Reimagining New York City’s Underutilized Building Stock and Infrastructure

8th Conference of the International Forum Urbanism

Catherine Park

Photo by Miru Kim
NEW YORK CITY’S HISTORICAL POPULATION


THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE U.S. DURING 1910 ~ 1960 (Estimated)

WORLD WAR I
1914 ~ 1918

WORLD WAR II
1939 ~ 1945

GREAT DEPRESSION
1929 ~ 1939

Growing of Population 1900
+126.8%

Unemployment Rate
Great Depression
+25%

Loss of Population 1960
-1.4%

Loss of Population 1980
-10.4%

8.4 M
7 M
6 M
5 M
4 M
3 M
2 M
1 M
0
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%

1.5 M


U.S. REGION
RAILROAD I
RAILROAD II
RAILROAD III
Data Source: U.S. Department of Transportation

NEW YORK STATE
MANUFACTURING FACILITIES
RAW-MATERIAL ROUTES

RAILROAD EXPANSION 1920s
OIL INDUSTRY
CLEVELAND, OHIO
STANDARD OIL
STEEL INDUSTRY
PITTSBURGH, PA
SUGAR REFINING
CARIBBEAN REGION

COTTON, WOOL
GARMENT INDUSTRY ENGLAND

RAW-SUGAR CANE
SUGAR REFINING CARIBBEAN REGION
RAILROAD EXPANSION 1920s

Data Source: U.S. Department of Transportation
Identifying Under-utilized Structure, Abandoned Lots, and dormant Infrastructure in the Five Boroughs

3.6%

Industrial / Manufacturing
5,498 Acres

Source: Department of City Planning City of New York
Identifying Under-utilized Structure, Abandoned Lots, and dormant Infrastructure in the Five Boroughs

- **Industrial / Manufacturing**: 5,498 Acres, 3.6%
- **Transportation / Utility**: 10,907 Acres, 7.1%

Source: Department of City Planning City of New York
Identifying Under-utilized Structure, Abandoned Lots, and dormant Infrastructure in the Five Boroughs

- **Industrial / Manufacturing**: 5,498 Acres (3.6% of Manhattan's Land Area)
- **Transportation / Utility**: 10,907 Acres (7.1%)
Identifying Under-utilized Structure, Abandoned Lots, and dormant Infrastructure in the Five Boroughs

Source: Department of City Planning City of New York
Identifying Under-utilized Structure, Abandoned Lots, and dormant Infrastructure in the Five Boroughs

Vacant Lot
8,902 Acres

5.8%

5 Borough Land Area
153,605 Acres
100%

VACANT LOT + NO DATA
107%

5 Boroughs

Source: Department of City Planning City of New York
Identifying Under-utilized Structure, Abandoned Lots, and dormant Infrastructure in the Five Boroughs

- Vacant Lot: 8,902 Acres (5.8%)
- No Data: 2,745 Acres (1.8%)

5 Borough Land Area: 153,605 Acres (100%)

Manhattan: 10,877 Acres (107% of Manhattan’s Land Area)
Identifying Under-utilized Structure, Abandoned Lots, and Dormant Infrastructure in the Five Boroughs

5 Borough Land Area: 153,605 Acres

5 Boroughs

- Industrial / Manufacturing
  - 5,498 Acres (3.6%)

- Transportation / Utility
  - 10,907 Acres (7.1%)

- Vacant Lot
  - 8,902 Acres (5.8%)

- No Data
  - 2,745 Acres (1.8%)

INDUSTRIAL

- Manhattan
  - 10,877 Acres (51% of Manhattan’s Land Area)

VACANT LOT + NO DATA

- Manhattan
  - 10,877 Acres

51%

107%

Source: Department of City Planning City of New York
Identifying Under-utilized Structure, Abandoned Lots, and dormant Infrastructure in the Five Boroughs

- **INDUSTRIAL**
  - Manhattan: 10,877 Acres (51% of Manhattan's Land Area)

- **Open Space**
  - Lot Area: 41,466 Acres (27% of 5 Borough Land Area)

- **Transportation / Utility**
  - Lot Area: 10,907 Acres (7.1% of 5 Borough Land Area)

- **Vacant Lot**
  - Lot Area: 8,902 Acres (5.8% of 5 Borough Land Area)

- **VACANT LOT + NO DATA**
  - Lot Area: 2,745 Acres (1.8% of 5 Borough Land Area)

5 Borough Land Area: 153,605 Acres (100% of Manhattan's Land Area)

Source: Department of City Planning City of New York
New York City's Potential Repurposing of Selected Underutilized Resources

Source: Department of City Planning City of New York, Abandoned NYC, New York MTA
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New York City’s Potential Repurposing of Selected Underutilized Resources

Queens
9. Creedmoor Hospital
10. DuRoss Point
11. Fort Totten Park
12. Houdini’s Grave
13. Rockaway Branch
14. Corona Park
15. Queensway

Brooklyn
1. Batcave, Gowanus
2. Red Hook Warehouse
3. Pump House
4. Loew’s 46th St Theater
5. Red Hook Grain Terminal
6. Gravesend Park
7. Brooklyn Army Terminal
8. Domino Sugar Refinery

Manhattan
16. The Harlem Renaissance Ballroom
17. Westside Highway Dinner
18. Harlem’s P.S. 186

Staten Island
20. Arthur Kill Graveyard
21. Bayley Seton Hospital
22. Fort Wadsworth
23. Mariner’s Marsh
24. Farm Colony (Hospital)

Bronx
19. North Brother Island