

A. INTRODUCTION

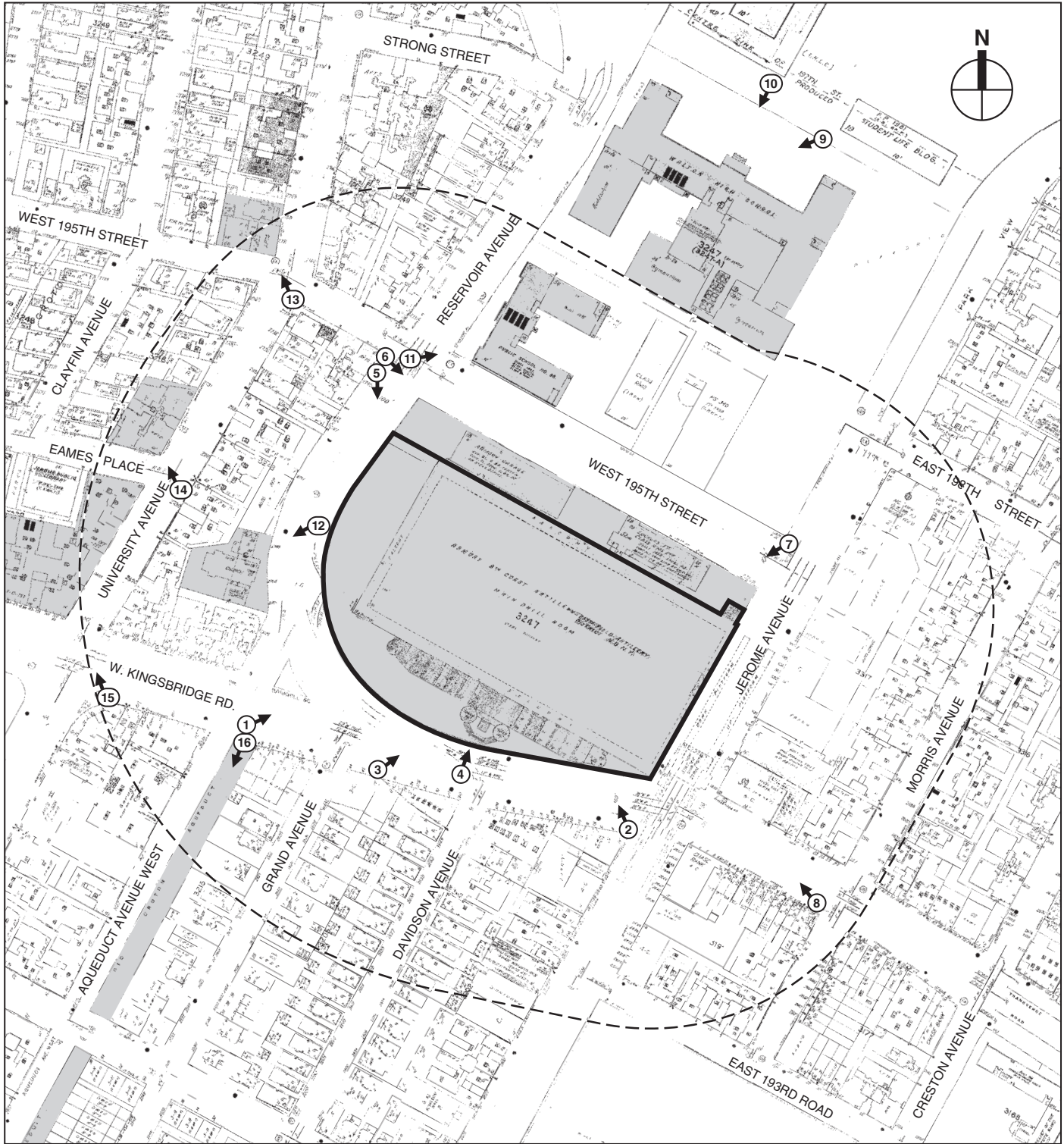
This chapter considers the potential for the proposed project to affect historic and cultural resources. The project site is largely occupied by the substantially vacant Kingsbridge Armory—also known as the Eighth Regiment Armory—which is a New York City Landmark (NYCL) and is also listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places (S/NR).¹ The Armory is located on Block 3247, Lot 10 and a portion of Lot 2 in the Kingsbridge Heights neighborhood of the Bronx (see **Figure 3-1**). In addition to the Armory building, the project site includes small, landscaped areas to the south and west of the Armory building. The proposed project would involve the renovation of the Armory to return it to productive use with nine ice rinks and related program space, including a wellness/off-ice training center, curling rinks, and lockers/equipment storage; related food and beverage, concession, and retail space; community facility space; and accessory parking.





Historic and cultural resources include both archaeological and architectural resources. The study area for archaeological resources is the area that would be disturbed for project construction, the project site itself. As part of a separate environmental assessment of the Armory site, in a letter dated August 21, 2008, the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) determined that the project site has no archaeological significance. Therefore, this historic and cultural resources assessment analyzes standing structures only.

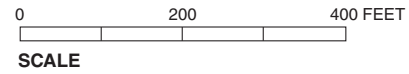
In general, potential impacts to architectural resources can include both direct physical impacts and indirect, contextual impacts. Direct impacts include demolition of a resource and alterations to a resource that cause it to become a different visual entity. A resource could also be damaged from vibration (i.e., from construction blasting or pile driving), and additional damage from adjacent construction could occur from falling objects, subsidence, collapse, or damage from construction machinery. Adjacent construction is defined as any construction activity that would occur within 90 feet of an architectural resource, as defined in the New York City Department of Buildings (DOB) *Technical Policy and Procedure Notice (TPPN) #10/88*.² Contextual impacts can include the isolation of a property from its surrounding environment, or the introduction of visual, audible, or atmospheric elements that are out of character with a property or that alter its setting. The study area for architectural resources is, therefore, larger than the archaeological resources study area to account for any potential impacts that may occur where proposed

¹ There are two buildings adjacent to the Armory's north façade, modern additions to the Armory property that are currently being used by the National Guard for military recruiting and a garage. The Armory's National Register nomination form identifies these as non-contributing structures.

² TPPN #10/88 was issued by DOB on June 6, 1988, to supplement Building Code regulations with regard to historic structures. TPPN #10/88 outlines procedures for the avoidance of damage to historic structures resulting from adjacent construction, defined as construction within a lateral distance of 90 feet from the historic resource.



-  Project Site Boundary
-  400-Foot Study Area Boundary
-  Photograph View Direction and Reference Number
-  Architectural Resource



Kingsbridge Armory National Ice Center

construction activities could physically alter architectural resources or be close enough to them to potentially cause physical damage or visual or contextual impacts.

Following the guidelines of the 2012 *City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) Technical Manual*, the architectural resources study area for the proposed project is defined as being within an approximately 400-foot radius of the project site (see **Figure 3-1**). Within the study area, architectural resources that were analyzed include National Historic Landmarks (NHL), S/NR-listed properties or properties determined eligible for such listing (S/NR-eligible), NYCLs, and properties determined eligible for landmark status (“known architectural resources”). Additionally, a survey was conducted to identify any previously undesignated properties that appear to meet S/NR or NYCL eligibility criteria (“potential architectural resources”).

Since the Kingsbridge Armory is a NYCL and is currently City-owned, the proposed changes to the Armory require a ~~Certificate of Appropriateness (CofA)~~ Binding Report from LPC pursuant to the New York City Landmarks Law. LPC’s issuance of a ~~CofA~~ Binding Report would ensure that the proposed alterations to the Kingsbridge Armory would be appropriate to the historic character and context of this historic building. At its public meeting on September 24, 2013, LPC voted to approve a Binding Report for the proposed project. The project is also seeking federal historic tax credits, thereby ensuring that the proposed alterations to the S/NR-listed Armory would be undertaken in consultation with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) and in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation, as described below. Additionally, a Construction Protection Plan (CPP) would be developed in consultation with LPC to protect the Armory from inadvertent construction-related impacts.

PRINCIPAL CONCLUSIONS

The proposed renovation and reuse of the Kingsbridge Armory would improve the appearance and condition of this architectural resource. The proposed project would reuse the Kingsbridge Armory, returning this long underutilized facility to productive use. These changes to the Kingsbridge Armory would enliven both the project site and adjacent areas, including other nearby architectural resources. As the proposed project cannot proceed without LPC’s issuance of a ~~CofA~~ Binding Report, compliance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards in order to receive federal historic tax credits, and the implementation of protective construction measures established in the Construction Protection Plan (CPP), the proposed project would not result in adverse impacts to the Kingsbridge Armory or architectural resources in the study area. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in adverse impacts to architectural resources.

B. KINGSBRIDGE HEIGHTS BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT HISTORY¹

The area now known as the Kingsbridge Heights neighborhood of the Bronx was a strategically important area during the Revolutionary War. In the late 18th century this area, then known as the manor of Fordham, overlooked the Harlem River and the plain where the Van Cortlandt manor and the King’s Bridge were located between the heights and Riverdale. The King’s Bridge was Manhattan Island’s overland connection to the mainland. On what is now the Bronx

¹ Information derived from National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, *Jerome Park Reservoir*. Bronx, NY, June 2000.

side of the Harlem River, this road divided into three major routes to the north—the post roads to Albany, White Plains, and Boston.

During the Revolutionary War, General George Washington developed a plan to construct a series of forts along the Kingsbridge heights from Fordham to Spuyten Duyvil that were to dominate the Harlem River, the King’s Bridge, and the post roads. Two of the forts that were constructed are now the sites of Fort Independence Park and part of Washington’s Walk Park. Washington made a temporary headquarters at Van Cortlandt Manor. In September 1776, when the New York City area fell to the British, Washington and his troops departed by cover of night to avoid capture.

Until the mid-19th century, the Kingsbridge Heights area consisted primarily of large estates and farms, though other residential development began to occur. Jerome Park was developed in 1866 and included a horse racetrack in the area now occupied by Lehman College. The racetrack, which closed in 1887, was the first formal commercial racetrack in New York City and was the original home of the Belmont Stakes race.

C. EXISTING CONDITIONS

PROJECT SITE

The project site is occupied by the Kingsbridge Armory. The project site contains no other structures, and thus no potential architectural resources.¹

The **Kingsbridge Armory**² (S/NR, NYCL), the former home of the 258th Field Artillery (Eighth Regiment), is a notable example of military architecture that was designed by architects Pilcher and Tachau and built between 1912 and 1917 (see **Figures 3-2 and 3-3**). Appointed to the Office of the New York State Architect in 1913, Lewis Pilcher carried out most of the work on the Armory while serving in this capacity.

The Armory was constructed on the site of the proposed eastern basin of the Jerome Park Reservoir. Excavation for the eastern basin had started in the early 1900s, but in 1911 the site was authorized by the New York State Legislature for a National Guard armory. A number of military relics were uncovered during the excavation, as the armory site was near two Revolutionary War fort sites. At the time of the Armory’s construction, the military organization using the building was known as the Eighth Coast Artillery, which traces its history back to 1786 with the establishment of the peace-time militia in New York City. Because the regiment formed part of the honor guard at the presidential inauguration of George Washington, it later adopted the nickname of the “Washington Greys.” Before the present Armory was built, the organization occupied the armory at Park Avenue and East 94th Street. The Kingsbridge Armory is one of the few remaining armories in New York City.

As one of the largest (former) armories in the world, the Kingsbridge Armory and its two outbuildings—which are not part of the project site—occupy the entire block bounded by West Kingsbridge Road, Reservoir Avenue, West 195th Street, and Jerome Avenue (see **Figures 3-2**

¹ The two non-contributing buildings adjacent to the Armory’s north façade are excluded from the project site and are not part of the proposed project; however, they are within the proposed rezoning area.

² The text describing the Kingsbridge Armory is derived from the LPC Designation Report, *Kingsbridge Armory* (LP-0823), September 1974, and from the National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form, *Eighth Regiment Armory/Kingsbridge Armory*, 1982.



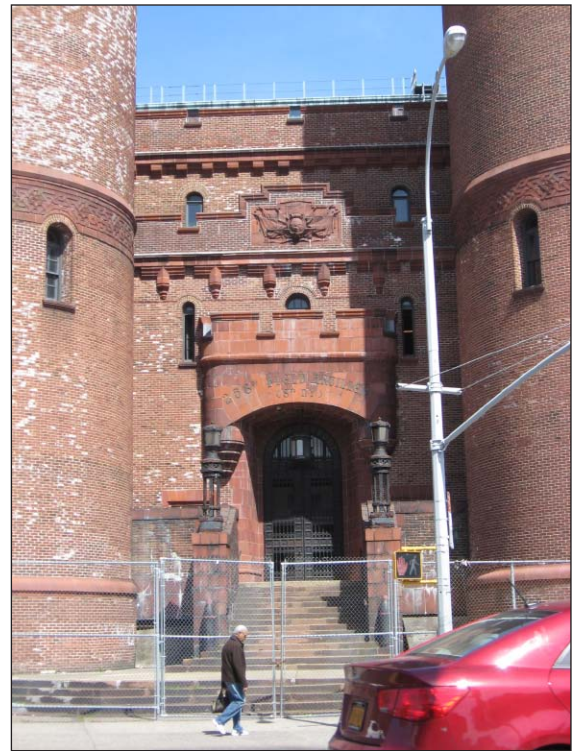
Kingsbridge Armory—View northeast on West Kingsbridge Road to the Kingsbridge Armory's south facade 1



Kingsbridge Armory—View northwest on West Kingsbridge Road to the Armory's south facade 2



Kingsbridge Armory—View northeast on West Kingsbridge Road to the Armory's south facade 3



Kingsbridge Armory—Primary entrance on the Armory's south facade 4

Kingsbridge Armory National Ice Center

through 3-5). At the time of its construction, the Armory was an engineering feat. It has a metal and glass roof with an upper flat portion with clerestory windows at the ridge opening to the north and south and a lower vaulted portion. The Armory's roof structure is expressed at its east and west ends (see View 5 of **Figure 3-4** and View 8 of **Figure 3-5**). A chain link fence presently surrounds the Armory building site.

The Armory's large scale and design give it the appearance of a medieval Romanesque fortress, with crenellated parapets and two massive towers framing its West Kingsbridge Road headhouse. The Armory's red brick walls have red sandstone trim, corbelling, parapets, and regularly-spaced corbelled turrets that accent the walls and corners. The walls are also punctuated at regular intervals by vertical, arched window openings. The main entrance is from the headhouse on West Kingsbridge Road. It is flanked by two semi-engaged, tall round towers rising above the drill hall roof, described below. The towers have decorative stonework at the crenellated parapets, slit windows, brick corbelling, and conical metal roofs. Between the towers is a center stone stairway leading to an arched entrance with cast iron gates. Above the entrance is a stone projection carried on corbels and crowned with a crenellated parapet. The regimental motif is displayed above the entrance and depicts a shield above an eagle with draped flags. Two low round towers, two square towers, and angled walls make the transition from the headhouse to the Armory's south facade. Each of these round towers also has a conical roof with a cupola.

The Armory's east and west ends have few decorative elements, limited to corbelling, a parapet, and turrets. The roof structure, as noted above, is expressed at the building's east and west ends, with large windows infilled with non-original corrugated opaque fiberglass panels. The north facade's decorative elements are more limited but include a continuation of the parapet, regularly-spaced arched windows at the ground floor just below the parapet, and below-grade windows opening into the moat areaway. The clerestory windows opening to the north have non-original corrugated fiberglass infill with a divided light configuration. Ten groupings of five non-original rectangular louvered openings are located above the parapet on the roof's lower vaulted portion.

The roof's four-centered double truss arch spans the 300-foot-by-600-foot drill hall with the tops of the trusses more than 100 feet in height. The Armory's entry hall, located just inside the headhouse, has groin vaulting with square brick piers supporting segmental arches framing the vaults. The piers and intrados of the arches have decorative red brick quoining. The building originally had a 400-foot rifle range, a bowling alley, a gymnasium, and a lecture hall, all of which were located in the basement and cellar levels below the drill hall floor.

Over the course of the 20th century the Armory's drill hall hosted numerous public events, particularly in the early 1950s before the completion of the Coliseum at Columbus Circle. These events included radio broadcasts; bicycle races, track and tennis events; auto, boat, flower and dog shows; and stockholder meetings. In the early 1980s, the Armory was also used as a shelter for the homeless. As part of a nationwide program of military cutbacks, the Eighth Regiment departed the Armory in 1994, and the City of New York took control of the Armory on April 11, 1996. During the 1990s, a plan was developed to utilize the building for a retail and sports complex, but this effort never moved past the planning stage. Other proposed uses for the structure have included a public school. Beginning in 2000, EDC has undertaken several restoration initiatives, including the restoration of the roof and rib elements, and masonry repairs to the headhouse and drill hall. Other proposed uses for the structure have included a public school and a retail complex, for which an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared in 2009, as described in Chapter 1, "Project Description." In 2012, EDC issued a Request for



Kingsbridge Armory—View southeast on Reservoir Avenue to the Armory's west facade 5



Kingsbridge Armory—View southeast on Reservoir Avenue to the Armory's north facade 6



Kingsbridge Armory—View southwest on West 195th Street to the Armory's north facade 7



Kingsbridge Armory—View northwest on East Kingsbridge Road to the Armory's east facade 8

Proposals for the sale and redevelopment of the Kingsbridge Armory. In April 2013, the Kingsbridge National Ice Center (KNIC) was selected by EDC as the designated developer for the proposed project.

STUDY AREA

ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES

There are seven known architectural resources in the study area.¹

The former **Walton High School** building (S/NR-eligible) at 2780 Reservoir Avenue was built by the New York City Board of Education in 1930. The high school was founded in 1923 by Mary A. Conlon, an elementary school principal, as one of the first all-girls schools in New York City. The school was named after Mary Walton who ran a “dame school” in this area of the Bronx for the education of girls in reading, writing, basic mathematics, and housekeeping. The school building currently houses the High School for Teaching and the Professions. The three-story school is an H-shaped reinforced concrete building, with its primary entrance on Reservoir Avenue. The building is faced in tan brick with decorative terra cotta components, including a water table and modest cornice. Multi-light, narrow vertical windows are grouped within decorative terra cotta framing elements (see Views 9 and 10 of **Figure 3-6**).

Public School 86 (S/NR-eligible), located at 2756 Reservoir Avenue, was designed by William H. Gompert, the architect for the New York City Board of Education. The school was built in 1927 and has a 1938 addition. The five-story reinforced concrete building has a “U” shape, with its primary façade facing Reservoir Avenue and a wing of the “U” extending along West 195th Street (see View 11 of **Figure 3-7**). The school is faced in tan brick with terra cotta detailing; however, the building is currently under scaffolding. Its primary entrance is defined by a portico with a pedimented center doorway flanked by two round columns. The entablature is inscribed with “Public School 86.”

The **Fordham Manor Reformed Church** (S/NR-eligible) and its parsonage and school are located at 2711 Reservoir Avenue. The church and its accessory buildings date from 1940 and were built in the Georgian-Colonial Revival style (see View 12 of **Figure 3-7**). According to a 1940 article in *The New York Times*, the church was founded in 1696 on property acquired through a grant from King William III of the Netherlands.² The current church, the congregation’s fourth building, is faced in red brick and has a pitched roof with a brick and copper steeple. The church has a center entrance with two ionic columns above which sits a wide pediment with a fanlight. The church is flanked by a red brick two-story parsonage and a red brick one-story school, both of which have flat roofs and have few decorative elements. These accessory buildings are not considered architectural resources.

The six-story Art Deco apartment building at **2751 University Avenue** (S/NR-eligible) is located at the northwest corner of West 195th Street. The building, designed by architect Edward W. Franklin and built in 1936, is faced in tan brick with decorative orange and brown brick detailing that accents the building’s verticality. The roofline is defined by jewel-like pendants. Fire escapes with rounded ends extend from the building’s east and south facades. The

¹ As part of a separate 2009 EIS, five buildings in the study area were determined S/NR-eligible. These resources are: Public School 86, the Fordham Manor Reformed Church, University Towers, the apartment building at 2727 University Avenue, and the apartment building at 2751 University Avenue.

² “Cornerstone Laid for Bronx Church.” *The New York Times*. October 7, 1940, page 12.



Walton High School—2780 Reservoir Avenue, north facade 9



Walton High School—2780 Reservoir Avenue, north entrance 10



Public School 86—2756 Reservoir Avenue 11



Fordham Manor Reformed Church—2711 Reservoir Avenue 12

Kingsbridge Armory National Ice Center

building's primary entrance is from West 195th Street and is framed by terra cotta detailing (see View 13 of **Figure 3-8**).

The apartment building at **2727 University Avenue** (S/NR-eligible) is a six-story Art Moderne structure that dates from circa 1937. The building, faced in tan, brown, and orange brick, is located at the northwest corner of University Avenue and Eames Place with its primary, decorative sandstone entrance on University Avenue. The building has corner windows with horizontal brick work that groups the windows together and emphasizes the building's Moderne design (see View 14 of **Figure 3-8**).

The seven-story **University Towers** (S/NR-eligible) at 2685 University Avenue is an apartment building that was designed by architect G.C. Miller, R.A., and built in 1927. It occupies the entire blockfront of University Avenue between West Kingsbridge Road and Eames Place and extends west on West Kingsbridge Road. This Beaux-Arts apartment building, with Tudor and Moorish influences, is faced in tan brick and has fire escapes extending from the second floor to the seventh floor on each of the building's projecting segments. Decorative terra cotta elements define the University Avenue entrance and the building's roofline. Ground floor retail occupies the building's West Kingsbridge Road streetfront (see View 15 of **Figure 3-9**).

The **Old Croton Aqueduct**¹ (NHL, S/NR), built between 1837 and 1842, was originally an enclosed conduit extending forty miles from a dam on the Croton River through eastern Westchester and Bronx Counties and then southward to Manhattan. The gravity-fed enclosed conduit carried the Croton River's fresh water to Manhattan and played an essential role in New York City's 19th century growth and development. A portion of the Old Croton Aqueduct extends along the east side of the Jerome Park Reservoir, Goulden and Reservoir Avenues, and then south past the intersection with West Kingsbridge Road along Aqueduct Avenue West (see View 16 of **Figure 3-9**). Aqueduct Walk, extending south from Kingsbridge Road, provides a walkway adjacent to a portion of the Old Croton Aqueduct located below Aqueduct Road West.

D. FUTURE WITHOUT THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Absent the proposed actions, the Kingsbridge Armory would be expected to remain in its current condition as a largely vacant building. As it would continue to be underutilized, the Armory could deteriorate and its condition could worsen.

OTHER FUTURE PROJECTS

There are no known development projects in the historic and cultural resources study area that are expected to be completed by 2018.

The status of historic and cultural resources could change in the future without the proposed project. S/NR-eligible historic and cultural resources could be listed on the Registers. Changes to the historic and cultural resources identified above or to their settings could occur irrespective of the proposed project. Future projects could also affect the settings of architectural resources. It is possible that some architectural resources in the study area could deteriorate, while others could be restored. In addition, future projects could accidentally damage architectural resources through adjacent construction.

¹ Information derived from National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, *Jerome Park Reservoir*. Bronx, NY, June 2000.



2751 University Avenue 13



2727 University Avenue 14



University Towers—2685 University Avenue 15



Old Croton Aqueduct—
View south from West Kingsbridge Road 16

Historic and cultural resources that are listed on the S/NR or that have been found eligible for listing are given a measure of protection under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act from the effects of projects sponsored, assisted, or approved by federal agencies. Although preservation is not mandated, federal agencies must attempt to avoid adverse effects on such resources through a notice, review, and consultation process. Properties listed on the Registers are similarly protected against effects resulting from projects sponsored, assisted, or approved by State agencies under the State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA). However, private owners of properties eligible for, or even listed on, the Registers using private funds can alter or demolish their properties without such a review process. Privately owned properties that are NYCLs, in New York City Historic Districts, or pending designation as NYCLs are protected under the New York City Landmarks Law, which requires LPC review and approval before any alteration or demolition permits can be issued, regardless of whether the project is publicly or privately funded. Publicly owned resources are also subject to review by LPC before the start of a project. However, LPC's role in projects sponsored by other City or State agencies generally is advisory only.

The New York City Building Code provides some measures of protection for all properties against accidental damage from adjacent construction by requiring that all buildings, lots, and service facilities adjacent to foundation and earthwork areas be protected and supported. While these regulations serve to protect all structures adjacent to construction areas, they do not afford special consideration for historic structures.

E. PROBABLE IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

PROJECT SITE

The proposed actions would result in the renovation and reuse of the Kingsbridge Armory, thereby returning this substantially vacant facility to productive use. The reuse of the building would involve exterior and interior alterations to the Armory and site (see **Figures 3-2** through **3-5**). Exterior alterations to the Armory would include repairing and restoring the building's brick facades, where needed. No vertical rooftop additions would be made to the Armory. Two approximately 150-foot-long dormers with sloped roofs would be added to the vaulted portion of the roof at the building's north side, for the installation of mechanical equipment. Louvers would be installed within the dormers' window openings. Louvers would also be installed in certain window openings in the clerestory windows on the building's north elevation. Certain of these louvered openings would be for the building's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system. Solar panels are proposed to be installed on the upper (flat) portion of the roof on the south side of the building. The visibility of these building elements would be limited by their rooftop locations.

The Armory's windows would be retained where possible, or replaced with historically-appropriate models. The non-original corrugated opaque fiberglass panels at the east and west ends of the Armory would be removed, and windows at these areas would be re-installed with translucent material to match the historic fenestration in this area, allowing natural sunlight to filter into the former drill hall. Though it would more than 18 inches from the east and west end windows, interior signage could be visible from certain nearby vantage points, including the Kingsbridge Road No. 4 train platform immediately east of the Armory and vantage points on Reservoir Avenue, through the building's east and west ends.

At the ground level, the building entrances at the headhouse and on the east façade would be restored. On the Armory's east façade, non-historic infill would be removed and appropriate new

Kingsbridge Armory National Ice Center

entries installed. The historic wrought iron gate on the east façade would be retained and incorporated into the new entry. The existing non-historic service entrances on the Armory's west façade would be altered to accommodate loading docks and an entrance to the parking facility within the building's basement and cellar levels. A new pedestrian entrance would be created near the southern corner of the west façade that would be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); a new truck entrance also would be created in this location. On the building's north façade, new openings for mechanical louvers, pedestrian entrances and exits, and a new vehicular entrance and loading dock would be created. The new openings for mechanical louvers would be created at the ground level and below grade, opening into the moat areaway. The new louvers would be similar to the existing louvers located above the parapet and would also be used for the proposed project's mechanical systems. Certain below grade window openings would also be removed to allow for the new louvered openings. At ground level, a new decking structure from West 195th Street would be created to provide access to a new vehicular entrance, loading dock, and a pedestrian entrance. The other new doorways on the north façade would be below grade and would open into the moat areaway. Limited historic material would be removed from these areas of the north façade to create these new openings, which would bring the Armory into compliance with New York City fire code. The new louvered openings and doorways would be obscured from view from most vantage points by the two non-contributing outbuildings immediately adjacent to the Armory. Their visibility would be further limited by their location within the lower elevation of the existing areaway at the moat. The chain link fence that presently surrounds the Armory building site would be removed.

The proposed project would create nine ice rinks within the Armory's 600-foot-long by 300-foot-wide drill hall. A central feature rink with seating for 5,000 would be at the main ground level with two smaller rinks, also at ground level, located on either side. Four additional rinks would be located on a second level, approximately 46 feet above the ground level rinks (see Figures 1-3 through 1-6 in Chapter 1, "Project Description"). The rink configurations are being designed to maintain views through the length of the drill hall and to provide views to the Armory's ceiling and rib structure and other historic elements. As described above, the Armory's re-installed east and west façade windows—which would be of translucent material—would allow certain components of the proposed rink configuration to be visible from the Kingsbridge Road No. 4 train platform immediately east of the Armory and from vantage points on Reservoir Avenue. This visibility would be an improvement over the existing condition, in which views from the station platform and from vantage points along Reservoir Avenue are obstructed by the opaque paneling on the Armory's east and west façade windows.

The proposed project would enhance the project site's landscaping around the Armory building's perimeter. It is anticipated that new signage on the project site would be located near the Armory's headhouse, which would continue to contain the building's main entrance. The existing paved driveways adjacent to the Armory's west façade would be reconfigured to allow vehicular access from Reservoir Avenue to the building's parking facility and loading docks. A new pedestrian entrance would also be created at the southern part of the Armory's west façade. A new sign for the facility would be located adjacent to this new pedestrian entrance. These automobile access points and pedestrian entrance would not adversely affect the Armory, as they would not significantly change the existing use of this area of the project site, nor would their creation require the removal of a substantial amount of historic material. Further, the new pedestrian entrance would provide access from the Armory's west façade and would be set within a landscaped area, thus improving the appearance of this area of the project site. The

anticipated signage on the project site would be designed to be appropriate to the historic character of the Armory.

Because the Armory is a NYCL and is currently City-owned, the proposed alterations to the Armory, as described above, are subject to LPC's review and approval and require a ~~CofA~~ Binding Report from LPC. Therefore, the project sponsor must consult with LPC regarding the proposed alterations to the Armory. LPC's determination of the appropriateness of the proposed modifications to the landmark site and the issuance of a ~~CofA~~ Binding Report would ensure that the proposed project would not adversely impact the historic character of the Kingsbridge Armory. At its public meeting on September 24, 2013, LPC voted to approve a Binding Report for the proposed project. Because the proposed project is also seeking federal historic tax credits, the project is being designed in consultation with OPRHP. Further, as a condition for receiving these tax credits, the project would also comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards, as interpreted by OPRHP and the National Park Service (NPS), thereby ensuring that the proposed project would not adversely affect the Kingsbridge Armory. The renovation of the Armory and the proposed new, active uses would improve the building's appearance and context as the building would no longer appear empty and deteriorating through lack of active uses. Therefore, the proposed project is not expected to result in any significant adverse impacts to the Kingsbridge Armory or its site.

Further, to avoid the potential for adverse physical impacts on the Armory, such as ground-borne construction-period vibrations, falling debris, and damage from heavy machinery, a CPP would be developed and implemented in consultation with LPC prior to construction of the proposed project. As described above, the CPP would be prepared in coordination with a licensed professional engineer and would follow the guidelines set forth in ~~s~~Section 523 of Chapter 9 of the *CEQR Technical Manual*, including conforming to LPC's *New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission Guidelines for Construction Adjacent to a Historic Landmark and Protection Programs for Landmark Buildings*. The CPP would also comply with the procedures set forth in the New York City Department of Buildings (DOB)'s *Technical Policy and Procedure Notice (TPPN) #10/88*, as described above.

STUDY AREA

The proposed project would not be expected to adversely affect the context of nearby architectural resources, as it would result in the renovation and reuse of a large underutilized historic structure. As described above, the proposed exterior alterations to the Armory building would be largely limited to the building's north façade and northern vaulted roof, which would have limited visibility and thus be less likely to affect the context of the surrounding study area. Other exterior alterations would involve changes to the access points on the east and west facades. The Armory's primary, southern façade would be ~~restored~~renovated. Further, as described above, the proposed changes to the Armory would require the review and approval of LPC. Because the project is also seeking federal historic tax credits, the changes to the Armory would be undertaken in consultation with OPRHP and in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The proposed changes to the Armory building and site would be visible from two architectural resources closest to the project site—Public School 86 and the Fordham Manor Reformed Church. These changes to the Armory building and site would not adversely impact these resources; rather, the proposed project would improve their context as it would enliven the project site by removing the existing chain link fences from the perimeter of the Armory property, adding new landscaping to the project site, and generally improving the physical appearance of the building by cleaning, repairing, and returning it to

Kingsbridge Armory National Ice Center

active use. As the other architectural resources in the study area are at greater distances from the project site and have limited physical or visual relationships with the Armory building, they would not be adversely affected by the proposed project. Additionally, since the Armory is an existing structure, the exterior of which would not be altered in size, the proposed project would not obstruct significant views of any architectural resource or adversely alter the visual setting of any architectural resources in the study area. In addition, there are no architectural resources in the study area located within 90 feet of the project site; therefore, no such resources could be potentially physically affected during construction-period activities on the project site.

Overall, the proposed project would not result in any significant adverse impacts to architectural resources on the project site or in the study area. The proposed changes would improve the overall character of the Armory and the surrounding area. *