

We register the dignity and determination of Oscar Nadel, known as “The King of Cortlandt Street” and other proprietors in Radio Row, Lower Manhattan, the consumer electronics district, who fought a smart, though and losing battle against the hugely more powerful Port Authority of NYC and N.J.

Oscar Nadel was determined to do everything he could to keep the P.A. from taking away his business and those of his friends. However on a clear, windswept morning of March 21 1966, as opponents of the project looked helplessly on, the first red brick structures on Radio Row, which had stood since the time of the Civil War, began to topple down.

Much later, the tragedy of twin Towers, among the rubble were some insignificant things lost on 9-11 at the WTC. Those were the final Polaroid photographs of the buildings on Cortlandt Street prior to demolition and razing the old Radio Row area. They had prices ascribed to each photograph by the assessors, what the owners were going to get paid, I.E. 9 thousand, 12 thousand, 18 thousand or whatever the assessors calculations were. All of those original Polaroids, no negatives, all were lost with the W.T.C. on 9-11, so that record is also gone.

In Two thousand Five history repeats itself. A New York Times article “The Last Days of the Little Guys” – A shopping district on the corner of Dey Street and Broadway in lower Manhattan, hardly carries the prestige of Madison Avenue or the relentless bustle of Harold Square, still for a certain brand of merchant, one who relies partly on tourists and impulse buys, this is one of the city’s best locations because the A - C - 2 and 3 trains, among others stop nearby with plenty of foot traffic.



The Metropolitan Transportation Authority is acquiring 189 Broadway, as well as the larger Corbin Building across the street, to construct a 785 million transit hub for Lower Manhattan. The buildings will be taken under the state’s powers of eminent domain. More than 100 businesses will be forced to relocate.

Mr. Feder, the manager at Cookie Island, has decided to close. “On December 24<sup>th</sup>” he said, I’ll turn the lights off. And then? “Im going on unemployment,” he said. Move over Oscar Nadel, you have plenty of company. Things have not changed in 2005. W8SU 2008