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STUDIO

**Communication Arts  
“The Mediated Landscape”**

PROFESSOR(S)

**Matthew Slaats**

SITE

**Bowling Green**

## **Come One, Come all to Bowling Green**

The richness, as Brandt argues in her paper, is one major reason why people keep coming to Bowling Green Park. Brandt articulates that the contrast between the open space, the quaint local street, and the hustling and bustling offices offers pedestrians a great experience of urban exploration.

STUDENT NAME

**Marianne Casas**

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## **Unknown**

Commencing from the perspective of a city dweller, Casas delves into the interaction between personal experiences and visual elements of an urban landscape - Bowling Green. Casas observes the story of Bowling Green through its images and typologies, and reflects on how these visual elements shape our urban experience.

STUDENT NAME

**Joy Ferguson**

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## **Unknown**

In his work, Ferguson calls upon state-of-art photography technology to curate the interplay between the open space - Bowling Green Park - and its surrounding architecture elements. Moreover, he builds upon his findings to explore the spin-off influence of advanced technology and the built environment.

STUDENT NAME

**Lauren Hafley**

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## **Time Lapse and Cinemagram - Creative Applications that Change Our Perception of Space and Time**

Hafley explores two digital tools that she believes assist people in changing their perception of space – the TimeLapse and Cinemagraph apps. Hafley argues that these simple digital tools can teach people about the transformation of a place over time. She notes that cameras all over the city could be used to create historic time lapse captures.

STUDENT NAME

**Jarrett Lyons**

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## **Bowling Green: A Hidden Landmark in a Historic City**

In his work, Lyons tries to reveal the essence of Bowling Green Park as an urban element from a historical perspective. He demonstrates the evolution of Bowling Green Park along its almost 400 year history, with the help of photographic technology and historic archives.

STUDENT NAME

**Alessandra Marconi**

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## **Unknown**

Through observation, Marconi analyzes the usage of Bowling Green Park, which was largely affected by different weather and hours. Marconi argues that the park, despite its lower popularity, serves its traditional uses and is thought of as an active “place” in the neighborhood.

STUDENT NAME

**John Napolitano**

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## Unknown

The natural environment is the main theme of Napolitano’s work focusing on Battery and Bowling Green Parks. He introduces three elements to inspect the framework of Bowling Green – nature, water, and the built environment. Napolitano documents many details of the natural environment of Bowling Green and illustrates with his personal experiences.

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**Alanah Rafferty**

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## Unknown

Rafferty created two videos at Bowling Green Park to observe the interrelations among park users, the built environment, and urban experiences.

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## Bike Posts at Bowling Green

To shed light on how the physical environment shapes our city, Welsh closely examines the placement, form, and underlying policy of the bike posts around Bowling Green. She discovers that every facet of bike posts was designed to have influence on how people act and live in the city.

STUDENT NAMES

**Melissa Best  
Nichole Davari  
Dominique Eidem  
Katie Manley  
Loren Morrissey  
Mackenzie Morrison  
Shahreen Uddin**

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**Bowling Green**

# Building History of Bowling Green

Environmental Site Assessment/Due Diligence surveys, a common practice of recent property transactions, often involve researching building use and ownership history. By researching the site-use of an area, we can understand how the area was used, and determine if any environmental concerns exist. Students investigated the primary uses of buildings surrounding Bowling Green in an attempt to uncover unique or interesting environmentally related histories to bring to the public. The result was a brief historical review and history of the characteristic buildings that surround Bowling Green, major ownership exchanges and site uses.

# BUILDING HISTORY OF Bowling Green

MELISSA BEST NICHOLE DAVARI DOMINIQUE EIDEM KATIE MANLEY LOREN MORRISSEY MAC KENZIE MORRISON SHAHREEN UDDIN

**NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
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This historical map shows the location of the public space at the Bowling Green in 1774. It is one of the earliest maps of the area and shows the location of the park and the surrounding buildings. The map is a valuable resource for understanding the history of the area.

The colonial statue of John B. Floyd was placed in the park in 1774. The statue was one of the first public statues in the city and was a symbol of the city's independence. The statue was later moved to Hanover Square in 1776.

Well into the 18th Century, Bowling Green was New York's most residential area mainly surrounded by Federal-style townhouses. The Common Council allowed residents to plant and tend to the needs of the park which made Bowling Green more exclusive to its neighbors.

As the Industrial Revolution boomed by the 19th Century, the townhouses were altered into shipping and other government related businesses. Bowling Green became available to the public again. The park consisted of two fountains (which are no longer there) and 1896 a statue of New York's first mayor, Abraham De Peyster. The statue was later moved to Hanover Square in 1776.

**Bowling Green Park**

Established in 1774, Bowling Green Park is one of the oldest parks in New York City. The park is located in the heart of downtown Manhattan and is a popular destination for tourists and locals alike. The park is home to several historical landmarks, including the Statue of Liberty and the United Nations Secretariat Building.

1905: IRT bowling green station is opened. Due to the growing population of downtown and Brooklyn the bowling green station was created to connect Manhattan to Brooklyn. 1908 a third track was being constructed and was completed in 1909.

There still wasn't any transportation to south ferry so the shuttle was created but due to budget cut was discontinued in 1977. Starting in the 1970's bowling green station has gone through several renovations due to higher passenger volume and regulation.

**THE STANDARD OIL BUILDING**

In 1920, the construction of the Oil Building served as the official building to monitor ships entering New York's harbor. It was one of the tallest buildings in the 20th century with only thirty-one floors. Ships could be spotted entering the harbor from the very top of the building.

**ALEXANDER HAMILTON U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE**

Today, the building is now the National Museum of the American Indian after it was bought in the 1970s when the US Customs Service abandoned the building and it was intended to be demolished.

The destruction of houses in 1899 led to the formation of the U.S Customs house in 1902. This building was used to control operations of the NY port since it is located at the very tip of Manhattan.

**INTERNATIONAL MERCANTILE MARINE COMPANY BUILDING**

**SURROUNDING MERCHANTS**

Surrounding Merchants included jewelry stores, Radio Shack, Mail Boxes ETC... None of which could have caused particular environmental harm to the park as maybe a dry cleaners would.

**BOWLING GREEN OFFICES**  
1900 2012

**1930s**

**THE PARK TODAY**

**1980s**



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Kiersten Amberg  
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Bowling Green

# The Landscape of Bowling Green

How is Bowling Green used today? How can we characterize the park? Students involved in the landscape group were first tasked with conducting an inventory of Bowling Green for the major themes of the Mary Miss project: Air and Food, Life, Waste, Water and Energy. Secondly, students documented how Bowling Green 'fit' within the larger landscape by identifying green-links to other natural areas nearby. Students completed the poster by incorporating their mapping results into an attractive map and placed Bowling Green within the Lower Manhattan green area complex. Other green areas include the 22-acre Battery Park, and the eight-acre City Hall Park, all located within one mile of Bowling Green.



# Bowling Green Park NYC

Landscape Group

Miguel Saavedra, Morgan Campbell, Isabella Yoshida, Kiersten Amberg, and Austin Nelson



### Then & Now...

*"The grounds for what we now know as Bowling Green have taken on many forms as indigenous tribes and then European settlers left their mark over the centuries. This painting captures a historic moment on the dawn of independence in the new country as the statue of King George III was taken down by a jubilant mob. The park has set the stage for many events in the city since..."*



**Time Line**

**1776**  
By this time the park was completely formed into an iron fenced-in area with the original fountain. Having gone from a public space to private in previous centuries, it is now vital public space in an increasingly developed part of Manhattan. In this image, it is evident that the trees were not fully grown and thus the park was not as shady as it is now.



**1918**  
Today the park is a statement in lower Manhattan and houses the iconic Charging Bull sculpture. The trees tower over the park and provide a shady oasis for visitors. The buildings around the park have grown with the trees. The iron fence still surrounds the park, and restorations in preparation for the 1929 World Fair and in 1976-77 have restored the park to its 18<sup>th</sup> century appearance.



### Park Features...



#### Energy:

The lamp posts in the park (14 in total) surround the fence and light pathways. This sheds light during the night hours and on foggy days. This is man made energy for when the sun is not beaming on the landscape.



#### Waste:

The trash cans in the park (10 in total) allow for visitors to dispose of their waste in a container instead of polluting the park. The NYC park service gathers the trash and disposes of it properly.



#### Water:

The center of the park houses the park's fountain which is operated seasonally. This water source serves more than just aesthetic purposes-it is a water source for surrounding wildlife. You might see a bird or other animal sipping and bathing in the water.



### Green Spaces Beyond Bowling Green...

*Like Bowling Green, each of these parks are very important to the history of New York City's landscape.*

#### Battery Park

Acres: 21.88  
Location: Battery Place  
-Located at the southern tip of Manhattan  
-created by a landfill in the 19<sup>th</sup> century  
-large park, unlike Bowling Green, close to the natural water.

#### Bowling Green

Acres: 1.02  
Location: Broadway & Whitehall  
-The oldest NYC park (1733)  
-Use to be a cattle market  
-the start of many ticker tape parades

#### Vietnam Veterans Plaza

Acres: 0.73  
Location: NYS South Street  
-May 4, 1985 this plaza was dedicated in honor of the 250,000 men & women of New York City.  
-more of a memorial than a park, not much grass.

#### James Madison Plaza

Acres: 0.36  
Location: Pearl & Madison St  
-This land was deeded to the City of New York in 1964, and came under Parks jurisdiction that same year  
-More of a plaza, not much green space vs. Bowling Green.

#### City Hall Park

Acres: 0.50  
Location: Broadway & Park  
-the land has been used, among other things, as a prison, a park, a parade ground, a public execution site, an armhouse, an art museum, and a post office.  
-home to more than a dozen monuments



#### Air & Food:

The park is lush with vegetation that helps absorb carbon dioxide and produce clean oxygen in the area. These plants double as food to the animals and birds that call the park their home.



#### Life:

The park is full of life, from the hundreds of visiting humans who dwell on the 46 benches throughout the day to the infamous falcons that call the park home. Many other species of birds, insects and rodents live here too.



#### Sources:

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Sarah Biggs  
Brock Henderson  
Garrett Keefe  
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Jennifer Sebastiano  
Austin Sora

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SITE


Bowling Green

## Natural History of Bowling Green

What was Manhattan like before European settlement? What species inhabited lower Manhattan when it was 'wild'? Were there streams, wetlands and forests or open clearings? Dr. Eric Sanderson's Mannhatta project explores these questions in detail, and students used these resources to further research the landscape of the past. The overall theme of this group was to explore how the natural history of Bowling Green has changed since its use as a cattle market in the 1600's. Students in this group also used information from Sanderson's Welikia project to demonstrate the change in the natural landscape and to map the current tree species composition at the park. Students contrasted natural peregrine falcon habitat with structures now used by the resident falcon pair residing near Bowling Green.


## Natural History of Bowling Green

Melissa Aquiles, Jessie Berg, Sarah Biggs, Brock Henderson, Garrett Keefe, Brian Murray, Jennifer Sebastiano, Austin Sora




**1609**

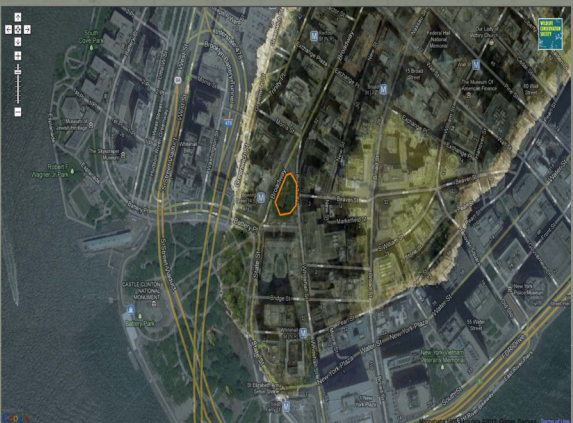
- Began as a cattle market and a place for parades
- Council ground for Native American tribe
- Became a park in 1733, but public property in 1686
- 1677- the first public well was built
- Statue of King George III was erected in 1770, then toppled by an angry mob in 1776



**Natural Resources:**

• Before the urbanization and colonization of Bowling Green, the area held a place for a plethora of natural resources. These included the freshwater pool, along with the natural oceans bay, which were both plentiful with fish and other marine life. As well as, granite rock and other minerals, which allowed for a rich and fertile soil. There were also plants, animals and natural gasses such as methane, carbon, and hydrogen found on the land.





**1609 vs. 2012**

Today the 1 subway line, Greenwich St., Pearl St., and State St. are all located where the shoreline was in 1609

**Peregrine Falcons:**



- Among the worlds most common birds of prey
- Found on every single continent other than Alaska
- Average life span in the wild- up to 17 years

**The Falcons Comeback:**

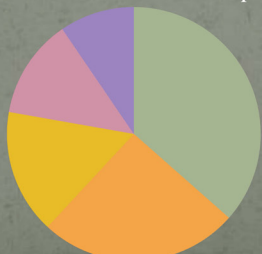
- The falcons were once wiped out of NYC due to DDT affected eggs
- Now the falcons are protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973

**Falcon's Natural Habitat:**

- High cliffs and mountains
- Bowling Green and the tall surrounding buildings make it easy for them to adapt

**Manhattan Tree Population**



Honeylocust	23%
Callery Pear	16%
Ginkgo	10%
London planetree	8%
Littleleaf Linden	6%



**2012**

Sources:  
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