The Library As Digital Co-Laboratory



Ann Thornton The New York Public Library May 12, 2015







THE POST OFFICE, NEW YORK.



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EW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY TAL COLLECTIONS

Search keyword(s)

Collections > Photographic views of New York City, 1870's-1970's, from the collections of the New York Public Library



COLLECTION HISTORY

The New York City photograph collection began in the 1920s, not long after the opening of the new central library at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street. The goal was to document the changing face of New York City, with a particular emphasis on new building construction, and on the structures torn down and replaced. The method is clear in this 1937 progress report by librarian Sylvester L. Vigilante on obtaining photographs: "The old Union League Building and site was taken care of and the erection of the new building is being covered Through the newspapers and tips from interested people, we get a line on demolitions, events and street changes."





Bronx: 3rd Avenue - 144th Str..

mapwarper.nypl.org

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The NYPL Map Warper is a tool for digitally aligning ("rectifying") historical maps from the NYPL's collections to match today's precise maps. Visitors can browse already rectified maps or assist

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G.W. Bromley & Co. Atlas of ... Borough of Queens...

1909

Perris, William Maps of the City of New York 1857-1862

G.W. Bromley & Co. Atlas of... borough of Richmond... 1917

> Hopkins, Griffith Morgan ...Atlas of the city of Brooklyn... 1880

Bronx Topographic Bureau Topo survey... E. of the Bronx River. 1905









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NYC Space/Time Directory

CO-LABORATORY

Community Building

Innovation

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Libraries:

Build it together with users

Bring people in, let them access data/code

•Give them the resources, time, and space

Users:

•Trust the library as a smart partner

Want to give something back to the library

Are willing to experiment and learn

the library is a digital co-laboratory and digitization is only the

beginning

