



CENTER
FOR
BROOKLYN
HISTORY

115

Introduction to the Center for Brooklyn History

Dee Bowers-Smith, Archivist

126

TOMPkins

Welcome!



Let's dive in.



Robin Ketchum Prospect Heights Community Organizing Collection (BCMS.0079)



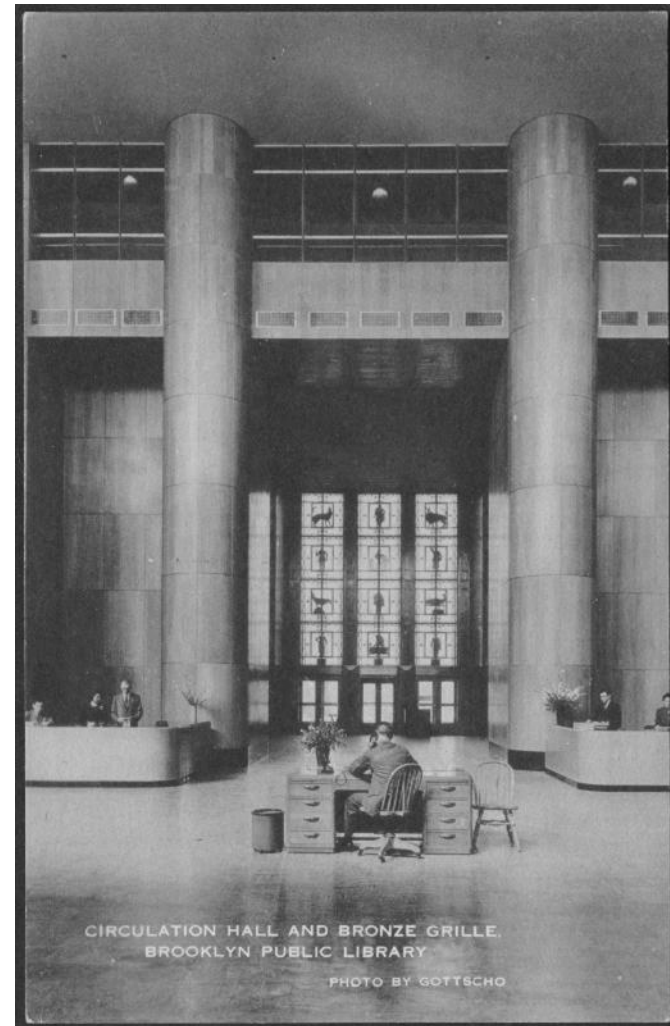
Long Island Historical Society

Brooklyn, N.Y.

Welcome to CBH!

Center for Brooklyn History

- **Began** as BPL's local history department, the Brooklyn Collection
- **Merged** with Brooklyn Historical Society in 2020
- **Home** of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle morgue
- **Caretakers** of BPL's institutional archives
- **Organize & preserve** BPL's special collections
- **Provide** reference services
- **Exhibit** our collections
- **Host** events and trainings
- **Educate** Brooklyn students
- **Conduct** workshops for educators, students of all ages, other organizations, and staff



Who uses the Center for Brooklyn History?

- Students
- Staff
- Students
- Genealogists
- House researchers
- Historians
- Authors
- Journalists
- Artists



NEW YORK

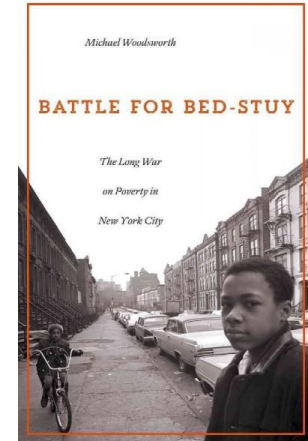
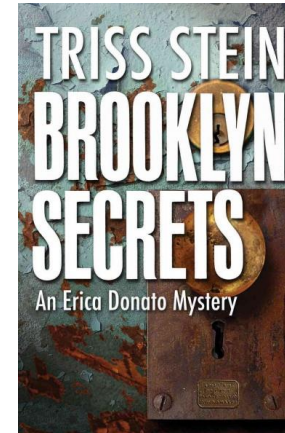
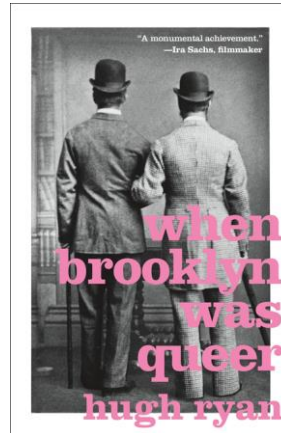
The Invisible Black Man on a Prospect Park Statue

By Sumner Brennan



The man on the left: Paris, African-American, ignored. Photo: Linda Rosenkrantz. Daily News Archive

My "thing with the statue" all started a few years back. Actually, it started hundreds of years ago with human trafficking, genocide, and the systematic grand-scale enslavement of human beings that made the prosperity of early America possible. But for the purposes of this story, it began around 2009. I was walking into Prospect Park, at the 9th Street entrance, when I noticed that the monument to the Marquis de Lafayette had, as part of its backdrop relief, an African-American-looking groomsman standing next to a horse. I thought to myself, *I wonder who*



Digital vs. Physical Archives





Bklyn
Public Library
125th

- Borrow
- Learn
- Attend
- BPL Presents

← LOCATIONS

Center for Brooklyn History

- About
- Public Programs
- Our Collections**
- Projects & Exhibitions
- Education

⚠️ Explore [Brooklyn Resists](#), CBH's outdoor exhibition and public history project.

The Center for Brooklyn History (CBH) is currently closed to the public. [Our lobby is serving as the grab-and-go lobby service location for Brooklyn Heights Library.](#)

While CBH is physically closed, we continue to provide virtual access to our [special collections](#), [public programming](#), and [education programs](#). For questions about access to our collections, please email cbhref@bklynlibrary.org.

Hours

Closed

Address & Contact

128 Pierrepont Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

[Get Directions](#)

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SEARCH



HOURS + LOCATIONS



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[← CENTER FOR BROOKLYN HISTORY](#)

Search Our Collections

About

Public Programs

Our Collections

Projects & Exhibitions

Education

The Center for Brooklyn History makes its collections available to all researchers.

We welcome scholars, teachers and students, genealogists, artists, documentarians, and anyone who is curious about the history of Brooklyn.

While we work to merge our two institutions' collections, the links below will direct you to our respective holdings.



Research Help

Interested in Archival research? Need a hand with your project? Have a question about our collections? Submit a [research request form](#) and a librarian will contact you.

Land Conveyance Research

Looking to do House and Building research? [Here's our guide to the resources most frequently consulted](#) by researchers of Brooklyn property and buildings.

Databases & Online Resources

For digital resources about Brooklyn and New York City history.

THE BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE.

BROOKLYN, THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1883.

THREE CENTS.

VOL. 44.-No. 143.

UNITED!

Brooklyn and New York by the Great Bridge.

THE HEAVY POLYMER CONCRETES

The Story of its Origin and Erection.

EARLY DISCUSSIONS ABOUT BRIDGING THE RIVER.

The History of the Various-Opinion Means of Crossing the Stream—The First Discussions—Many of Them Before the Bridge was Built.

THE WORK OF CONSTRUCTION INDICATED.

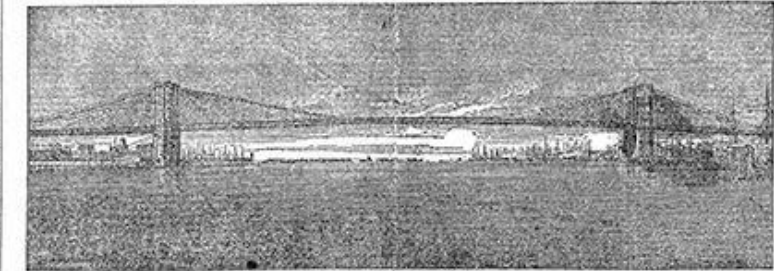
Parliamentary Legislation—the Formation of the New York Bridge Company—the Story was Related—Political and Wholesome Character—The Subsequent Order Granted of the Municipal Authorities.

THE BUILDING OF THE BRIDGE.

The Labor of the Engineer—Working on the Foundations Below the River—The Work of the Engineer—How the Cables were Run—A Detailed Description of the Bridge.

THE FINISHING OF THE WORK.

The Builders and What They Did—The Hon. J. A. Bingham's Early Services for Filling Them—The Chief Engineers and the Tools They Employed.



A River View of the Bridge Looking Towards the East.

The construction of the new bridge has attracted the attention of the people of both cities, and the people of Brooklyn are especially interested in the progress of the work. The bridge will be a great benefit to both cities, and the people of Brooklyn are especially interested in the progress of the work. The bridge will be a great benefit to both cities, and the people of Brooklyn are especially interested in the progress of the work.



Iron Works in East River, N.Y.

The iron works in East River, N.Y., are engaged in the construction of the bridge. The works are engaged in the construction of the bridge, and the people of Brooklyn are especially interested in the progress of the work. The bridge will be a great benefit to both cities, and the people of Brooklyn are especially interested in the progress of the work.

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New York and Brooklyn Ferry.

The New York and Brooklyn Ferry is a great service to both cities, and the people of Brooklyn are especially interested in the progress of the work. The ferry will be a great benefit to both cities, and the people of Brooklyn are especially interested in the progress of the work.

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THE BROOKLYN DIRECTORY

FOR
THE YEAR ENDING MAY 1ST,
1888.

CONTAINING ALPHABETICAL LIST OF HOUSEHOLDERS AND BUSINESS HOUSES,

A BUSINESS DIRECTORY,

WITH EACH BUSINESS AND PROFESSION CLASSIFIED UNDER PROPER HEADINGS

A STREET GUIDE, MUNICIPAL REGISTER, AND MAP OF THE CITY.

COMPILED BY GEO. T. LAIN.

PUBLISHED BY LAIN & COMPANY.

OFFICE:

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Branch Office, 121 Fulton Street, New York.

PRICE \$5.50.

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BROOKLYN

NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

WINTER 1935-36



Typical station-to-station Day Rates (exclusive of tax) from Brooklyn

Night Rates after 7 p. m. are generally about 40% less

For other rate information see Pages 7 to 10

FIRE POLICE AMBULANCE
DIAL or CALL if OPERATOR
See page 1 for further instructions

NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY

Lain & Company, Brooklyn Directory for the year
ending May 1883.

New York Telephone Company
Brooklyn, New York City, Telephone
Directory, 1935.

bklynlibrary.org/digitalcollections

Bklyn
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Digital Collections

Discover Brooklyn history: Explore our collection of digitized Brooklyn content.

Search digital collections

[About](#) | [Advanced Search](#)

[You guessed it: school's out](#)



Featured Collections

Individual Photographers



Ann Rosen
photograph
collection



Michael Draskoczy
photograph
collection



Terrence Jennings
photograph
collection



Bill Powers
photograph
collection



George Bradford
Brainerd
photograph



Home

Welcome to the Center for Brooklyn History's Digital Collections

Keyword Search

Advanced Search

Explore Brooklyn's rich and diverse history online. Search over 11,000 records from CBH's collections, including historic photographs, architectural drawings, and artifacts.

Photographs

This site contains only a small portion of the Center for Brooklyn History's vast holdings. Researchers can access many more materials by [visiting](#) the Center for Brooklyn History's Othmer Library. We regularly add new material to the site as our cataloging and digitization work progresses, so please check back frequently.

Art & Artifacts

Featured Collections and Artifacts



Wellmade Glove artifacts and records



Eugene Armbruster photographs

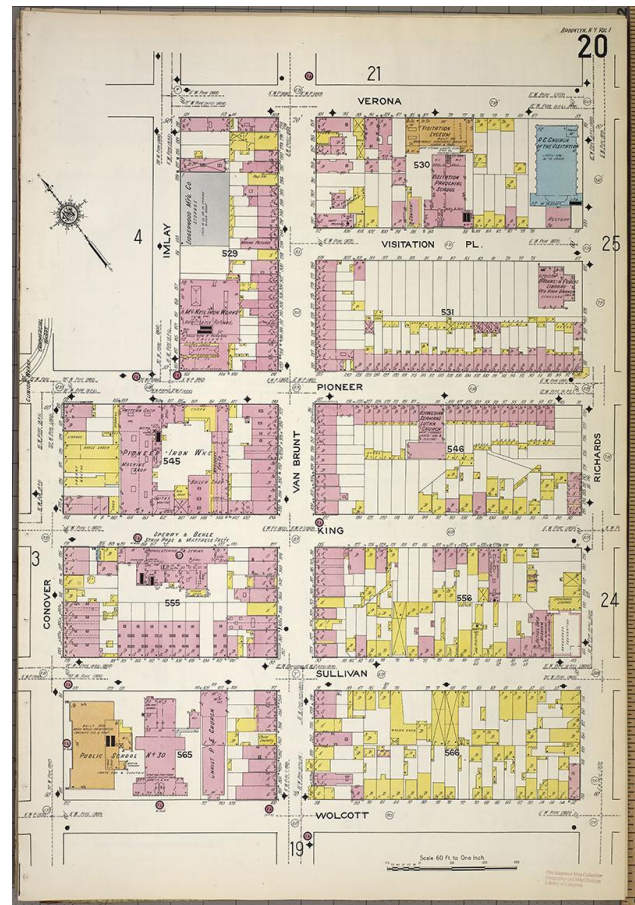


James A. Kelly collection

**Art, Artifact, and
Photograph Collections
Portal (Former BHS)**



Sanborn Map, Fire Insurance Maps Online,
Brooklyn Navy Yard, 1904



Sanborn Map, Fire Insurance Maps Online,
Red Hook, 1915

MAP COLLECTIONS

Brooklyn Historical Society's map collections include over 1,500 maps depicting the five boroughs, New York City, Long Island, New England, and beyond. Explore digitized historical maps spanning the seventeenth century to the present online.

[Explore the collection >](#)



A map of a tract of land called the Nyash Patent, lying within the limits of the town of New Utrecht in the county of Kings, surveyed the 26th day of May 1804 and protracted according to the magnetical meridian by a scale of eight chains to an inch, [1918]

ORAL HISTORY COLLECTIONS

Brooklyn Historical Society's oral history collections now include over 1,200 interviews. The following collections contain interviews whose audio, and in some cases transcripts, can be accessed online. [Learn how to use this portal.](#)

[Read more about all the collections.](#) →

GRID LIST

AIDS/Brooklyn Oral History Project collection

1992-1993 (1993.001)

17 interviews



Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation oral histories

2007-2008 (2008.030)

39 interviews



Brooklyn Heights Synagogue oral histories

2010 (2011.005)

8 interviews



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Oral History Portal

CANDIDATES FOR MAJOR OFFICES



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ALICE MARON — Assistant to Chairman of English Dept.; Key room squad; Pres. of official class.

SYLVIA TOFF — Senior Sing Secretary; Junior and Senior Arista; News Staff of HIGHWAY.

Elections

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 6)
members but is awarded to the candidate who places second in each of

the four races for governor. The aspirants to gubernatorial and major posts when interviewed by the Board were required to discuss their ideas, and to answer questions

concerning SGO activities. They were rated either one, three or five, one being the best score. Those students with the lowest cumulative total were named as candidates.

Drama Workshop Presents Play As Special Assembly Program

Cast in order of appearance:
Marica Paula Pederman
Teresa Teresa Sloan
Raquel Maxine Cohen
Andres Carol Hanan
Chelo Roy Goldman
Robert Joyce
Richard Lucky
Nathan Petschenik



Photo by Steve Cagan

PLAYERS: Carol Hanan and Roy Goldman.

Under the direction of Mr. Chester E. Fulmer of the English Department, the Drama Workshop presented "The Ring of Macis," a play by Josephine Niggli, to the assemblies on Thursday and Friday, December 4th and 5th.

"The action in "The Ring of Macis" occurs during the Mexican War and is concerned with the major characters: Raquel, her sister-in-law, Marica, and the rebel peasant, Andres, who breaks into their home. Its principal theme is how Raquel exemplifies courage and bravery not only in preventing Marica from committing suicide, but also in preserving her husband's honor.

Two separate casts were used in the production in order to give as many students as possible the opportunity to perform. Carol Moss, a member of the group, was responsible for the costuming of the characters.

"The Importance of Being Earnest" by Oscar Wilde. This will be performed in the spring term. Auditions for Wilde's comedy took place during the week of December 8th, when all Madison students were invited to try out for the various roles.

Student Government Revises Constitution

At a meeting of both the AM and PM House of Representatives on Friday, December 5, Madison's outdated Constitution was revised. The presidents of all official classes in the main building and the annex voted by the required two-thirds vote to amend the Constitution by the adoption of the following requirements for candidacy in the student government.

1. Students must have a general average of 80 per cent in order to be eligible to run for office.
2. Students must meet at least two of the following requirements:
 - a. Students must not have failed more than one major subject.
 - b. Students must have served at least one year as either official class officer, cabinet member, governor or lieutenant governor.
 - c. Students must have at least two major services to the school in addition to the aforementioned — deemed satisfactory by the faculty advisers to those activities and the Commissioners of Elections.

The new amendments make more definite what the Election Board requires of the SGO aspirants.

Term Papers

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 2)
paper's Editor-in-Chief and Mr. Howard Goldberg is faculty adviser. The Editor-in-Chief of the freshman publication "Zyzle" is Connie Singer. "Zyzle" is footnoted "The Last Word." Mr. Julian Olkin is faculty adviser.

15th Year
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REGENTS SCHEDULE . . . JANUARY '59

MONDAY January 19 9:15 A.M.	TUESDAY January 20 9:15 A.M.	WEDNESDAY January 21 9:15 A.M.	THURSDAY January 22 9:15 A.M.
American History & World Backgrounds	English 4 years Math. 10th Year Bus. Arith.	Inter. Algebra Adv. Algebra Bookkeeping II	Trigonometry Bus. Law
1:15 P.M. French 2 years Spanish 2 years	1:15 P.M. Biology Chemistry	1:15 P.M. French 3 years Spanish 3 years	1:15 P.M. NONE

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Explore >> Brooklyn Collection, Brooklyn Public Library



Brooklyn Collection, Brooklyn Public Library

Archive-IT Partner Since: Oct, 2017

Organization Type: [Public Libraries & Local Governments](#)

Organization URL: <https://www.bklynlibrary.org/brooklyncollection>

Description: Brooklyn Public Library's Brooklyn Collection documents the history of Brooklyn from pre-colonial times to the present. A unique resource for the study of Brooklyn's social and cultural history, the Brooklyn Collection is a distinct division of Central Library, and is BPL's only collection of archival and rare book material. Founded in 1997 as a small book collection attached to the Library's History Division, it has become the world's largest public archive for the study of Brooklyn's social and cultural history in the 19th and 20th centuries. We are part of the [Community Webs](#) program. Submit suggestions for Brooklyn-related web content we should collect using [this form](#).

Narrow Your Results

Subject

Sort By: **Count** | (A-Z)

- Society & Culture (5)
- Arts & Humanities (3)
- Government - Cities (3)
- Blogs & Social Media (2)
- Universities & Libraries (2)

More ▼

Sites and collections from this organization are listed below. Narrow your results at left, or enter a search query below to find a collection, site, specific URL or to search the text of archived webpages.

Search

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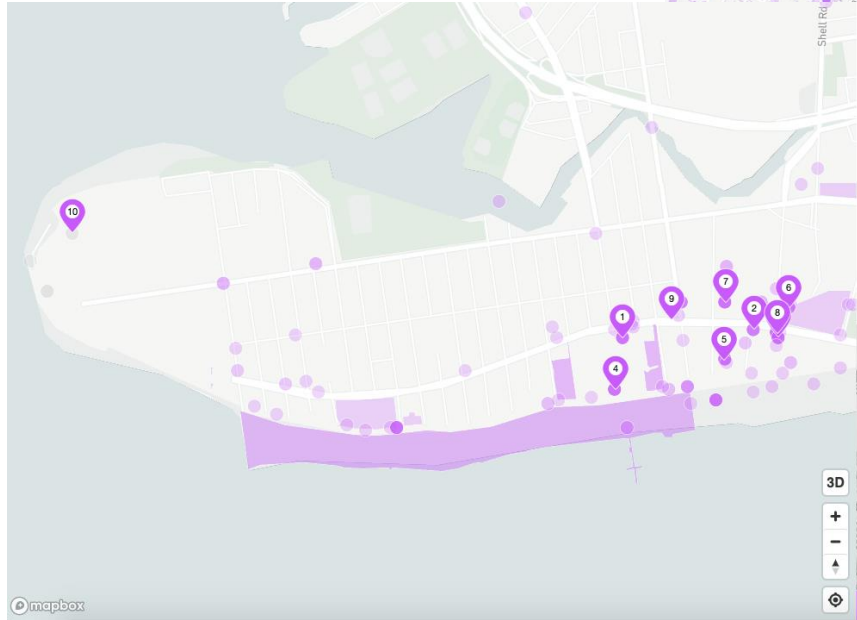
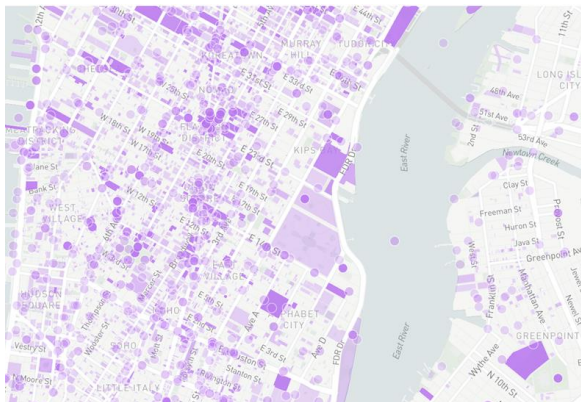
Collections

Sites

Search Page Text

Page 1 of 1 (7 Total Results)

Web archive



Search Urban Archive Log In

CITY STORY

Coney Island, Baby!

By Brooklyn Collection Share

April 7, 2020

Take a quick trip to the beach 🏖️ and check out the historic amusements, long-standing landmarks 🏛️, and quirky events 🎪 of Coney Island as captured by the Brooklyn Daily Eagle newspaper.

1 Steeplechase Park

1952

URBAN ARCHIVE ABOUT

COLLECTION

Center for Brooklyn History

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The Center for Brooklyn History represents a merger between [Brooklyn Public Library's](#) Brooklyn Collection and Brooklyn Historical Society's collections, exhibitions, and programming, including [educational initiatives](#) and public programs from both organizations. The Center strives to democratize access to Brooklyn's history and is dedicated to expanding and diversifying representation of the history of the borough by unifying resources and expertise, and broadening reach and impact throughout Brooklyn and beyond.



The Rappin' Rep: The Life and Work of Major Owens

By Center for Brooklyn History

22 hours ago #LEADERSHIP

Jane's Walk (From Home): Gowanus

By Center for Brooklyn History

12 days ago #JANESWALKNYC

Irving Herzberg and the Plane Crash of 1960

By Center for Brooklyn History

[Introduction](#) / [Gradual Emancipation](#) / [Abolitionist Brooklyn](#) / [Crisis Decade](#) / [Civil War & Beyond](#) / [Timeline](#)



In Pursuit of Freedom explores Brooklyn's anti-slavery movement from the end of the American Revolution to the early days of Reconstruction through photographs, census records, anti-slavery and local newspapers, maps and more.



A Center for Brooklyn History, Weeksville Heritage Center & Irontdale Ensemble Project collaboration



Click here to learn about a consortium of projects funded by the U.S. Department of Education Underground Railroad Educational and Cultural Program

**In Pursuit of Freedom,
digital exhibition**

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Research Guides

About ▾

Public Programs ▾

Our Collections ▾

Projects & Exhibitions ▾

Education ▾

What are research guides?

A research guide answers the question: What material does the Center for Brooklyn History have about . . . ? For example, many researchers ask: What material do you have about the history of my house? Answer: We have a research guide that summarizes the archival collections at CBH relating to housing and building research.

Do research guides include all the resources available at CBH on a particular subject?

No. Research guides typically focus on text-based archival material. CBH has many resources readily available to researchers in the Library & Archives — such as books, photographs, and maps — but these are not detailed in each guide. The research guides will provide suggestions about these other resources, but will not specifically identify them as they do for archival material.

More research guides are coming!

Our staff is always creating and revising research guides to facilitate your research. If you would like to suggest a research guide that doesn't already exist, please email us.

Interested in tutorials to search our databases?

We've created tutorials on how to navigate some of our most used digital resources, access them below.

- [Searching Brooklyn Newsstand](#)

Research Projects and Online Exhibitions

Brooklyn stories from the Center for Brooklyn History's archives, brought to life on the web.

[View here](#)

COVID-19 Project

Learn about our work collecting digital content for our COVID-19 archive.

[View here](#)

youtube.com/brooklynology

The image shows a screenshot of the YouTube channel page for 'brooklynology'. At the top, the YouTube logo and a search bar are visible. The channel banner features a black and white photograph of a marquee sign with the text 'STRAND JOIN THE WORLD AND SEE THE WORLD'S GREATEST STARS HERE COMES THE NAVY JAMES CAGNEY PAT O'BRIEN GLORIA STUART'. Below the banner, the channel name 'brooklynology' is displayed with a blue circular profile picture containing the 'Bklyn Public Library' logo and '302 subscribers'. Two blue buttons, 'CUSTOMIZE CHANNEL' and 'YOUTUBE STUDIO', are positioned to the right. A navigation menu below the channel name includes 'HOME', 'VIDEOS', 'PLAYLISTS', 'CHANNELS', 'DISCUSSION', and 'ABOUT'. The main content area shows a video player for 'Introduction to the Brooklyn Collection' with a thumbnail image of the Brooklyn Public Library building. The video player includes a progress bar at 0:02 / 5:34 and control icons. To the right of the video player, the video title 'Introduction to the Brooklyn Collection' is followed by '3,728 views · 8 years ago' and a description: 'Welcome to the Brooklyn Collection, the local history division of the Brooklyn Public Library. Enjoy this introduction to the resources we offer and the services we provide.'

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Library

Brooklyn Collection

Bklyn
Public Library

brooklynology
302 subscribers

CUSTOMIZE CHANNEL

YOUTUBE STUDIO

HOME VIDEOS PLAYLISTS CHANNELS DISCUSSION ABOUT

Introduction to the Brooklyn Collection

BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY

BROOKLYN COLLECTION

Film Collection

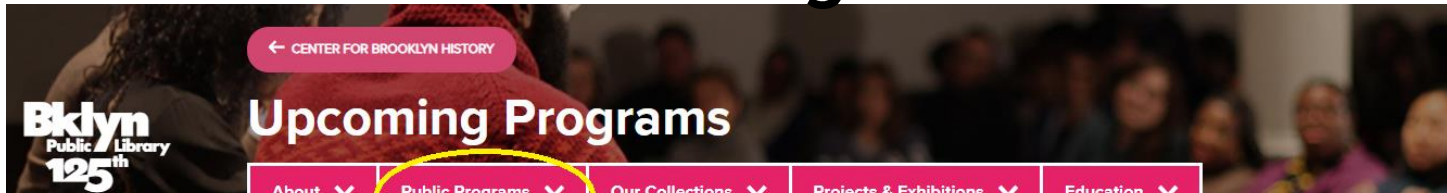
0:02 / 5:34






Introduction to the Brooklyn Collection

3,728 views · 8 years ago

Welcome to the Brooklyn Collection, the local history division of the Brooklyn Public Library. Enjoy this introduction to the resources we offer and the services we provide.

Virtual Programs





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-  More

The Center for Brooklyn History is proud to offer weekly virtual programs. See what's coming up here!

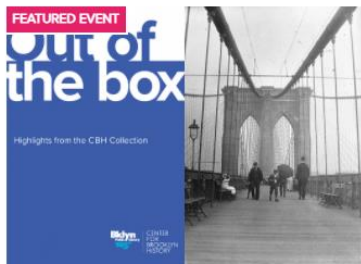
Upcoming

Out of the Box: Brooklyn in 1896

 Thu, Mar 17  6:30 pm to 7:30 pm  Virtual

[bpl 125](#) [bpl presents](#) [center for brooklyn history](#) [conversations](#)

The Center for Brooklyn History marks BPL's 125th Anniversary with a special series showcasing our remarkable archives and collections. Join experts, eyewitnesses, and CBH staff as they uncover gems...



Lenapehoking: The Tenacious Myth of the Purchase of Manhattan

 Thu, Mar 24  6:30 pm to 7:30 pm  Virtual

[bpl presents](#) [center for brooklyn history](#) [lenapehoking](#) [virtual programming](#)

This discussion, presented in connection with the 2022 Lenapehoking exhibition at Brooklyn Public Library, brings together the Lenape Center's Joe Baker and Hadrien Coumans with indigenous lawyer and...



Educator Resources

Free Digital Curriculum, Lesson Plans, and More!

About ▾

Public Programs ▾

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 BPL Presents

 More

Dig deep into the history of Brooklyn with our free digital curricula and lesson plans. Here you will find classroom ready resources on a wide variety of local history topics. Explore curriculum kits designed to give educators everything they need to plan units on history topics, from innovative lesson plans that draw on primary sources to a comprehensive teacher's guide and more.



(Re)connecting Brooklyn's History: Event Booklets & Recordings

(Re)connecting Brooklyn's History is CBH Education's history series where introduce middle and high school students and educators to historians and scholars whose work looking at Brooklyn's past relates to issues taught in the classroom. After each historian talk, we make a recording of the event as well as companion booklets rich with resources and lesson plans available. All can be used in the classroom. Explore them [here](#).



Bats, Balls, Nets & Hoops: Stories of Sports in Brooklyn

The history of sports in Brooklyn provides an intriguing window on enduring issues in American history, from civil rights to urbanization. Using case studies examining baseball legend Jackie Robinson, 1940s African-American track star Mary DeSaussure Sobers, Prospect Park as a locus of play and basketball's roots in Brooklyn long before the Nets, these lessons will build upon children's fascination with sports to explore the way athletics have always been more than simple games. Find it [here](#).



Books by the Young Scholars

From the amusements of Coney Island to the sewers beneath our feet, explore the wide range of books written by the students of the Young Scholars program. These books are the result of students in 4th-12th

✉ Education News from the Center for Brooklyn History

Sign up to receive our monthly Open Book Educator Alert email newsletter! We share events and resources from CBH and from cultural institutions across New York City.

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African American History Resources

The Center for Brooklyn History has educational resources for students and educators looking to center the stories of Black Brooklynites throughout history and in conjunction with a wide variety of subject areas. We've put together a page of resources that use archival sources from our collection and combine with them document-based questions, lesson plans, and activities so they are ready for teachers to use.

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