

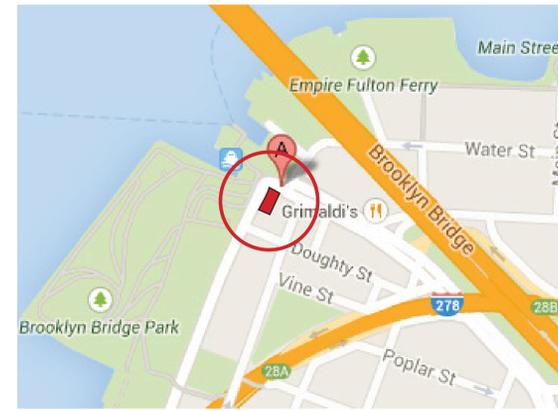
Multiple dwelling, formerly The Brooklyn City Railroad Company Building, Designated Landmark

## 8 Old Fulton Street

Brooklyn, NY 11201

Block 200, Lot 5

Application for the replacement of the existing Building Entrance Stair with New Stair  
February 2015



Aerial view of  
8 Old Fulton Street, Brooklyn



Tax Photo 1940s NYC Municipal Archives



Tax Photo 1940s NYC Municipal Archives

Existing  
Stair



Existing View North and West Facades

Katrin Adam  
Katrin Adam Architects  
16 Court Street  
Suite 1902  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

To NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission  
1 Center Street  
9th floor  
New York, NY 10007

Building Location  
8 Old Fulton Street (Corner of Old Fulton and Furman Street)  
Brooklyn, NY  
Block 200  
Lot 5

Date January 19, 2015

Re: Building Entrance Stair replacement to the former Brooklyn City Railroad Company building, a registered Landmark building, now a Multiple Dwelling.

We are forwarding the requested information that describes the proposed design approach for the new metal entrance stair to replace the building's existing, well worn, 55 year old metal stair.

The main entrance stair to the then Brooklyn City Railroad Company (built 1860) was once located on the building's North façade (on Old Fulton Street) in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century and was probably removed in the 1930<sup>s</sup>.

The existing stair on the building's West façade (on Furman Street) was originally the building's secondary entrance stair and is now the main and only entrance stair to the building, apart from an adjacent bulkhead that accommodates the stair to the building's Basement.

Originally, the existing West façade stair was most likely a straight-up stair into the building from the sidewalk off Furman Street, which is now a narrow two-way, heavily trafficked Truck and BQE Service Street, without loading or parking space in front of the building. The existing sidewalk is clearly too narrow to consider such an approach for the replacement stair.

Since the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge Park the sidewalk is so congested that even the present stair configuration is problematic. Therefore we are proposing a two directional stair, running parallel to the building façade, that would address and solve two current issues:

One, a functional issue - it would provide sufficient sidewalk space for loading (baby carriages, deliveries, etc) and would direct building access from and to the South, via Doughty Street when building access from and to the North via Old Fulton Street is almost impossible due to pedestrian and vendor over-crowding on its sidewalk.

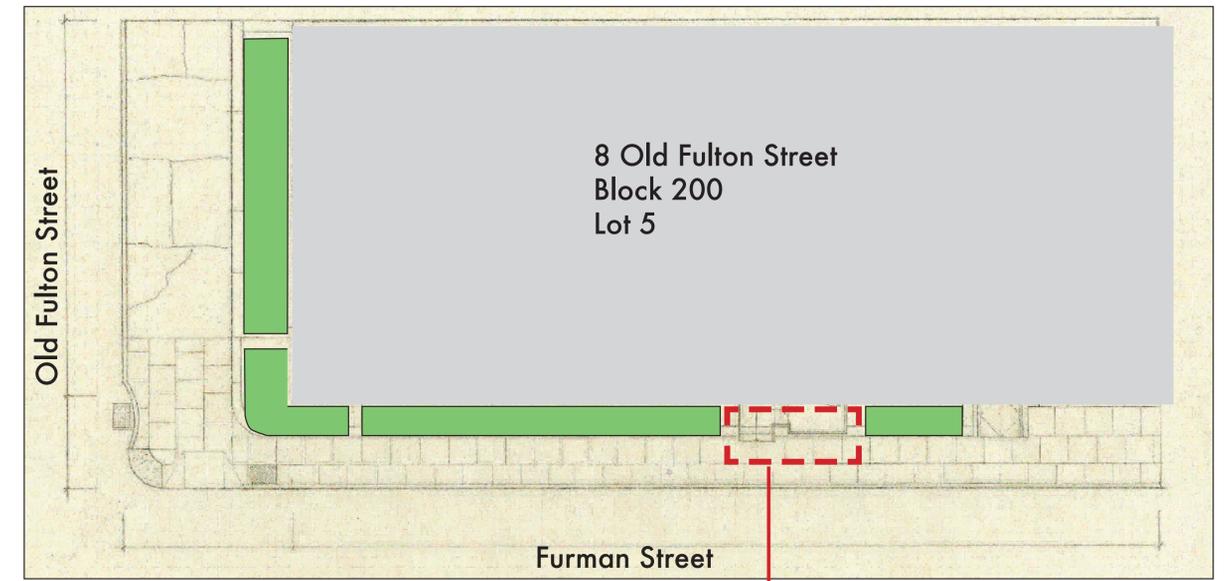
The other, a formalistic issue - it would provide a more prominent entrance to the building in keeping with its existing, quite imposing, well proportioned neoclassical, large entrance door assembly, its West façade symmetry, its ornate 2<sup>nd</sup> Empire North façade and, in general, with the building's overall scale.

The inspiration for the stair design and material came from looking at the secondary entrance stairs of buildings at Snug Harbor. Although the buildings are of earlier vintage and style the rigorousness of their side stairs and the scale of their detailing seemed appropriate here.

The proposed stair would be fabricated, however, from stock "off the shelf" industrial steel profiles rather than made of wrought iron. The steel finish would be paint, in black, to match the two existing fire escapes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Katrin Adam, RA  
for the 8 Fulton Corporation, 8 Old Fulton Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201



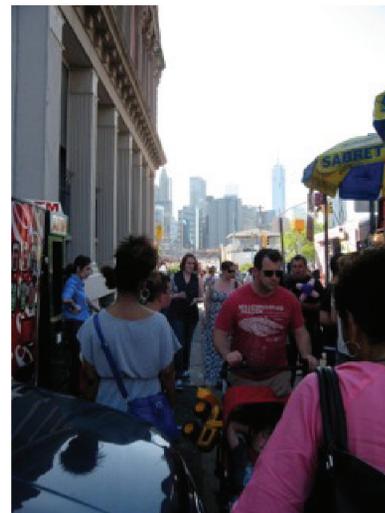
EXISTING SITE PLAN



Existing Entrance Stair



Existing West Facade (Furman Street)



Crowded Sidewalk (Old Fulton Street)



Narrow Sidewalk (Furman Street)



Heavy Traffic on Furman Street

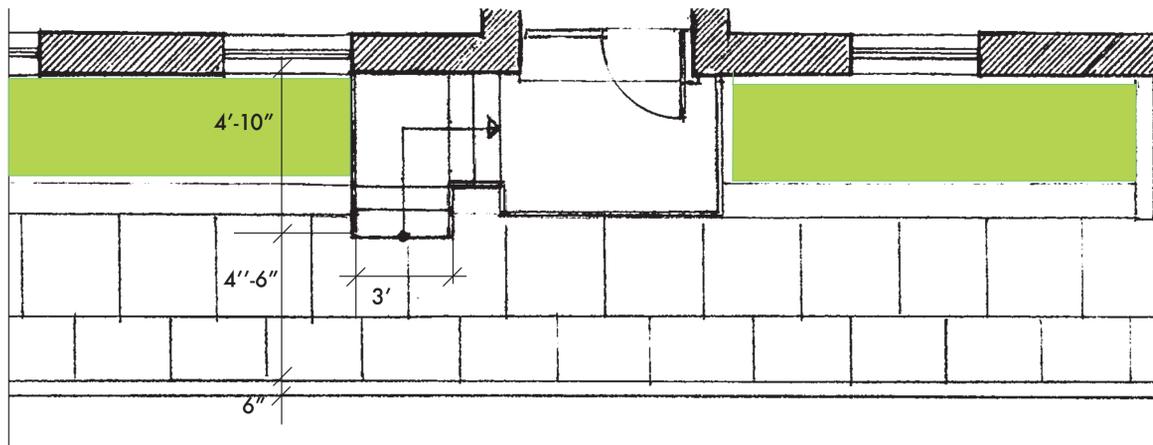
# Existing Stair



Existing Dilapidated Conditions

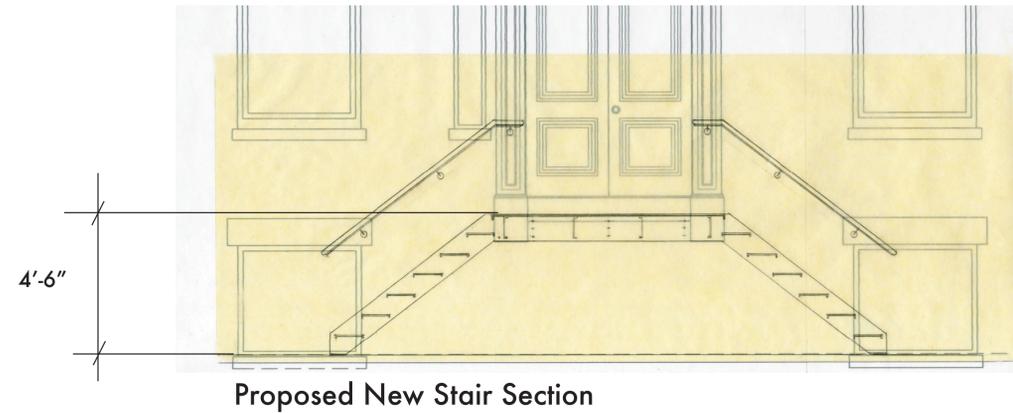


Existing Entrance Stair



Partial Plan: Existing Stair at Sidewalk

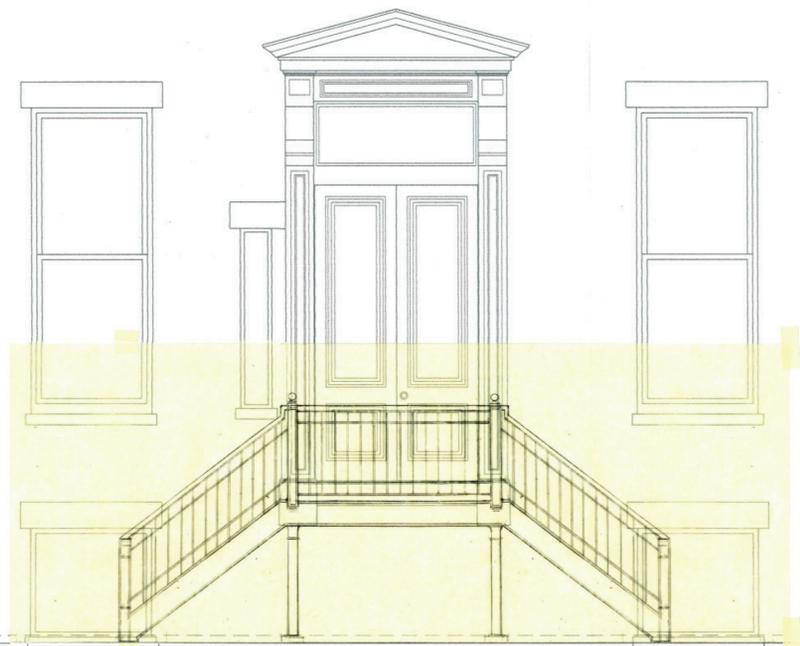
# Proposed New Metal Stair



Proposed New Stair Section

## Fabrication Materials

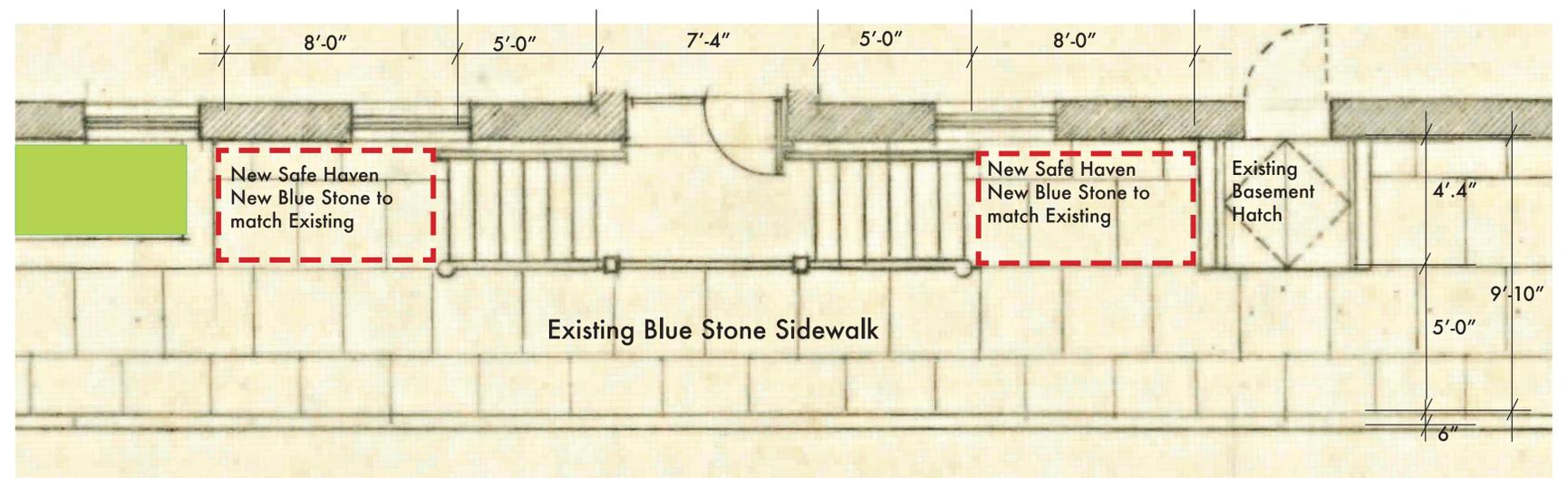
- Stair Support Columns: Two 4" diameter steel lally columns
- Stair Wall Support: Steel angle, size as required
- Stair Stringers: Steel C channel, 10" high
- Stair Treads: Open steel treads, diamond pattern
- Stair Railing Assembly:
  - Rail Posts: 4" steel tubes
  - Pickets: 1/2" by 1/2" solid steel pickets 4" o.c.
  - Horizontal Picket Bars: 1 3/4" wide by 1/2" thick solid steel bar
  - Handrail: 2" molded profile, steel
- Finish: Primed and painted
- Color: Black, to match fire escapes



Proposed



photo: Sailor's Snug Harbor 19th-Century Stairs



Partial Plan: Proposed Stair at Sidewalk