

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. 103-05-0083-001
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

I-4

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip DATE: 7/22/75

Town Hall 655 Main St.
YOUR ADDRESS: Islip, L.I., N.Y. 11751 TELEPHONE: 516-581-2000

ORGANIZATION (if any): Dept. of Planning, Housing, & Development

IDENTIFICATION

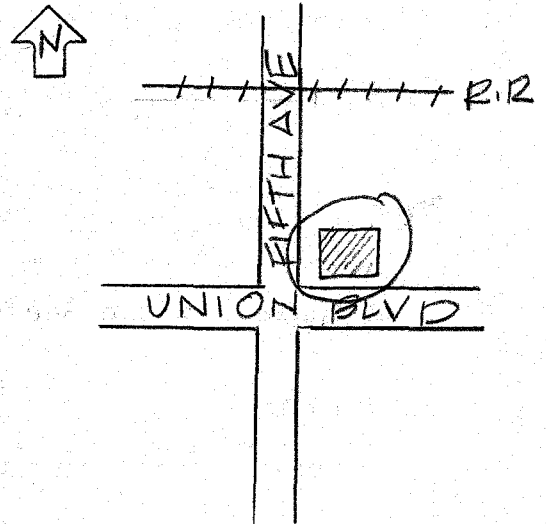
- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): ~~W. SMITH IN 1915~~
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Bay Shore
- 3. STREET LOCATION: Union Blvd's north side, at Fifth Ave, east side
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: _____ ADDRESS: _____
- 6. USE: Original: Residence Present: Residence
- 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: _____
- 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):
FRONT PORCH ALTERED

12. PHOTO: Negative No. A-14A

13. MAP:



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 house at the North ~~east~~ corner of Fifth Avenue and Union Blvd. is a part of the Union Blvd. streetscape consisting of handsome Victorian houses of the same period.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):
 Cross gable roof with brackets. Pointed windows in gable. Original Clapboards. Original windows. Bracketed bay with flared roof on South facade. Bracketed roof on East wing.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: _____
- ARCHITECT: _____
- BUILDER: _____

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The house at the North ~~east~~ corner of Fifth Avenue and Union Boulevard is an architecturally fine example of Bay Shore's Victorian period. It has rich and handsome detailing. The bracketed bays and rooflines make for a visually exciting structure. The house appears on a 1915 atlas of Bay Shore to have been owned by W. Smith. It is a good looking Victorian house. It does not appear on the 1873 Atlas.

Research by the Society for the Preservation of L.I. Antiquities
EFW

21. SOURCES:

Atlas of the Ocean Shore of Suffolk County (Westerly Section)
 New York: E. Belcher Hyde, 1915.

22. THEME:

Street Development Slow At First
Early Roads Led To Waterfront

Fifth Avenue, Bay Shore, was the chief artery northward, connecting with Thompson's Station on the Long Island Railroad.

South Country Road (Main Street) was laid out in 1733 by an act of the General Assembly, which thereby adopted the first regulation concerning public highways in this vicinity. It is safe to assume that no other streets existed then, for John Mowbray had just obtained a grant of the entire section, and it was still his estate, so far as can be learned.

The next oldest thoroughfare is hard to find. We must base our statement about this point entirely upon a study of customs in the 18th century. Maps reveal that each Islip Town settlement was made on a large cove, in order to provide a supply of fish. As Main Street was the only road, and the nearest cove Penataquit Creek (mentioned in Indian deeds), we can safely assume that the second highway was Homan Avenue, or Canal Street, as old-timers called it.

Nathaniel Smith owned an immense piece of property in Western Bay Shore extending from the bay a long distance north. Through his land ran what people today call Bay Avenue. This road crossed Main Street and continued at least half way across Long Island, perhaps even to the

tion. These ice houses stored enough ice for use here during the summer season. Many baymen were employed in this work during the winter months, as they could not follow their usual occupation when the bay froze over.---

"The water from the mill ran under a bridge on Main Street into Penataquit Creek. Along the creek ran Canal Street, now known as Homan Avenue. Years before it was known as Ell Lane. It was a common sight to see horses driven down to either side of the bridge not only to water the horses but also to let the wooden wheels with their iron tires go through the water to prevent drying out in hot weather."

Mr. Weeks also states that Clarence Race opened a drug store on the corner of First Avenue and Main Street in the eighteen nineties. Tredwell O. Smith had a general store, and was also responsible for developing property on Telegraph Road, now Fifth Avenue.

This is surely not a static community. Change is constant, but there is a decided lack of interest in monuments of the past. Nowhere has there been more callousness about removing that which is old for so-called progress.

The grave of the patentee, John Mowbray, was moved. No one knows where it is. Probably originally it was on his estate near the Orawac Creek.

Many of the old houses that bordered Main Street have been moved off to side streets, taken to the beach communi-