

HISTORIC AND NATURAL DISTRICTS
INVENTORY FORM

97SD0240

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Oa 45

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

UNIQUE SITE NO. 103-05-0319-D22
QUAD. _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

NRE

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip Town Hall DATE: 6/18/79
655 Main Street

YOUR ADDRESS: Islip, N.Y. TELEPHONE: (516) 224-5450

ORGANIZATION (if any): Department of Planning and Development

'Indian Neck'

1. NAME OF DISTRICT: Bourne Estate, now LaSalle Military Academy

2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Oakdale

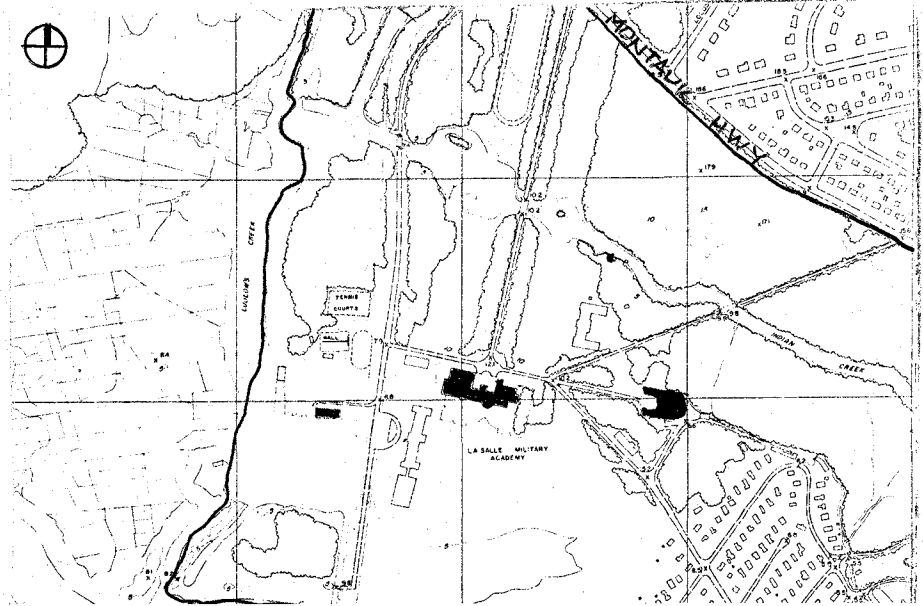
3. DESCRIPTION:

The property that was once the estate of Frederick G. Bourne, now comprises the LaSalle Military Academy and the West Oaks Recreation Camp. On the LaSalle property, the mansion, coach house, boat house, and gatehouses are all being adaptively reused as part of the academy's campus. The newer buildings that intermingle with the original Bourne buildings blend with utmost conformity with the architecture of the Bourne estate.

4. SIGNIFICANCE:

The LaSalle Military Academy occupies the one-time estate of Frederick G. Bourne, industrialist and yachtsman. After gaining prominence in the industrial world, Bourne became president of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, and later, involved in other, larger corporations. In the early 1890's, Bourne acquired the first of his large landholdings at Oakdale and began the construction of the mansion-house and other buildings on his 3000 acre estate, which he named Indian Neck Hall.

S. MAP
Bowe-Anderson
Q-14



6. SOURCES:

Brother Roger Chingas, "Indian Neck Hall, LaSalle's Home."

Susan Page, "Getting a Start at LaSalle", Newsday, Sept. 13, 1978.

Charles P. Dickerson, A History of the Sayville Community, Suffolk County News, 1975. p. 49.

7. THREATS TO AREA:

BY ZONING BY ROADS BY DEVELOPERS

BY DETERIORATION OTHER INAPPROPRIATE ALTERATIONS

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

8. LOCAL ATTITUDES TOWARD THE AREA:

The Bourne Estate is looked favorably and sympathetically upon by the town, its residents, and its officials. Unfortunately, the money is not readily available to LaSalle Academy to properly maintain the estate in its rightful historic spirit. If not carefully directed, the estate will be in danger of losing its precious historic significance.

9. PHOTOS:

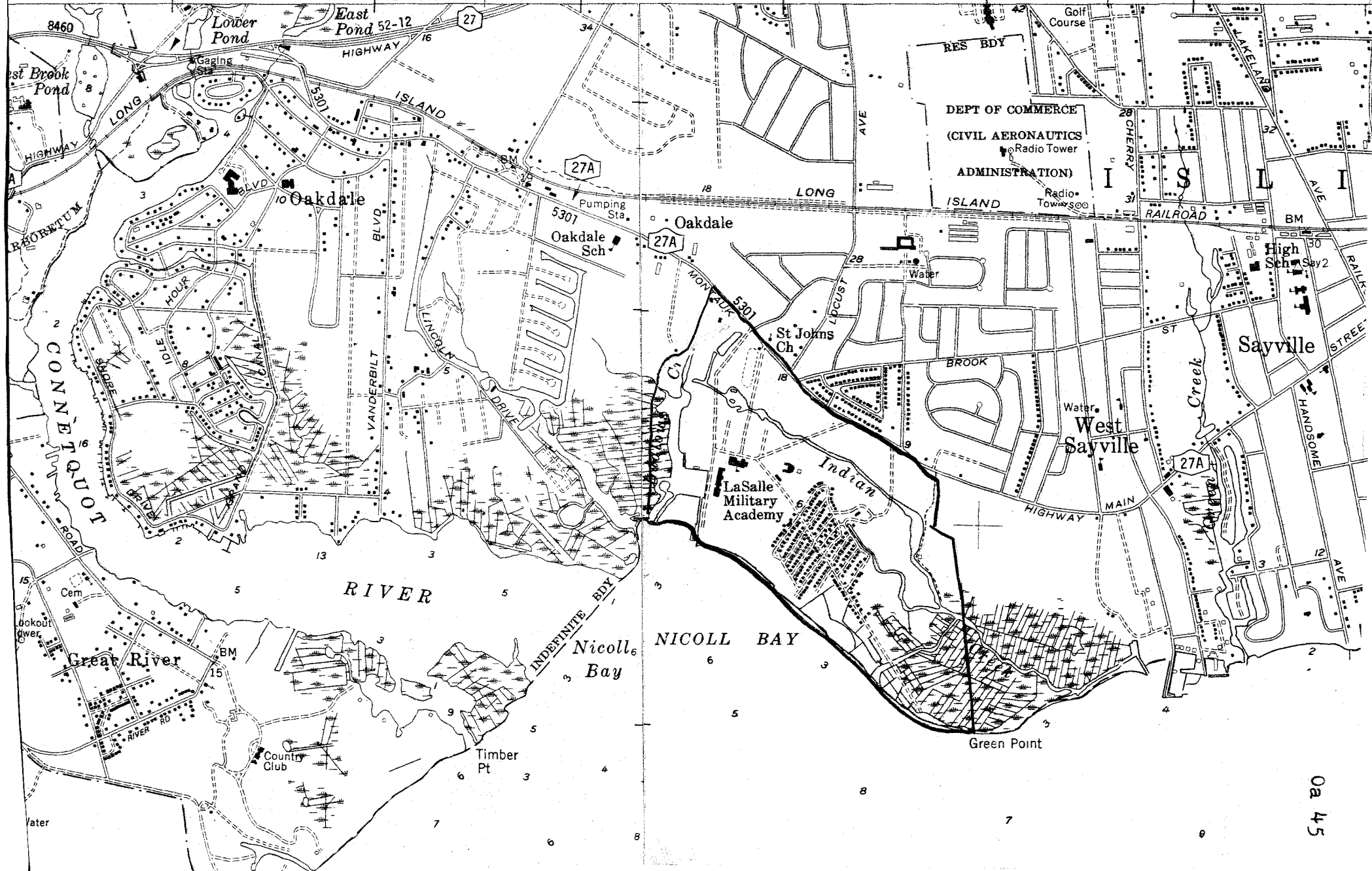
See Oa 45a through 55.

Prepared by: Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities
Setauket, New York 11733
Nina Monastero, Research Assistant
June, 1979

Sayville Quad

BAY SHORE EAST QUADRANGLE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUREAU OF PROGRAMMING

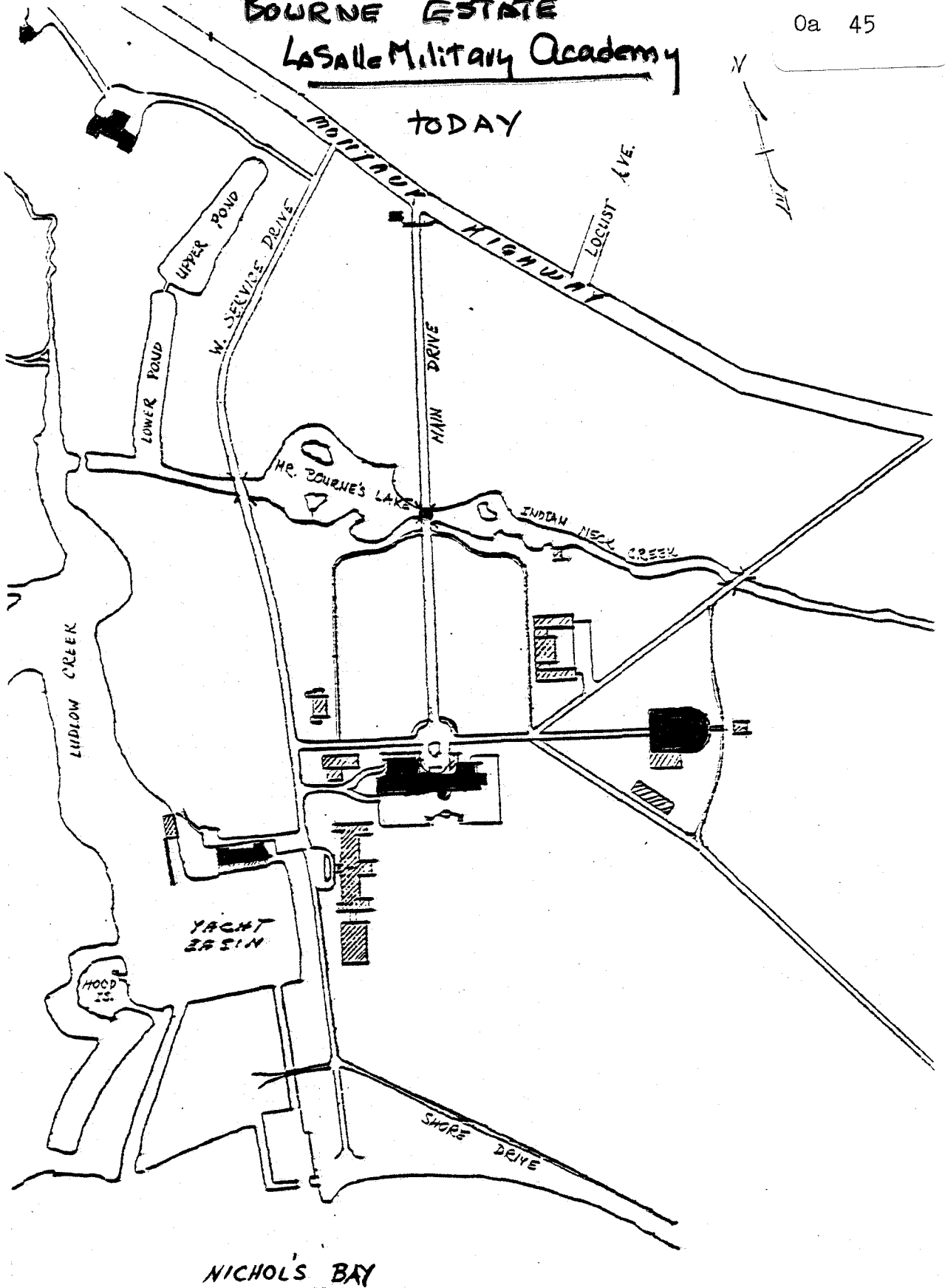
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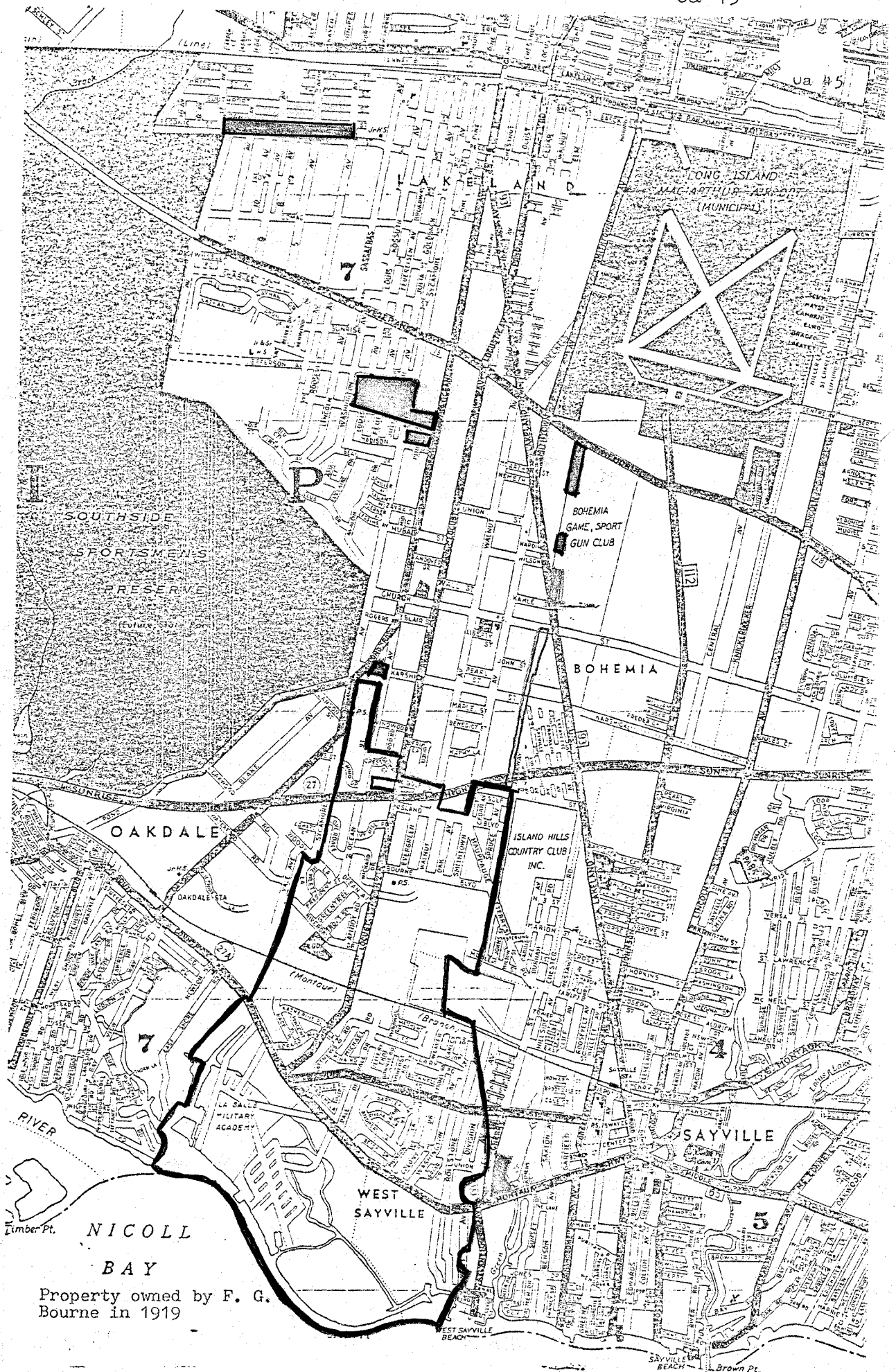
BOURNE ESTATE LaSalle Military Academy

Oa 45

TODAY

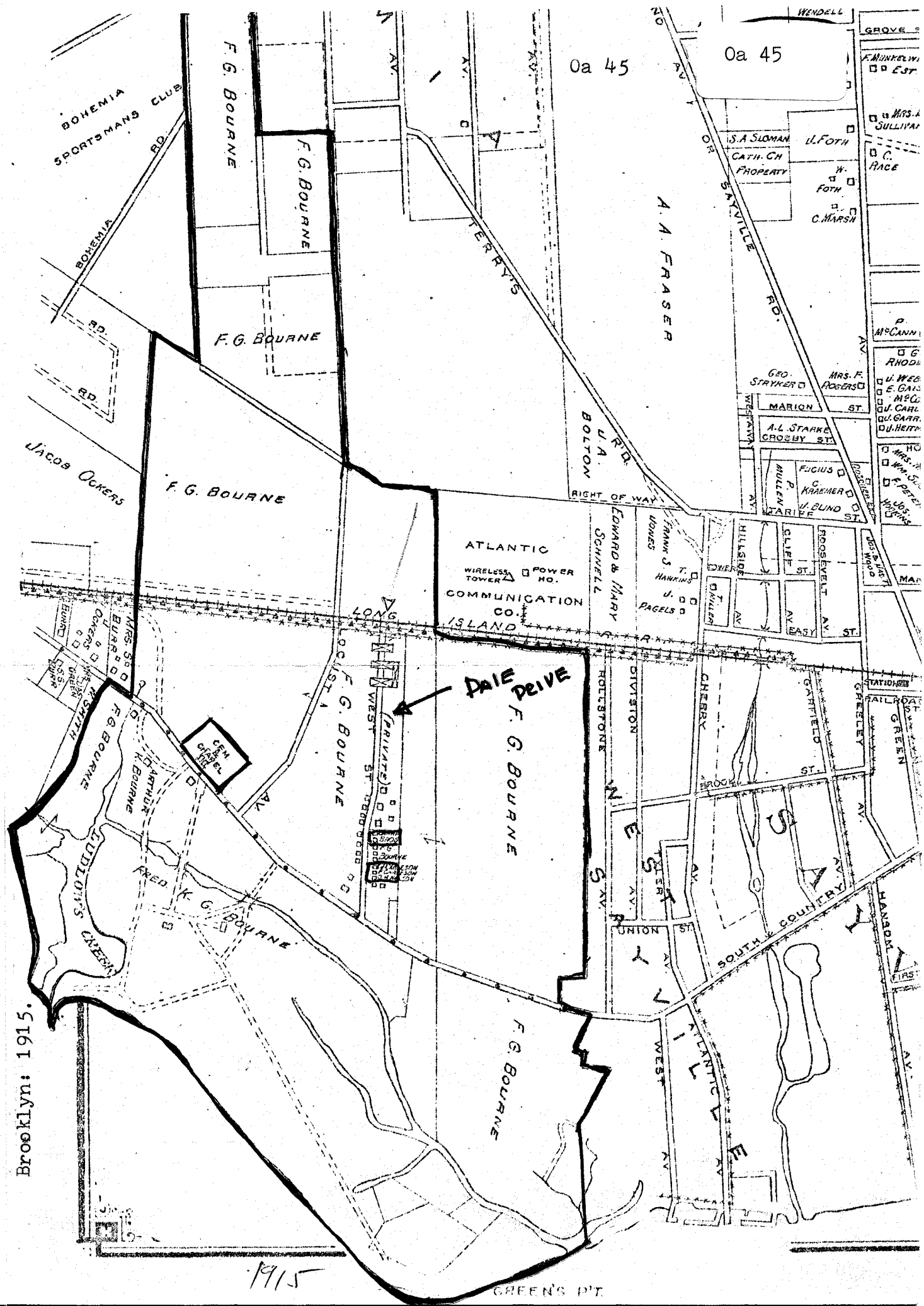


NICHOLS BAY

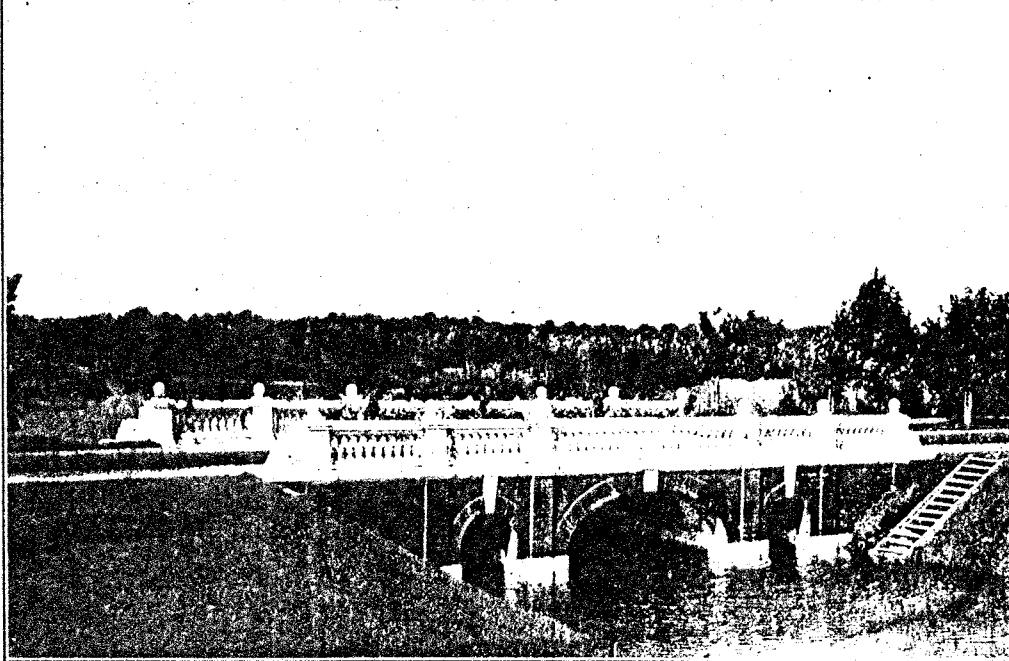
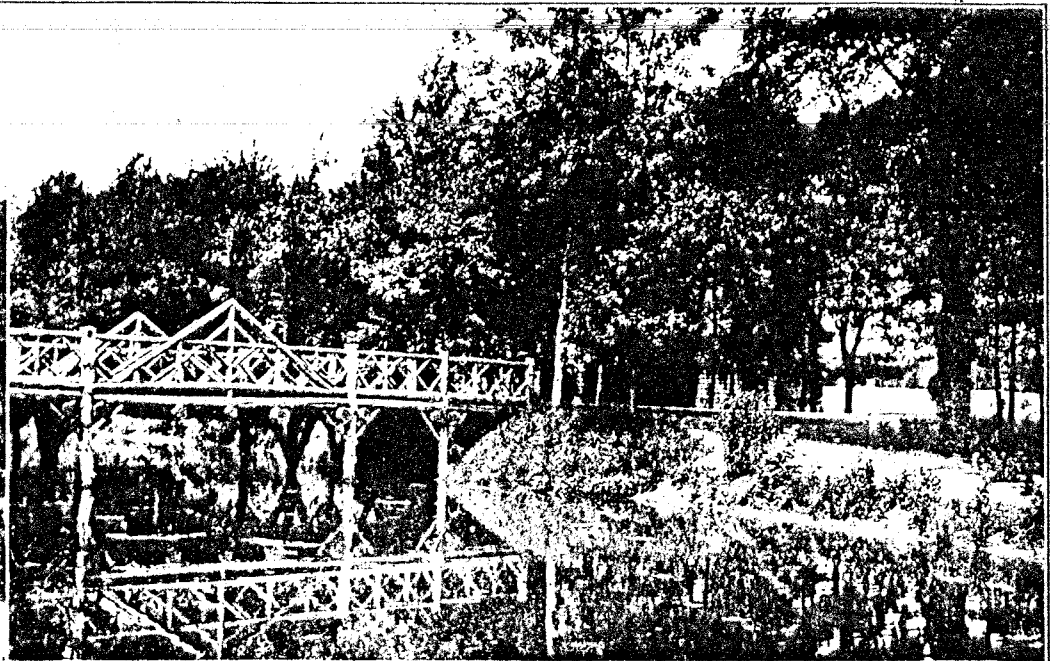


Property owned by F. G. Bourne in 1919

E. Beicher Hyde,
Atlas of a Part of Suffolk County,
Long Island, New York, South Shore,
Brooklyn: 1915.



1915



c. 1897 View

MARBLE BRIDGE NEAR THE LAGOON

view from northeast THE MANOR HOUSE

Photos copyright by A. H. Godfrey

A Manor House by the Sea

Residence of Mr. Frederick G. Bourne, Oakdale, L. I., a Patron of Sports, Notably Yachting, Automobiling, Shooting, Fishing, Horse Shows, etc.

Collections La Salle Military Academy

n.d.

c. 1897

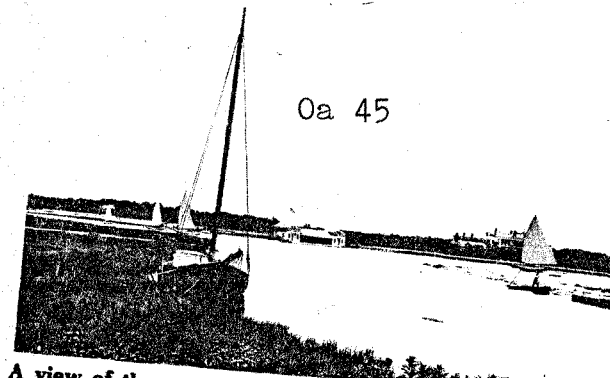
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Frederick Gilbert Bourne

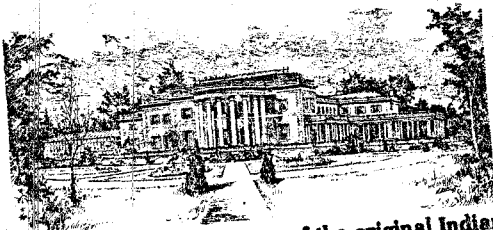


Frederick G. Bourne on one of his automobiles in front of the Sportsman's Club, Oakdale.



Oa 45

A view of the mansion and the original boathouse taken from across the boat basin. The photograph was taken by Hal. B. Fullerton in 1901 and the negative is in the possession of the L.S.M.A. Archives.



Ernest M. Flagg's drawing of the original Indian Neck Hall. This side faces the bay.



A picture of the mansion shortly after completion. Note the original west wing which was not built until later.

Indian Neck Hall La Salle's Home

Brother Roger Chingas

Tower 1908, Clock 1912
EMMA

In 1897 Eugene R. Smith of Islip began the surveying of a tract of land north of Nicoll Bay on the Great South Bay and south of Old Country Road, now Montauk Highway. The land was primarily marsh with a creek running through it from west to east. The creek was Indian Neck Creek and the land being surveyed was to be the summer home of Frederick Gilbert Bourne. The home was to be known as Indian Neck Hall.

Frederick was born on December 20, 1851, the son of the Rev. George Washington Bourne and Harriet Gilbert Bourne. While still a young man in his teens, Frederick worked in the offices of the Clark O.N.T. (Our New Thread) Company. One night while working late Mr. Clark heard Frederick singing and was so impressed by his talent that he invited him to entertain at one of his parties. It was through these occasions that Frederick became acquainted with the people who would help make him famous. Gradually he worked his way into the offices of the Singer Sewing Machine Company and became its director. While under his leadership this company opened offices in Moscow and St. Petersburg in Russia, in Edinburgh, Scotland, and numerous other locales throughout Europe, Asia, Africa, as well as the U.S. His expertise in business also made him a director of the Long Island R.R. as well as a major influence in the Knickerbocker Safe Deposit Corporation, Long Island Motor Parkway, Atlas Portland Concrete, The Aeolian Company and many other firms.

His home in Oakdale he originally conceived as a summer residence for his wife ~~Emily~~ (whom he married in 1875) and his nine children: Arthur, Alfred, Howard, Florence, Marion, May, George, Marjorie and Kenneth. Kenneth died at the age of seven in the year 1898 on Christmas Day. As a memorial to their son a pastel portrait by Davis E. Sanford was commissioned in 1899 and this still remains above the fireplace in the library.

The mansion and several other buildings were conceived by architect Ernest M. Flagg. Although the total concept was Italianate, the exterior declares Georgian while the inside does whisper the Italian villa influence. The original plan was designed for

Collections LaSalle Military Academy

entertainment and dining. Three major alterations were made during his lifetime. In 1908 the music room was demolished and a much larger room built to accommodate the over 7,000 pipe organ which dominated this room. In 1912 a room on the 3rd floor was gutted and the ceiling of the main stairway raised. This was done to accommodate the Hall Organ pipework. The combined organ was the largest privately owned house organ in the world at that time, and ranked as the 3rd largest such instrument at its removal in 1948. The last major renovation was also in 1912 and this was the addition of the clocktower and Westminster Chime clock movement. The clock is still operable and the elevator motors are still in the tower. An interesting note is that while the tower was under construction Frederick returned from Europe, was unpleased with the height of the tower, had the marble capitals removed, and an additional 16' added.

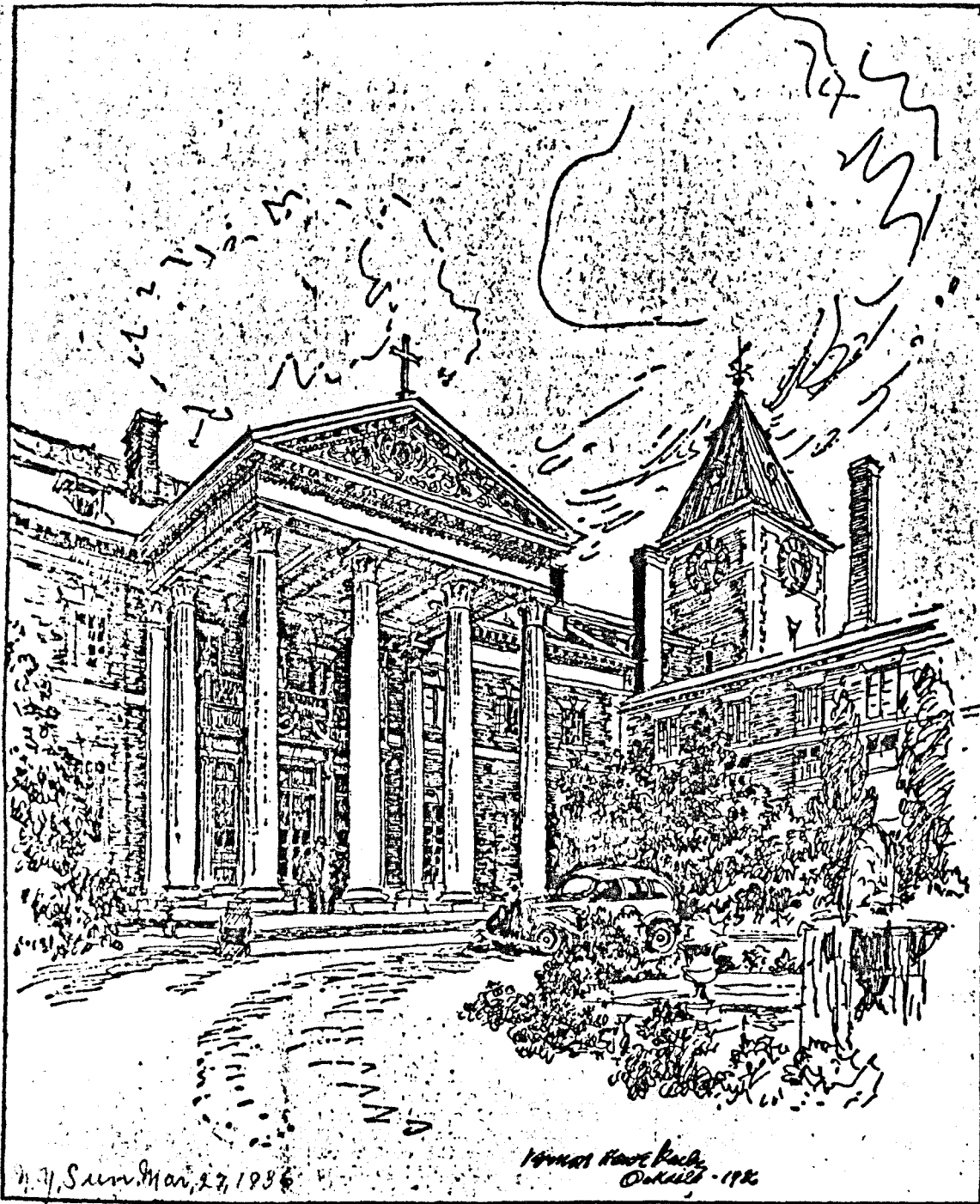
The grounds surrounding his house were designed by the same landscape architects employed by the then recent Chicago Exhibition. Besides the many plantings of trees, shrubs and hedgings, the creek was dredged so that ~~Emily~~ could enjoy her sport of canoeing in safety. Being elected Commodore of the New York Yacht Club several terms, he was also obliged to entertain by water. For this reason he had a boat basin enlarged and a canal dredged. The Vanderbilts, Cuttings, Astors and others were frequent visitors by this means. The original carriage house sheltered his carriages and automobiles. He was once arrested for going 25 m.p.h. in New York City while driving his 1906 Mercedes. The fine was \$25, and the bail was set at \$100.

Frederick had many other conveniences for his family at this summer home which he eventually did make his permanent residence. He was a generous man; his will and story attest to this. On March 9, 1919-Frederick Gilbert Bourne died. To him lives the memorial of Indian Neck Hall, the Singer Sewing Machine Company, plus a great impact both past and present to the local Oakdale area. The elegant Bourne tradition of Indian Neck Hall now joins the equally rich heritage of La Salle Military Academy.

EMMA

SKETCHES OF NEW YORK'S SUBURBS—No. 260

By VERNON HOWE BAILEY



Oakdale, L. I.—La Salle Military Academy.

The La Salle Military Academy, formerly known as the Clason Point Military Academy, is housed in the mansion which formerly was the home of Frederick G. Bourne at Oakdale. The academy moved to its present home in 1927

after acquiring the residence and 160 acres of the Bourne estate, which consisted of 1,600 acres. The academy accommodates 180 students and ranks as a reserve officers' training school. The sketch shows the forecourt and main entrance.

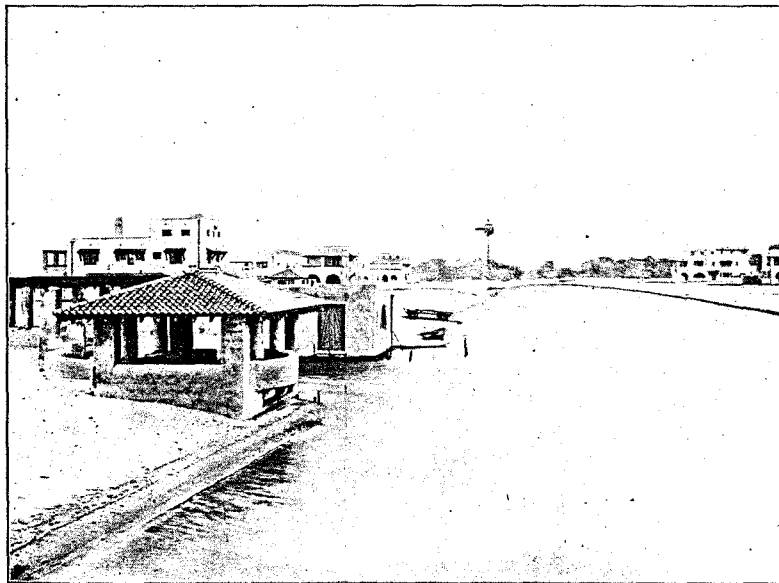


Developed between 1890 and 1919 by Frederick Gilbert Bourne, a former president of the Singer Sewing Machine Co. the estate of Indian Neck Hall at Oakdale became in 1925 the home of the LaSalle Military Academy operated by the Roman Catholic Brothers of the Christian School. All of the buildings of the half-a-million dollar estate have been converted to use by the Academy, including the 22 acre lawn, said to be largest parade ground of any military academy.

Long Island

C. Manley De Bevoise, 1963

ISLIP is quite like it in its surroundings. It has a large population during the summer, when the magnificent country houses located here are occupied by the families of their city owners. There are at Islip a number of comfortable hotels. From this section beautiful views may be enjoyed of the Great South Bay and the wooded points which stretch out like fingers from the main shore.



THE MOORISH HOUSES AT BAYBERRY POINT, ISLIP

The portion of Long Island which skirts the south shore hereabouts is heavily covered with pine forests, which give the air a double charm, combining the odor of the balsam with the tonic of the sea. It is a region which duplicates in general appearances and climatic values Lakewood, N. J., but with added advantages of being much nearer New York and more easily and quickly reached. Through the pine forest growth the roads run in every direction, and add to the delights of outdoor life, being ideal for vehicles of every description.

Prominent New Yorkers have been quick to realize that this immediate locality is an ideal one for the location of their summer homes, and,

as a consequence, there are at Oakdale a large number of extensive estates, magnificent in both area and development. One of the most notable is that of Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt, at Oakdale. This estate includes a portion of what is known as the old Nichols grant, whose ownership runs back two centuries. There is also the immense and almost royal estate of Mr. F. G. Bourne. In addition to these estates are those of the Cuttings, and Mr. W. K. Aston, which are attractive and extensive.

The Vanderbilt estate, which is enclosed by a high iron fence is

Forum
Continued From Page 232

obliged to anchor in the bay and spend the night on the boat. Capt. Bill asked us if we had a compass aboard. We told him no; that we set our course by the stars. His comment was: "Hell of a boat, no compass."

We had purchased a couple of mattresses from S. B. Horton, Greenport, for the boat. My recollection is that we paid one dollar each and that they were stuffed with excelsior. They were far from Beauty Rests. We told Bill and Bob to use the mattresses and that we would sleep on the floor of the cockpit. When Bill stretched out on the mattress, he said: "Boys, where did you buy these mattresses. We told him from Schuyler Horton and he said: "The old boy ought to be shot for selling them."

Well, the next morning a little breeze sprung up and Capt. Bill brought the boat thru the fog into Greenport harbor. Must confess I didn't know where we were.

I understand a boatload of members of the Hose Company, under command of Capt. Jason Hilton, charted a course from Three Mile Harbor to Greenport, and landed in a small bay on the east side of Shelter Island. Some one suggested to the Captain that they throw the lead over and pull it up and taste it to get their bearings.

It goes without saying that this was the first and last trip that Cpts. Bill and Bob Dennis took with us.

William O. Cleaves,
71 Beach St.,
Bloomfield, N. J.

* * *

I am still an avid reader of the Long Island Forum. You always manage to dig up some interesting material.

Arthur L. Hodges, Editor,
Nassau Daily Review-Star,
Rockville Centre.

* * *

Hunting-Trapping in 1921

It isn't so many years back that Long Island provided fun, feathers and fur for the Nimrods. George Kohler, was a noted game hunter and trapper of Montauk, a generation ago? During 1921, according to his application for a 1922 gunning license, he killed the following: Skunks, 119; Mink, 4; Otter, 1; Muskrat, 9; Raccoons, 11; Red foxes, 22; Silver fox, 1; Ducks, 200; Geese, 3; Fishers, 3.

F. Arthur Torev,
Long Island City.

* * *

H. P. Horton's article on "Long Island Yachts and Yachtsmen" in the August and September numbers was a fine contribution to the

marine history of New York State. Give us more from Horton, please.

A. P. Douglas,
Goshen, N. Y.

* * *

We enjoy your magazine very much, and find it very helpful. Good luck to you.

Mrs. H. G. Bayles,
Houston, Texas.

* * *

Stimson a S. A. R. Member

It is interesting to note that the Hon. Henry L. Stimson, one of America's modern Greats, is a member of the Huntington Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution by virtue of his descent from Private George Stimson (his great-grandfather) who was a Minute Man at Lexington.

Anna Wehle,
Jamaica.

* * *

In his autobiographical book, "My Boyhood in a Parsonage," Thomas Lamont, financier, refers with pride to his ancestor, William Jayne of Setauket. Thought this worthy of note, so send it along.

(Mrs.) Carrie Chapin,
Albany.

* * *

Long Island Customs House

The preservation of the old U. S. Customs House at Sag Harbor will be accomplished only if more persons from Long Island and from the State at large do their part.

This building of 1789 will make a fitting memorial to whaling which a century ago was Long Island's greatest industry and one in which every community on the island participated one way or another. Contributions should be sent to the Old Sagg Harbour Committee, Sag Harbor, N. Y.

* * *

Quantuck or Carman's

There is a Currier & Ives print showing three men in a boat; one of them colored; one of them supposed to be Daniel Webster.

Southaven folks have long believed that this showed Black Dan catching the mighty trout whose lines were traced on wood to make a weathervane for the Southaven Presbyterian Church. The locale is

supposed to be a small pond connected with Carman's River where Daniel is known to have done considerable fishing. When the railroad threatened to block off this pond with a solid roadbed, Webster used his legal talents successfully to have them put in a large pipe, thus preserving his fishing grounds.

At Westhampton Beach folks are equally positive that the print's locale is famous Quantuck Creek near there where Daniel, like General Dix and other celebrities did considerable fishing and which is supposed to have been the inspiration for Dr. Van Dyke's essay, "A Lazy, Idle Brook." Webster's negro companion is believed to have been Paulis, man-of-all-work for the Howell family with whom Daniel stayed.

What I want to know is: was it Carman's river or Quantuck creek? Couldn't some Forum reader settle this like George E. Winter settled the question, propounded so eloquently in the Forum by Walter E. Gunnison, of Dr. Van Dyke's Brook?

George Pierson Smith,
Hollis.

* * *

Bourne Was a Pioneer

Islanders generally know that the large tract now occupied by La Salle Institute on the Montauk Highway at Oakdale was once the home of Commodore F. G. Bourne. But who he was, what he did to

Continued on Page 238

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Long Island—The Sunrise Homeland

Information regarding the resources, products, attractions and advantages of Long Island and its four counties—Kings, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk—is freely furnished by the Information Bureau maintained by The Long Island Association in the Pennsylvania Station, New York City.

Descriptive Booklets of the Island and its four counties, maps and many of its communities may be obtained from the Bureau's offices, or by mail if postage is provided.

THE LONG ISLAND ASSOCIATION

273 Pennsylvania Station, N. Y. City

This space contributed by

Independent Silk Dyeing Co., Farmingdale

col X

win fortune if not fame, and how he came to live at Oakdale are matters not so well known.

Frederick Gilbert Bourne was the son of the Rev. George Washington Bourne and Mrs. Harriett Gilbert Bourne, both of New England ancestry and with little of this world's goods. Frederick went to New York as a young man and his first job was as clerk in the Mercantile Library. At the same time he joined a church and sang in its choir and here he became acquainted with Alfred Corning Clark, president and principal stockholder of the Singer Sewing Machine Company.

Before long Mr. Clark offered the young man a position with his company and from the very start young Bourne showed remarkable ability in matters of organization and finance. Promotion followed promotion and he was soon in an executive position. He did not, as time went by, confine his activities to the Singer Company, however, but invested and became a director or officer in other large concerns, among them the Aeolian Company, the Atlas Portland Cement, Babcock & Wilson, Bourne & Son, Limited, of New Jersey, the Long Island and other railroads.

In spite of these and many other activities, however, Mr. Bourne was a thorough sportsman. His chief love was yachting and in 1903 he was elected commodore of the New York Yacht Club. He was then owner of the steam yacht Delaware. Shortly thereafter, when this vessel was destroyed by fire, he acquired the Diana and after that the famous Sioux. In 1907 Commodore Bourne was the guest of Sir Thomas Lipton aboard the latter's Erin on an extended cruise in European waters.

Before this and even before he had won the title of Commodore, he had built his Oakdale estate. The mansion and other buildings had taken five years to construct and they were completed in 1897 at a cost of \$500,000. The mansion designed by Ernest Flagg, was situated in the center of a 3,000-acre tract which extended from Montauk Highway southward to Great South Bay. It was surrounded by 12,000 choice trees and the tract contained a canal, docks and a lighthouse. He called it all Indian Neck and the home itself was known as Indian Neck Hall.

In this home was installed one of the finest pipe organs in the country. It was no idle ornament as Commodore Bourne was a great music lover and, having a fine voice, often entertained guests with his singing.

But it seems that Indian Neck did not satisfy Commodore's every whim for pioneering. He later purchased Dark Island in the Thousand Islands and at great cost, including the transporting of thousands of tons of soil from Canada, he constructed there a castle which he call-

ed the Towers. Commodore Bourne purchased the seven-acre island in 1902 and it took two years to build the Towers which was composed entirely of native stone.

Mrs. Bourne died in 1916 and the youngest son Howard in 1919 in New Zealand where he had gone for his health. The same year the Commodore died at his Indian Neck home, leaving three sons and four daughters. Because the Oakdale estate was sold to satisfy beneficiaries, it was eventually acquired for use as a school for young men—La Salle Institute.

J. Howard Mooney.

* * *

Long Island Scudders

In reference to the letter of Mrs. Sarah Blydenburgh in the August Forum on "The Scudder Museum," it may be added that Long Island has produced a number of Scudders prominent in the legal profession. Besides former Supreme Court Justice Townsend Scudder, there was his brother, Philemon Halstead Scudder, born in Northport, who was at the time of his death in Glen Head president of the Nassau County Bar Association and counsel to the County Board of Supervisors.

This Mr. Scudder, however, is remembered mostly for his contributions to the island's horticultural advancement, using his Glen Head estate as an experimental farm in that field and serving as president of the Farmers Association of Long Island.

George P. Ewen, Queens.

* * *

I wish you continued success in carrying on the publication of the Forum so ably.

George W. Winans Jamaica

● Mr. Winans is the author of an excellent volume on the history of the First Presbyterian Church of Jamaica.

* * *

Suffolk P. O.'s in 1830

Could you advise how many post

offices existed in Suffolk County a century ago? Your magazine is indispensable.

George J. Ashton, Franklin Square.

● The post offices in the County of Suffolk in the year 1830 were as follows: Aquebogue, Bridgehampton, Cold Spring Harbor, Coram, Crab Meadow, Cutchogue, Dix Hills, Drown Meadows, East Hampton, Farms, Fireplace, Good Ground, Huntington, Islip, Mattituck, Middle Island, Miller's Place,

Continued on Back Cover

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The brick and marble bridges across the artificial canals and lagoons cost \$20,000. The \$50,000 organ which was installed in the ball room of the mansion (now the Academy chapel) was enjoyed by Commodore Bourne in his leisure hours as it was one of his hobbies to sit at the manuals on the upper or lower floor and peel forth delightful tunes for the enjoyment of the family and guests.

The Commodore was a great lover of horses and at one time had the finest breed of English Hackneys. The \$20,000 stallion "Enthorpe Performer" imported from England was head of the stud. At one time there were nearly 100 Hackneys in the stables. He also had huge Clyderdales and percherons for work horses.

Alexander Mair, a canny Scotchman, was superintendent of the stables.

For several years, the Commodore was one of the largest exhibitors at the old Madison Square Garden National Horse Show. In the Nineties, horse show week was the big event of New York society circles.

After having amassed a great collection of blue ribbons, Bourne found his stables matched by others among the horsey set in New York society who decided to pool their interests and enter some very good breed of Hackneys. The judges admitted that the entries of Commodore Bourne were superior but most of the ribbons went to the owners, represented by Old Knickerbocker stock.

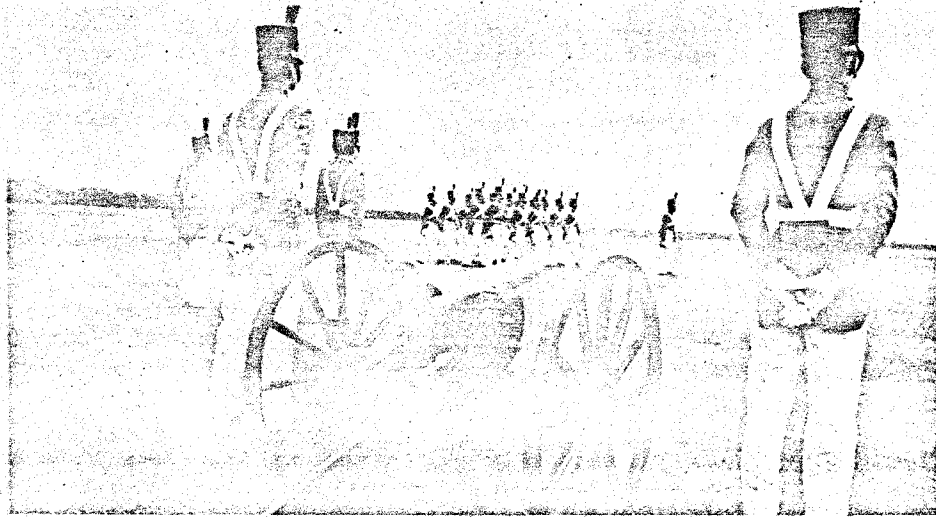
The commodore's only comment on the awards was that he always supposed that at Madison Square Garden, the question of blue-blood only applied to the "equine race."

George L. Weeks, Some of the Town of the Town of Islip's Early History, 1955.

THE ISLAND LINE

By Karen Tyler

Newsday, 10/29/79



Q. Can you tell me if the site occupied by LaSalle Military Academy in Oakdale was once someone's estate and, if so, who owned it?

—G.T., Great Neck

A. The property was originally owned by Frederick Gilbert Bourne, a former president of Singer Sewing Machine Co., who developed the estate, known as Indian Neck Hall between 1890 and 1919. The academy, operated by the Christian Brothers, now uses the 22-acre lawn as a parade ground.

Q. I was told that one of the departments at Hofstra University recently offered an appraisal service where people could take their works of art for evaluation. Can you tell me if this will be held again?

—A.R., Syosset

A. The next art appraisal session will be conducted by the Department of Art History on Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 2 to 4 P.M. in Axinn House on the Hofstra Campus, Hempstead Turnpike, Hempstead. Faculty members of the department will offer their "informed judgments"—not actual monetary evaluations—on works of art. Fees received will benefit the art student scholarship fund. The charge for verbal appraisal will be \$5 for one or two works of art, \$8 for three; for written appraisal, \$10 for one or two works and special consideration will be made for written judgement of three or more works.

south of the railroad in part of what was then known as Huntington South. In the spring of 1837 he went to the Long Swamp School, at the corner of Depot and Melville Roads, Huntington, then taught two terms at the Smithtown Branch School. From there he went to Little Bayside, Queens, in the winter of 1839-40; Trimming Square near West Hills, Huntington, in the spring of 1840; Woodbury School on Jericho Turnpike in the summer of that year, and then to the Whitestone School in Queens for the next two terms.

Q. My earth-science teacher has asked the class to find out where on Long Island a glacial topography called a kame may be found. Can you help?

—D.T.J., Uniondale

A. Your class may be sitting on top of one. Long Island is (or was) loaded with kames—short ridges or hillocks of stratified drift formed by subglacial streams at the places where they emerged from the ice. Although common, the kames may not be visible because (a) they are too small to be noticed or (b) they have buildings on them. You might get the location of one of the larger ones from "Hydrogeology of Nassau and Suffolk," the U.S. Geological Survey Water Supply Paper No. 1657, which is available in public libraries or from the U.S. Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C.

Q. What does the "I.U." in I.U. Wil-

LA SALLE MILITARY ACADEMY

OAKDALE, NEW YORK 11769

(516) 589-0900

Oa 45

BOURNE BLUEPRINT COLLECTION

BOX IV

A. Arthur K. Bourne Residence (proposal)
Oakdale, New York

Architect, date, drawing number undeterminable.

Two tissues:

- 1.- first floor plan
- 2.- second floor plan

After study of the plans, one can assume that this building was to also have a cellar and a third floor.

B. Typical Generator House for General Acetylene Company
(the foundation and ruins of this building are extant)

One Drawing:

- 1.- 2- Elevations
- 2.- Floor Plan

C. Residence for A.K. Bourne
Oakdale, N.Y.

Architect: I.H. Green, Jr.
Sayville, New York

Date: 1904

11 Drawings:

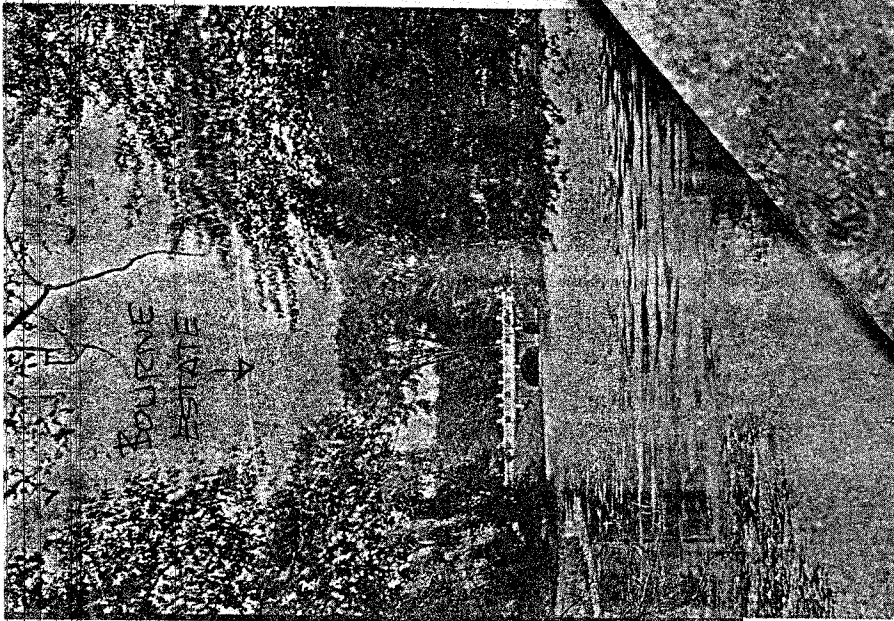
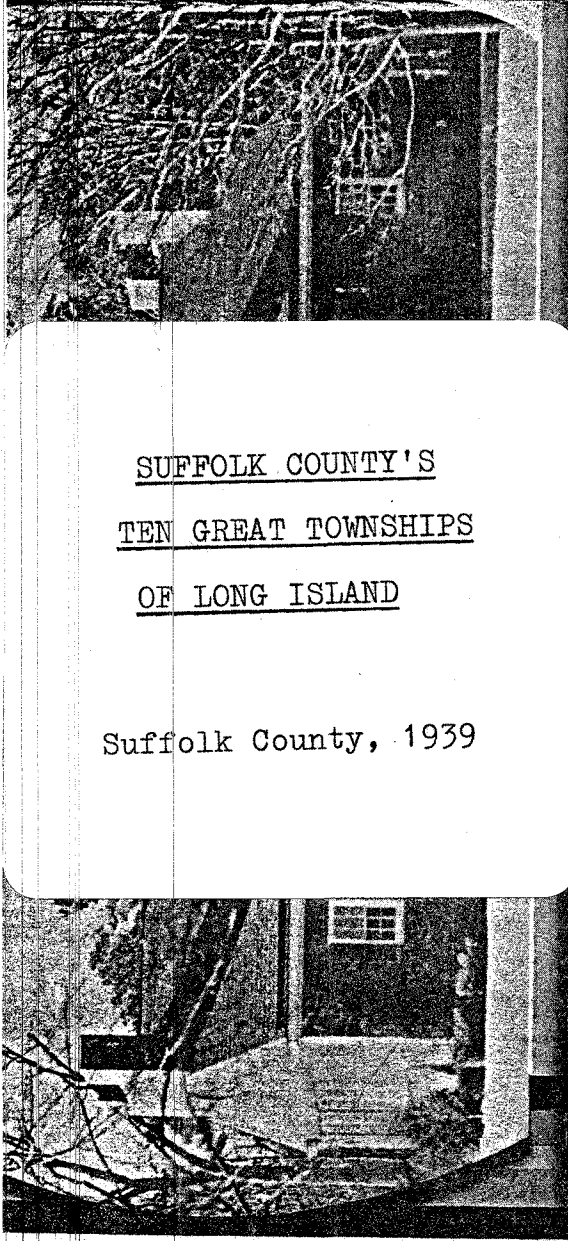
- #1 Elevation in S.W. Bedroom looking west
- Elevation in S.W. Bedroom looking east
- #2 Elevation in Mrs. Bourne's Room looking west
- Elevation in Mrs. Bourne's Room looking east
- #3 Elevation in Reception Room looking south
- End of mantel
- #4 Elevation in Dining Room looking north
- End of mantel
- #5 Elevation of Dining Room looking west

1939

Pa 45

SUFFOLK COUNTY'S
TEN GREAT TOWNSHIPS
OF LONG ISLAND

Suffolk County, 1939



LaSalle Bridge

COACHING IN ISLIP TOWN.

A FOUR-IN-HAND.

BOULDER

years ago

80

Some depraved and evilminded person, The News said, had sprinkled tacks the whole length of Foster Avenue so that men who rode bicycles to their work in the oyster houses at the foot of that street all had punctured tires. About 15 or 20 men rode down Foster Avenue before it was light.

The funeral of Peter DeGraff, who was fatally shot during the deer hunting season, had been held in the Sayville Methodist Church. Neither of the West Sayville churches was big enough to hold his many friends.

The entire Republican ticket had been elected except for the office of School Commissioner. The Democratic candidate for sheriff made an excellent run but was defeated by John W. Wells.

The Bourne tally-ho had passed through the village with Miss Marion Bourne on the box. Miss Bourne was considered one of the best reinswomen in the country.

Miss Nana Dvorak had been married to Charles R. Rogers in St. Ann's Church.

70

The Purity Oyster Company of Bay Shore had bought about 30 square miles of bay bottom from the Smith heirs. It extended from a line on the east running from a point in line with the tower of the Bayport Fire House to a line running due south from Nicoll's Point. The News said that this sale was of tremendous importance to this vicinity because of the fact that there were 16 firms of oyster shippers doing business in Sayville, West Sayville and Bayport. All genuine Blue Point oysters were matured in that part of the bay. The sale, it was feared, would mean that the new firm could monopolize the Blue Point oyster industry. It was naturally of vital importance to the many families dependent on work in connection with the business.

Fred Gebhardt, murderer of a woman whose body had been found at Central Islip, had presented Coroner W.B. Savage and Town Clerk James F. Richardson with his two German police dogs, which he had recently brought to this country. These particular animals were among the first of the breed seen here.

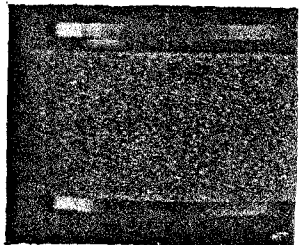
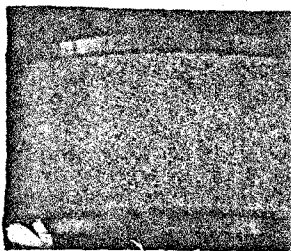
Miss Catherine Geiser of Astoria had been married to William F. Maasch of Sayville.

William J. Gaynor had been elected

Mayor of New York

1899
Suffolk County News 11/1/79

1899



A Self Made Man Was Bourne

A familiar scene on the Old Country rd. in the Gay Nineties were the gay coaching parties -- four-in-hands driven by the Vanderbilts, Cuttings, Suydams and Commodore Frederick G. Bourne. Bourne had a bright, shiny yellow coach with liveried grooms, and the Bourne family ladies would sit on the vehicle's lofty seats.

At that time, the family lived in an unpretentious house on West Main st., West Sayville, during the summer months. Bourne as a youth barely finished his high school education when he obtained an office job with the Clark O.N.T. (Our New Thread) Company. He was a husky boy with a fine personality. Being ambitious, he made a hit with his boss, and the story goes that one day he remained in the office finishing his day's work when one of the executives returned to pick up some papers. He found young Bourne singing while he worked.

The official—a Mr. Clark—attracted by the quality of Bourne's voice, invited him to come to his house to sing at a party for his friends. Shortly thereafter, he proved his unusual executive ability and as the thread company had an interlocking directory with the Singer Sewing Machine Co., young Bourne was transferred to Singer. He gradually learned all the fine points of the machine, especially the varied processes of manufacture.

Bourne was an organist, and played the organ in one of the city churches where the president of Singer attended services. The official was attracted by the young man's musical qualities and through this acquaintance Bourne had a rapid rise in the company to one of the top jobs. He built a factory in Edinburgh, Scotland and immediately the company was represented by agencies in all parts of Europe, Africa and Asia.

Bourne began to acquire land in Oakdale from Admiral Ludlow, Capt. Jacob Ockers and other large property owners, until his holdings amounted to about 3,000 acres.

On the property facing Great South Bay, Bourne erected the palatial mansion which today is La Salle Military Academy. At one time during the construction he had between 1,500 and 2,000 workers such as masons, carpenters, steel and iron workers, bricklayers, plumbers, steam fitters and electricians. Large dredges were engaged pumping fill to create the large expanse of lawn in front of the mansion, which today is the parade grounds of the Academy. (This area is larger than the parade grounds at West Point and Annapolis combined.)

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Oakdale: Bourne Estate

Oa 45	Bourne Estate District	Oakdale
45a	Arthur K. Bourne House	LaSalle Military Academy
46	West Gate Lodge	" "
47	Bourne Estate Boathouse	" "
48	Indian Neck Hall	" "
49	Bourne Estate Main Gatehouse	" "
50	Bourne Estate Gates & Drive	" "
51	Bourne Estate Bridge	" "
52	Bourne Estate Coach House	" "
52a	Bourne Estate Canoe Shed	" "
53	Bourne Estate Windmill	Near Matthew Drive
54	Bourne Estate Pumping Station	In West Oaks Recreation Cam
55	Bourne Estate Sheds	" "
56	Dale Drive District (Bourne Estate)	Dale Drive
57	Sherpinesse House	22 Dale Drive

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. 103-05-0013
QUAD _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

NYSHP
APR 3 1975
Reclanrca

YOUR NAME: Betty Keess DATE: 2/25/75
YOUR ADDRESS: Oardale N.Y. TELEPHONE: 219-2731
ORGANIZATION (if any): WK Vanderhies Hist. Society

IDENTIFICATION

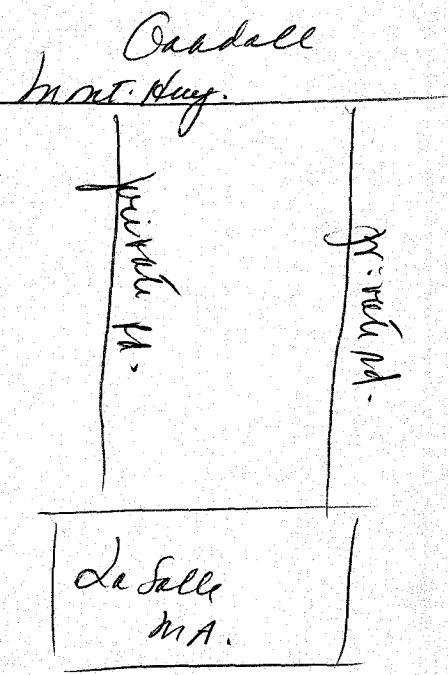
1. BUILDING NAME(S): LaSalle Military Academy
2. COUNTY: Schoharie TOWN/CITY: Delap VILLAGE: Oardale
3. STREET LOCATION: Mont. Hwy.
4. OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
5. PRESENT OWNER: Religious order ADDRESS: LaSalle m.A.
6. USE: Original: private home Present: private school
7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
Interior accessible: Explain private school

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) trans-etc.
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):
Unknown

12. PHOTO:

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)

*Whole Academy is F.B. Bourne's estate "Indian Neck Hall".
 Mr. Bourne was guiding light of Singer Sewing Machine Co.
 Aeolian Organ Co.*

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

*once had largest pipe organ in USA.
 all parquet floors -
 marble installations such as fire place etc.*

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 1904

ARCHITECT: _____

BUILDER: _____

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

*One of the South shore of LI's beautiful estates, La Salle MA.
 is now private school. The building remains much as it was
 when saved by Mr. Bourne's family to the Brothers. It is a
 beautiful example.*

21. SOURCES: *WVC/Vanderbilt Hist Soc Files.*

22. THEME:

History of La Salle Military Academy

Oakdale, Long Island, N. Y.

It is common knowledge that La Salle Military Academy at Oakdale occupies the one-time estate of Frederick G. Bourne, industrialist and yachtsman.

Frederick Gilbert Bourne, the son of a New England country minister of very modest income, migrated to New York in his teens and obtained a job as clerk in the Mercantile Library. Joining a nearby church and entering its choir, he became acquainted with Alfred Corning Clark, President and principal stockholder of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, who gave him a small job with that Company. Over the years he worked up to become a director and finally president of the Company.

After attaining prominence in the industrial world, he became a director and in some cases an officer of other large concerns, including the Acolian Company, Atlas Portland Cement, Babcock and Wilson, Bourne and Son Ltd. of New Jersey, and the Long Island and other railroad companies. Notwithstanding these business activities, he remained an enthusiastic yachtsman throughout most of his life and in 1903 was elected Commodore of the New York Yacht Club. Among his better-known yachts were the steam driven "Delaware", the "Diane" and the famous "Sioux". One of his closest yachting friends was Sir Thomas Lipton of International Cup fame.

In the early 1890's Mr. Bourne acquired the first of his large land holdings at Oakdale and began the construction of the mansion-house and other buildings on his 3,000 acre estate which he named Indian Neck. Designed by Ernest Flagg, the residence known as Indian Neck Hall, was completed in 1897 at a cost of half a million dollars. It is now the main building of the Military Academy.

Besides maintaining the considerable fleet of yachts at this estate for use on the Great South Bay and the outside coastal waters, Comm. Bourne also had a number of yachts in the Thousand Islands where he built and maintained a castle-like stone residence which he called the "Tower". It was located on Dark Island whose seven rocky acres he improved with many barge loads of top soil transported from Canada.

Mrs. Bourne died in 1916 and their youngest son Howard in 1919, that year Comm. Bourne died at Indian Neck, leaving three sons and four daughters. Certainly he, a life-long church member, would want nothing better than to have his one-time estate owned and operated by La Salle Military Academy, one of the finest preparatory schools in the Country.

ELIGIBILITY ATTACHMENT

_____ (Agency)
Bourne Estate (LaSalle Military Academy) (Project Name)
50 Montauk Hwy., Oakdale (Islip), Suff. Co. (Location)

I. ___ Property appears NR/SR eligible. PRE SRB X POST SRB ___

SPECIFIC CRITERIA:

- A. ___ Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; OR
- B. ___ Associated with lives of persons significant in our past; OR
- C. X Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; OR represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; OR
- D. ___ Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in pre-history or history.

II. ___ Property appears to be within the boundaries of a potential historic district. ___ PRE SRB ___ POST SRB (___ map attached)

___ Property contributes ___ does not contribute (to the historic district).

DISCUSSION:

The Frederick G. Bourne estate (Indian Neck Hall) is architecturally significant as a monumental example of estate architecture in New York. Erected in 1897 to the designs of Ernest Flagg, Indian Neck Hall is an outstanding example of Georgian Revival inspired estate architecture. With its monumental porticos, symmetrical elevations and fenestration, rectangular massing and lavish use of stone and brick the Bourne residence is an outstanding example of the style and type. The residence is further distinguished for the survival of its ornate and lavish interior spaces. In addition to the main residence several support structures associated with the property and its open landscape plan remain intact and contribute to the overall significance of this important resource.

III. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: