

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

WB 6

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

UNIQUE SITE NO. 10305.000709
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip/SPLIA DATE: February 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

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Southward Ho Country Club/former Henry B. Hyde Estate
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: West Bay Shore
- 3. STREET LOCATION: South Country Rd., opposite Captain's Way
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Southward Ho C.C. ADDRESS: _____
- 6. USE: Original: residence Present: country club
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
Interior accessible: Explain by appointment

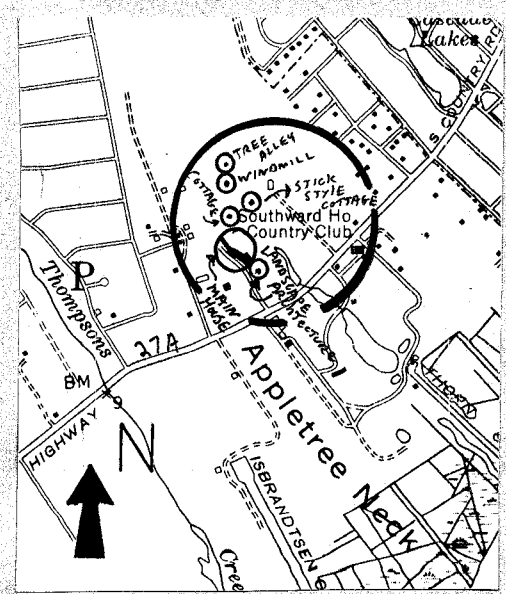
DESCRIPTION

- 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):

upper stories of original house removed

12. PHOTO: Neg. KK VI-4, fm. S

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
 flag pole terrace
 i. landscape features: tree lined alley, large oaks
 j. other: golf course, windmill base, cottages (4)
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 Southward Ho Country Club is located on the north side of South Country Road. Set back from the road on a large open lawn, the former estate mansion property includes two cottages, a flag pole terrace, and a tree lined alley through the golf grounds.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):
 The main house is a large, 1, 1½, and 2½ story shingled building with steep gables and a large hip roof wing to the NW.

Refer to photographs on continuation sheets for additional descriptions.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 1874-76
 Calvert Vaux
 ARCHITECT: Landscape design - Calvert Vaux & Frederick Law Olmstead
Outbuildings - Jacob Weidenmann, partner of Olmstead
 BUILDER: _____

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Henry Baldwin Hyde (1834-1899), who built this magnificent estate in 1879, organized the Equitable Life Insurance Society in 1859 and was president from 1874 to 1899. This was considered one of the most pretentious country estates on the South Shore of Long Island. Most of the property had been acquired between 1875 and 1877 from the Wilmerding estate. The estate derived its name "The Oaks" from the many gray oaks that lined the entrance driveway. The main house was a brick-filled building with a bachelor's wing designed especially for young male guests. A siding from the railroad for private railroad cars so that his guests would be spared the annoyance of changing from
 -refer to continuation sheet-

21. SOURCES:

Brooklyn Daily Eagle, 8/3/1907.
Old Oakdale History, Vol. 1, 1983.
Interview, Dennis Francis, 8/1976.

22. THEME:
 Research by the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities - KEK

20 - (continued):

train to carriage in approaching his house. The fact that Hyde engaged a most prominent architect, Calvert Vaux, to design his estate is not surprising.

After H.B. Hyde's death in 1899 the property, which consisted of 350 acres, was owned by his son James H. Hyde, a most picturesque figure.

"The Oaks" was in the region that contained the homes of many of New York's oldest families, a few minutes drive from the Bay Shore railroad station. The South Country Road was used by all the estate owners to drive out from New York on weekends in their fabulous Tally-Ho rigs.

The property retains its historic and cultural significance in spite of alterations because so many original details remain and the Stick-Style cottage which is an important survivor. This is one of the very few Stick Style structures that is known to be still standing on Long Island.

In 1988 the Equitable Financial Companies celebrated the memory of their founder, Henry B. Hyde, with in-depth research about this estate. Also a 1980 book about The New York Times notes that Mr. Hyde was an important figure in the early days of financing The New York Times.

18 - (continued): refer to photographs

Neg. KK VI-13, cottage. No. 1

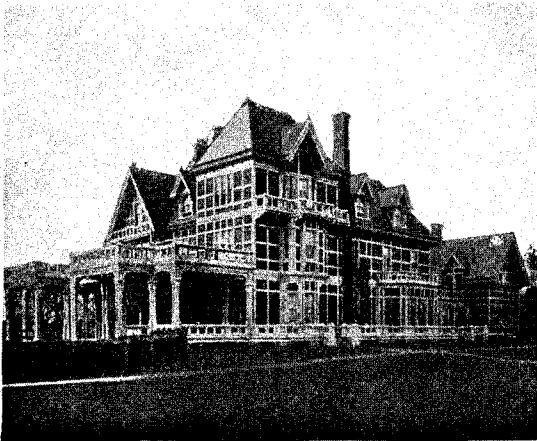
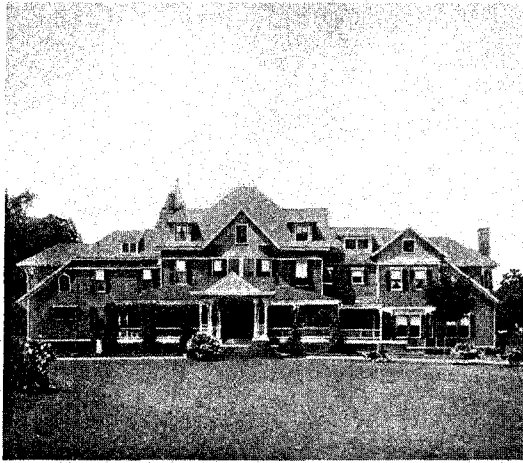
1½ story, steep clipped-gable stick-style cottage on a fieldstone foundation with panelled wall surfaces of clapboard. The wide roof overhang is supported by large timber brackets. The gable peak of the pedimented projecting wing features much Gothic Revival detail and is supported by curved brackets.

Neg. KK VI-9, cottage. No. 2

1½ story, low gambrel roof building with intersecting gable and clipped gable roof elements.

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BAYSHORE



Henry B. Hyde



Types of Homes at Bayshore

Ruther, F. Long Island Today, 1909.



Neg. KK VI-6, fm. S/SW. View of original overhanging gable at far left.



Neg. KK VI-8, fm. N. View of house from N., toward South Country Rd.
Note original gables and dormers on far facade.



Neg. KK VI-7, fm. SW. Detail of gable peak, brackets, and dormer.



Neg. KK VI-5, fm. W.
Detail of entrance porch,
note original vergeboard,
finial, and half timbering.



Cottage No. 1
Note Gothic
detail in
gable peak.

Neg. KK VI-13, fm. NW. Stick-Style cottage located east of the golf course. The east facade of this cottage has been given modern cladding.



Cottage No. 1

Neg. KK VI-12, fm. W.
Stick-Style Cottage.



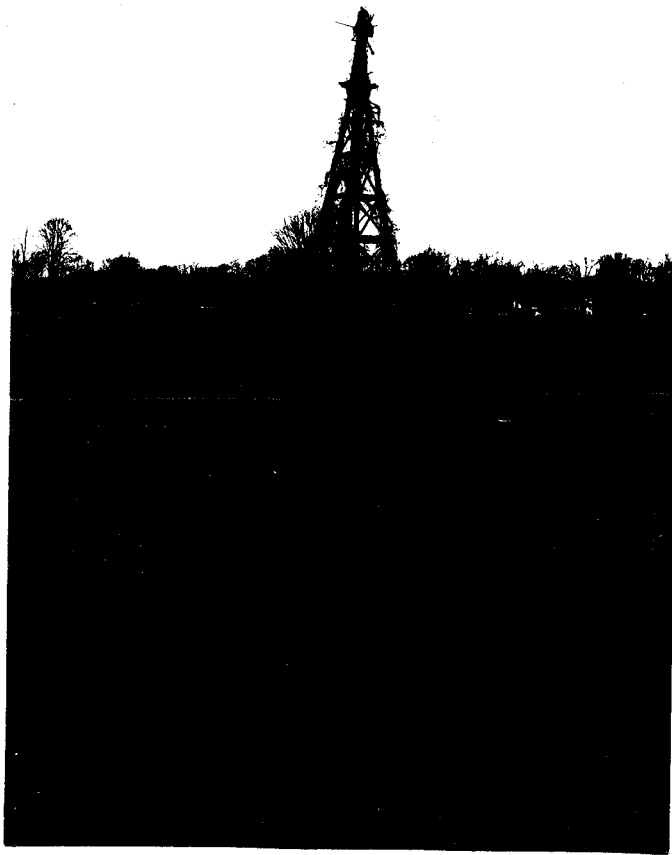
Cottage No. 2

Neg. KK VI-9; fm. SE, cottage located NE of main house.



Main club house,
south facade.

Neg. KK VI-21, fm. S. Circular element shown in 1923 Town and Country photograph and view of club house from the south with modern facade.

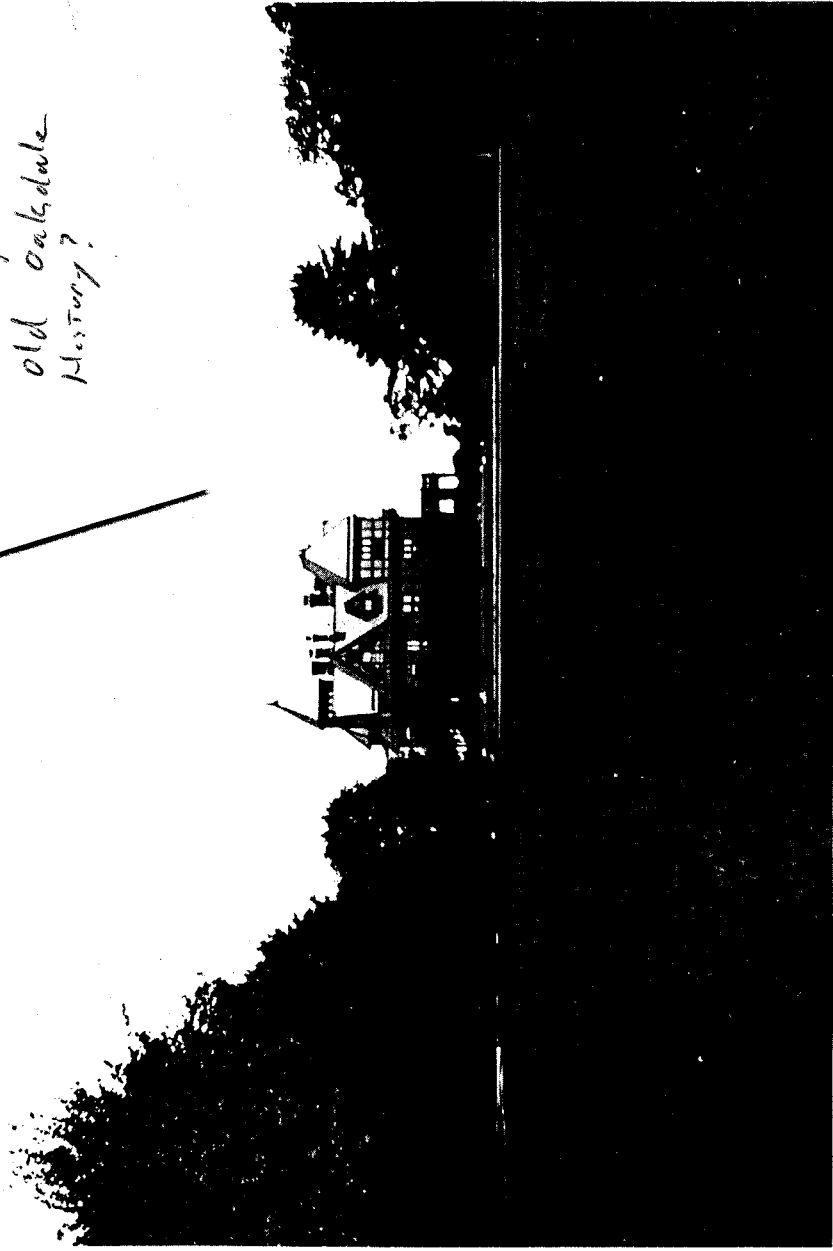


Neg. KK VI-10, fm. W.
Windmill base located
NE of club house.

Neg. KK VI-11, fm. W.
Tree alley extending
east from club house.

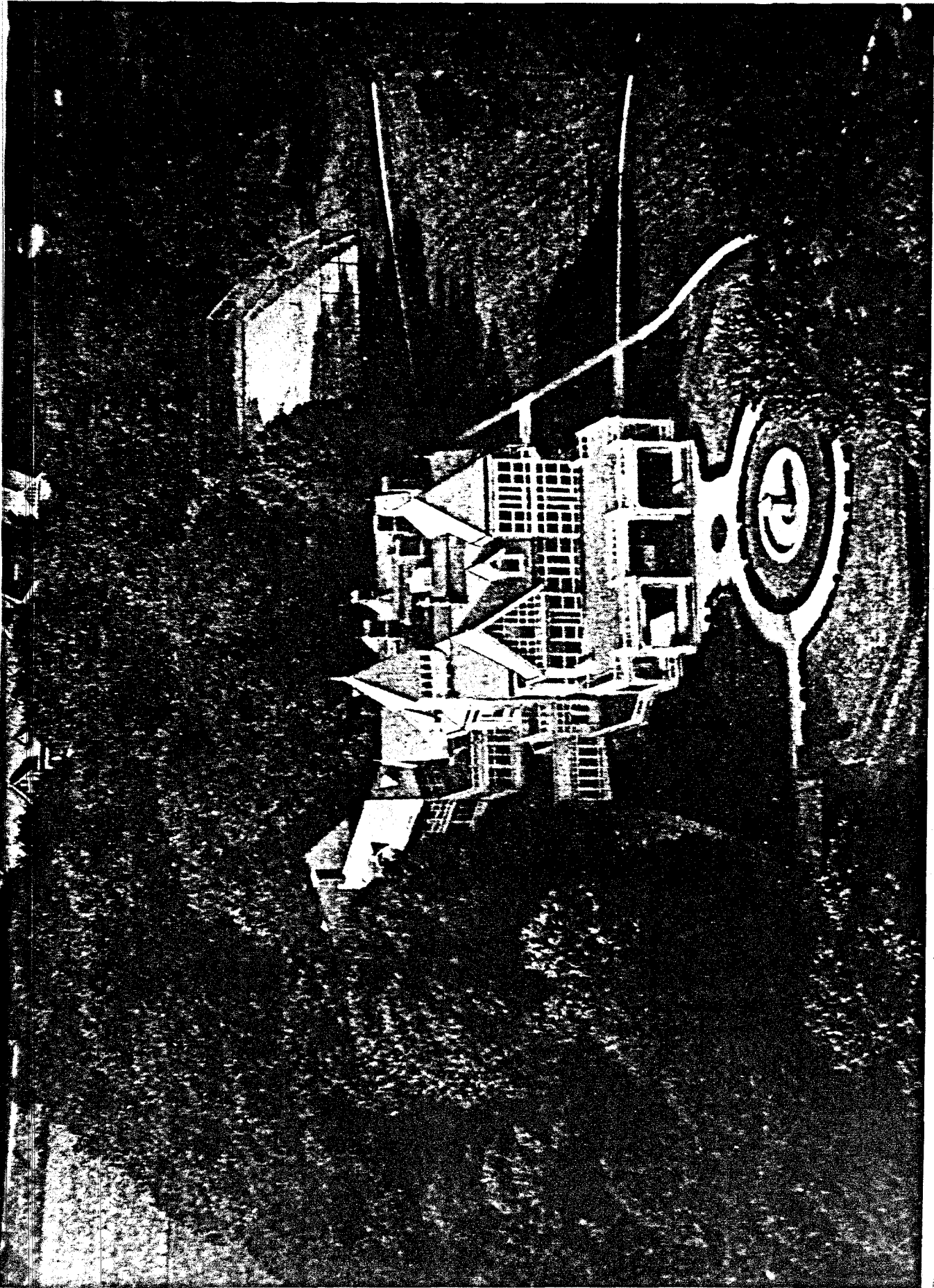


I don't
know
source -
maybe
old oakdale
History?



Oaks, the home of Henry Baldwin Hyde.

View from south



Residence of James H. Hyde "The Oaks"
Town and Country, May 15 1923, view from south.

Coll. SPLIA