



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 111<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

June 16th. 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
M a y o r:

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 659 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., RIVER AVENUE from 149th street to Jerome avenue, I beg to say that said avenue runs along the Harlem River and Cromwell's Creek, and connects with Jerome avenue near 168th street. A sewer has been constructed in said avenue and the regulating and grading of the same has been asked for by the property owners along the line.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*  
Commissioner.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

June 16th. 1896

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
M a y o r.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 661 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., EAST 183RD STREET from Webster avenue to Third avenue, I beg to say that the street as laid out connects Webster avenue with the new station of the New York and Harlem Railroad at 183rd street and is an important thoroughfare.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

June 16th. 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
M a y o r.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 682 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., EAST 144TH STREET from Mott avenue to River avenue, I beg to say that said street east of Mott avenue is sewered, regulated, graded and paved and by improving that portion included in the resolution, it will form an important thoroughfare from St. Mary's Park to the Harlem River.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*  
Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

June 16th. 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
M a y o r:

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 704 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate and grade LONGWOOD AVENUE from Tiffany street to the Southern Boulevard, I beg to say that along this avenue has been constructed a large trunk sewer connecting Intervale avenue sewer with the Tiffany street sewer, and the avenue as it now exists is almost impassable and should be regulated and graded as soon as possible.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 111<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

June 16th. 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
M a y o r.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 705 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., EAST 163RD STREET from Third avenue to Westchester avenue, I beg to say that East 163rd street is an important street and runs through a populous district, and will form a connection between Third avenue and Westchester avenue. The street at the present time is very narrow, and the improvement of the same has been asked for by the property owners along the line.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 111<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

June 15th. 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
M a y o r.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 706 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate and pave with granite block pavement WENDOVER AVENUE from Third avenue to Webster avenue, I beg to say that this avenue is an important crosstown road connecting Claremont Park with Crotona Park and the Claremont station of the New York and Harlem Railroad. The avenue has been sewered, regulated and graded and should be paved.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street.*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

June 22nd. 1896.

HON. WILLIAM L. STRONG,  
M a y o r.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 727 of the Board of Aldermen, granting permission to Herman Schmuck to curb and flag the sidewalks on the south east corner of Union avenue and Westchester avenue, I beg to say that I know of no objections to the approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.

June 15th, 1896.

Mr. M. J. Christensen,  
274 Katonah avenue,  
Woodlawn Heights, City.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of June 9th last, addressed to his Honor the Mayor and forwarded to this office, Commissioner Haffen directs me to transmit to you the substantial part of a report made by Foreman Schaufelberger as follows:

"The house of the said complainant is situated in the middle of a swamp surrounded by bushes and weeds about 8 feet high, and fronts on KATONAH avenue. On both sides of it, there is a running stream or brook about 3 feet wide. Across this stream a foot bridge (now removed) was put there by the owners, but no coal cart could ever have crossed it.

"In trying to clean up the street in front of these premises early this spring, the complainant told the men to go away as they did not want them there. Two years ago when brush and weeds were cut down I was on the street in front of the said property and complainant tied up the brush and weeds so that they would stand in the position that they were cut down. The only relief I see would be for the complainant to build a bridge across said ditch or brook so that a wagon could pull up to the house which stands back about 20 feet."

Commissioner Haffen directs me further to say that your house is alongside of an old watercourse running from Yonkers south, and that he has no authority to stop or interfere in any way with it. As soon, however, as title to Opdyke street and Katonah avenue is vested in the city, this district will be drained. Preparations to that end are well advanced.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Joseph P. Hennessy,

Secretary.

(COPY.)

Schm-fleeger

The Card.

New York City 18<sup>th</sup> June 1896

His honor the Mayor of New York  
City.

Dear Sir!- Commissioner Haffen  
of the Department of Streets improve-  
ments in the 23<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Wards  
this City changed the Brooks com-  
se in Huttonah Ave Woodlawn  
Heights over to our side of the street  
last year. He admit that the  
Street is in a deplorable condition,  
but he refuse positively to do any-  
thing to our relief.

most respectfull  
Morten J. Christensen.

A tax paying, but utterly despised  
Citizen, apparently not worthy  
to the least considering as a  
human being.

274 Huttonah Ave Woodlawn  
Heights New York City.

*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 2622 Third Ave., Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> Str.*

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

June 23d, 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of June 18th last, transmitting to me the enclosed complaint of Mr. Christensen of Woodlawn Heights.

In reply thereto I beg to say that Mr. Christensen made a similar complaint about two weeks ago and that complaint I answered as per enclosed, and as I notified you on June 15th last.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffner*

Commissioner.

*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 2622 Third Ave., Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> Str.*

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

July 20th, 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter, transmitting for report resolution No. 770 of the Board of Aldermen, granting permission to the West Farms Ice Company to open the sidewalk in Main street, east side, about 230 feet north of Lillian Place for the purpose of putting in an ice scale, 10 x 16', I beg to say that in view of the fact that the ice scale is being erected without a permit and previous to the passage of this resolution and not in conformity with it I recommend its disapproval.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffner*

Commi ssi one r.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street.*

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

Aug. 12th, 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 805 of the Board of Aldermen permitting William Simpson to regulate, grade, etc. FOX street, between East 165th street and Westchester avenue, I beg to say that the title to Fox street, between East 165th street and Westchester avenue vested in the City January 3rd, 1896, and therefore there is no legal obstacle against the approval of this resolution.

Enclosed please find copies of letters from Chief Engineer Risse and Chief Engineer Briggs of this Department, in reference to this resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 111<sup>st</sup> Street.*

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

Aug. 12th, 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 807 of the Board of Aldermen, permitting Frederick Schrader, Jr., to put a coal scale in front of his premises on the west side of FIRST street about 160 feet north of 19th avenue, Wakefield, New York City, I beg to say that an examination of the premises referred to shows that the putting in of a coal scale, 7 x 14, in the sidewalk on the west side of FIRST street, 160 feet north of 19th avenue will not interfere with the traffic on said street.

The coal scale will extend only about five feet into the sidewalk and the balance will be on the property of Mr. Schrader.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*

Commissioner.

*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 2022 Third Ave. Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> Str.*

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

August 13th. 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
M a y o r :

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 808 of the Board of Aldermen, permitting Louis C. Hahn to flag the sidewalk in front of his premises on the west side of Kirkside avenue, 100 feet north of Wellesly street with blue stone flagging four feet wide and 50 feet long, I beg to say that Kirkside avenue is called Morris avenue on the Final Maps and Profiles, and Wellesly street is called East 196th street. Both streets are laid out on the property maps but title to them is not as yet vested in the city.

I have no objection to the approval of this resolution; but, it is my opinion that the same is not necessary.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffner*  
Commissioner.

590

Scott Ave.  
Bradford Park }

New York Aug 22. 1896.

Hon. William Strong,  
Mayor of the City of New York.

Sir: There being no public entrance nor private to the Bronx Park on the West Side of the Harlem RR tracks from the Southern Boulevard to Williamsbridge, a distance of nearly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles, the taxpayers of Bradford Park and Williamsbridge and vicinity, at a meeting in Dec. 1894, appointed me chairman of a committee having for its object the erection of a bridge over the tracks of the Harlem RR Co. at Scott Avenue, (Woodlawn Road), in accordance with an agreement made on the 11th day of January, 1888, under authority of Chapter 221 of the laws of 1887, between the N.Y. Harlem RR Co. and the Department of Public Parks.

We sent a petition to the Honorable, the

Board of Aldermen, requesting its action in the matter, who acted favorably on our request, and referred it to Hon. Louis F. Haffen, who applied to the N.Y. Harlem Railroad Co., which, after repeated requests, repudiated its agreement of 1888. The matter was then referred to the Corporation Counsel, who rendered his opinion that the Commissioners of Street Improvements of the 23rd + 24th Wards had the power to compel the said Railroad Company to erect the bridge - see City Record of June 11th 1896. Page 1.

In accordance with this decision, Mr. Haffen again requested the New York & Harlem Railroad Co. to build the bridge. The Railroad Company then replied that it was willing to do so provided that Mr. Haffen would secure permission from the Botanical Society to build abutments and approach on the Blooms Park side of the Railroad tracks.

This permission the Botanical Society refused to grant, for the reason that it <sup>would</sup> encroach on land that they require for other purposes.

The bridge called for in the aforesaid agreement was to be an 80 feet structure. The botanical society suggested a foot-bridge, and in order to be agreeable to their desire, we agreed to accept it, if agreeable to Mr. Haffew. Mr. Haffew, anxious to afford us a measure of convenience, agreed to accept the foot-bridge. Mr. Britton, the secretary of the Botanical Society, then agreed to confer with Mr. Haffew and make arrangements for its construction. This was two months ago, since which I have not heard from him, and no visible steps have been taken toward the erection of the bridge.

As the bridge was provided for by law, and as our application was made for its improvement before the Botanical

Society got possession of the land in  
Drom Park, the residents here believe  
they have rights which should be  
respected, especially as they pay their  
due portion of the taxes which were  
expended in the purchase the 250  
acres which the Botanical Society  
holds. Their rights they do not propose  
to relinquish, and respectfully request,  
if within the scope of your powers, that  
you will take the necessary steps to  
have the law enforced in this matter.

Respectfully yours,

John Callahan,  
Chairman.

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September 14th, 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter of the 24th ult., enclosing letter of Mr. John Gallagher, Chairman of Taxpayers' Association of Bedford Park and Williamsbridge, in reference to proposed bridge at WOODLAWN ROAD (Present Scott Avenue) I beg to say that Mr. Gallagher's own communication shows very fully my disposition in the matter. A perusal of his communication will show that this Department is not at fault.

I am notified that the Botanical Commission has now under consideration the

construction of a foot bridge at the  
locality in question.

Communication returned.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffner*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

September 14, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 903 of the Board of Aldermen to regulate, pave etc. East 162nd street from Park avenue (Railroad avenue West) to Morris avenue; East 163rd Street from Park avenue (Railroad avenue West) to Morris avenue &c. I beg to say that all these streets and avenues are important.

They lead to the New York and Harlem Railroad station at Melrose.

They have been sewered, regulated and graded lately.

I recommend ~~the~~ approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.

City of New York.  
Commissioner of Street Improvements,  
23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.  
Third Avenue and 177<sup>th</sup> Street.

OFFICE OF  
CHIEF TOP. ENGINEER AND  
ENGINEER OF CONCOURSE.

September 14, 1896.

Hon. Louis F. Haffen,

Commissioner of Street Improvements.

S i r:-

In regard to the letter from the Mayor's office transmitting for report resolution No. 913 of the Board of Aldermen to regulate, grade, curb, flag etc. Prospect avenue from Westchester avenue to Crotona Park South, I report as follows:-

Prospect avenue from Westchester avenue to Boston road was legally  
(amended) <sup>17<sup>th</sup></sup> and from Boston Rd to Crotona Pk. South title vested  
opened May 20, 1896. ~~A proceeding for opening Prospect avenue from~~  
~~Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> 1895.~~  
~~Boston road to Crotona Park south is pending, and the resolution~~  
~~should be amended so as to provide for the regulating and grading~~  
~~only between Westchester avenue and Boston road.~~

Respectfully,

OK.  
L.F.H.  
=

Louis A. Pine

Chf. Top. Eng. & Eng. of Concourse

2.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

September 14, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 913 of the Board of Aldermen to regulate, grade, etc. Prospect avenue from Westchester avenue to Crotona Park South, I beg to recommend the approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 111<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

September 14, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 916 of the Board of Aldermen to regulate, grade etc. 146th street from Morris avenue to Park avenue, I beg to say that East 146th street in the locality mentioned runs through a populous district and should be improved as soon as possible.

I recommend ~~the~~ approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street.*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

September 14, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 918 of the Board of Aldermen to regulate, pave etc. Bremer avenue from Jerome avenue to East 164th street (Kemp Place), I beg to say that Bremer avenue has been regulated and graded lately and that that portion of the avenue mentioned in the resolution is on a steep grade which causes washouts after every storm.

I recommend its approval.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

September 14, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 908 of the Board of Aldermen to regulate, pave etc. Bremer avenue from Jerome avenue to East 164th street (Kemp Place), I beg to say that Bremer avenue has been regulated and graded lately and that that portion of the avenue mentioned in the resolution is on a steep grade which causes washouts after every storm.

I recommend its approval.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



City of New York  
Commissioner of Street Improvements,

23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.

No. 2622 Third Ave, Cor. 41<sup>st</sup> Str.

J.A.P.

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

September 28th. 1896.

Hon. WILLIAM L. STRONG,  
Mayor:

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 968 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., EAST 163rd STREET from Brook avenue to Courtlandt avenue, I beg to say that a sewer has been constructed in this street and the work of regulating and grading the same should be proceeded with.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 2622 Third Ave, Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> Str.* J.A.P.

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

September 28th. 1896.

HON. WILLIAM L. STRONG,  
M a y o r.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 969 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., EAST 165TH STREET from Third avenue to Webster avenue, I beg to say that a sewer has been constructed in this street and the work of regulating and grading the same should be proceeded with.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards. J.A.P.*  
*No. 2622 Third Ave., Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> Str.*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

September 28th. 18967

HON. WILLIAM L. STRONG,  
M a y o r:

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 970 of the Board of Aldermen, to pave with granite block pavement, TREMONT AVENUE from Boston Road to the Bronx river, I beg to say that this is an important part of the thoroughfare mentioned and I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*  
Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 2622 Third Ave., Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> Str.*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

Oct. 26th, 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 99 of the Board of Aldermen, providing for paving with Granite block pavement, the carriageway of East One Hundred and Sixty-first street, from the easterly crosswalk of Mott avenue to the westerly crosswalk of Gerard avenue, I beg to say that I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 2622 Third Ave. Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> St.*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

October 26th, 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 119 of the Board of Aldermen, to pave with granite block pavement, the carriageway of EAST ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHTH Street, from Franklin Avenue to Boston Road, I beg to say that said street is being regulated and graded and I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

Commissioner.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 26<sup>th</sup> Third Ave., Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> Str.*

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

October 30th. 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
M a y o r,

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 131 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate and pave, 161st Street from Gerard avenue to Jerome avenue, I beg to say that said street has been graded and there is no legal obstacle against the paving of the same.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*  
Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

November 13th, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
M a y o r .

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 239 of the Board of Aldermen to regulate, grade, &c., 156th street, from St. Ann's avenue to Prospect avenue, I beg to say that East 156th street is a most important thoroughfare.

The improvements on this street are petitioned for by the adjacent property owners. I recommend approval of said resolution. Resolution returned herewith.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue, and 17<sup>th</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

Nov. 16th, 1896.

Hon. Wm. L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter, transmitting to me for report Resolution No. 250 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, Etc., TREMONT avenue, from the New York and Harlem Railroad to the proposed transverse road under the Grand Boulevard and Concourse, and from said proposed transverse road to Jerome avenue, I beg to say that Tremont avenue between the New York and Harlem railroad and the proposed transverse road under the Concourse has been sewered and is now in an impassable condition. This thoroughfare leads directly to the New York and Harlem railroad station and has been regulated and graded easterly of said station to West Farms. The improvement should continue westerly so as to make a direct connection with Jerome avenue.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Resolution returned herewith.

Respectfully,

Commissioner.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 11<sup>th</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

Nov. 16th, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting to me for report resolution No. 251 of the Board of Aldermen to regulate grade, etc., EAST ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SECOND STREET, from Southern Boulevard to Bronx River, I beg to say that the neighborhood in which the street is laid out is being rapidly built up and the improvement has been asked for by the property owners in the immediate vicinity.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Resolution returned herewith.

Respectfully,

Commissioner.



*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements*  
W.F.O. *23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

November 23rd, 1896.

Hon. WILLIAM L. STRONG,  
M a y o r .

Dear Sir:

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 285 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., HOME STREET, from Intervale avenue to Westchester avenue, I beg to say that a sewer has been constructed in a portion of said street leaving the manholes above grade.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Resolution returned herewith.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*

Commissioner.

C

BOARD OF STREET OPENING AND IMPROVEMENT

MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 1896.

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-- MATTERS APPOINTED FOR CONSIDERATION --

Opinion from Corporation Counsel as to the authority of Board to lay out and open a street along the line of the Mott Haven Canal.

Resolutions to fix the date when title to the lands required for the opening of Park street; East 178th street; McLellan street; Arthur avenue; La Fontaine avenue; Kingsbridge Road; Clarke Place; Mercy Place and Elliot Place.

-- RESOLUTIONS TO OPEN STREETS IN 23d AND 24th WARDS --

WHERE THERE ARE BUILDINGS ON LINE.

Longfellow St.; East 196th St.; Canal St. West; Belmont Place.

WHERE THERE ARE NO BUILDINGS.

Canal Place; Minada street; East 140th St.; East 197th St.; East 199th St.; Cameron Place; Crotona Place; Public Place.

CRESTON AVENUE, RESOLUTIONS TO REPEAL.

West 53d street, resolutions to rescind former action, and open anew.

1011 SEVEN CANAL.  
Resolutions to fix the date when title to the lands required for the opening of Park street; East 178th street; McClellan street; Arthur avenue; La Fontaine avenue; Kingsbridge Road; Clarke Place; Marcy Place and Elliot Place.

-- RESOLUTIONS TO OPEN STREETS IN 23d AND 24th WARDS --

WHERE THERE ARE BUILDINGS ON LINE.

Longfellow St.; East 196th St.; Canal St. West; Belmont Place.

WHERE THERE ARE NO BUILDINGS.

Canal Place; Minada street; East 140th St.; East 197th St.; East 199th St.; Cameron Place; Crotona Place; Public Place.

CRESTON AVENUE, RESOLUTIONS TO RESCIND.

~~West 63d street, resolutions to rescind former action, and open anew.~~

Mem. of proceedings had before the Board of Street Opening and Improvement, in relation to the Mott Haven Canal.

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On May 18, 1894, page 305 of minutes, a resolution was adopted asking the Corporation Counsel, "if there exist any vested rights of property owners to interfere with the laying out of a street along the line of the Mott Haven Canal. Also as to the condition of any litigation now pending in relation thereto."

On June 15, 1894, page 317 of minutes, Counsel replies that "Chapter 544, Laws of 1894, gives ample ~~authority~~ authority to lay out a street along the line of the canal, and the question of any vested interest by property owners, and the amount of damage if any that may be sustained, would be determined in the ordinary manner for opening streets." "In 1891 a preliminary injunction was obtained to restrain interfering with the flow of water in the canal. This injunction does not interfere with any proceeding that may be taken under authority of the act in question."

On the same day a petition from the North Side Board of Trade asking for the filling in of the canal was presented and read.

The whole matter was then referred to the Commissioner of Street Improvements of the 23d and 24th Wards.

On September 14th, 1894, page 364 of minutes, the North Side Board of Trade presented a petition demanding that the canal be continued and not closed or filled in.

On September 21st, 1894, page 377 of minutes, an old agreement dated July 1869, relating to the Canal was presented, and was referred to the Corporation Counsel for his opinion as to the rights of the city under this agreement.

On November 16th, 1894, page 389 of minutes, Counsel replies in a lengthy communication, and concludes as follows:

1. "That the right to convert the canal into a public street resides with the Board of Street Opening and Improvement, and should be exercised by that body, with the concurrence of the Commissioner of Street Improvements of the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards, and that such right is not restricted to the area between One Hundred and Thirty-eighth and One Hundred and Forty-fourth streets, but extends to the whole line of the canal from the Harlem river to its northerly terminus."

"  
2. That when One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street was opened from Harlem River to the Sound, an award of one dollar was made to unknown owners for the land embraced within One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street and the canal. That fact in my opinion is conclusive that the only damages any one can get for the land thus taken at One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street and the canal is confined to that award, and vests a right in the local authorities to close the canal across One Hundred and Thirty-eighth street at any time they may see fit."

A resolution was then adopted approving "the laying out of a street on the line of the Mott Haven Canal, from East 135th street to East 144th street."

On Jan. 18th, 1895, page 461 of minutes, a request was made that the aforesaid resolution be amended "so as to exclude the laying out of any street on the line of said canal, south of East 138th Street."

The following resolution was ~~then~~<sup>therefore</sup> adopted:

"Resolved, That the Board hereby rescinds its action aforesaid, so far as relates to the laying out of a street on the line of the Mott Haven Canal south of the southerly line of East 138th street, but it hereby ratifies and confirms the action of said Board in all other respects."

Branch Street  
Openings  
in Sec 4 1/2 76

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City of New York  
Commissioner of Street Improvements,  
23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.  
Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street.

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

December 7th 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor:

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 351 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate and grade, etc., St. Joseph's Street from Robbins avenue to Whitlock avenue, I beg to say that an outlet sewer runs through said street, and grading should follow.  
Title vested July 28th. 1896.  
I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*  
Commissioner.



City of New York  
Commissioner of Street Improvements,  
23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.  
Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

December 7th. 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor:

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 352 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., East 180th Street from Third avenue to Webster avenue, I beg to say that a sewer has lately been constructed in said street which is an important thoroughfare and should be regulated.

Title vested August 12, 1896:  
I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*  
Commissioner.

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*City of New York*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 111<sup>th</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

December 7th. 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
M a y o r :

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 353 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, pave, etc., East 148th Street from Morris avenue to Park avenue (Railroad avenue East), I beg to say that east of Morris avenue this street has been paved and by paving this one block from Morris avenue to Park avenue, it will complete the improvement of said thoroughfare.

Title vested January 18, 1890.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*

Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*Third Avenue and 171<sup>st</sup> Street,*

LOUIS F. HOFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

December 7th. 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
Mayor:

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 376 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, pave, etc., East 141st Street from Willis avenue to Brook avenue, I beg to say that this street is well built up and is paved west of Willis avenue. Such improvement should continue easterly to Brook avenue.

Title vested July 28th. 1896.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Hoffen*  
Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 2622 Third Ave. Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> St.*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

December 17th. 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
M a y o r:

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 438 of the Board of Aldermen, to curb and flag the sidewalk S.E. Corner of 173rd Street and Morris Avenue, I beg to say that I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*  
Commissioner.



*City of New York.*  
*Commissioner of Street Improvements,*  
*23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Wards.*  
*No. 2622 Third Ave., Cor. 141<sup>st</sup> Str.*

LOUIS F. HAFFEN,  
COMMISSIONER.

December 28th, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong,  
M a y o r :

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your Honor's letter transmitting for report resolution No. 521 of the Board of Aldermen, to regulate, grade, etc., Ogden avenue from Jerome avenue to Washington Bridge, I beg to say that Ogden avenue from Jerome avenue to Washington Bridge was legally opened November 18, 1896.

A sewer has been constructed in said ~~street~~ avenue and to complete the improvement the street should be regulated and graded.

Ogden avenue forms an important connection between the Central Bridge and Washington Bridge.

I recommend approval of the resolution.

Respectfully,

*Louis F. Haffen*

Commissioner.

Office of the Board of  
Street Opening and Improvement,  
Room 10, Stewart Building.

New York, \_\_\_\_\_ 189\_\_\_\_\_

Assessment for the opening of West 181<sup>st</sup> street.

Petition for reduction of assessment, see minutes of 1895, page 621.				
Report of Committee thereon -	"	"	"	698.
Resolutions thereon adopted.	"	"	"	733.
Petition asking reconsideration.	"	"	1896	" 737.
Opinion of Corporation Counsel	"	"	"	" 747.
Matter laid over by request of Comptroller	"	"	"	" 748.