

**BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RK 3

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

UNIQUE SITE NO. 10305.000783  
QUAD \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip/SPLIA DATE: April 1990

Town Hall, 655 Main St.

YOUR ADDRESS: Islip, L.I., N.Y. 11751 TELEPHONE: 516.224.5450

ORGANIZATION (if any): Dept. of Planning, Housing, and Development

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**IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Petit Trianon Servant's Quarters
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Lake Ronkonkoma
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 45 Lake Dr.
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public  b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Park Lake Rest Home ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. USE: Original: hotel staff quarters Present: adult home
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes  No   
Interior accessible: Explain partial, by app't.

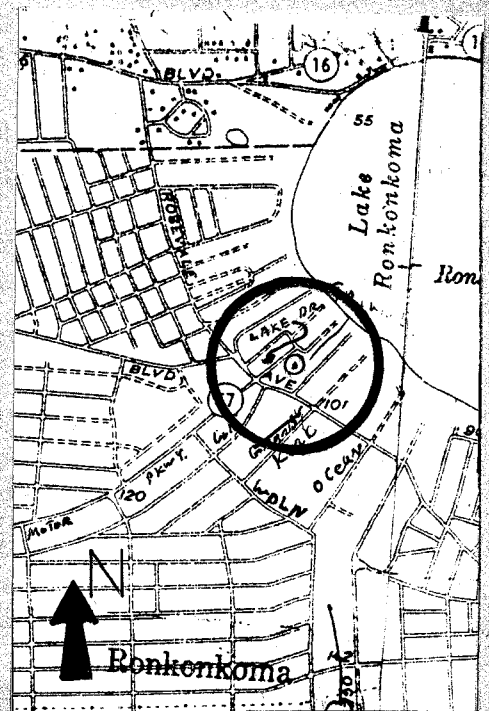
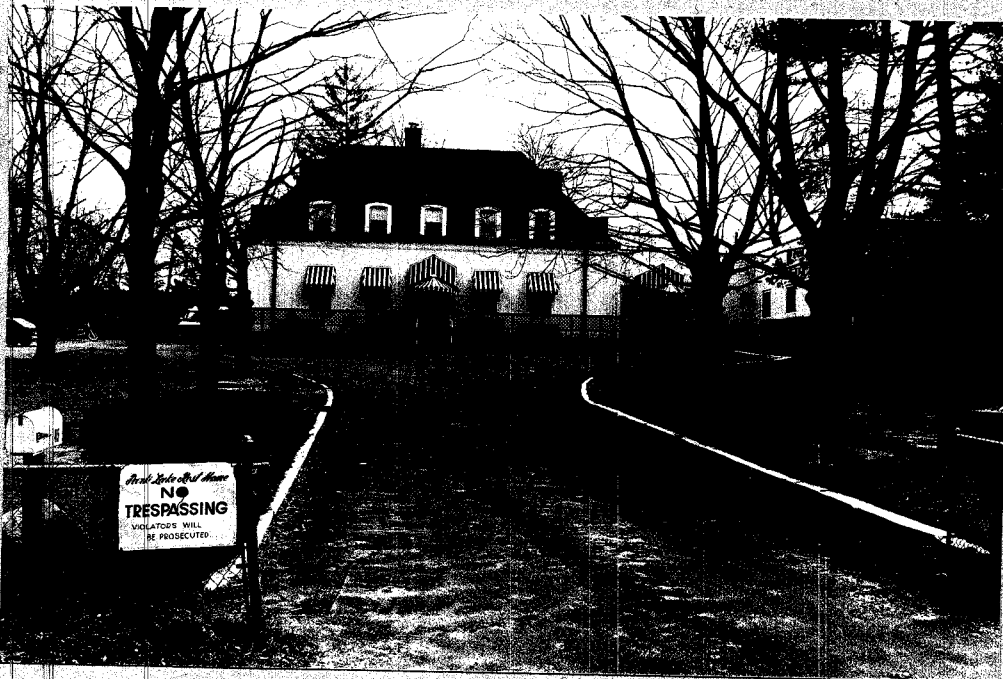
**DESCRIPTION**

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard  b. stone  c. brick  d. board and batten   
e. cobblestone  f. shingles  g. stucco  other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints   
(if known) b. wood frame with light members   
c. masonry load bearing walls   
d. metal (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
e. other \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent  b. good  c. fair  d. deteriorated
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site  b. moved  if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Low, single story wing added to west.

12. PHOTO: Neg. KK XVII-12, fm. N.

13. MAP: NYS DOT Central Islip & Patchogue Quads



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known  b. zoning  c. roads   
 d. developers  e. deterioration   
 f. other: \_\_\_\_\_
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:  
 a. barn  b. carriage house  c. garage   
 d. privy  e. shed  f. greenhouse   
 g. shop  h. gardens   
 i. landscape features: large trees  
 j. other: Lake Dr. (former terminal of LI Motor Pkwy.)
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):  
 a. open land  b. woodland   
 c. scattered buildings   
 d. densely built-up  e. commercial   
 f. industrial  g. residential   
 h. other: Lake Ronkonkoma directly east

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

The former staff quarters of the Long Island Motor Parkway's Petit Trianon is located on the south side of Lake Drive, a part of the original terminal of the Motor Parkway. It is located on a treed parcel among small houses and cottages that surround Lake Ronkonkoma.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

The Petit Trianon staff quarters is a large, 2½ story, five bay, center entrance plan, high hip roof, stucco building with an off-center chimney and five segmental arch dormers. Other dormers are located on the steeper side slopes of the hip roof, including an attic story.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 1910

ARCHITECT: John Russell Pope

BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

It is reported that W.K. Vanderbilt instructed the architect, John Russell Pope, to design the Petit Trianon and its auxiliary building in a French style. When the restaurant was destroyed by fire in the 1950's, fortunately this building survived. It is an important component in the Long Island Parkway story.

21. SOURCES:

Long Island Motor Parkway, file copy folder, Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, Setauket.

22. THEME:

Research by Soc. for the Preseravtion of L.I. Antiquities - KEK

2

**BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM**

DEVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
UNIQUE SITE NO.	_____
QUAD	_____
SERIES	_____
NEG. NO.	_____

YOUR NAME: Ellen T. McDougall, SPLIA DATE: 5/5/77  
93 North Country Rd.,  
 YOUR ADDRESS: Setauket, N.Y. 11731 TELEPHONE: (516)941-9444

ORGANIZATION (if any): Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities.

**IDENTIFICATION**

Original name: "Annex"

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Servant's Quarters & Garage of Petit Trianon (Amer. Inn)
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Ronkonkoma
- 3. STREET LOCATION: Long Island Motor Parkway
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public  b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Mr. Turner ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. USE: Original: Servant's Quarters Present: Nursing Home
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes  No   
Interior accessible: Explain \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION**

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard  b. stone  c. brick  d. board and batten   
e. cobblestone  f. shingles  g. stucco  other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known) a. wood frame with interlocking joints   
b. wood frame with light members   
c. masonry load bearing walls   
d. metal (explain) \_\_\_\_\_  
e. other \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent  b. good  c. fair  d. deteriorated
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site  b. moved  if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): Wing added to west side of building.

12. PHOTO: ETM-4; Frame # 7. Facade looking south. 13. MAP: See Attachment 1 & 2.



HWK 2

14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known  b. zoning  c. roads   
d. developers  e. deterioration   
f. other: \_\_\_\_\_

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:  
a. barn  b. carriage house  c. garage   
d. privy  e. shed  f. greenhouse   
g. shop  h. gardens   
i. landscape features: \_\_\_\_\_  
j. other: \_\_\_\_\_

16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):  
a. open land  b. woodland   
c. scattered buildings   
d. densely built-up  e. commercial   
f. industrial  g. residential   
h. other: \_\_\_\_\_

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:  
(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):  
Building is located SW of what was the American Inn and its site plan reflects that of the Inn; set back from the road with a tree lined approach that terminates in a circular drive.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: c.1911

ARCHITECT: John Russell Pope

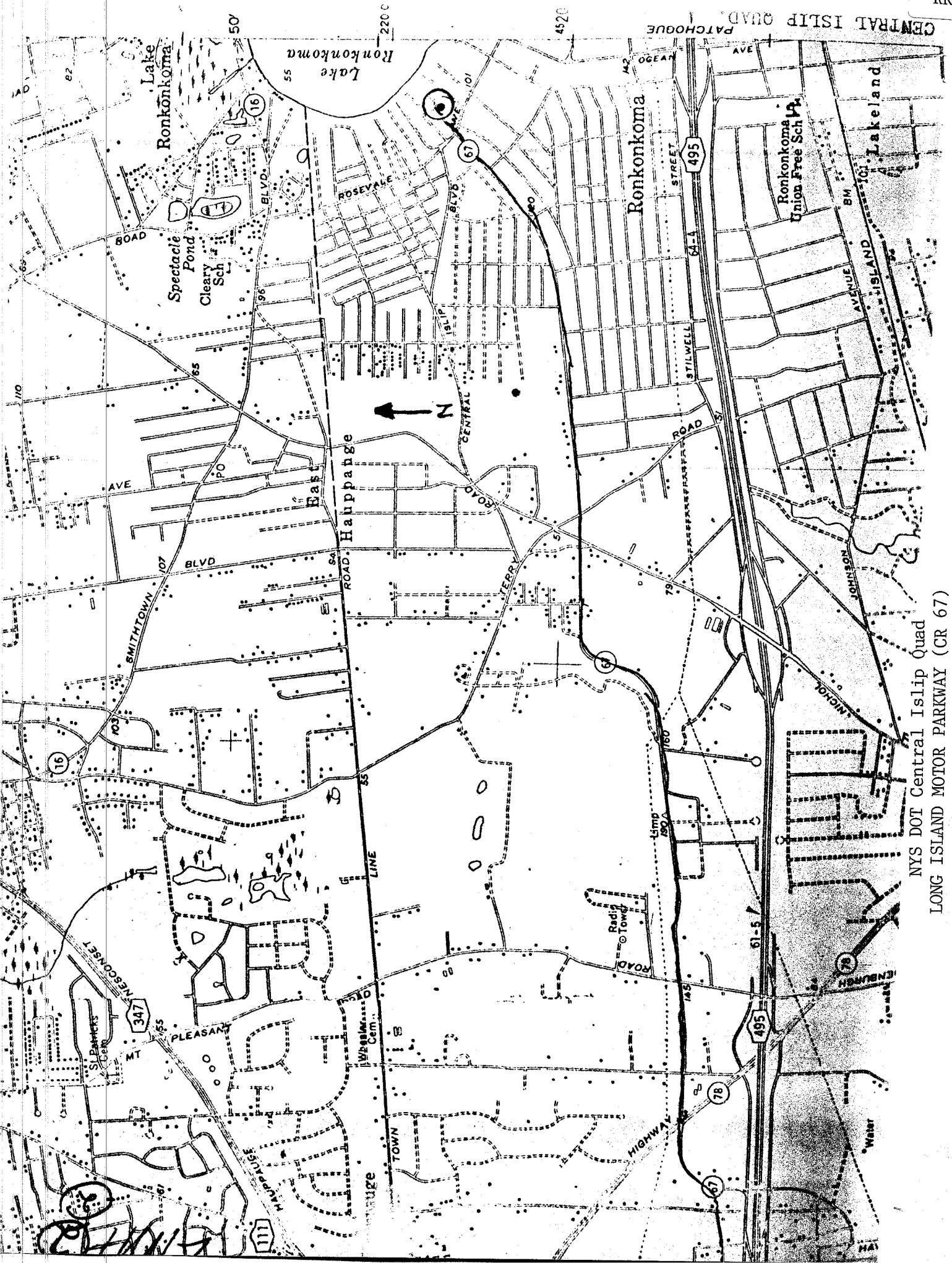
BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:  
2½ story, 5 bay, hip roof building with dormers. Does not have French windows, but spacing of windows similar to that of American Inn. Originally built as garage and servants quarters.

21. SOURCES: Map of Lake Ronkonkoma Heights: Situated at Lake Ronkonkoma. Town of Islip, Suffolk County, N.Y., May 1923.

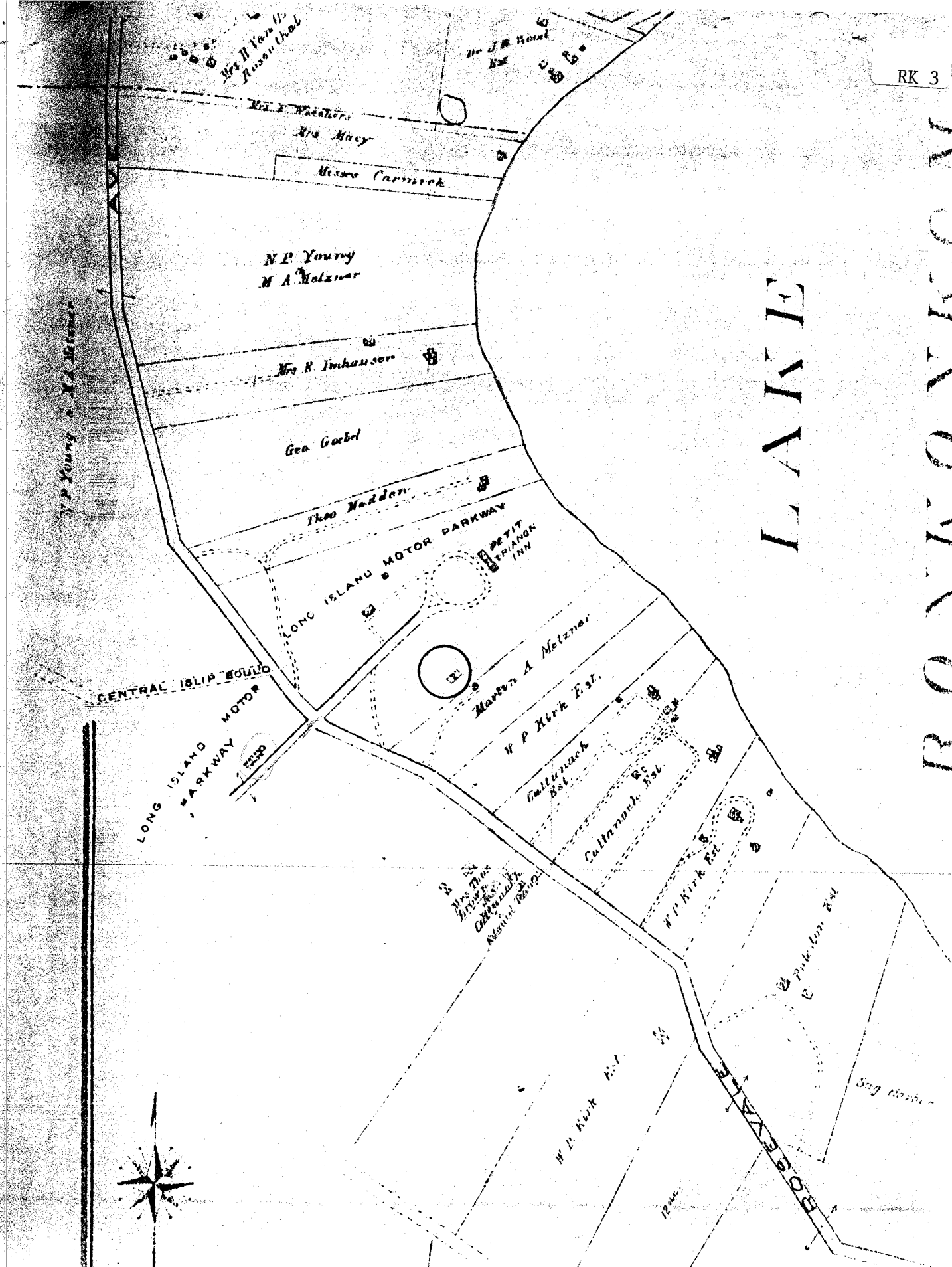
22. THEME:





NYS DOT Central Islip Quad  
 LONG ISLAND MOTOR PARKWAY (CR 67)

LAKE



Attachment 1  
 E. Belcher Hyde, 1917, Atlas of the North Shore (Sag Harbor Savings Co. of Suffolk County, L.I. Western Section).

LM  
1A

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE INVENTORY FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
UNIQUE SITE NO.	_____
QUAD.	_____
SERIES	_____
NEG. NO.	_____

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
ALBANY, NEW YORK

518 474-0479

REPORTED BY: Ellen T. McDougall  
93 North Country Rd.  
YOUR ADDRESS: Setauket, N.Y., 11731 TELEPHONE: (516) 941-9444

ORGANIZATION (if any): Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities.

DATE: 6/11/77

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- 1. SITE NAME: American Inn, Petit Trianon
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Ronkonkoma
- 3. LOCATION: At the end of the Long Island Motor Parkway, see Figure 6.

4. PRESENT OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

5. OWNER'S ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

6. DESCRIPTION, CONDITION, EVIDENCE OF SITE:

- STANDING RUINS
- CELLAR HOLE WITH WALLS
- SURFACE TRACES VISIBLE
- WALLS WITHOUT CELLAR HOLE
- UNDER CULTIVATION
- EROSION
- UNDERWATER
- NO VISIBLE EVIDENCE
- OTHER Heavy overgrowth

7. COLLECTION OF MATERIAL FROM SITE:

- SURFACE HUNTING BY WHOM \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_
- TESTING BY WHOM \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_
- EXCAVATION BY WHOM \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_
- NONE

PRESENT REPOSITORY OF MATERIALS: \_\_\_\_\_

8. PREHISTORIC CULTURAL AFFILIATION OR DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

9. HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION OF SITE: Designed by John Russell Pope, the American Inn was a 2½ story, 4 bay, hip roof building with French windows. The main portion of the building was flanked by hip roof wings that connected to parallel loggias. See Figure 2.

The grounds were terraced and landscaped and Pope's rendering shows evergreens that still remain. Paths from the loggias led to parallel stairways which connected to form a grand staircase to the lake. Figure 1 is a site plan and Figures 4 & 5 demonstrate remains.

When first opened c.1911, the restaurant was run by the Astor Hotel and during its heyday was the scene of brilliant N.Y. society events. By 1957 the building had been abandoned for several years and

10. POSSIBILITY OF SITE DESTRUCTION OR DISTURBANCE: Burned.

11. REMARKS:

12. MAP LOCATION

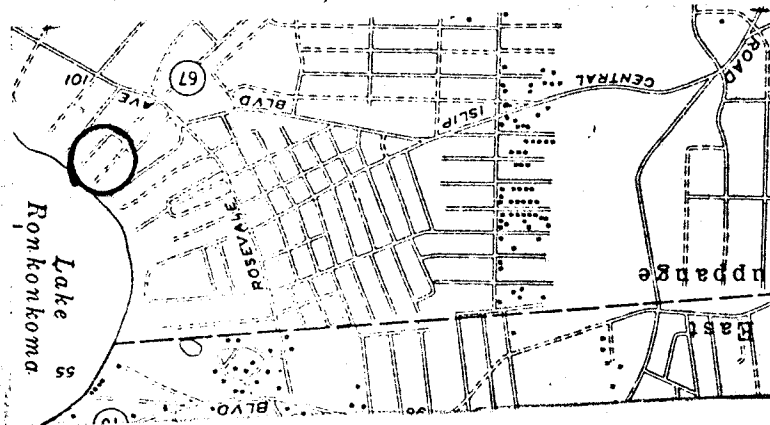
7 ½ MINUTE SERIES QUAD. NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

15 MINUTE SERIES QUAD. NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S.G.S. COORDINATES: \_\_\_\_\_

D.O.T. COORDINATES: (if known) Quad name: Central Islip

ATTACH SKETCH, TRACING OR COPY OF MAP



SOURCE OF MAP:

E. Belcher Hyde, 1917, Atlas of the North Shore of Suffolk County, L.I. (Westerly Section).

13. PHOTOGRAPHS (optional)

Figure 1, site plan.

Figure 2, Pope's rendering, Motor Parkway Inn.

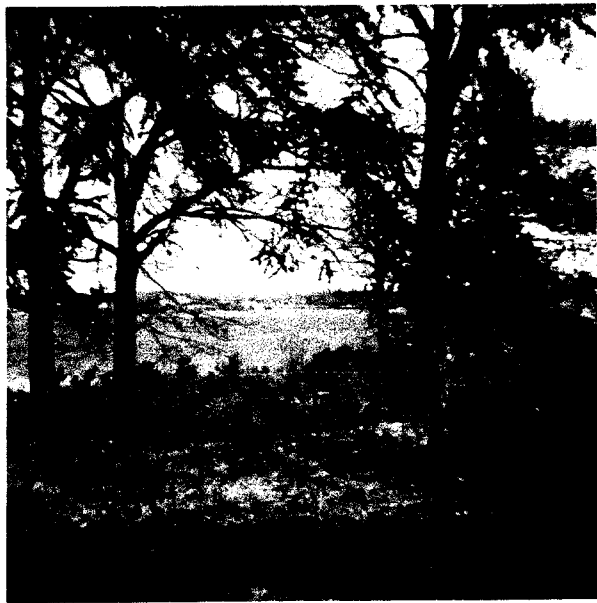
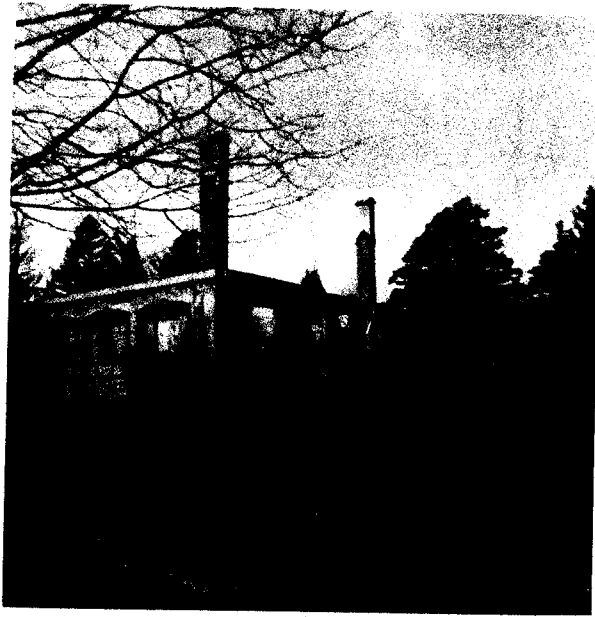
Figure 3, View of lake from American Inn site.

Figure 4, Remains of grand staircase.

Figure 5, View of one of parallel stairways.

(ATTACH)





Ruins of the Petit Trianon, 1964 photographs.



Figure 3: ETM-4: Frame # 3, View of Lake Ronkonkoma from American Inn site, looking NE.



Figure 4: ETM-4: Frame # 5, Remains of grand staircase, looking NE.

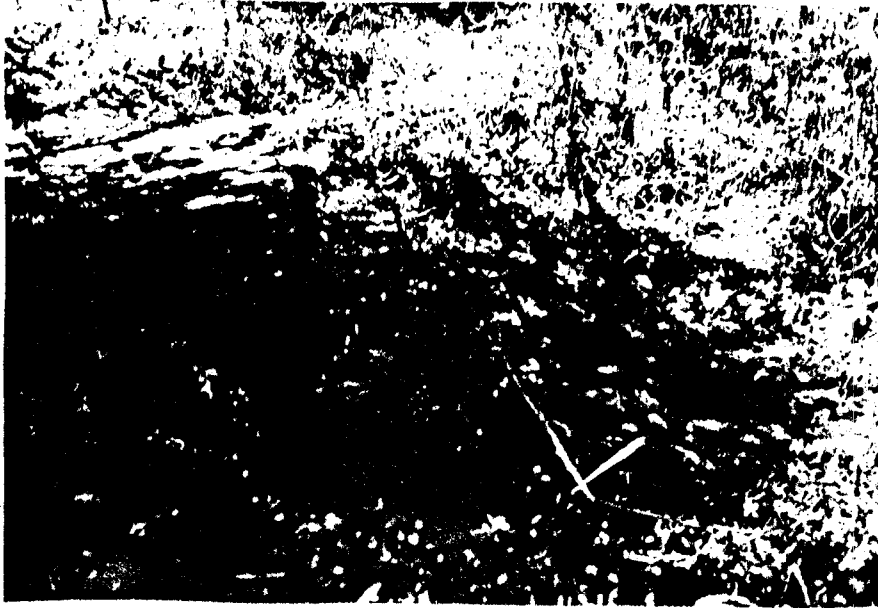


Figure 5: ETM-4: Frame # 6, View of one of the parallel stairways.

of the road, defining what they should do and what I should do. By this contract the company agreed to do all the carrying trade and freight for the settlement, free of cost or charge; all freight, lumber and building material, manure and fertilizers, and all products were to be carried free, for one year, to each and every settler, and the head of the family to have a free pass to and from the city for two years. This was to encourage and promote settlement, and these privileges were to be given to every actual settler, during the settlement of the ten thousand acres. The settlement was to be an agricultural, or farming, and garden settlement; no village lots were offered.<sup>5</sup>

In truth, Dr. Peck's scheme was ambitious but lacking in imagination. Its simple grid made no pretensions at innovation or artistry, and its distance from civilization and the simultaneous failure of the railroad combined to doom it in less than a decade. At this point, however, a new figure entered the scene. Charles Wood was either an unscrupulous or an unlucky land agent who, in partnership with other investors, attempted to revive Peck's settlement plans after the reorganization of the railroad. Peck recalls:

I sold the property to Charles Wood and his associates, of New York. Mr. Wood was recommended as a fair and honest man by Moses Y. Beach, Alfred Beach, and Moses S. Beach, owners and editors of the *New York Sun*, and they sustained and aided him very greatly. I sold mostly on credit, and I continued to do all I could to promote the settlement of the lands, and have done so to the present day. Mr. Wood went on to sell and improve, but ultimately got into difficulty and failed. He was victimized by others, and Lakeland never recovered from the failure, and is now blotted out; while it is called Ronkonkoma Depot, by an act of gross injustice to me, and to the settlement, the pioneer settlement, in the wilderness.<sup>6</sup>

Little is known of Charles Wood. Listed alternately as a land agent or real estate broker in the New York City directories from 1852 until 1856, he appears to have moved his residence to the Lakeland community in 1854. Something of the man may be learned from his design and prospectus for his renamed Lake Ronkonkoma Farms, however, which Wood filed in 1855. It reads in part:

Nothing can be more delightful and romantic than the situation of these Farms, lying on the borders of the Lake, and presenting a full view of its majestic grandeur, while at the same time the boisterous roar of the lashing waves of the broad Atlantic can be distinctly heard from the South. Here in this sequestered paradise, an Agriculturist, Mechanic, or

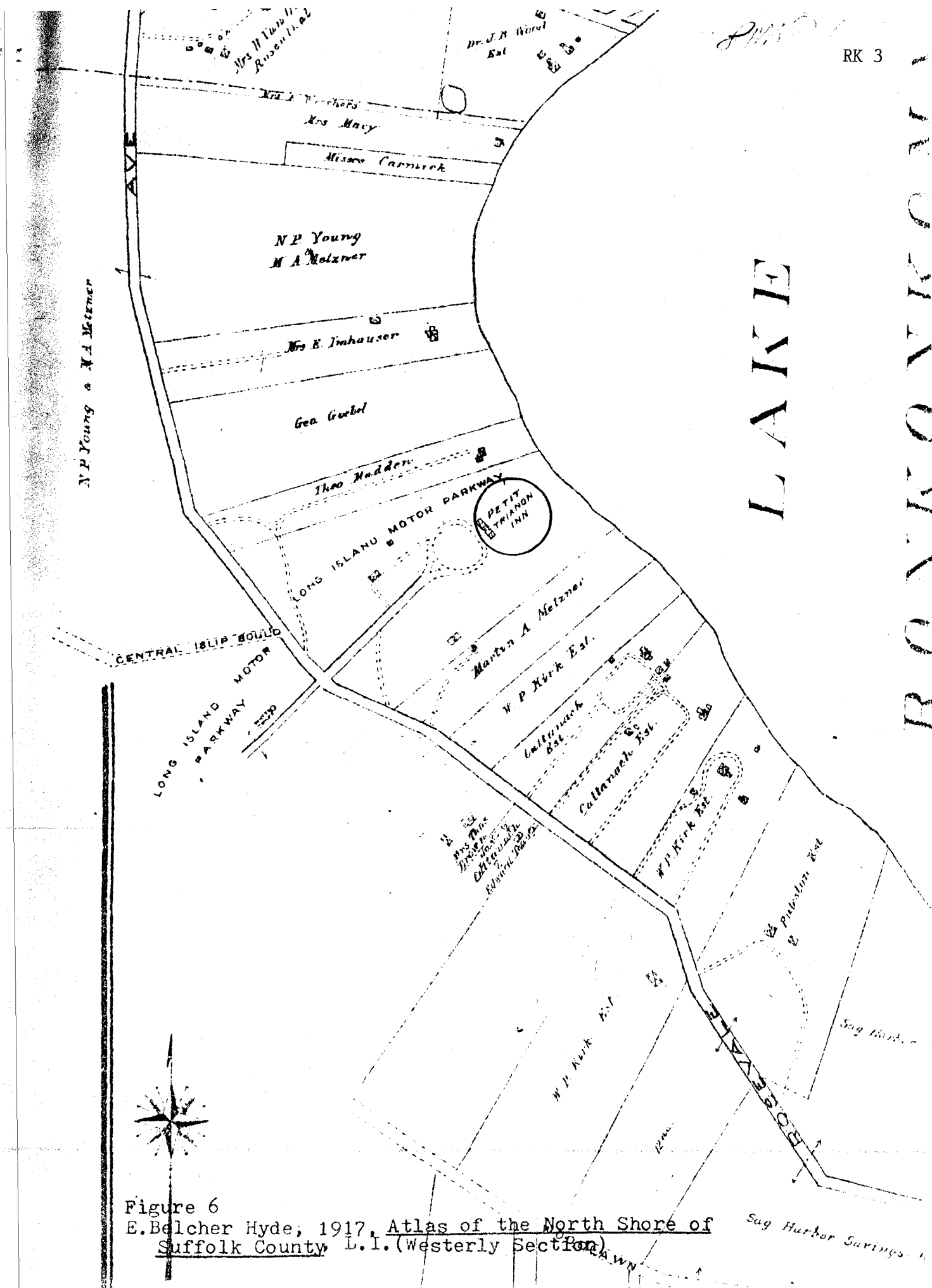
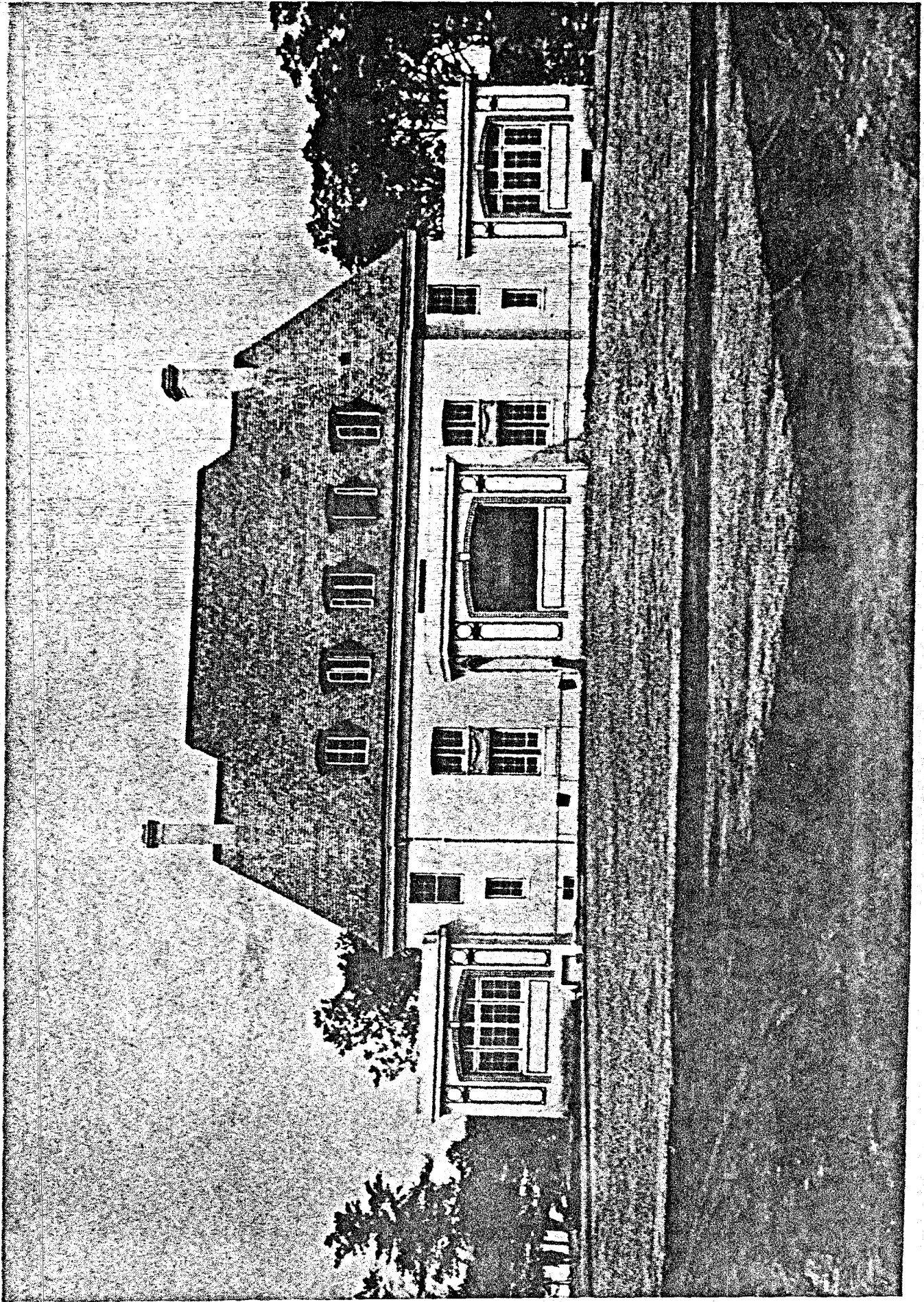


Figure 6  
 E. Belcher Hyde, 1917, Atlas of the North Shore of Suffolk County, L.I. (Westerly Section)





PETIT TRIANON RESTAURANT

TOWN & COUNTRY, JUNE 10, 1911.

LVP 2

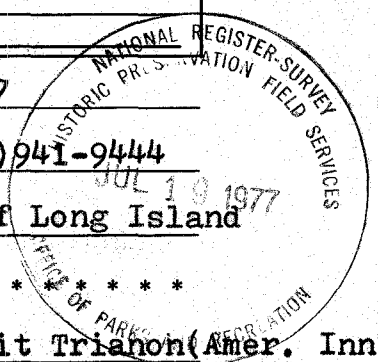
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- USE: Original: Servant's Quarters Present: Nursing Home
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Interior accessible: Explain \_\_\_\_\_

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- INTEGRITY: a. original site  b. moved  if so, when? \_\_\_\_\_  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): Wing added to west side of building.

12. PHOTO: ETM-4: Frame # 7. Facade looking south. 13. MAP: See Attachment 1 & 2.



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known  b. zoning  c. roads   
 d. developers  e. deterioration   
 f. other: \_\_\_\_\_

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:

- a. barn  b. carriage house  c. garage   
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17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

(Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):

Building is located SW of what was the American Inn and its site plan reflects that of the Inn; set back from the road with a tree lined approach that terminates in a circular drive.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: c. 1911

ARCHITECT: John Russell Pope

BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_

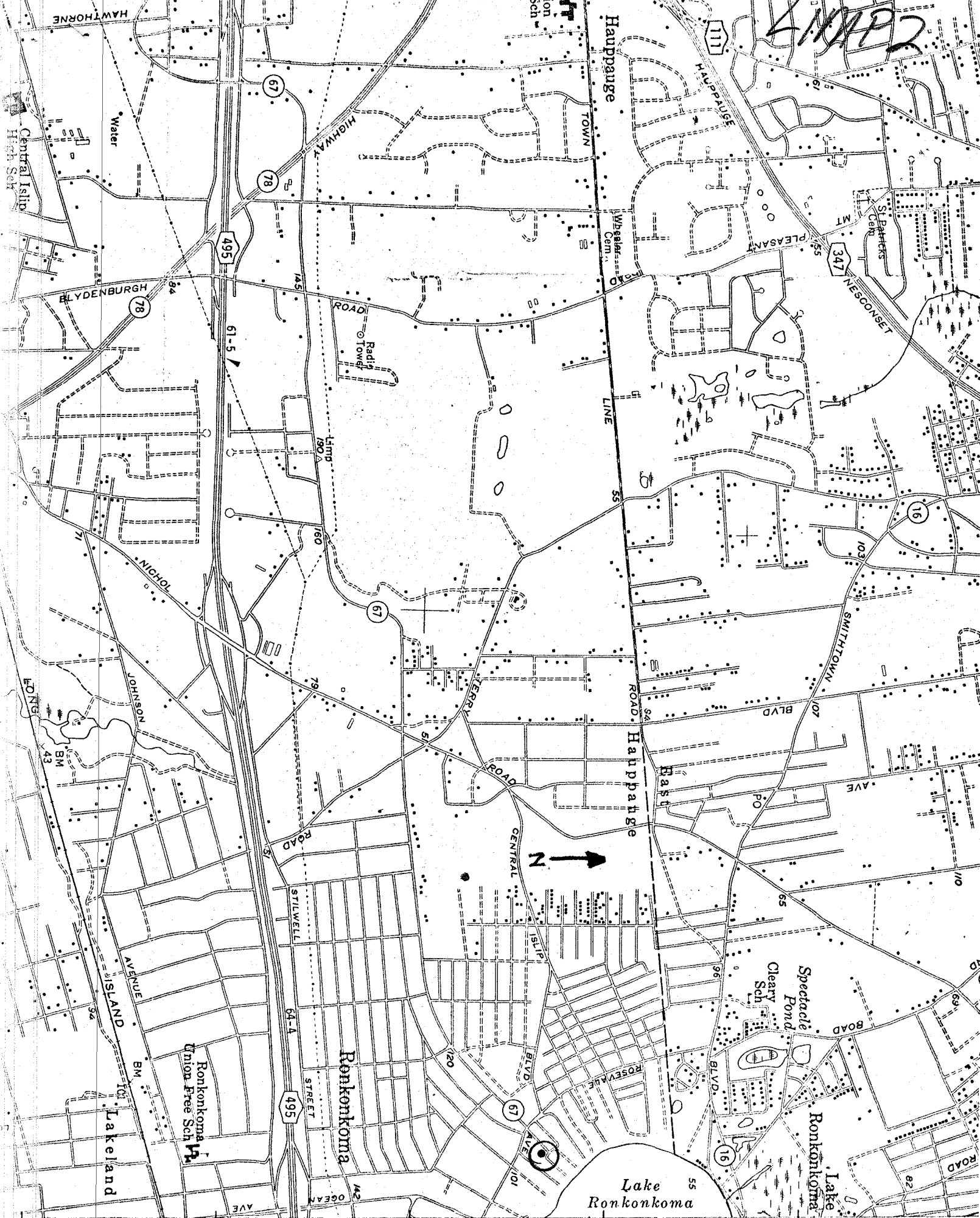
20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

2½ story, 5 bay, hip roof building with dormers. Does not have French windows, but spacing of windows similar to that of American Inn. Originally built as garage and servants quarters.

21. SOURCES: Map of Lake Ronkonkoma Heights: Situated at Lake Ronkonkoma. Town of Islip, Suffolk County, N.Y., May 1923.

22. THEME:

4 MAP 2



CENTRAL ISLIP QUAD.

PATCHOGUE

452000m

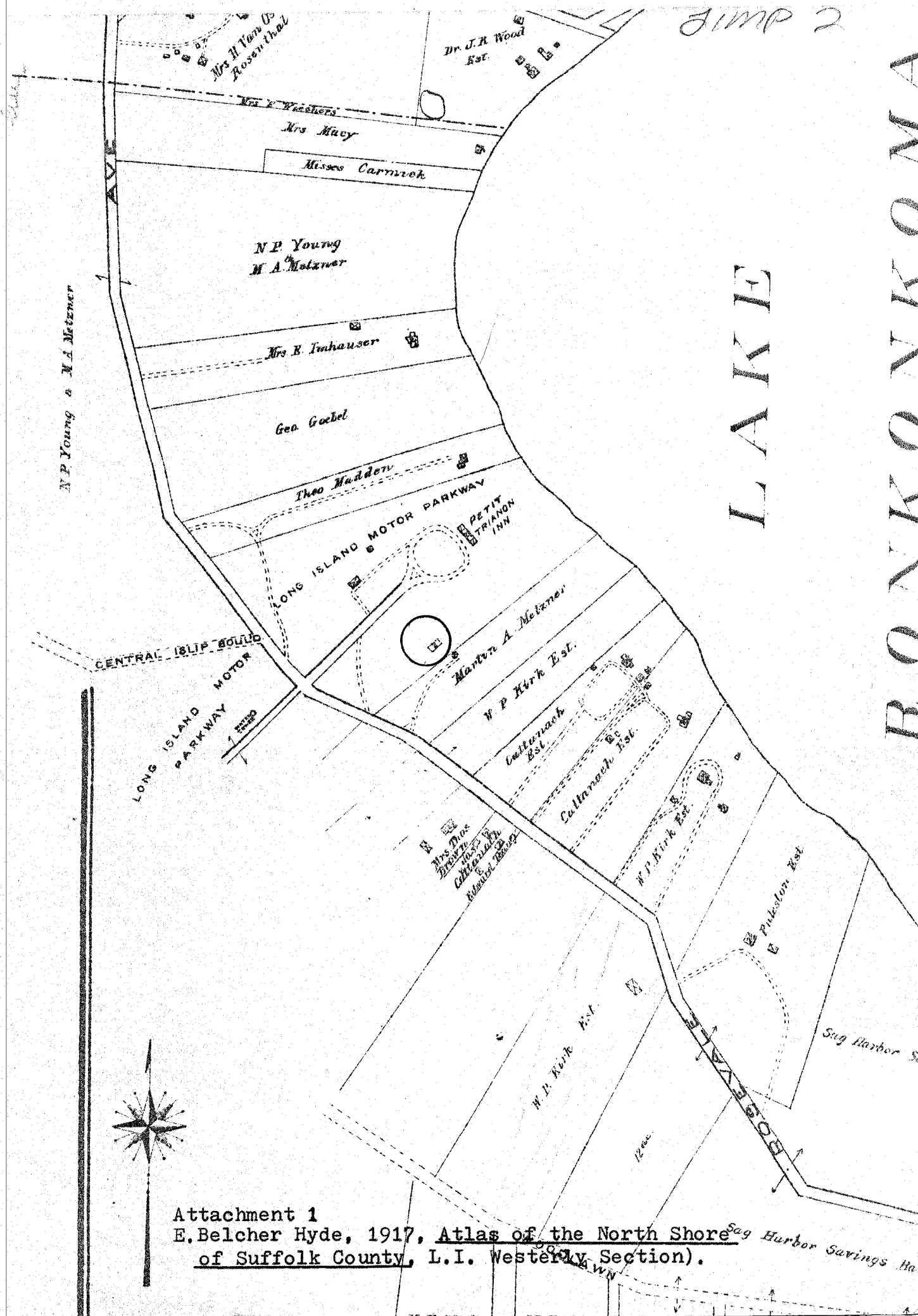
220 000

50'

210 000



JIMP 2



Attachment 1  
 E. Belcher Hyde, 1917, Atlas of the North Shore  
of Suffolk County, L.I. (Westerly Section).

LAKE

BONKONKOMA



N.P. Young & M.A. Metzner

Mrs. H. Tom Os Rosenthal

Dr. J.R. Wood Est.

Mrs. E. Fishers

Mrs. Macy

Misses Carmack

N.P. Young  
M.A. Metzner

Mrs. E. Imhauser

Geo. Goebel

Theo. Madden

LONG ISLAND MOTOR PARKWAY

PETIT TRIANON INN

CENTRAL ISLIP BOULEVARD

LONG ISLAND MOTOR PARKWAY

Martin A. Metzner

W.P. Kirk Est.

Callanach Est.

Callanach Est.

W.P. Kirk Est.

Mrs. Thos. Callanach & Maud Callanach

W.P. Kirk Est.

Pukston Est.

Sag Harbor Sav

Sag Harbor Savings Bank