

A FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE FOR SIGNIFICANT TREE

Opening Reception
July 30 2017, 5-8pm
Curated by Elizaveta Shneyderman, Eben Woodward

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Proving before the eyes of the law that someone exists is no simple task. I learned this last winter, when I acquired a restraining order against our former boss at the restaurant, you remember, that total jerk who refused to pay us the wages we were owed. Several fruitless trips across Brooklyn failed to prove his existence vis-à-vis my own. And I found that you become real *qua* person, at least in the eyes of the government, through a specific set of lenses, like, trinkety, obsolete seafaring instruments. A good navigator learns to calibrate the dials, feeling with his thumb the difference of a half-degree. He sets the glass pieces gently into place.

JOANA updated: 19-MAR-2017
JOANIE updated: 08-DEC-2016
JOANT updated: 07-APR-2017
JOANNA updated: 11-MAY-2017
JOANNIE updated: 13-FEB-2017
JOANE updated: 19-MAR-2017

The presence of a notary is best. If you meet face-to-face without a deputized representative of the state, the encounter is, in terms of legal utility, nothing, i.e., it happened, but nothing happens in court. You can run a precisely worded notice in the newspaper's classified section. I still read them in the morning, smudging the ink-mass from the newsprint's surface with my thumb, trying to discern any person *qua* person underneath.

A certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, bounded and described as follows:

RUNNING THENCE Northerly at right angles to [...]
THENCE Westerly [...]
THENCE Southerly and Again at right angles to Avenue and part of the distance through another [...], 100 feet to the Northerly side of Avenue;

How can a place belong to a person? What use is a home to a bank? Eye swims in the peephole. I feel threadbare; eye am beginning to fray away—I—

THENCE Westerly parallel with Park Avenue [I am the gardener guilty of its death by drought ☹️]
THENCE Easterly along the Northerly side of Park, feet to the point or place of BEGINNING

— Erin Prinz Schwartz