

**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. 10305.000134  
QUAD \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

BS 9

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip/SPLIA DATE: December 1989  
Town Hall, 655 Main St.  
YOUR ADDRESS: Islip, LI, NY 11751 TELEPHONE: 516.224.5450  
ORGANIZATION (if any): Dept. of Planning, Housing, and Development

**IDENTIFICATION**

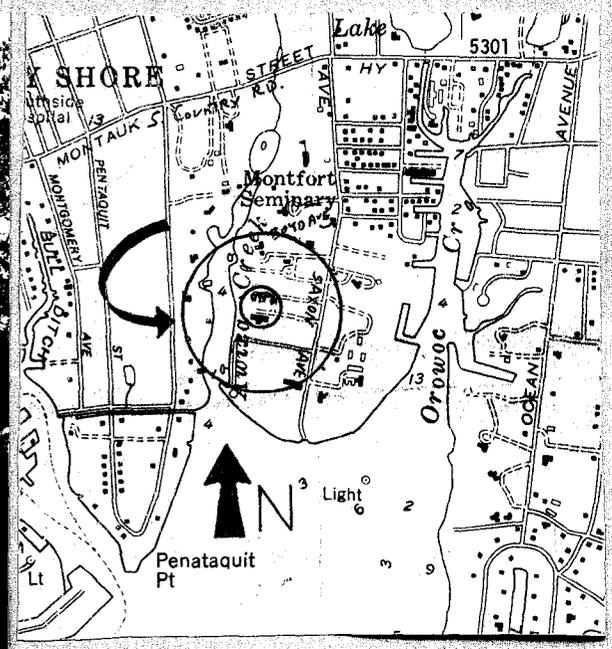
- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Sharpe/Riggio House
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Bay Shore
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 80 Saxon Avenue
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public  b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Riggio estate ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes  No   
Interior accessible: Explain private residence

**DESCRIPTION**

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard  b. stone  c. brick  d. board and batten   
e. cobblestone  f. shingles  g. stucco  other: slate roof
- 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: Neg. KK I-27, fm. NW.

13. MAP: NYS DOT Bay Shore East Quad



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: circular driveway court  
 j. other: farm group, windmill, enclosure, cottage
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: Awixa Creek directly west
17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: In Awixa Creek Area District  
 (Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)  
 Situated on a 9.5' acre lot and set back from Saxon Avenue near Awixa Creek, the property consists of the main house, farm group, wood post and fence enclosure, cottage, and windmill. The complex is in a residential area of predominantly large, older residences on large lots.
18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):  
 The main house is a large, 2½ story, brick, multi-gable roof English Tudor design with a slate roof and large end chimneys. The projecting, gable roof entrance wing contains an iron balcony and tall stair window over the door. The west wing contains a massive chimney flanked by wall face dormers. (refer to continuation sheet)

SIGNIFICANCE

1932

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: \_\_\_\_\_

ARCHITECT: William Hamilton Russell of Russell & Clinton

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

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:  
 This large classic English Tudor mansion contains 8,000 square feet, 19 rooms, six fireplaces, a 38 foot living room with vaulted beam ceiling and details that replicate a Norwegian church. Designed by a fine architect, the mansion exemplifies the very best of the eclectic work of its era.  
 As was the custom in the 1920's and 30's, the estate has a farm group with stable for riding horses, garage facilities, and a cottage for the superintendent. The windmill on the property is unique.  
 William Hamilton Russell, the architect, was a partner in the firm of Russell & Clinton. The fathers of both Mr. Russell and Mr. Clinton had been architects and their firm was the well known Clinton & Russell.
21. SOURCES: Interview, Harry Havermeier, 12/1989.  
Hagstrom. Street, Road, and Land Ownership Atlas of Suffolk County, Long Island, N.Y. (western half), 1944.
22. THEME: Interview, Rev. William Russell, 12/1989.

Sharpe/Riggio House  
80 Saxon Avenue, Bay Shore

18 - continued:

North of the main house is a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story, shingled farm group quadrangle. Entrance to the complex from the south consists of a wood post and picket fence with ramped rails. Directly opposite, the north unit contains a low, 1 story, gable roof, 7 bay shed/garage perpendicular and attached to a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story, clipped gable roof stable/barn with a centered facade gable and octagonal, louvered cupola over a loft door and lifting bar. Directly opposite the barn, the west unit consists of a post trellis perpendicular to the shed & attached to a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story, flared gable roof, L-shaped cottage.

The windmill, between the main house and farm group, is a small three story octagonal building with flared walls and a helmet roof. Parts of the arm and blade assembly are intact.



Neg. KK I-31, fm. E.  
Windmill on Riggio  
estate from east.

20 - (continued):

The interior consists of six bedrooms, six baths, six fireplaces, a 40 foot living room, and a 28 foot dining room with a marble fireplace.

This mansion was not the first house on the property. An earlier house stood nearer to the road. It was owned by Conover in 1902 and in 1915 by Franklin Hutton, father of Woolworth heiress Barbara Hutton.

It is of interest that this windmill appears to be representative of a fad for "old fashioned" windmill replicas that flourished in the first quarter of the 20th century. Similiar replicas are found in the Mollenhauer property on Awixa Avenue (BS 19A) and a miniature version on the Froelich property in West Bay Shore (WB 1).

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Neg. KK II-5A, fm. S/SE. Riggio mansion garden facade.



Neg. KK I-22, fm. S. Farm buildings quadrangle.