

Books Received (continued from page 7)

Resort Hotels of the Adirondacks, The Architecture of a Summer Paradise, 1850-1950, Bryant F. Tolles, Jr., University Press of New England, Hanover and London, 2005.

This book documents a nearly extinct building form, the lavish Nineteenth Century resort hotel which flourished in the Adirondacks. Once, more than 50 of them existed, spread out over the Adirondack range. Now only four examples as a building type remain, only one dedicated to its original function. Everything from technology to personal preference conspired to eliminate them: the 1929 stock market crash, the reduction in trail lines serving the region, the establishment of the Federal road system and auto travel, use of the airplane and thus a growing preference for distant sites, the costs of maintenance, and the lack of inexpensive labor, and last but not least, fire.

The author has written a passionate eulogy to the immense, fantastical, wood frame resort hotel. His documentation is impeccable and illustrations, drawings, floor plans and photographs are voluminous and of such quality that the book is not only exhaustive on the subject, but a work of art as well.

Available from the SPLIA Gallery, 1 Shore Road, Cold Spring Harbor for \$39.95

Head-of-the-Harbor, A Journey Through Time, Barbara F. Van Liew, Village Historian, Elizabeth Shepherd, Editor, Main Road Books, Inc., Laurel, New York, Copyright, Incorporated Village of Head of the Harbor, 2005.

This book serves as a supplement to the Village's 50th Anniversary publication, timed to celebrate its 75th anniversary. It includes the contributions of many individuals. It weaves architectural, social, biographical, historical and environmental information together in a way which will be absorbing to those who live in the Village, and even to those who note certain landmarks and sites as they pass by, but have little information to attach to them. Its 212 pages are crammed with photographs, many not published before, and the book is dense with factual information and interesting tidbits only known to those who have spent their lives researching, recording and living within the Village.

Available at Head of the Harbor Village Hall and at the Gallery, Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, 1 Shore Road, Cold Spring Harbor for \$25.

FOR SALE

289 Mill Hill Road, Mill Neck

Beekman Townsend House, c. 1868, views of Oyster Bay Harbor, clapboard exterior; high ceilings, living room, dining room with large bay window and French doors opening to slate terrace, formal dining room, 5 fireplaces, 3 with Franklin stoves original to house, 5 bedrooms with random width floors, 4 full baths and two half baths, front porch with double stair, 3.1 acres with period landscape and two fish ponds. *Contact broker Mona O'Rourke, Piping Rock Associates, 516-676-2230.*



97 Wolver Hollow Road, Upper Brookville

1763 farmhouse with early 20th century country house enlargements. Large living room and dining room, antique pine-paneled library, family room with wet bar and French doors to covered porch. Oak floors, some original to the house, 5 fireplaces. Master suite with 2 baths and fireplace, large fully updated kitchen. Seven bedrooms and 3 baths on second floor. 4.19 acres with mature plantings. Guest house and separate garage with apartment. *Call broker Casy Mittleman, Piping Rock Associates, 516-676-2230 ext. 16.*



3 Lawrence Ave., Smithtown

Former Smithtown, Long Island, railroad depot moved to present location across from Miller's Pond and converted to residence in 1931, one owner since, originally constructed about 1900. One story, 2 bedrooms, 1 full bath, eat-in kitchen, full basement, treeed lot, walk to Smithtown Village. *Contact broker Adele F. Connell, Henrietta Homes and Properties, 631-862-6399.*



Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities
PRESERVATION NOTES

N E W S L E T T E R

In Memoriam: Barbara Ferris Van Liew

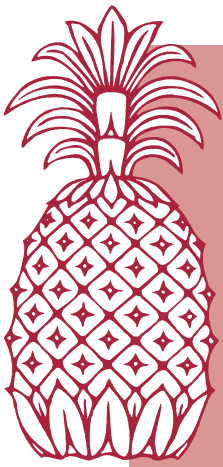
It is only fitting that this edition of *Preservation Notes* includes a salute to the many talents and contributions of its founding and only editor, until 2001, Barbara Ferris Van Liew. "BVL" was not only the last bridge to the Society's founding generation, but a bridge to the future as well. As a historic preservation pioneer, she recognized the need not only to act but to inform, and not only to inform but to plan. She combined prodigious gifts of intellect, perseverance, passion, humor, curiosity and courage. She was generous in sharing her knowledge and work with others, and in praising theirs in return. She saw historic preservation not as an activity which should produce dusty museums, but as one which evoked and challenged living communities.

As such she inventoried for New York State, under the auspices of SPLIA, historic sites and structures in every corner of Nassau and Suffolk Counties. These became the basis for historic districts, National Register nominations, landmark regulations, scenic by-way designations, and open space preservation initiatives, in short, protection strategies of every stripe. Perhaps her greatest contribution was to conceive the Suffolk County Historic Trust program, both writing its manual of guidelines and procedures, and chairing the Historic Trust Committee, which advises the Suffolk County legislature on managing its historic buildings. As important are the preservationists she inspired and mentored, to carry on her work.

To say she will be missed is the greatest understatement. Until days before her death, she was writing and calling when preservation issues came to her attention. Her passion has served her and us well.



Barbara Van Liew, 1981. SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LONG ISLAND ANTIQUITIES. JOSEPH ADAMS PHOTOGRAPH.



Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities

PRESERVATION NOTES

N E W S L E T T E R

Vol. XLI Nos. 1 and 2 Fall 2005

NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION POLICIES: HELPING THE FIGHT AGAINST TEARDOWNS

By Jennifer Most, MS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Neighborhood conservation policies have been implemented in cities nationwide to meet a variety of urban planning and historic preservation needs. Stemming the national teardown trend has become prominent among these needs. Teardowns increasingly pose threats to both neighborhood livability in general, and to historic resources in particular. Curtailing teardowns has been identified by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as a significant policy objective.

What is a Neighborhood Conservation Policy?

A “neighborhood conservation policy” is a local land use ordinance, enabled by state legislation, that seeks neighborhood conservation among its primary goals, and which achieves this objective through the designation of worthy geographic areas for special conservation attention. Though often integrated within a municipality’s zoning or historic preservation legislation (implemented via zoning overlay or designated area), neighborhood conservation policies are a distinct body of land use legislation (see inset).

How do Neighborhood Conservation Policies Work?

Different communities seek to attain different goals by enacting neighborhood conservation policies. In Dallas, Texas, as well as in Raleigh, North Carolina, neighborhood conservation policies were enacted primarily to discourage the demolition of existing housing. In other areas, for example, Boston and Cambridge, Massachusetts, such policies were primarily directed towards preserving a distinctive visual character. The overriding goals of any neighborhood conservation policy are generally stated plainly in the text of the legislation.

The majority of neighborhood conservation policies either require, or at least allow for, the implementation of design guidelines or design review. In areas where design guidelines have been adopted, proposals for everything ranging from new construction, to additions, and also demolition, may become subject to review. The extent, however, to which design and other guidelines are written into the ordinances varies widely across jurisdictions, as neighborhood conservation policies are typically fine-tuned to suit the needs and objectives of individual municipalities. The degree

to which specific guidelines must be adhered to also varies by jurisdiction, with obvious implications for policy effectiveness.

Specific restrictions, such as design review, make many neighborhood conservation policies similar to the regulation of historic districts. The two practices, however, are generally independent from one another, as historic preservation legislation typically seeks the material retention of historically, architecturally, or culturally significant structures or elements of the built environment. Neighborhood conservation efforts, on the other hand, tend to be less concerned with the loss of original material, as long as the valued qualities of a neighborhood are maintained. It is exactly this lower level of review that drives the implementation of the policies in municipalities interested in striking a balance between over-regulation and some degree of protection from inappropriate development, such as teardowns.

The criteria for designating areas for conservation also tend to vary, but they are most often applied to primarily residential neighborhoods that exhibit specific identifiable attributes embodied in the architecture, urban design, culture, or history of that area. For some municipalities, e.g. Atlanta, Georgia, this character may be embodied in the “type, period, or method of construction” of structures within the district; for other jurisdictions, e.g. Dayton, Ohio, identity may instead stem from “distinctive land use or land patterns.” Other criteria, such as the need to be associated with historic events or important persons, have been built into some ordinances to help limit the frivolous designation of areas with little of significance. Conversely, municipalities with overriding urban planning objectives are more likely to create less-specific designation criteria, perhaps limited to age or minimum size requirements.

Are Neighborhood Conservation Policies Effective against Teardowns?

Because the neighborhood conservation policy is still a relatively new tool for addressing teardowns, it is somewhat difficult to measure just how effective the policies have been. Where policy restrictions are tightly regulated and carry authority, they have been more successful. In Cambridge, Massachusetts, for example, although economic conditions, not the city’s neighborhood conservation policy, were credited with the low teardown rate, preservation officials do acknowledge the local regulation for success in driving compatible infill where teardowns have occurred. In Annapolis, Maryland, however, the local con-

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Neighborhood Conservation *(continued from page 1)*

servation policy was cited as being successful in actually stalling teardown occurrences, with demolitions in overlay districts described as “fairly limited,” compared to non-designated neighborhoods where homes continue to be demolished.

In general, it does seem that neighborhood conservation policies

can be very effective in protecting communities from teardowns, particularly where traditional historic district or zoning regulations have fallen short or are not appropriate. Perhaps most importantly, the designation of an area for neighborhood conservation helps to create awareness for neighborhood conservation issues, which can go a long way in preventing the mentality that has allowed the teardown trend to ravage the country’s neighborhoods.

How to Identify a Neighborhood Conservation Policy

- (1) *A neighborhood conservation policy is addressed as a distinct section or subsection within a municipality’s overriding land use legislation or other governing text (e.g. comprehensive plan or general plan). Although a neighborhood conservation policy may be integrated with a jurisdiction’s zoning or historic preservation legislation, the policy will still appear under a distinct heading.*
- (2) *A neighborhood conservation policy states the perpetuation of neighborhood character, identity, or building stock, among the primary goals of the legislation. Additional goals, as well as the means of achieving the stated objectives, may vary.*
- (3) *The specific restrictions of a neighborhood conservation policy apply only to specially designated areas, not to a municipality as a whole. Designations are generally determined by specific criteria laid out in the neighborhood conservation legislation.*
- (4) *Neighborhood conservation policies, with few exceptions, allow designated communities to review proposals for work, including, but not limited to, alterations and demolition of existing structures. Many of the policies allow for the creation of specialty review boards to aid in the review of proposals.*

Author’s Note: This article is adapted from the master’s thesis, *Neighborhood Conservation Policies: Protecting Communities from Teardowns and Other Threats to Neighborhood Conservation* (Urban Planning / Historic Preservation, Columbia University, 2005).

Editor’s Note: Citations have been deleted for space reasons, and are available upon request from the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities

QUEENS

Bayside

An interesting group of twenty-six original Samuel H. Gottscho signed silver halide prints were recently sold to a private collector in Toronto, Canada . They have

been identified as photographs of the Arthur Hammerstein house known as “Wildflower” on Cryders Point, Whitestone, Queens near what is now the Throgs Neck Bridge. Arthur Hammerstein was the uncle of Oscar Hammerstein who with Richard Rogers wrote such beloved musicals as “Oklahoma,” “Showboat,” “Carousel” and the “Sound of Music.” The house was designed by Dwight James Baum (1886-1939) about 1925, and was later owned by George K. Morrow, the founder of Best Foods, later General Foods, one of the world’s largest food conglomerates. According to the Avery Library at Columbia, the photos were taken in June, 1932, and were commissioned by Morrow.

The house was designated a New York City Landmark in 1982, but the property was

subsequently developed as a gated community with four condominium units located within the building. Unfortunately, the house has suffered several fires, and is encompassed by a condominium complex.



Arthur Hammerstein House, (Dwight James Baum, 1925), by Samuel H. Gottscho, about 1932. PRIVATE COLLECTION

Can anyone identify this mural?

A mural of Long Island painted as if from a height of 20,000 feet, by Robert Gaston Herbert of Sea Cliff, has been brought to SPLIA’s attention by his heirs. The family is interested in identifying who commissioned the mural, where it was located and if it still exists. The mural is identified by a banner at the bottom which reads “PAUMANAKE” with “Long Island” beneath.

Robert Gaston Herbert spent his youth in Ohio, and attended the Cincinnati Art School. In 1896, he came to New York and studied at the Art Student’s League, and subsequently found employment with the American Lithograph Co. Later he set up a series of New York City studios, working as a free-lance commercial artist, which he continued after moving to Sea Cliff, and buying a house there in 1912. His art production included advertising, magazine illustration, book jackets, calendars, “picture” commissions and murals. Later in his life he did wood-carving, and pewter work

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Charla Bolton, Editor

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161 Main Street, P.O. Box 148

Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724-0148

631-692-4664

FAX: 631-692-5265

E-mail: SPLIA@aol.com

Preservation Notes is listed in the
Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals

CREDO: It has become apparent that those of us who are interested in conservation and preservation need to be alerted to the destruction of the irreplaceable values and environment that comprise our heritage and to the actions proposed to avert such threats. These brief notes are designed to alert you.

ENDANGERED/LOST

Smaller country houses, Nassau County farmsteads, and Modernist houses are important classes of historic resources threatened by the market for developable land. Those listed below are by no means inclusive of the losses this past year.

LIE Service Road, North Hills

John G. Millburn House, "Grooms-bridge," architect unknown, c. 1912. After the death of Millburn in 1943, it was sold, and until recently was owned by the Seventh Day Adventist Church. The property is being developed and no plans have been made to include the house.



SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LONG ISLAND ANTIQUITIES

1858 Muttontown Road, Muttontown

Eugene Wadsworth House, Wyeth and King architects, c. 1947, stands vacant and is the planned development site for two houses.



PAUL MATEYUNAS

Factory Pond Road and Corn Creek, Locust Valley (Lattingtown)

John Underhill, Jr. House, later owned by John W. MacKay, a descendent, and known as Matinecock Farm. Built about 1678, enlarged in 1756, 1860s and 1900s. Physical evidence exposed during removal of later wing confirms Seventeenth Century construction date. Torn down recently to make room for a new house.



NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1011 Wolver Hollow Road, Upper Brookville

Snedeker-Simonson House, constructed about 1760, added to about 1844, located within Wolver Hollow Road Historic District which consists of the road only, not the adjacent structures. Demolished last June, it will be replaced by new houses. The Village has preserved, by moving to a new location, both the former Police Booth which was on the property, said to be designed by Bradley Delehanty, and a privy.



CHARLA BOLTON

Georgica Pond, East Hampton

Designed in 1963, by Gordon Bunshaft, architect of the Lever House, for display of his art collection. Given to MOMA by his widow in 1994, and almost immediately sold, without covenants. Unsympathetic alterations, and removal of its travertine cladding for use elsewhere, left it damaged and unappealing. Sold in 2004, the new owner claimed that it was beyond repair. Unprotected by law or its owners, it was demolished last July, to be replaced by a new house.



ADAM BARTOS

BOOKS RECEIVED

The New York World's Fair, 1939/1940, In 155 Photographs by Richard Wurts and Others, section, arrangement and text by Stanley Appelbaum, Dover Publication, Inc., New York, 1977.

Originally published in 1977, this book is of great relevance today for several reasons. It is a historical record of a significant cultural event, which the majority of Americans are now too young to have experienced. Both the annotated photographs, as well as the introductory essay are a sourcebook of some of the Modern Movement's early practitioners, and their works, which are finding currency again.

There is an interesting shift which occurs between the 1939 and 1940 Fairs, not unlike the cultural shift which has occurred since the Iraq War. The 1939 theme "The World of Tomorrow" becomes "Peace and Freedom" in 1940, "Fountain Lake" is renamed "Liberty Lake" and many of the principal zones received more nationalist names. Moreover, the 1940 edition of the official guidebook was dumbed

down and its edginess softened in a bid to appeal to a wider audience.

The photographs and organization of the fair are based on the 1939 Fair, which the editor points out adheres more strictly to the planners' vision.

Available at the SPLIA Gallery, 1 Shore Road, Cold Spring Harbor, for \$14.95; also available at online booksellers.

Dutch Vernacular Architecture in North America, 1640-1830, John Stevens, Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture, West Hurley, New York, 2005.

The author has spent his entire career studying Dutch vernacular architecture, and this book is the result of his life-long passion. He examines houses, barns, hay barracks, bake houses, watermills and windmills. He provides many of his own measured drawings as well as historical maps, period and con-

temporary photographs, and other archival material. Mr. Stevens states that the purpose of the book is to describe and illustrate the structural and decorative characteristics of buildings that survive from the period of Dutch settlement in America, and that illustrate the Netherlands' building tradition as it was transplanted to the New World.

Abbott Lowell Cummings said about the book: "Could anything be more difficult than painting an accurate picture of how one of the Nation's largest and continually changing metropolitan regions appeared when the island of Manhattan was first settled by the Dutch? John Stevens has done it! In a brilliantly executed study he shares with us the seemingly bottomless well of his specialized knowledge of the impact of the 'Dutch' upon the Colonial eastern seaboard."

Available from Hudson Valley Vernacular Architecture, P.O. Box 202, West Hurley, NY 12491, hard cover, \$65.00, soft cover \$50.00.

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Bay Shore *(continued from page 3)*

tion and expansion is anticipated.

The former **White's Funeral Home**, originally the home of Richard Ranft constructed in 1912 on the southeast corner of Penataquit Avenue and Montauk Highway was previously threatened by Commerce Bank's purchase of the 2.5 acre site to demolish the house and superimpose its usual prototype. The Chamber of Commerce and local residents fought the application. Now the house will be adaptively used for one condominium unit combined with a community center to serve seventeen other condominium units which will be built on site. The house was found eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1996.

The **Dominy Building**, located on the north side of Main Street between Bay Shore and Third Avenues is a block long unaltered terra cotta building built in the 1920's. The second floor is planned for 20 studio apartments, ten percent of them targeted for workforce housing. The first floor will contain retail and service uses.



The Dominy Building c. 1995. TOWN OF ISLIP DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Coram

The Middle Country Road Renaissance Project, encompassing the communities of Middle Island, Coram, portions of Gordon Heights and Ridge, is engaged in a community planning process meant to bring back the area from pervasive sprawl, bad design and congested roadways. The Longwood Alliance, a community umbrella organization, has identified Historic Preservation as an important vehicle in defeating sprawl and recapturing a sense of community identity. Central to this historic preservation mandate is the restoration of important historic landmarks along the Middle Country Road Corridor in order to provide local residents with touchstones into the community's past. Recent historic preservation projects are the nascent restoration of the Davis Town Meeting House, Coram, the nomination of the **Middle Island Presbyterian Church**, Middle Island, for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and the prospective restoration of the **Isaac Smith/Mott House**, Gordon Heights, all on Middle Country Road.

This past September the **Davis Town Meeting House**, owned by the Town of Brookhaven and in a prominent location on the corner of Middle Country Road and Coram-Mt. Sinai Road is finally being restored after standing vacant and vulnerable for a number of years. The building is highly significant being the oldest building in Coram (c.1750, additions c.1845 and 1891), serving as Brookhaven's seat of government from about 1784-1885 and housing the state militia thereafter. The parade ground is preserved in the adjacent Daniel R. Davis Sanctuary owned by the Nature Conservancy. Restoration thus far has included lifting the house and rebuilding the foundation, replacing the sills and new roofing. The entire restoration is due to be completed at the end of 2007. The **Isaac Smith/Mott House**, on the corner of Middle Country Road and Homestead Drive, built in 1824 and added to in about

1870, also owned by the Town of Brookhaven, is slated for an architectural assessment to be followed by restoration for use as a community center.



Davis Town Meeting House, later home of Daniel Davis, postcard photograph by Arthur S. Greene, bet. 1906-1911. LONGWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY, THOMAS R. BAYLES COLLECTION

East Yaphank

The East Yaphank Civic Association has expanded its interests to include protection of the East Yaphank-River Road Long Island Railroad Bridge. The bridge spans River Road which runs along the eastern edge of the Carmans River. Yaphank was once known as "Carmans River." The East Yaphank area has for the most part been developed within the last 50 years.

The Long Island Railroad's first line was the Main Line which traversed the vast, for the most part unpopulated center of Long Island. Its original purpose was to provide an overland route to Boston up through the middle of Long Island to Greenport, and, with a ferry link to Stonington, Conn., run once again by rail to Providence and Boston. The rails proceeded east and reached Medford in 1844 and west from Greenport the same year. The first trains ran in July 1844. By 1850, the technology was marshaled to establish a Connecticut overland rail route, and Main Line's original purpose was no longer justified. Thereafter, the LIRR began its development of the network of routes closer to the Island's population centers along the north and south shores.



Main line Long Island Railroad bridge, East Yaphank, constructed c. 1843. CHARLA BOLTON

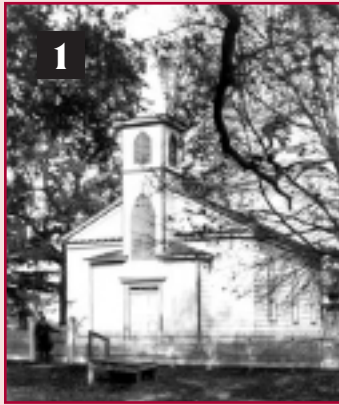
The River Road bridge consists of a one lane wide brick arch supported by brownstone ballast block abutments. A single rail track runs over it. Remarkably, the bridge is still in use and unaltered. A second arch bridge of the same date spans the Carmans River within Suffolk County's South Haven Park to the west but has been altered. The Civic Association's interest in preserving the bridge is to keep a distinctive landmark within the community as both a focal and rallying point. Currently the Town of Brookhaven Historic Districts Advisory Committee is examining the possibility of making the bridge a local Brookhaven Town landmark.

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A SELECTION OF NATIONAL REGISTER LISTINGS, 2005

This year, Long Island has achieved a large number of listings both on the State and National Register of Historic Places. These cover buildings which are in almost every town in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, as well as Kings and Queens Counties. A wide variety of building types, and functions, are also represented. A table of all 2005 listings is included following the centerfold.

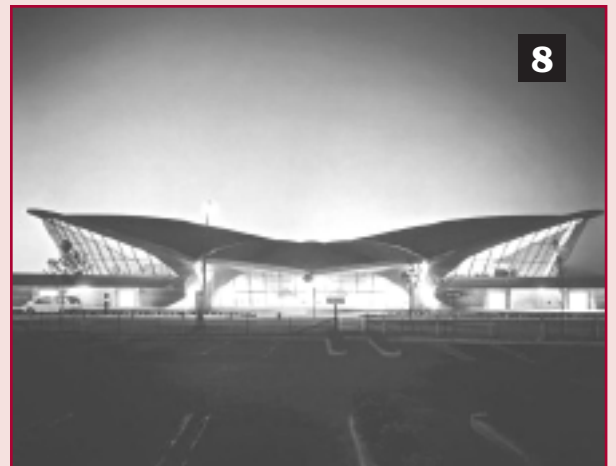
The centerfold presents some of Long Island's architectural richness, as well as its diversity. We hope that communities everywhere will think of listing significant buildings on the State and National Registers as a way to focus revitalization efforts, engender new life into community planning strategies, and, most importantly, as a way to inspire community investment in its history.



Figures

- 1 Middle Island Presbyterian Church, Coram c. 1836
- 2 Brecknock Hall, Greenport (Hamlet of Stirling), 1857
- 3 H.W. Prince Building, Southold, 1874
- 4 Stepping Stones Lighthouse, Sands Point, 1877
- 5 First National Bank of Port Jefferson, c.1900
- 6 Sea Cliff Village Hall, Library and Museum Complex, 1914
- 7 Queens County Savings Bank, Kew Gardens Hills, Queens, 1953-1954
- 8 TWA Flight Center, Jamaica, Queens, by Eero Saarinen, completed 1962

Sources: Fig. 1, Longwood Public Library, Thomas R. Bayles Collection; Figs. 2-4, 7 and 8 NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation; Fig. 5, Port Jefferson Village Historian; Fig. 6, Sea Cliff Landmarks Preservation Commission



Riverhead

In November, the Town of Riverhead Landmarks Preservation Commission approved a new historic district which will preserve Riverhead's historic downtown, and a public hearing by the Town Board was held in December. The district would protect a collection of resources which cover a period of more than 200 years, and include some of the Town's most distinctive mercantile and civic buildings, and entertainment spaces. The proposed district is concentrated mainly



Fenimore Meyer House, First Street, Riverhead, built about 1880.

STEVE BERGER

between the Long Island Railroad tracks and the Peconic River, with a small segment stretching to Pulaski Avenue. It includes approximately 220 structures and would be the Town's first historic district. The Commission believes that the creation of a Downtown Historic District will be an important part of the Town Board's efforts to revitalize the area.

Source: Town of Riverhead Landmarks Preservation Commission

2005 NATIONAL AND STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES LISTINGS

Thomas Strong House	100 Wainscott Hollow Road, Wainscott	East Hampton	1/05/05
Town Doctors' House Site	310 Ackerly Pond La., Southold	Southold	1/05/05
Pauline Felix House	151 Penn St., Long Beach	Hempstead	2/24/05
Schenck-Mann House	222 Convent Rd., Syosset	Oyster Bay	2/24/05
Henry W. Prince Building	54325 Main Rd., Southold	Southold	2/24/05
Group of Subway Stations (NYC Subway System MPS)	Various locations	Queens	3/30/05, 7/06/05
Saint Mary's Chapel	Rushmore Av., bet. Roslyn and Glen Cove Avenue, Carle Place	Hempstead	4/06/05
Port Jefferson Village Historic Dist.	E. Main St., E. Broadway, Grant, High and South Sts.	Brookhaven	4/06/05
Brecknock Hall	North Rd. near Manhasset Av., Stirling	Southold	4/22/05
Joseph Nelson Hallock House	Main Rd. and Maple Av., Southold	Southold	4/22/05
Sea Cliff Village Hall, Library and Museum Complex	300 Sea Cliff Av, Sea Cliff	North Hempstead	4/22/05
Jones Beach State Park, Causeway and Parkway System	Ocean, Wantagh, Meadowbrook, and Loop State Parkways	Hempstead	4/28/05
Race Rock Light Station	0.6 mi. SW Race Point, vic. Fishers Island		4/29/05
Clapham-Stern House	48 Glenwood Road, Roslyn Harbor	North Hempstead	6/10/05
Church of the Holy Innocents	279 E. 17th St.	Brooklyn	6/16/05
Queens County Savings Bank	75-44 Main St., Kew gardens Hills	Queens	3/25/05
Group of Subway Stations (NYC Subway System MPS)	Various locations	Brooklyn	7/06/05, 7/29/05
Oyster Bay LIRR Sta.	Railroad Av., Oyster Bay	Oyster Bay	7/06/05
Oyster Bay LIRR Turntable	Railroad Av., Oyster Bay	Oyster Bay	7/06/05
Elmhurst Av. Subway Sta. (IND)	Beneath Broadway at 82nd St. and 45th Av. and Elmhurst Av., Elmhurst	Queens	7/06/05
15th St.-Prospect Park Subway Sta. (IND)	15th St/Prospect Park S and SW, Park Slope	Brooklyn	7/27/05
Sayville Congregational Church	131 Middle Road, Sayville	Islip	7/27/05
Douglaston Historic District	Bounded by Shore Rd., Marinette St., Douglas Rd. and Cherry St.	Queens	9/01/05
Trans World Airlines Flight Center	John F. Kennedy International Airport, Jamaica	Queens	9/07/05
Stepping Stones Light Sta.	L.I. Sound, 0.9 mi. NW of Elm Point, Kings Point	North Hempstead	9/15/05
Samuel Vaisberg House	257 W. Olive St., Long Beach	Hempstead	10/05/05
Old Town Hall	47 W. Main St., Babylon Village	Babylon	10/05/05
First National Bank Building	Main and East Main Streets, Port Jefferson	Brookhaven	10/05/05
Camp Quinipet	4 Rocky Point Road, Shelter Island Heights	Shelter Island	10/05/05
Middle Island Presbyterian Church	271 Middle Island Road, Middle Island	Brookhaven	12/07/05

which was exhibited in the Long Island section of the 1939 New York World's Fair.



Robert Gaston Herbert posing in front of the Long Island mural, about 1925. COURTESY OF PETER O. HERBERT, JR.

The Long Island mural is said by a family member to have been painted in 1925; Herbert later painted murals for the WPA, several of which survive, including one in the rotunda of the Nassau County Courthouse, and in buildings in Yaphank, Smithtown and Hempstead. He also painted murals for Roslyn and Rockville Centre High Schools, and several banks, one of which, the Lincoln Savings Bank in Brooklyn, at the time had the largest mural in New York City. He also painted the first set of murals to be installed in an aircraft when three of them were made for a General Motors aircraft.

In 1949 he sold the Sea Cliff property and retired to Red Hook, New York. He died at 81, in 1954.

Sources: 1) Correspondence, Peter O. Herbert, Jr. to SPLIA, 18 October 2004.
2) Biographical essay, *Robert Gaston Herbert, Sr., 1873-1954*, no date or author identified, courtesy of Sea Cliff Village Museum

NASSAU COUNTY

Locust Valley

The Underhill-Wyckoff house, also called the Quaker Academy, located in Locust Valley, was recently sold to a new owner. The Village of Matinecock has passed a law which would allow limited use of the premises for the sale of antiques, subject to approval by the Board of Zoning Appeals. The house has been recommended for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and the owner has also hired an architectural historian to investigate and document the construction history of the house. This work is leading to new conclusions about the architectural and historical significance of the house.

Previously, the earliest section was thought to be constructed by John Underhill in 1668, upon land purchased from the Matinecock Indians. New information points to a mid-18th century date for the west wing, with the first section of the main house constructed about 1790.

About 1841, the house and adjoining property were purchased by a Quaker named Lott Cornelius, who intended to use it as a "a family boarding school for boys". He created space for the school by adding a half story to the main block for that purpose. In the mid-19th century he added a 2½ story, 3 bay addition to the main block creating the present configuration.

The Walnut Grove Seminary educated the leading citizens of its day. In 1857, the school became the Walnut Grove Female Seminary, still under its original owner. The school ceased operation in 1869. The school was one of the earliest boarding and day schools in Nassau County.

When Lott Cornelius died in 1878, the house was passed to Lott Cornelius' daughter Amanda, who married Jarvis Underhill. Amanda lived there until she died about 1921. When she died, the house remained vacant until 1924. A newspaper article, written about 1924, notes the recent purchase of the property by William Jay Robinson and his wife Jane Teller.



Contemporary view of Underhill-Wyckoff House showing mid 18th century west wing and 1790 section of main house.

CHARLA BOLTON

The Robinsons, noted for a celebrated collection of antiques added an east wing to the house, creating flanking one story wings enclosing a graveled entrance drive with gardens at its edges.

During the Robinson's tenure the house served as a restaurant called the Stage Coach Inn, much frequented by the country house set. In 1928, the house was the site of the election to form the Village of Matinecock. After the death of Mr. Robinson in 1930, unsuccessful efforts were made to continue the restaurant use. In 1941 it was purchased by Thomas R. Hay, the father of Edith Hay Wyckoff, who used it as her residence and started the *Locust Valley Leader* there after World War II.

SUFFOLK COUNTY

Bay Shore

Bay Shore is using its historic buildings to anchor a new identity. The Town of Islip, Bay Shore's Chamber of Commerce, together with the South Shore Restoration Group, Inc., have embraced the rich architectural heritage found in the downtown to enable preservation, spur investment, and plan for necessary new uses.

The former **Vitagraph Studios**, headquartered in Brooklyn, was constructed in 1915 at 94 Fourth Avenue to provide an alternative location for making the new silent films being produced in New York City. Known locally as the Keystone building, after a recent business, General Keystone Service, thirty-one condominium units are being constructed, with 5 set aside for use by students at local colleges.

The Bay Shore School District has hired Dan Lane of Jan Hird Pokorney Associates to complete a National Register form for the **Bay Shore High School** which was designed by William I. La Fon and constructed in 1939. A renova- continued on page 4