

# PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY NEWSLETTER

*September 2019*

*Issue 182*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear All,

Several months have passed since the May PANYC program, and it was a good one indeed! Congratulations to Meredith Linn and the Public Program Committee for doing such a wonderful job!! Apparently there were 110 attendees, a substantial number, who seemed interested and engaged with the speakers and their subjects that focused on workers' lives. The discussion that followed, moderated by Sharon Wilkins, was quite lively and Sharon was wonderful: smart and organized...who could ask for anything more! And questions from the audience were really good. All in all, another successful PANYC Public Program, our 39th! The museum is to be thanked and congratulated...especially Tracy McFarlan who was the mover and doer on the museum's side.

Our May meeting, which came after the public program, touched on many topics, among them an update on our campaign to raise the awareness of the LPC regarding 19th-century archaeological resources in its purview (currently the LPC institutionally addresses only those from the 18th century). Linda, Kevin, Anna, and Lynn have volunteered and contributed to the effort and I am extremely grateful. I'm hoping for additional volunteers to help keep it going. The input is both helpful and important if admittedly somewhat time consuming.

One non-archaeological issue that PANYC recently weighed in on because of its importance to the fabric and history of the city is the potential to landmark 227 Duffield Street (see letter on page 14). The sole survivor of the street's houses, it currently is in danger of demolition. This unpretentious structure, the home of known abolitionists, may have played a key role in the local Underground Railroad. While this can neither be confirmed nor denied, the structure is symbolic of the movement and, I believe you would agree, deserves to be saved and recognized as a historical and cultural landmark. Perhaps something to be discussed.

I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday the 24th.

All the best,

Joan Geismar, PANYC President

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# PANYC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 27, 2019 | 6:30 PM

Neighborhood Preservation Center

232 East 11th Street, New York, New York

**PRESENT:** Britt, Cantwell, Geismar, George, Jansson, Linn, Martin, MacLean, Meade, Rakos, Stone, Wall

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Geismar began by thanking everyone for accommodating the change of date. Her report is in the March Newsletter. (Note, the president's report in the newsletter says there will be 3 newsletters but there will be only 2 per year - March and September.)

Geismar then announced that the RPA has asked for input on their current standards of research performance. Martin will send out the RPA email to members. Members present suggest that individuals can respond on their own and then PANYC, as an organization, should respond as well.

Geismar also described how PANYC is now a member of the Coalition for American Heritage. They will include our logo on their website as we are now partners but our logo is vertical and needs to be changed to horizontal. The changes and ideas are discussed. The committee (Rakos and Geismar) will keep working on the suggestions.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Spritzer is absent so Geismar gave the report. The total assets are \$4685.41. Spritzer has changed the bank account from Capital One to TD Bank as the Capital One branch we've been using is closing. There are 37 paid members. There are 5 members who are past due for a few years and will be notified that they aren't official members anymore. Martin will notify them.

Stone asked about the low cost of the GoDaddy payment (\$9.99.) Britt believed that there is a chance that this is the monthly cost instead of yearly cost and that GoDaddy is now being paid on a month-by-month basis. The website committee is looking to make a change.

The treasurer's report was accepted.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ARCHIVES COMMITTEE:** Linn said that she will send around the login information for the PANYC Dropbox. Any electronic files that people have for PANYC could be placed in our Dropbox.

**AWARDS COMMITTEE:** Cantwell said there were no nominations this year. Members decided to use this time to honor Ralph Solecki. There is a committee to make this short presentation for Ralph (Wall, Cantwell, Geismar). It will be 1 picture and a few sentences on a powerpoint slide.

**LANDMARKS COMMITTEE:** Linn and Geismar recently met with Sarah Carroll, Chair, Mark Silberman, Counsel, Lisa Kersavage, now the Executive Director, and Amanda Sutphin, Director of Archaeology. Geismar reported that the meeting was very cordial though nothing has changed in the way the LPC considers archaeology, at least not so far.

# MARCH 2019 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED):

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Meade suggested that PANYC could lay out specific guidelines or ideas about this request to help them. From the meeting Linn noted that they were fine with suggestions regarding the 18th century and before but that the 19th century is not of interest to them. Linn saw them as sympathetic but not proactive. There is a letter in the March newsletter with further details.

Additionally, the LPC committee has been quite proactive recently, checking on properties that are on calendared to be heard. Jansson and Stone each spent a month checking the lists. They would send their concerns to Geismar as chair of the committee who would then make the commissioners aware either by going to the hearing or by letter. Geismar believes that going to the meetings is most useful but also time-consuming. If any members are willing to participate in the pre-hearing review, it would be helpful. It is a simple task done from on the computer. Contact Geismar or Martin for more information.

Following on the conversation about 19th century properties, Britt asked if there are tax incentives for homeowners. Perhaps LPC is not the best place to talk to about this. The mayor, comptroller, and public advocate were suggested by Stone and Cantwell as options. Could PANYC advocate for the creation of an incentive? Stone has been working on how best to contact community boards in affected neighborhoods. She asked for a form letter of introduction from PANYC to send to board leaders. This letter would ask if there is someone who would like to become more involved in preservation advocacy for their community. The advocacy committee took up this issue and Britt will try to contact them later this spring.

**MEMBERS:** New member Kevin Wiley was voted in unanimously. Welcome!

**MAS:** Members of the MAS Preservation Committee and Elizabeth Goldstein, MAS President, recently visited the Repository. Geismar thanked MacLean for her wonderful tour and reported the group was very enthusiastic.

**NEWSLETTER:** Thank you to Elizabeth Meade for another fantastic issue. As mentioned in the president's report, members agreed that the newsletter will be issued twice a year (March and September.)

The issue of when and how to describe recent work for an announcements section of the newsletter was discussed. CRM archaeologists cannot send out announcements until after the work is completed. It seems that there will be more information for Meade to include in the September issue.

**NYSAA/NYAC:** the Spring meeting, jointly held with NYSAA, is April 26-28 in Johnstown, NY. The NYAC meeting focuses on "Native American Consultation Practices."

**PARKS:** As discussed at the January meeting, Geismar contacted Sybil Young about providing a list of ALL archaeologists to city's contractors. Young is planning to be in contact with Geismar soon about this.

**PUBLIC PROGRAM:** Linn announced that PANYC's upcoming Public Program is on May 8th at 6:30pm at the Museum of the City of New York (MCNY). It looks very interesting. Title: "Uncovering the Lost Lives of Workers: The Archaeology of Labor." She handed out a flier for circulation. The discount code applies to anyone. Please share with interested parties.

# MARCH 2019 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED):

Linn also said that the MCNY has offered 10 free tickets to students. Those with students who are interested in attending are asked to submit their names to Linn a week before the program so she can provide a list to the museum. If there are more than 10 students we would like to know soon so that Linn can inquire if there could be a few more tickets. If not, PANYC will cover those students.

Stone mentioned there is a program email list on our website that should be emailed as well. Linn will get that information and email those individuals. She also plans to provide our own sign-up sheet at the program entrance table. Thank you to Meredith Linn for all your work on this program!

Website: Stone, Britt and Rakos met recently They as a committee like the WIX option for web platform and design. It is about \$150 a year and is more malleable than other options. They are still in need of photos. They are hoping to have the website done this summer.

## OLD BUSINESS:

From MacLean, a Brick and Mortar (and oysters) event will be in the fall. George offered to look into booking a space for the program at Fordham Lincoln Center.

## NEW BUSINESS:

Geismar will send Martin an email asking PANYC members to send memories of Ralph Solecki to Steve Wick, editor of the Suffolk Times. Member Joel Klein has indicated Ralph and Fort Corchaug are a big deal on the North Fork.

The next meeting is Tuesday May 21, 2019.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.



# PANYC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2019 | 6:30 PM

Neighborhood Preservation Center

232 East 11th Street, New York, New York

**PRESENT:** Cantwell, Geismar, Jansson, Linn, MacLean, Martin, Rakos, Spritzer, Stone, Wall

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Geismar reported to members that there is an almost final logo for CAH (Coalition for American Heritage). The board has one additional edit but otherwise it is approved pending the viewing of said changes. The board will vote on the final version and send it out for members to view.

Some members had just come from Ralph Solecki's memorial so there was a quick discussion about it. They reported that it was a wonderful tribute to him and his adventurous spirit.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Spritzer reported that PANYC has changed banks to TD Bank and it is working out well. There are 41 members for 2018, 12 members have paid for 2019 so far. We have a total of \$4581.71.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**LANDMARKS COMMITTEE:** Geismar thanked all of the non-committee members who helped look up properties of interest on the calendar since the last meeting. Also, Geismar reported that she now sends letters directly to Sarah Carroll, the Commissioner, instead of to an assistant which means Carroll personally responds to those letters.

Linn asked if it is true that testimony is more important than writing letters, as Geismar has said in the past, then should we send out an email to PANYC members asking if any of them would like to testify for us? Members thought this would be helpful and Geismar offered to write the testimony for the member if they have able to go testify. Rakos announced that there is a meeting in June on a property at 84 Sullivan Street. Two future letters to Sarah Carroll were then dis-cussed. Rakos suggested that we could send a letter to her offering next-steps ideas and mean-ings behind what we find important about 19th century properties in a letter to the commission as well. Geismar will also write a letter to Carroll about pot-hunters and looters. Rakos agreed to look at the June calendar to write a targeted email to members asking for volunteers to help with looking at the calendar over the summer.

**MET CHAPTER, NYSAA:** Recent changes at the Met Chapter: there are two new co-presidents of the Met Chapter: Meredith Linn and Jessica MacLean. (Thank you and congratulations.) Also, Spritzer has resigned as treasurer. Wall has the money from the bank account and will notify the presidents of these changes.

**NYAC:** Stone reported that the last program was on Native American consultation and was very well-received. They believe that the next two meetings in the fall and spring will be on connected topics as well. Stone is not sure what has happened with the by-laws. The fall meeting will be upstate as usual.

**PARKS:** Linn updated that Marie Warsh is continuing the project of making signs about Seneca Village and is also working with the local community boards. Stone asked if Warsh might be a good moderator for next year's public program? All present were interested in that as an idea.

# MAY 2019 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

## COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED):

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Additionally, Sybil Young has been contacted about putting a list of archaeologists up on the bulletin board near the contractors and she has responded that it is on hold with the law department but it is being considered.

**PUBLIC PROGRAM:** All present say thank you to Linn for all of her hard work on the program. It was well organized, interesting and well-attended. Linn thanked all for the help with the program and also for the good systems put in place in previous years for her to work with by Rakos, Stone and Rothschild.

However, Linn said she had about 30 letters returned to her and asked if we need to keep doing the mailing by post or can we move completely to digital communications?

The list of attendees was then discussed. The museum won't share their list of email attendees with us and we tried to collect our own data but it did not work out. It is decided that next year a PANYC member will be placed at the check-in and officially ask for contact information from all attendees.

**WEBSITE:** Stone updated members that Britt is going to work with Stone and Rakos over the summer. They are still looking for photographs. MacLean suggested an email to Sutphin requesting excavation photos that are being scanned at the repository.

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## OLD BUSINESS:

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MacLean reported that the Brick and Mortar program will be done as a joint Met Chapter event in the fall along with the documentary that Arnold Pickman and Wendy Harris created. And, there will be a third Met Chapter program on Oyster Pots as well.

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## NEW BUSINESS:

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Linn brought up quickly Britt's idea that we could make a panel for the next SHA in Boston in January. Members were interested to know more and Britt will be contacted.

The meeting dates for next year were then chosen. They are:

*Tuesday September 24, 2019*  
*Wednesday November 13, 2019*  
*Thursday January 23, 2020*  
*Tuesday March 24, 2020*  
*Wednesday May 20, 2020*

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The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

# Highlights from the 2019 PANYC Public Program

*By Meredith Linn, PANYC President Elect and Public Program Committee Chair*

PANYC's 39th Annual Public Program took place at the Museum of the City of New York (MCNY) on the evening of Wednesday, May 8th. This year's theme, "Uncovering the Lost Lives of Workers: The Archaeology of Labor," coordinated with the museum's exhibition "City of Workers, City of Struggle" that had opened a few days prior. This was the first time that PANYC had intentionally planned our program to expand upon one of the museum's exhibitions. Our three speakers each gave thought-provoking short presentations that demonstrated what archaeology can reveal about the lives of working people that we cannot access through text alone. First, Meta Janowitz spoke about Manhattan's stoneware pottery makers in the 18th and 19th centuries. She emphasized the importance of archaeological context and skillfully connected the microhistories of the Crolius and Remmey families to the macrohistory of the city. Next, Jean Howson spoke about workers' living conditions in the 19th century, focusing on backyard sanitation features. She highlighted several unusual features encountered at different sites in the region that reveal

workers' creative strategies to improve the conditions of their yards, and thus their lives. Finally, Alanna Warner-Smith, a doctoral student at Syracuse University, spoke about skeletal remains of Irish-born individuals in the George S. Huntington Anatomical Collection. She explained how their bones revealed the different kinds of hard work they performed during their lifetimes, work that quite literally shaped their bodies. Following the presentations, Sharon Wilkins, Deputy Borough Historian of Manhattan, moderated a question and answer session, first putting some of her own thought-provoking questions to the candidates and then eliciting additional questions from the large and enthusiastic audience. More than 80 people registered in advance for the program and there was an excellent turnout. I'd like to extend a big thank you to our presenters and moderator, Tracy McFarlan (Public Programs Manager) and her colleagues at the MCNY, and the public program committee members (Joan Geismar, Lynn Rakos, and Linda Stone) for making this year's program a success!



*Meta Janowitz discussing the Crolius Family, early Manhattan potters*



*Jean Howson discussing workers' 19th century sanitary conditions*



*Alanna Warner-Smith talking about what can be learned through human osteological analysis*



*A moment during the discussion that followed the talks. Left to right: Meta Janowitz, Alanna Warner-Smith, Jean Howson, and moderator Sharon Wilkins.*

# RALPH SOLECKI TRIBUTE

*Presented by Joan Geismar at the PANYC Public Program*

*May 19, 2019*

Ralph Solecki was a teacher, colleague and friend to Anne Marie Cantwell, Diana Wall, and me who prepared this tribute on behalf of PANYC.

Today we are honoring the memory of Ralph Solecki who, in 1980, was PANYC's first president. Ralph died this year on March 20th at the age of 101. He was a professor at Columbia for many years and was world-renowned for his archaeological work at Neanderthal sites. Excavating at Shanidar Cave in Iraq in the 1950s, his discoveries showed that Neanderthals expressed compassion in tending the sick and injured and may even have buried their dead with flowers. As he himself said about the Neanderthals, "although the body was archaic, the spirit was modern."

Ralph Solecki began his archaeological career as a teenager excavating on Long Island in the 1930s. This was a time when there were no professional archaeologists working in New York City, and so he and his high school

friends worked to excavate and record sites that were about to be destroyed by development.

Ralph went on to work at Neanderthal sites in southwest Asia, where he and his wife, Rose, also an archaeologist, worked for many seasons. However, he never lost his interest in the archaeology of New York City.

After his retirement from Columbia, he revisited his field notes from sites he had excavated in the 1930s and published major monographs. He was not only the leading authority on 17th century encounters between Algonquian peoples and Europeans on Long Island, his work is also of paramount importance for any archaeologist or historian trying to understand the 17th century in coastal New York and throughout the Northeast.

We at PANYC are so grateful to Ralph not only for his knowledge but also for his kindness and generosity.

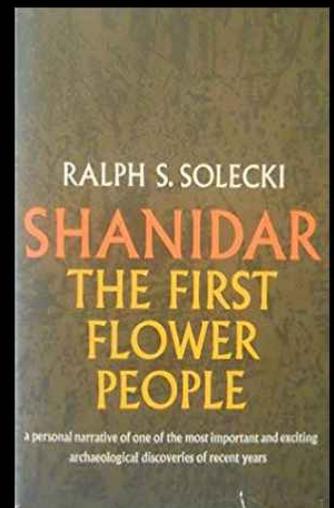


*PANYC President Joan Geismar presenting the tribute at the Public Program*



**Ralph Stefan  
Solecki**  
October 18, 1917  
March 20, 2019

*Dr. Ralph Solecki, who passed away at age 101, was honored at the 2019 Public Program*



# NEWS AND NOTES

## PANYC Members Receive Awards!

The documentary video "Where Slavery Died Hard: The Forgotten History of Ulster County and the Shawangunk Mountain Region," created by Wendy E. Harris and Arnold Pickman in collaboration with the Cragmoor Historical Society, has won both the Greater Hudson Heritage Award for Excellence and the Museum Association of New York Award for Merit for Innovation in Collection Access.

Anne-Marie Cantwell and Diana diZerega Wall are this year's recipients of the Alice P. Kenney Memorial Award from the New Netherland Institute. It was given "in recognition of their contribution to the understanding of the significance of the Dutch colonial experience in North America."

The Dermot Company has been awarded the American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA) Industry Award. The firm was nominated by Geoarchaeology Research Associates (GRA) in association with the development of the 21 West End tower at Riverside Center, which featured an extensive archaeological investigation completed by GRA.

Congrats to all!

## *Archaeology in the News*

The Washington Post recently highlighted the threat to archaeological sites that is posed by the construction of the border wall:

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/border-fence-construction-could-destroy-archaeological-sites-national-park-service-finds/2019/09/17/35338b18-d64b-11e9-9343-40db57cf6abd\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/immigration/border-fence-construction-could-destroy-archaeological-sites-national-park-service-finds/2019/09/17/35338b18-d64b-11e9-9343-40db57cf6abd_story.html)

"Untapped Cities" recently published a feature on New York City archaeology:

<https://untappedcities.com/2019/07/24/nyc-makers-a-qa-with-alyssa-loorya-principal-investigator-and-president-of-chrysalis-archaeology>

National Geographic's program, "Drain the Oceans: Secrets of New York City" recently featured New York City Archaeology:

<https://www.natgeotv.com/za/shows/natgeo/drain-the-oceans#episodes-t2>

Archaeological excavations are uncovering landfill sites in Philadelphia:

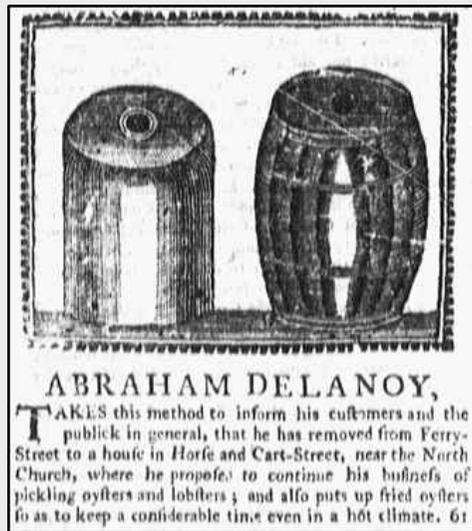
<https://www.inquirer.com/news/west-shipyard-riverfront-archaeology-durst-20190827.html>

# The NYSAA Met Chapter Returns!

*By Jessica MacLean and Meredith Linn, Co-Presidents*

We are pleased to announce that after an extended pause, the Metropolitan Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association is again active. Please join us for our exciting fall line-up of events, dedicated to the archaeology of the New York City region. October 2nd will feature a talk by Chris Pickerell, Marine Program Director at Cornell Cooperative Extension, about stoneware oyster jars, a distinctive ceramic form of the 18th and 19th century manufactured by NYC potters. On November 6th, the Met Chapter and PANYC will co-present a screening of the movie *Where Slavery Died Hard: The Forgotten History of Ulster County and the Shawangunk Mountain Region* and a conversation with the co-authors, archaeologists Wendy Harris and Arnold Pickman. December 4th's program will focus on the application of mortar analysis in archaeology, with a talk by geologist and petrographer John Walsh and Gabriela Figueroa, a recent graduate of the Historic Preservation program at Columbia University. Figueroa will present her recent analysis of mortar from the Stadt Huys and 7 Hanover Square archaeological excavations as a local case study. Thanks to the generosity of Fordham University's Department of Anthropology, each event will take place at Fordham's Lincoln Center campus (Lowenstein Building, Room 424) from 6:00–7:30 pm.

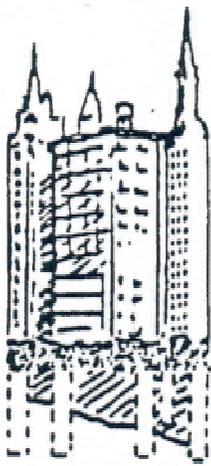
In the coming weeks, we will send invitations to old members to renew Chapter membership and, if you've never been a member before, we invite you to join. Membership registration and dues will be accepted at the October 2nd talk. You can, alternatively, contact one of us or Elizabeth Meade, who has graciously volunteered to be our Secretary. Treasurer wanted.



Stoneware oyster jar pictured (on left) in *Rivington's New York Gazette*, 1774

## *Recent PANYC Correspondence*

PANYC has been continuing its efforts to advocate for the protection of archaeological and cultural resources in New York City. Recent correspondence submitted by PANYC can be found on pages 11 through 14 of the newsletter.



Professional Archaeologists of New York City

April 29, 2019

The Honorable Sarah Carroll, Commissioner and Chair  
and Commissioners  
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission  
9 Centre Street - 9N  
New York, NY 10007

**PANYC**

Re: LPC-19-35682  
154 Court Street - Cobble Hill Historic District, Brooklyn  
Block 292 Lot 31

Dear Ms. Carroll and Commissioners,

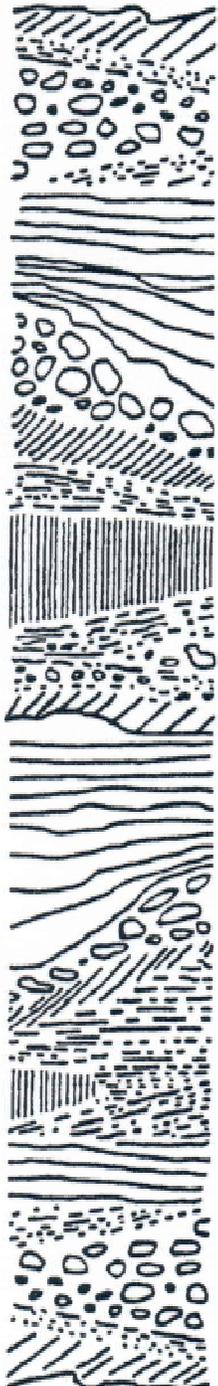
Once again, on behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC), I am bringing to your attention a potential archaeological issue. In this case, it is the above-referenced application that includes excavation of the northwest corner of the rear yard of this 1854 structure to rebuild an existing backyard extension. To do so may impact the possible location of the building's original privy pit. While only a possibility, it is yet another example of a potential archaeological issue that deserves the commission's attention. Given the age of the building, a privy pit undoubtedly was an original backyard feature, one of archaeological significance unless it can be determined that it was impacted in the past.

And yet again, let us point out that once abandoned and filled, the privy pit is an archaeological treasure trove of information pertaining to, in this case, the building's 19th-century occupants, one of whom was the builder and original occupant. This is in addition to the conditions surrounding the privy's abandonment and filling. And, once again, it is information only obtainable through archaeology—yet another example of a historic district with 19th century domestic structures where these features and the information they contain may be found. PANYC urges the commissioners to address the possible archaeological potential of this backyard—and others like it.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Joan H. Geismar  
PANYC President  
40 East 83 Street  
New York, NY 10028  
212 734-6512  
[joan.geismar@gmail.com](mailto:joan.geismar@gmail.com)



Professional Archaeologists of New York City

May 13, 2019

The Honorable Sarah Carroll, Commissioner and Chair  
and Commissioners  
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission  
9 Centre Street - 9N  
New York, NY 10007

Re: LPC-19-38595  
20 Verandah Place - Cobble Hill Historic District, Brooklyn  
Block 301 Lot 12

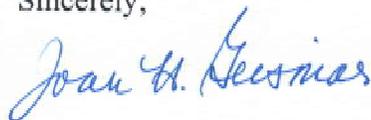
Dear Ms. Carroll and Commissioners,

On behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC), I am bringing to your attention yet another potential archaeological issue. In this case, it is the above-referenced application that calls for yard excavation adjacent to rear wall of the lot's c. 1857, two-story structure. Extending the rear portion of the building as planned may impact the possible location of its original water cistern. The Cobble Hill designation report indicates the building was originally a stable. Therefore, an associated cistern could provide unique information about its use and construction. Given the age of the building, a cistern undoubtedly was an original backyard feature, one of potential archaeological significance unless it can be determined that it was impacted in the past.

While typically less revealing than privy pit deposits, filled cisterns offer unprecedented information that, in this case, would pertain to the building's 19th-century use. This is in addition to conditions associated with its abandonment and filling. And, once again, it is information only obtainable through archaeology and is yet another example of a designated historic district with 19th century structures where features such as this and the information they contain may be found. PANYC urges the commissioners to consider and address the possible archaeological potential of this backyard and, yet again, others like it in the commission's purview.

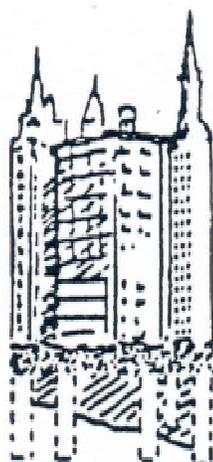
Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

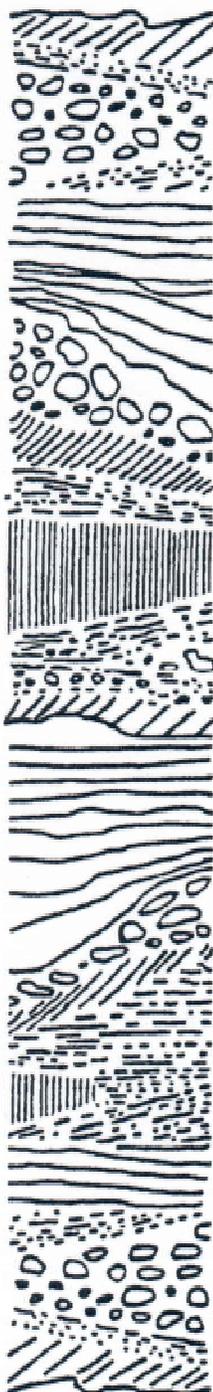


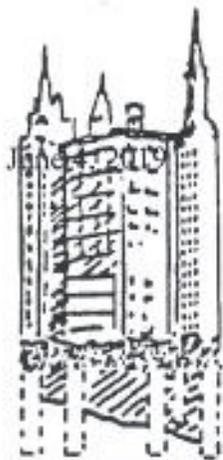
Joan H. Geismar  
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40 East 83 Street  
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Cc. Amanda Sutphin, LPC Director of Archaeology



**PANYC**





**PANYC**



## Professional Archaeologists of New York City

The Honorable Sarah Carroll, Commissioner and Chair, and Commissioners  
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission  
9 Centre Street - 9N  
New York, NY 10007

Re: LPC-19-39396

170 Joralemon Street, aka 57 Livingston Street, Brooklyn Heights Historic District  
Packer Collegiate Institute, Block 265 Lot 10

Dear Ms. Carroll and Commissioners,

On behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC), I bring the commission's attention to a potential archaeological issue. In this case, the above-referenced application to alter the existing mid-19th-century Garden House building and courtyard of the Packer Collegiate Institute campus.

The proposed alterations possibly will impact 19th-century features that remain within the school complex. While their location is less predictable here than on a domestic site, shaft features such as cisterns and/or a well and possibly multiple privy pits to accommodate school children and teaching staff undoubtedly were components of the 19th-century campus. This also is true of unknown features within the compound. We therefore recommend that a phase 1A study be initiated as it is possible that school records and other historical resources, components of 1A research, could identify and locate these features and determine if they might still remain. Based on this research, if warranted, field testing and mitigation should occur prior to construction.

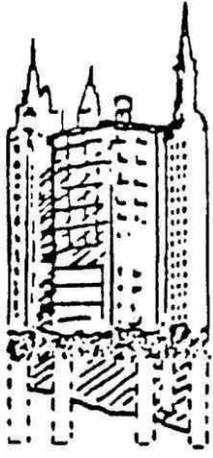
This project offers yet another example of a designated historic district with 19th century structures where archaeological features containing unique, irreplaceable information may be found. PANYC asks the commissioners to ensure that the archaeological component of this 19th-century site is considered. And, once again, PANYC urges the commission to institutionally embrace its responsibility to address appropriate 19th-century archaeological issues within its purview, those associated with structures erected prior to 1875 in Manhattan and at least 1880 in other boroughs.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Joan H. Geismar  
PANYC President  
40 East 83 Street  
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Cc. Amanda Sutphin, LPC Director of Archaeology



## Professional Archaeologists of New York City

August 28, 2019

The Honorable Sarah Carroll, Chair  
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission  
1 Centre Street 9N  
New York, NY 10007

**PANYC**

*Re: 227 Duffield Street (aka Abolitionist Place), Brooklyn*

Dear Ms. Carroll,

On behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC), I write to urge the Commission to calendar 227 Duffield Street for consideration as a New York City cultural landmark.

As the only surviving building on this Brooklyn street and block with a known association with the 19th-century abolition movement, it deserves recognition and the protection of its historical and cultural past. The association clearly could include serving as a “safe place” along the Underground Railroad. Beyond that, the building serves as a reminder of the role those who lived on this Brooklyn block and in this building played in American History. It also validates the street’s current name, Abolition Place. Its protection would afford the opportunity to one day become a cultural institution that documents an extraordinary historical past.

Without question, the building’s cultural and historical significance as well as its unique position as the lone survivor of an important historical movement contrasted with its seeming ordinariness is worthy of the protection Landmark status would provide.

Thank you for your consideration.

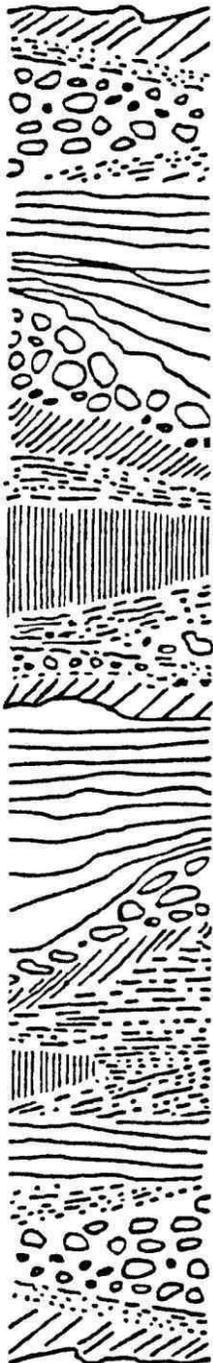
Sincerely,

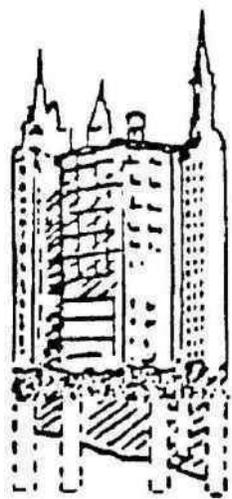
Joan H. Geismar  
PANYC President

40 East 83 Street  
New York, NY 10028

[Info@panycarchaeology.org](mailto:Info@panycarchaeology.org)

Cc. Lisa Kersavage, Executive Director, NYCLPC  
The Honorable Bill de Blasio, Mayor, New York City  
The Honorable Eric L Adams, Brooklyn Borough President





**PANYC**

**Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.**

# **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2019**

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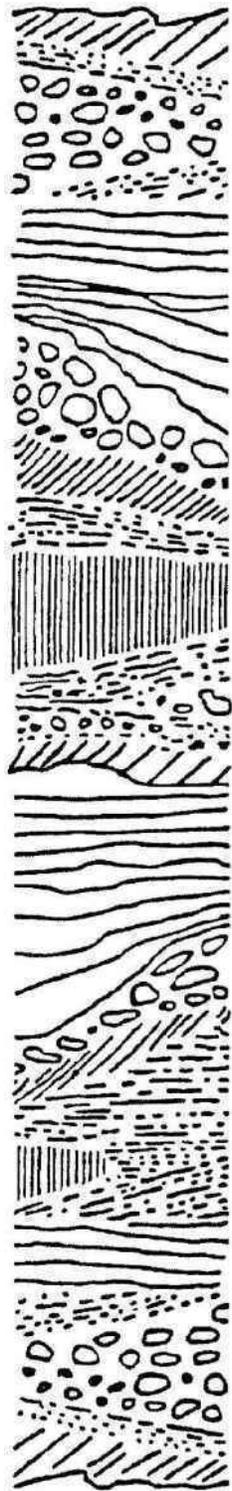
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**Please mail this form along with your check, made payable to PANYC, to:**

Shelly Spritzer, PANYC Treasurer  
301 East 76th Street, Apt. 14  
New York, NY 10021-2446

**In addition, please email a copy of your information and notice of submission of payment to PANYC Secretary Lizzie Martin at [lizziepmartin@gmail.com](mailto:lizziepmartin@gmail.com).**



# PANYC

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If you are interested in joining PANYC or if you would like to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter, please complete the form below and return it to:  
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To obtain information on how to become a member of PANYC, please fill out the form below and check your desired membership level. Membership is contingent upon submission of the application to the PANYC board and acceptance of the application by a majority of PANYC members during a vote taken at a general membership meeting. Non-members may apply to receive the newsletter as indicated below.

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