

## Landmark Hits a Snag

By ROBERTA F. GRATA

Controversy surrounding a parcel of land owned by Con Edison has served to block—at least temporarily — the landmarks designation of Brooklyn's Fulton Ferry District.

The Board of Estimate, which must approve all landmark designations, yesterday referred this one back to the Landmark Preservation Commission.

The designation had stirred controversy because it included a piece of property owned by Con Edison and coveted by several governmental agencies, all seeking the final say on how it is redeveloped.

### 'Without Prejudice'

It was sent back to the commission "without prejudice." The move was made with the clear understanding the designation would, in the near future, be resubmitted to the board in either the same or different form.

Under the auspices of Deputy Mayor Stanley Friedman, commission representatives will meet with three city offices, all of whom lobbied against the inclusion in the district of the Con Ed property.

The three are Dept. of Ports and Terminals, Office of Downtown Brooklyn Development and office of Brooklyn Borough President Leone.

The Fulton Ferry area is a low-rise waterfront district in the shadow of the Brooklyn Bridge that was once the heart of Brooklyn's "downtown." It varied architecture reflects a rich maritime and commercial heritage.

### Red Brick Warehouses

The Con Ed property—almost nine acres situated just north of the bridge, the yellow-framed fireboat house, a mini-park and Fulton St.—contains an historic grouping of 1860s red brick warehouses known as the Empire Stores.

The long vacant Civil War warehouse with its uniform arched windows and doors is representative of the type that once crowded Brooklyn's waterfront. Con Ed bought the property in 1963 for a power generating plant that never materialized.