

A. INTRODUCTION

The New York City School Construction Authority (SCA) proposes to renovate the former Brooklyn Family Court building in Downtown Brooklyn into a 1,075-seat high school facility (see Figure 1-1). The school facility would contain facilities for students from ninth to twelfth grade. The proposed school would be located in New York City Department of Education's (DOE) Region 8/Community School District 13, and would primarily serve Brooklyn residents, although it could serve high school students city-wide. The new school would be located on a block bounded by Johnson Street to the north, Jay Street to the east, Willoughby Street to the south, and Adams Street to the west (see Figure 1-2). The project site is located on the northwestern portion of Block 140, on Lot 10. The lot is owned by the City of New York and is under the control of DOE.

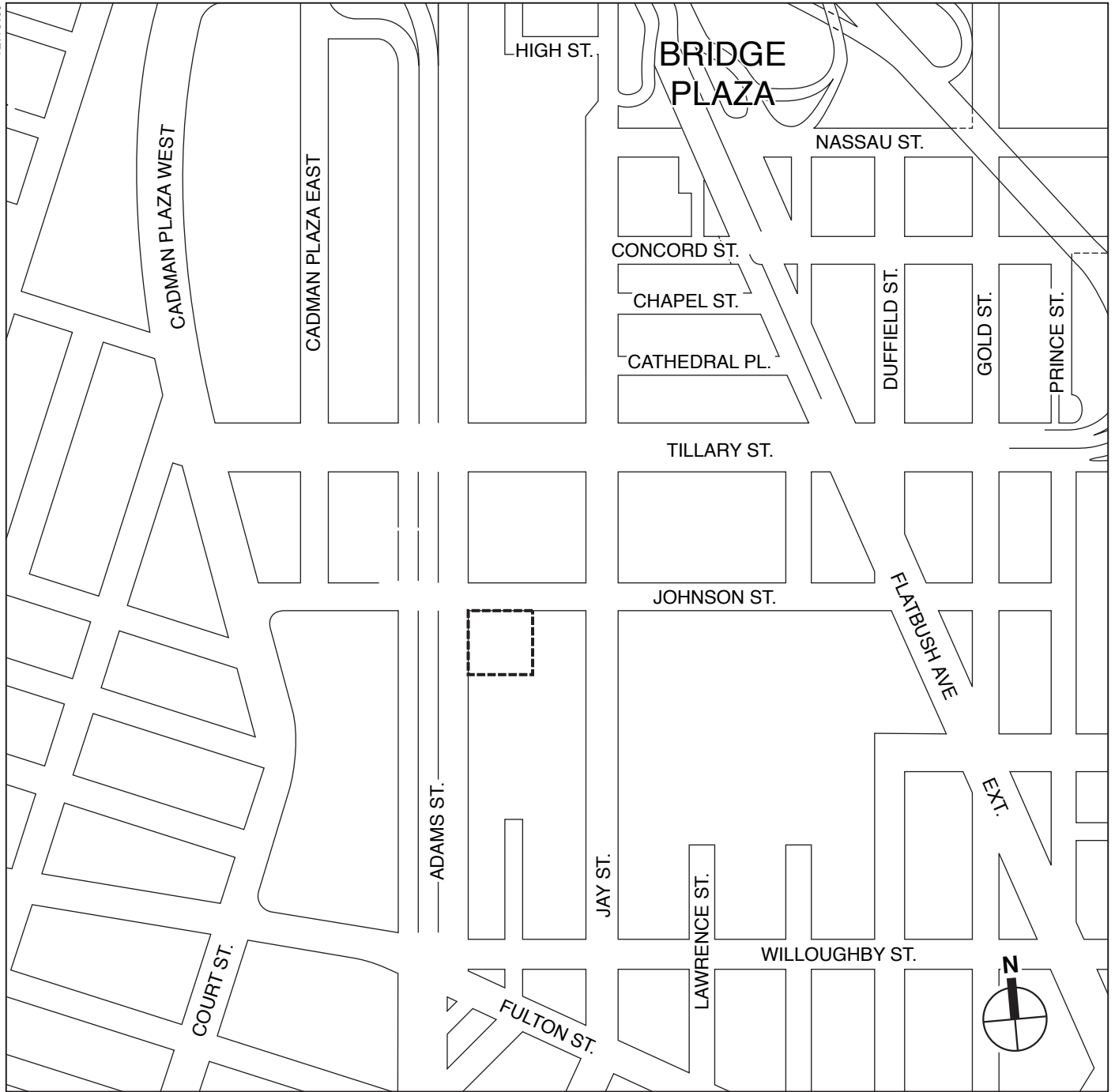
The proposed project would involve the construction of an approximately 40-foot tall sixth floor addition to the existing 5-story building on Lot 10. The sixth floor addition would replace the existing penthouse with approximately 12,900 square feet of space that would include a gymnasium/multi-purpose room, stage storage room, health instructor office, bleachers and a community visiting team room. The building is oriented so that the front entrance to the school and main student entry area would be on Adams Street, along which the proposed school would contain approximately 206 feet of frontage. Additionally, the school is assumed to continue to have approximately 99 feet of frontage along Johnson Street, as no change in the building base is proposed.

For purposes of the analysis, it is assumed that the proposed school would contain administrative offices, special education instruction rooms, a gymnasium/multi-purpose area, classrooms, library, music rooms, computer/technical labs, an entrance area, a lunchroom, kitchen, common areas, mechanical rooms, storage facilities, locker rooms and custodial spaces.

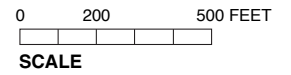
The proposed school would be located in a C5-4 zoning district, in which schools are permitted as-of-right. Funding for design and construction of this project is available in the New York City DOE's Capital Plan for Fiscal Years 2005 through 2009. For the purpose of this environmental review, it was assumed that student occupancy of the school would not begin until September 2008. Accordingly, 2008 has been selected as the Build Year for which the environmental assessment areas have been analyzed.

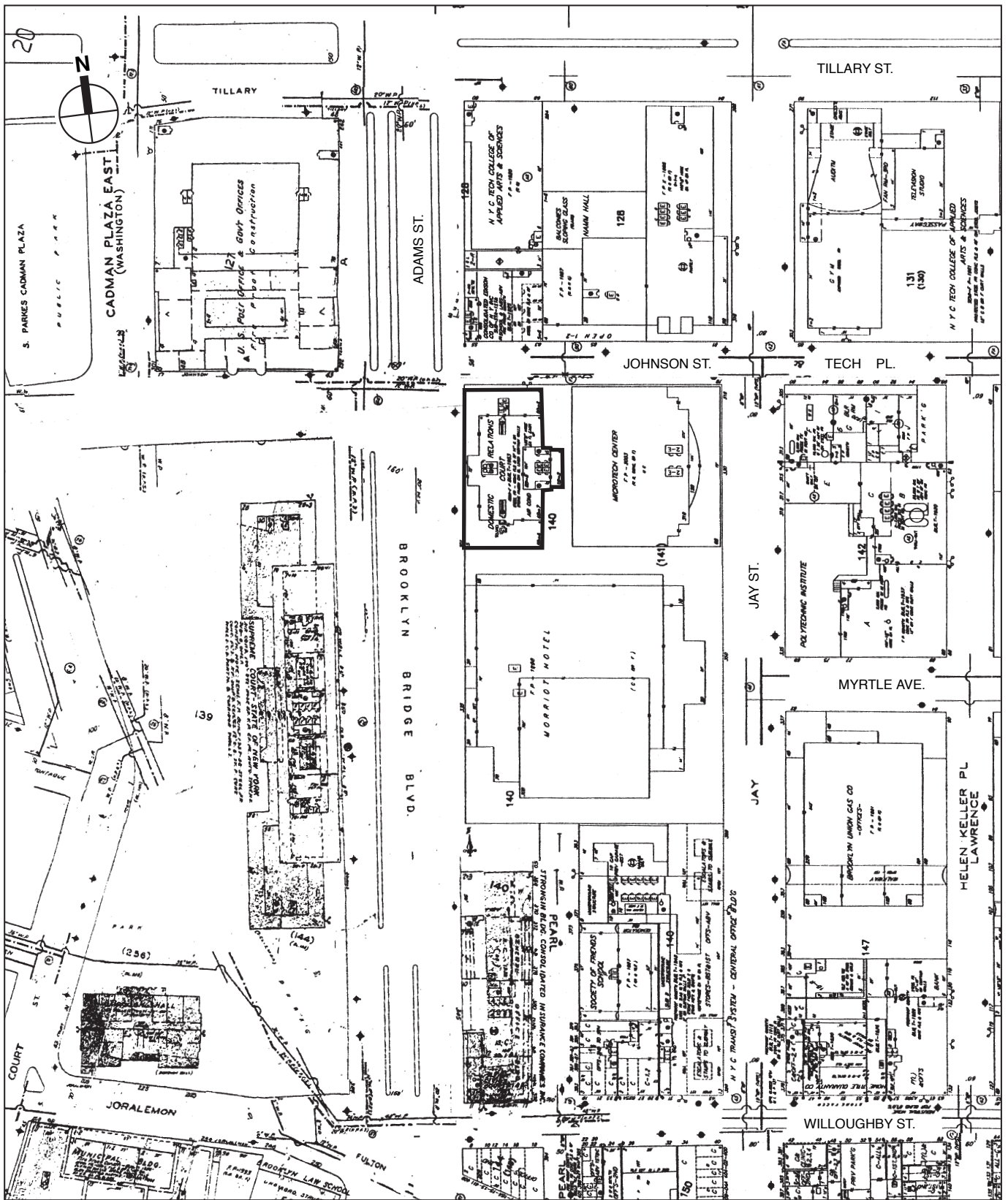
B. PURPOSE AND NEED

Construction of the new school facility has been proposed by DOE and SCA to serve the residents of the Downtown Brooklyn community, as well as students from throughout the borough and city-wide. The school facility would accommodate two high school organizations with a total of 1,075 students from ninth to twelfth grade, including students enrolled in the District 75 Special Education Program. According to the latest DOE school utilization profile for



----- Project Site Boundary





— Project Site Boundary

0 100 200 FEET
SCALE

ADAMS STREET HIGH SCHOOL

Project Site Figure 1-2

Adams Street High School

the 2004-2005 school year, high schools in Region 8 are operating at 85 percent of their capacity, with 2004 district-wide enrollment listed at 831 high school students. Citywide, high schools are operating at 105 percent of their capacity, with a total capacity of 306,112 seats and an enrollment of 291,717.

C. PROJECT SITE AND PROPOSED SCHOOL

The project site is located on Block 140, Lot 10 in Downtown Brooklyn, and is bounded by Johnson Street to the north, Jay Street to the east, Willoughby Street to the south, and Adams Street to the west. The site contains a 5-story building that is currently empty. The project site is generally bounded by institutional, office, commercial, and open space uses.

The proposed project would create a school facility containing classrooms, administrative spaces, kitchen facilities, and multi-purpose room. The new school facility would employ a total of 83 teachers, administrators, and support staff. The school would operate during normal school hours, 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM, from September to June.

The building would be 6 stories tall with the proposed new addition and would contain up to approximately 141,500 gross square feet (gsf). The school's main entrances would be located on the west side of the building along Adams Street. *