

Landmarks Preservation Commission
May 18, 2004, Designation List 353
LP-2054

BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY, DEKALB BRANCH, 790 Bushwick Avenue (aka 1176 DeKalb Avenue), Brooklyn. Built 1905; William B. Tubby, architect.

Landmark Site: Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 3241, Lot 18.

On February 8, 2000, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation of the Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch, and the proposed designation of the related Landmark Site (Item No. 3). The hearing was duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of law. A representative of the Historic Districts Council spoke in favor of designation. The library sent a letter in support of designation. There were no speakers in opposition.

Summary

The Brooklyn Public Library's DeKalb Branch, located in Bushwick, was constructed in 1904-05 as one of the first branch libraries built in the Borough of Brooklyn with the money provided by Andrew Carnegie's multi-million dollar gift. The neighborhood's tremendous population growth during the last decade of the nineteenth and first decade of the twentieth century necessitated a variety of civic services including a public library. The DeKalb Branch was the first of five library designs by noted architect William B. Tubby, who served on the Architects' commission for the Brooklyn Carnegie branches. This building followed the stylistic guidelines agreed upon by that group: a free-standing, brick and limestone building in the Classical revival style. Its double-height windows provided much light and air for the users of the building while the rounded apse at the rear allowed for a spacious, two-story area for book stacks. Except when closed for renovations, the library has served this densely populated area of Brooklyn for a century, and with its recent refurbishing, continues to contribute a distinguished civic presence to the neighborhood.



DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

Brooklyn Libraries¹

Early in the nineteenth century, a number of small libraries and library associations (both free and subscription) were started in Brooklyn. The first seems to have been a commercial circulating library which was begun in 1809 by Joseph Pierson; around that same time the Brooklyn Union Sabbath School also made books available to its students. While neither of these endured, they represent the beginning of numerous attempts to create substantial collections of reading material for Brooklyn's growing population.

The first free library in Brooklyn was the Apprentices' Library, founded by Augustus Graham in 1823, and incorporated in 1824 as the Brooklyn Apprentices' Library Association. It was located in its own building on the corner of Henry and Cranberry Streets from 1825 until 1836 when it moved to the Brooklyn Lyceum.² In 1843, the Brooklyn Apprentices' Library Association broadened its scope of educational activities and changed its name to the Brooklyn Institute (later becoming the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Letters), while the library changed its name to the Youths' Free Library.

Near the middle of the nineteenth century, two other subscription or membership libraries were opened: the Brooklyn Athenaeum Library, and the Brooklyn Mercantile Library. Before long, these two organizations merged their administrations and both were housed in the Brooklyn Athenaeum on the corner of Atlantic and Clinton Streets. In 1867, ground was broken on Montague Street for a new building for the Mercantile Library Association; in 1878 its name was changed to The Brooklyn Library.³ The Brooklyn Library also operated the Eastern District (now Williamsburgh) branch, located on Bedford Avenue.

Another private library was started in 1867 by the Union for Christian Work, a relief organization founded in 1865. This private organization received part of its funds from the City of Brooklyn and thus the library was free for persons "of good character who were duly recommended."⁴ The library was given to the people of Brooklyn in 1882.

Throughout the 1880s and 1890s, The Brooklyn Library grew through gifts of money and private collections (of books, musical scores, etc.) This period also witnessed the development of a number of smaller libraries, both reading rooms and circulating collections, in different parts of Kings County. Examples included: the Long Island Free Library, a circulating library on Atlantic Avenue, near Flatbush, which was the largest of the local libraries; the Bay Ridge Free Circulating Library, begun in 1888 after

having been started as a reading room; and Fort Hamilton, another free library opened in 1889. In addition, various public school libraries were used by area residents as well. The library of Brooklyn's Eastern District, in Williamsburgh, was probably the largest of this type. In 1892 the Library of the Union of Christian Work absorbed the Youths' Free Library, thus severing the latter's ties with the Brooklyn Institute, and clearing the way for the establishment of a genuine free public library system for Brooklyn. The Brooklyn Library, however, was not interested in becoming such a free library for fear of losing its pre-eminent position as a scholarly, research institution.⁵

A new organization, the Brooklyn Public Library, was established in 1892 by an act of the New York State Legislature, as a department of the city government, to be administered by a board of directors. The first branch of the new system in the City of Brooklyn was opened in 1897 in a former public school building in the Bedford section. Despite the absorption of the City of Brooklyn into Greater New York in 1898, the Brooklyn Public Library remained independent from the New York Public Library. Between 1898 and 1901, Brooklyn developed a sixteen-branch system, incorporating both new and existing libraries as well as an Administration Headquarters and a Traveling Library Department. An agreement between the Brooklyn Public Library and the City of New York in 1902 (ratified in 1903) arranged for the management of the Brooklyn Public Library to be handled by a new private corporation with its own Board of Trustees, also to be called the Brooklyn Public Library. After this, the still-private Brooklyn Library deeded all its property, including its special collections and endowment funds to the new corporation, adding considerably to the stature of the institution.

The Andrew Carnegie Gift⁶

At the end of the nineteenth century, libraries were seen as an important means of improving the lives of poor Americans and new immigrants, and considerable effort was spent to make them available in working class neighborhoods, along with parks, playgrounds, and public baths. Because of the connotation of self-improvement, libraries were often favored with gifts from wealthy individuals. Andrew Carnegie, who had been a poor working boy in Pennsylvania and was the exemplar of the self-made man, attributed much of his own success to the hours he was allowed to spend in the private library of Colonel James Anderson. Carnegie spelled out his

philanthropic philosophy in two articles published in 1889 in the *North American Review* and later reprinted as the title essay of his book, *The Gospel of Wealth and Other Timely Essays* (1901). Carnegie's aim was "to help those who would help themselves."⁷ He was continuing a popular charitable tradition when he decided, in 1881, to use a portion of his vast wealth to donate library buildings to some of his favorite towns. He began with towns with which he had a connection, such as Dunfermline in Scotland where he was born, and Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, where he lived after emigrating to this country.

During the last years of the nineteenth century, Carnegie expanded his grant process, donating libraries to 26 towns in 1899, with a total of 204 towns by 1903. Using the practical abilities he developed during his business career, Carnegie created a complete system for his library grants, demanding that the localities provide the sites and tax their populations for money for books and upkeep in return for his gift, which would be used to construct the actual buildings. Through his Carnegie Corporation, established in 1911 and one of the first such philanthropic foundations, he institutionalized his generosity, with the goal of improving the standard of living of the working poor. By 1917, Carnegie had given over \$41 million to more than 1,400 communities (mostly small towns) throughout the United States for the construction of 1,680 library buildings.

By basing his gifts on specific criteria, Carnegie was able to remove the sense of paternalistic charity so often found in earlier donations. He was also able to impose certain design standards on the buildings and, after 1908, allowed his secretary to approve all library designs. As a result there is a certain harmony and continuity of design among the numerous Carnegie libraries. He insisted, and the local government concurred that they be modest rather than extravagant, with practical interior planning to get the best value for his money. While each building is distinct, there are similar design characteristics among the Carnegie branches. In Brooklyn they are freestanding, masonry buildings faced in red brick with limestone trim.⁸ One or two stories high, they have prominent, (generally) centrally-located entrances reached by a flight of stairs. The style of the buildings was classical, with stone ornament consisting primarily of columns, pilasters, pediments, cornices, quoins, and keystones. Large windows take up much of the facade. In addition, Carnegie was concerned with the siting of the libraries and wanted them to stand out as libraries, with a central location, preferably close to other institutions such as schools or YM/YWCA's. It was felt that it was desirable to establish the libraries

as far as possible, in conspicuous positions on well-frequented streets....The fact that a branch library is constantly before the eyes of the neighboring residents so that all are familiar with its location will undoubtedly tend to increase its usefulness.⁹

Although Andrew Carnegie lived in New York and served for many years as a trustee of the New York Free Circulating Library, at first he considered the city's system too wealthy for his gift. By 1901 however, he changed his mind and offered to fund the branch library system for New York City. Between 1901 and 1929, Carnegie donated \$5.2 million for 67 branch library buildings in all five boroughs. Of that amount, the Brooklyn Public Library received \$1.6 million.

The Brooklyn Carnegie Libraries

In 1901, the Brooklyn Public Library, the New York Public Library, and representatives of Andrew Carnegie reached an agreement which called for the construction of 20 branch libraries in the Borough of Brooklyn.¹⁰ A committee was appointed to select the sites for these buildings and to oversee their construction. The Carnegie Committee was chaired by David A. Boody (former Mayor of Brooklyn and President of the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Public Library), with members Daniel W. McWilliams, John W. Devoy, and R. Ross Appleton. *The Brooklyn Eagle* later declared that this committee would have a very difficult job dealing with an eager and large population.

The Committee will have its judgment taxed to the utmost in deciding where to put the new libraries and give every part of the borough the benefit of the added library facilities...¹¹

For the designs of these branches, the Carnegie Committee first hired Professor A.D.F. Hamlin of Columbia University as consulting architect.¹² Hamlin established an Architects' Advisory Commission consisting of the following individuals or firms from Brooklyn: Lord & Hewlett, William B. Tubby, R. L. Davis, Walker & Morris, and R. F. Almirall. Hamlin's goal was to create a "unity of general type and character . . . without the sacrifice of that individuality which gives interest to a design." The procedure called for each of the five architects on the advisory commission to create a preliminary design for one particular branch, in consultation with the entire commission, a librarian, and Hamlin himself, thus gaining the collective wisdom and judgment of the entire group. These preliminary

designs would then go to the Carnegie Committee to help them reach conclusions about what features and requirements would be needed at all the libraries. The committee would frame final instructions for the architects who would prepare the working drawings. After this, the rest of the fifteen branches would be assigned to the architects. Since most of the members of the commission were trained at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris, the designs tended to employ a classical French vocabulary.

Raymond F. Almirall, selected secretary of the Architects' Advisory Commission, acted as spokesman for the libraries. In a 1904 interview, Almirall compared the plans for Brooklyn's Carnegie branches¹³ very positively to those for the Manhattan branches which, he felt, were too alike.

In Brooklyn we are working to fit each building to its environment, to make each serve the needs of its individual neighborhood and surroundings. While we have sought originality of design externally, our chief concern has been the internal arrangement. This varies in details widely in the different buildings according to their ground plans.

At the meeting of the American Library Association in 1906, Almirall called for,

a common basis of design and of construction with a proper discrimination between essentials and non-essentials, as they may appear in the various applications.¹⁴

William B. Tubby (1858-1944)¹⁵

Born in Des Moines, Iowa, Tubby graduated from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute in 1875. He worked in the architectural offices of Ebenezer L. Roberts until beginning his own firm in 1883. Continuing this practice until his retirement in 1942, Tubby became a major New York architect, creating important buildings in a variety of styles, and was especially known for his Romanesque revival style designs. The house he created for Charles Millard Pratt at 241 Clinton Avenue (1893, located in the Clinton Hill Historic District) is one of the city's finest examples of that style. His creativity and expertise can also be seen in several homes in the Park Slope Historic District: the neo-Jacobean mansion designed for William H. Childs (1900-01, 53 Prospect Park West, now the Brooklyn Ethical Culture Society Meeting House), the Romanesque revival style home at 234 Lincoln Place (1889), and the Queen Anne style row at 864-872 Carroll Street (1887). His institutional designs include the Renaissance revival style library building for the Pratt Institute (1896, a designated New York City

Landmark), the Romanesque revival style 83rd Police Precinct House in Brooklyn (1894-95, a designated New York Landmark) and the Flemish Revival style Wallabout Market (demolished) which was a huge produce market near the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Outside of New York City, Tubby created designs for a library and municipal hospital in Greenwich, Connecticut, where he lived, a YMCA building in Westport, Connecticut, the Nassau County Court House in Mineola, as well as numerous houses on Long Island and Connecticut. As a member of the Architects' Advisory Commission for the Brooklyn Carnegie Libraries, Tubby designed five library buildings, the first being the DeKalb Branch.

Development of Bushwick¹⁶

Bushwick, one of the six original colonial villages that now comprise the Borough of Brooklyn, was historically bounded generally by the East River, Division Street, Broadway, Highland Boulevard, and the Queens County boundary. It included today's neighborhoods of Williamsburg, Greenpoint, and Bushwick. A settlement named by Governor Peter Stuyvesant as Boswijk, or "heavy woods," was laid out in 1660 near present-day Williamsburg. The growing towns of Williamsburg and Bushwick merged with the City of Brooklyn in 1855, although the area remained primarily rural. The opening of an elevated railroad in 1889 on Broadway finally brought extensive residential development to the Bushwick neighborhood, primarily in the form of wooden rowhouses and tenements. During the 1890s and early years of the twentieth century, the area experienced a tremendous growth in population, and became home to many immigrants, especially those from Germany.

The northern section of Bushwick developed somewhat earlier and obtained its own Bushwick branch library in 1901, first located in rented space at the corner of Montrose Avenue and Humboldt Street. This branch was replaced in 1908 by a Carnegie library designed by Raymond Almirall.

The DeKalb Branch

In 1901, Andrew Carnegie signed a contract for the construction of new libraries in Brooklyn. The Sites Committee, in their initial report to the Brooklyn Public Library Directors in November, 1901, recommended five general areas with the greatest need to receive the first new library buildings. The report defined need as a large population not already served by a nearby library, according to "the Carnegie ideal of a library within walking distance of every family which wishes to secure books."¹⁷ These first

five neighborhoods were Williamsburg, Fulton, Stuyvesant (whose boundaries included Bushwick Avenue, Broadway, Myrtle and Central avenues), Carrol Park, and Bedford. The committee asked the Board of Estimate to secure sites within each of these areas that were at least 100 x100 feet, big enough to provide light and air on at least three sides of each building.¹⁸

Within the “Stuyvesant” area, the corner lot on Bushwick Avenue and DeKalb Avenue was chosen for the DeKalb Branch. This site had been occupied by a large Italianate villa constructed in 1854 for William Porter, a businessman who had made his fortune in the manufacture of railroad and ship lanterns.¹⁹ The 120 x130 foot lot cost the city \$28,000. This location was accessible by several streetcar lines, had a large population and was only one block from the commercial area of Broadway. Across the street was a home for the aged, and a school was on the same block, creating an aggregation of institutions, a situation often favored by the Carnegie committee.

Using the style agreed upon by the design committee, William Tubby’s DeKalb Branch library is in the Classical Revival style, faced in dark Harvard brick, with stone and terra-cotta trim. The library building is symmetrically arranged with a prominent central entrance, and has large, double-height windows providing the interior with a great deal of light and air.²⁰ The building has one main story, with double-height stacks in the center of the rear of the building, indicated by the rounded, apsidal section on that facade. Inside, the library followed the general scheme of most of the Brooklyn libraries with a reading room on one side and a children’s room on the other.²¹

Construction was delayed by labor strikes, however the DeKalb branch had its official opening on February 11, 1905.²² The gala opening ceremonies included “representatives from almost every civic body in that part of the borough which the branch serves.” Harrington Putnam, a trustee of the Brooklyn Public Library accepted the new building for the Board noting, “the private benefaction of him to whose enthusiasm for library work this consolidated city is so greatly indebted.”²³

Description

The DeKalb Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library is a free-standing brick and stone building set on a corner lot. It is surrounded on three sides by a non-historic iron fence at the lot line which, along DeKalb and Bushwick Avenues, sits atop a low, non-historic brick and limestone wall. A new ramp was added in the front of the building for handicapped accessibility. The building is rectangular in plan,

except for a rounded apsidal projection at the center of the rear facade. It is capped by a shallow hipped roof covered by standing seam metal roofing fronted by a brick and stone parapet. Set on a high basement with windows visible on the sides and rear, the building has a stone watertable marking the first floor level. All the windows have multi-pane wood sash and are covered by non-historic metal grates.

The front facade is three bays wide with a prominent central entrance reached by a series of steps and terraces which were reconfigured in the 1950 renovation and again in 1999. The main entrance doors are mahogany with glass panels, surrounded by glass sidelights and topped by a glass transom. These doors were installed in 1999 to approximate the original double doors. A wood entablature is located just above the doors, while above this is a glass transom painted with the words “Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch.” The entranceway is surrounded by a flat stone enframing with a keystone, which in turn is backed by a modified Gibbs surround. Metal gates which close over the doorway are attached at each side reveal. Non-historic globe lights are located on the decorative stonework which frames the doorway. Flanking the entrance, decorative vertical panels are inset in the brick walls, composed of alternating bands of brick and stone. Each of these panels is topped by a flat brick arch, above which is a small carved stone panel with a lion’s head, ring, and swag. In each side bay of the front facade is a centered, double-height, wood-sash, multi-paned window with fixed multi-paned sidelights and transom. A stone Gibbs surround enfames each window opening which also rests on a stone sill above a brick spandrel panel. A molded stone band course crosses the facade above the lintels. A projecting, modillioned cornice crowns the composition, with the brick parapet above. The parapet has stone coping, with sections of stone balustrades located above the door and window openings.

The side facades have similar decorative motifs to the front but are five bays wide. The water table, lintel course, and cornice continue around the sides and rear and provide a decorative framework. The side facades have three central bays which are outlined by stone Gibbs surrounds framing two large, double-height windows in the same arrangement as those in the front. The central bay holds a narrow, vertical stone panel, while brick spandrels are located beneath the sills in each bay. Each of the two outside bays has a narrow, unadorned opening with a stone sill, a brick spandrel, and a flat, brick arch. A small stone panel bearing a blind oculus and keystone is

located near the top of each of these bays. On the western facade, the window of the rear bay has been replaced by a plain narrow door with a wire-glass transom accessible by a small set of stairs in the rear of the building. Beneath the water table, five basement-level windows are located in the center three bays. The front bay on the western facade has an original narrow basement-level door accessible by a brick-lined stairway from the street. The eastern facade is nearly identical to the western one but it has only windows, no doors.

The rear facade has one bay on each side and then a central, rounded projection. There is a single, two-story window (in the same arrangement as those on the front) in each of the first bays, with six narrow, double-height windows with stone sills and lintels

distributed evenly around the projecting portion. The ground is terraced down at the rear of the building with a series of steps reaching a basement level entrance located in a one-story section which is attached to the center of the rounded bay. Basement level windows are visible to each side of this section. The stone band courses, cornice and balustrade continue on the rear facade.

Report researched and written by
Virginia Kurshan
Research Department

NOTES

1. The history of the library system in Brooklyn has been compiled from the following sources: Margaret B. Freeman, *The Brooklyn Public Library: A History* (New York, 1966); Marcia McKee, *A Brief History of the Brooklyn Public Library* (New York, 1968); and Louis Feipel, *Historical Information Regarding the Brooklyn Public Library* (Brooklyn, 1937).
2. Beginning in 1839, the Brooklyn Lyceum Building was also the location of the Brooklyn City Library, a subscription library which continued to function until 1851. Eventually its collection of books was divided between the Long Island Historical Society and the Youth's Free Library of Brooklyn Institute.
3. This was a different institution from the current Brooklyn Public Library. The Montague Street building was a Victorian Gothic design by architect P. B. Wight.
4. Feipel, 5.
5. During the late nineteenth century while the various private libraries and reading rooms in Brooklyn were being established and consolidated, the same activity was occurring in Manhattan. In 1895, the privately-owned Astor and Lenox Libraries, and the Tilden Trust were brought together to form the Reference Department of the New York Public Library. The New York Free Circulating Library was established in 1878 with both public funds and the generous donations of wealthy New Yorkers, and in 1901 became the Circulation Department of the New York Public Library.
6. The information on the Carnegie gift and the libraries built from it was adapted from Mary B. Dierickx, *The Architecture of Literacy, The Carnegie Libraries of New York City* (New York: The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, 1996), Abigail A. Van Slyck, *Free To All, Carnegie Libraries & American Culture, 1890-1920* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995), and LPC, *New York Public Library, Tottenville Branch (LP-1867)*, report by David Breiner (New York: The City of New York, 1995).
7. See Theodore Wesley Koch, *A Book of Carnegie Libraries* (New York: The H.W. Wilson Co., 1917), 345-351.
8. The one exception to this was the Red Hook Branch, built in 1915 by Richard A. Walker. This building, which is no longer extant, was constructed in a Mediterranean Revival style, with stuccoed walls, wide, overhanging eaves and a deep cornice pierced by attic windows.

9. Dierickx, 27.
10. *The Brooklyn Eagle*, July 24, 1901. Although this amount of money was supposed to fund 20 libraries for the Borough of Brooklyn, 21 libraries were actually built.
11. *Eagle*, Oct. 20, 1901.
12. The information about the design process comes from a newspaper clipping entitled "Five Districts Named for Carnegie Libraries." This is dated 1901 and was found in the Library Scrapbooks, 1904-05, at the Brooklyn Public Library, with no other, more specific identification.
13. "Types of the Carnegie Libraries in the City," *The Sun* May 29, 1904.
14. "Paper by Brooklynite Read at Narragansett," *The Brooklyn Eagle*, July 5, 1906.
15. The information about William B. Tubby was compiled from research files of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, specifically: "W. B. Tubby; Architect Here for 61 Years," *The New York Times* (May 10, 1944), p. 19; Henry R. Withey and Elsie R. Withey, *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects, (Deceased)* (Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, 1970); and "Tubby, William Bunker," *The National Cyclopaedia of American Biography* 33 (New York: James T. White & Co., 1941), 567.
16. The information in this section was taken from: "Bushwick," in *The Encyclopedia of New York*, Kenneth T. Jackson, ed., (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1995), 171-2; Landmarks Preservation Commission, *Engine Company 252 Designation Report (LP-1931)* (New York: City of NY, 1995), by Andrew Dolkart; Landmarks Preservation Commission, Brooklyn Survey, 1977.
17. *The Brooklyn Eagle* (9/22/04), in the Library Scrapbooks, 1904-05.
18. "Five Districts Named for Carnegie Libraries."
19. Article from the clippings file of the DeKalb Branch Library, Brooklyn Public Library.
20. An article in the *Brooklyn Citizen* (Jan. 27, 1903) attests to the concern on the part of the architects and librarians for enough light and air.
21. Originally a skylight (now covered over) was located at the center of the roof, to give extra light to the delivery desk which is centrally-located in the main room. A large assembly hall is located in the basement which is still used for lectures and neighborhood meetings.
22. Due to variations in times of construction, the DeKalb Branch was the fourth of the Carnegie Libraries in Brooklyn to open, after the Pacific (Oct. 1904), the Williamsburgh (Jan. 1905), and the Bedford (Feb. 1905) branches. The delay in the construction of the DeKalb, as well as that of the Williamsburgh, Bedford and Greenpoint branches caused consternation among local officials. "Grout Gives a Slap to the Carnegie Libraries," *NYT* (Oct. 10, 1904).
23. "Fourth Carnegie Library is Formally Opened," *Brooklyn New York Citizen* (Feb. 12, 1905).

FINDINGS AND DESIGNATION

On the basis of a careful consideration of the history, the architecture, and other features of this building, the Landmarks Preservation Commission finds that the Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch has a special character and a special historical and aesthetic interest and value as part of the development, heritage, and cultural characteristics of New York City.

The Commission further finds that, among its important qualities, the Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch, opened in 1905, was one of the first libraries constructed in the Borough of Brooklyn with the multi-million dollar gift from Andrew Carnegie; that Andrew Carnegie's gift to Brooklyn of \$1,600,000 for the construction of 21 branch libraries helped establish the importance of the Brooklyn Public Library throughout the borough; that this building's architect, William B. Tubby, a prominent architect known for his institutional and residential designs was a member of the Carnegie Architects' commission and a designer of this and four other Carnegie libraries; that the Bushwick section of Brooklyn experienced a rapid population increase during the last years of the nineteenth and early years of the twentieth century, resulting in a densely populated neighborhood in great need of public services such as a library; and that the Classical Revival style DeKalb Branch library, faced in Harvard brick with stone trim, creates a distinguished civic presence in the neighborhood, and continues to serve as an elegant and dignified reminder of a city's aspirations for human advancement.

Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 74, Section 3020 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 Landmark the Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch, 790 Bushwick Avenue, (aka 1176 DeKalb Avenue), Borough of Brooklyn, and designates Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 3241, Lot 18, as its Landmark Site.



Photo: Carl Forster

Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch
790 Bushwick Avenue (aka 1176 DeKalb Avenue), Brooklyn



View from the north

Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch



View from the east

Photos: Carl Forster



Photo: Carl Forster

Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch
View of side and rear facades, from the west



Details of main entrance



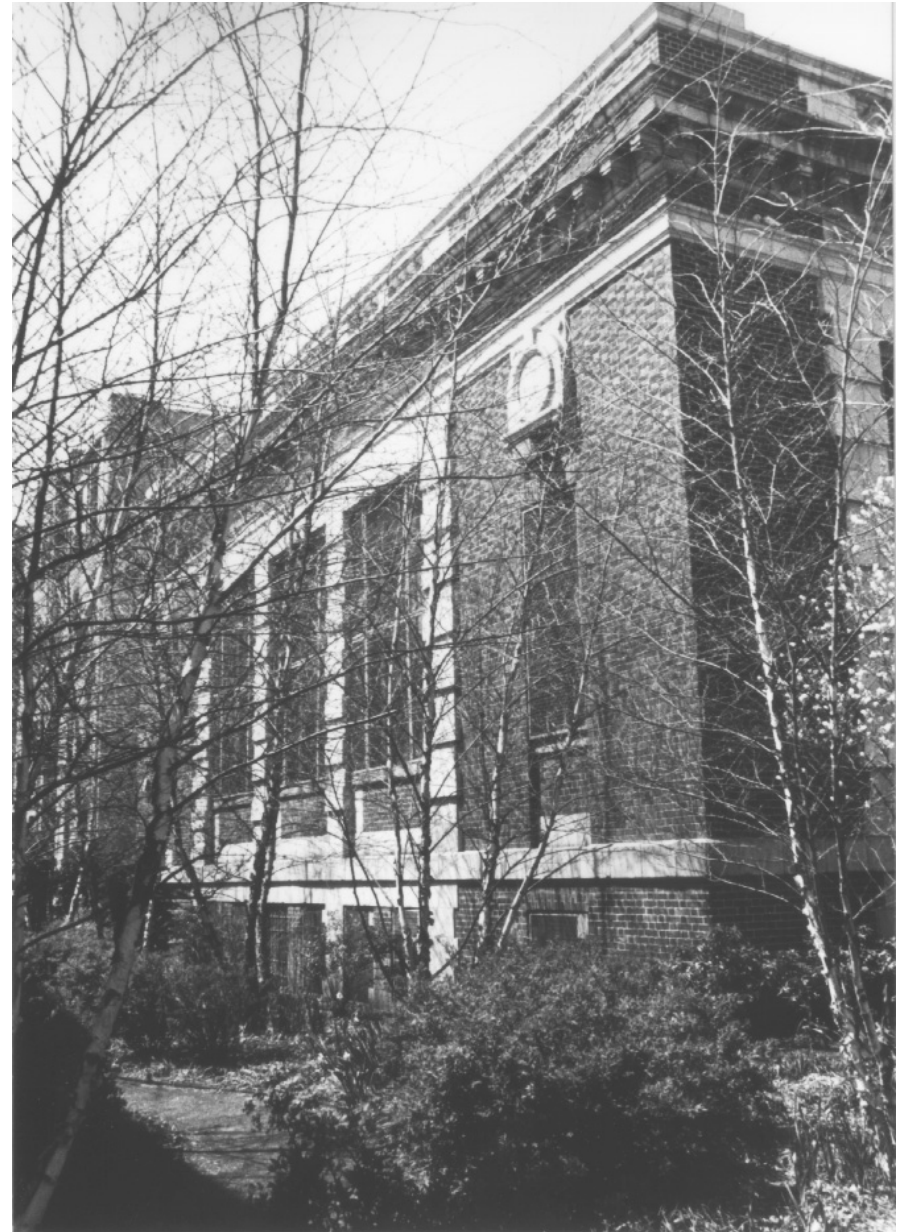
Decorative wall details

Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch

Photos: Carl Forster



Window details



View from the east

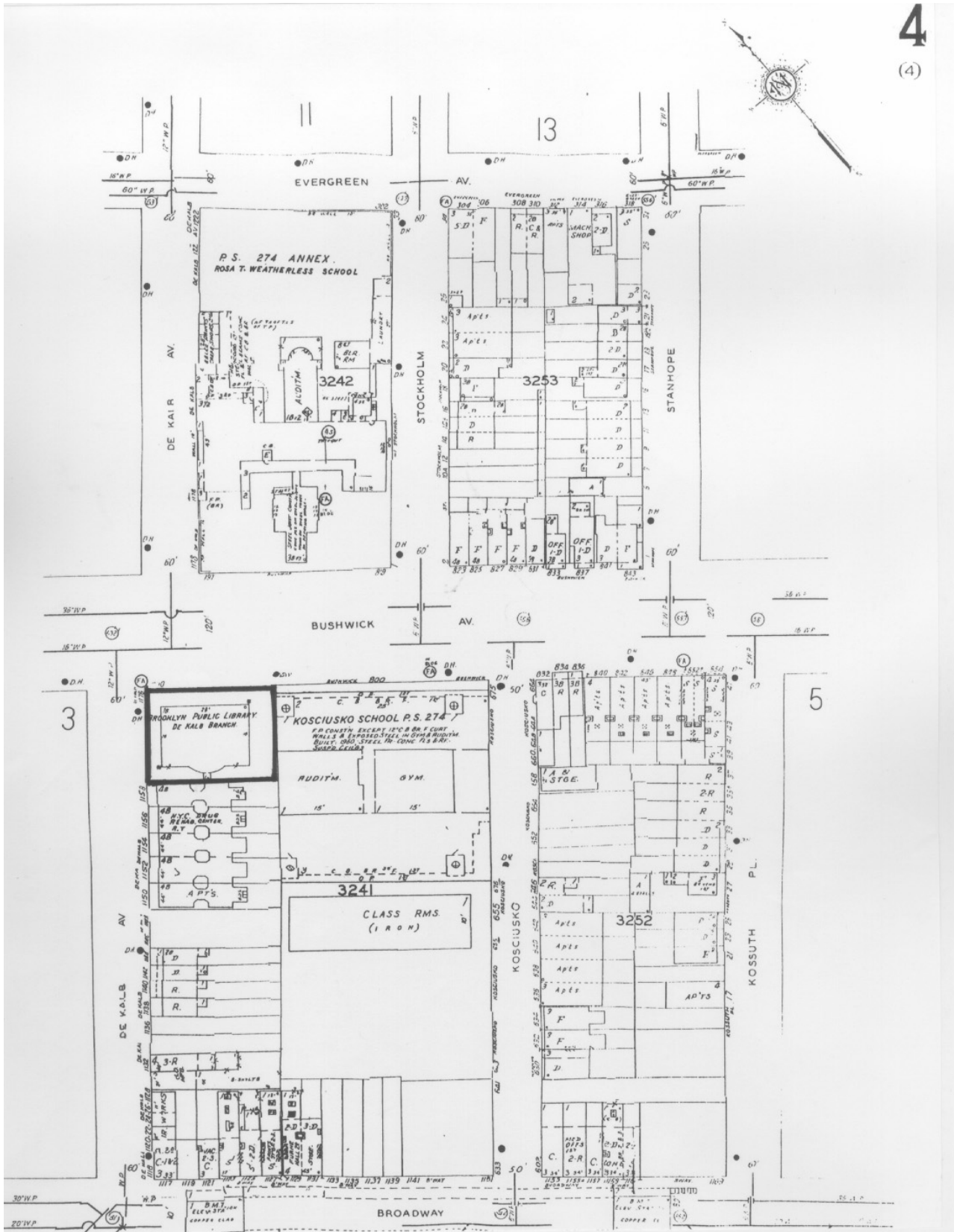
Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch

Photos: Carl Forster

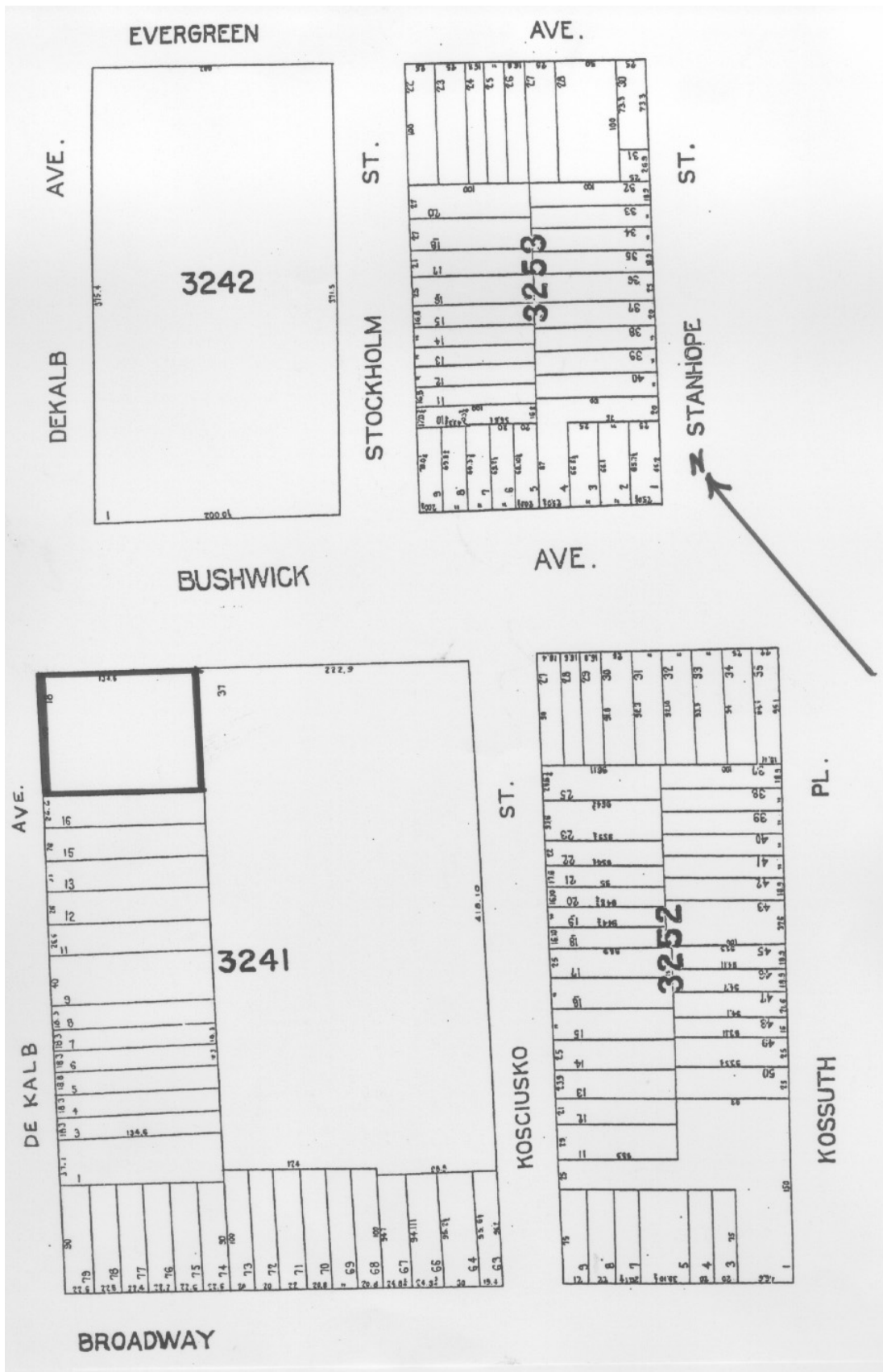


Photo: Carl Forster

Brooklyn Public Library, Dekalb Branch
Cornice and balustrade detail



Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch
790 Bushwick Avenue (aka 1176 DeKalb Avenue), Brooklyn
Landmark Site: Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 3241, Lot 18
Source: Sanborn Building and Property Atlas of Brooklyn, NY (First American R.E.S., 2003), vol. 9. pl. 4



Brooklyn Public Library, DeKalb Branch

790 Bushwick Avenue (aka 1176 DeKalb Avenue), Brooklyn

Landmark Site: Borough of Brooklyn Tax Map Block 3241, Lot 18

Source: *Sanborn Building and Property Atlas of Brooklyn, NY* (First American R.E.S., 2003), vol. 9. pl. 4