

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

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

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
UNIQUE SITE NO. 103-05-0119-001
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

Quad I.
No. 1A.

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip DATE: September 25, 1975
Town Hall
YOUR ADDRESS: 655 Main Street TELEPHONE: (516) 581-2000
ORGANIZATION (if any): Department of Planning, Housing & Development

IDENTIFICATION

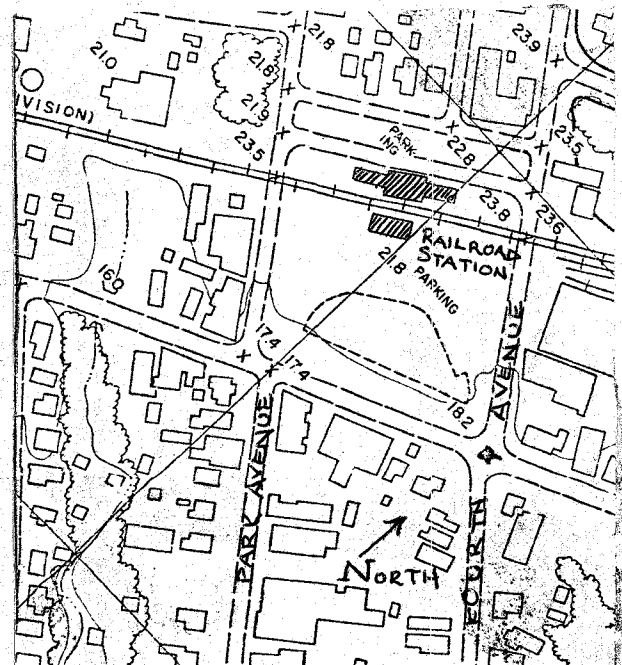
- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Bay Shore Railroad Station
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Bay Shore
- 3. STREET LOCATION: Fourth Ave; west side; at RR tracks ~~th & Park Aves.~~
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: _____ ADDRESS: _____
- 6. USE: Original: Railroad Station Present: Railroad Station
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
Interior accessible: Explain For public use.

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): _____

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:



HP-1 Roll #Q7; Negative #8
North & East Sides.

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)

The station is located north of Union Boulevard, by the Long Island Railroad tracks. There are residential and commercial structures in the vicinity; though the immediate area around the station is primarily parking lots.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):
The station consists of two buildings. The larger one, north of the tracks, has a bellcast gambrel roof and flanking open wings with gable roofs. The smaller one-story brick structure, south of the tracks, has a bellcast hip roof. Both have brackets at the overhangs, segmental arched openings, and simple classical columns.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: circa 1910

ARCHITECT: unknown

BUILDER: unknown

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The railroad was extended from Babylon to Bay Shore in 1868. Prior to that, one had to take the stage to Thompson's Station.

The extension of the railroad was obviously an impetus to the growth of Bay Shore. The original Bay Shore Railroad Station was built in 1868 at Third Avenue. It remained there until 1881, when it was moved to Fourth Avenue on land donated by Selah Wicks.

The present station was built circa 1910. The larger building with its bellcast gambrel roof has a brick first story and shingle second. The dormers and eaves have brackets; door and window openings are segmental arches; there are decorative $\frac{1}{2}$ circle windows in the gable. The smaller building is an open structure with brackets and segmental arched window heads.

21. SOURCES:

Tuttle, Etta Anderson. A Brief History of Bay Shore. Bay Shore, NY: Bay Shore Public Library, 1962.

Weeks, George Lewis, Jr. Some of Town of Islip's Early History.

22. THEME: Bay Shore, NY: Consolidated Press, 1955.

Atlas of the Ocean Shore of Suffolk County, L.I. (Westerly Section)?

Brooklyn & Manhattan: E. Belcher Hyde, 1915. Volume I. Plate 21.

Atlas of Long Island, New York. NY: Beers, Comstock, & Cline, 1873.

(Original Station)

Research by the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities. (JLS)

passed by. The first lighthouse was built in 1825. The present light is 162 feet above the ocean and can be seen twenty miles at sea.

The Surf Hotel was built around 1870 to the east of the lighthouse by S. S. Sammis of Babylon. It could accommodate six hundred guests. Two steamers ran between Fire Island and Babylon during the "heat term" for the convenience of patrons. In 1892 this hotel was taken over by the state as a detention station for cholera immigrants but such a public protest arose that no patients were ever landed there although attempts were made to do so.

In 1868, Fire Island had a telegraph station which was owned by the New York Magnetic Company. Thus the city press would learn of the impending arrival of ships from Europe. A lookout with a telescope was part of the system. Today there is a Naval Radio Station there. Coast Guard stations used to be established every five miles along the beach but now only a few are kept open, including the one at Fire Island.

The details of Islip's war records are buried in the archives of the State and National government. At the beginning of the Revolutionary War a company of Colonial troops was organized in the town by Captain Benijah Strong. They were a part of the First Regiment, Commanded by Col. William Floyd, Signer of the Declaration of Independence. After the Battle of Long Island this company was broken up but some of its men went into the Colonial army. Captain Strong went to Connecticut and aided Col. Talmadge in his daring adventures along the Sound and on Long Island. In the Civil War there were one hundred and twenty-six men from Islip Town and many also served in the Spanish-American War. Nine hundred local boys wore uniforms in World War One while in World War Two over 5500 men and women served the nation.

Bay Shore, which had a population of 8353 in 1943, leads all the other communities in population and wealth. In 1865 there were only nine dwellings besides the Dominy House, Robinson's General store, Smith's Tavern and a gristmill. The Wicks, Crumbs, Thurbers, Clocks and Burrs occupied the nine houses. The most important cross-street was Telegraph Road, now Fifth Avenue. The mail was taken to Thompson's Station once a day by stagecoach. The post office was located in a store on the corner of Main Street and Fourth Avenue. The first postmaster was Seth Clock who held the position thirty-eight years, starting in 1850.

Up to 1831 Bay Shore was called Sodom and then Mechanicsville, but in 1849 its new post office was named Penataquit. In 1868 it became Bay Shore. Selah Wicks, who owned what is now the center of the village, gave the railroad the site for its first station which stood on Third Avenue until 1881 when it was moved to Fourth Avenue. Walter Burr was the first station agent and telephone operator and directed the arrival and departure of the four daily trains.

The Dominy House was established in 1861 on the corner of Main Street and North Bay Avenue. In the 1920s it was torn down to make way for a modern business block. The Cortland House is