

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

WB 1A

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

UNIQUE SITE NO. 10305.000714
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

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

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

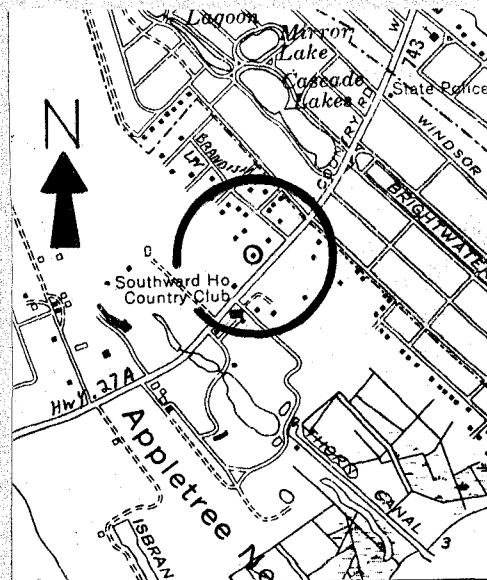
- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Froelich House and Farm Group
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: West Bay Shore
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 413 South Country Road
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Johnson ADDRESS: _____
- 6. USE: Original: residence/school Present: residence/kitchen wing
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No partial
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: _____
- 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? from Brightwaters (school/kitchen wing only)
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____

12. PHOTO: Neg. KK V#26, fm. SE

13. MAP: NYS DOT Bay Shore West 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: _____
 j. other: circular drive, small windmill, post & picket
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary): fence
 a. open land b. woodland light
 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)

413 South Country Road is located on the north side of the street behind a tall modern wood-board fence. The secluded property contains a farm group to the north. Next west stands a historic house (WB 2) and to the NW is the large open parcel of the Southward Ho Country Club (WB 6). Recently constructed condominium development directly south.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):
 413 South Country Road is a large, 2½ story, five bay, rectangular, gable roof house with interior end chimneys and flanking one story flat roof wings on the east and west. The principle facade contains a pedimented entrance porch with an elliptical arch and columns. The gable peaks feature quarter round windows. -refer to continuation sheet-

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 19th century, enlarged c. 1920

ARCHITECT: _____

BUILDER: _____

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Reportedly, this house was a guest house on the Wilmerding estate when the property was bought by Oscar Schwencke Jr. as his residence. Apparently he enlarged the structure to its present appearance. Also, Schwencke built the farm group at that time. Later the house was owned by his daughter, Mrs. Froelich.

21. SOURCES:

Interview, Town Historian Carl Starace, 1/1990.
 Interview, owner Johnson, 12/1989.
 Interview, H. Ward Ackerson (665-0270), 1/31/1990.

22. THEME:

Research by the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities - KEK

Continuation Sheet
413 South Country Road

18 - (continued)

The farm group, which is at the rear of the property, consists of a quadrangle with a picket fence on the south and a cottage and stable on the north. A miniature windmill stands in the center of the group. For other such farm groups see the Sharpe/Riggio form BS 9 and the J. Adolph Mollenhauer form BS 19A.



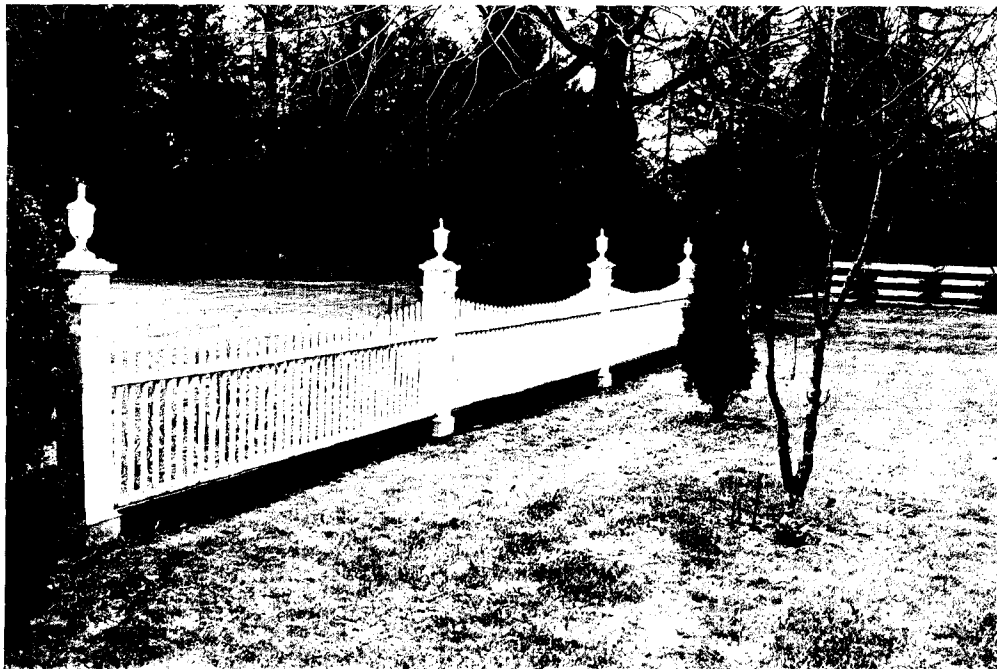
Neg. KK VI-24 fm. S. Overview of farm group.

Froelich House



Main house,
rear wing.

Neg. KK VI-26 fm. NE. The present kitchen wing, according to the present owner, Johnson, was a school house moved to the property and attached to the house. It had a glass pane inscribed "1888" ~~that~~ has been broken.



Neg. KK VI-23, fm. NE. Picket fence, south portion of farm group quadrangle.

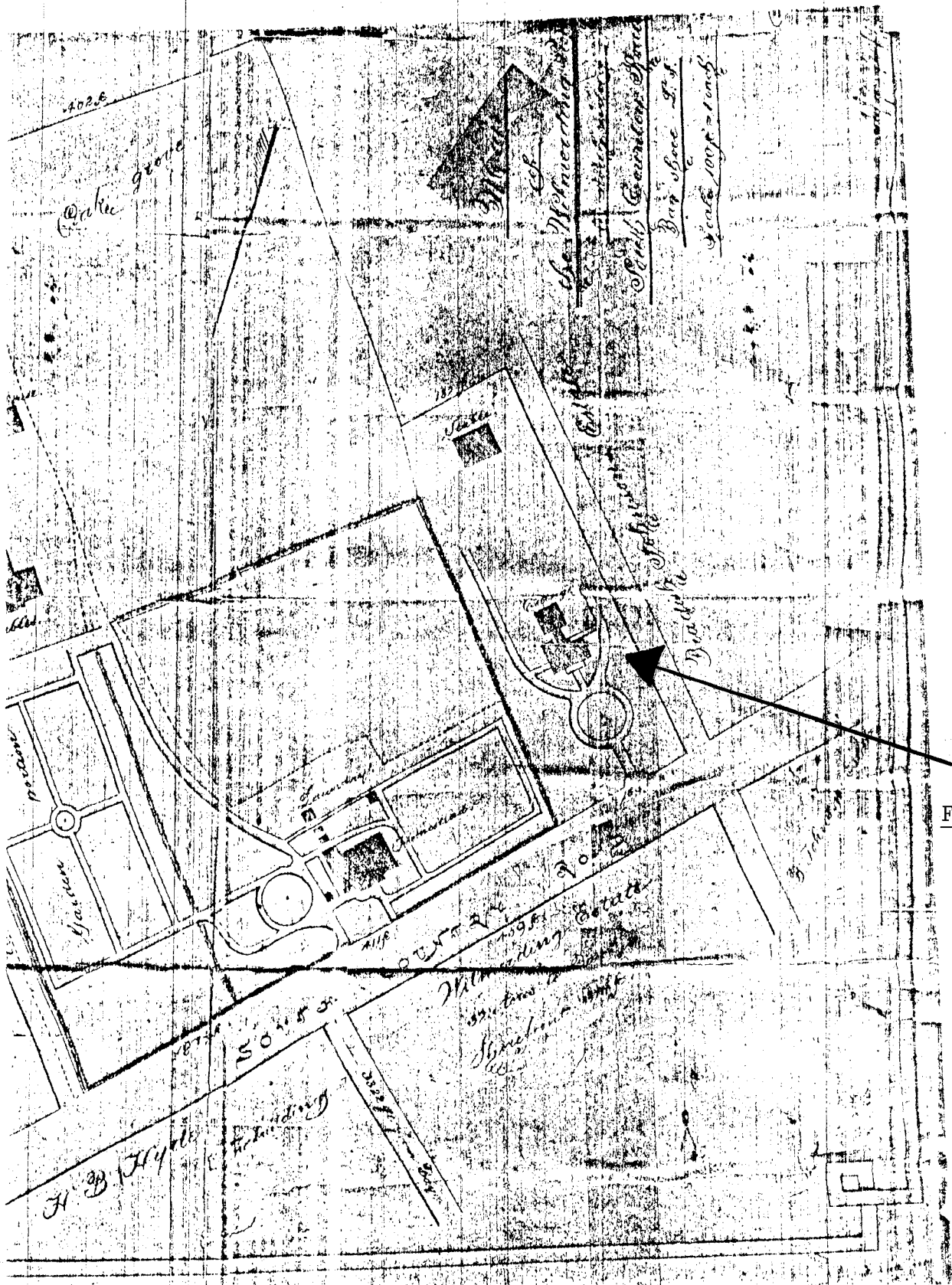


Neg. KK VI-22, fm. S/SW. East part of quadrangle.

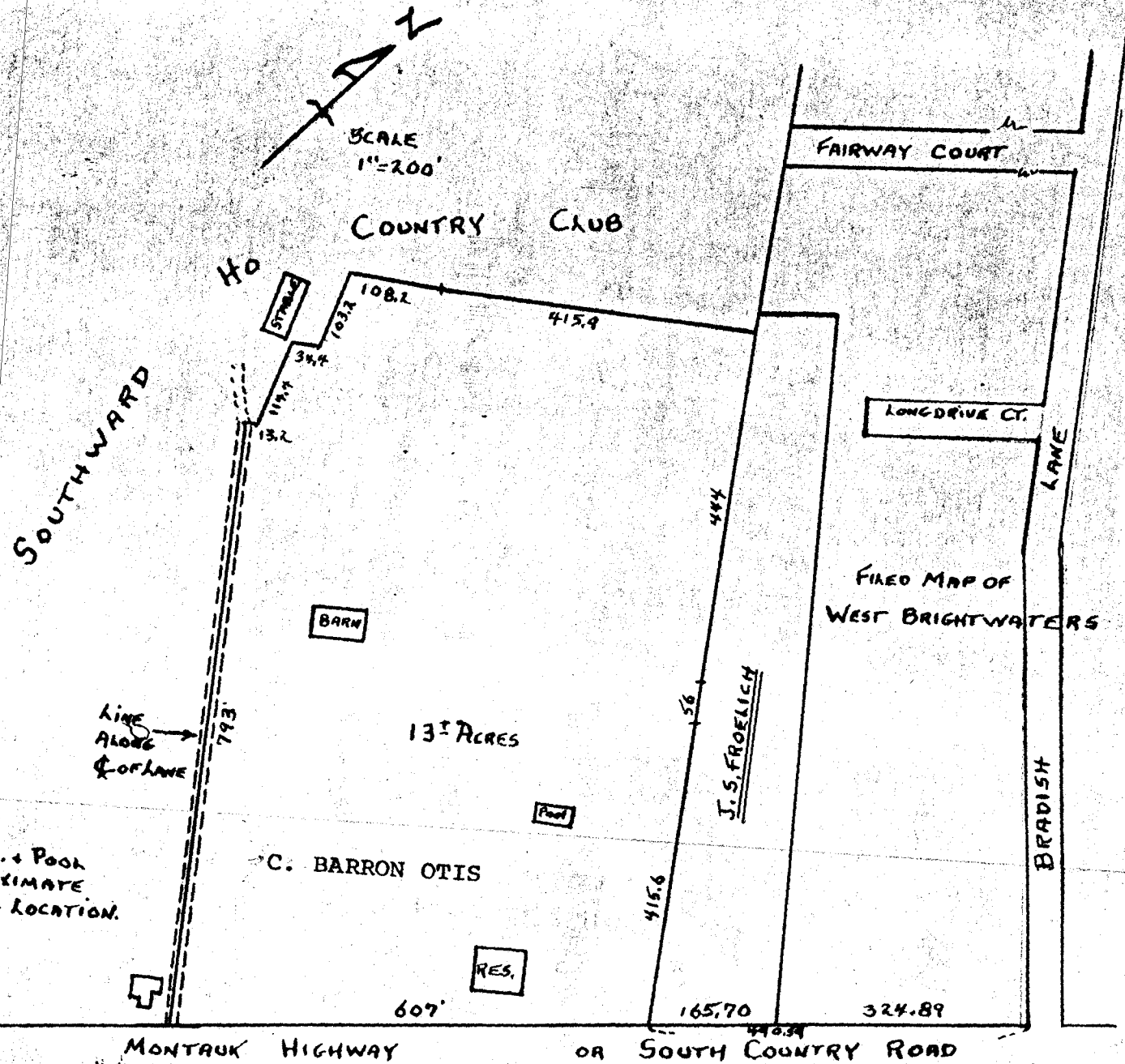


Neg. KK VI-21, fm. S/SE. West part of quadrangle.

Map of property, Coll. Ward Ackerson. N. D.



Froelich



NOTE:-
BLOGS. + POOL
APPROXIMATE
SIZE + LOCATION.

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE PROPERTY OF THE LATE C. BARRON OTIS
At Bay Shore, Town of Islip, Suffolk County, New York
Dimensions approximate. Compiled from various sources.
Prepared By H. Ward Ackerson, Realtor, Brightwaters, N.Y.

10305-000714

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r town. Come out
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y, Publisher
N. Editor

Associate Editor
Associate Editor
Social News Editor

ports Editor

Legals, Classifieds

A. Advertising

O. Advertising Director

art Director

AM. Associate Art

s. Classified

l. Circulation

ip Finances
Marketing

historic long island

Portrait of Islip's ancestor

A Portrait For The Town

Margaret Galbreath recently gave an oil painting of her great, great-grandfather, Obediah Snedecor, to the Town of Islip. The presentation was appropriately made at the Connetquot State Park clubhouse which was formerly the South Side Sportsmen's Club. It was known as Snedecor's or the Connetquot House when the club took over the nucleus of the later 3,200-acre preserve. It was a favorite resort for New York and Brooklyn sports fishermen and had been operated by Eliphalet, father of Obediah, from around 1820 until his death.

When the sportsmen's club acquired the place Obediah stayed on for a time, with his wife, Adeline Smith. A son, John, who was then 19, also helped in the operation of the establishment.

Mrs. Galbreath, an old friend, promised me the portrait, which hung in her dining room, some years ago when I told her that I was Islip Town historian and thought Obediah, as a prominent citizen and town official, deserved to hang in the Islip town hall. It must be one of the oldest oil portraits of an Islip town official around. I would guess that it dates from the late 1860s when the Snedecors moved to lands that included those of the present day House of the Holy Nativity, an Episcopal retreat, on the south side of Montauk Highway, just west of Brightwaters.

The Snedecor place was in what is now West Bay Shore, so-called because it is outside the Brightwaters village limits but within the Bay Shore school, fire and postal districts. But it was then known as West Islip, from about that point all the way to the Islip-Babylon town lines. The property had been a wedding gift. Mrs. Snedecor was born Adeline, daughter of Jonas and Elsie Smith, in January 1820, in the little house later to be owned by the Wilmerding family, then occupied by one of the Lawrances and now the home of Mrs. C. Barron Otis. Adeline's mother died soon after her birth and her father soon after that. Her father's parents were Jesse and Charity Willett Smith, and her grandmother took her until she was seven. When the grandmother died, Adeline's uncle and aunt, Jonathan and Anne Wicks Smith took her. They owned a large property at what is now Brightwaters, and a big, comfortable house that eventually burned down.

At 18, Adeline was married by Obediah Seaman Snedecor, son of Eliphalet and Sarah Seaman Snedecor. The Jonathan

Smiths gave them the property west of Bay Shore and subsequently they built a house there that is still a part of the Sisters' retreat soon to be demolished by a developer. The land then extended from the road to the bay. Two of the Snedecor's children, Jonathan Smith and Addie, were born there; the son and an older daughter Anne being named for Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Smith.

In accepting the portrait, Supervisor Michael A. LoGrande noted that Obediah was several times an Islip town official, that he served as inspector of Election District 1 and, that following in the tradition of his father, he also served as an overseer of the town highways. Mr. LoGrande said he would be happy to have the portrait hang in his office and that, on occasion, it would be on loan for special exhibit.

When Margaret Galbreath made the presentation she told the town board and a large audience that she was giving it because none of her children wanted it. Somebody had asked her why she didn't give it to Babylon town where she lives but she told them, "I was born in Islip town and so was Obediah and he spent all his life here. I wanted to have the painting cleaned up a bit but I don't know anyone locally who does that. Somebody asked me why I didn't sent it in to New York for restoration. I told them I would if they'd pay for it."

Margaret speaks with the refreshing frankness of our early citizens, and she comes by it honestly. Her brother, Duncan Arnold Cameron, also well known here but now living in Hatteras is another identifiable descendant of Eliphalet and Obediah. He has been a lifelong sports fisherman, for a time just for the love of it was a market gunner, and with his Islip one-design sloop Querida collected many racing trophies on Great South Bay.

After some years on the West Bay Shore property, Obediah decided he would go into farming and bought 400 acres to the west. He built a house on the north side of the road, just west of the present day Captree bridge over Montauk highway. He also built a house on the south side for his son. Daughter Anne had been married by James H. Carll of Babylon and they built a house near the son John's. These houses eventually became the homes of the Yates and Titus families and one of them is still in use as the Captree Day Camp on Mntauk, corner of Snedecor Avenue.