

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. 10305-0114-007
 QUAD _____
 SERIES _____
 NEG. NO. _____

Quad IV Ext
 No. 7A

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip DATE: September 16, 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): J.W. Rettaliata House
2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Bay Shore
3. STREET LOCATION: #82 Shore Lane (east side, north of Aldrich Court)
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
5. PRESENT OWNER: J.W. Rettaliata ADDRESS: Resident
6. USE: Original: Barn Present: Residence
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
 Interior accessible: Explain BY appointment only

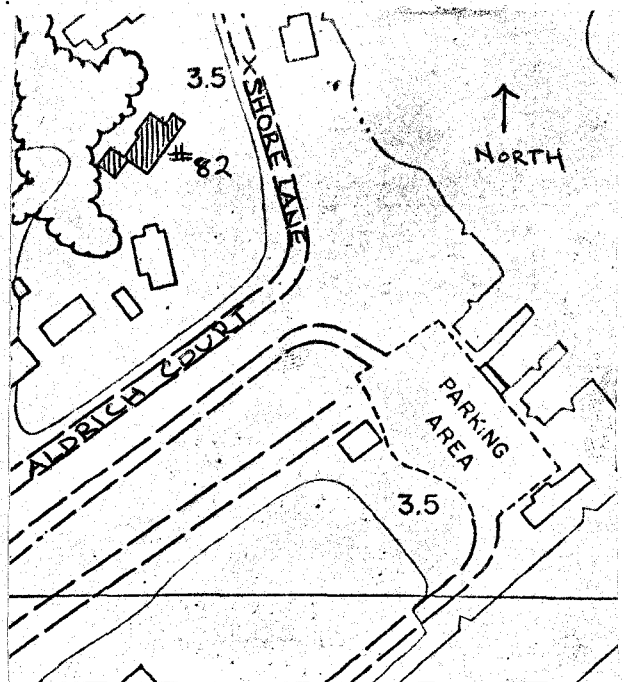
DESCRIPTION

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? 30 - 40 years ago
 c. list major alterations and dates (if known):

In 1945 the barn was converted into a house.
 Addition of garage and den.

12. PHOTO:

13. MAP:



HP-1 Bay Shore Roll #Q6; Neg. #16
 Front facade.

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)

This house is in a residential area which runs south from Main Street to the Great South Bay. There are numerous houses of architectural significance in the area, ranging from rural Greek Revival to formal Colonial Revival, with Victorian predominating.

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

This house, converted from a barn, has numerous elements from the original barn. The added den has the original wood wall panels from the barn's stalls. All doors are Dutch doors, with much original hardware. The front door lock is dated 1863. The foyer has siding from the barn.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: circa 1840

ARCHITECT: unknown; Architect for conversion into house - Herbert W.

BUILDER: unknown

Korber of
Freeport, NY

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

This house was converted from a nineteenth century barn in 1945. The barn was in the rear of one of the houses on Shore Lane, possibly behind the Captain Aldrich Estate (now demolished). The conversion was done for Emmett Drake, Esq., former owner of the house. The interior of the house has some of the original barn siding and hardware, i.e. hinges. The one-and-one-half story residence has "lie-on-your-stomach windows." The pilastered front entrance has sidelights and a one bay porch with turned posts.

21. SOURCES: Architectural Plans for Conversion of Barn into Residence. By Herbert W. Korber, architect, Freeport, NY for Emmett Drake, Esq. August 10, 1945. Plans in possession of present owners of house. Interview with Mrs. Rettaliata, Owner & Resident of House, September, 1975.

22. THEME: Suggestions for Islip Landmarks by T.M. Kroll, 103 Sherman Ave., West Islip, NY. From notes of Laverne Wittlock, Chairman of Landmark Committee.

Sound. Above the main highway this thoroughfare was later called Telegraph Road, leading to Thompson's Station on the railroad.

When Nathaniel Smith died on February 27, 1787, he left his farm to two sons, Philip and Walter, who divided the property by making Bay Avenue the boundary--Walter took the east portion, Philip the west. Deeds covering such transactions are amusing today, because the ancient markers mentioned are gone--for example: pear trees, fences, bars in the fence, and a walnut bush in the hedge.

Walter was the father of Treadwell, Ezra, Benjamin, and Edgar Smith, all of whom were heirs. Treadwell bought some property from his brothers and began developing it into lots for cranberries, orchards, etc. He ran a general store on Main Street. In 1865 he developed Ocean Avenue from alongside his store down to the Bay.

Meanwhile South Bay Shore Avenue (Shore Lane) had been opened down to a public dock on Penataquit Creek near the bay, where Selah Howell, a well-known boat builder, had his place of business. Aldrich Court was not laid out until many years later when it seemed advisable for the township to construct a link between South Bay Shore and Maple Avenues.

In the central section Joshua Wicks owned a vast tract of woodland, covered with tall trees. Upon his death he left property to several sons, among whom was Selah Wicks,