

# LIVING IN BOERUM HILL

**A Village in the City**



**In the heart of brownstone Brooklyn, there's a friendly village with all the urban energy that New York City is known for yet with the charm and ease of a small town. Here, residents greet one another on the street and work together to build a thriving neighborhood.**

### **CONVENIENT AND CLOSE BY**

Just 10 minutes to Wall Street and 20 minutes to Midtown. Boerum Hill is served by a dozen subway lines, numerous bus routes and the LIRR. Our brownstone neighbors include Brooklyn Heights, Cobble Hill, Carroll Gardens, Gowanus, Park Slope and Fort Greene. Each with their own flavor and beat.

### **THINGS TO DO**

In Boerum Hill, you will find artists at the Invisible Dog Gallery and musicians at Roulette. Shop for fashions and home furnishings on Atlantic Avenue and Smith Street. Dine on Atlantic Avenue, Smith Street, Bond Street or Fourth Avenue. Or just stop for coffee at one of the many coffee houses to the pass time with friends or watch the world pass by.

If you don't want to go out, have the neighbors in! We love our backyards and decks, so we entertain there often.

Walk to nearby downtown to find Borough Hall, MetroTech and the Brooklyn Civic Center. Shop the big

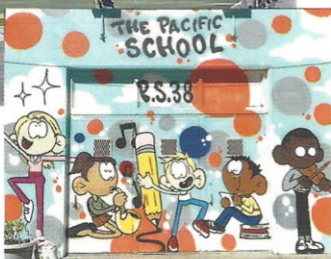


names on Fulton Mall and the small shops on Atlantic Avenue. Go west to the water and explore Brooklyn Bridge Park or go east to the Brooklyn Academy

of Music, the Mark Morris Dance Center, Theater for A New Audience, BRIC, the Pacific Library and the Barclays Center. The Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the Brooklyn Public Central Library and Prospect Park are only a few subway stops away.

## KEEP THE FAITH

After 150 years of brownstone living we're still a melting pot. Many houses of worship help explain why Brooklyn is known as "the borough of churches." Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples are homes for our spiritual growth.



## OUR CHILDREN

Many of us walk our kids to PS 261, PS 38 or MS 447 the Math and Science Exploratory School or the Montessori School. Private schools nearby include the Brooklyn Friends School, the Packer Collegiate Institute, St. Ann's School and the Mary McDowell Friends School. In the summer, we have readings in the Hoyt Street Garden and playtime in the yards of PS 38, PS 261, the North Pacific Playground or 16 Sycamores Playground.

## LIVE YOUR DREAM

Start a small business and join the many who live and work here. Boerum Hill's historically been a creative community of writers, musicians, artists and political activists. Our residents' creative energy can be found in the restaurants and businesses they establish here. Come here and start your own!

## GET INVOLVED

Brooklynites have plenty to say. Become a member of your block association and the local neighborhood association, the Boerum Hill Association. Go to the meetings of Community Board 2 and its committees to learn about our challenges or meet the Police Captain at the monthly 84th Police Precinct Community Council meeting. The Atlantic Avenue BID and the AALDC are

dedicated to preserving and promoting our famous commercial strip.

## **A LITTLE HISTORY**

We've been a melting pot since the 1600's when the Dutch farmed potatoes and tobacco. When Boerum Hill was built between 1840 and 1870 Anglos, Germans and Italians settled in. Mohawk high steel workers lived here during the building boom between the wars. After World War II, the city went into decline and our brownstones became run down. In the early 1960's, a retired journalist named Helen Buckler moved into 238 Dean Street to restore one old building to its homey state. Soon she encouraged others to buy in the area and roll up their sleeves for renovation. The early brownstoners realized that neither "Downtown" nor "North Gowanus" described the unique tree-lined streets. Ms. Buckler named Boerum Hill after finding Simon Boerum's farm on an old map. For the complete story go to our website, [www.boerumhillassociation.org](http://www.boerumhillassociation.org) to read the New Yorker article, "The Making of Boerum Hill."

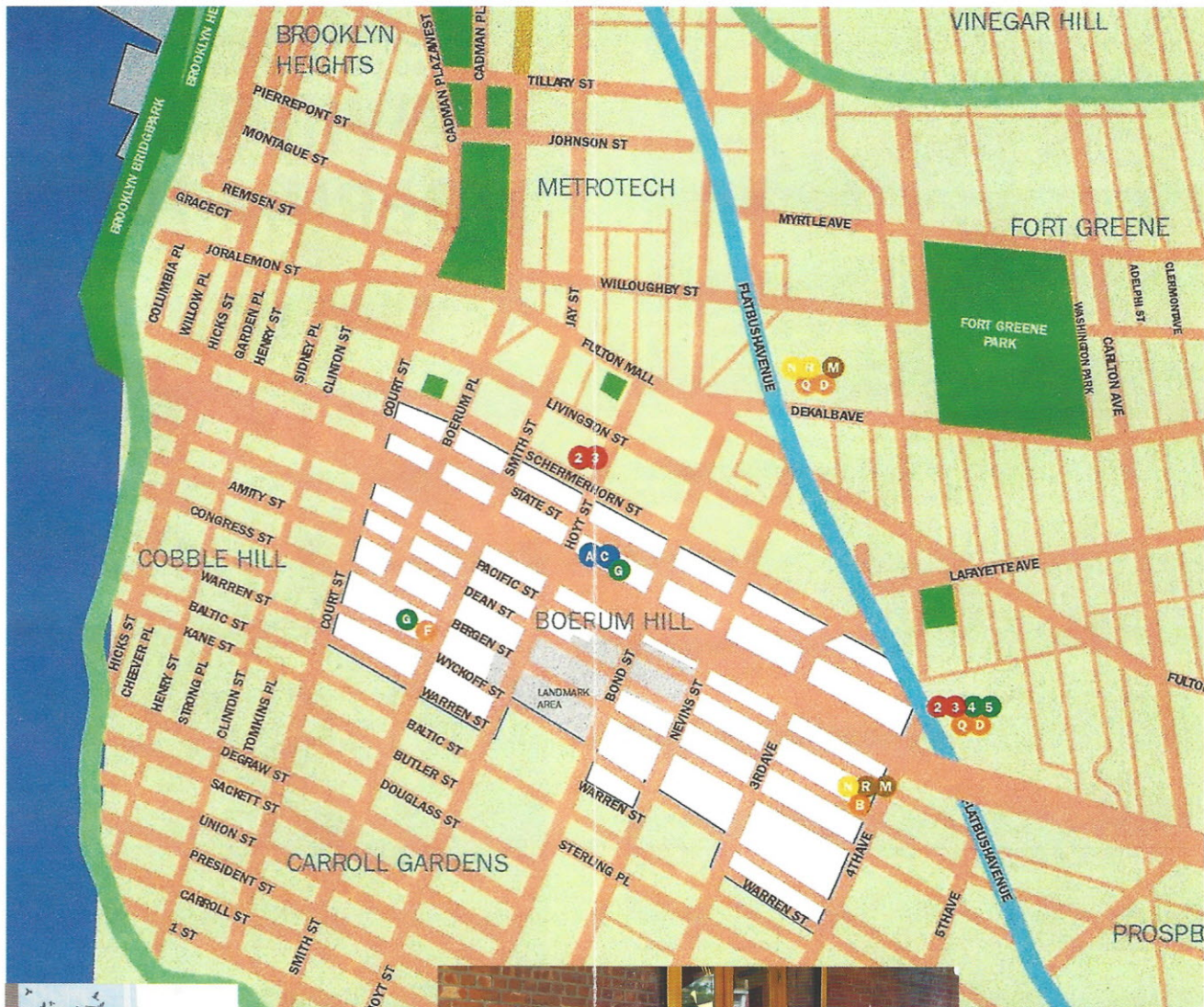
## **WHERE'S THE HILL?**

Boerum Hill forms the keystone of land formed by the Wisconsin glacier that melted 10,000 years ago. This "brownstone crescent," including many adjoining communities, drains to the south where the Gowanus Canal was created in 1867. So Prospect Park on the east, Fulton Street to the north and Court Street to the west form a subtle hill you can still experience when you walk or bike.

## **JOIN US!**

The Boerum Hill Association (BHA) is a voice for all residents, owners, renters and businesses, interested in preserving and improving the quality of life here. The BHA holds monthly board meetings September through June and holds quarterly meetings on topics of interest to the community. Meetings are always open to all. We work with the Community Board, city and state officials on any issue that affects us, including traffic, crime, sanitation, expanding our Landmark District and more. We keep residents aware of our concerns and we want to hear their opinions and issues. Membership in the BHA is a great way to get to know your community!







## HOW WE LIVE

Stop at our local butcher, drop by the fishmonger for the latest catch and shop at Brooklyn Fare. But don't overlook nearby Trader Joe's, Sahadi's or the Damascus

Bakery. We have all kinds of food: vegan, Japanese sushi and ramen, Mexican tacos and burritos,



a variety of specialty sandwich shops, Indian, French, and Puerto Rican specialties, pizza, fresh baked bread, cakes, cookies

and much more. We have wine bars, dive bars and historic bars! Everyone has their favorite place to meet with friends.



## GO GREEN AND PARTY!

We love to garden. Support the Hoyt Street Garden by purchasing plants at the annual Hoyt Street Association Plant Sale.

Make sure to take in the biennial House and Garden Tour, attend Brooklyn's largest and oldest street fair, the Atlantic Antic, and kick off the holiday season at the Boerum Hill



Association's Annual Neighborhood Pot Luck Holiday Party.

## Join Us!

Memberships are concurrent with the calendar year:

New members, any category – \$10

Individual, senior or student – \$15

Individual – \$25

Family – \$40

Business donor – \$125

Business sponsor – \$250

Please make checks payable to the Boerum Hill Association.

The Boerum Hill Association is a volunteer organization of residents of Boerum Hill. We seek to preserve and enhance the unique qualities of our neighborhood through advocacy, education and community building.

*The Boerum Hill Association is a New York State non-profit organization, but not a 501(c)(3) charity.*



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