

**Brooklyn Historical Society
Brooklyn Works Exhibit**

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A: First Impressions.

Beautiful building, majestic, historical, stuff, aristocratic, quiet, tree lined street, informative, community, fast paced, diversity of cultures, a day in the life of a brooklynite, space seems confined to show the full extent of the Brooklyn works exhibit. Beautiful pictures, black and white, interactive, engaging, and informative.

B: Notes from the viewpoint of an observer from the following three perspectives; emotional, informational and social.

Emotional: The BHS itself has air about it one of a higher intellectual pursuit rather than an open inviting place of learning. The external atmosphere of being quite stuffy and old fashioned is changed dramatically when you enter the museum. The interior side of the museum is quite welcoming and informative.

Informational: The BHS is at once inviting and intimidating. There is a lack of inviting signage to encourage you to come inside. Its overall atmosphere inside is quite well lit, inviting, encouraging of interaction with its exhibits and

Social: The BHS seems to attempt to create a place where there can be social interaction amongst its visitors but the lack of space seems to not allow this to some degrees. I was not really aware how the BHS seems to connect with its community and the influence of BHS on its surrounding community and vice-versa.

Brooklyn Works Exhibit Reviews

3A: General Interest Paper (New York Times)

A Connection With The Past, The Brooklyn Historical Society's Brooklyn Works Exhibit.

On the quiet corner between Pierrepont and Clinton stands a reminder of Brooklyn's rich heritage as it undergoes a rapid transformation that will surely influence and perhaps changes how we view and think of this borough just a few minutes away from Manhattan.

With its red terra cotta construction and elaborately designed interiors, The Brooklyn Historical Society has served as a focal point for documenting the history of Brooklyn since it's founding in 1862 as the Long Island Historical Society. The BHS was designed by the architect George Post who is famous for designing the New York Stock Exchange.

The BHS is a federally recognized major research library with thousands of artifacts that have a historical significance to the overall history of not only the borough but also the people who reside in it.

These artifacts and the displays of information especially the ones in the Brooklyn Works exhibit in the first floor are presented in a very informative, engaging way. This truly allows the audience to understand and learn to appreciate the very rich history of Brooklyn and the people who have made it their home.

As we witness Brooklyn's rapid transformation from an industrial hub into a hipster inspired community, its important to understand and appreciate the history of Brooklyn and that can be done by simply visiting the BHS.

3B: Parents/ Family Magazine

In a recent trip to the BHS I discovered a treasure trove of attractions for the young ones that you would normally not even consider finding in a historical society. Traditionally considered to be old stuffy and not children friendly, the BHS with their most recent exhibition of Brooklyn Works seems to turn this notion on its head.

The Brooklyn Works exhibition helps people understand how Brooklyn came about and who are the people that have made it what it is today. Its use of interactive screens, white and black images, videos and enclosing the exhibits in their own physical location of the subject matter will keep the young ones and yourself engaged and interested in learning more about the subject matter.

The interactive kiosks as well as the exhibit has been designed to ensure that a young children feel encouraged to interact with any of the artifacts. For example the interactive kiosk is built to the average height of a small child as is the barrels, bail of cotton, cabinet and coffee sacks in the dockyards section of the exhibition. These are but a few examples that you will find at the BHS Brooklyn Works exhibition which truly allow for the children to explore and interact with their environment.

3C:Art Magazine

With its red terra cotta construction and elaborately designed interiors, The Brooklyn Historical Society is true marvel of a bygone era of art Greco architerue and a treasure trove of artworks in relation to the history of Brooklyn.

The BHS was designed by the architect George Post and today houses a collection of thousands of artifacts which include classical painting, book, maps, and other artifacts that allow us to peer into the life and everyday story of the Borough known as Brooklyn and the people who inhabit it.

The art collection housed in the BHS is often at times shared with other historical society but is part of its permanent collection which is seeking more artifacts in increase it collection size.

In order to truly allow the public to view a good portion of their collection, the BHS is undergoing a major renovation project in which they hope will increase the overall amount of space available so that more items can be displayed to the public. The larger space will allow them to exhibit more types of art that they have such as art Greco painting of 16th century, traditional maps from the 1700's as well as clothing from the revolution era.

3D: Design Magazine

With its red terra cotta construction and elaborately design interiors, The Brooklyn Historical Society is true marvel of a bygone era of art greco architecture which is truly rare to see especially after it has been carefully renovated over a ten year period.

The BHS designed by the architect George Post who is famous for designing the New York Stock Exchange remains one of the crown jewels in the city's collection of truly beautiful art Greco building and serves a wonderful purpose of sharing with everyone the story the rich history of Brooklyn.

As detailed as the building is in terms of it external beauty and the interior with its high ceiling and well lit rooms, it shares with the public the rich and well crafted history of Brooklyn. The majestic building invites and retains the attention of its viewers as it tells them the story of how Brooklyn was formed and who the people were who were responsible for it.

This progression of the story is truly exemplified by such a true marvel of the traditional art-greco architecture with its long windy stairs, its large ceiling with sun filled rooms and its open garden.

3E: School/ Educational Magazine

The value of the environment is engaging and fosters a learning environment. The images convey a sense of history, the use of black and white photos. The text and image are educational.

School trips to visit the BHS on the quiet corner between Pierrepont and Clinton is a great educational way to introduce your students to Brooklyn's rich heritage. Often the quiet streets are brought alive by the procession of class groups with a teacher or two in tow pointing out to the students the attractions of the neighborhood and BHS itself to their students.

With hundreds of interesting artifacts, the Brooklyn History BHS is a federally recognized major research library. Within the library and depending when you go, you can expect to view fine art, classical pottery, and other artifacts that have a historical significance to the not only the history of the borough but also the people who reside in it.

School trips and group tours can be arranged by calling the society a few weeks before your arrival and with enough coaxing you maybe might also be given a tour of the currently being renovated third and fourth floor.

Overall a class trip to BHS is truly an educational and fun trip for any class.

3F: Niche Media OutLet, Ebony Magazine

BHS's Brooklyn Works exhibit does a great job of showing the contributions made by people of color towards the development of Brooklyn. From the 1800's it explains, through the use of both audio and visual representation the role of African-Americans played in a crucial part in building this borough

The enslaved Africans were brought to Brooklyn by the early European settlers and used to cultivate the land and bore the brunt of the hardship in making Brooklyn what it is today. Nothing touches you more than their most recent exhibition which attempts to inform you the hardship of slavery by placing you inside a farmhouse with artifacts from that time period. Inside the farmhouse, you see firsthand the shackles worn by slaves, the wanted letter for a woman who ran away with her slave master. You see firsthand the tools used by the enslaved people to cultivate the fields and you hear the audio story of a typical day of life the fields. This type of enclosure, based exhibition truly allows you to understand for the inhumane horrors of slavery as well as life on the dock, sugar refinery and other areas.

As you walk along the path within the exhibit you will witness the beautiful imagery and which highlight the struggle faced African-American people in order to not only gain acceptance into society but as well as the hardship faced under a system which chose to treat based on their skin ton complexion instead of their character.

Overall the BHS exhibit of Brooklyn Works is a must see for any family in order to truly understand the contributions made by not only the African-American community but as well as all community into the borough we now call Brooklyn.