

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. 103-05-0494-D31
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

BA 84

green/yellow

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip DATE: November 28, 1979

Town Hall

YOUR ADDRESS: 655 Main St., Islip TELEPHONE: 516 224-540

ORGANIZATION (if any): Dept. of Planning and Development

IDENTIFICATION

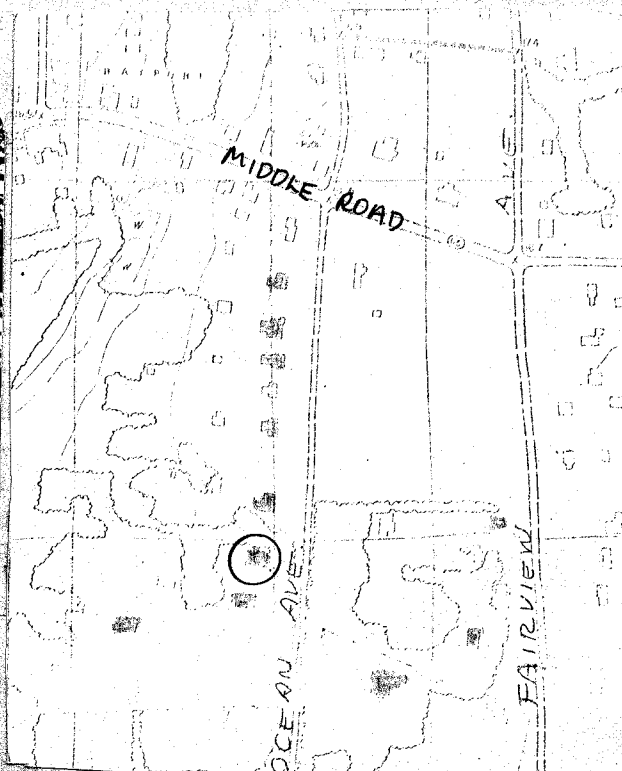
- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Stow Wengenroth house
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Bayport
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 92 Ocean Ave., west side
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Arthur O. Bergenn ADDRESS: 92 Ocean Ave., Bayport
- 6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence
- 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: (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? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known):
Significantly altered 1990 - new windows, siding, wing

12. PHOTO: ELW VI, # 34
from E, front

13. MAP: Bowe, Albertson Sewer Map, Bayport Q16



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 located in Bayport south of Middle Road.

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

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: before 1902*

ARCHITECT: _____

BUILDER: _____

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Two and one-half story, three bay gable roof house with gable end to the street and cross gables. Flanking one story wings. Porch across front with sawn spandrels and turned posts. 2/2 windows. Pointed windows in gables.

This house was owned in 1902 by Erkenbrock, and in 1915 by Wengenroth. Wengenroth's son, Stow Wengenroth was a well-known lithographer who lived here and did much of his work here. See attached.

21. SOURCES: *Belcher-Hyde, E., Atlas of Suffolk County, Brooklyn: 1902, pl. 15.
 Belcher-Hyde, E., Atlas of Suffolk County, Brooklyn: 1915, pl. 8.

Islip Bulletin, "Historic Long Island", by Carl Starace, Stow Wengenroth, Lithographer, July 19, 1979.

22. THEME:
 residential.

STOW WENGENROTH
LITHOGRAPHER

The late Stow Wengenroth spent much of his early life in Bayport. He is one of the most talented men ever to grow up in Islip town. It is only recently that I have become aware of his lithographs, and that because Alonzo Gibbs contributed an article that will appear in August issue of the Long Island Forum. It tells of the father, a Navy employee at Grumman, and a bit about the son. Since then I have acquired a large volume, "The Lithographs of Stow Wengenroth," published by and available from the Boston Public Library (\$25) which has the largest collection of Wengenroth's work.

The artist was born in Brooklyn in 1906, son of Frederic William and Isabelle Stow Wengenroth. Both parents were artistically talented, the father an architect, and the mother a textile designer. The family came to Bayport in 1908 and continued to maintain a residence there for thirty-two years. The father became a civil service employe of the Navy during World War I, and served off the island for a time. Later, when he was stationed at Grumman, the family moved to Amityville, and then to Greenport for retirement.

Young Wengenroth had his schooling on Long Island and was graduated by Brooklyn Friends School. According to Ronald and Joan Stuckey, who edited the Boston Library book, young Stow did not become seriously interested in art as a lifetime career until his last year in high school. He visited Europe and, after returning in 1923, enrolled in the Art Students League. From 1925 to 1927 he studied at the Grand Central School of Art, under Wayman Adams, and studied summers in Woodstock, New York, and at the summer school conducted by George Pearse Ennis at Eastport, Maine.

It was at the suggestion of Mr. Ennis that Stow began work in the medium of lithography and that work was the basis of his first show in 1931 at the MacBeth Galleries, which marked the beginning of his brilliant career. In 1936, he married Edith Flack Ackley, a native of Greenport, whom he had met in New York. She was a young widow who had studied portrait painting but gave up the profession upon marriage. After the death of her first husband she had taken up marionette making. When she and Stow were married she had already published a book, "Marionettes: How To Make Them, To Use Them"

illustrated by a sister, Marjorie Flack. Another of her books, still in print, "Dolls to Make for Fun and Profit," is illustrated by a daughter, Telka Ackley.

Stow Wengenroth's life work includes many Long Island scenes. One titled, "Winter Lace, Bayport, New York, October 1934", is of the Wengenroth property at 92 South Ocean Avenue, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur O. Bergenn. Another, depicting the same barn which is the main focus of the other print, is titled "Early Summer, Bayport, New York, April 1938". A closer view of the barn entrance is shown in "Summer Morning, Bayport, New York, October 1933."

Many Wengenroth prints are of Greenport and Orient, but the greater part of his work has to do with Maine, the rocky coast, the angular fishing wharves, and old buildings not unlike those of his boyhood. The basis of the Boston library's extensive collection is the hundred and ninety-one Wengenroth lithographs and five brush drawings donated in 1952 by Mrs. Isabelle S. Knobloch. Isabelle and Henry F.J. Knobloch of Orient Point were friends of the Wengenroth family and began their collection in the 1930s.

Lavern A. Wittlock of Bayport remembers Fred Wengenroth well, they being engaged in much the same work for the Navy; Lavern at Fairchild and Fred at Grumman. Lavern looked at the Wengenroth house when it was up for sale but decided to buy the former Meeks house on the same avenue, several properties to the north. He corresponded briefly with Stow, he tells me, but never met him. That was when the Wengenroths had moved into the family home at Greenport.

Stow Wengenroth's prints appeared regularly in the Atlantic Monthly. The New York Times Book Review and the Christian Science Monitor. He was elected an Associate Member of the National Academy in 1938 and a full member in 1941. Many of his prints were published in "Stow Wengenroth's New England," with notes and observations by David McCord. The Boston library receives many requests for loan exhibitions and an indication of his stature are the four lithographs that for years adorned one of the most beautiful public rooms in America, designed by Charles Bulfinch, and used by the Governor's Council, but now occupied by the Governor of Massachusetts.

Islip Bulletin - 7/19/79

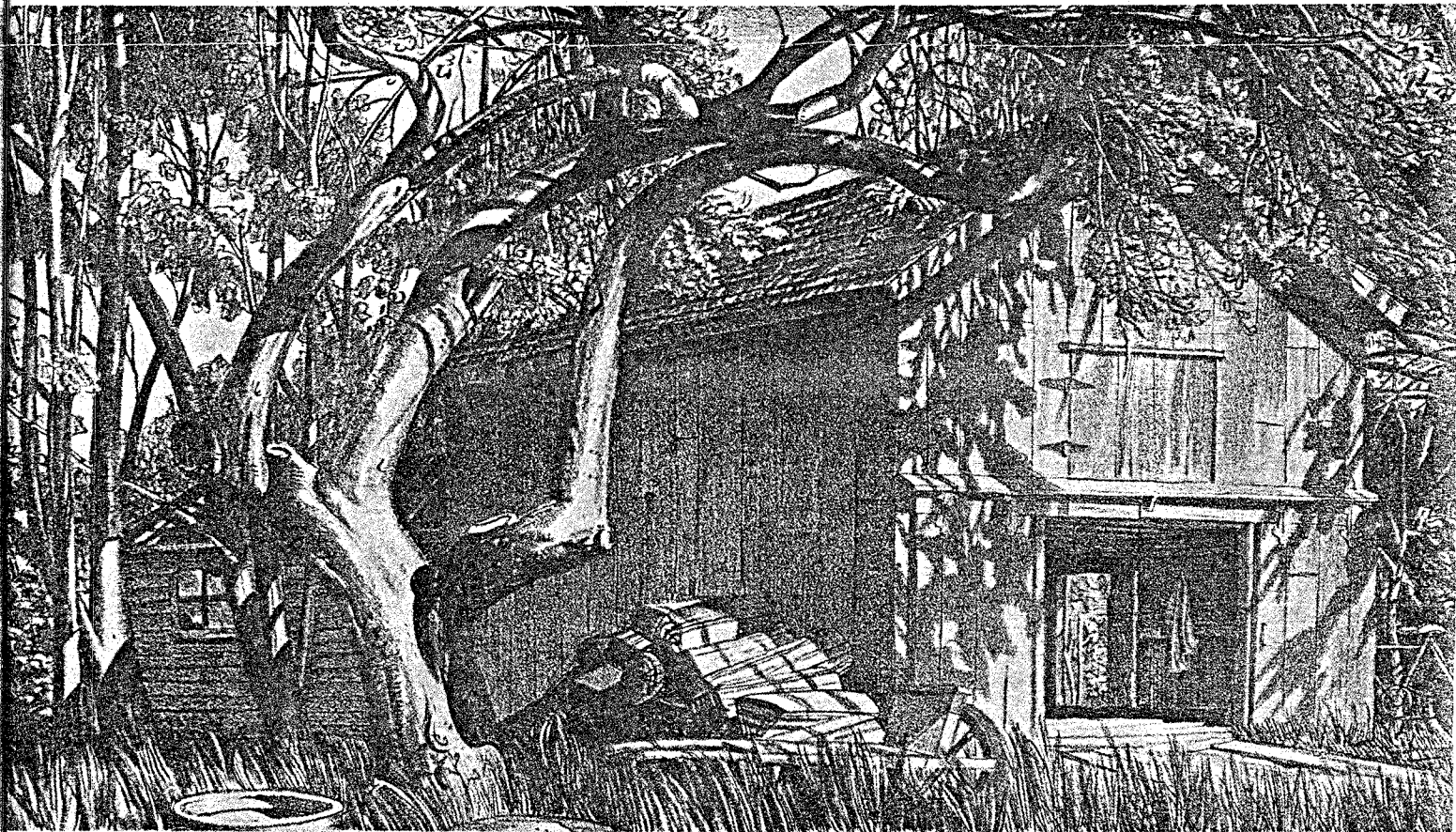
Islip Bulletin, "Historic Long Island" by Carl Starace, Stow Wengenroth Lithographer, July 19, 1979.

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BA 84

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P.O. Box 416
St. James, N.Y. 11780



Stow Wengenroth's *Early Summer*. Bayport, New York. April, 1938.

The Boston Public Library

11 " Barn "

Still standing

AUGUST 1979

75 CENTS A COPY: \$7.50 A YEAR

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