

**BOX**

**11**

**FOLDER**

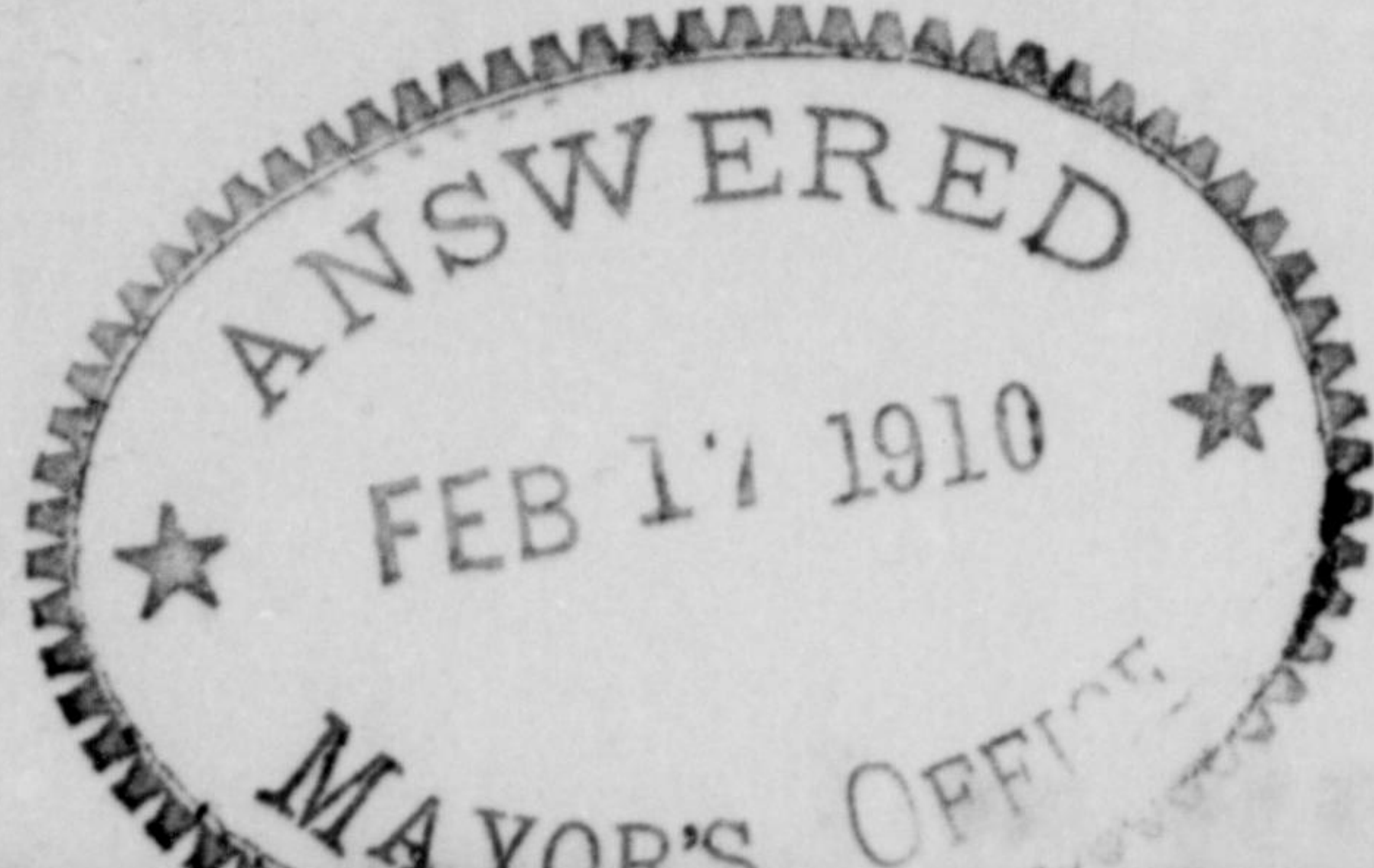
**115**

**Libraries-Carnegie Library  
Sites**

**1910**

*Carnegie Library Sites*

ALANSON T. BRIGGS  
NEW YORK



32 NASSAU STREET

February 16, 1910.

Hon. William J. Gaynor,

Mayor,

City of New York.

My dear Mr. Mayor:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your Secretary's communication of February 15, 1910, enclosing to me a letter from Mr. W. Fred Silleck, dated February 12th, suggesting a site for a Carnegie library building.

I beg to report to you that a site in the locality of Red Hook has already been selected and is now before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for acquisition as soon as the Board is ready to take up the matter of Carnegie Library Sites.

In this connection I should like to have a few minutes of your time some time this week or next at your convenience, in order to bring to your attention certain matters in relation to the Library sites and other Library matters.

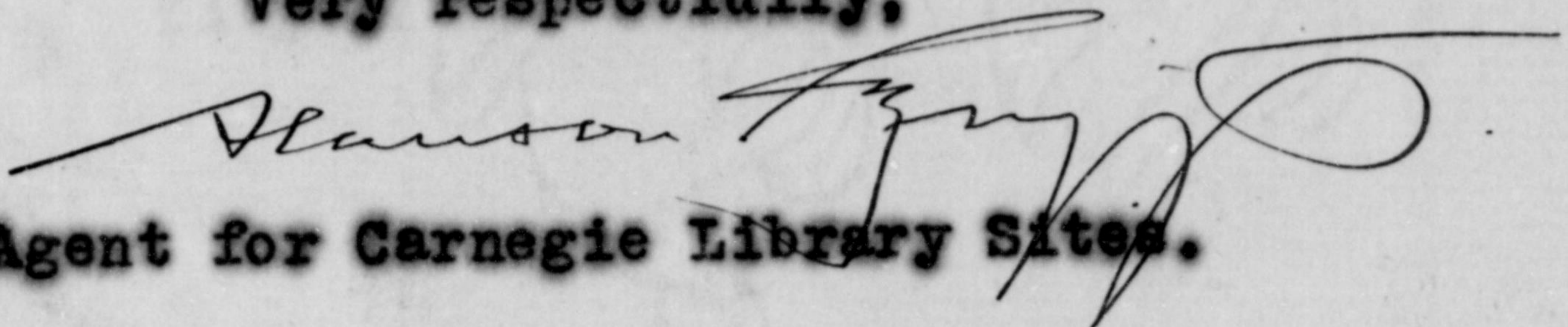
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NEW YORK

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I am also desirous of presenting to you in  
person a letter from Mr. Edward M. Grout.

Very respectfully,

  
Agent for Carnegie Library Sites.

*Copy*  
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NEW YORK

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February 16, 1910.

W. Fred Silleck, Esq.,

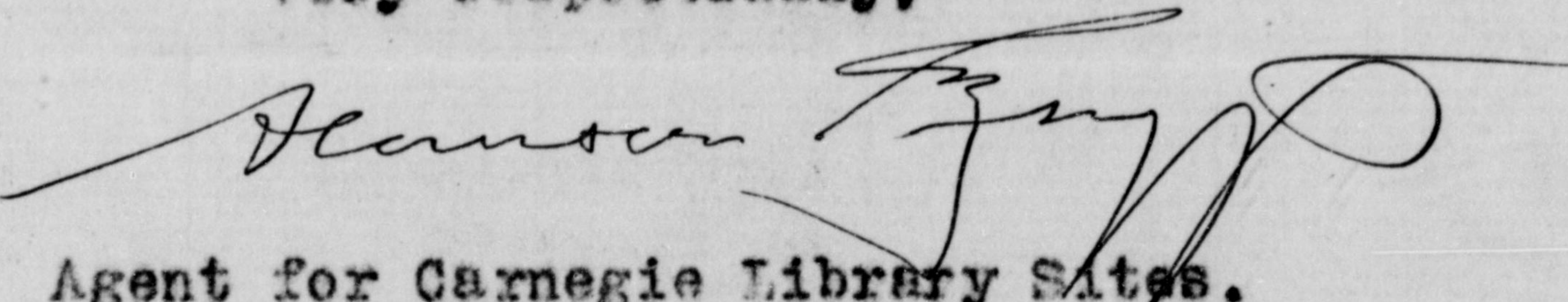
2123 Avenue "G",

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

His Honor the Mayor has referred to me your letter of February 12, 1910, and I beg to say that a site has been located for the Red Hook section and is now before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment for acquisition as soon as the Board is in a position to take up the expenditures from corporate stock.

Very respectfully,

  
Agent for Carnegie Library Sites.

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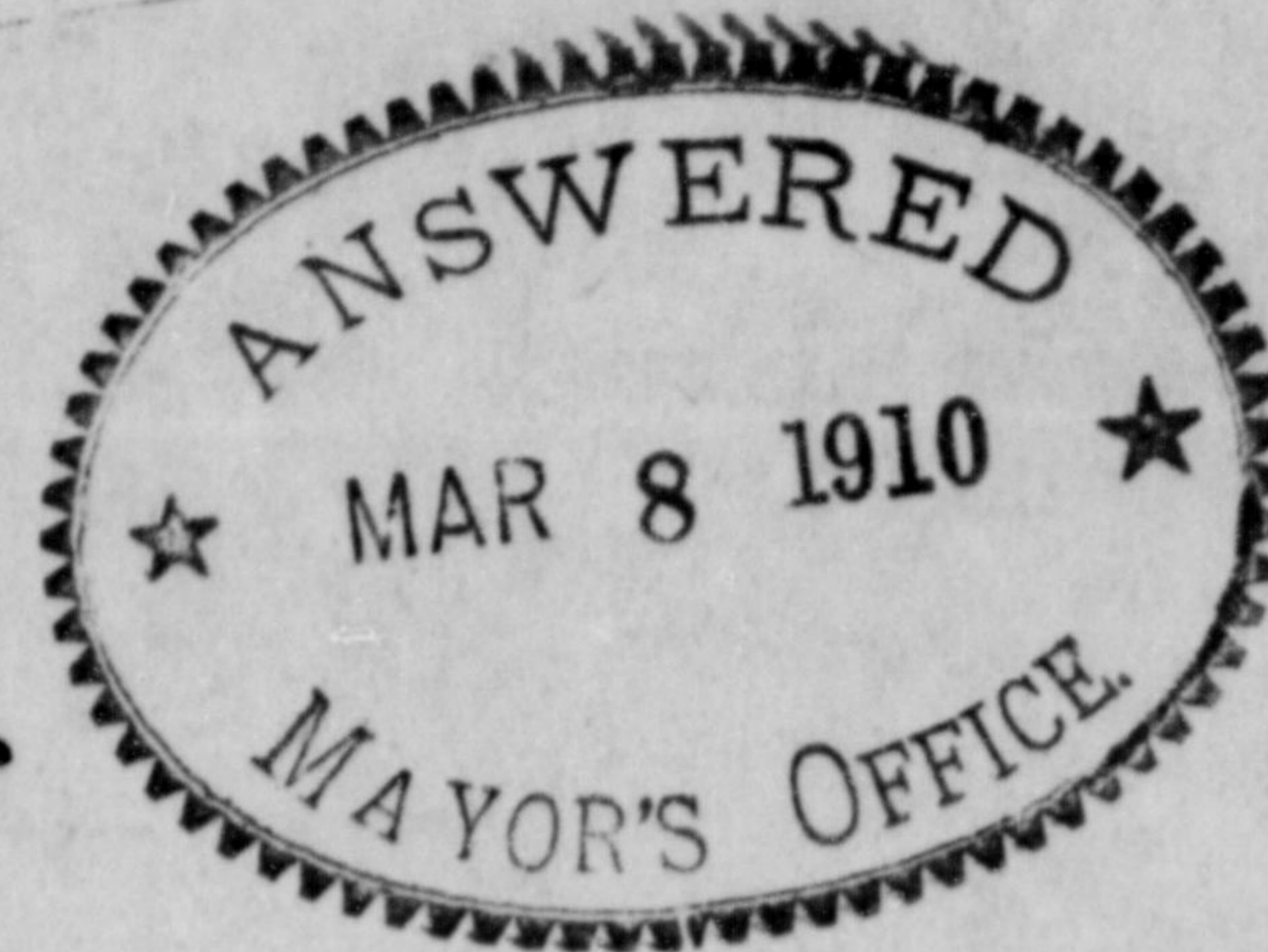
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March 5, 1910.

Hon. William J. Gaynor,

M a y o r,

City of New York.



Dear Sir:

An appropriation was made by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment on May 14, 1909, in the sum of \$510,000, by the issue of corporate stock, for the acquisition of sites for libraries under the provisions of Chapter 580 of the Laws of 1901, and of the contracts between the City of New York and the respective libraries, relative to the gift of Andrew Carnegie, dated July, 1901.

These contracts provide that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall proceed to acquire title by gift, purchase or condemnation to such sites as shall be necessary on the approval in each case of the libraries.

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In June of last year the Trustees of the libraries accordingly approved of thirteen sites.

I beg to suggest that it is therefore the duty of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to proceed without further delay to acquire title there-  
to.

On January 21, 1910, the report of the Comptroller recommending the acquisition of these sites, within the appropriation, was laid on the table by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment.

The only question which is before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment at this time is upon the report of the Comptroller as to whether his recommendations as to purchase and condemnation should be approved.

The sites before the Board are as follows:

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B y P u r c h a s e .

Site No.	Location.	Purchase Price.
13	Manhattan - Nos. 530-534 Tenth Avenue	\$63,000.
3	Manhattan - No. 2009 Amsterdam Avenue	57,500.
4	Manhattan - Broadway, near Academy St.	37,500.
18	The Bronx - 162nd Street & Morris Ave.	36,000.
20	Brooklyn - Marcy Avenue & Hart Street	33,100.
17	Brooklyn - Extension of Brownsville	5,500.
38	Manhattan - 182d St. & Wadsworth Avenue	35,500.

B y C o n d e m n a t i o n .

17	Manhattan - Nos. 143-147 East 47th St.
42	The Bronx - 163rd St. & Prospect Avenue
18	Brooklyn - Eastern Parkway & Brooklyn Ave.
19	Brooklyn - Richards & Verona Streets
6	Queens - Clinton Avenue
4	Queens - Jackson Avenue & 12th Street

The properties which it is recommended to be purchased at private sale, can be acquired at reasonable prices, very much under what would have

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to be paid in condemnation proceedings. Out of 55 sites for libraries, it has been possible to acquire to date 44 by private purchase at reasonable prices. It would be unfortunate should it be necessary to avoid consummation of the pending negotiations and lose the opportunity of acquiring these sites at reasonable prices.

It is recommended that six sites be acquired by condemnation proceedings. If the Board of Estimate and Apportionment will authorize proceedings to be taken, it is my judgment that this will be sufficient to bring the property owners to reasonable prices. I do not contemplate that it will be necessary actually to carry forward condemnation proceedings, but that with the prospect of condemnation proceedings and the long delays incident thereto, it will be possible to induce the owners to accept reasonable prices for their property.

I, therefore, urge that you cause the matter to be taken from the table at the next meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and that the Board

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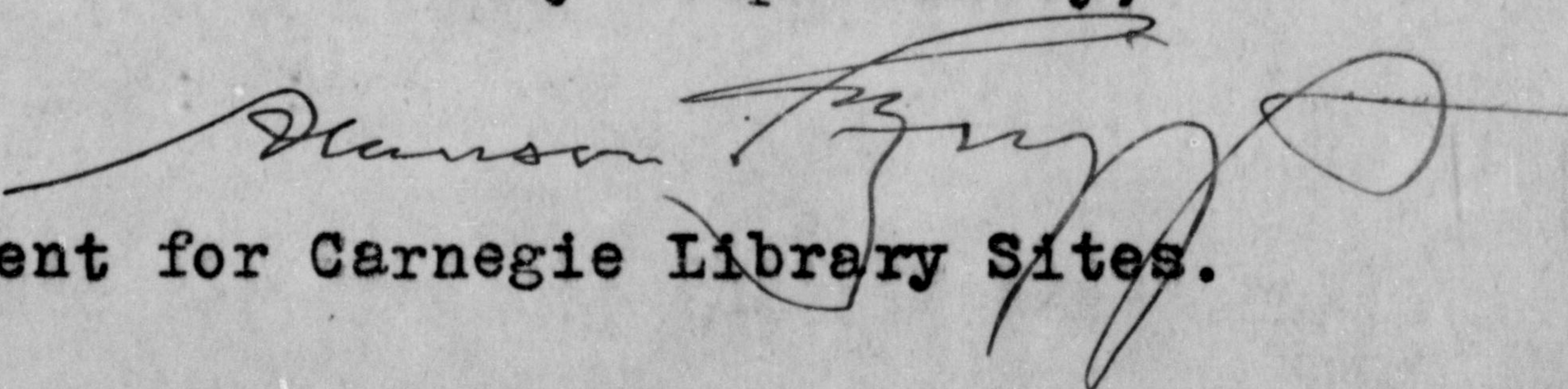
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authorize the acquisition of the properties recommended for private purchase, and also properties recommended to be condemned.

In this connection I beg to hand you herewith a copy of a report which I made to the late Comptroller, and which he transmitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, bearing date April 19, 1909, which will illustrate to you what has been done in the matter of acquiring sites for libraries. A perusal of this report will, I think, illustrate to you not only what can be done in the matter of acquiring properties at reasonable prices, but will show to you economical administration of this undertaking.

I, therefore, have respectfully to request that you give this matter your urgent attention. In case you desire any additional information I shall be glad to call upon you.

Very respectfully,

  
Agent for Carnegie Library Sites.

Memo. for the Mayor.

This is a letter from Alanson T. Briggs, Agent for Carnegie Library Sites, requesting that you take from the table at the next meeting of the Board of Estimate, the matter of the purchase of thirteen sites for Carnegie libraries. These sites have already been approved by the Library Trustees and the writer claims that it is the duty of the Board of Estimate to go ahead and acquire them.