

**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. 103-05-0542  
QUAD \_\_\_\_\_  
SERIES \_\_\_\_\_  
NEG. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Sa 26a

green

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

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**IDENTIFICATION**

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S): Bedell House, ~~24 Center Street~~
- 2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Sayville
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 24 Center Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public  b. private
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Mr. & Mrs. Peters ADDRESS: see #3
- 6. USE: Original: \_\_\_\_\_ Present: \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes  No   
Interior accessible: Explain \_\_\_\_\_

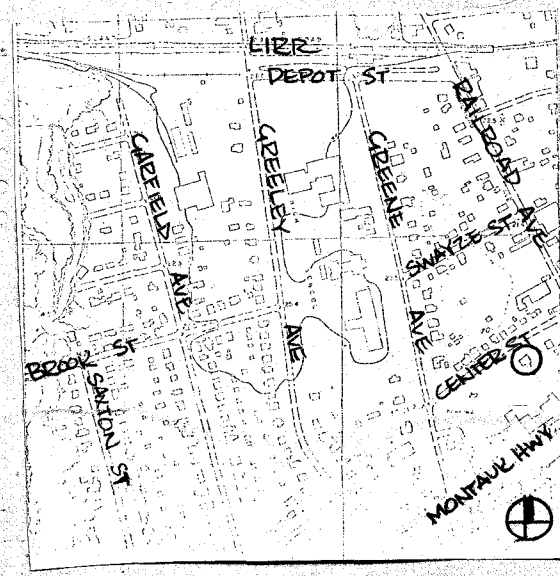
**DESCRIPTION**

- 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. 1910  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known):

Victorian Dormers

12. PHOTO: NJM-5, neg. 24a

13. MAP: Bowe-Anderson



HP-1  
View from north

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 building is on the south side Center Street, just behind the Main Street businesses, between Greene and Railroad Avenues.

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

1½ story side entrance plan house of the Federal period, with Gambrel roof, Victorian dormers with 2/1 pointed windows, and 1½ story extension on the west.

#### SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: between 1785 and 1800 (or 1832)

ARCHITECT: \_\_\_\_\_

BUILDER: \_\_\_\_\_

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The Bedell House is one of the oldest houses in the town of Sayville. It was built between 1785 and 1800 on Main Street, next to the old Post Office, (see Sa 7) and was moved to its present location on Center Street in 1927 or 30.

There was grave community concern a few years ago when the future of this house was uncertain.

21. SOURCES:

Ruth Dougherty, "Reflections of the Past," Suffolk County News, August 1, 1974.

E. Belcher Hyde, Atlas of Suffolk County, Long Island, Vol. 1.

22. THEME: Ocean Shore, Brooklyn: 1902.

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

Sa 26a

CHARLES P. DICKERSON

Sa 26a

P. O. BOX 6  
18 CENTER STREET  
SAYVILLE, N. Y. 11782

OFFICE AND RESIDENCE  
LT 9-8690

REAL ESTATE  
APPRAISALS

December 7, 1973

Ms. Barbara Ferris Van Liew  
No. Country Rd.  
St. James, L.I.

Dear Mrs. Van Liew,

I was talking last evening with Mrs. Betty Kuss of Oakdale and she said you would like to have some information in regard to the Edwards homestead on Center Street in Sayville. I have lived next door all my life.

It was originally known as the Bedell homestead. A Treadwell Bedell built the original Bedell Tavern on the corner of Main Street and Railroad Avenue in Sayville in 1830. ( Now the Bohack supermarket ) According to Hannah Bedell he built the homestead on Main Street a couple of years later which would be about 1832.

Mrs. Bedell was an Edwards. They had two daughters, Hannah and Emily and they never married. Hannah lived to be 96 years old and I remember her very well. When she died she left the homestead to her nephew - A.C. Edwards, the insurance man in Sayville - and to her nieces - Belinda Edwards and Hannah Edwards. Mr. Edwards had the old homestead moved from Main Street back to Center Street, which had just been cut thru about 1920. He then built stores on Main Street.

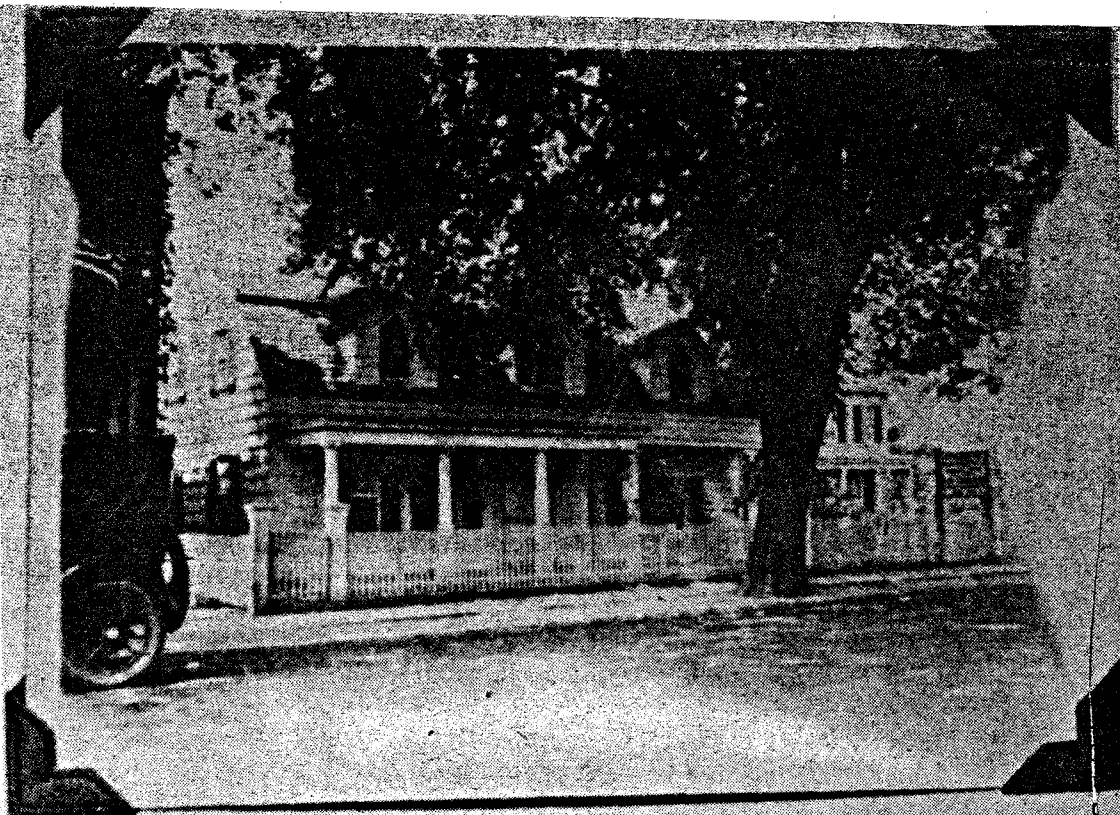
Hannah and Belinda lived in the homestead on Center Street. Hannah married a George Kennedy, whose parents had bought the old Bedell Tavern, remodelled it and changed the name to Kensington Hotel.

When Hannah and Belinda died, the property was left to Tim Kennedy, the present owner.

I hope this will help.

Sincerely,

Charles P. Dickerson



## Reflections of the Past

By Ruth Dougherty

One of the oldest houses in Sayville still stands at twenty-four Center Street. It was built sometime between 1785 and 1800, and at the time of this photo, taken around 1910, it stood on Main Street next door (east of) to the old red brick post office (now Umile Decorators). In earlier days more houses than shops lined Main Street. The house was moved to Center Street 1927 or '30. While the property has changed hands several times, today Village Fashions, a mens' shop, is now next to the old post office, while the National Five and Ten Store has been on the eastern portion for many years. It is not known who built the house, original deeds are lost. Hannah and William Bedell willed it to their two nieces and nephew, Hannah, Belinda and Alfred C. Edwards. At the time it was moved to Center Street, the house was occupied by Hannah and her husband, George Kennedy, and their small son, Alfred "Tim", and Miss Belinda Edwards. On July 24, the lovely old house became the property of Barbara and Frank Peter of Oakdale, who now live there with their children, Marjorie, Marianne and Francis. They acquired it from the estate of Hannah and Belinda through Alfred Kennedy. The house was well-kept through the years with its charm intact. It was added onto at different times, and the Peters have made some interesting discoveries in their restoration work. They would appreciate any information about the house.

SuH. COUNTY NEWS 8/1/74

Photographer Unknown  
Sayville Historical Society

