

HISTORIC AND NATURAL DISTRICTS
INVENTORY FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
UNIQUE SITE NO. _____
QUAD. _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

Sa 27

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

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip--Town Hall DATE: 7/24/79
655 Main Street
YOUR ADDRESS: Islip, N.Y. TELEPHONE: (516) 224-5450
ORGANIZATION (if any): Department of Planning and Development

1. NAME OF DISTRICT: Frank Jones ~~Estate~~
2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Sayville

3. DESCRIPTION:

The original estate comprised 75 acres and extends from Main Street to the Great South Bay on the east bank of Greene's Creek. ~~See~~ Jones Mansion, Gatehouse, and various related buildings still survive, surrounded by more recently built homes. The structures that make up the district are as follows:

- Barns, Sunset Drive
- Jones/Palmer House, 71 Benson Avenue
- Gatehouse and Gates, Handsome Avenue
- Jones House, 211 Handsome Avenue
- 48 Benson Avenue (wing of mansion)
- 29 Benson Avenue, 51 Jones Drive

4. SIGNIFICANCE:

In 1902, Frank Jones, President of Jewel Tea Company, came to Sayville and purchased 75 acres from E.R. Wilbur for \$75,000. He built a large mansion on the bay that was destroyed by fire in 1960. He also built an elegant large mansion on the bay for his daughter, which was later moved up Benson Avenue and occupied by Elwell Palmer. After the death of Frank Jones, the property was sold in 1926 to Russell J. Perrine, who developed it as Rivera Park.

The houses of the Jones Estate, despite their change of location and the rapid growth and expansion around them, still retain the grand splendor of the lingering memory of prosperous Sayville in the early 20th century.

5. MAP:

Bowe-Anderson
R - 15, see
attached.

4.cont. This was the estate of E.R. Wilbur in 1888. See Sa 30 for old house that was removed from the property by Frank Jones.

1957

6. SOURCES:

Charles P. Dickerson, A History of the Sayville Community, Suffolk County News, 1975, p. 63.

Charles G. Stevenson, But as Yesterday. The Early Life and Times of ST. Ann's Church, Sayville, New York, Sayville. 1967, p. 119

7. THREATS TO AREA

BY ZONING BY ROADS BY DEVELOPERS

BY DETERIORATION OTHER _____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

8. LOCAL ATTITUDES TOWARD THE AREA

9. PHOTOS:

NJM-5, neg. 13

Wilbur Jones Estate Barn
Sunset Drive



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

absolutely undeveloped
 is or no value to Long
 Island, the railroad
 line, little or no value
 owners of the county
 only an extremely un-
 n of affairs for the
 railroad, whose entire
 derived from points
 y's very circumscribed

Statistics, Hearsey, His-
 tory.

made with great care
 ments in regard to
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 ry, not only to a great
 nate enough to have
 outside of Long Is-
 many dwelling upon
 well. It was said there
 soil, or that some
 existed making this
 alk County valueless
 growth, fodder crops,
 chards, and in spite of
 natural growth proved
 every hand that this
 without foundation,
 ession had become so
 was looked upon as an
 that a very small sec-
 east end extending
 Orient Point had for
 noted for its superb
 elly prospering people
 lified by the forbid-
 eat stretches of unde-
 made oftentimes post-
 dead standing timber
 growth, due, not to
 ut entirely to annual

Therefore of L. I. Ex-
 perimental Farms.

and even books
 distributed not only
 management, but by sci-
 entific practical men with-
 of great moment. It
 to practically demon-
 y was the small North
 Island extremely fer-
 tic conditions excep-
 no growth of every de-
 its big area of long
 territory was precisely
 better because it was

l Farms were estab-
 possible sections and
 ders, as well as Long
 "absolutely no value,"
 "no soil depth," and
 scription an impossi-
 s established on so-
 waste." Three feet of
 uite an admixture of
 o exist, as it does
 tire north shore of
 Hedford the soil was
 a three to four feet

extremely well with early potatoes. A
 number of varieties were tried, among
 others newcomers of great promise which
 consequently sold as seed at high fig-
 ures. Of all the varieties tried the
 Quick Lunch was by far the most prom-
 ising. The yield was only fair even
 for early potatoes. But there were two
 extremely attractive points about them.
 First, their size and shape. The size was
 medium which is sought for by expert
 buyers for the best trade. In shape they
 are very nearly round, the eyes in no in-
 stance being deep sunken. Consequent-
 ly preparation for the table is easy and
 loss of time and substance reduced to the
 minimum. Secondly, from the growers'
 point of view, practically every potato in
 every hill grew to practically the same
 size through every period of develop-
 ment. To place not only "marketable,"
 but "No. 1" and even "extra fancy" po-
 tatoes on the market required little or
 no sorting. Added to this was the ap-
 pearance and pleasing color, flecked with
 pink stripes here and there, occasionally
 running to pink all over. Every one that
 saw them said "Oh!" and women some-
 times added "Ah! aren't they beautiful!"
 This meant that these potatoes were
 sure sellers. In yield they ran only from
 five to seven to the hill in 1906, but don't
 forget that every potato was not only
 marketable but a little better than that.
 The first digging of Quick Lunch in 1906
 was July 23. This year, on July 8, we
 commenced digging at No. 1 and had
 proved with potatoes as we did with
 cauliflower that Long Island need ask
 no odds from even the more northerly
 of the Southern States. And this triumph
 for Long Island's friable soil and it's
 ocean tempered climate was certainly
 doubly a triumph in a season absolute-
 ly springless and when the first real
 warm day came on June 16. (See
 Weather Report for verification.)

These potatoes bring to-day a higher
 figure than anything they meet in competi-
 tion no matter whether coming from
 the West Indies or from the Sunny South.

What the Pine Barrens Can Do.

Five days later No. 2, established in
 the "pine barrens" in the center of the
 island in the so-called "sea sand" which
 in reality is superb soil from 2 1/2 to 4
 feet deep, came to the front with the
 same variety of potatoes and having no
 competition became, in spite of most
 earnest endeavors, a "trust." So both
 locally and in that world's great market,
 Manhattan, "scrub oak waste" and "pine
 barren" potatoes proved that Long Island
 was not only able but most willing to
 respond to the very slight encourage-
 ment that human beings are capable of
 giving.

No wizards are needed on Long Island.
 A man to raise good crops doesn't need a
 library consisting of assorted opinions,
 theories or even earnest recitals of the
 practical and successful soil tiller. Com-
 mon sense and a little planning during
 the long vacation, taken even on Long
 Island by farmers, market gardeners.

either total loss of everything, including
 the seed from which, rot and pitting,
 which would make the entire average of
 planted a total financial loss.

The year 1906 was wet and humid. The
 year 1907 was exceedingly cold, exceed-
 ingly hot, exceedingly wet and exces-
 sively dry by turns. The drought which
 is said to have caused practically a fail-
 ure elsewhere of the few early potatoes
 and many of the late ones, reducing the
 crop of earlies to as low as 15 bushels

distance. The mansion is on the north
 side of the road and seen on a fine
 ground that has it up to the line
 offered by the bay. It is one of the
 landmarks of the section.

The Wested place has all the accou-
 terments that go with a handsome sum-
 mer place of its extent. The mansion is
 a large, white colonial building and not
 far from it is Lake Tahlulah, a fine sheet

FOUR H



FRANK S. JONES
 ESTATE AT ISLIP

WAS THIS
 THE WILBUR
 MANSION THAT JONES
 PURCHASED IN 1902?

to the acre, has had absolutely no visible
 effect on the potatoes grown at Experi-
 mental Stations No. 1 and No. 2, with
 both manure and wood ashes as the
 main reliance.

Deductions.

Early preparation and thorough fining
 of the seed bed is particularly profitable
 on Long Island.

Lime and potash as furnished by wood
 ashes is a good Long Island fertilizer.
 Long Island having practically no lime in
 its soil make up.

Frequent light cultivation making a
 dust mulch conserves the moisture par-
 ticularly where potatoes are grown on
 the level and not highly ridged.

A No. 1 seed is a No. 1 economy. Cull
 seeds a luxurious extravagance.

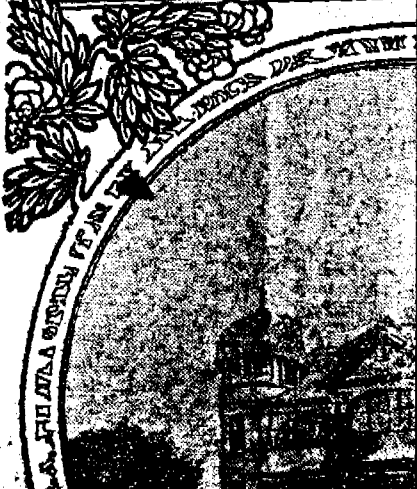
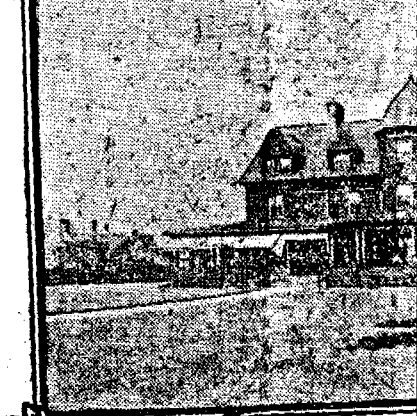
Barneyard manure is a most valuable
 fertilizer for Long Island growers to use,
 on either virgin soil lacking humus (de-
 caying vegetable matter) because of fre-
 quent fires, or on land long under culti-
 vation and lacking humus because the
 only fertilization practiced has been
 chemical with absolute failure to supply
 vegetable matter, (an important factor in
 vegetable growth), either by manure or
 the plowing under of cover crops.

A RIVERHEAD INVENTOR.

Corwin Seems to Have Hit Right
 Idea in Post Card
 Holder.

(Special to the Eagle.)
 Riverhead, L. I., August 3.—Frank H.
 Corwin, a Riverhead young man with a

**POTATOES AS THEY RUN
 I. R. R. EXPERIMENT FARM NO. 1.**





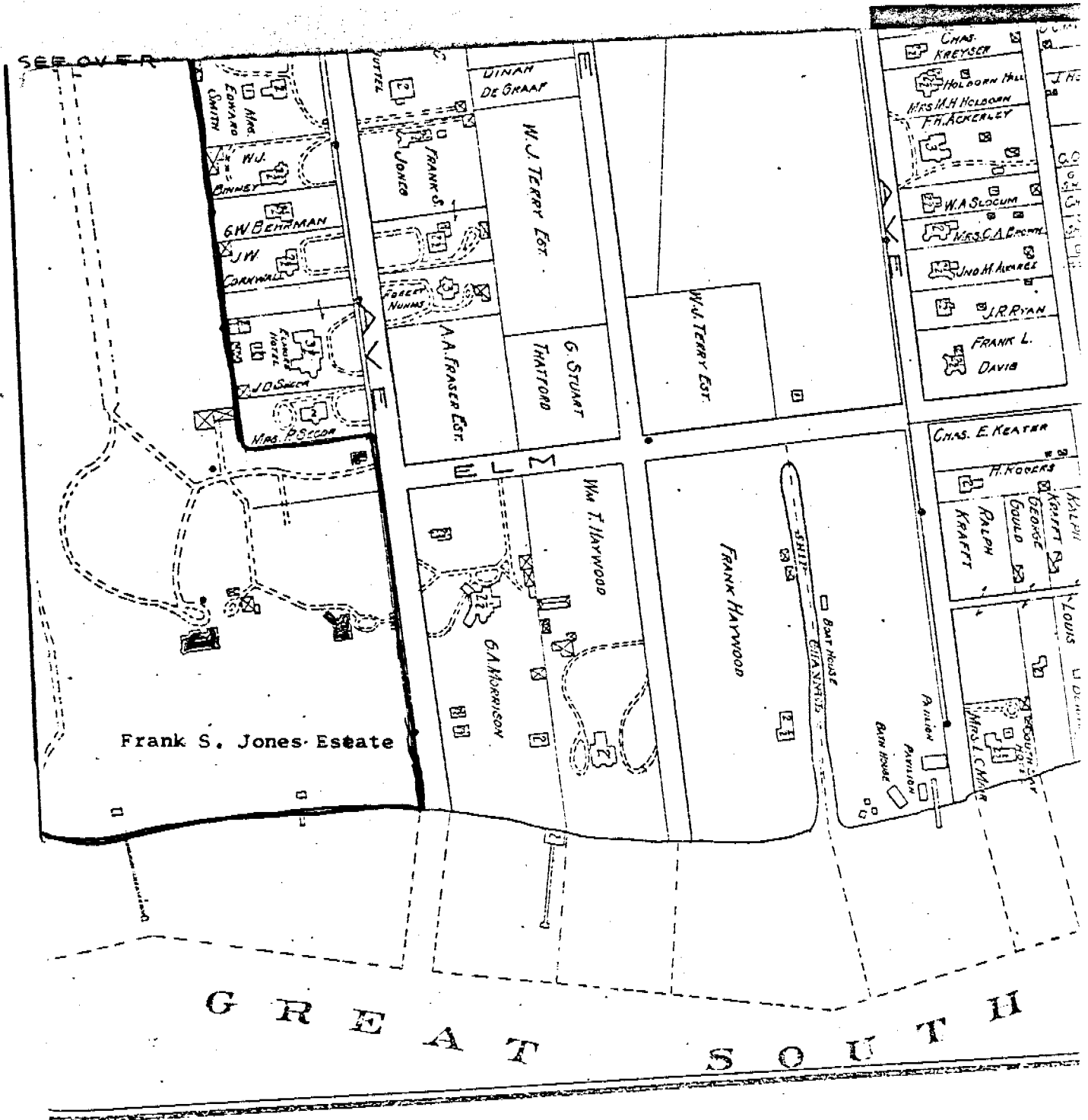
NJM-5, neg. 12
29 Benson Avenue



NJM-5, neg. 11
48 Benson Avenue
Wing of Jones Mansion

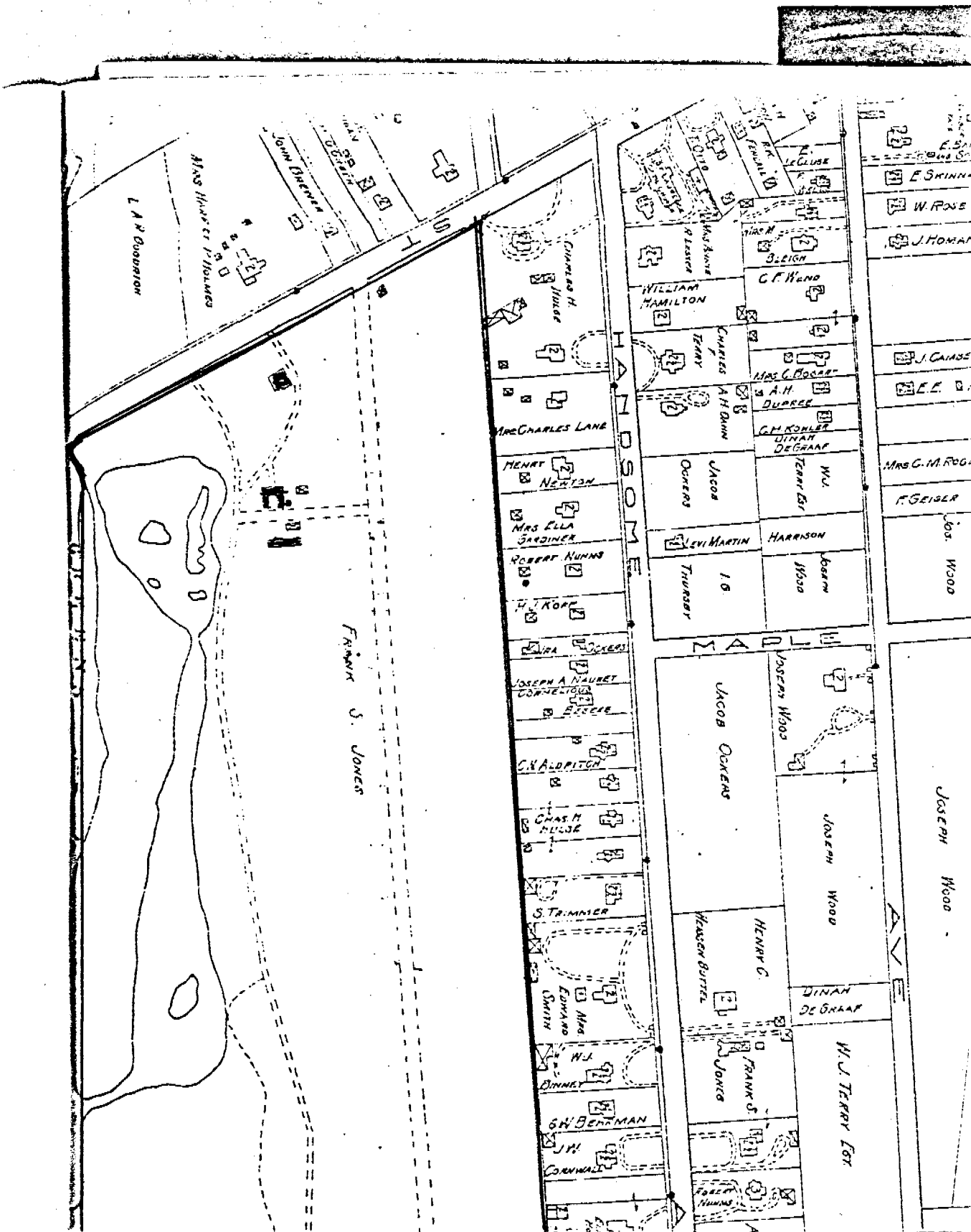


NJM-5, neg. 10
21 Jones Drive

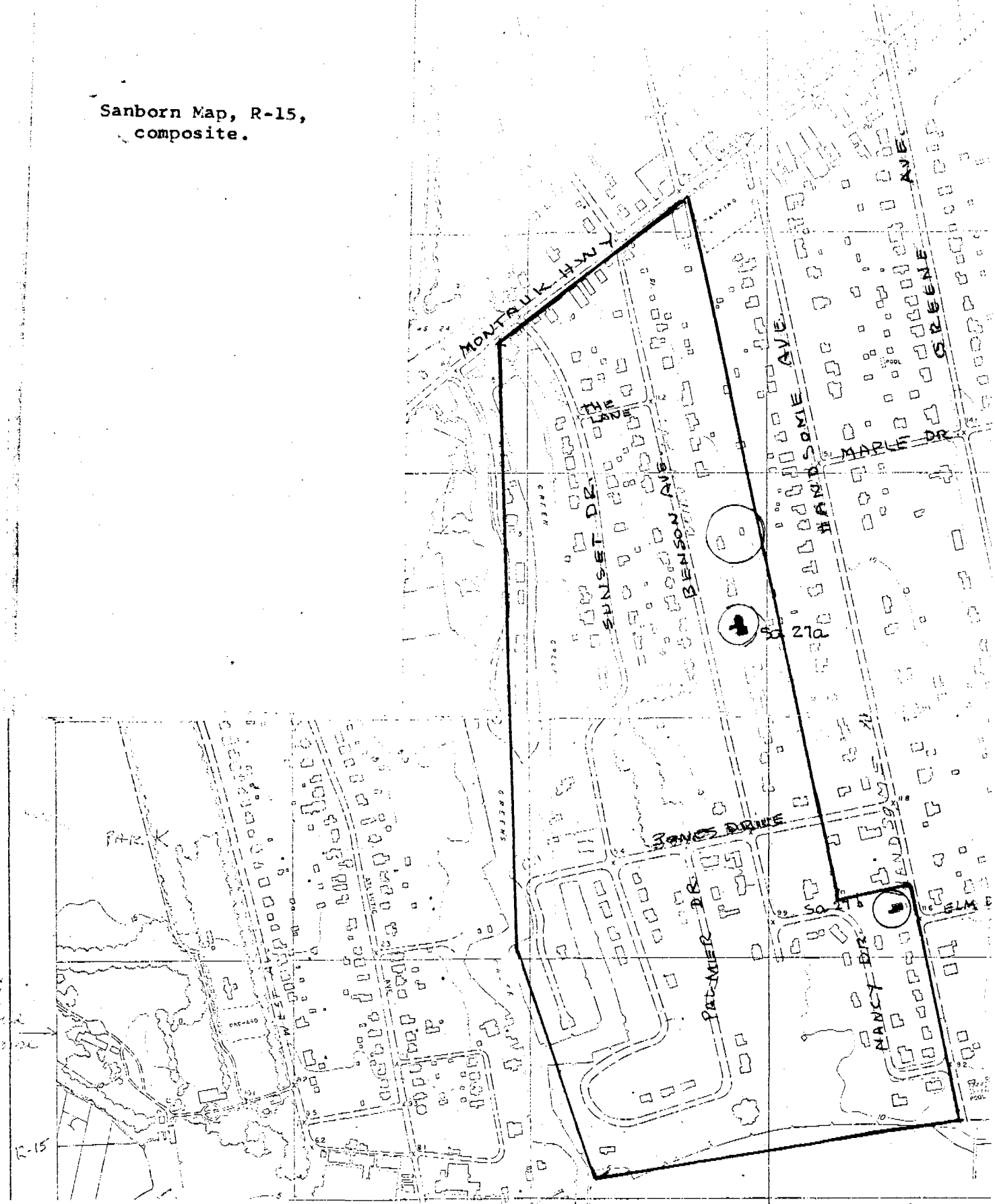


Belcher-Hyde, E., Atlas of Suffolk County, Brooklyn: 1915, pl. 29.

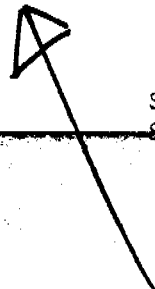
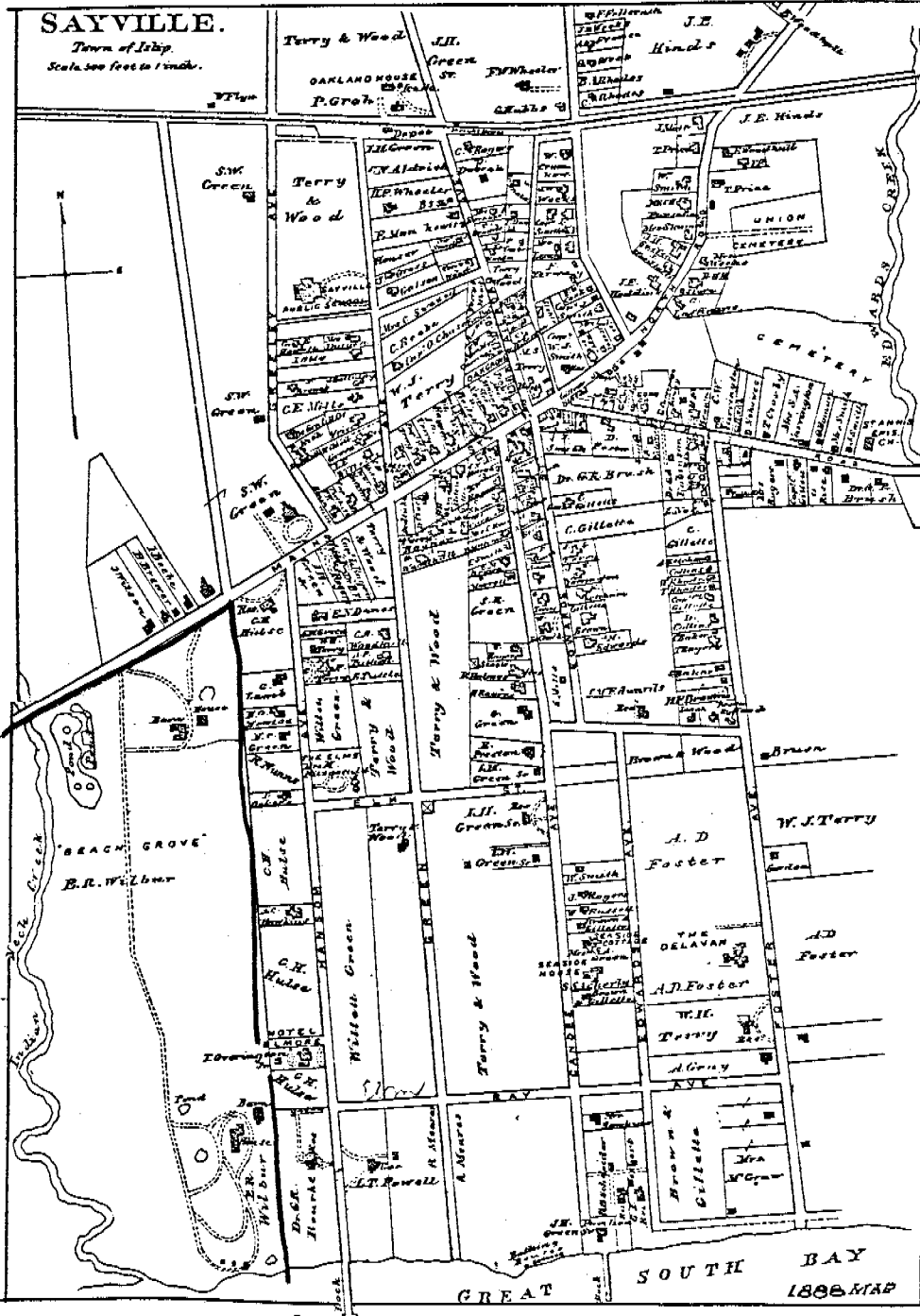
Belcher-Hyde, E., Atlas of Suffolk County, Brooklyn: 1915, pl. 29.



Sanborn Map, R-15,
composite.



Section K



Stevenson, Charles, But As Yesterday, Sayville, 1967, p. 21, Map of 1888.

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file: Sayville

Thursday, December 1, 1977

THE SUFFOLK COUNTY NEWS

Ancient History Continued from page 15

Mrs. Charles G. Bishop, a former resident of Bayport, had died in Brooklyn, after a long illness.

Joseph Arata had bought the Bergman farm of about ten acres on Lincoln Avenue.

40 Years Ago

The amazing total of 1169 votes had been cast at an election in which John Winter Jr. and R.M. Harry Isaacson were elected fire commissioners. The vote the previous year was 70. The reason for the large poll was the contest for the placement of the doors in the new fire house. One faction held that they should be on Main Street while the other favored Lincoln Avenue.

Local stores were advertising huck roast at 19 cents, turkey at spring lamb at 17, Vermont aid syrup at 18, Babbitts anner at three cents, smoked hams at 15 cents and bacon cents a pound.

Joseph F. Acker, for 17 years a resident of Oakdale, had bought the Bergman farm of about ten acres on Lincoln Avenue.

Peter De Dreu, for many years a resident of West Sayville, had died after a long illness, at the age of 73 years.

Gentry Williams, for 20 years clerk of the Suffolk County Supreme Court, had been killed in an automobile accident.

30 Years Ago

Patrolman John J. DeRpp, 37 years old, had been killed when his car skidded into a tree in Great River. He had been a member of the Islip Town Police Department for nine years.

Mrs. Elbert Brown, Sayville's oldest resident, had died at the age of 98 years.

Miss Katherine Sluiter had been married to Robert A. Merritt. Both were of West Sayville. Also Miss Gloria Filsinger of Lake Ronkonkoma had been married to George E. Powers of Holbrook.

20 Years Ago

On Thanksgiving morning, Mrs. Charlotte Thelen of Blue Point had been fatally injured in an automobile collision on Montauk Highway. Her

daughter, Mrs. Charlotte Glaeser of the same address, driver of the car, was seriously injured.

Arson was suspected in the destruction by fire of the 18-room home owned by Dr. Daniel McLaughlin at the foot of Benson Avenue. The house had been badly damaged by fire the previous spring. The building was the main residence on the estate of the late Frank S. Jones, a prominent coffee importer and founder of the Grand Union Tea Company and for years was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. David Shea. Mrs. Shea, daughter of Mr. Jones, now lives in Clearwater, Fla.

A proposed centralization of the Ronkonkoma and Oakdale-Bohemia school districts was to be discussed the following week at a public meeting planned by the Oakdale-Bohemia Board of Education.

The Islip Town Board was to conduct a public hearing on a highly controversial ordinance which would bar the use of power dredging in the taking of shellfish from all waters in the township.

1957

THE LARGEST EUROPEAN BEECH ON LONG ISLAND 1952-1972

Location	Circumference — Ft. In.			
	1952	1962	1972	Taken at
1. Roslyn; East side Mineola Ave., opp. "The Maples," Pierce Country Day School	N.R.	N.R.	22' 6"	1' 6"
2. Kings Point; North end, on Herman Brickman Estate	N.R.	N.R.	21' 5"	1' 0"
3. Glen Cove; Dosoris Island, 100 ft. North of Pink House, Mrs. J. Morgan Estate	18' 1"	19' 1"	20' 1"	1' 6"
4. Glen Cove; Dosoris Island, West of Mall on Mrs. J. Morgan Estate	18' 3"	20' 1"	20' 11"	2' 0"
5. Kings Point; 60 ft. N.E. of 500 E. Shore Road, Shalom residence	N.R.	17' 11"	19' 3"	2' 6"
6. Glen Cove; Dosoris Island, 10 ft. North of Pink House, Mrs. J. Morgan Estate	N.R.	N.R.	18' 9"	1' 6"
7. Roslyn; East side Mineola Ave., opp. "The Maples," Pierce Country Day School	N.R.	N.R.	17' 7"	1' 6"
8. Douglaston; 40 ft. East of 104 Arleigh Road, Fitzpatrick residence	15' 8"	16' 6"	17' 6"	4' 0"
9. Brooklyn; Greenwood Cemetery, North Side Central Ave., Section 103	15' 6"	16' 6"	17' 3"	4' 6"
10. Glen Cove; Dosoris Isl., on Mrs. J. Morgan Est.	N.R.	N.R.	17' 1"	1' 6"
11. Oakdale; Lincoln Drive & Homestead Rd., Kessler residence	N.R.	15' 9"	16' 4"	2' 0"
12. Islip; 90 Saxon Ave., South of Mrs. H. Havemeyer residence	N.R.	N.R.	16' 3"	4' 6"
13. Upper Brookville; Planting Fields Arboretum, South side drive	N.R.	14' 6"	16' 1"	4' 6"
14. Islip; 90 Saxon Ave., 200 ft. West of Mrs. H. Havemeyer residence	N.R.	N.R.	16' 0"	4' 6"
15. Roslyn; East side Mineola Ave., opp. "The Maples," Pierce Country Day School	N.R.	N.R.	15' 9"	3' 0"
16. Hempstead; North of Fulton St., 110 ft. East of Professional Building	14' 8"	Gone	Gone	4' 6"
17. <u>Mastic; Old Floyd House I T Nichols Estate</u>	N.R.	14' 1"	14' 9"	4' 6"
18. Douglaston, 129 Ridge Road, between curb & sidewalk	13' 4"	14' 4"	14' 7"	3' 0"
19. Bridgehampton; S.W. of Ocean Road & Pauls Road, South of house	12' 2"	13' 4"	14' 6"	4' 6"
20. Upper Brookville; Planting Fields Arboretum	10' 9"	12' 10"	14' 1"	4' 6"
21. Matinecock; East side of Town Cocks Lane, Mrs. R. Lovett Estate	N.R.	13' 8"	14' 1"	1' 6"
22. Matinecock; East side of Town Cocks Lane, Mrs. R. Lovett Estate	N.R.	N.R.	13' 11"	4' 0"
23. Setauket; South of View Ave., on former Wm. Floyd Estate	N.R.	N.R.	13' 10"	4' 0"
24. <u>Sayville; South end of Benson Drive, Dr. D. McLaughlin property</u>	N.R.	13' 0"	<u>Gone</u>	2' 0"

