

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

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

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

GR 1

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip/SPLIA DATE: April 1990
Town Hall, 655 Main St.

YOUR ADDRESS: Islip, L.I., N.Y. 11751 TELEPHONE: 516.224.54500

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

IDENTIFICATION

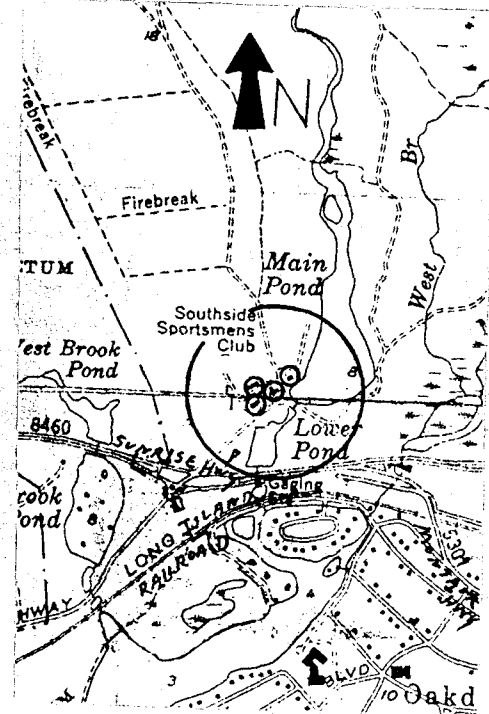
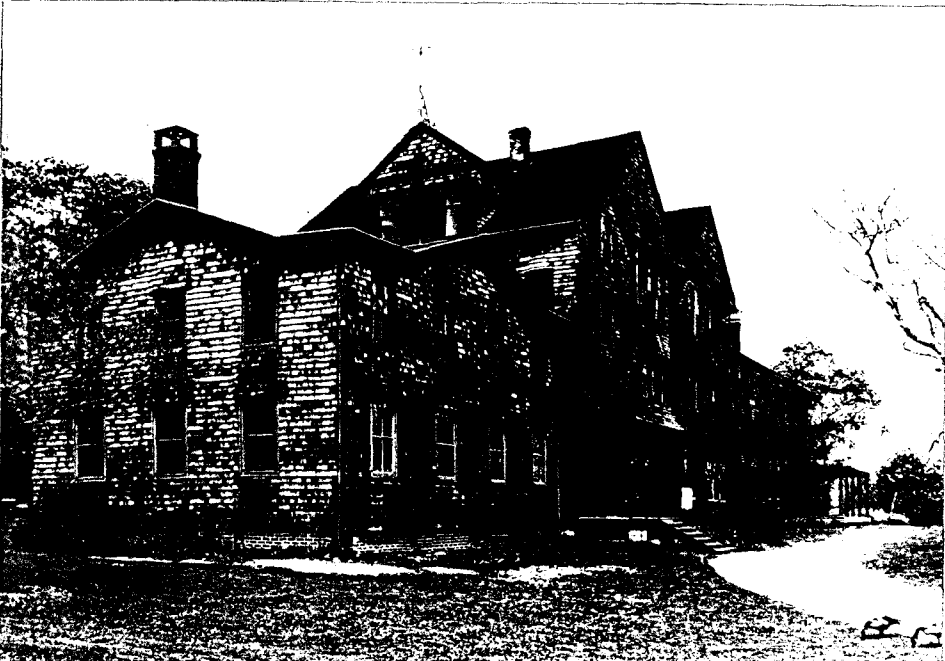
- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): South Side Sportsmen's Club
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Great River
- 3. STREET LOCATION: Sunrise Hwy., north side, west of Pond Rd.
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: New York State ADDRESS: _____
- 6. USE: Original: Inn, Club Present: various and vacant
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No partial
Interior accessible: Explain by app't.

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): _____

12. PHOTO: Neg. KK XXIV-6, fm. S/SE

13. MAP: NYS DOT composite Central Islip & Bay Shore East Quads



HP-1

14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known b. zoning c. roads
 d. developers e. deterioration
 f. other: _____

15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
 Refer to National Register Nomination
 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):
 Refer to National Register Nomination
 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)

Refer to National Register Nomination

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

Refer to National Register Nomination

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: Early 19th century, enlarged c. 1870 & 1885

ARCHITECT: 1885 enlargement - Bradford L. Gilbert

BUILDER: _____

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

Refer to National Register Nomination

21. SOURCES:

Refer to National Register Nomination

22. THEME:

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New York	
COUNTY: Suffolk	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
Southside Sportsmens Club District

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Sunrise Highway, N.Y. Route 27

CITY OR TOWN:
Great River

STATE: New York CODE: 36 COUNTY: Suffolk CODE: 103

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	Game preserve and	
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific	Sporting Club	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State of New York

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Albany STATE: New York CODE: 36

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Suffolk County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Riverhead STATE: New York CODE: 36

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
N.Y.S. Historic Resources Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
and Recreation
N.Y.S. Div. for Historic Preservation, Office of Parks &

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Mall

CITY OR TOWN: Albany STATE: New York CODE: 36

Representative: Otis Pike
Congressional District: 1

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: New York
COUNTY: Suffolk
ENTRY NUMBER:
DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The 3528 acres in the Southside Sportsmens Club District has continuously provided the setting and wildlife that generated the sportsmen's gatherings at Snedcor's Inn and later the club. The property forms a corridor-like tract along the Connetquot River and contains a variety of natural features including marshes, woodlands, ponds, and brooks. Hatcheries, foot paths, bridges, blinds, and a dam evidence man's utilization of these natural resources. The buildings themselves are clustered near the southernmost end of the property immediately east of the dam which manipulates the Connetquot River into "Lower Pond" and "Main Pond."</p> <p>The earliest known view of Snedcor's Inn suggests that the original structure was a small, simple, gable-roofed building. The date of construction is unknown although between tradition and the earliest written documentation it appears that Snedcor first constructed his dwelling/inn between the 1820s and 1836. Still to be determined, too, is the date at which Snedcor enlarged his establishment to the three-story structure depicted in a photograph dated ca. 1870.</p> <p>Contained today within the north end of the clubhouse structure, Snedcor's Inn when acquired by the Southside Sportsmens Club, stood three stories high and seven bays long, covered by a gable roof and served by two interior chimneys, one at the north end, and one two bays from the south wall. A two-story covered veranda ran the length of the east (front) elevation and at the north end one, two bays from the south wall. A two-story, covered veranda ran the length of the east (front) elevation and at the north end stood a one-and-a-half story extension. Soon after the Club assumed title to the property both the upper story of the veranda and the north wing were removed.</p> <p>The Club members subsequently erected a small extension at the south end of the inn which served as the main entrance and housed the bar. When originally constructed this wing did not stand flush with the front (east) wall of the main structure. In approximately the same period the club enlarged its facilities by erecting a three-bay by four-bay, two-and-a-half story frame wing at the south end to contain the Billiard Room.</p> <p>In 1886, under the supervision of a four-member committee which included Bayrad Cutting, the Billiard Room Wing was moved approximately twenty-five feet southward and the portion of the clubhouse situated between that wing and Snedcor's was substantially enlarged. Authorized in 1885, the improvement was completed, according to plans drawn by Bradford L. Gilbert, two years later at a cost of more than \$15,000. This enlargement provided the present dining room, rod room, stairs, superintendents quarters, and several additional bedrooms. In</p>	
SEE CONTINUATION SHEET	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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Form 10-300a
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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7. Description p. 2 (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

addition the piazza was carried around the end of the house overlooking the pond.

During these alterations the clubhouse in its entirety was shingled. As the Executive Committee reported:

This was not altogether done to please the eye, as the tarred paper with the shingles, make the Old Club House a warm and comfortable building during the winter and spring months.²

Thirty-three years later the interior of the upper floors in the old section of the clubhouse was rebuilt in order to reinforce the old framing system which had been disturbed by alterations made since Snedikor's retirement. Other alterations undertaken at this time included removal of the steps which had led to the piazza for its entire length, and the construction of a shorter stretch of stairs and of a porte-cochere by builders from New York City. In 1904 the Club contracted with Ashby and Breckenridge of Bayport who constructed a new gun room behind the rod room.³

As it stands today the main clubhouse is a substantial wood frame structure measuring sixteen bays in length, from three to four bays in width, and varying from two to three-and-a-half stories in height. Old Snedikor's Inn, as it appeared ca 1870 is still clearly discernible for it forms the north end of the structure. Similarly the Billiard Room Wing, distinguished by its low-sloped bracketed cross-gables, is unaltered in mass and forms the southern end of the structure. The intervening block attains the greatest height, three and a half stories, and is easily distinguished by the paired gables which constitute its roof, the bracketed overhang at the second floor level, and a one-bay, two-story, gabled extension which projects over the main entrance.

The interior is striking for the degree to which the integrity of the ca. 1870-1900 sportsmens gathering place has been retained, especially in the 1st floor of the Billiard Room Wing and of the central block. Measuring 29' by 35' with no interior supports, the Billiard Room itself contains the dado, paneled doors, simple window enframements, and the furnishings depicted in ca. 1870's engravings and photographs. The Franklin Stove came from an Astor home and the lockers from Harry Felter's billiard room on Broadway in New York City. Distinctive, too, are the Wainscoted walls of the hallway, and the woodwork and furnishings of the rod room.

East of the Clubhouse, at the west end of the dam stands a mid-18th century grist mill.⁴ Comprised of a hand-hewn wood frame, sheathed with shingles, the small gable-roofed mill was built so as to extend out over the water by resting the southern end upon

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three stone and brick piers. Fenestration is irregular. On the north end a small gabled extension has been constructed. An article in the Suffolk County News in 1898 indicates that despite extensive alterations planned for the clubhouse, "the old mill, an ancient landmark, will remain undisturbed."⁵ Like the exterior, the interior is essentially unaltered and still contains some milling equipment.

In addition to enlargement of the clubhouse itself, the club facilities were expanded by the construction of two annexes which stand south (1879) and north (1903) of the main structure. Both are shingled, wood-frame, hip-roofed buildings which provided additional bedrooms and suites for members. The south annex measures four by five bays and stands two stories high. A local newspaper reported the plans for the north annex as follows:

Eight wealthy members of the Southside Sportsmens Club have joined in an agreement to build a house on the club grounds close to the main building for their private use. It is to consist of eight commodious bedrooms with private bathroom for the individual use of these members. Plans for a very luxurious appointed building have been drawn by architect...Green jr., and the contract to build it was awarded to Ashby and Breckenridge of Bayport... No facts have been made public but the building will probably cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000.⁶

The edifice, erected on the site of the miller's house, was designed in the colonial revival style. Its nine-bay front (southeast) elevation is dominated by a slightly projecting central pavilion crowned by a pedimental cross-gable.

There are, in addition, three other dependencies and an archaeological site in the immediate vicinity. Across the mill-tail once stood the dwelling of Steve Murray, a guide long associated with the club. Immediately southwest of the mill there is a small, cross-gabled, frame pump house, and to the rear of the clubhouse itself are a very long two-story shingled frame Barn, and a substantial, gable-roofed, brick and frame Ice House.

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7. Description p. 4 (Continuation Sheet)

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FOOTNOTES

- 1 Philip Hone's observation, quoted in the statement of significance account for the year 1836. William Nicoll's Will (1846) also refers to Snedicors occupancy.
- 2 Quoted by Senator Gherardi Davis in A Club, (privately printed, 1903). Much of the material concerning the evolution of the clubhouse structures is based on this source.
- 3 Suffolk County News, 1904. Article in records on file at Wm. K. Vanderbilt Historical Society, Oakdale, NY.
- 4 A deed, dated 1751, refers to a mill at this site. A diary among the Club's records mentions 1760 as a possible date of construction.
- 5 Suffolk County News, November 18, 1898. Article on file at Wm. K. Vanderbilt Historical Society, Oakdale, NY.
- 6 News clipping, March 20, 1903, on file at Wm. K. Vanderbilt Historical Society, Oakdale, NY.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century

15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>Social:</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	<u>Club history</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

An unusual survival of both architectural and environmental resources, the Southside Sportsmens Club District is a well-preserved illustration of one phase of Long Island's Social history especially characteristic of the last half of the 19th century. In addition, it is a landmark in the settlement of Islip for the wealthy entrepreneurs who patronized Snedcor's Inn and later formed the club built the large neighboring estates which historically and architecturally have characterized a significant portion of Islip's development.

Eliphalet Snedcor (1789-1861) is said to have moved from a site on the Old Plank Road in Jamaica, where he operated an inn for hunters and fishermen, to Islip where he resumed business as early as the 1820s on land leased from William Nicoll, original grantee of Islip. Situated on South Country Road, a stage route from New York City, Snedcor's Inn enjoyed substantial popularity among travelers and sportsmen--a tradition certainly in part substantiated by Philip Hone's observations in 1836:

We went to Snedcor's after dinner where we found the house so full that if we had not taken the precaution to write in advance for beds, we might have lain on the floor.¹

In addition to accomodating travelers and sportsmen from New York City, the inn served as a social and political gathering place for Islip. Town records indicate that from as early as 1838 Town Board Meetings were held regularly at Snedcor's.

When the Snedcor family retired in 1866, one hundred of Snedcor's customers formed the Southside Sportsmens Club and purchased the property. At \$500 per share, corporate stock totaled \$50,000. Often described by contemporaries as "solid men from prominent business families in New York City,"² the membership has continuously included many of the wealthy and eminent men of 19th century as well as 20th Century New York: Charles Tiffany (a charter member), John Rogers, John J. Hackett (N.Y.S. Supreme Court), George G. Bernard (N.Y.S. Supreme Court), George Lorillard, William K. Vanderbilt, W. H. Wickham

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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8. Significance p. 2 (Continuation Sheet)

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(Mayor of New York City, 1874), August Belmont, H. B. Hyde, George Robeson (Secretary of the Navy), Roland Redmond, F.B. Bourne (Singer Sewing Machine Co.), W. Bayard Cutting, and Theodore Roosevelt. Many of these men came to Islip as members of the club and subsequently built large estates in the immediate neighborhood of which several remain: Dowling College and several other establishments (originally Vanderbilt's "Idle Hour"), La Salle Military Academy (Bourne), Bayard Cutting Arboretum (Cutting), and Southward Ho Country Club (Hyde).

The Southside Sportsmens Club has functioned continuously up to 1973 and, due to sympathetic treatment, today constitutes a total environment of architectural and natural resources predominantly representative of the last quarter of the 19th century. On the acreage encompassed by this district an ecological equilibrium has been preserved as it existed prior to the suburbanization of Long Island, and constitutes, as well, an illustration of the art and science of environmental management for over 100 years. The complex of structures situated thereon is significant for the survival of the unit in tact, and for the architectural quality and integrity of the individual structures. The 18th century mill alone is a notable and well-preserved example of vernacular architecture, while the shingled clubhouse structures represent the sophisticated architecture of their day, executed with the simplicity befitting a sportsmen's lodge. The continuity of materials, construction techniques and building types, and the respect for natural materials inherent in the club's operations are significant expressions of a human respect for the land. Thus, despite the importance of the buildings themselves, the special vitality of this site derives from the inter-relationship of these well-preserved structures and the land upon which they were erected.

1 Philip Hone, quotation in files of Wm. K. Vanderbilt Historical Society, Oakdale, N.Y.

2 Newsclipping, Brooklyn Herald, 1872, in files of Wm. K. Vanderbilt Historical Society, Oakdale, N.Y.

3 Notable visitors to Snedcor's and the Club include Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Gen. U. S. Grant, and President Arthur.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Davis, Sen. Gherardi. A Club Privately printed, 1903.

Records of Southside Sportsmens Club. William K. Vanderbilt Historical Society, Oakdale, L.I., NY.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	40°	48'	1"	73°	07'	17"			
NE	40°	48'	1"	73°	10'	49"			
SE	40°	44'	52"	73°	10'	49"			
SW	40°	44'	52"	73°	07'	17"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 3528

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Lynn Beebe Weaver, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION: N.Y.S. Division for Historic Preservation

DATE: June 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Mall

CITY OR TOWN: Albany

STATE: New York

CODE: 36

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

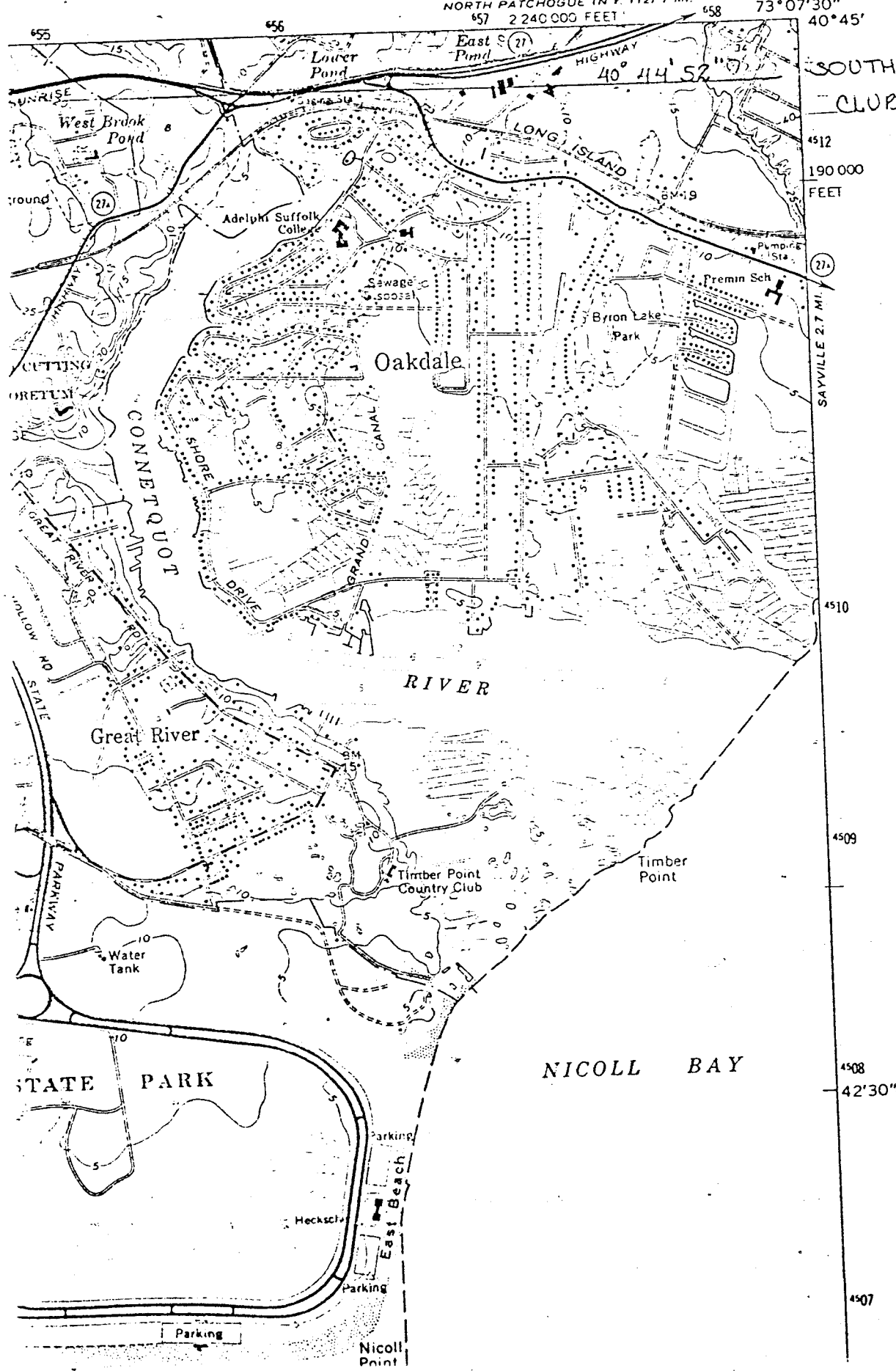
Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

BAY SHORE EAST QUADRANGLE
NEW YORK - SUFFOLK CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NORTH PATCHOGUE (IN Y. 112) 7 MI.
657 2 240 000 FEET

6365 1 SE
(PATCHOGUE)



SOUTHSIDE SPORTSMENS
CLUB, Islip, Suffolk Co.

4512
190 000
FEET

SAVVILLE 2.7 MI.

4510

4509

4508
42'30"

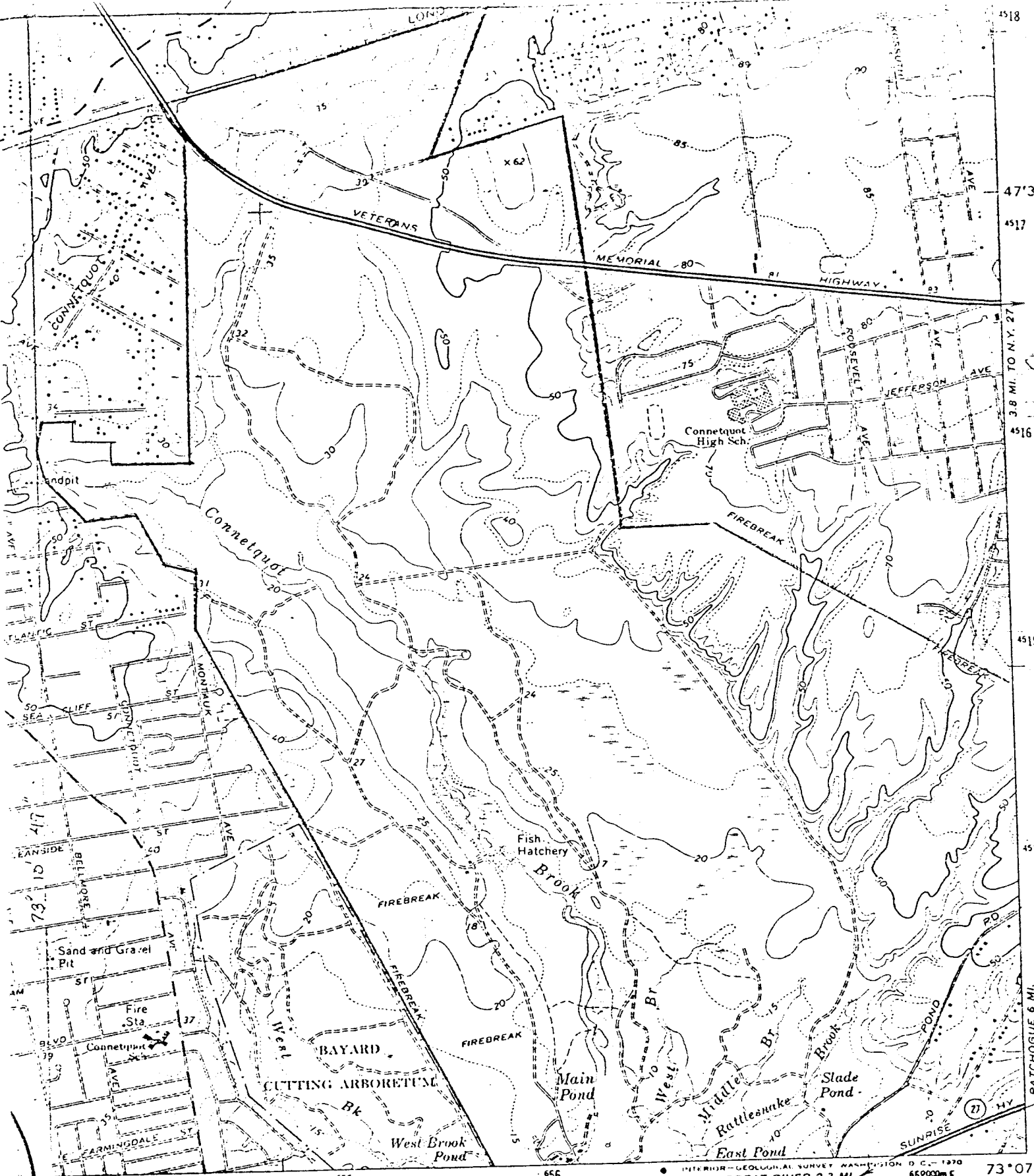
4507

STATE PARK

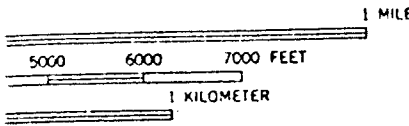
NICOLL BAY

Parking

Nicoll Point



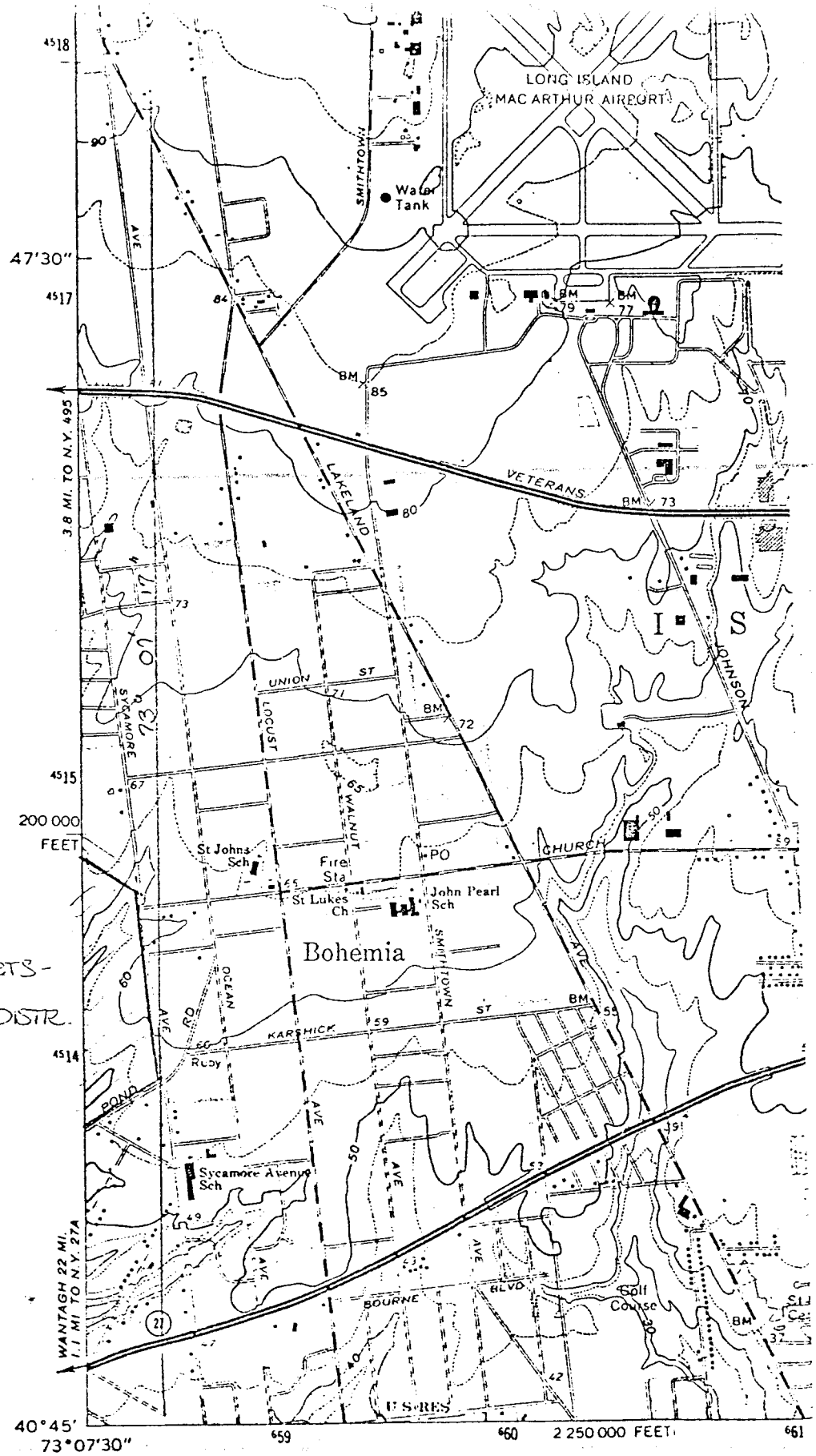
INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D.C. 1970
 NORTH GREAT RIVER 2.3 MI.
 CAPTREE STATE PKWY. 11 MI.



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty		Light-duty	
Medium-duty		Unimproved dirt	
		State Route	

ET
 ONTOURS



SOUTHSIDE SPORTS -
MENS CLUB DISTR.

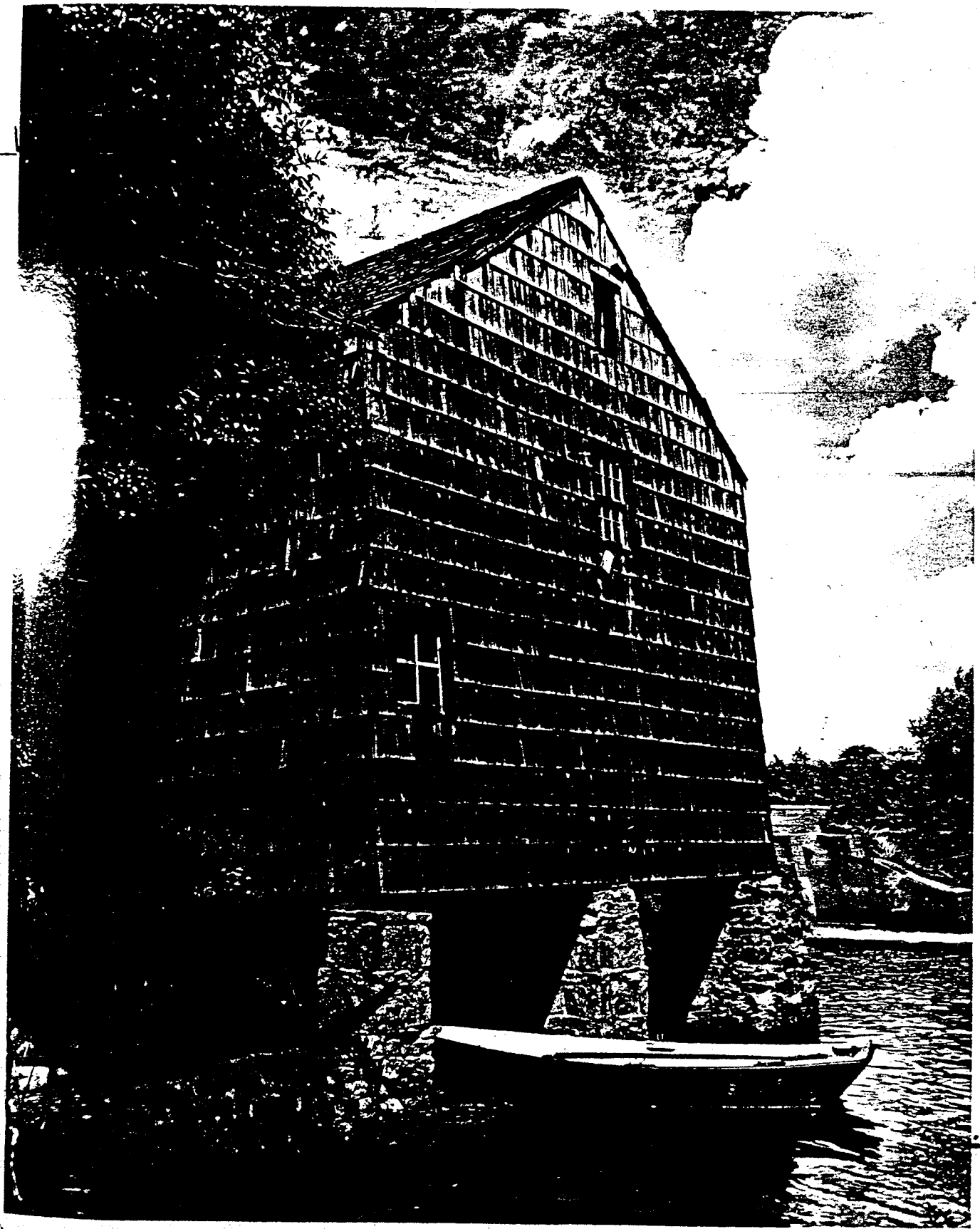
(BAY SHORE EAST)
6365 II NW

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Revised in cooperation with New York Department of Transportation
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1954 and planetable surveys 1956. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1967









Neg. KK XXIV-7, fm. NE. Main building showing north end.



Neg. KK XXIV-8, fm. SE. Building to the north of the main club house. Constructed 1903, architect I.H. Green, builders Ashby & Breckenridge, Bayport.



Neg. KK XXIV-4, fm. SE. Building to the south of the main club house.
Constructed 1879.