Porch(es): Historic

Door(s): Historic primary door; non-historic gate under porch

Windows: Historic (upper stories); historic (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; possibly historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

131 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 9

Date: c. 1854

Architect/Builder: Wells O. Pettit (developer)

Original Owner: Emanuel B. Pike

Type: Row house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; wood



Special Windows: Arched transoms at 1st-story windows and door; arch-headed window on 1st story of south facade

Significant Architectural Features: Porch with segmental arches and denticulated cornice; molded and paneled main entry door surround; molded and bracketed window surrounds; bracketed and denticulated cornice with segmental-arch fascia frieze and finials; attic windows

Alterations: Mailbox at basement entry; non-historic light fixtures at main entry; porch railing replaced (after c. 1938); flag-pole anchor at porch column; storm windows covering 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-story windows

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway; concrete driveway with non-historic wood fence between 131 and 135 Vanderbilt Avenue

Other Structures on Site: 1-story garage on same lot (see entry for 135 Vanderbilt Ave)

Notable History and Residents: Builder-developer Welles O. Pettit sold this house to Emanuel Pike in 1854. The 1860 Federal census and 1859-60 city directory listed jeweler DeLoss Davison, his family, and a servant at this address. A later resident of 131 Vanderbilt Avenue was Thomas P. Cooper, weigher (1870 Federal census and 1881-1882 Lain's directory).

West Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Stoop: Historic

Porch(es): Historic

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door

Windows: Historic (upper stories); possibly historic (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Majority concrete; bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Painted brick facade with chimney

South Facade: Not designed (historic)

Facade Notes: Painted brick facade; pitched roof; segmental-arched and arch-headed windows; two chimneys

135 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887,
Lot 9

Date: 1922 (NB 4667-1922)

Architect/Builder: William Parker

Original Owner: Abel W. Westerberg

Type: Garage

Style: Utilitarian

Stories: 1

Material(s): Metal

Building Notes: On same lot as 131 Vanderbilt Avenue (see entry for 131 Vanderbilt Avenue)



West Facade: Historic, painted

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door

Windows: Possibly historic

Roof: Pitched – tarred sheet metal

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Possibly historic fence

Areaway Paving Material: Planted

137 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 8

Date: c. 1854

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Robert Bage (developer); James Miller (owner)

Type: Flats building

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; stone; wood

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

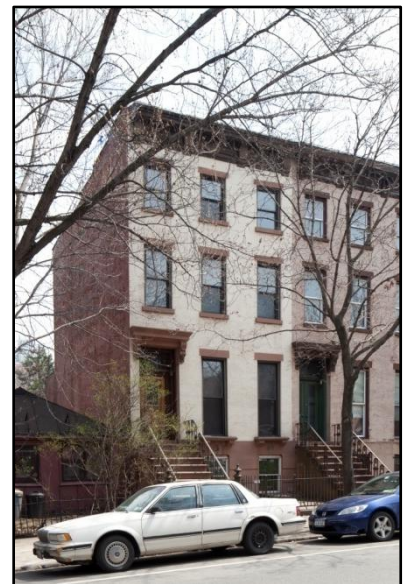
Significant Architectural Features: Rusticated base; molded door hood with scroll brackets; projecting parlor-floor sills with brackets; bracketed cornice with paneled fascia

Alterations: Utility box at foundation; non-historic mailbox at under-stoop gate; non-historic light fixtures at main entry; parlor-floor bracketed sills resurfaced or rebuilt

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 139 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Cellar hatch and sewer pipes in areaway; alley along northern property line

Notable History and Residents: Tax records and city directory listings indicate that this house was occupied by dry goods merchant William F. Hoyt from about 1872 to 1879. Widow Harriet Hedges, her daughters and a servant are listed at this address in the 1880 Federal census.



West Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (historic gate under stoop)

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Majority bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Brownstone curb; non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic)

Facade Notes: Painted brick facade

139 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 6

Date: c. 1854

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Robert Bage (developer); James Miller (owner)

Type: Flats building

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; stone; wood

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

Significant Architectural Features: Molded door hood with scroll brackets; bracketed cornice with paneled fascia

Alterations: Utility box at foundation; security lights at main entry and at facade below 2nd-story window (center)

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 137 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Cellar hatch and sewer pipe in areaway

Other Structures on Site: One-story brick garage attached to building (see entry for 141 Vanderbilt Avenue)

Notable History and Residents: The 1878 city directory and the 1880 lists widow Margaret Tully and her family including her son John, a caulker.



West Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (historic gate under stoop)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); Historic (basement)

Security Grilles: Historic (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Brownstone curb; historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete; bluestone

South Facade: Designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Parged brick facade with terra-cotta tile coping and two chimneys visible on roof

141 Vanderbilt Avenue (Garage)

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 5

Date: before c. 1938

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Not determined

Type: Garage

Stories: Not determined

Material(s): Not determined

Building Notes: One-story brick garage with metal roll-down gate attached to 139 Vanderbilt Avenue (see entry for 139 Vanderbilt Avenue)

143 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 104

Date: c. 1850

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Henry Ryer

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 2

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Porch with bracketed and denticulated cornice; eared door enframement with pilasters, side lights, and transom; molded and eared 1st-story window enframements

Alterations: Utility box on porch; facade re-clad and porch columns replaced (between c. 1934 and c. 1960s); non-historic porch railings; door surround altered with installation of glass block in side lights; non-historic light fixtures and mailbox at main entry; parlor windows shortened and historic 6-over-6 sash replaced (between c. 1938 and c. 1960s); windows covered by storm windows; chimney removed

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 145 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Concrete-paved alley with non-historic wood gate along northern property line

Notable History and Residents: Henry Ryer was a merchant who lived on Clinton Avenue and developed this house as a rental property. Directories and the 1880 Federal census indicate that this house was leased to Frederick Rose, letter carrier, and family and retiree Benjamin Evans and his family, including his son-in-law, printer John H. Smith.



West Facade: Designed (resurfaced)

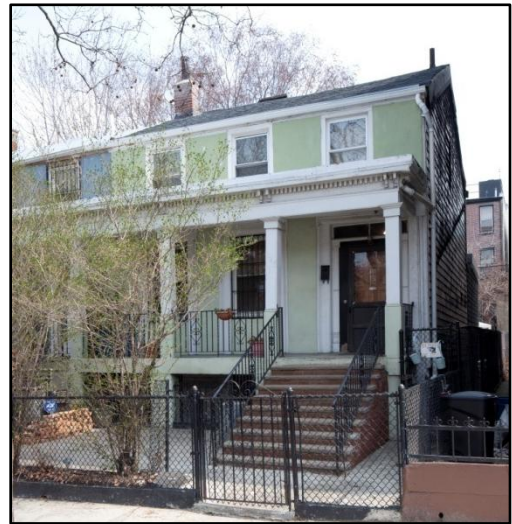
Porch(es): Historic
Door(s): Replaced primary door
Windows: Replaced
Roof: Pitched - tarred and painted
Notable Roof Features: Chimney
Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone
Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Non-historic fence and gate
Areaway Paving Material: Probably bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)
Facade Notes: Facade clad in wood shingles; security lights; exposed wiring; leader

145 Vanderbilt Avenue
Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 1887, Lot 4

Date: c. 1850
Architect/Builder: Not determined
Original Owner: Henry Ryer
Type: Semi-attached house
Style: Italianate
Stories: 2
Material(s): Brick (basement); wood; possibly stucco (2nd story)



Significant Architectural Features: Porch with bracketed and denticulated cornice; eared door enframingent with pilasters, side lights, and transom; molded and eared 1st-story window enframingents

Alterations: Facade re-clad and porch columns replaced (between c. 1934 and c. 1960s); non-historic porch railings; porch steps rebuilt; security light, mailbox, and doorbell at main entry; parlor windows shortened and historic 6-over-6 sash replaced (between c. 1938 and c. 1960s); windows covered by storm windows

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 143 Vanderbilt Avenue

Notable History and Residents: Henry Ryer was a merchant who lived on Clinton Avenue and developed this house as a rental property. The 1880 Federal census listed as residents Matthew Howard, physician, and family; James Vanderhoof, merchant, and family; and Daniel Thompson, a lawyer, and his wife.

West Facade: Designed (resurfaced)

Porch(es): Altered
Door(s): Replaced primary door; non-historic storm door at main entry
Windows: Replaced
Roof: Pitched – tarred, painted
Notable Roof Features: Chimney

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material: Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Non-historic fence and gate; non-historic fence below porch

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in wood shingles; 1-story rear addition

VANDERBILT AVENUE (WEST SIDE, EVEN NUMBERS)

74 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 53

Date: c. 1859-1860

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: William O. Wilson

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Italianate

Stories: 3

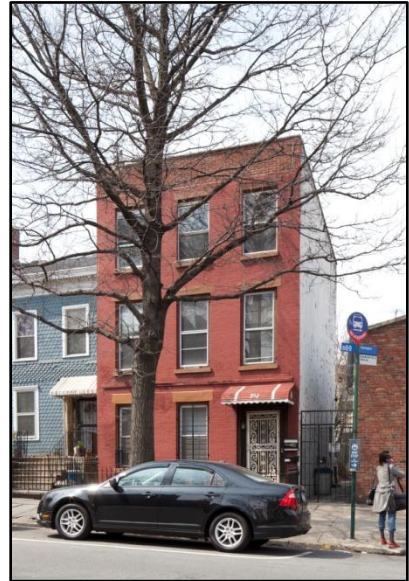
Material(s): Brick; brownstone

Significant Architectural Features: Block lintels and sills

Alterations: Utility box at foundation; metal awning, mailboxes, and security lights at main entry; cornice removed and cast-stone coping installed (after c. 1980s)

Other Structures on Site: Back house (see entry for 74 Rear Vanderbilt Avenue)

Notable History and Residents: The obituary for William O. Wilson (*Brooklyn Eagle*, May 18, 1889) noted his occupation as shoe manufacturer.



East Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Door(s): Replaced primary door; metal security gate at main entry

Windows: Mixed

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories)

Cornice: Removed

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Possibly historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone; concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic)

Facade Notes: Painted brick facade with metal window grille and security light

74 Rear Vanderbilt Avenue (Not visible from the street)

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 53

Date: c. 1855

Type: Back house

Building Notes: The 1855 Perris map of Brooklyn shows a wood structure on the rear of the lot, but no structure on the front of the lot. See entry for 74 Vanderbilt Avenue.

76 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 54

Date: c. 1850-51

Architect/Builder: James Brown (developer)

Original Owner: John and Anna Maria Marschalk

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Italianate with Queen Anne details

Stories: 2 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

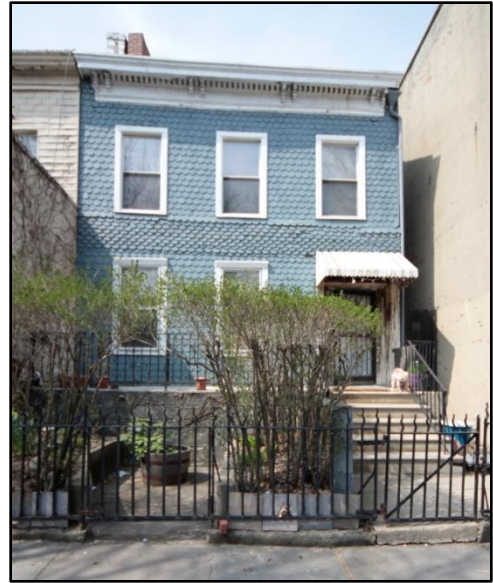
Significant Architectural Features: Greek Revival-style door surround with transom; bracketed and denticulated cornice

Alterations: Historic imbricated wood shingles, probably replacing original horizontal wood clapboard in the late 19th century; porch removed and replaced with concrete slab and stairs (after c. 1938); metal awning over main entry; leader on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 78 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting beds in areaway; alley with non-historic gate along northern property line

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as John Marschalk, mariner, and family plus servant. During the 1870s and 1880s the house was occupied by decorative painter John Herbold (1875 state census, 1880 Federal census, and 1881-1882 Lain's directory).



East Facade: Designed (historic, window surrounds possibly resided)

Porch(es): Altered

Door(s): Altered primary door

Windows: Mixed

Roof: Pitched - tar paper

Notable Roof Features: Brick chimney

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; possibly historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in asphalt shingles; attic window

78 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 55

Date: c. 1850-51

Architect/Builder: James Brown (developer)

Original Owner: John and Sarah Ann Halliard

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Italianate

Stories: 2

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Molded cornice

Alterations: Historic porch removed and replaced with brick porch (1928); porch enclosed between 1928 and c. 1938; facade stripped and re-clad in non-historic siding (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); non-historic infill at main entry; leader on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 76 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The house was sold in 1853 to Richard Ward. The 1855 state census listed the residents as Richard Ward, mariner, and family plus servant.



East Facade: Designed (resided)

Porch(es): Altered

Door(s): Replaced primary door; non-historic 2nd-story door leading to porch roof

Windows: Replaced

Roof: Pitched - tar paper

Notable Roof Features: Painted brick chimney; gabled dormer window (altered with non-historic siding)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Concrete curb; possibly historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic shingle siding; attic window

80 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 56

Date: 1878 (NB 459-78)

Architect/Builder: Ebenezer L. Roberts

Original Owner: Charles Pratt

Type: Row house

Style: Neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brownstone; wood (cornice)

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings; historic gate at alley

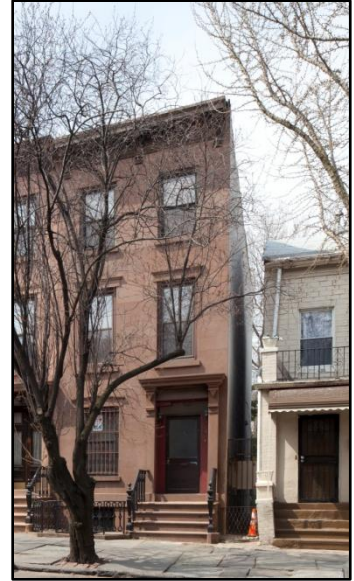
Significant Architectural Features: English basement; neo-Grec-style door hood; block sills and molded and/or pedimented lintels; neo-Grec-style bracketed cornice

Alterations: Utility box at foundation; non-historic infill and non-historic light fixtures at main entry

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (80 through 86 Vanderbilt Avenue). This is the earliest known speculative row erected for the Pratt family

Site Features: Alley with non-historic gate and smaller historic gate along northern property line

Notable History and Residents: The 1880 Federal census listed the residents as William Hankart, store clerk, and family plus a boarder and a servant.



East Facade: Designed (historic, resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories); original (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Brownstone curb; original fence and historic gate

Areaway Paving Material: Brick and painted bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic)

Facade Notes: Parged or painted brick facade with security light and exposed wiring.

82 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 57

Date: 1878 (NB 459-78)

Architect/Builder: Ebenezer L. Roberts

Original Owner: Charles Pratt

Type: Row house

Style: Neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brownstone; wood (cornice)

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

Significant Architectural Features: English basement; neo-Grec-style door hood; block sills and molded and/or pedimented lintels; neo-Grec-style bracketed cornice

Alterations: Vent in basement window opening; non-historic light fixtures and doorbell at main entry

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (80 through 86 Vanderbilt Avenue). This is the earliest known speculative row erected by the Pratt family

Notable History and Residents: The 1880 Federal census listed the residents as William J. Elliott, book finisher, and family plus servant, and the family of James Filmore, bookkeeper.



East Facade: Designed (historic, resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - removed)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); historic (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Brownstone curb; original fence and historic gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

82A Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 58

Date: 1878 (NB 459-78)

Architect/Builder: Ebenezer L. Roberts

Original Owner: Charles Pratt

Type: Row house

Style: Neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brownstone



Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

Significant Architectural Features: English basement; neo-Grec-style door hood; block sills and molded and/or pedimented lintels

Alterations: Non-historic light fixture on facade near basement entry; cornice removed and facade resurfaced (after c. 1980s); non-historic light fixture, doorbell, and mailbox at main entry; address plaque on facade

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (80 through 86 Vanderbilt Avenue). This is the earliest known speculative row erected by the Pratt family

Notable History and Residents: The 1880 Federal census listed the residents as Charles Meeks, office clerk, and family plus two boarders and two servants.

East Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories); not historic (basement)

Cornice: Removed

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Curb; original fence and historic gate

Areaway Paving Material: Painted brick and bluestone

84 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 59

Date: 1878 (NB 459-78)

Architect/Builder: Ebenezer L. Roberts

Original Owner: Charles Pratt

Type: Row house

Style: Neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brownstone; wood (cornice)

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

Significant Architectural Features: English basement; neo-Grec-style door hood; block sills and molded and/or pedimented lintels; neo-Grec-style bracketed cornice

Alterations: Utility box on foundation; security light on facade near basement entry; non-historic infill at main entry; antenna visible on roof

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (80 through 86 Vanderbilt Avenue). This is the earliest known speculative row erected by the Pratt family

Notable History and Residents: The 1880 Federal census listed the residents as Ann Cooney, keeping house, and family plus boarder.



East Facade: Designed (historic, some delamination of brownstone)

Stoop: Original stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Historic primary door; metal-and-Plexiglas security gate at main entry

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories); original (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Brownstone curb; original fence and historic gate

Areaway Paving Material: Brick; bluestone

86 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 60

Date: 1878 (NB 459-78)

Architect/Builder: Ebenezer L. Roberts

Original Owner: Charles Pratt

Type: Row house

Style: Neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brownstone

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

Significant Architectural Features: English basement; neo-Grec-style door hood; block sills and molded and/or pedimented lintels; neo-Grec-style bracketed cornice

Alterations: Utility box and security light on foundation near basement entry; non-historic infill at main entry; satellite dish on roof

Building Notes: One in a row of five houses (80 through 86 Vanderbilt Avenue). This is the earliest known speculative row erected by the Pratt family

Notable History and Residents: The 1880 Federal census listed the residents as William Murphy, civil engineer, and family.



East Facade: Designed (historic, painted, resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Replaced primary door; metal security gate at main entry

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); historic (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories); original (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Brownstone curb; original fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Painted brick and bluestone

South Facade: Not designed (historic) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Brick facade with chimney towards rear of building

88 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 61

Date: c. 1858

Architect/Builder: Not determined

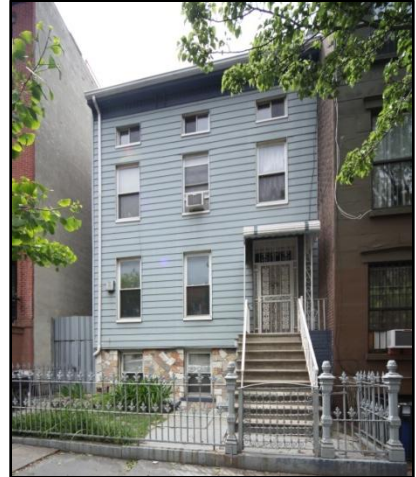
Original Owner: Daniel Rolfe (developer); Aaron and Evaline Bennett (owners)

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Italianate

Stories: 2 ½ and basement

Material(s): Wood



Significant Architectural Features: Attic windows; bracketed and denticulated cornice

Alterations: Historic imbricated wood shingles, probably replacing original horizontal wood clapboard in the late 19th century, replaced with faux-stone cladding at base and vinyl siding above (after c. 1938); stoop rebuilt in brick and concrete (after c. 1938); non-historic metal railings at stoop; cornice restored (after c. 1980s); security light and mail box on stoop at basement entry; leader and vent box on facade; satellite dish and antenna on roof

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway; alley with non-historic wood gate along southern property line

Notable History and Residents: Aaron Bennet was listed as a stationer in the 1865 state census.

East Facade: Designed (resided)

Stoop: Replaced stoop

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Roof: Pitched – material not visible

Notable Roof Features: Brick chimney

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Historic fence and gates

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding; attic window; metal flashing at roofline

90 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 62

Date: c. 1882-84

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Jacob Gruner

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Italianate/neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; brownstone; wood

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop railings

Significant Architectural Features: Neo-Grec-style brownstone sills and lintels; pedimented door hood; bracketed cornice with paneled fascia

Alterations: Utility box at foundation; security lights and exposed electrical conduit at basement entry; security light at main entry

Site Features: Alley with non-historic wood gate along northern property line

Notable History and Residents: Jacob Gruner is listed as a cooper living on Park Avenue in the 1880 Federal census.



East Facade: Designed (historic, repointed, resurfaced at base)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (original gate under stoop)

Door(s): Original primary door

Windows: Mixed (upper stories); mixed (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories); original (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic)

Facade Notes: Parged brick facade; window

South Facade: Not designed (historic) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Partially parged brick facade; brick chimney visible on roof

92 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 63

Date: c. 1852

Architect/Builder: John M. Morgan (attrib.)

Original Owner: George C. Morgan

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Gothic Revival

Stories: 2, basement and attic

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Attic windows, Gothic-inspired gabled roof

Alterations: Brick basement stripped and stoop rebuilt (after c. 1938); facade stripped and re-clad with non-historic shingles, pointed-arch window on 3rd story altered to square-headed window, and Gothic-inspired ornament removed from cornice (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s)

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 94 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as John M. Morgan, builder, and his daughter and brother, William P. Morgan, an artist.



East Facade: Designed (resided)

Stoop: Replaced stoop (possibly historic door under stoop)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Mixed (upper stories); historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched - tar paper

Cornice: Altered

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

94 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 64

Date: c. 1852

Architect/Builder: John M. Morgan (attrib.)

Original Owner: George C. Morgan

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Gothic Revival

Stories: 2, basement and attic

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Attic windows, Gothic-inspired gabled roof

Alterations: Facade stripped and re-clad in vinyl siding, Gothic-inspired ornament removed from cornice, and stoop rebuilt (after c. 1938); center window opening on 2nd story enlarged and pointed-arch window on 3rd story altered to square-headed window (after c. 1980s); non-historic light fixture on facade to left of main entry; mailbox on stoop

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 92 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Samuel Olds, clothier, and family plus servant.



East Facade: Designed (resided)

Stoop: Replaced stoop

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched - tar paper

Cornice: Altered

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

96 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 65

Date: c. 1852

Architect/Builder: John M. Morgan (attrib.)

Original Owner: George C. Morgan

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); galvanized iron (cornice)

Historic Metal Work: Historic fire escape (1910)

Significant Architectural Features: Modillioned cornice

Alterations: Attic story altered to full third story with a flat roof and galvanized iron cornice (1910); utility box at foundation; non-historic light fixture on facade near basement entry; facade re-clad in non-historic siding and stoop rebuilt (before c. 1938); window surrounds stripped (after c. 1938)

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as John Warren Hill, clerk, and family plus servant. Hill was listed as a merchant on Pearl Street in Brooklyn in the 1854-55 city directory.



East Facade: Designed (resided, brick repointed at basement)

Stoop: Replaced stoop

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Non-historic brick-and-concrete curb; non-historic picket fence

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic vinyl siding; satellite dish visible on roof

98 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 66

Date: c. 1850-51

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Edward Nevins (developer); Charles Cook (owner)

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Greek Revival with Queen Anne details

Stories: 2 1/2 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Porch with Doric portico; door enframingent with pilasters, side lights, and multi-light transom; attic windows

Alterations: Historic imbricated wood shingles, probably replacing original horizontal wood clapboard in the late 19th century; utility box at foundation; non-historic light fixtures, doorbell, and mailbox at main entry; leader on facade; wood-shingled porch cheek walls removed (after 1978); non-historic metal railings at stoop; antenna on roof

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 100 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed and sewer pipe in areaway; alley with non-historic gate along northern property line

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as John Hamblar, caulker, and family plus servant.



East Facade: Designed (historic)

Stoop: Altered stoop

Porch(es): Historic

Door(s): Historic primary door; non-historic door under stoop

Windows: Mixed (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Historic fence and gates

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic shingles; attic window; security light and metal window grille on facade; tarred brick chimney visible on roof

100 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 67

Date: c. 1850-51

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Edward Nevins (developer); James L. Moore

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Greek Revival/Italianate

Stories: 2 ½ and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Porch with Doric portico; door enframing with pilasters, side lights, and multi-light transom; attic windows

Alterations: Historic imbricated wood shingles, probably replacing original horizontal wood clapboard in the late 19th century, replaced with vinyl siding (between c. 1938 and c. 1977); utility box at foundation; non-historic light fixture and doorbell at main entry; non-historic window boxes at 1st-story windows; leader on facade; wood-shingled porch cheek walls removed (after 1978); non-historic metal railings at stoop; antenna and satellite dish visible on roof

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 98 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway; alley with non-historic gate along southern property line

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as John West, mariner, and family plus two servants.



East Facade: Designed (resided)

Stoop: Altered stoop (possibly historic gate under stoop)

Porch(es): Historic

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Possibly historic (basement)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding; security light; attic windows

102 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 68

Date: c. 1855

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Robert and Laura Dixon

Type: Free-standing house

Style: Italianate/neo-Grec

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Historic Metal Work: Fire escape

Significant Architectural Features: Porch with Corinthian columns; bracketed and denticulated porch cornice; Greek Revival-style door surround with side lights and transom; neo-Grec-style bracketed cornice

Alterations: 3rd story added in 1881; mailboxes on basement facade; security lights above basement entry; non-historic light fixtures at main entry; window surrounds and molded lintels removed or covered by siding (after c. 1980s); non-historic leader on facade (below porch roof); stoop possibly rebuilt (after c. 1938); non-historic metal railings at stoop

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway; alley with non-historic gate along southern property line

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Robert Dixon, boatswain, and family plus servant. The 1875 state census listed ship carpenter Peter E. Ogilvie.



East Facade: Designed (resided)

Porch(es): Historic

Door(s): Altered primary door; non-historic door under porch

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Possibly historic (upper stories); possibly historic (basement)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Partially historic fence and historic gate

Areaway Paving Material: Painted concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding; attic windows

104 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 69

Date: c. 1873

Architect/Builder: William G. Marvin

Original Owner: William G. Marvin

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Italianate with neo-Grec cornice

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; brownstone; wood (cornice)

Special Windows: Arched transom over main entry door

Historic Metal Work: Original stoop newel posts intact

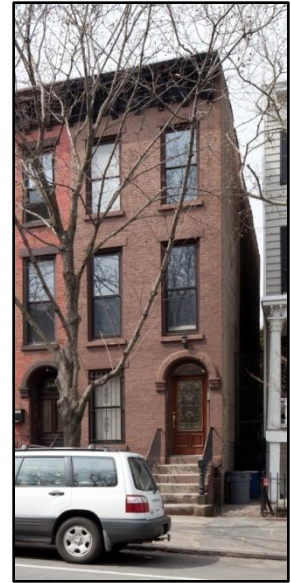
Significant Architectural Features: Arch with molded imposts over main entry door; block sills and lintels; molded and bracketed cornice

Alterations: Utility box at main entry; non-historic light fixture above main entry; non-historic metal railings at stoop

Building Notes: Built with 104A Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Alley with non-historic gate along northern property line

Notable History and Residents: The 1880 Federal census listed the residents as Mary A. Baldwin, keeping house, and family plus boarder. Later residents included Mulford S. Slokum, builder (1892 state census).



East Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - removed)

Door(s): Altered primary door; non-historic basement door (under stoop)

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); altered (basement)

Security Grilles: Possibly historic (basement); not historic (upper stories)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete; bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Brick facade (partially parged)

104A Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 169

Date: c. 1873

Architect/Builder: William G. Marvin

Original Owner: William G. Marvin

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Italianate with neo-Grec cornice

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; brownstone; wood (cornice)

Special Windows: Arched transom over main entry door

Significant Architectural Features: Arch with molded imposts over main entry door; block sills and lintels; molded and bracketed cornice

Alterations: Non-historic light fixture on facade above basement entry; intercom, doorbells, and non-historic light fixture at main entry; non-historic metal railings at stoop

Building Notes: Built with 104 Vanderbilt Avenue

Notable History and Residents: Later residents included Joseph Rosenberg, dealer in fat [sic], and family (1880 Federal census), and Dr. Nellie Flint, physician (1892 state census).



East Facade: Designed (historic, partially painted)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); mixed (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories); possibly historic (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Possibly flagstone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; non-historic fence

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete; bluestone

South Facade: Not designed (historic) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Repointed brick facade; chimney and antenna visible on roof

106 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 70

Date: c. 1850-51

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Thomas Brewster; Dr. James and Eliza Ann Jennings (owners)

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Italianate

Stories: 2 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Bracketed and denticulated cornice

Alterations: Facade stripped and re-clad in vinyl siding (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); porch removed and stoop rebuilt (after c. 1938); security lights at secondary basement door; security light and doorbell at main entry; mailbox on main entry door; flashing at cornice; front chimney removed (after c. 1980s); leader on facade

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 108 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Halsted P. Fowler, clerk, and family plus servant. A later resident was William Critchley, ship clerk, listed in the 1875, 1880, and 1892 censuses.



East Facade: Designed (resided)

Stoop: Replaced stoop

Porch(es): Removed

Door(s): Possibly historic primary door; non-historic basement door (under stoop); non-historic secondary basement door (to right of basement windows)

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched - asphalt shingles

Notable Roof Features: Chimney to rear of roof

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

108 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 71

Date: c. 1850

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Archibald Cowan, ship caulker

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Italianate

Stories: 2 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Bracketed cornice

Alterations: Facade re-clad and porch removed (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); chimney removed (after c. 1980s); security light and doorbell panel at main entry; leader on facade; non-historic metal railings at stoop

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 106 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Archibald Cowan, ship caulker, and family. Later residents included Henry Collins, pattern maker/ship joiner, and family (1875 state census), and Edward Thomas, letter carrier, and William H. Johnson, broker (1892 state census).



East Facade: Designed (resided)

Stoop: Altered stoop

Porch(es): Removed

Door(s): Replaced primary door; non-historic basement door (under stoop)

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched - asphalt shingles

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Majority bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Not visible

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding; metal window grille on facade

110 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 72

Date: c. 1852-54

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: James L. Moore or Martha Moore

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Italianate with Queen Anne details

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood



Significant Architectural Features: Molded and bracketed window hoods; bracketed cornice with modillions and paneled fascia

Alterations: Historic imbricated wood shingles, probably replacing original horizontal wood clapboard in the late 19th century; raised from 2 stories to 3 stories (owner Mary Ryan, c. 1885); porch hood and columns removed and stoop rebuilt (between c. 1938 and 1965); window hoods re-clad in asphalt shingles and porch hood re-created (after 1965)

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway; alleys with non-historic gates along northern and southern property lines

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as William Bradshaw, bookkeeper, and family plus servant. Later residents included Susan Stewart (1875 census), and Clark Potter, real estate broker (1880 census).

East Facade: Designed (historic, resurfaced at foundation)

Stoop: Replaced stoop

Porch(es): Altered

Door(s): Altered primary door; metal-and-Plexiglas security gate at main entry

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); mixed (basement)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Concrete cheek wall; non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding and wood shingles

112 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 73

Date: c. 1851-52

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: John Heath

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Greek Revival

Stories: 2 and basement

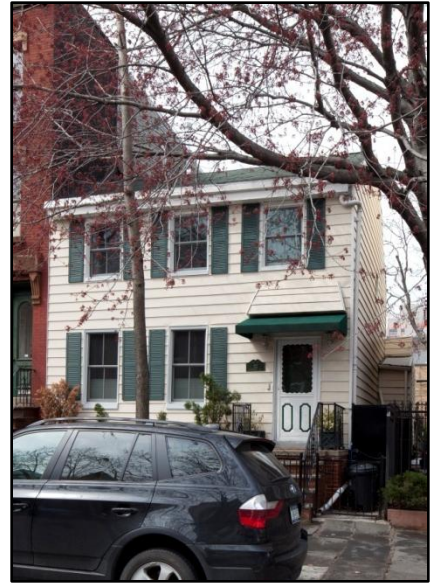
Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Door hood

Alterations: Historic imbricated wood shingles (probably replacing original horizontal wood clapboard in the late 19th century) replaced with non-historic siding (after 1965); chimney removed (after c. 1980s); stoop rebuilt; security lights and address plaque at main entry; canvas awning above main entry; leader on facade

Site Features: Alley with non-historic gate along northern property line

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as John Heath, ship caulker, and family. The Heath family continued to occupy the house into the 1880s, but by 1892 the state census listed residents Paul Allen, salesman, and family.



East Facade: Designed (resided)

Stoop: Replaced

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched - asphalt shingles

Cornice: Altered

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Non-historic brick cheek wall; non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in non-historic siding; 2nd-story window; 1-story rear addition

114 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 74

Date: c. 1884

Architect/Builder: John A. Kelly

Original Owner: Bridget Kerns

Type: Flats building

Style: Neo-Grec

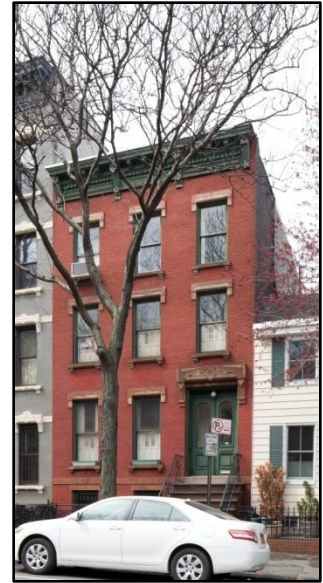
Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; stone; wood (cornice)

Significant Architectural Features: Neo-Grec-style door hood, bracketed stone sills, stone drip-lintels, and bracketed cornice with modillions, dentils, and paneled fascia

Alterations: Building altered from 2 ½ to 3 stories and new brick facade erected c. 1884; utility box on foundation; doorbell at basement entry; non-historic light fixture and doorbells at main entry; non-historic metal railings at stoop

Notable History and Residents: The 1892 state census listed the residents as Robert J. Crombie, bookbinder, and family; James Fitzgerald, driver, and family; and Patrick Rafferty, housesmith [sic], and family.



East Facade: Designed (historic)

Stoop: Original stoop (historic gate under stoop)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Historic (upper stories); historic (basement)

Security Grilles: Original (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Majority bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; original fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Brick facade with some non-historic siding

116 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 75

Date: 1887-88 (NB 153-1887)

Architect/Builder: Isaac D. Reynolds

Original Owner: James and Bridget Kerns

Type: Flats building

Style: Neo-Grec

Stories: 4

Material(s): Brick; stone; wood (cornice)



Historic Metal Work: Original newel posts at stoop

Significant Architectural Features: Neo-Grec-style pedimented door hood, bracketed stone sills and lintels, and bracketed cornice with modillions, paneled fascia, and roundels

Alterations: Utility box at foundation; 3 of 4 basement windows sealed; non-historic light fixture, intercom box, and utility panel at main entry; non-historic metal railings at stoop

Building Notes: NB 153-1887 refers to the property 200' north of Myrtle Avenue (128 Vanderbilt), but this appears to be incorrect; all the other information in the NB permit describes the property and building at 116 Vanderbilt Avenue.

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1892 state census listed the residents as William H. Campbell, elec. light [sic], and family; Joseph Rubens, carpenter, and family; D. Lahey, speculator, and family; and Michael Hart, stationer, among others.

East Facade: Designed (historic, painted)

Stoop: Original stoop (gate under stoop – replaced)

Door(s): Historic primary door

Windows: Mixed (upper stories); altered (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (upper stories); not historic (basement)

Cornice: Original

Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Bluestone curb; original fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone

North Facade: Not designed (historic) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Painted and parged brick facade

118 Vanderbilt Avenue (aka 118-122 Vanderbilt Avenue)

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 77

Date: 2005-2008 (Job No. 301887885)

Architect/Builder: Bricolage Designs

Original Owner: 118 Vanderbilt LLC

Type: Apartment building

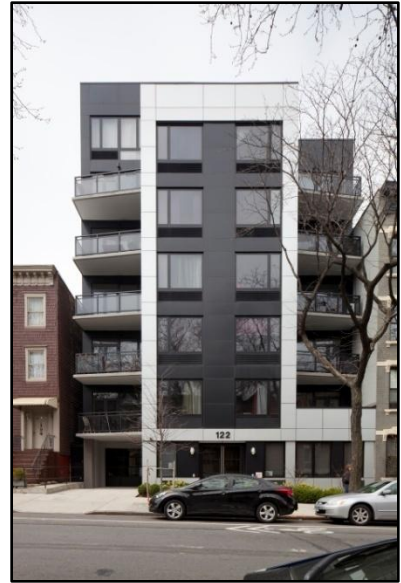
Style: None

Stories: 6

Material(s): Metal; glass

Building Notes: 1-story garage (NB 600-1939) and 2-story brick dwelling replaced by present building.

Site Features: Planting beds in front of building and concrete driveway through building.



East Facade: Designed (not historic)

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Concrete with steel

South Facade: Not historic (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Facade with windows

124 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 79

Date: c. 1852

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Henry Johnson (developer); John H. James (owner)

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Greek Revival with neo-Grec and Queen Anne details

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Significant Architectural Features: Greek Revival-style molded transom with three lights over main entry; molded window surrounds; neo-Grec-style cornice with modillions

Alterations: Altered to 3-story dwelling for Catherine A. Case c. 1879; porch, wood shingles (probably replacing original horizontal wood clapboards), and cornice probably date to this alteration; porch removed and stoop rebuilt (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); security light at basement entry; metal awning, non-historic light fixtures, and non-historic infill at main entry; antenna on roof; non-historic metal railings at stoop

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 126 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway; alley with non-historic gate along northern property line



Notable History and Residents: Later residents of 124 Vanderbilt Avenue included Sarah Titus and family (1855 state census); Charles Archer, bookkeeper, and family (1860 Federal census); Catherine Case and family (1875 state census and 1880 Federal census); Victor Francois, raftsmen, and family, and Edward Ryan, clerk, and family (1892 state census).

East Facade: Designed (historic)

Stoop: Altered stoop

Porch(es): Removed

Door(s): Altered primary door

Windows: Historic (upper stories); historic (basement)

Security Grilles: Possible historic (basement)

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete; bluestone

Curb Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Possibly historic fence at southern areaway; non-historic fence at northern areaway

Areaway Paving Material: Bluestone and concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Facade clad in wood shingles

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered) (partially visible)

Facade Notes: Painted brick facade with metal flashing at parapet; painted chimney visible towards rear of building.

126 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 80

Date: c. 1852

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Henry Johnson (developer); Charles W. Johnson (owner)

Type: Semi-attached house

Style: Altered Greek Revival

Stories: 2 and basement

Material(s): Brick (basement); wood

Alterations: Utility box on foundation; non-historic light fixture on facade near basement entry; non-historic light fixture, doorbell, and mailboxes at main entry; chimney removed (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s); facade stripped and repainted (after c. 1938); peaked roof removed and stoop rebuilt (after c. 1980s); exposed I-beams on south facade near roof; window configuration changed and/or windows made smaller (after c. 1938)

Building Notes: Built as a pair with 124 Vanderbilt Avenue

Site Features: Planting bed in areaway



Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Charles W. Johnson, bank clerk, and family plus servant. Later residents included Joseph A. Armfield, provisions salesman, and family (1875 state census, 1879-80 city directory); Elias E. Earle, tea broker, and Evalina Torres, dressmaker (1880 Federal census); and James Hines and William Horrell, both pilots (1892 state census).

East Facade: Resurfaced

Stoop: Replaced stoop

Door(s): Replaced primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)

Cornice: Removed

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Parged concrete cheek wall; non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

128 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 81

Date: c. 1852-53

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Horace H. Moore (developer); Samuel Moore (owner)

Type: Row house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; stone; possibly stucco

Special Windows: Arch-headed 3rd-story window

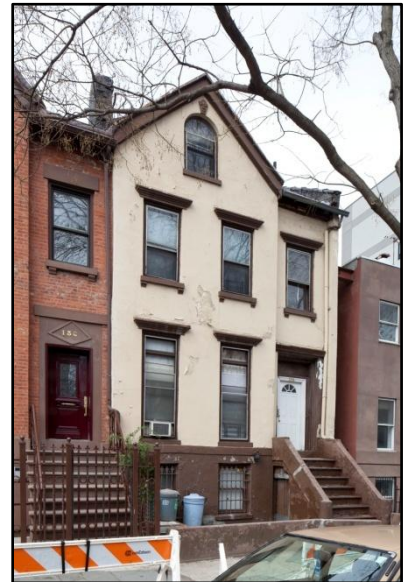
Significant Architectural Features: Recessed entrance bay; bracketed sills and molded lintels; Gothic-inspired gabled roof

Alterations: Brackets removed from cornice (after c. 1938); non-historic light fixture at basement entry; mailbox at main entry; transom over main entry sealed; storm windows covering all windows; leader on facade; skylight in roof

Building Notes: One in a row of three houses (128 through 132 Vanderbilt Avenue)

Site Features: Alley with non-historic gate and possibly historic smaller gate along northern property line; cellar hatch in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Edmund Aylburton Van Willis, artist, and family plus two servants. A later resident was A. Law, tea merchant (1875 state census).



East Facade: Designed (historic, painted, resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Replaced primary door; non-historic basement door (under stoop)

Windows: Historic (upper stories); Mixed (basement)

Security Grilles: Historic (basement)
Roof: Pitched - tarred and painted
Notable Roof Features: Gable, chimney, skylight
Cornice: Altered
Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete
Curb Material(s): Bluestone
Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Concrete cheek wall (visible in c. 1938 tax photo)
Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

North Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)
Facade Notes: Facade pared; window

130 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 82

Date: c. 1852-53
Architect/Builder: Not determined
Original Owner: Horace H. Moore (developer); William Conklin (owner)
Type: Row house
Style: Italianate
Stories: 3 and basement
Material(s): Brick; stone



Special Windows: Arch-headed 3rd-story window
Significant Architectural Features: Recessed entrance bay; bracketed sills and molded lintels; Gothic-inspired gabled roof
Alterations: Utility box on foundation; intercom box at basement entry; stucco coat removed from facade and brackets removed from cornice (after c. 1938); non-historic infill and transom sealed at main entry; leader on facade; mailboxes and non-historic metal railings on stoop; areaway cheek wall removed (between c. 1938 and c. 1980s)
Building Notes: One in a row of three houses (128 through 132 Vanderbilt Avenue)
Site Features: Cellar hatch in areaway
Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Henry W. Candell [sic], physician, and family plus servant. A later resident was Wetmore Reill, ferry master, (1875 state census).

East Facade: Designed (partially stripped)
Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)
Door(s): Replaced primary door
Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)
Security Grilles: Not historic (basement)
Roof: Pitched - tarred
Notable Roof Features: Gable
Cornice: Altered
Sidewalk Material(s): Bluestone; concrete

Curb Material(s): Bluestone

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Non-historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

132 Vanderbilt Avenue

Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 2046, Lot 83

Date: c. 1852-1853

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Original Owner: Horace H. Moore (developer); Oliver H. Wilson (owner)

Type: Row house

Style: Italianate

Stories: 3 and basement

Material(s): Brick; stone

Special Windows: Arch-headed 3rd-story window; transom over main entry

Significant Architectural Features: Recessed entrance bay; bracketed sills and arched lintels; Gothic-inspired gabled roof with bracketed cornice

Alterations: Non-historic infill at main entry; intercom box and doorbells at main entry; antennas on roof; leader on facade

Building Notes: One in a row of three houses (128 through 132 Vanderbilt Avenue)

Site Features: Cellar hatch in areaway

Notable History and Residents: The 1855 state census listed the residents as Joseph M. Imlay, clerk, plus family, two boarders, and a servant. The boarder, Oliver H. Wilson, a cloth merchant, was still listed in the 1875 state census.



East Facade: Designed (historic, resurfaced)

Stoop: Resurfaced stoop (gate under stoop - replaced)

Door(s): Altered primary door

Windows: Replaced (upper stories); replaced (basement)

Security Grilles: Historic (basement)

Roof: Pitched - tarred and painted

Notable Roof Features: Gable; chimney

Cornice: Historic

Sidewalk Material(s): Concrete

Curb Material(s): Concrete

Areaway Wall/Fence Materials: Historic cheek wall with possibly historic fence and gate

Areaway Paving Material: Concrete

South Facade: Not designed (historic, altered)

Facade Notes: Parged brick facade with tarred parapet and chimney; antenna on roof

ILLUSTRATIONS



69 and 71 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



143 and 145 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



106 and 108 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



98 and 100 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



76 and 78 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



112 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



124 and 126 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



102 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



81 and 83 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Braze, 2011



110 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



88 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



73 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Braze, 2011



92-96 Vanderbilt Avenue

Top: New York City Division of Taxation photographs, c. 1938-40

Bottom: Photo by Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



117-121 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



123 and 125 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Braze, 2011



128-132 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



131 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Braze, 2011



127 and 129 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



137 and 139 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



104 and 104A Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



80-86 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Braze, 2010



85-93 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



79 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Braze, 2010



116 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Braze, 2011



114 Vanderbilt Avenue
Photo: Christopher D. Brazee, 2011



76, 98, 110, and 124 Vanderbilt Avenue (clockwise from top left)
Photos: Christopher D. Brazee, 2010 and 2011



117-127 Vanderbilt Avenue

Photo: Christopher D. Brazeel, 2011