

Archeology Committee Agenda 12-1-2025

1. Any response to my CAG email requesting photos for Michael & Rachel's Instagram account? Instagram is "Gowanus Archeology" (there is an underline in there!). Joan and Peter sent materials.
 - a) Michael will explore Brooklyn Eagle's archive for materials
 - b) update on Peter & his wife's work.
 - c) VOG archive? And the archive Jason found? Update.
 - d) We did not get to discuss this link that Jason shared with Joan after the last meeting:
NYC's Municipal Archives has photos of Gowanus, in case the committee wasn't aware/hasn't tapped it as a resource.
Here's a link to what came up when I put "Gowanus Canal" into the search engine: <https://nycrecords.access.preservica.com/?pg=2&s=gowanus+canal> The photos are very good. Take a look.
 2. Check status of the Storyboard with Aaron. Chronical Heritage is working on setting up an account with a platform for activity. So coming along.
 3. Johnny Thornton (Arts Gowanus), Sasha (Proteus Gowanus), & Emily (also of Arts Gowanus) are open to us sharing material for the Walkabout Tour. We will start with the artifacts pulled from the Canal and discussed that materials should, as much as possible, include a LOCATION. We will follow up for how-to's for the QR code stuff on a walking tour. Peter will fill us in when he gets back from traveling.
 4. *Through its Gowanus Neighborhood Art Advisory Committee (GNAAC) initiative, Arts Gowanus has made significant inroads working with developers to incorporate public art installations (majority of them by Brooklyn-based artists) at 7-8 sites along the Gowanus Waterfront Esplanade; these projects are currently under review by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)." Let's see if Johnny can come to one of our meetings.*
 5. Reach out to Brooklyn College Museum Studies Program and to Pratt's archeology team in the Fall to see if there are any opportunities there. (This was Joan's action item, not done yet.) Keep an eye on the Union St Library on Clinton Street to see when it opens (not yet).
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These items from the February meeting are out there to keep in mind but were not discussed.

6. explore grants – (can this work with Sasha's work?)
7. explore funding possibilities (Can our City Council member fund a space like the Coignet Building?)
8. Keep thinking about spaces for exhibits (temporary or permanent) including Arts Gowanus, new GCC space, Thomas Greene Park community center, Brooklyn Public Library
9. Approach Dept of Cultural Affairs and/or Dept of Arts
10. We have good intellectual control because we have all the history of the objects that have been retrieved.
11. Work on Provenance, ownership.
12. Safe storage (fundraiser?). Some storage conditions currently are good, others need work.
13. We need to have a way to ensure physical security of the objects both on exhibit and when not on exhibit (this combines storage issues with fundraising).
14. Digital is easy and there is a market for that. Mary wishes there were more history of the Canal out there but we do have Joseph who is THE historian for Gowanus' long and important history.