

SURVEY OF SAG HARBOR VILLAGE

**A Report and Survey of the
Historic Resources of the Village of
Sag Harbor, Long Island, New York**

Volume 1



SURVEY OF SAG HARBOR VILLAGE

A Report and Survey of the Historic Resources of the
Village of Sag Harbor, Long Island, New York

VOLUME I - NARRATIVE REPORT

Prepared by Alison Cornish, Project Consultant

Project Team:
Paul Haydon
Irene Nagle
David Richardson

April 1991

Sag Harbor Village

Mayor: George E. Butts, Jr.

Trustees: Vincent Schiavoni
Tod R. Granger, DDS
Edward Gregory
Patricia Zaykowski

Board of Architectural Review and Historic Preservation:

Susan Habib, Chair
Robert Fisher
Diane Schiavoni
Joseph Markowski

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VOLUME I

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	1
INTRODUCTION	2
Survey Methodology	4
Methodology for Archival Research	4
Methodology for Property Survey	8
 <u>Historic Contexts</u>	
SETTLEMENT	12
WHALING	25
INDUSTRY AND INVENTION	45
RESORT AND TOURISM	63
EASTVILLE	85
MRS. RUSSELL SAGE	98
EXISTING CONDITIONS	105a
SELECTION CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES	106
SAG HARBOR HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY FORM	108
SAG HARBOR MAP	109
LIST OF INVENTORIED RESOURCES	110
TAX MAPS	112
RECOMMENDATIONS	124
TAX MAPS REFLECTING RECOMMENDATIONS	128
APPENDIX: National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form	
BIBLIOGRAPHY	

VOLUME 2

SURVEY FORMS	
--------------	--

Acknowledgments

This report would not have been possible without the generous financial and volunteer assistance of the Sag Harbor Historical Society and the Eastville Community Historical Society. The joint committee for the historic district was chaired by Peter Davies; members were Marjorie Day, Kathy Tucker, Mark Scherzer, and Joan Tripp. Volunteers who assisted in the data entry process were Violet Guarino, Helen Winship, Arden Edwards, Gail Pickering, and Mark Scherzer. Photography assistance was given by R.J. Hornell and Peter Davies. Romany Kramoris and The Merchants Association of Sag Harbor provided important fundraising support. Special thanks to Joan Feehan, Sag Harbor Village Clerk, for her generous support and assistance.

Alison Cornish, Project Consultant

Introduction

This report was commissioned by the Village of Sag Harbor, with funding provided by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation through the Certified Local Government Subgrant program. Additional assistance and funding was provided by the Sag Harbor Historical Society, the Eastville Community Historical Society, and the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities. The survey follows the guidelines of the New York State Historic Preservation Office's Standards for the Completion of Intensive Level Surveys for Projects in which Reconnaissance Surveys have not been undertaken.

Background

Historic preservation has been a part of Sag Harbor's Village planning for almost two decades. Sag Harbor's existing historic district was established locally in 1973, and was subsequently entered on the National Register in September of 1973. The historic contexts and major property types represented in the nomination were developed by Robert Pine and Ellen Rosebrock in the publication Sag Harbor: Past, Present and Future (1973). Interspersed with Pine's historical narrative is Rosebrock's architectural analysis. The study is illustrated by photographs of Sag Harbor's commercial, residential and industrial building stock drawn from both within and without the historic district.

The final chapter of Pine's report, "The Future" outlined recommendations based upon Sag Harbor's documented architectural and historical importance. It stated, in part:

...given a choice, because of the special nature of the Village as a whole, its sensitivity to internal and external developments and its relatively small size, an historic preservation ordinance for Sag Harbor should have reference to the entire incorporated Village. (Pine, p. 70)

In fact, only a portion of the Village was so designated, with boundaries that appear to be both arbitrary and without written defense. This district was placed under the authority of the Historic District Commission by ordinance passed by the Village Trustees in 1974. Although there have been numerous attempts to initiate study of areas outside the historic district to determine potentially significant properties, no further inventories of the Village's historic resources have been undertaken since 1973.

The omission of certain sections of the Village from historic district designation has inspired the undertaking of the current project. The prime objectives of this survey, then, are:

1) to perform a review of existing documentation as per accuracy and thoroughness;

2) to develop and investigate specific research questions related to both historic contexts and architectural resources not addressed to satisfaction in existing documentation; and

3) to produce an overview survey of surviving properties both within and without the existing historic district, identified by type and relation to historic context, in anticipation of future intensive level documentation of specific resources.

Our final report is in two volumes: a narrative report, illustrated with maps and photographs detailing our findings. Our recommendations concerning future actions regarding the district, including possible changes in boundaries, and possible National Register nominations for individual properties, follow this narrative. The second volume includes surveys of approximately 1200 individual properties.

Survey Methodology

Our methodology is presented in two sections: one concerning archival research, and the second for the area survey. Both methodologies follow the guidelines contained in "SCOPE OF WORK - Survey of Sag Harbor Village."

Methodology for Archival Research:

I. Geographical Area

The area of study is Sag Harbor Village, located in the townships of East Hampton and Southampton, Long Island, New York. The boundaries of the study will respect the present Village limits.

II. Historic Contexts

Sag Harbor is located on the north coast of the south fork of Long Island, on Shelter Island Sound. As the well protected "harbor of Sagg," the early 18th century settlers focused on the opportunities presented for trade, both import and export, with New England and New York. Seafaring activities dominated the growth and development of Sag Harbor through the eighteenth century, and the Village's strategic location figure prominently in Long Island's role in the Revolutionary War. In the early nineteenth century, the Village's involvement in the whaling industry led the population to wealth and prosperity, ranking third behind Nantucket and New Bedford in men and finances engaged in the trade. Most activity of the village served the port activities, including shipbuilding, coopering, sailmaking, chandlery, etc., until the decline of whaling in the early 1870's. The architectural inheritance from this period is rich in settlement, Georgian, Federal and Greek Revival buildings, many of them residences built by families made wealthy by the whaling industry. Much of the commercial heritage of the whaling industry has been destroyed by a series of nineteenth century fires, which devastated the waterfront areas.

Decline in the whaling industry led village residents to seek alternative industries - many were tried, and a few flourished, leaving a small inheritance of industrial complexes and related residential development from the late nineteenth century.

The next major impetus for development relates to the role Long Island played as a summer resort community. East end villages of Sag Harbor, Greenport, Shelter Island Heights and Orient Point all experienced influxes of summer visitors, financial investment, and residential

building construction. Sag Harbor also boasted several large resort hotels; only one, the American Hotel, survives.

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, the themes of summer visitors and industrial development continued in Sag Harbor. In addition, the Village experienced a self-consciousness about the importance of its role in the whaling industry, and its architectural inheritance of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Activities of the Sag Harbor Historical Society (founded 1896); William Tooker, a documenter of native peoples of Long Island; and Mrs. Russell Sage, a philanthropist and daughter of early resident John Jermain, spurred attention, scholarship and financial investment in the Village.

Today, the surviving properties span the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and are primary to the interpretation of Sag Harbor's history, as well as to its continued prominence as a destination for tourists and seasonal residents.

III. Research Questions

The early history of Sag Harbor is well documented: the whaling era has been studied particularly thoroughly. Cultural and economic growth and change attracted many recorders and observers, and the prominent families involved in the trade are particularly well known. The environmental development is less articulate, and our report includes descriptions of the changes in topography, street development, and the effects of major fires, to clarify this development.

Other specific omissions from previous research were identified. These topics were investigated, and, in some cases, historic contexts were developed:

1. Original Native American settlement of the area, and potential for archaeological study;
2. Eastville (formerly Snooksville), a distinct district of African American and Native American settlement which dates to the late eighteenth century;
3. Areas south of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century development which remained primarily rural and agricultural until the mid-nineteenth century;
4. Seasonal visitation and related building activities, starting in the 1870's, as a result of the establishment of regular steamship and railroad service from New York City;

5. Activities related to Mrs. Russell Sage, a prominent philanthropist responsible for the development of institutions and buildings in the early twentieth century, including (but not limited to) John Jermain Memorial Library, Mashashimuet Park, Otter Pond, and the local schools and churches;

6. A number of important industries of the mid- to late nineteenth century, including the Sherry-Byram Foundry and Brass Works; Eaton Printers and Engravers; and the Joseph Fahys and Alvin Silver Companies. These companies, and individuals involved with them, all represent recognized achievement in specialized fields;

7. Limited and industry-related immigration, particularly workers from Germany involved with Fahy's Watchcase factory.

IV. Previous Research

Two documents provided the fundamental sources for our study. The above mentioned Pine, Sag Harbor: Past Present and Future, which describes the chronological history of the development of Sag Harbor Village in narrative format. "The Past" chapter addresses "Colonial Days" (c. 1730 - c. 1812); "Sag Harbor in the Height of Whaling Days" (c. 1815 - c. 1850); "The Decline of Whaling" (c. 1850 - c. 1871); and "Persistence and Rebirth" (c. 1875 - c. 1914). "The Present" chapter documents "Recent Growth" (c. 1918 - present). The narrative is drawn from a wide range of early twentieth century printed materials, including newspapers and local histories, and describes the economic, social and cultural activity of the Village's inhabitants.

Sag Harbor and Its Illustrious Past 1707 - 1920: a History for Research and Reference (Dorothy Zaykowski, 1989, manuscript, to be published 1991), was our second major source. Zaykowski, the curator of the local history room of the John Jermain Memorial Library, Sag Harbor, has assembled information from both primary and secondary sources on a variety of topics, including "Early Roads and Village Streets," "Wharves," "Bridges between Sag Harbor and North Haven," "Schools," etc. The work is referenced extensively, and most documents are available for inspection at the library.

A National Register District Nomination was filed with the State of New York, and subsequently the National Register Office, in 1973. The nomination was prepared by Lynn Beebe Weaver and Robert Pine. There are no properties individually listed on the National or State Registers within the Village limits.

V. Amount and Kind of Information

As the project timetable was limited, our research was intended to answer the specific research questions outlined above, and to answer the needs of other categories of our report; specifically, existing conditions and property types. We were desirous of establishing "general trend" or overview statements, allowing for future, more intensive, research to elaborate on details.

VI. Types of Sources

The following sources assisted our investigations:

Maps of Sag Harbor: c. 1800 (L'Hommedieu, copy, collection East Hampton Library), 1829 (anonymous, collection SPLIA), 1854 (Wall and Forest), 1858 (Chase), 1873 (Beers), 1902 (Hyde), and 1916 (Hyde);

Federal Censuses: 1840, 1850, 1860;

Directories of Long Island: 1889-90;

Owners of Properties in Sag Harbor (1858 - 1916);

Records of the Eastville Community Historical Society, including copies of deeds, maps, genealogies and church records;

Records of the Directors of Oakland Cemetery and Mashashimuet Park;

Scrapbooks of newspaper articles, memorabilia and monograph information, John Jermain Memorial Library;

Local newspapers: Sag Harbor Corrector, and Sag Harbor Express.

Other printed materials consulted are itemized in the bibliography.

VII. Types of Methods and Personnel

Our project staff for research consisted of three graduate student interns (one part time and two full time, for a ten week period), and one project consultant (part time, nine month period).

Individual research questions were assigned to each graduate student. Additionally, certain existing topics which were to be summarized in the format of an historic context were also assigned to the students. As each

question contributed information toward an understanding of the development of the Village as a whole, periodic staff meetings were held to exchange information and possible resources.

All information was developed into essays by the students, and logged on an Apple PC, with files titled by research inquiry. The final editing and writing of the historic contexts, existing conditions and property types, was done by the project consultant.

VIII. Exclusions

The following resources were not investigated in the course of our archival investigation:

Early town records for Southampton and East Hampton which have been summarized in subsequent research. We have used references to these records in their secondary and later forms;

Deeds and probate records for individual properties;

Historical photographs existing in collections other than those accessible to the public.

Methodology for Property Survey

I. Geographical Area

The area surveyed respected the geographical limits of the Village. However, attention was concentrated on those areas which had not been previously surveyed, being:

- 1) Eastville, located on the eastern side of the Village, and consisting of Eastville Avenue, Liberty and Hempstead Streets, and parts of Route 114;
- 2) The southern neighborhoods of the Village, including the area bounded by the southern section of Main Street on the west, Mashashimuet Park on the south, Montauk Avenue on the east, and the existing Historic District on the north; and
- 3) The northwest portion of Glover Street.

II. Property Types

The survey addressed a number of specific property types, including residential, commercial, industrial and institutional buildings; parks; monuments; graveyards and burying grounds, developed during the eighteenth, nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These property types have been identified in earlier surveys (see below),

and for the sake of consistency, nomenclature from earlier surveys has been retained.

III. Research Questions and Issues

Many of the properties of Sag Harbor related to the whaling industry survive, and have been well documented as to their probable date of construction, stylistic influences, and historical associations. Therefore, no more in-depth research on buildings located within the historic district and dated c. 1760 - c. 1871 was undertaken at this time. However, buildings which lie outside the existing historic district, and buildings within the district dated c. 1871 - c. 1940 were the primary subjects of our research. Our objective was to identify properties as to type, approximate date, and to establish architectural or historical significance relative to established historical contexts.

IV. Previous Research

The first major investigation of Sag Harbor architecture was undertaken by Nancy Boyd Willey, in her publication Built by the Whalers (1945, rev. 1948). The 33-page booklet describes many of the oldest buildings located both in the present historic district and outside the boundaries. The information given varies from entry to entry; some dates are assigned, much anecdotal material is presented, and often the architecture is described adequately enough to document changes over the past 45 years.

Ellen Rosebrock's architectural analysis, which is included as part of Sag Harbor: Past, Present and Future, forms the foundation for understanding architectural development in Sag Harbor. Ms. Rosebrock describes national stylistic trends, and draws from local properties examples both typical and atypical of any single period or style of architecture. The styles which Ms. Rosebrock describes include: "Colonial" (c. 1750 - c. 1790); "Georgian" (c. 1720 - c. 1780, with irregularities); "Federal" (c. 1780 - c. 1830); "Greek Revival" (c. 1825 - c. 1845); "Gothic Revival" (c. 1835 - c. 1855); "Early and High Victorian Italianate" (c. 1845 - c. 1875); "High Victorian and Ruskinian Gothic" (c. 1865 - c. 1885); and "Late Victorian" (c. 1880 - c. 1910). These sections are illustrated by photographs of Sag Harbor buildings, identified as to their location. Each architectural section also identifies "typical characteristics," such as roof profiles, chimney locations, window and door details, trim details and floor plans, as well as building technology, in an attempt to allow the information to be applied to buildings not represented in the report.

A more detailed description of each building pictured in the published report is located in the local library. This represents an inventory of buildings located both inside and out of the present historic district, assigning basic property type characteristics and dates. Our survey work found Rosebrock's information to be generally reliable and consistent, and it is her terminology that we have retained.

V. Amount and Kind of Information

As the goal of our work was to make recommendations concerning the future description of the historic district, we sought information which defined groupings, areas, neighborhoods or districts composed of individual properties. Using the historic contexts and maps showing the growth and development of the Village, we were able to target areas which contain common characteristics, such as continued Native American and African American settlement (Eastville); or similar dates of construction (Bay Street and the Sag Harbor Real Estate Company). At this time, we were not able to investigate thoroughly any individual sites; those recommended for further investigation appear in our conclusions under "future research."

VI. Types of Sources

Ms. Rosebrock's architectural analysis provided us with our primary property types and characteristics. Secondary sources were investigated to help define vernacular buildings of the later nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Other local surveys, such as that completed by Robert Hefner for East Hampton, were useful in maintaining consistency.

VII. Types of Methods and Personnel

A preliminary or "windshield" survey of the Village was undertaken by the project staff with members of the NYSHPO to determine the area to be studied. The roads were travelled by automobile, and the area to be studied documented on a 1974 scale map of the Village. It was decided that properties within the existing historic district may require further documentation, but would in all likelihood remain a part of the historic district.

Project staff designed a field inventory form for use in collecting information appropriate to "intensive level survey for historic districts." Following a field test by project staff, this form was submitted to the NYSHPO for revisions and approvals. NYSHPO staff assisted project staff in streamlining the amount and type of information to be collected to insure consistent data collection for all properties.

The three graduate student interns performed all survey work. All properties were viewed from the public street only. Tax maps were consulted to correlate property location and identification. (This is particularly important, as most properties in Sag Harbor Village are not assigned street numbers). Each property was viewed by one surveyor, and the appropriate information recorded on the field inventory form. These forms were reviewed by the project consultant on a weekly basis to ensure consistent nomenclature, level of detail and accuracy. The project consultant also "co-surveyed" properties with each student frequently to answer questions concerning style, date and materials.

Once field inventory forms were completed, the information was entered on a IBM PC, using the software "Q&A" (Symantec, Version 3.0, 1988). The data base form duplicates that of the field inventory form, with the addition of the categories "contributing" and "integrity". (see below). Volunteers from the Sag Harbor Historical Society were responsible for entering information from the field inventory forms to the data base. The project consultant was responsible for managing the data base, checking the accuracy of the entries, and collating the final reports.

VIII. Exclusions

The following properties and property types were not included in our survey:

- 1) Archaeological sites dating from before European settlement, and sites of European settlement that have no surviving buildings are not included;
- 2) Ruins of buildings are not included;
- 3) Pre-1940 roadways which have no accompanying pre-1940 structures are not included;
- 4) Waterfront constructions (pilings, wharfs, sheds, docks), and underwater constructions which relate to the maritime history of Sag Harbor are not included. Buildings related to the Sag Harbor Yacht Club and Long Wharf are included. Shipwrecks are not included.

Settlement

Situated on the north shore of Long Island's South Fork in the towns of Southampton and East Hampton, Sag Harbor's early history was determined by its geography and topography. Because of its wide, deep and well-protected harbor, Sag Harbor developed into a seaport of such importance that, during the colonial period, it was second only to New York as the busiest port in the American colonies.

But beyond its commodious harbor, Sag Harbor lacked many of the natural advantages of the surrounding region. As early as 1640, New England colonists established settlements at Southampton and Southold to take advantage of the fertile coastal plains. In 1648, East Hampton was also settled by New England colonists as an agricultural village. (Hefner, p.7). Sag Harbor did not share in the rich soil of the Hamptons. Instead, it was an amalgamation of sandy hills and cliffs, densely wooded areas, tidal marshes, swamps, ponds and meadows. Nathaniel Prime remarked in his 1845 History of Long Island, "the site of the village is a perfect sand-bed; and, consequently, agriculture presented no motive to the settlement of the place." Because Sag Harbor was not part of the vast agricultural expanse, but was instead a series of meadows and swamps that swept down to the harbor and surrounded by sandy hills, its initial development was retarded. No permanent settlement took place until well into the 18th century.

As the farmers of Southampton and East Hampton requirements for pastureland and fodder for their herds of livestock increased, the meadows of Sag Harbor were looked upon as a source for winterfeed. The portion of meadows located in Southampton was surveyed and allotted along with Hog Neck (North Haven) in 1680 by the citizens of Southampton (Adams, p. 148; and Zaykowski, ch. 1). The area of Sag Harbor now known as Redwood, one of the earliest meadow lands allocated, was sold to John Woodruff in 1680. In the early 18th century, Peter Hildreth also owned some valuable meadowlands, including the area around present day Glover and Green Streets. In later years, Hildreth's meadows became known as Peter's Green, while the surrounding area of Sag Harbor was referred to as the Great Meadows, where salt hay and seaweed were harvested by area farmers. East Hampton farmers also used the meadows for pasturing. However, no permanent settlement existed in the early 18th century. The only major remnant of these former pasturelands is the field surrounding the Cilli farm on Glover Street (Tax ID 903-2-1-26.1).

The real impetus for the development of a village at Sag Harbor came in the early 18th century. The south fork

of Long Island was developing a successful trading relationship with other American colonies as well as the West Indies. Farm goods shipped from the Hamptons included horses, sheep, flax, cord wood, beef, pork, grain, and vegetables (Adams, p. 141; Palmer, p.30; and Willey, p. 11). Imports consisted primarily of molasses and rum.

Originally, Southampton shipped all of its goods from a port established in 1650 at North Sea. East Hampton had established a harbor at Northwest around 1700. However, the rapidly growing and productive area between Southampton and East Hampton was without a convenient harbor. The settlements of Sagg (Sagaponack) and Mecox recognized the possibilities for a harbor at the Great Meadow and established their own port, the harbor of Sagg.

The first mention of Sag Harbor by name is recorded in 1707 in the Southampton Town Records where an agent was paid 3s 6d "for going to Sag Harbour to evidence for the town." (Palmer, p. 29). The agent must not have found much, if any, sign of a town, as there was reportedly no permanent habitation at the harbor until 1730.

In c. 1726, a crude and round-a-bout road was built from Sagg through and around the five miles of forests and swamps that led to the harbor. The road, which roughly followed the present Bridgehampton Turnpike past Otter Pond to Glover Street, and then around to West Water Street, was indirect and circuitous because of the many swamps, marshes, and meadows that needed to be avoided. (Zaykowski, ch. 2) A second early road from East Hampton was equally winding and indirect; it skirted the swamps and cliffs along the shore of the harbor in the vicinity of present Bay Street. These roads were the only two roads in Sag Harbor, but provided the necessary access to harvest salt hay and seaweed, and to ship the excess produce of the surrounding region. The landing place was established at Zachery's Point, near the site of the present Village docks (Tax ID 903-2-1-2.1). (Hedges, p.9)

With the opening of a port at the harbor and the building of roads, a permanent settlement soon developed at Sag Harbor. The traditional and accepted date of settlement for the village is 1730, when three dugout dwellings were constructed in the side of Turkey Hill, a sandy hill which was located at the site of the present American Hotel (Tax ID 903-2-3-15), and extended south to Washington Street (Hedges, p. 8). These make-shift dwellings were later replaced by three more substantial wooden structures, which remained the only houses in Sag Harbor through most of the decade. Today nothing is extant of these early structures, although archaeological exploration may reveal more information about their form

and location.

In 1736 and 1738, major land allotments were made in East Hampton and Southampton, both of which allowed for a greater settlement of Sag Harbor (Rattray, p. 11; and Zaykowski, ch. 1). Another division of land by Southampton occurred in 1745. In this same year, Sag Harbor's Main Street was laid out, and many swamps and meadows that had impeded development of the built environment were filled in. Turkey Hill was largely leveled to fill the adjacent meadow, clearing the way for the northern portion of Main Street to be laid out. The southern portion of Main Street still followed a circuitous route, avoiding meadows, marshes, and Otter Pond. (Hedges, p. 2; and Zaykowski, ch. 2) Meetinghouse Hill, located west of Division Street between Washington and Sage Streets, was also partially leveled, allowing for the development of lots along the roads from Bridgehampton (Main Street); Sagg (Madison Street); and East Hampton (Division and Hampton Streets). Prior to leveling this hill, these areas were largely impassable and unsuited for building because of ponds and swamps that flowed into the harbor. (Hedges, p. 2) Even with all the adjustments to the topography, observers noted the Village's "unpleasant ground. Not unpleasant ground from want of prospect, but because it furnishes unpleasant streets and walks, and is unfriendly to every kind of vegetation." (Dwight, p. 306)

Shortly before these changes, in 1742, Southampton became interested in Sag Harbor as an alternative port to handle their growing trade. As Southampton's level of coastal and foreign trade increased, and as ships became larger with deeper drafts, a larger and deeper harbor was needed to replace the small port at North Sea. Agents from Southampton were instructed:

...to go down to Sagg Harbour and make a choice of a suitable place as they can to build a Wharfe - and to get as many people as they can to build a Wharfe - the Inhabitants of said town having the privilege of said Wharfe before any other and the aforesaid town to be at no charge by an Constraint of Compulsion in Building said Wharfe at present . ("Sag Harbor's Long Wharf," no author, Long Wharf File, JJL)

Further actions taken by Southampton during this period included the approval of measures to improve the highway from Southampton to Sag Harbor. These improvements to the port Village sparked further development in Sag Harbor, including commercial investments. One of the earliest commercial ventures was the erection of a storehouse and tanyard in 1756 by John Foster, Jr. (Adams, p. 151; and Palmer, p. 31). In 1760, a mill was built in Sag Harbor to grind the corn and grain from the surrounding

agricultural region. No physical remains exist of these early commercial facilities.

By 1760, the focus of activity at Sag Harbor was beginning to shift from agriculture and related industries to whaling. In 1760 the first three vessels devoted to offshore whaling left Sag Harbor. Encouraged by the potential for large profits, industries related to whaling developed in the Village, including cooperages, a ropewalk, and shipyards. In 1761 a larger and more substantial wharf was built, with an adjacent trying works to boil blubber from the docked whaling vessels. In 1770 yet another wharf was built by an association of both Southampton and East Hampton citizens "for the more convenient carrying on of trade and navigation." (Hazard manuscript, np; Zaykowski, ch. 7; and Hedges, p. 13) Although these structures relating to the early whaling industry have been destroyed, most by a major fire in 1817, the wharf still exists today in a highly altered state as Long Wharf (Tax ID 302-1-1-2).

Better land transportation routes also aided Sag Harbor's settlement. By 1733, three roads traversed the one hundred miles from Brooklyn to the east end of Long Island, and stagecoaches regularly made the trip. In 1772, Samuel Nichols, Benjamin Havens, and Nathan Fordham established their own stageline to run between Sag Harbor and Brooklyn. The stage, which ran weekly, was complemented by a packet ship that carried passengers from Sag Harbor across Long Island Sound to Connecticut. (Zaykowski, ch. 2) These new transportation links affirmed Sag Harbor's growing position as a center of trade and commerce.

By 1775 Sag Harbor has prospered into a village of approximately thirty-two houses, along with stores, warehouses and industries. (Zaykowski, ch. 1; Hedges, p. 20) Main, Madison and Division Streets were the most heavily populated streets, and the greatest concentration of structures extended south from Long Wharf, along Main Street, to present Union Street.

There are no known intact houses from the settlement period in Sag Harbor today. Several structures in the Village do date from the settlement era of 1707 - 1783, but these structures have been extensively altered and no longer read as 18th century structures. However, two settlement period houses which were moved to Sag Harbor in the 19th century from Southampton and Sagaponack serve as examples of the basic house form that would have been found in Sag Harbor before the Revolutionary War. Captain David Hand moved a c. 1690 house from Southampton in the early 19th century to present day Church Street (Tax ID 903-3-4-13). The house is a three bay, 2 1/2 story "half

house," with a rear lean-to addition, creating the form of a "saltbox." It has a gable roof, with the ridge running parallel to the main facade, and the eave line located right above the door. Window sash are 12/12, and the front door surround is simple, with no transom. The chimney is located near the center of the structure. The Sagaponack house, c. 1693, has reportedly been moved five times and is now located on Union Street (Tax ID 903-3-4-33). Although the house has been altered, it retains the same basic form as the David Hand house.

Of the houses in Sag Harbor built 1707 - 1783, none retain their basic form. Fordham House, built c. 1750, has been greatly reconstructed and moved to Green Street (Tax ID 903-3-1-14); the Long Island Herald House, built c. 1735 on Main Street, has a 20th century front porch and dormer (Tax ID 903-3-2-34); the Fordham Inn, built c. 1745 and moved to Glover Street (Tax ID 903-2-1-23) (more info on alterations); and the Umbrella House, c. 1770 on Division Street (Tax ID 302-2-2-34.1). The 1 1/2 story Umbrella House is unique, being the oldest masonry structure in the Village. It has been greatly altered, with a probable new roof form, replacement windows and replacement doors. Some historians contend that the structure may have been originally thatched. (Rosebrock, np)

The center of 18th century village life would have been the wood frame Meeting House, built in 1766 and located on a green at the present northeast corner of Church and Sage Streets. (Zaykowski, ch. 11) The building was removed in 1817. Near to the meeting house location was the village burying ground (Old Burying Ground) (Tax ID 903-3-4-27). This thickly wooded plot was laid out in 1767 by William Rogers and David Woodruff. The first burial in the cemetery was the infant son of James Howell in 1767. The last burial was in 1840, when interments were begun in Oakland Cemetery. The Old Burying Ground is in fair condition, with a large number of late 18th and early 19th century carved sandstone headstones. Today, the Old Burying Ground is the most intact cultural resource relating to the settlement period.

By the start of the American revolution, Sag Harbor was considered "a port and point of magnitude," with a thriving coastal and foreign trade and "the strategic center and key to all Eastern Long Island." (Hedges, Revolution, p. 3; and Pine, p. 2) It made sense, therefore, that after the British fleet seized Long Island on August 27, 1776, that Sag Harbor was immediately occupied by the British as a supply depot. Along with the fleet anchored in Gardiner's Bay, the British also stationed a garrison in Sag Harbor. A small fort was built south of the burying ground, and barracks were

erected near Madison and Sage Streets. (Zaykowski, ch. 17) A monument erected in 1902 now commemorates the site (Tax ID 903-3-4-26). The headquarters for the garrison was located in a tavern at the present site of the American Hotel. The British remained in Sag Harbor until Evacuation Day, November 23, 1783. Sag Harbor's central position on Long Island and its fine harbor made it a natural and convenient location for the collection and distribution of supplies for the British forces.

With the British occupation came a total disruption and devastation to Sag Harbor's economy and growth. The residents of the village had two options: to flee from Long Island to New England, which was free of British occupation after March of 1776; or to remain in Sag Harbor, subject to the plunders of both the British and loyalist colonists. Approximately half the population chose to seek refuge in Connecticut; at least fourteen Sag Harbor families fled to Saybrook, Stonington, East Haddam and New Haven. (Hedges, Revolution, p. 10) Overall, it is estimated that over 5,000 of Suffolk County's total population of 13,600 immigrated to Connecticut, causing "the wharves of Sag Harbor to be crowded with immigrants awaiting passage across the Sound." (Palmer, p. 39)

Many of Sag Harbor's citizens returned to the Village in the years of the occupation as participants in the attacks against the British, attempting to injure and paralyze the British naval and shipping fleet. On four separate occasions, refugees living in Connecticut sailed across the sound to Sag Harbor to raid British ships. The most famous raid was led by Lieutenant Colonel Jonathan Meigs, who, with this troop, captured the commander of the British garrison in the Village and ninety of his troops. He also succeeded in setting fire to twelve enemy vessels. (Pine, p. 2; and Zaykowski, ch. 17)

When peace finally came, Sag Harbor was faced with much rebuilding. One of the first actions by the Village was the repair of Long Wharf, the key to Sag Harbor's future success in the whaling industry.



#1 - Tax I.D. No. 903-2-1-26.1, Cilli Farm 1

#2 - Tax I.D. No. 903-2-1-2.1, Zachery's Point (Village docks) 1





#5 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-13, Captain David Hand's House 1

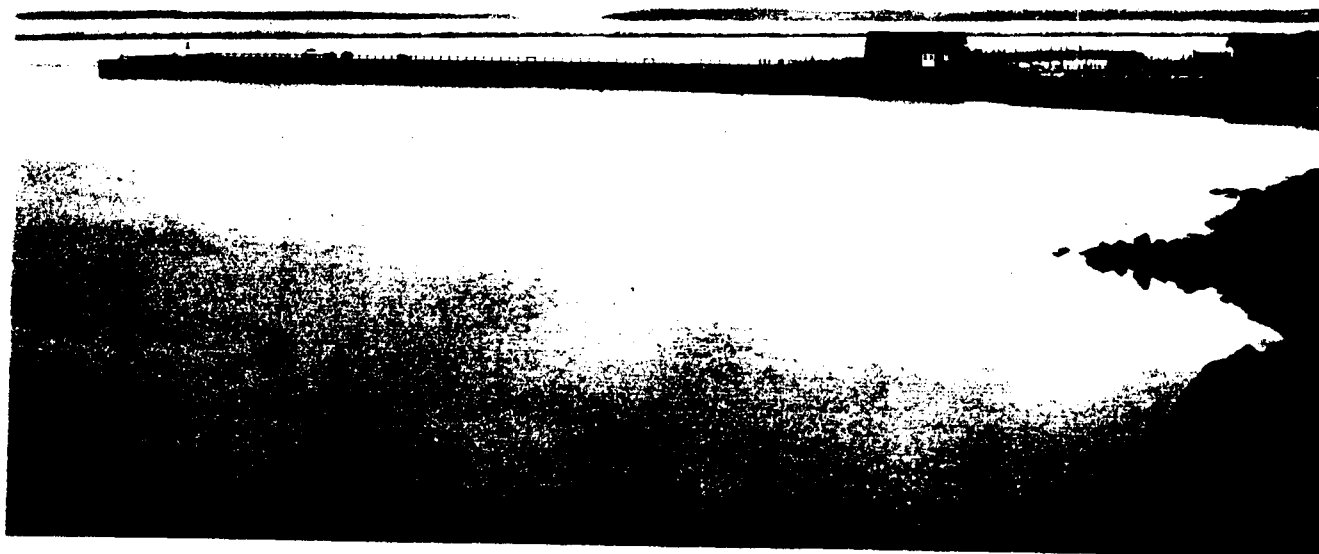
#6 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-33, Sagaponack House 1





#3 - Tax I.D. No. 903-2-3-15, American Hotel 1

#4 - Tax I.D. No. 302-1-1-2, Long Wharf 1





#7 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-1-14, Fordham House (Green Street) ↑

#8 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-34, Long Island Herald House (Main Street) ↓





#9 - Tax I.D. No. 903-2-1-23, Fordham Inn (Glover Street) ↑

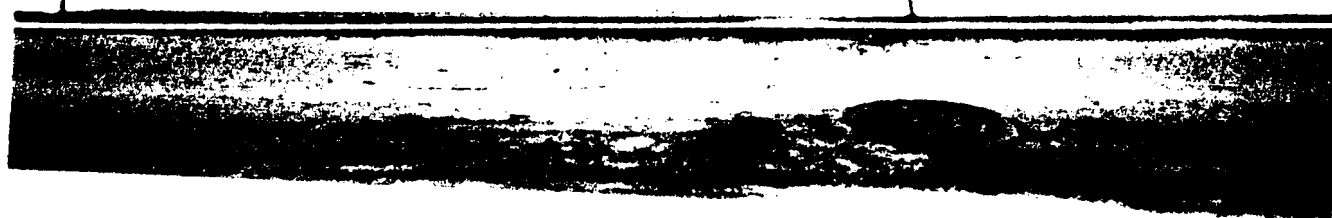
#10 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-2-34.1, Umbrella House (Division Street) ↓





#9 - Tax I.D. No. 903-2-1-23, Fordham Inn (Glover Street) ↑

#10 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-2-34.1, Umbrella House (Division Street) ↓





#11 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-27, Old Burying Ground 1

#12 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-27, Old Burying Ground 1





#13 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-27, Old Burying Ground †

Whaling

The whale fishery of eastern Long Island was initially developed by the native Americans. The Indians hunted whale along the shore with spears, prizing fins and tails for ceremonial sacrifices. The Indians taught the first settlers to hunt whale; yet the settlers were quick to understand that the whale's value lay in oil, not in its parts. Organized whaling began only a few miles from Sag Harbor, in Southampton, in 1644. An order that the town be divided into four wards, and that men from each ward be responsible for trying the whales cast up by the sea, was passed in 1644. (Sleight, WFLI, p.4) Long Island farmers continued to make a profit from shore whaling during the next seventy years. (Palmer, p. 1) During this period, whaling emerged from an off-season exercise for farmers to a legitimate business venture. By 1687, seven companies were whaling from both East Hampton and Southampton, indicating that whaling had become a profitable investment.

The intensified whaling activity forced the whale pods to avoid the Long Island coast. In order to pursue whale, the hunts were further out to sea. These longer voyages required larger vessels and the development of eastern Long Island's only good port, Sag Harbor. The deep water landing at the end of the road from Saggaponack proved the best available. The townships of East Hampton and Southampton entered a joint agreement to share the port, not only for their expanding whaling interest but their agricultural trade as well (see above). The wharf constructed in 1761 by John Foster and Nathaniel Fordham Jr. was the improvement that made the port of Sag Harbor viable. (Sleight, WFLI, p. 7) The first whaling sloops, the GOODLUCK, the DOLPHIN and the SUCCESS, of 1760, were launched by investors John Foster, Joseph Conkling and others. These sloops cruised for whale until their holds were full, returning to port for trying out. Once refined, oil and bone were shipped to New England and foreign markets. New London, Connecticut, was an early market for Sag Harbor oil and whale bone.

The next major event in the development of whale fishery came in 1785. Dr. Gardner outfitted the HOPE and cleared port to cruise off the coast of Brazil. Captain Ripley of Nantucket was in charge of the ship, training the young and inexperienced Sag Harbor sailors. The HOPE was the first Sag Harbor whaler to carry both furnace and try pots on board, a practice which had become standard on Nantucket whalers. The HOPE was also the first whaler to explore southern waters for whale. Ripley's voyage was not a success by the standard of oil netted, as only 30 barrels were the result. In terms of pioneering new methods and whaling waters, Ripley's voyage set the tone

for the Sag Harbor fleet for the next thirty years.
(Palmer, p. 33)

Benjamin Huntting of Sag Harbor was the first to follow Gardner's and Ripley's lead. Convinced of the potential profits of whaling, Huntting formed a partnership with Stephen Howell of Southampton, and in 1785 outfitted the 150 ton brig LUCY to hunt whales off the coasts of Brazil and Africa. Huntting's speculation proved correct, as the LUCY returned to Long Wharf in May of 1786 with 360 barrels of oil in her hold. (Palmer, p. 35) The success of LUCY's voyage was well publicized and resulted in a healthy increase in the young whaling fleet of Sag Harbor.

Sag Harbor was already a thriving maritime community when it was one of the first American seaports to be designated an official Port of Entry in 1789. The act establishing Sag Harbor an official Federal Port of Entry was approved by George Washington in the first session of the U.S. Congress. Henry Packer Dering was appointed U.S. Custom Master and met both trading vessels and whaling ships which sailed into the harbor. The large number of foreign ships logged into the port attests to Sag Harbor's flourishing maritime industry.

By 1790 the number of dwellings in the village had reached over 80 (A History of the Town of East Hampton, Hedges, p. 151). With the steady increase of port activity through the stable years of the 1790's, the village experienced a parallel growth. The ordination sermon of Rev. Walter King in 1797 affords a glimpse of Sag Harbor on the eve of the 19th century. Included in the account, King states there were "nearly one hundred dwelling houses, and one hundred and fifty families." (Palmer, p. 55) King also remarks on the port's excellent wharves and harbor facilities and growing businesses.

Another early account, written in 1804 by Dr. Dwight, president of Yale College, gives a similar testimony of Sag Harbor's prosperity:

The village contained at this time about one hundred and twenty houses; the principle part of which are on a winding street, terminating at the shore; the rest, on some other streets of less consequence. Many of the houses, out-houses, and fences are new, and neat; and an appearance of thrift, elsewhere unknown in this part of the Island, is spread over the whole Village. Several of the inhabitants have acquired considerable wealth by commerce and fishing: both of which have been regularly increasing since the Revolutionary war. (Journey to Long Island, Letter III, T. Dwight, 1811, p. 306; quoted, Zaykowski, ch.3)

This description portrays an expanding community which experienced growth over the previous two decades of profitable whaling and commerce. Main, Madison and Division Streets, all leading to the harbor, were the most important streets in town and by 1804 were densely settled. The "streets of less consequence" described by Dwight were the streets opened in the last decade of the 18th century which ran between Main, Madison and Division Streets. Erza L'Hommedieu's chart of the port of Sag Harbor, drawn c. 1800, substantiates Dwight's account. It shows houses lining Washington, Sage, Union, Church and Jefferson Streets (chart in Pennypacker Collection, East Hampton Library). By the 1790's, the cross or secondary streets were receiving the overflow of building activity.

The houses of this period (1790-1800) are of two basic types: a three bay, 1, 2 or 2 1/2 story half-house; and a 5 bay, 2 or 2 1/2 story house. Both house types were already established on the south fork in East Hampton and Southampton (Long Island Domestic Architecture, B.F. Van Liew, p. 13). Those that remain in Sag Harbor date from the last decade of the 18th century. The Sybil Douglas House on Main Street (tax ID 903-3-2-48) is a prime example of the 2 1/2 story, five bay house in Sag Harbor, and represents the economic success of the first Benjamin Huntting. Built c. 1790, the house possesses a mix of Georgian and Federal style elements. The modillioned cornice and pedimented facade gable are Georgian, while the leaded elliptical fanlight and extended portico are Federal. The Rysam House (tax ID 302-2-2-40) at the corner of Division and Burke Streets was built by William Rysam. A retired sea captain, Rysam was involved in numerous maritime industries, including a rope walk, a shipyard, and a candle factory, and also traded extensively with the West Indies (East Hampton: A History and Guide, J. Epstein and E. Barlow, p. 115). The Rysam House was built c. 1800 as a five bay, 2 1/2 story, central hall house and having combined Georgian and Federal elements, and is similar to the Sybil Douglas House.

On a more modest scale, the Jared Wade House (tax ID 903-3-2-53) was built in 1797. Wade was a whaling captain and member of a prominent Sag Harbor shipping family. The house is 1 1/2 stories and has both Georgian and Federal elements. The five modillions at the eave are Georgian in character, while the house's most distinguishing feature, its doorway, is Federal. An elliptical fanlight above the mantel shelf-type door surround produces an imaginative interpretation of pattern book Federal period doorway, and pragmatically allows daylight into the attic level. The Burdick House (tax ID 903-3-2-59) on Garden Street, built c. 1800, has the same type of door surround and fanlight

treatment.

John Jermain, a contemporary of Huntting, Rysam and Wade was a successful merchant, lawyer, and military man and had no direct ties to whaling. In 1790 Jermain built a substantial 2 1/2 story half house on Main Street (tax ID 903-3-3-26). The building's only stylistic feature is a small leaded transom over the front door. Otherwise, this gable roofed house is typical of the local vernacular form. A nearly identical house directly across Main Street is the John Hunt house (tax ID 903-3-2-14). This 2 1/2 story house built c. 1785-90 has a similar transom above the door and the same basic form as the Jermain house. Hunt was also involved in businesses other than whaling, as a merchant and the owner of the Sag Harbor Corrector. These houses, along with others built in the same period (tax ID 903-3-2-36 and 35 and 903-3-4-11), may represent a more modest version of the high style mansions usually associated with those in the whaling business. But the most common house of this period is the 1 or 1 1/2 story half house, which remained popular through the Federal and Greek Revival periods. Typically these houses were built not on the main thoroughfares of Main, Madison and Division Streets, but, in the words of Dr. Dwight, "on the streets of less consequence." Examples can be found on Jefferson Street (tax ID 903-3-3-32), Church Street (tax ID 903-3-4-18.1), and two at the corner of Madison Street and Jermain Avenue (tax ID 903-6-3-18 and 21.1).

The small Sag Harbor whaling fleet experienced an exceptional year in 1806; Huntting, Howell and the Havens brothers all had very successful years. The success of 1806 resulted in a "rapid increase of wealth and population" the following year. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 18) The 1807 returns were below those of 1806, and not until after the war did Sag Harbor have as successful a year in whaling.

Jefferson's Embargo Act of 1808 created havoc in the American whaling industry. Because whale products were not exported, the domestic market was flooded, and the price of goods was driven down. The Act produced almost instant results in Sag Harbor; Stephen Howell retired his fleet by the end of 1808, and the Havens brothers pulled out the following year. The Sag Harbor fleet was down to a single vessel, the Hunttings' ABIGAIL, by 1811. With the opening of the war in 1812, Sag Harbor whaling came to a complete standstill, though trade from the port continued. One writer has noted that in "1807 there was a rapid increase in wealth and population, and within a short space of three to four years its advancement had been beyond belief." (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 18) This statement needs further investigation, though possible sources for income without the whale fishery

could include increased domestic trade, privateering, or wealthy whalers feeding money into the local economy.

Although houses built before the War of 1812 continued the half house form, many of the three bay houses increased in size to a full 2 or 2 1/2 stories. Houses of this period frequently have a Federal style door enframingent, often with engaged columns flanking the sidelights and supporting a full entablature. Examples include the Van Scoy house (tax ID 903-3-3-30) at the corner of Main and Jefferson Streets; the Glover house (tax ID 903-3-1-29) at the corner of Main and Glover Streets; and a house on Union Street (tax ID 903-3-2-50). These houses date c. 1810. Besides the similar door enframingents, all of these houses have gambrel roofs. The Van Scoy house and the Glover house are thought to have been built by Benjamin Glover and exhibit similar doors, door enframingents and cornices. Other houses built during this period retain a gable roof form, with the ridge parallel to the street and main facade.

Sag Harbor grew culturally as a result of the successful whaling trade, establishing the village as a sophisticated and cosmopolitan leader of Long Island. Sag Harbor was the home of Long Island's first newspaper. David Frothingham, with the encouragement and backing of Henry Packer Dering, set up his printing office in 1791 and produced Frothingham's Long Island Herald. The paper reported on whaling news and ran local ads, but also ran news of national and international interest. Frothingham also operated a bookstore and bindery at the foot of Main Street, supplying books for the local educational institutions. Complementing the local newspaper were both public and private libraries. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 13)

The signing of the Treaty of Ghent in 1815 marked the close of the war with Great Britain and the resumption of whaling from Sag Harbor. Nantucket had continued to whale throughout the war, suffering great losses to the British fleet: 116 vessels prior to the war, 23 at its close. (Palmer, p. 72) Sag Harbor sent three ships to fish off the Brazil banks in 1815, though none left port in 1816. A small boom in shipbuilding allowed six ships to leave port in 1817; by that year there were eight new shipbuilding firms in business on the waterfront. But also in 1817, the first of Sag Harbor's disastrous fires struck. On May 26, a small hay barn in the densely settled part of the village was discovered to be on fire. The fire quickly spread to the waterfront, where warehouses full of oil were quick to burst into flames. In about three hours twenty of the best houses and most valuable stores were consumed. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 14) The waterfront suffered enormous losses, and the road to

recovery from the war was greatly hampered by the fire. The Suffolk County Record editor Samuel Seabury's summation of the fire paints a rather grim scene in the spring of that year:

The town was just emerging from the calamities of war, and other interruptions to which their business had been exposed...when all of its fair prospects were blasted in the short space of three or four hours and the richest part of the place made a smoking ruin. (Palmer, p. 68)

Despite the apparent ruin of the waterfront industries, whaling continued. Later in 1817 the ARGONAUT, owned by Silas and Lewis Howell, rounded Cape Horn and fished the Pacific waters that the British and Nantucket fleets had been whaling since the 18th century. (Sleight, WFLI, p. 24)

The Reverend Fitch Reed described Sag Harbor in 1819 as having "one hundred and fifty houses and seven hundred and fifty inhabitants, two churches, Presbyterian and Methodist, and an Arsenal belonging to the United States, in which are situated the Post Office and the Police Office, this being a port of entry." (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 3) In the short span of two years Sag Harbor was on the road to recovery. Reverend Reed listed Sag Harbor's imports as "lumber, stone, brick lime and merchandise of all kinds," indicating that the rebuilding of the village was continuing. He also listed the exports, which indicate that the economy was not entirely based on whaling: "wood, wheat, leather, rye, corn, oats, flaxseed, fish, etc." were destined for New York City, New England, and the southern states. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 3) Whaling grew steadily through the second decade of the 19th century, and by 1830 the port began to regain its former importance. Supporting industries also recovered from the losses; on both sides of Main Street and along the waterfront were stores, sails lofts, cooper shops, blacksmith shops, ropewalks and warehouses (Palmer, p. 82).

However, only in the late 1820s did Sag Harbor turn from rebuilding to expansion. By the early 1830s new streets and a building boom indicate that Sag Harbor had fully recovered. The increase in economic activity supported growth in the residential areas. Along the new streets opened, as well as the outer areas of the main streets, new houses were built in the Greek Revival style. Suffolk Street, formerly part of the Old Beebe farm, was laid out in 1832 and was quickly developed with stately homes in the Greek Revival style.

In fact, during this period, the Greek Revival style

appears on nearly every street in the village. The architectural vocabulary of the style was applied to all buildings, high style and vernacular. The number of buildings surviving in Sag Harbor in this style is an indication of the money and craftsmanship available in the 1830s. Using details drawn from builders' handbooks, such as Asher Benjamin's The Practical House Carpenter (1830) and Minard Lafever's The Beauties of Modern Architecture (1835), builders embellished houses with Greek frets on corner board "pilasters"; Doric and Ionic orders used in door surrounds and porticos; and pedimented gables trimmed with moldings and guttae. Other form changes included orienting a house so that the gable end faced the street, though the houses generally retain a three bay front facade, with the entrance located in either the left or right bay. Among the Greek Revival houses built at this time are the Captain George S. Tooker house at the corner of Main and Glover Streets (tax ID 903-3-1-27.1), and a fine example on Hampton Street (tax ID 302-2-8-12).

During this same period, houses were built which represent a transition from the Federal style to the Gothic Revival style; houses that have no Greek Revival elements. With side gables and door surrounds in a Federal style arrangement, these houses also have steeply pitched front gables with round headed windows at the attic level. These houses seem to date to the 1840s, indicating a transitional style rather than a remodeling of existing buildings, though further research would be required to fully understand their development. Examples include (tax ID 903-3-2-46 and 49, 903-3-3-43, and 302-2-8-7).

By 1837, Sag Harbor's whaling fleet was experiencing incredible growth. Thirty-nine vessels cleared port that year, placing Sag Harbor behind New Bedford as the most important and busiest port in America (Palmer, p. 270). 1837 also marked the beginning of the golden decade of whaling, indicating continuous growth through 1845. The length of voyages increased considerably, as the ships fished primarily Pacific waters. Voyages lasted upward of three years. Because voyages were so long, they also cost more to outfit, and therefore tied up money for longer periods of time. One would have to wait three years to see if the voyage were profitable. Consequently, the whaling firms responded by sending more ships to sea, increasing their investments significantly. In 1845, seventy-six whaling vessels left Sag Harbor's port.

The profits from whaling continued to find their way into the architecture of Sag Harbor. In 1843 the Presbyterian Church hired Minard Lafever to design a new building. Lafever chose the Egyptian Revival style and included in his design a 180 foot steeple derived from a

description of an ancient lighthouse in Alexandria. The church still stands, though the steeple fell in the 1938 hurricane, and has never been replaced (tax ID 903-3-4-28). Other congregations took advantage of the influx of money to build or upgrade their facilities. The Baptist Church, built in 1844, is considerably more modest in scale and style than the Presbyterian Church and was built in the popular Greek Revival style (tax ID 903-6-4-1).

Though the Greek Revival style had permeated Sag Harbor's domestic architecture by the mid-1830s, not until 1845 did it reach its highest expression. In 1945, Benjamin Huntting commissioned Minard Lafever to design a new house for his Main Street site. Huntting sold his existing house to Benjamin Glover, who moved it to its present location on Main Street (the Sybil Douglas house). Huntting's new house was built in a formal Greek Revival style which made it the most imposing mansion in the village (tax ID 903-3-2-17). The house has a massive Corinthian columned portico fronting the main house; the decorative trim of the house is meant to represent blubber spades and harpoon tips, symbols of Huntting's success in the whaling trade.

Howell, also successful in whaling, chose to renovate and update his mansion rather than building one new. In the late 1840s the large Federal style house was remodeled in the Italianate style (tax ID 903-3-1-81). This remodeling, with extensive verandas, bays and brackets, brought to Sag Harbor one of the earliest examples of the style. The Italianate style became very popular in the second half of the 19th century, and was associated with the growth of Sag Harbor as a resort community.

The beginning of the end of whaling came in 1845. On November 12 a devastating fire crippled the village. A contemporary account described the blaze:

It was terrific and appalling beyond the power of description, to behold some forty to fifty large buildings at the same time engulfed in fire; the flames in their unrestrained and unconquerable fury bursting forth on every side and ascending up to the heavens in one blast blazing pyramid of light.
(Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 14)

From the brick buildings half way up Main Street to the end of the wharf, nothing remained but rubble and ash. The east side of Division Street as far as Rector Street was gone, and both East and West Water Street's cooper shops, blacksmith shops and chandleries were completely destroyed. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 14) This was an event that dealt Sag Harbor's whaling industry a blow from

which it never fully recovered, though other factors contributing to its demise include overfishing the whale stock, the discovery of gold in California, and the discovery of petroleum in Pennsylvania.

Although much of the village was rebuilt, the whaling companies could no longer raise the capital needed for the long voyages which brought marginal returns. Sag Harbor's future lay in the development of industries unrelated to whaling. And though the 1845 fire destroyed much of the waterfront building stock related to whaling, it left untouched most of the residential architecture, a rich inheritance of this period still extant.



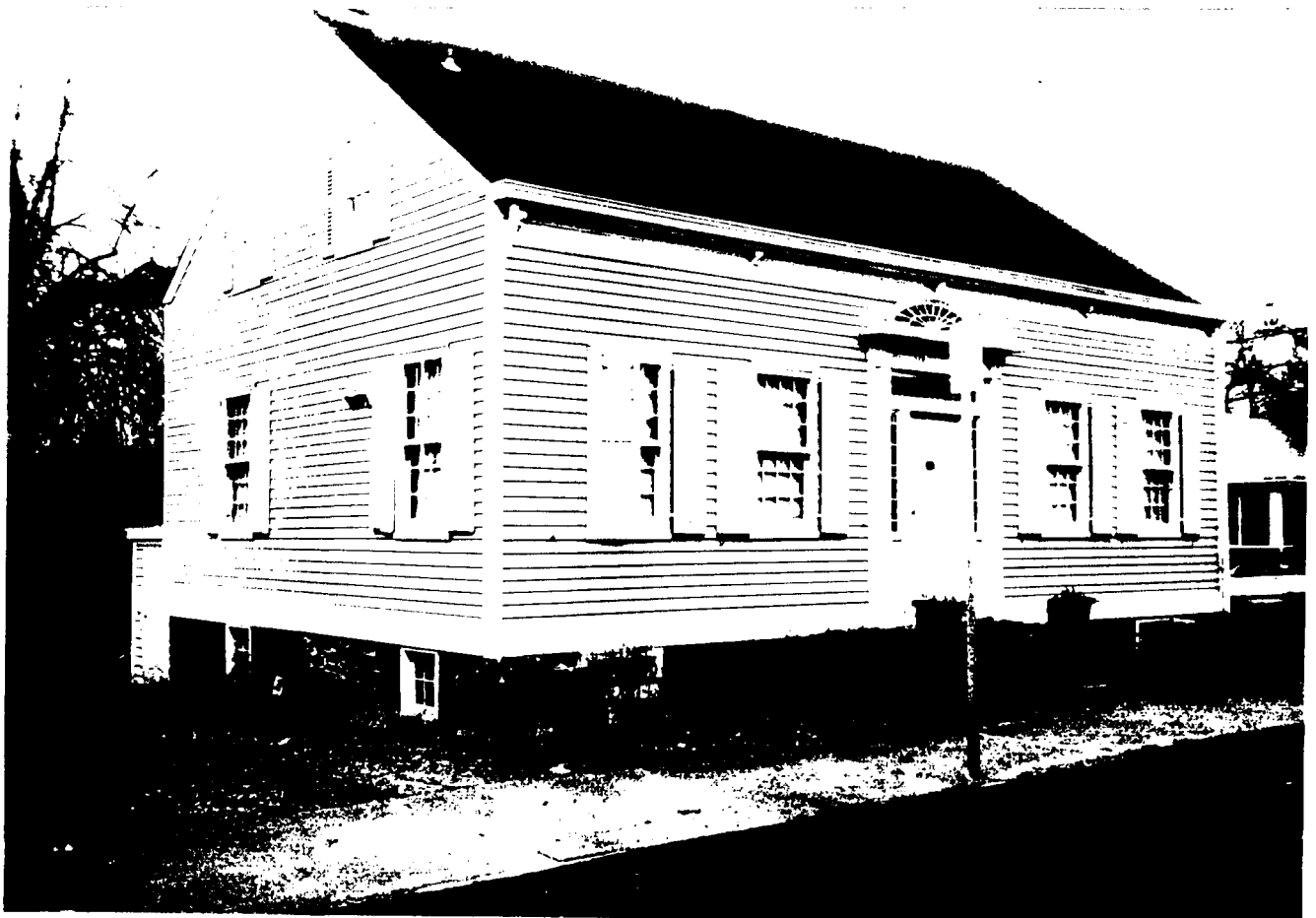
#14 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-48, Sybil Douglas House (Main Street) 1 #15 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-2-40, Rysam House (Division and Burke Streets) 1

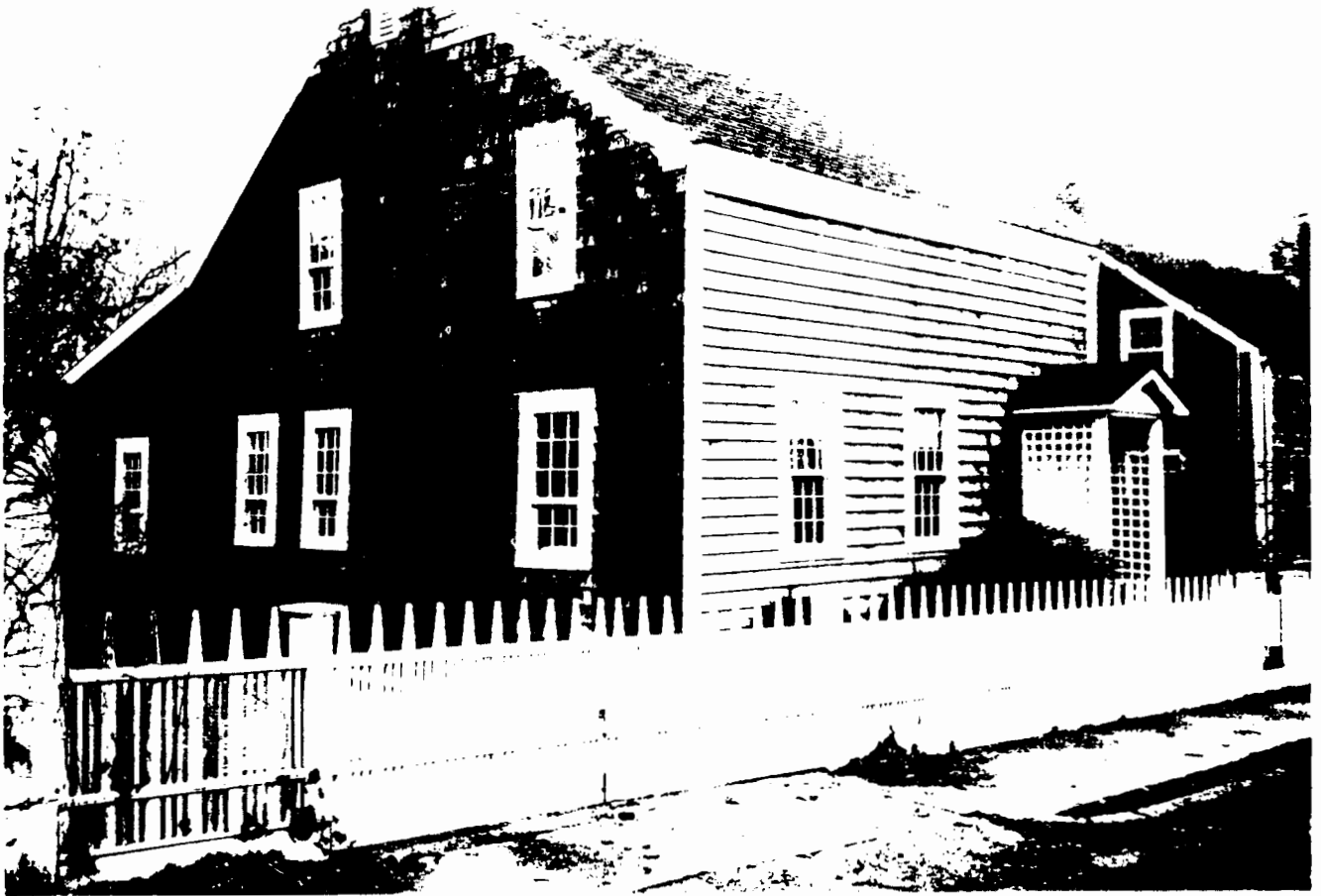




#16 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-31.1, Customs House (Main Street) ↑

#17 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-53, Jared Wade House (Union Street) ↓





#18 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-59, Burdick House (Garden Street) ↑

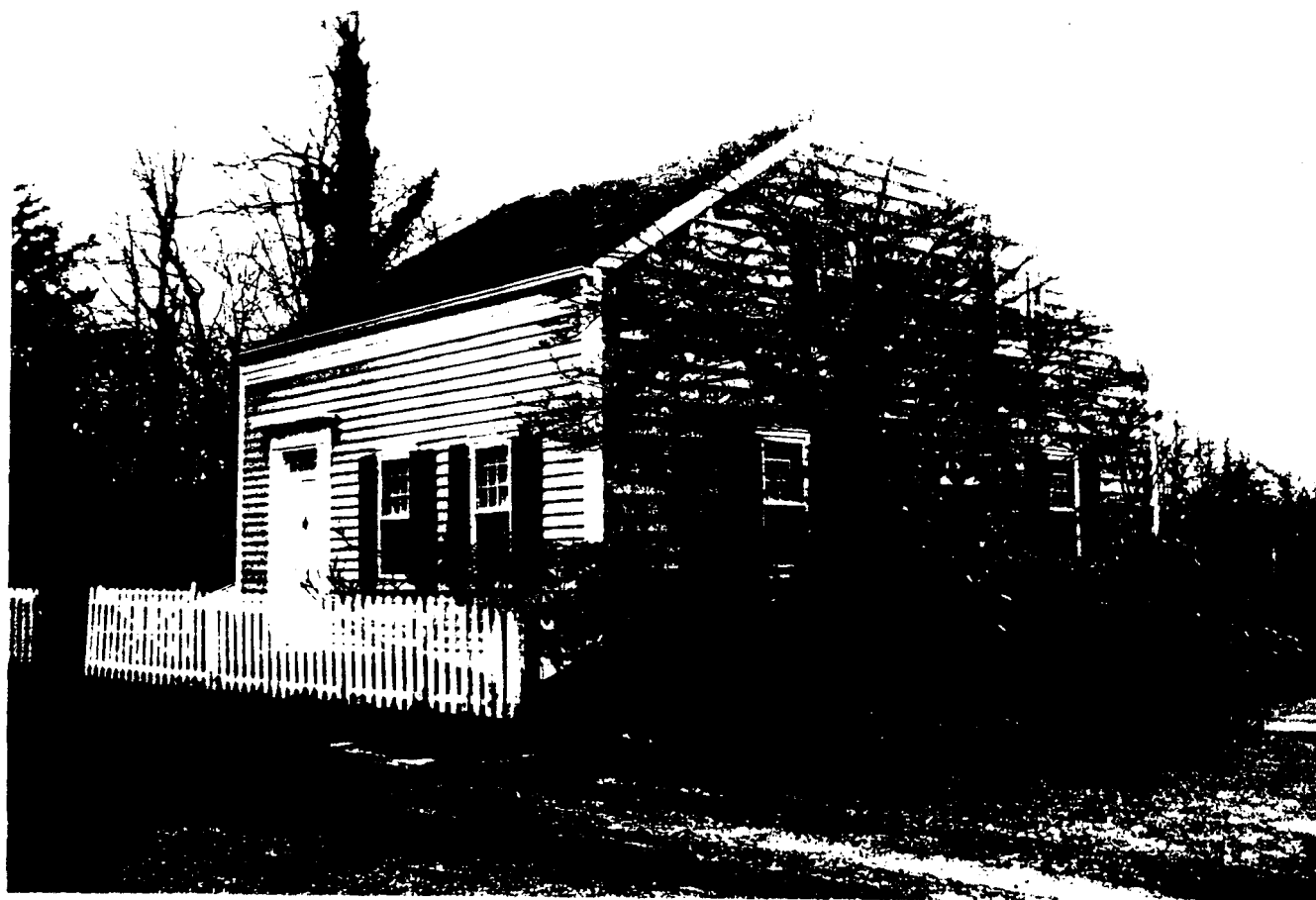
#19 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-26, John Jermain House (Main Street) ↓

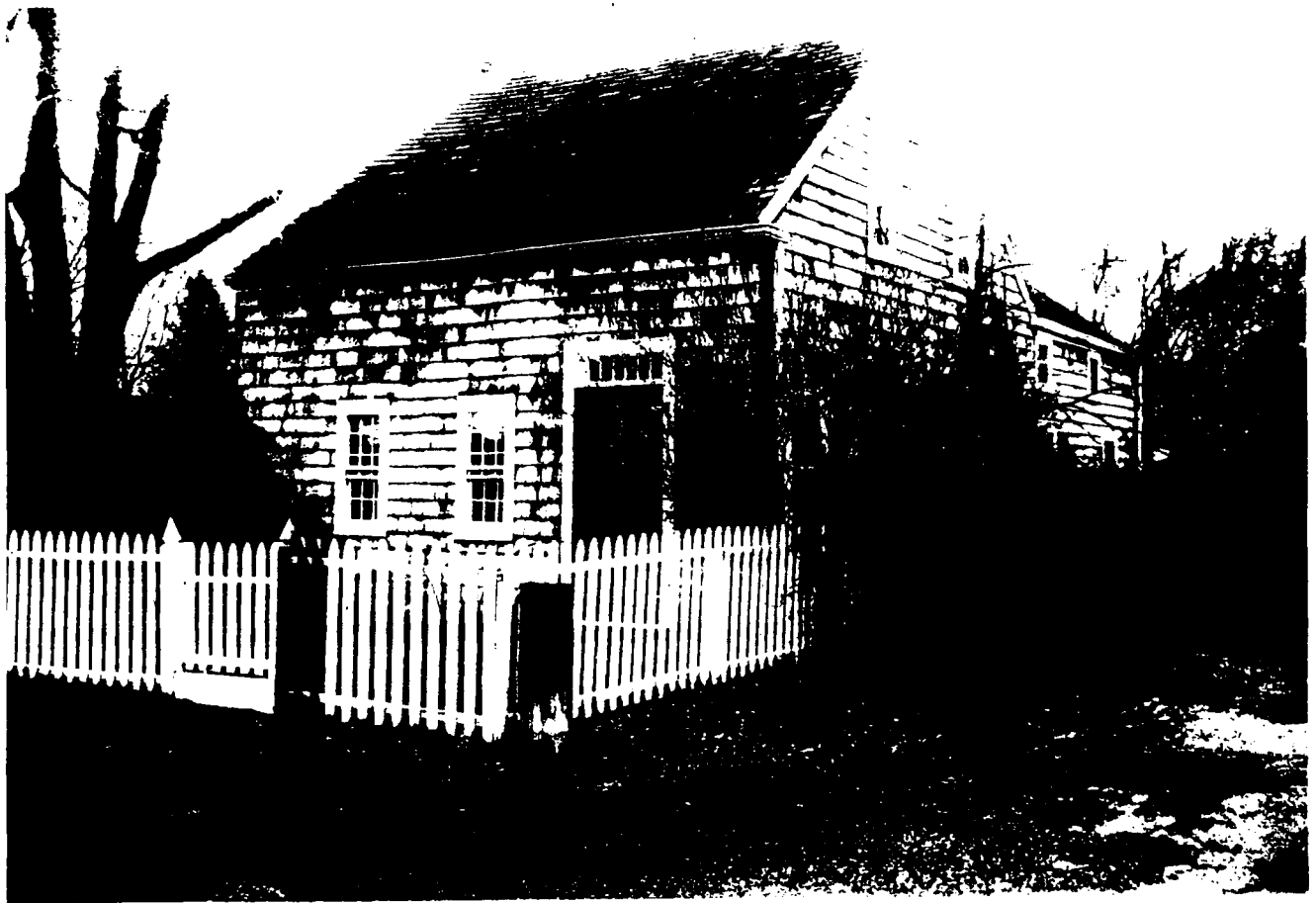




#20 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-1-10, J. Hunt House (Main Street) ↑

#21 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-32, Jefferson Street ↓





#22 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-18.1, Church Street ↑

#23 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-3-21.1, Madison and Jermain ↓





#24 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-30, Van Scoy House (Main Street) ↑

#25 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-1-29, Glover House (Main at Glover) ↓





#26 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-50, Union Street 1

#27 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-1.27.1, Capt. G.S. Tooker House (Main at Glover Street) 1





#28 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-8-12, Hampton Street

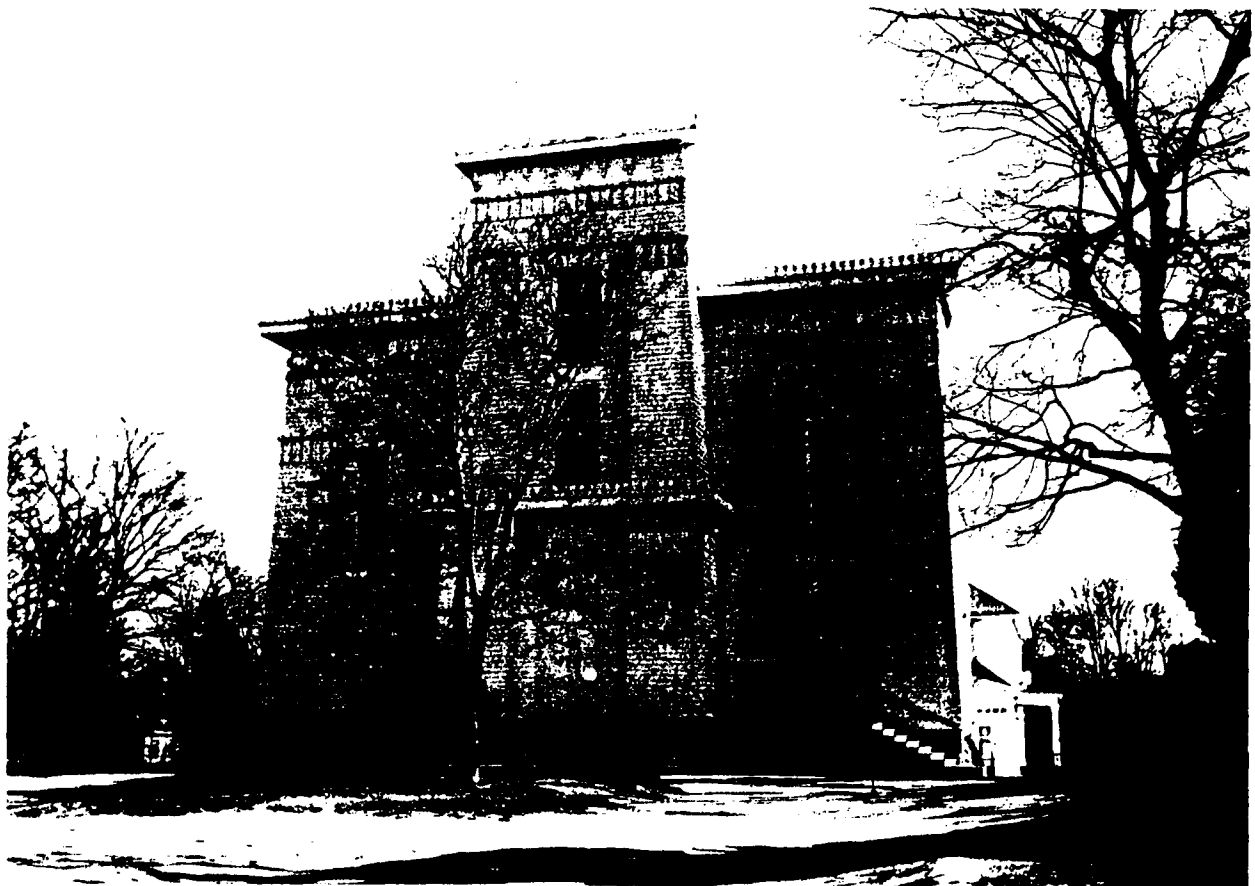
#29 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-46, Main Street 1





#30 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-49, Main Street ↑

#31 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-28, Whaler's Church (Union Street) ↓





#32 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-4-1, Baptist Church (Madison Street) ↑

#33 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-17, Hunting House (Main at Garden Street) ↓





#34 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-2-13, Broken Mast Monument (Oakland Cemetery) ↑

#35 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-1-B1, Howell House (Main Street) ↓



Industry and Invention

Although several small industries had existed in Sag Harbor since the early 1800s, it was not until the mid-nineteenth century, when the whaling industry declined dramatically, that the industrial development of Sag Harbor gained impetus. In examining the built environment related to this industrial heritage, clearly, the factory buildings which still stand are not the only manifestations of Sag Harbor's industrial era. Patterns of village development as well as residential structures built specifically to accommodate factory workers attest to the impact that industries had on the built environment of the former whaling village.

Smaller enterprises existed in Sag Harbor before the 1850s, though most were linked to the whaling trade, including cooperages, ropewalks, and a spermacetti candle factory. However, the structures which housed these and other minor industries are no longer extant, with the exception of the 18th century "umbrella house," which housed a hat factory in the 1790s.

The Steam Cotton Mill, though no longer extant, was an important development which marked a major shift away from the whale-based economy of Sag Harbor. In the late 1840s, the beginning of the end of the whaling industry, there was a growing interest in an industry which could boost the faltering local economy. A letter written to the Sag Harbor Corrector in February of 1848 urged those in town with money to invest in the building of a cotton mill, warning, "As a community, we are subjected to sneers and reproaches, for want of enterprise." In September of that year the Sag Harbor Manufacturing Company held a meeting and formulated a report outlining several key points, among which were that the "whaling business can no longer be depended upon" and "the village of Sag Harbor is admirably adapted for manufactories." The report predicted that eastern Long Island would soon lose its agricultural trade with New London, Connecticut to the western states, and discussed the preference for a cotton mill over other types of manufactories. The report also estimates the cost of building such a manufactory and points to the success of other cities whose economic base is centered on cotton: "...it is an employment held in no way derogatory...as is proved in the history and statistics of the City of Lowell, [the workers are] as intelligent, as moral, and as independent in a pecuniary point of view, as any one class whatever." (Sag Harbor Corrector, 7 October 1848)

By 1850 the Steam Cotton Mill was completed, built with \$130,000 raised by the local townspeople (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 12). The factory, located on Washington

Street between Division and Church Streets (the future site of the Fahys Watchcase Factory), employed over one hundred and fifty workers during the years it was in service, many of whom were recent immigrants from Ireland. ("Whatever Happened to Sag Harbor After Destruction of the Cotton Mill?," article dated 1918 in scrapbook "D", John Jermain Library) Unfortunately, the mill was not a financial success: it changed hands several times and in 1862 it was shut down due to "the exorbitant price of the raw material." It wasn't successful again until 1874, when Fahys and two other businessmen purchased it, refurbishing it with new machinery. The cotton mill was successful for a short time but burned in 1879. (Sag Harbor Corrector, 25 October 1879, "Destruction of the Montauk Steam Cotton Mills")

The Oakland works was also established in 1850 and was significant not only because of its role in the industrial development of Sag Harbor, but because of the fame of one of its co-founders, Ephraim Byram. Byram was a man of many talents, though his most noted achievements lay in the fields of astronomy and clock making. A native of Sag Harbor, Byram grew up during the height of the whaling era, and his mechanical inventiveness was perhaps inspired by his early work in the repair and study of navigational instruments. (Booklet adapted in 1974 from research paper by Doris Halsey, John Jermain Library, Byram file) His fame spread to New York City in 1836 with the exhibit at the American Institute of his planetary model. By 1847 Byram had built his own workshop, and in 1850 he joined forces with John Sherry in establishing the Oakland Works, a brass foundry and clock manufactory. This manufactory stood on Jermain Avenue (then called South Street) near Oakland Cemetery. Today Oakland Cemetery covers the entire area where the factory once stood, though the two sites did once co-exist (Oakland Cemetery was founded in 1840). The Byram-Sherry partnership ended four years later, though both continued their individual businesses successfully. Clocks which Byram made for the Oakland Works include tower clocks for the Female Institute at LaGrange, Georgia; the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia; the First Church of Christ in New London, Connecticut; and New York City Hall. (Margaret Holsten, "Ephraim Nile Byram," thesis, 1977, p. 40) From 1863 until it was destroyed by fire in 1882, the Oakland Works was leased to several different businesses. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 12)

Oakland Cottage, Byram's estate on Jermain Avenue which he built in 1852 (tax ID 903-6-3-12), is evidence of his financial success and his sensitivity to the current architectural trends, as it reflected the romantic movement in America. The Italianate, board and batten house was inspired by the architectural pattern books of

A. J. Downing, and the house today has a high degree of integrity.

Sag Harbor took a step towards modernization with the opening of the gas works in 1859, which was established in a converted spermicetti candle factory, a remnant of the whaling days. The gas works is no longer extant. The owner and organizer of the gas works was Captain David Congdon. Congdon was also involved in the construction of the village's first steam flouring mill. In 1862 Congdon, along with the French brothers (also formerly associated with the whaling trade), purchased the wharf and cooperage buildings at the foot of Division Street and erected the Maidstone Steam Flouring Mill on the site. When the mill succumbed to the fire of 1877, a new mill, called the Hampton Flour Mill, was built on the same site. This new 3 story brick building was completed in 1879 and is extant (tax ID 302-1-1-3). The building was leased to several different industries during the latter part of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, among which were the Sag Harbor Grain Company, which received shipments of hay via a spur track of the LIRR; the Bliss Company, which conducted tests with marine torpedoes in Noyac Bay; and the Suffolk County Building Block Company with started operations in 1903. This company, which manufactured hollow concrete blocks for foundations, used a new process patented in Washington D.C. to which the owner had secured the exclusive rights. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 12) In 1940 the building was occupied by the Grumman Aircraft Engineering Plant, who remained until 1971 and made major contributions to war technology and the space program. (Pine, p.61) This structure is the only extant 19th century industrial building on the waterfront in Sag Harbor.

The industry which perhaps had the greatest effect on Sag Harbor was the Fahys Watchcase Factory which opened in 1882, and was built on the site of the burned cotton mill. This enterprise affected not only the industrial development of Sag Harbor but inspired residential development, spurred social institutions, and brought ethnic diversity to the village.

When the cotton mill was destroyed by fire in 1879, the Sag Harbor community was devastated, having lost one of its major centers of employment. However, in October of the following year, several Sag Harbor businessmen started negotiations with Joseph Fahys, one of the former owners of the mill, to try to persuade him to relocate his Carlstadt, New Jersey, watchcase factory to Sag Harbor. Fahys had a summer residence in Sag Harbor and had married a Sag Harbor woman in 1856 ("Business Enterprise in Sag Harbor," Sag Harbor Corrector, 13 November 1880). The negotiations were successful, and in 1881, amidst speeches

about the glorious future of Sag Harbor, the cornerstone of the Fahys Watchcase factory was laid. Said one orator in reference to the building of the factory: "Already its influence has been felt. Torpor has given place to activity. The skeleton has been vivified. Sackcloth has been replaced with vestments of joy." ("Laying the Cornerstone of the Fahys Watch-Case Works," article dated April 21, 1881, scrapbook "I", John Jermain Library)

The brick factory building, along with later additions, still stands on the block bounded by Division, Church, Sage and Washington Streets (tax ID 903-3-4-14). The original section is built on a courtyard plan with an entrance facing Church Street. The expansion of the factory over the years caused some houses to be moved, two of which have been identified. In 1891 the "Old Sweezy House," which was reportedly "one of the old landmarks on the east side of town," was moved from Division Street to the corner of Jermain Avenue (then Montauk Street) and Hampton Street (tax ID 302-5-3-1) in order to make a wagon entrance from Division Street to the Fahys Factory. (p. 243, scrapbook "B", John Jermain Library) In 1906 in the process of expanding its facilities, the Fahys Company purchased the property on which the Lowen house stood, which was to the rear of the existing factory buildings. The house, built in 1830 by a lumber merchant, was purchased by Charles Hand and moved to Hampton Street (tax ID 302-2-7-28). (p. 247, scrapbook "B", John Jermain Library)

In January of 1882, the factory opened for business, and by the end of the year the number of employees reached 350. (Zaykowski, manuscript, p. 220-1) According to one researcher, fifty houses were built in Sag Harbor in this year (Lewis, thesis, np). The permanent resident population figures illustrate the town's vitality during the height of the whaling era, its decline in the 1870s, and its resurgence after the establishment of Fahys: 1845 showed a population of 3,691 which decreased to 2,013 by 1874. The population then jumped to 3,148 by 1890 and 3,432 by 1900. The growth in population after 1874 can also be attributed in part to the growth of the resort industry, which started in the 1870s and flourished through the 1930s.

Many of the craftsmen Fahys brought over from his Carlstadt factory were immigrants from Germany, and therefore the population not only increased but ethnically diversified. The formation of Sag Harbor's first Jewish community was also a result of the presence of Fahys: between 1886 and 1888, Fahys brought approximately fifty Jewish men, some with families, directly from Ellis Island to work in his factory. This new Jewish community established a Jewish Cemetery Society in 1890 and

purchased land where they established a burying ground. (This cemetery is located along Route 114, south of the village limit). Temple Adas Israel (tax ID 302-5-1-33), built in 1898, was the first temple of the new Jewish community, and the first established on Long Island. Though much altered, the temple still stands on Atlantic Avenue.

A newspaper article in 1892 discussed Sag Harbor's ethnic diversity, noting "It's more than a generation ago that our foreign-born population was very inconsiderable," and cites the Germans and Irish as the largest ethnic groups in Sag Harbor. ("Ethnological and other Changes in Sag Harbor," p. 243, scrapbook "B", John Jermain Library) The growth of the Catholic population in town is evidenced by the enlargement in 1892 of St. Andrews Church, which was originally built in 1872. By the early 1900s it was estimated that more than half the population of Sag Harbor was composed of foreign nationalities, and with this diversity came tensions between the established families and the new ethnic groups. The Fahys Watchcase Company became involved with the Russell Sage Foundation in establishing community facilities and programs designed to ease these tensions and unite the community. ("The Awakening of a Small Town," The Brooklyn Times, 30 December 1913; and "The Name in the Case," booklet, Easthampton Library)

In 1895 the Alvin Corporation, a silver company, moved from Irvington, New Jersey to Sag Harbor. In 1897, Alvin was purchased by Joseph Fahys & Co. in 1897, and operated as a branch of Fahys c. 1898-1910. The combined forces of the two companies produced an impressive array of silver products. The Alvin Silver Company was awarded several important commissions, including a contract for souvenir spoons for the Atlantic Cotton Exposition, a yachting award for the Harvard-Yale race in the early 1900s, and the creation of a solid silver service for the cruise ship, "Brooklyn." (Zaykowski, manuscript, p. 222-3)

As the population of Sag Harbor grew, so did the residential development. It is likely that the first influx of factory workers were primarily boarders. Newspaper accounts indicate that boarding houses were planned for the relocated factory workers, but further research is necessary to establish where these were and if they are extant. However, by the early 1920s it was estimated that sixty percent of the Fahys Watchcase Company employees owned their own homes. ("The Name in the Case," p. 14) The houses which have been identified as being the homes of Fahys employees range from austere simple residences to more elaborately ornamented Victorian homes. Examples of the more simply designed houses are on Suffolk Street, near the corner of Jermain Avenue. These

houses are 2 1/2 story, two bay gable roofed structures which have a simple rectangular massing and are bare of ornament. (tax ID 903-6-3-13, 14, 15, and 19; 903-3-4-15 and 16) On the 1916 map, these structures were still owned by the Fahys Company and were perhaps intended as boarding houses, although they appear to be single family houses. Examples of more ornately designed houses are on Bay and Franklin Streets (tax ID 302-3-7-4, 9, and 11). These houses, built c. 1900, were three of sixteen houses built in a new subdivision owned by the Sag Harbor Real Estate Company (see 1902 map) bounded by High Street, Franklin Avenue, Hempstead Street and Bay Street. These three houses have small porches and decorative shingles and brackets. Two houses on Division Street on the property of the Fahys factory are more ornate still, having a t-shaped plan, polygonal side bays, and decorative brackets (tax ID 903-3-4-15 and 16).

The Fahys factory was not only an important industry in itself but was also a source for the development of other industries. The Bottling Works, another successful Sag Harbor industry, was established in 1896 by John Emmel, who came to Sag Harbor in 1882 from Carlstadt. In 1899 Emmel built a larger factory on the same site. The 1902 map shows that these were several buildings on the Emmel property, the main one, which still stands, located on the corner of Division and Burke Streets (tax ID 302-2-2-34.1). This building, a 2 1/2 story wood structure with a recessed central entrance, was designed by Sag Harbor architect George Cleveland. The bottling company was bought by Fred W. Wilson in 1917, who renamed it "Wilson's Bottling Company," under which name it flourished until c. 1930. (Zaykowski, manuscript, p. 242)

Another business which was an offshoot of Fahys was the Eaton Engraving Company. Eaton began his career in the Fahys factory as head of the engraving department. In 1891 Eaton built his ornate Queen Anne house (tax ID 903-3-3-20.1) on the newly opened Palmer Terrace. Although grand in scale and detail, a 1913 newspaper account referred to the structure as a "cottage" and indicated that Eaton's permanent place of residence was in Brooklyn. In 1892 the Eaton Dial Company was formed by Eaton with his associates, George C. Raynor, Charles Pierson, and B. Lyon. The company manufactured dials for watches and clocks by an economical and newly patented process. The business operated from the second floor of the old flour mill building on Bay Street at the foot of Division Street.

Eaton's talent for invention led him to form the Engraver's and Printer's Machinery Company in 1911, to better market the machines he developed. He set up shop near his house on Palmer Terrace. This 1 1/2 story gable

102-
roofed wood structure still stands to the right of the main house (tax ID 903-3-3-20.2) and has been converted to a residence. In 1913 Eaton invented the "Rotary Photogravure," an innovative printing device which, after being presented by Eaton to the National Association of Steel and Copper Plate Engravers, came to be used internationally. Other engraving instruments to his credit include the "Century Engraving Machine," used throughout the world, and the "Model C." Eaton also developed machinery for the United States Treasury Department which was used for the printing of government currency. In 1918 Eaton began construction of a much larger facility on Jermain Avenue and moved his operations to this location. Although extensively altered, this brick and concrete structure stands today (tax ID 903-6-2-9).

1889 marked the establishment of the Sag Harbor Waterworks Company. Pipes were laid in sections of the village, giving Sag Harbor residents running water for the first time, their having relied on wells and handpumps since settlement. The waterworks used Long Pond as the source and piped the water to a storage tank located on the northwest corner of Suffolk Street and Jermain Avenue. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 12)

1930 marked the beginning of the end of Sag Harbor's industrial era. The depression forced the closing of three of Sag Harbor's more prominent industries: the Fahys Watchcase Factory, Eaton's Machinery Company, and Wilson's Bottling Works. In the late 1930s, the Bulova Watch Company purchased the Fahys building but left the factory in the mid-1970s, leaving the building vacant, as it is today. A variety of short-lived industries occupied Eaton's building between 1930 and the late 1960s, including a bomb site manufactory which operated during World War II. In the late 1960s, the Eaton building was occupied by Sag Harbor Industries, which stayed until 1981. The building is currently occupied by a plumbing and heating contractor. Grumman Aircraft left Sag Harbor in the mid-1970s, vacating buildings on Long Wharf and Division Street. Most of these buildings have either been taken down or adapted for commercial use.



#58 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-2-13, Oakland Cemetery 1

#59 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-2-13, Oakland Cemetery 1





#60 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-3-12, Oakland Cottage (Jermain Avenue) ↑

#61 - Tax I.D. No. 302-1-1-3, Hampton Flour Mill (Bay Street) ↓



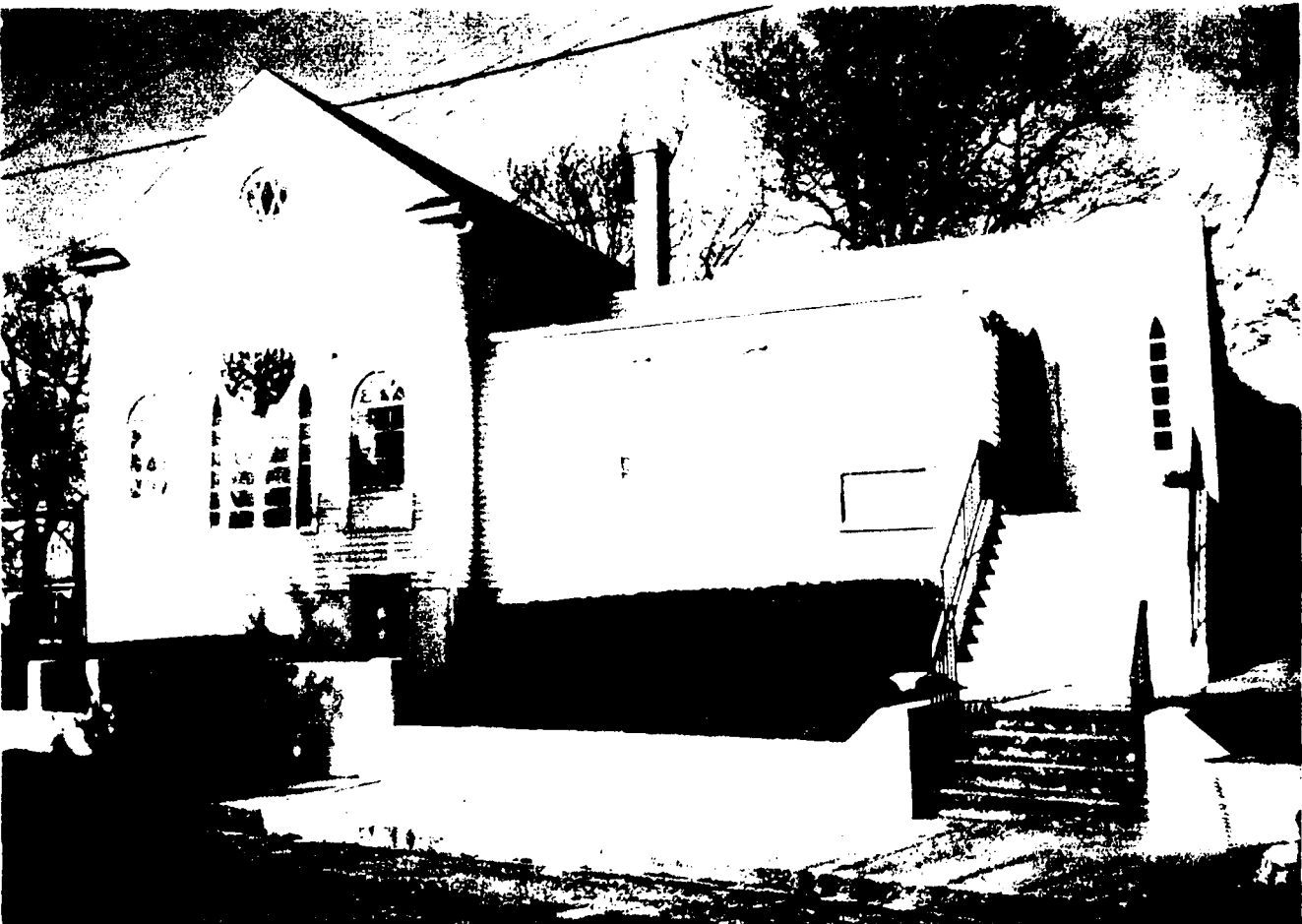


#62 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-14, Fahy's Watchcase Factory (west facade) ↑ #63 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-14, Fahy's Watchcase Factory (north facade) ↓





#64 - Tax I.D. No. 302-5-1-33, Temple Adas Israel (Atlantic Avenue) ↑ #65 - Tax I.D. No. 302-5-1-33, Temple Adas Israel (Atlantic Avenue) ↓





#66 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-3-13, Suffolk Street 1

#67 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-3-14, Suffolk Street 1





#68 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-3-15, Suffolk Street ↑

#69 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-3-19, Suffolk Street ↓





#70 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-15, Division Street ↑

#71 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-16, Division Street ↓





#72 - Tax I.D. No. 302-3-7-4, Franklin Street 1

#73 - Tax I.D. No. 302-3-7-9, Bay Street 1





#74 - Tax I.D. No. 302-3-7-11, Bay Street ↑

#75 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-2-34.1, Wilson's Bottling Company (Division at Burke Street) ↓





#76 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-20.1, Eaton's House (Palmer Terrace) ↑

#77 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-20.2, Eaton's Workshop (Palmer Terrace) ↓





#78 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-2-9, Eaton's Engraving (Jermain Avenue) ↑

Resort and Tourism

Following the drastic decline and virtual end of whaling in the 1860s and the demise of many other related maritime industries in the village, Sag Harbor struggled to attract some of the economic prosperity of the North experienced after the Civil War. Sag Harbor was severely depressed, having lost its livelihood with the departure of the last whaleship from the port in 1871. Indeed, Sag Harbor lost over one third of its population between 1855 and 1874, leading one New York Sun reporter to dub Sag Harbor a "deserted village," with "a waste of empty cellars, vacant lots, tumble down cooper shops, and deserted buildings." (Sag Harbor Corrector, 9 December, 1876).

However, the post Civil War period also marked the beginning of the resort era. Americans found themselves with more money and leisure time due to the rapid technological advances not only in industry but in the home. Moreover, Victorian ideals and domestic reform movements were at their height of popularity in the country and promoted lifestyles of health and leisure activity coupled with touches of the exotic and romantic. The building of summer homes of cottages became a "fashionable thing to do," especially in the countrysides and along the seashores near larger American cities. (Sag Harbor Corrector, 25 December 1880).

Eastern Long Island was an obvious location for the development of such summer colonies, being close to New York City and possessing an unspoiled landscape bountiful in natural attractions and recreational opportunities. Indeed, one promotional brochure from the period claimed:

Eastern Long Island is the natural play ground of the City of New York and no other City in the world can boast so beautiful stretch of territory at its very doors. (Sag Harbor Estates promotional brochure)

Prior to 1870, the doors from New York to Eastern Long Island remained locked, as land routes to and from Eastern Long Island were still a long and difficult journey, and water transportation from New York via steamship was limited. Hence, the initial development of Sag Harbor and eastern Long Island as a summer colony was restricted, with little new resort architecture appearing before the mid 1870s. Therefore, the influence of America's new summer life in Sag Harbor was initially limited to the remodeling of former structures to accommodate summer visitors who would stay with local families in the village. It is not uncommon to see early to mid 19th century Federal or Greek Revival whaling captain's houses converted into a boarding house by the addition of later

Victorian or Italianate details and additions, including large wrap around porches or verandas and new, larger window sash. These additions and changes to the former whaling related architecture are important, expressing not only changes in taste of architectural styles but also revealing the evolution and development of Sag Harbor as a resort community.

One such example is the former Cove Hotel, a boarding house located at the corner of John and Main Streets (tax ID 903-4-2-17). Originally a Greek Revival residence build in the 1830s or 40s, the building was converted into a boarding house in the 1870s by the addition of a large, two story side extension. In the 1880s, the boarding house catered to those who frequented the nearby Hampton Fairgrounds, advertising that the Cove Hotel offered "splendid accommodations for driving parties." (Boyds Long Island Business Directory, 1888-89, p. 306).

A second early boarding house was the Lobstein House located on Union Street (tax ID 903-3-3-69). Operated by J. F. D. Lobstein, the boarding house was started c. 1870 in a house that was enlarged and remodeled in the Italianate style with a wrap around porch, floor to ceiling windows on the first story, and wide bracketed eaves. In the early 20th century, the boarding house was known as Vail House and could accommodate 20 guests (Smith, General Passenger Agent, Long Island, p. 132).

Several other large whaling captain's houses were operated as boarding houses. Although little if any exterior architectural changes were made, the interiors received slight changes in room arrangements to accommodate summer guests. Among the prominent houses converted to boarding houses beginning in the late 1860s and continuing through the 1870s were the homes of Mrs. Oliver Wade, formerly the brick Greek Revival townhouse of the L'Hommedieus on Main Street and Bayview Avenue (tax ID 903-3-1-54); Mrs. Robert Douglas, formerly the early Federal style residence of Sybil Douglas on Main Street (tax ID 903-3-1-48); Captain George S. Tooker who owned a Greek Revival residence on Main Street and Glover Street (tax ID 903-3-1-27.1); and Mrs. Eliza Dering who lived in a Greek Revival house on Hampton Street (tax ID 302-2-7-32). These large homes were all owned by families who had been involved in the whaling industry; however, after the demise of whaling in Sag Harbor in the 1860s, the owners found themselves struggling to maintain their large homes and hence opened their doors to the new summer resort business.

The real growth of Sag Harbor as a summer colony occurred with the arrival of the Long Island Railroad in 1870. Local villagers predicted the railroad would

"revolutionize" Sag Harbor and would be a savior to the depressed community. The Sag Harbor Express exclaimed:

With the completion of the Railroad to this place, we are better prepared to offer traveling facilities; which are seldom surpassed by any place of its size. We are now having two trains daily to and from this place, and on Monday next, when the Road enters upon its Summer arrangements, persons will be enabled to leave this place by the morning train and return by evening...Besides this we have our former facilities; a semiweekly line by steamer through the Sound to New York, ...by the steamer Sunshine plying between this place, Greenport, New London, and Hartford three times a week, and by the daily connection of the Dixie between this place and Greenport,,With such facilities as these we must expect a much larger share of the Summer travel than heretofore. (Sag Harbor Express, 12 May 1870)

The first train pulled into Sag Harbor on May 9, 1870, accompanied by much celebration. The last train left Sag Harbor in May 1939 along with much remorse. Today the only remaining vestiges of Sag Harbor's link to the railroad are the freight depot built around 1871 originally located at Main and West Water Streets, now located on Spring Street and used as a garden center (tax ID 903-3-2-38), and the granite railroad right-of-way markers erected in 1870 and now found sporadically along the present Long Island Avenue which follows the former line of the railroad.

Steamship service from New York to Sag Harbor began in 1839 with the operation of the ship, the Olive Beach, but not until the late 1860s did a regular tourist trade begin to frequent the steamers to and from Sag Harbor. The largest steamship company was the New York and Montauk Steamboat Company which was organized in August 1875 (Zaykowski, manuscript, chapter 19). The company had an office in downtown Sag Harbor and ran several steamers between New York, Greenport, Shelter Island, and Sag Harbor. The steamships continued to provide regular service between New York and eastern Long Island through the early 1900s; however, with the advent of the automobile and the improvement of roads to the east end, the popularity and regularity of steamship service to and from Sag Harbor declined and was eventually discontinued. Today, there are no physical reminders of the steamship era, except for Long Wharf, where modern cruise ships still dock to unload day trip passengers.

With confidence derived from its new railroad line and improved steamship service, Sag Harbor began to actively advertise its resort possibilities. One promoter noted

that:

The salubrity of Sag Harbor and its environs I could say much. It is an appetizing, life preserving atmosphere. It builds up the dilapidated city man and disposes him to pleasure seeking pursuit...It is just the site for Summer cottages. (Sag Harbor Express, 28 August 1873)

Many residents of New York City and elsewhere believed the literature extolling the virtues and advantages of Sag Harbor, for as early as 1876 a Brooklyn reporter described Sag Harbor as "Swarming with summer people" and saw "...no reason why [Sag Harbor] should not again renew its life and vigor." (Pine, p. 44)

Indeed, by the turn of the 20th century, Sag Harbor was again full of activity, and the village was firmly established as a summer colony, attracting many new residents. Among the more noteworthy and distinguished summer residents were Julian Hawthorne, the novelist and son of Nathaniel Hawthorne; Stephen B. French, an influential Suffolk County and New York City politician; New York physician, Dr. William Morton; prominent California businessman, Frank C. Havens; and philanthropist, Mrs. Russell Sage.

Stephen French's house on Union Street near Madison Street (tax ID 903-3-3-67) was built in the resort era, during the 1870s and is representative of the first large scale and elaborate summer homes built in Sag Harbor. French, a native of Sag Harbor, moved to New York after the demise of whaling and became active in politics. He maintained his ties to Sag Harbor and built his summer home in the village in 1870.. It is an Italianate style residence with characteristic brackets under the soffit, chamfered porch posts supporting a large front veranda, and floor-to-ceiling windows to allow in the summer breezes. In 1881 French's house served as a summer retreat for President Chester A. Arthur (Nancy Willey house file, John Jermain Library).

Hannibal French, the brother of Stephen, also built a lavish Italianate mansion with verandas and large garden windows. Located on Main Street (tax ID 903-3-2-32), the Hannibal French house was built in the final years of the whaling era but was maintained as a summer home during the 1870s. Hannibal French operated one of Sag Harbor's last whaling firms but turned his interests to the summer resort trade in 1875. French held interests in the New York and Montauk Steamboat Company and operated the steamship "Shelter Island." (Willey, Built by Whalers, p. 28)

Several other large Main Street houses were also converted to summer use, including the Benjamin Huntting house which became the summer home of Mrs. Russell Sage (tax ID 903-3-2-17). Another large, former whaling-related residence converted to a summer cottage was the N. P. Howell house, which was bought by Dr. Alexander Napier of Brooklyn in the last quarter of the 19th century for a summer home (tax ID 903-3-1-81).

By 1900, the Queen Anne style of architecture had surpassed all other styles in popularity, and it is not surprising to see a large collection of Queen Anne summer homes in Sag Harbor. By far the largest and most elaborate Queen Anne house in the village was built by Frank C. Havens. Formerly known as Haven Harbor Home and now a part of Cormaria Retreat House (tax ID 302-2-1-7 and 8), the large rambling mansion is unique in the village. Constructed in 1905-7, Harbor Home was an anomaly in Sag Harbor village, perhaps being more suited to the large estates of North Haven or East Hampton. Unlike many of the wealthy who were building sprawling estates in East Hampton and North Haven around 1900, Havens chose to build his estate in the village of his boyhood. Havens, who was a successful businessman in Piedmont, California, built a castle-like mansion with turrets, verandas and picture windows to look out across the Sound. Complementing his home were a carriage house, caretaker's residence, a seawall and pier for the family yacht, and extensive grounds including Havens' Beach (tax ID 302-3-1-7.2) (Zaykowski, manuscript, p. 280-282)

The vast majority of Sag Harbor's summer homes were on a smaller scale than Frank Havens' house, but still exhibited the same exuberance of architectural details. For the most part, Sag Harbor was a summer colony for New York upper middle class. As the New York Graphic reported:

There is a great and increasing want among New Yorkers for cheap country homed during the summer. This want is largely felt among people of moderate means...It may be suggested to the property holders of this ancient village, as well as of the whole adjacent country, that the building of small cheap cottages located in their forest-covered environs might tempt among them a large permanent summer population from the city. (Sag Harbor Corrector, 20 December 1879)

"People of moderate means" were indeed tempted by Sag Harbor, resulting in a building boom of summer homes during the final decades of the 19th century and early decades of the 20th century. Sag Harbor experienced a great outward growth with several new areas of the village being laid out and developed, including Oakland Avenue

(1882), Palmer Terrace (1891), Prospect Street (c. 1900), and Franklin Street (c. 1900), and portions of High, Hampton, Columbia and John Streets. Vacant lots throughout the village were also sites of new development. Overall, the growth in both permanent and summer populations was great: the permanent population alone increased by over forty percent between 1874 and 1900. In fact, the population in 1900 almost matched the record population of 3,691 in 1845 which represented Sag Harbor's population during the golden years of whaling. (Lewis, "Sag Harbor: The Study of a Small Community," thesis, no pagination) The architecture forms of these new summer homes varied but were primarily 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 story, high style Queen Anne and Colonial Revival types. All usually featured at least a small porch or veranda for summertime lounging.

Boarding houses and hotels also continued to flourish in Sag Harbor during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, all catering to the village's growing resort clientele. Around 1900, Sag Harbor had nearly a dozen different hotels and boarding houses accommodating less than ten guests. The largest and perhaps best known of these was the Sea View House, a rambling structure located on Noyack Road and built in 1891 with enlargements in 1892 and 1907. (Zaykowski, manuscript, chapter 9) The Sea View House was advertised as:

...situated on an eminence overlooking the beautiful surrounding country and the waters of Peconic Bay; has unsurpassed facilities for Bathing, Boating and Fishing. Is surrounded by abundant shade trees, large veranda, etc. Picturesque drives in all directions over good roads. (Passenger Department, Long Island Railroad, p. 95)

Although the Sea View House burned in 1970, this description gives a general account of the feel and flavor of Sag Harbor and its summer resort facilities.

The only resort hotel that is extant in Sag Harbor today is the American Hotel located on Main Street. (tax ID 903-2-3-24 and 15) Originally built in 1846 as a double residence with first floor shop space, the Gothic Revival three story brick block was bought in 1876 by Captain William Freeman and Addison Youngs who converted the building into a hotel which accommodated 40 to 50 guests. Among the changes Freeman and Youngs made to the building were the addition of a Victorian front veranda, enlargement of the first floor windows, and the addition of a Victorian door surround. (Rosebrock, notes, no pagination) The hotel opened in 1877 and continues in operation today, retaining a great deal of its integrity. Several of Sag Harbor's late 19th and early 20th century

boarding houses survive, although they now serve as private residences of apartment buildings. One such boarding house is Mary King's Rooms, a 2 1/2 story complicated Queen Anne structure at the corner of Rysam and East Union Streets (tax ID 302-2-6-2). Located on a hill, the boarding house offered commanding views of Shelter Island Sound with its four story octagonal turret. Another late 19th century Queen Anne boarding house was built on Hampton Street (tax ID 302-2-7-26). It featured an expansive veranda which wrapped around the front and side of the house. A confectionery store was also located in the house, satisfying the sweet tooth of guests. In the early 20th century, a delicatessen opened in a residence built next door. (tax ID 302-2-7-27)

Along with the growth of the village's summer population came a substantial increase in the year-round population of Sag Harbor. Besides the large number of permanent residents who worked in the local factories such as Fahys, there was a burgeoning population which lived in Sag Harbor to service the summer colonies of the Hamptons. Many of the merchants, clerks, laborers, and tradesmen who lived in the village worked for the resort and tourism industry. Their houses drew upon the same Victorian forms and ideals as the summer homes being erected, but were quite simple and void of elaborate architectural details. These resort-related workers' houses, like the houses of Sag Harbor's factory workers, were located primarily in the southeastern portion of the village adjacent to Eastville and were commonly 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 stories high and 3 bays wide with gable roofs, shingle or clapboard walls, side front entrances, and simple front porches.

Many of these houses have been highly altered; however, a few good examples remain including three almost identical houses on Bay Street (tax ID 302-2-1-10 and 302-3-1-4 and 5). These simple 1 1/2 story shingled houses with wrap around Victorian porches were built in the 1890s by laborer Edward Murphy for his family including Edward Murphy, Jr., an engineer for the Long Island Railroad.

Sag Harbor's emergence as a summer colony was also accompanied by the development of numerous recreational facilities and services in and around the village. Long Island Railroad promotional brochures called eastern Long Island the "Land of Pastimes," noting the many opportunities for hunters, golfers, fishermen, and yachtsmen (Passenger Department, Long Island Railroad, 1907, p. 5-10). Sag Harbor was especially blessed in its natural setting where:

One is at liberty to wander in every direction
unchecked by fences or enclosures of any description.

Beautiful lakes and lakelets meet the eye in the most unexpected places. Forest covered hills are encountered, affording most beautiful views...they may both fish, and enjoy all the liberty and advantages of rambles in a wild wood country...[Sag Harbor] combines the advantages of both the still waters of the bay and the turbulent waves of the Atlantic Ocean a few miles off. (Sag Harbor Corrector, 20 December 1879)

The "Sag Harbor, Hampton, and Shelter Island Park and Fairgrounds" was one of the earliest recreational facilities in Sag Harbor. Incorporated in 1878, the park and fairground association selected a fifty-two acre site "picturesquely located at the south westerly end of the town, just beyond the Otter Pond," for a driving park and fairgrounds (Sag Harbor Corrector, 20 December 1879). Commonly known as the Hampton Park and Fairgrounds, the site featured a half-mile driving track for a variety of sporting races including carriage, horse trotting, and bicycle. In September 1879 an exhibition building was also erected for the display and judging of area grains, fruits, baked goods, "floriculture" household manufactures, fine arts, vegetable, livestock, and miscellany (Sag Harbor Corrector, 20 September 1879). The park and fairgrounds were the site of many races and events; however, in 1890 the exhibition hall burned down, and by the early 1900s, the park had fallen into disuse. In 1908, the former driving park was sold to Mrs. Russell Sage who created Mashashimuet Park, thus continuing the recreational use of the land.

Besides the driving park for racing, Sag Harbor also had nearby lawn tennis and sailing regatta facilities for its summer residents. Tennis matches as well as sailing races were held at the summer estate of New York physician Dr. William Morton who built a home in the village at Redwood around 1873. Morton's estate was the site of Sag Harbor's first tennis courts. Sailing regattas also began and ended at Morton's estate. Elaborate summer fairs, sponsored by the Ladies Village Improvement Society, were staged on the Morton grounds as well. Although the Morton summer house and its grounds are no longer extant, its brief mention further illustrates the resort nature of Sag Harbor in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Sailing and yachting activities grew in Sag Harbor with the establishment of the Sag Harbor Yacht Club on March 27, 1897. The club was organized for the purpose of holding aquatic sports and races and was located at a pier near the North Haven bridge. In 1913 Frank Havens, who owned large tracts of beach front property in the village, gave the yacht club a lot off Bay Street for the site of a new club house and pier (tax ID 302-2-1-2). The site was ideal as that section of the harbor was well protected by

a stone breakwater built in 1902 with federal appropriations arranged by Frank Havens (Zaykowski, manuscript, chapter 7). The yacht club immediately erected a wooden pier and in 1914 bought the former club house of the New York Yacht Club of Shelter Island and brought it to Sag Harbor. The Sag Harbor Yacht Club still operates out of the same clubhouse and pier today, and a good deal of the site's integrity has been retained.

The Havens family was also responsible for the development of other recreational activities and facilities in Sag Harbor. In the 1920's Mrs. Lila Havens gave an undeveloped waterfront parcel of the Havens estate to the village as a public park and bathing resort in memory of her husband Frank Havens (Sag Harbor Village Trustees, "In the Land...", p. 5). The park is called Havens' Beach today and is the only public beach within the village (tax ID 302-3-1-1 and 7.2).

A second public park was created along Bay Street in the 1930s. Marine Park (tax ID 302-2-1-1), adjacent to the Sag Harbor Yacht Club, was developed as part of a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project to dredge the harbor. The park was created from the fill obtained from dredging. The focal point of the waterfront park is a grouping of war memorials and a central flag pole. The park, although small and simple in design, represents a trend towards the transformation of the village's waterfront from industrial to recreational use. Institutions also benefited from the establishment of the resort community in Sag Harbor, including the churches of the village. Almost every congregation in the village grew and expanded during the resort era, though Christ Episcopal Church was most blessed by the new residents. The local congregation built a new Gothic styled church at Hampton and Union Streets in 1884 (tax ID 302-2-6-5). The church was greatly enhanced in 1890 through the generosity of North Haven summer residents, Mr. and Mrs. James H. Aldrich (Zaykowski, manuscript, chapter 11). The Aldriches provided the money to purchase a new Bishop's chair, baptismal font, lectern, marble altar, pulpit, and stained-glass windows and to extend the chancel twenty-eight feet beyond the old rear wall of the church. In the early 20th century, the Aldriches continued to express their support of the Episcopal Church, donating money to build a 2 1/2 story shingle Victorian Gothic parish house directly behind the church in 1912 and a 2 1/2 story brick Tudor styled rectory adjacent to the church in 1914 (Lewis Historical Publishing Company, p. 745).

The Whalers' Presbyterian Church and St. Andrews Catholic Church also benefited substantially from Sag Harbor's summer colony. The Presbyterian Church was able

to build the Memorial Chapel located behind the church through the generosity of Julia King of Sag Harbor and summer resident Mrs. Alexander Napier of Brooklyn. The clapboard chapel was dedicated on December 15, 1899 (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 11). St. Andrews Church underwent major renovations in 1892 by enlarging the Gothic church with two side extensions off the sanctuary and raising the entire church structure two feet. In 1923, St. Andrews again improved its sanctuary with the installation of an elaborate marble altar (Lewis Historical Publishing Company, p. 746).

The academy of the Sacred Heart of Mary was another institution that was founded because of the fame of eastern Long Island as a summer resort. The school was founded in 1877 by Sisters from the Order of Sacred Heart of Mary and was structured as a secondary level boarding school for girls. Most of the girls who attended the school were from Brooklyn and New York, their parents having become aware of the prestigious school through their summering on Long Island (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 10). The school, which lead to a "true refinement of character," and the convent were located on Hampton Street in the former home of Dr. P. Parker King and were surrounded by a large open expanse of lawn (Sag Harbor Village Trustees, p. 37). In 1888 a clapboard chapel was built, and in the early 1930s, a 3 story brick classroom building and a 3 1/2 story brick dormitory were added to the campus. Although the school closed in 1968 and the chapel and convent were demolished, the Colonial Revival classroom building and dormitory are extant with good integrity, currently serving as the Sag Harbor Elementary School (tax ID 302-5-4-9.6).

Sag Harbor continued to develop as a summer colony through the 20th century, but by 1930 resort-related development in the village had slowed tremendously. In 1930 only three new houses were built within the village, despite the fact that two new subdivisions were opened for the express purpose of erecting summer cottages. Population figures also show a decline; the year-round population decreased by over 11% between 1925 and 1930 (Lewis, thesis, np). The reasons for the stagnation of Sag Harbor's resort and tourist industry through the 1930s and 1940s were tied to the overall economic and social conditions of the country. The Great Depression of the 1930s forced the closing of Sag Harbor's factories and also stifled the village's resort and tourism industry. Moreover, by 1930, the automobile and improved highways made it possible for New York summer home seekers to search further from the city for their summer retreats.

In the late 1940s, a summer community of black residents began, primarily in formerly undeveloped areas

in the southeastern section of the village, bordering on Shelter Island Sound. The community began when a developer opened up tracts of land to black postal workers, lawyers and doctors who were barred from other areas of eastern Long Island. These areas, known as Azurest, Ninevah and Hillcrest, consist entirely of post World War II buildings.

Sag Harbor maintains a reputation as a summer retreat for New York City residents. The vast majority of these seasonal residents either own or rent a single family dwelling in the village, or in nearby Noyac or North Haven. Some amount of residential construction activity still relates to Sag Harbor's role as a resort community; however, institutions, services and facilities relate primarily to the needs of the year-round resident community.



#36 - Tax I.D. No. 903-4-2-17, Cove Hotel (John/Main Street) 1

#37 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-69, Lobstein House 1





#38 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-1-54, L'Hommedieu House (Main/Bayview) ↑

#39 - Tax I.D. No. 302-7-32, Dering House (Hampton Street) ↓





#40 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-38, Railway Station (Spring Street) ↑

#41 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-67, Stephen French House (Union Street) ↓





#42 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-32, Hannibal French House (Main Street) 1

#43 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-2-32, Hannibal French House 1





#44 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-1-7,8, Haven Harbor Home 1

#45 - Tax I.D. No. 302-3-1-7.2, Havens Beach 1





#46 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-6.2, Mary King's Rooms (Rysam and E. Union Streets) ↑

#47 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-7-26, Hampton Street ↓





#48 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-7-27, Hampton Street ↑

#49 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-1-10, Bay Street ↓

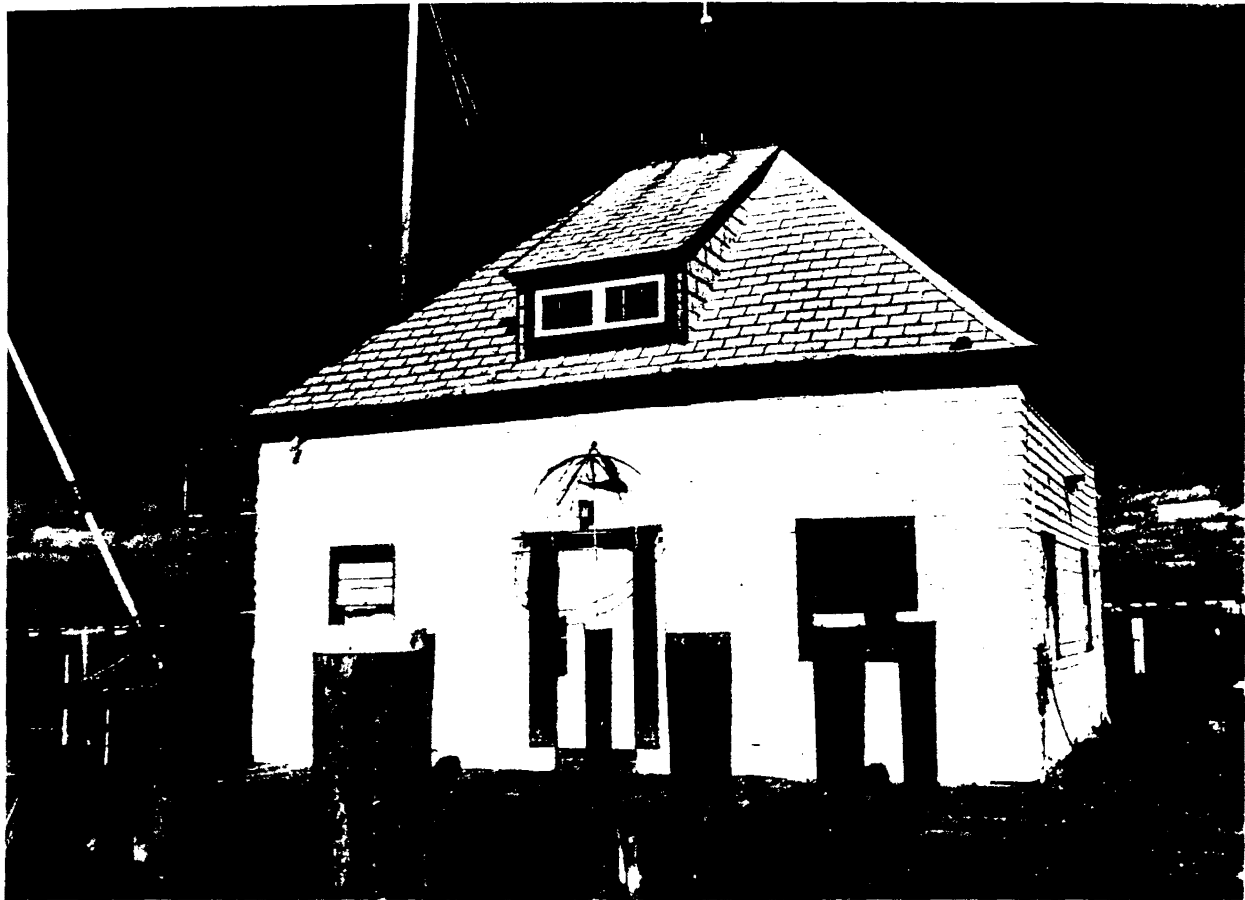




#50 - Tax I.D. No. 302-3-1-4, Bay Street ↑

#51 - Tax I.D. No. 302-3-1-5, Bay Street ↓





#52 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-1-2, Yacht Clubhouse 1

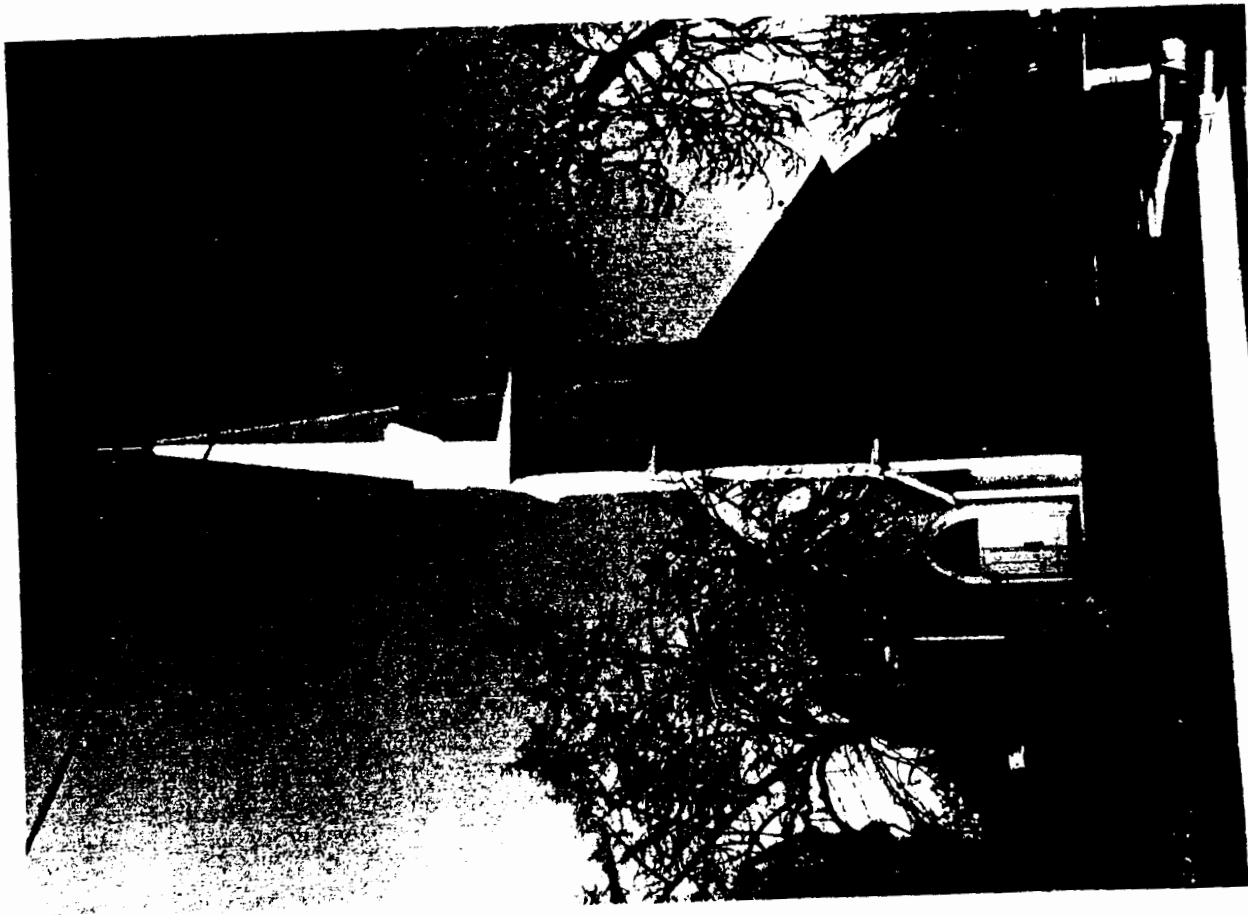
#53 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-1-1, Marine Park (Bay Street) 1





#54 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-6-5, Christ Episcopal Church (Hampton and Union Streets) † #55 - Tax I.D. No. 302-2-6-5, Christ Episcopal Church Parish House †





#56 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-4-17, St. Andrew's R.C. Church ↑

#57 - Tax I.D. No. 302-5-4-9.6, Sag Harbor Elementary School ↓



Eastville

The historical record of Eastville is quite sparse, as both the local press and historical writers have overlooked the free blacks, immigrants and native Americans that built the community. In an effort to understand the development of this distinct enclave and to establish a story of the families that called Eastville home, this investigation of Eastville focuses mainly on primary source documents, including U.S. Census records (1840-1880), period maps, house deeds, city directories, and the few local newspapers articles concerning the area. This is a very different research process than that used for the other historic contexts, as most of that material could be drawn from secondary sources.

The area known locally as Eastville consists of Hampton Street (County Route 114), Hempstead and Liberty Streets, and Eastville Avenue. Hempstead Street is a portion of the original 18th century road between Sag Harbor and East Hampton and, therefore, the oldest street in Eastville. At the turn of the 19th century, a new inland road to East Hampton was laid, Hampton Street, replacing this ancient shoreline route. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 11) In c. 1836-37 another new street was laid out by Hezekiah Jennings, which ran between Hempstead Street and Hampton Street and continued to the southwest. The street was called New Street but was later renamed Eastville Avenue (Book U, p. 35-36, County Record Office, Riverhead). It is not known when Liberty Street was laid out. This area lay well outside the developing village of Sag Harbor. The 1854 Wall and Forrest map and the 1873 Beers map both show large parcels of undeveloped land to the northwest and undeveloped lots plotted by Eleazar Latham to the west. Not until the industrial development of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when houses for factory and resort workers were built on the outskirts of the village, does the Eastville area become part of the fabric of Sag Harbor village.

The history of the Eastville area dates to the first decades of the 19th century when the area was known as Snooksville. The Snooks family, immigrants from England, settled in the area, though the exact date of their arrival has not yet been determined. Samuel Snooks, 67 years of age and English by birth, is listed on the 1840 Census and may have been one of the first to settle in the area with his wife and two children. By 1840 Samuel's oldest son George, 32 years old, his Irish wife Margaret, and two children also reside in the Eastville area. George Snooks' house (tax ID 302-3-1-18.1) contains mid-18th century timbers, though as it is located on Hempstead Street, a known 18th century route, the house could predate-date the Snooks family. A lean-to addition

was added by Snooks in c. 1840, and is an indication of the growing or evolving nature of the houses in Eastville. Samuel's other son, Charles, also born in England, was 22 years old and living at home in 1840. The Snooks family was not wealthy, as they are all listed as common laborers, yet they must have reached some prominence within the village as the area bears the name Snooksville in several early 19th century deeds.

Free blacks came to the Snooksville/Eastville area in the opening decades of the 19th century as well, though it is not yet clear from where they may have come. A likely spot known to have had a large number of both free blacks and slaves c. 1800 was nearby Shelter Island. Between 1800 and 1810 the free black population on Shelter Island decreased from 31 to 21, indicating that blacks were leaving the island ("Long Island Forum," August 1973, p. 151). Sag Harbor, because of its close proximity and ample maritime job opportunities was a likely destination not only for free blacks from Shelter Island but other towns with free black populations.

A connection with the blacks of Shelter Island may be David Hempstead. A David Hempstead is listed as a free black householder on Shelter Island in the years 1810 and 1820. A David Hempstead of Eastville, born in 1808, could have been born on Shelter Island to the man of the same name. ("Long Island Forum," August 1973, p. 151 and Sag Harbor Express, 7 October 1886) Eastville's David Hempstead is known to have worked on a whaling ship and it is likely he came to Sag Harbor in his youth because of the possibilities for employment. Crew lists from the first quarter of the 19th century indicate that from 20 to 30 percent of seamen in the holds of Sag Harbor whalers were either Negro or Indian (Palmer, p. 87). There can be no doubt, with so large a percentage, that a major role in whaling was played by these non-white Long Islanders. Recent scholarship has substantiated the role played by blacks during the whaling era of the 19th century. Their contribution in sheer numbers is quite incredible; "before the Civil War there were as many as 3000 Africans, West Indians and American blacks manning the American whaling fleet." (New York Times, 15 August 1982, p. 23) The status of blacks and Indians on Sag Harbor whaling ships is unknown, yet "as early as 1822 black captains oversaw whaling ships out of Nantucket and New Bedford, Mass." (New York Times, 15 August 1982, p. 23) Because the structure of whaling differed very little between these ports, one can be sure that blacks and Indians played a vital role in developing the whale fishery of eastern Long Island. Other non-white family names that are associated with both Eastville and crew lists for whaling ships include Cuffee, Ward, Pharoah and Jupiter (or Jubiter).

The institution that brought stability and a sense of community to Eastville was St. David's A.M.E. Zion Church, founded in 1840. By 1839 the African Methodist Society, part of the Sag Harbor Methodist Church, had "increased to such an extent that it was thought expedient for them to separate and form distinct communion." (Sag Harbor Express, 16 January 1860) A building committee was appointed: David Hempstead of Eastville; Lewis Cuffee and Charles Plato of East Hampton; and William Prime of Southampton. The committee was charged with procuring a lot and erecting the church. The African Methodist Society must have drawn members from the surrounding areas, but the committee chose a lot in "a small hamlet, in the Eastern part of the village, then called Snooksville at a cost of \$700." (Sag Harbor Express, 19 January 1860) The move seemed to mark Snooksville/Eastville as the center of the black and Indian community.

The church, when erected, was a "plain frame building," modest in scale. The membership, too, was small, having sixteen members upon its founding, though more were present who had not yet officially withdrawn from the Methodist Church. But as Sag Harbor experienced phenomenal growth from the whaling industry throughout the 1840's, not surprisingly the Eastville area also grew. St. David's membership grew quite rapidly: by 1843 there were 83 members and a Sunday School providing religious instruction to Eastville's youth (A Short History of St. David's A.M.E. Zion Church, Tucker). However, when Sag Harbor's industries suffered, Eastville also suffered. An example of this economic burden is seen through the financial troubles at St. David's. "In 1851 their members having decreased with the decline of the commercial prosperity of the village, were unable to pay a stationed preacher an adequate sum for the support of a family." (Sag Harbor Express, 19 January 1860). The community responded with an arrangement in which housing for the minister was provided by church members, while his income was to be derived from traveling the circuit, preaching in local churches. As David Hempstead was a leading supporter of the church, it is not surprising to find ministers living in his house in the 1870s and 1880s.

During the mid-1850s, the ethnic mix of Eastville, already including blacks, Indians and white English, expanded to include other immigrant groups. Patrick McMahan and his wife Margaret, both Irish, bought "the old house" from George Snooks in the early 1850s. Patrick worked as a day laborer. Another white working class family, the Shaws, came to the area in the mid-1860s. George Shaw was 60 years old in 1870 and still worked as a farm laborer. He and his wife Minerva were the parents of eight children, from age 24 to 6. Their house (tax ID

302-3-1-21.1) was small and conditions, with so many children, must have been cramped. Three of the older children worked in the local cotton mill, adding income to the family.

By 1840 David Hempstead had ceased to work on the sea, and worked in agriculture. Charles Plato, too, worked as a day laborer in 1840, but he resumed working at sea in the 1870s and 1880s. William Prime continued to whale, and is on the crew list of the SILAS RICHARD as a steward in 1841. Lewis Cuffee, a free colored person, was engaged in manufacturing or trade and heading a family of four children. The Cuffee clan was a noted whaling family and, doubtless, Lewis Cuffee spent part of his working life at sea. These changes in occupation are likely reflective of the changing industries and economics of Sag Harbor village, with which Eastville's history is inextricably entwined.

During the 1860s, the women of Eastville are listed on the Census as part of the work force. The majority of these women took jobs as domestic servants in the homes of Sag Harbor's wealthier residents. Yet many also earned extra money as dressmakers, laundresses or tailoresses. In 1860 a local newspaper describing St. David's congregation, states that "the majority of this Society are nearly all servants and pursuing their humble avocation with diligence and industry." (Sag Harbor Express, 19 January 1860) In the last quarter of the 19th century, many of Eastville's residents found employment in the tourist industry of Sag Harbor. Men and women were employed as cooks and waitresses in local hotels; many worked on the steamships running between eastern Long Island and New York City; and many continued to be servants and gardeners to the wealthy of Sag Harbor. By the last decade of the 19th century, the majority of women in Eastville were widows. (1889-90 East Long Island Directory, A.A. Bense, Compiler) These women continued to work and were the heads of extended families, often including married children and boarders.

As a result of these demographics, the small houses of Eastville, many built during the more prosperous years of the 1840s, were enlarged by the addition of dormers, rear ells and front porches - as the family grew, so did the house. Examples of houses that have had major additions are (tax ID 302-6-1-10 and 12, 302-6-2-3.1, 4.1 and 5.1). These types of additions are more common than the addition of new structures to the community. The 1854 Wall and Forrest, 1858 Chase and 1873 Beers maps all show about thirty dwellings in Eastville. However, the growth seems to have stalled after 1850; the Hyde Atlases of 1902 and 1916 show 36 and 35 dwellings respectively. Ownership opportunities for Eastville residents also changed after

1850. The 1854 map shows many of the lots and houses as owned by Eleazer Latham, a local real estate speculator; P. R. Jennings, a local attorney; William S. Havens, a corn merchant and later a steamship captain; and Arnold VanScoy. The 1858 map continues ownership by Jennings and Latham. By 1873 not one of these men own land in Eastville.

St. David's Church grew in much the same way as the houses. By the late 1880s St. David's had fallen into disrepair. Church members and generous Sag Harbor townspeople rallied together and supported the remodeling. In 1891 "the old building was enlarged with the addition of a wing in the rear, 11 x 14 feet, and by a vestibule in front, with a handsome belfry surmounting the main building." (Sag Harbor Express, 19 November 1891) The interior was also greatly improved, with frescoed walls and ceiling, new pulpit furniture, aisle carpeting, bell and a chancel rail surrounding the raised pulpit in the new rear wing. The church, with the aid of auxiliary societies and other church members, also purchased six handsome stained glass windows from the Episcopal Church in Sag Harbor. Two memorial marble tablets were purchased, one recognizing the founders of St. David's in 1840 and the other commemorating the remodeling of 1891.

There were several houses built in Eastville near 1900. In the 1890s Patrick McMahan's son, Edward, built his house on the corner of Hempstead and Liberty Streets (tax ID 302-6-2-1). This front gable house is similar to many of the workers' houses built in the closing decades of the 19th century in Sag Harbor, though somewhat smaller. Other houses were built on Hampton Street c. 1900, including a modest dwelling with almost no decorative treatment (tax ID 302-6-2-20). Hampton Street continued to be developed into the 20th century; two small cottages built c. 1930 on the same lot (tax ID 302-6-1-6.1) represent the continuity of small residences in Eastville.

Unfortunately, due to the small size of Eastville buildings in general, most have been greatly altered or modernized for suitable living conditions. Additional research would be required to determine the extent of older or original materials masked by later treatments. The significance of Eastville lies in the preservation of the homes of a distinctive integrated, working class community, and the importance of St. David's Church as a religious community committed to the black and native American population.



#79 - Tax I.D. No. 302-3-1-18.1, George Snook's House (Hempstead Street) 1



#80 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-8-8, St. David's AME Zion Church (Eastville Avenue) 1 #81 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-8-5, St. David's Cemetery 1





#82 - Tax I.D. No. 302-3-1-21.1, Shaw House (Hempstead Street) ↑

#83 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-1-11, Hempstead Street ↓





#84 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-1-12, Hempstead Street 1

#85 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-2-3.1, Hempstead Street 1





#86 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-2-4.1, Hempstead Street ↑

#87 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-2-5.1, Hempstead Street ↓





#88 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-2-1, Edward McMahan (Hempstead at Liberty Street) ↑

#89 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-2-20, Hampton Street ↓





#90 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-1-6.1, Hampton Street at Eastville 1

#91 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-1-6.1, Hampton Street at Eastville 1





#92 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-2-23, Liberty Street 1

#93 - Tax I.D. No. 302-6-2-26, Liberty Street 1



Mrs. Russell Sage

Margaret Olivia Slocum Sage was a driving force in much of Sag Harbor's cultural and physical development in the first decades of the 20th century. When her husband died in 1906 and left her approximately \$65 million, Mrs. Sage chose to spend her inheritance to benefit others, and the Village of Sag Harbor was one of the first beneficiaries. ("Safe Harbor for the Social Sciences: The Russell Sage Foundation at 75," John Jermain Library) Much of the civic architecture that exists in Sag Harbor today is a result of her activities. Mrs. Sage also affected the existing built environment through her restoration work, and by relocating numerous buildings to make room for her development projects.

Mrs. Russell Sage was born in Syracuse, New York in 1828 and was educated at the Emma Willard Seminary in Troy and at Mount Holyoke College in Hadley, Massachusetts. Her mother was born in Sag Harbor, and her maternal grandfather, Major John Jermain, was one of Sag Harbor's early settlers. Mrs. Russell Sage visited Sag Harbor often as a child, and though she owned property and apparently summered in Sag Harbor from at least 1902 until the time of her death in 1918, it is unclear whether she ever permanently resided in the village. She maintained addresses in New York City and Lawrence Beach, Long Island.

When she married Russell B. Sage in 1869 at the age of 41, he was not yet the financial giant he would later become. By 1902 the Sages had purchased the John Jermain house on Main Street in Sag Harbor, and Mrs. Sage began the process of restoring her ancestral home, a 2 1/2 story, three bay Federal style residence built c. 1790 (tax ID 903-3-3-26). In the process of expanding the grounds of the house she moved the Moylan house from next door to Palmer Terrace, resulting in a c. 1840 house located on a street opened in 1891 (tax ID 903-3-3-17).

After her husband's death in 1906, Mrs. Sage used her inheritance to establish the Russell Sage Foundation, which held its first meeting in New York City in April of 1907 ("Safe Harbor..."). This foundation is still one of the leading philanthropic organizations today and has been involved in the funding of major developments in the NYC metropolitan area, including Forest Hills Gardens, a model town planning experiment, and a 12-volume survey of the New York City Region which resulted in recommendations for building the Queens-Manhattan Tunnel and the Triborough Bridge.

In 1908 Mrs. Sage purchased the Huntting House (now the Whaling Museum, tax ID 903-3-2-17), and transformed it

into a lush estate, restoring the mansion and removing nearby houses in order to expand her gardens. These included the Oscar Fordham House which was moved from Howard Street to Noyack Road outside the village and the Stewart house, which was moved from Main Street to the back of Mrs. Sage's property, facing Howard Street (tax ID 903-3-2-9). (Miscellaneous articles, scrapbooks, John Jermain Library) Mrs. Sage continued to summer in this house, which she called "Harbor Home" until her death. In 1920 the Wamponamona Lodge No. 437, Free and Accepted Masons, purchased the mansion, which had been unoccupied and under the charge of a caretaker since 1918. (Article, Sage-Slocum scrapbook, John Jermain Library)

In that same year Pierson High School, a brick Colonial Revival structure with some Moderne features, was dedicated, built by funds donated by Sage. The school, named after Abraham Pierson, the first president of Yale College and an ancestor of Mrs. Sage, is located on Jermain Avenue between Division Street and Atlantic Avenue (tax ID 302-5-4-1).

In 1910 the John Jermain Library was erected across the street from Mrs. Sage's home on Main Street. Named in honor of Major John Jermain, Mrs. Sage's grandfather, the library was built with funds donated by Mrs. Sage and given to the people of Sag Harbor. This neoclassical brick structure has a unified classical temple front and a copper dome roof. The architect was Augustus N. Allen, and the builder of the dome was the R. Guastavio Company.

About 1908 Mrs. Sage began work on Mashashimuet Park, originally known as the Hampton Fairgrounds. The name "Mashashimuet" is an Indian word meaning "at the great springs," and was chosen because of the association of native Americans to the site, and the springs south of Otter Pond. The original park had been laid out 1878-9 and included a racetrack, ballfield and woodland covering fifty-two acres. ("Park for Sag Harbor," East Hampton Star, 3 July 1908) Mrs. Sage secured the New York landscaping and architectural firm of Samuel Parsons for the renovation of the park, which was also called an "experiment station." (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 21) A 1913 article described Sag Harbor as "a factory town with all the problems of an industrial center," and continued to report that the Fahys Watchcase Company employed almost 1,000 people, one third of the town's population. The park was intended to unite the immigrant factory workers with the old, established families who at that time "had little use for the Poles, Lithuanians, Italians and Jews who work in the factory and with their children form more than half the population." (Brooklyn Times, 30 December 1913) The directors of Mashashimuet Park became involved with the Fahys Watchcase Company in organizing educational

and social programs which would benefit the townspeople. The Athenaeum (no longer extant), which was owned by Fahys, was used as a center for these activities, which included international folk dancing, and classes in drafting, bookkeeping, electricity, telegraphy, typewriting, and English for foreigners. The 1913 Report of the Director stated that among the thirty nine people enrolled in the English class, Polish, Lithuanian, Italian and Chinese nationalities were represented. (Mashashimuet Park and Social Center, June 1911 to June 1913, Report of the Director)

Many of the original buildings associated with the park still stand. Among these are the Grandstand, a brick and wood structure which seats three hundred and fifty, with restrooms and lockers built beneath; a 2 story wood and masonry building which is now used as a maintenance building; and the Park Director's houses which sits on top the hill on the park grounds bordering Jermain Avenue. (tax ID 903-5-2-11 and 4) All were built c. 1908. The Mashashimuet Park wrought iron entrance gate is another important architectural feature of the park which is presently being restored off site. In October of 1921, the deeds to Mashashimuet Park and Otter Pond were turned over to the Park and Recreation Association of Sag Harbor.

The project of beautifying the grounds of Mashashimuet Park also involved the purchase of estates located on nearby Otter Pond. Mrs. Sage chose to move most of the houses to other locations in town. Those that have been traced include the Gerlach house which was moved a short distance to its present location on White Street (tax ID 903-6-1-22); the Austin Morris house (tax ID 903-4-2-26); the Eldridge house (tax ID 903-3-1-22); and the firehouse, now converted to a residence (tax ID 903-4-2-61.1), all of which were moved to the opposite side of Main Street.

By clearing the banks of Otter Pond and making it once more accessible to the public, Sage recognized the importance of the pond to the life of the community throughout the history of the village. In 1797 the pond was the site of the town's only grist mill, operated by John Jermain. However, the mill ceased to operate in 1803. After 1817 the pond became a prime fishing spot and a source of income for townspeople. According to Russella Hazard, "Good fishing continued for many years with numbers of loaded wagons dispatched every winter with bass and large yellow perch to New York Markets." Improvements made to Otter Pond after Mrs. Sage purchased it included the installation of a tide gate as well as a dock and float to be used for wading and swimming (these have since been removed). The pond became a favorite skating spot in the winter, both day and night, as the pond was equipped with electric lighting. ("Otter Pond," Russella Hazard,

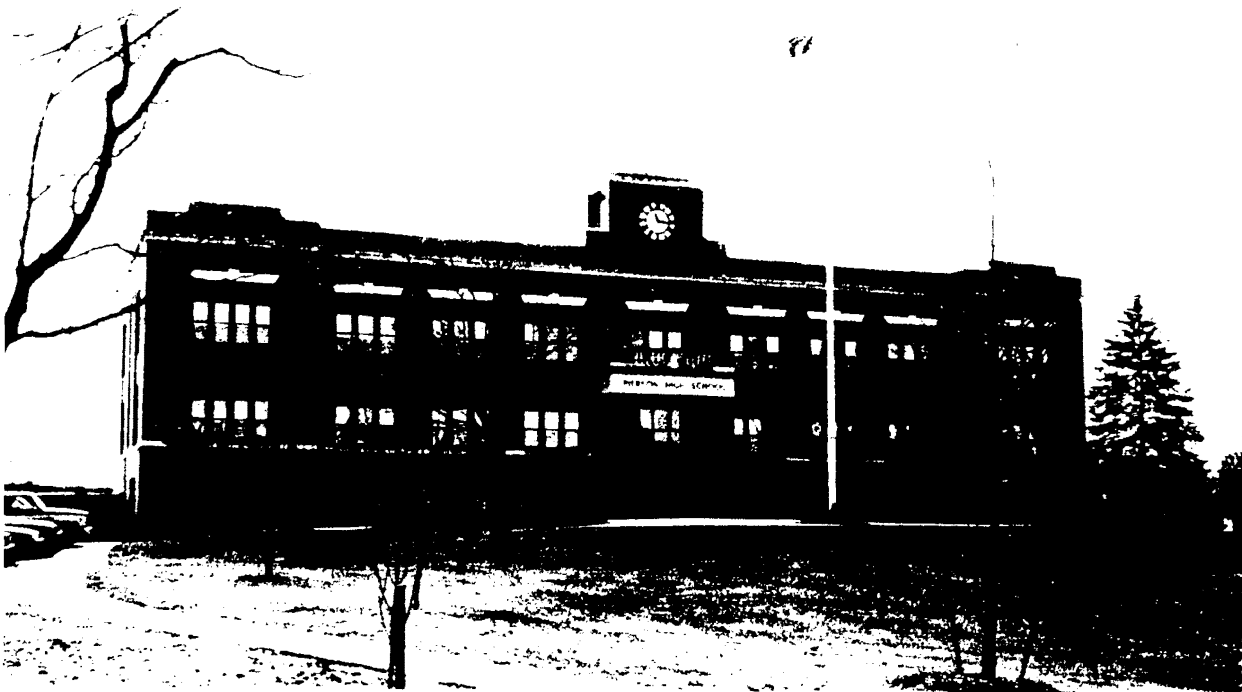
1957, John Jermain Library)

The major projects which Mrs. Sage initiated generated a significant source of employment income for the local population. It was estimated that \$22,900 was paid for labor alone in 1911. Mrs. Sage also made donations to a variety of causes in the village. In March of 1908, Sage donated a bell to the Christ Episcopal Church, built in 1884, and located on Division and Union Streets. The church's old bell was installed in the newly built Pierson High School. (Zaykowski, manuscript, ch. 11) Mrs. Sage also aided the A.M.E. Zion Church in Eastville by donating a building for use as a parsonage (no longer extant). Mrs. Sage also helped to finance the publication of William Wallace Tooker's book, Indian Place Names in 1911, and later that year donated money for the straightening of the steeple on Whalers' Church.

Mrs. Russell Sage's contributions to the Village of Sag Harbor extend beyond the physical changes to the streetscape she affected. Her progressive ideas helped to unite the townspeople at a time of great social turbulence which threatened to develop into serious rifts in the community. She understood the importance of both education and recreation for the well being of a community and was successful in enriching the lives of the townspeople with both. As written in the Brooklyn Times: "The ancient glory of [Sag Harbor] but adds to the present problem and Mrs. Sage's playground the more imperative...The whole town, like so many other small places, is divided into many hostile camps. There must be something to bring people together to create the community spirit." Mrs. Sage died at the age of 90 on November 4, 1918. Ironically, her own name is absent from any building or monument in the community.



#94 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-17, Moylan House (Palmer Terrace) ↑ #95 - Tax I.D. No. 302-5-4-1, Pierson High School (between Division and Atlantic) ↓





#96 - Tax I.D. No. 903-3-3-70, John Jermain Library (Main at Union Street) ↑ #97 - Tax I.D. No. 903-5-2-4, Mashashimuet Park Director's House ↓





#98 - Tax I.D. No. 903-5-2-4, Mashashimuet Park Grandstand 1 #99 - Tax I.D. No. 903-4-2-61.1, Firehouse converted to residence (Main Street) 1





#100 - Tax I.D. No. 903-6-1-1, Otter Pond ↑

Existing Conditions Overview

The survival of an enormous stock of historic buildings in Sag Harbor was understood at the start of the current survey work. The nomination of the historic district to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973 confirmed the existence of quantities of Federal, Greek Revival and Victorian period buildings. The task for the current survey has been to correlate the buildings known to exist with their relating historic contexts, to further define the property types which do survive from each historic context, and to determine the general level of integrity of the surviving buildings.

This task is greatly aided by the understanding of the effects of two major fires of 1817 and 1845 that destroyed so much building stock, and the process of opening new streets for development throughout the 19th century.

Settlement

There are very few sites in Sag Harbor related to the settlement period which preserve their 18th century integrity. There are well documented reasons for such sparse survival. The earliest construction for shelter may have been temporary in nature, since permanent settlement was delayed in Sag Harbor vis-a-vis the surrounding area. The opening years of settlement involved rearranging the topography of the village to fill marshes and reduce the height of hills. It would have been difficult for the earliest dwellings to survive this kind of earthwork. The two major fires swept through the areas known to have been first settled, and the completeness of their destruction is well known. Finally, Sag Harbor's influx of prosperity in the early 19th century allowed residents to radically upgrade or build new structures, which would have been more commodious and stylish than their 18th century counterparts.

Several buildings are thought to have 18th century frames, including the Custom House, the Long Island Herald House, and the George Snooks House in Eastville. None of these currently reads as a settlement period house from the exterior or from interior plan. Those houses which do read as 18th century buildings from the exterior, Sagaponack house and the Captain David Hand house, are actually relocated from other communities. The Umbrella house, though much altered and in a deteriorating condition, is an 18th century building on its original site; its masonry construction adds to its uniqueness and has served to protect more of the building's integrity.

The Old Burying Ground, laid out in 1767, is the most

valuable cultural resource for Sag Harbor's interpretation as an 18th century community. Closed to interments in 1840 when Oakland Cemetery was opened, the site and memorial stones retain integrity as an 18th century resource.

While Sag Harbor's built environment from the 18th century is largely gone, the village does still retain its original orientation towards the harbor. Its major streets, all laid out in the 18th century, have not been altered in later years. Main, Madison, Division and Hampton Streets all follow the same basic routes they did in the 18th century. Main Street does still terminate in the major wharf, though the wharf itself is a modern construction. Hempstead Street, the old route to East Hampton later replaced as a thoroughfare, also retains part of its 18th century layout.

Whaling

The survival of the structures which related to the many industries involved in keeping Sag Harbor's whale ships on the seas - shipyards, cooper shops, ropewalks, sail lofts, chandleries, wharfs, spermicetti warehouses, blacksmiths, etc. - would greatly increase the understanding of the whaling industry. Most of these structures would have been located on the waterfront, along East Water Street (now Bay Street), and West Water Street. However, Sag Harbor's waterfront is an area that was and is continuously altered and rebuilt. Besides the normal process of decay that afflicts buildings in a marine environment, the technology related to maritime industries constantly changes. Sag Harbor's waterfront was also involved in both of the major 19th century fires. As the second fire occurred near the end of the whaling era, none of the industrial structures related to whaling are extant. Other services related to the port activity, such as shipping offices, presses, etc. which may have once existed in the commercial area are also no longer extant. The Custom House and post office are preserved in the home of Henry Dering, but the later arsenal, post office and police office are gone.

By far the largest survival of the whaling era is the residential building stock, spread through most of the historic area of the village. A full range of buildings, both of designed and formal architecture and more indigenous vernacular building forms is preserved. The most fully developed classical buildings, such as the Huntting house, are located on the major streets of Main Street and Hampton Street, which serve as "high" streets similar in character to New England communities such as Nantucket town and Newburyport. The smaller houses owned

by those engaged as crew or in supporting industries are located on the streets of less consequence, such as Rysam Street and Garden Street, or in a cluster as in Eastville. It is impressive that design details found in formal designed architecture recur in buildings of less consequence with regularity, and that these details seem to have been retained through the later 19th and early 20th centuries.

Another property type surviving from the whaling era is that of religious architecture. Whalers' Presbyterian Church replaced the earlier meeting house; the Baptist, Methodist, and A.M.E. Zion churches were all built during the whaling era and survive with good integrity. The location of these buildings follows a pattern similar to the residential buildings. The Whalers' Church designed by Minard Lafever is located prominently on a hill, displaying both its seniority in the community and its function as a beacon of home port for returning sailors. St. David's A.M.E. Zion church, in the heart of Eastville, is relatively unknown even today, its location is so discreet.

Another resource from the whaling period are the 19th century burying grounds. Zion Cemetery, located across Eastville Avenue from St. David's church, contains stones of families associated with Eastville since 1840, and is invaluable as a record of their culture. Oakland Cemetery, on Jermain Avenue, was opened for interments in 1840. Its location was nearly rural, and today retains the attributes of a 19th century pastoral and picturesque burying ground.

Industry and Invention

Fortunately, the record of Sag Harbor's industrial past exists in several building types, including residential, industrial and commercial buildings. The loss of such significant structures as the Byram-Sherry Works and the Montauk Steam Cotton Mill reduces the full picture of industrialization, though the archival record of these industries is quite complete.

The most significant survival of the industrial period of Sag Harbor is the Fahys Watchcase Factory, which is located in the center of the village and retains much of its original building material. Even in its current state of abandonment, the size and siting of the factory creates an imposing statement about the importance of this industry to the community. The identification of several houses known to have been built by the Fahys Company for the workers who came to Sag Harbor furthers our understanding of the importance of this industry to the 19th century residents. Residential structures, serving

as single family, multiple family or boarding house residences, all of which served the industrial population, have also been identified in several parts of the village.

Areas of the community developed for the working population in the late nineteenth century include areas south of Jermain Avenue (Grand, Harrison, Marsden and Hamilton Streets and Montauk Avenue), all of which were laid out by the Latham family before 1853. The declining economy of the community and the swamps and thick forests that persisted in this area delayed development until later in the century. Those lots which fronted Madison and Hampton Streets developed first, but most of the lots were developed between 1873 and 1902. The houses in this area vary greatly in their integrity, as many of them have been altered and enlarged. In 1905, the largest remaining lot (ten acres) was acquired for Pierson High School. Other areas developed for workers in both the resort and factory industries included Bayview Avenue, Franklin Street, Oakland Avenue, and Jermain Avenue (formerly known as Parker, Wadsworth and Montauk Streets).

It is likely that many of the commercial structures standing were also developed during Sag Harbor's industrial growth. There are a few neighborhood commercial structures, but the majority of commercial activity was and is focused on the northern end of Main Street. Unfortunately, these buildings have been greatly altered through the 20th century, and very few of them retain integrity as 19th century commercial structures.

Resort and Tourism

The resort era brought a new population to Sag Harbor, both as transient visitors and seasonal residents. The influence of this influx is evident in all aspects of residential properties. Large houses built for successful whaling families were converted to use as summer homes and boarding houses, and new cottages were constructed for rent or purchase. Hotels were built on waterfront property formerly devoted to the whaling industry. The building activity was not limited to one area of the village, but areas not previously built on were developed at this time. In the eastern section of the village land between well developed Hampton St. and the water, previously property owned by Mulford and Sleight, was developed by the Sag Harbor Real Estate Company. Franklin Street and Prospect Avenue were laid out between 1890 and 1902, and several houses on Bay Street (formerly East Water Street) were also built in this period. A large number of these cottages survive today, displaying characteristics of the late nineteenth century such as wraparound porches, decorative shingling, turrets and bays. The area became more completely associated with the

resort context with the construction of the Frank Havens estate.

Palmer Terrace, opened in 1891 on an area known previously as "Huntting Hill", has large, shingled Queen Anne style homes built over a twenty year period. Although many of these houses were constructed for the resort industry, some may also have associations to the industrial leaders of the community. For example, Eaton's house was built as a summer cottage, but seems to have served as a full time residence after Eaton's establishment of his business in the village. The buildings on Palmer Terrace survive with a high level of integrity. On the west side of the village, cottages were constructed on John Street, near upper cove, which survive with a high level of integrity.

Buildings designed to house the more transient visitor survive in less quantity, and often in an altered form. Boarding houses such as Mary King's Rooms are extant, but not functioning as boarding houses. The only hotel surviving from the resort period is the American Hotel on Main Street, which retains much of its nineteenth century material. Other wood frame hotels which survived into the twentieth century have burned or been taken down.

Structures designed to serve the tourist population's leisure activities and transportation needs have also disappeared. The only railroad building extant is a freight depot, relocated and now used as a garden center. None of the steamship accommodations survive. The Sag Harbor Yacht Club does retain both its original use and building form, and is representative of other waterfront structures now demolished. Some features of the fairgrounds survive in the current Mashashimuet Park, but the grounds as a whole are more reflective of Mrs. Russell Sage's work (see below). Marine Park and Havens' Beach are both important open spaces reserved for recreational use early in the twentieth century, and continue in that use today.

Mrs. Russell Sage

The buildings restored and built by Mrs. Russell Sage all still exist and attest to her vision and thoroughness. Her two restoration projects, the John Jermain house and the Benjamin Huntting house, both on Main St., retain much of their nineteenth century material. Unfortunately the Huntting house wood columns have been replaced with aluminum columns, detracting from its integrity. The buildings built with funds donated by Mrs. Sage, the John Jermain Library and Pierson High School also both survive. The library has been maintained intact, while the high school has been enlarged, and new windows have been

installed, both detracting from the original building form. The two open spaces developed by Mrs. Sage, Otter Pond and Mashashimuet Park, continue to provide a location for recreation for village residents. The buildings erected in the Park for the superintendent and groundskeeping do retain features of their early twentieth century construction. New construction on the lots surrounding Otter Pond has respected the mandate to keep the pond undeveloped.

Most of the houses relocated by Mrs. Sage from Otter Pond and her Main Street properties have been located through this survey.

Selection Criteria and Guidelines

The project area and the properties to be surveyed was developed by the project team, in consultation with the NY SHPO. This was done in two separate visits by SHPO personnel to Sag Harbor.

In the first visit all public thoroughfares known to have existed before 1840 were traveled by automobile. Special attention was given to those areas outside the present historic district. Only those properties which lie within the Incorporated Village of Sag Harbor were considered. During this visit all areas to be investigated were marked on an accurate map of Sag Harbor (1"=400').

As the goal of this survey is to propose alterations to the existing National Register historic district boundaries, only properties which appear to meet the National Register criteria for districts were identified for survey fieldwork. Exceptions were properties near to or at a proposed district boundary, where further investigation (documentary or fieldwork) was required to determine eligibility.

The area identified for survey fieldwork was based on the development pattern of the community, taking in to account the periods of significance identified in the historic contexts. The area contained properties which exhibited period character which was at least modestly intact. In geographic terms, the streets in the north, east and west of the community were included. The streets in Sag Harbor generally radiate from a point near to Long Wharf in a fan shape to the south village line. The southern sections of these radiating streets and the east/west cross streets in the southern section of the village generally display post-World War II development. The line limiting our survey work closely follows this line of 20th century development.

Areas which were developed in the 1940s or later were not considered for surveying at this time. Several neighborhoods in Sag Harbor were developed in the 1940s, and represent a primarily African American population and settlement. These houses, located in the developments "Azurest" and "Ninevah" (East Hampton tax maps 302-3, 302-4, 302-6, and 302-7) are not presently eligible for National Register consideration because of their age, less than fifty years. However, they may merit investigation at some future date because of their unique cultural heritage.

A field survey form was developed to facilitate recording property information in the field. A sample

form is attached. Information pertinent to accurate identification of the property's features, as well as its use, history and condition, was recorded. Based on the information collected, a statement of integrity was made. This form was submitted to, and approved by, the SHPO.

The second site visit reaffirmed the boundaries of the project area, considering information discovered in the development of historic contexts. The project area did not change substantially. It was decided to survey the waterfront and wharf area, and to increase the number of properties to be surveyed in the Eastville area. The field survey process was streamlined to facilitate the gathering of material in a timely fashion.

SAG HARBOR HISTORIC DISTRICT SURVEY 1990

TAX ID NUMBER: .

STREET:

HISTORIC BUILDING NAME:

APP. DATE:

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

BAYS: STORIES:
BUILDING MATERIAL:
WINDOWS:

ROOF PROFILE:
FOUNDATION:

OTHER FEATURES:

OUTBUILDINGS/SURROUNDINGS:

DATE AND DESCRIPTION OF ALTERATIONS:

IMPORTANCE OF ALTERATIONS:

RELATING HISTORIC CONTEXT:

INTEGRITY:

CONTRIBUTING:

OTHER INFORMATION:

PHOTOGRAPH RECOMMENDED:

SORT NUMBER:

List of Inventoried Resources

The list of inventoried resources was developed by applying the reconnaissance level survey map to tax maps (1"=200') obtained from Real Property Service Agency, Riverhead, NY. Each area to be surveyed was outlined by block in preparation for the fieldwork.

As Sag Harbor lies in two towns, East Hampton and Southampton, a "district number" precedes each section number to identify the town. Thus, 903 precedes all Southampton property numbers, and 302 precedes all East Hampton numbers.

The following constitutes a list of all properties which were surveyed:

302-1-1-(1-3)
302-2-1-(1-10)
302-2-2-(1-39)
302-2-3-(1-36)
302-2-4-(1-24.1)
302-2-5-(1-24.1)
302-2-6-(1-6)
302-2-7-(1.1-40)
302-2-8-(1.2-15)
302-3-1-(1-21.2)
302-3-7-(2-11)
302-5-1-(2.1-36.1)
302-5-2-(1-27)
302-5-3-(1-21)
302-5-4-(1-10)
302-5-5-(1-22)
302-6-1-(1-17)
302-6-2-(1-27)
302-6-8-(1,2,3,4,5,6.1,6.2,7,8,9,11.1,12.5)
302-8-1-(2.1-4.2)

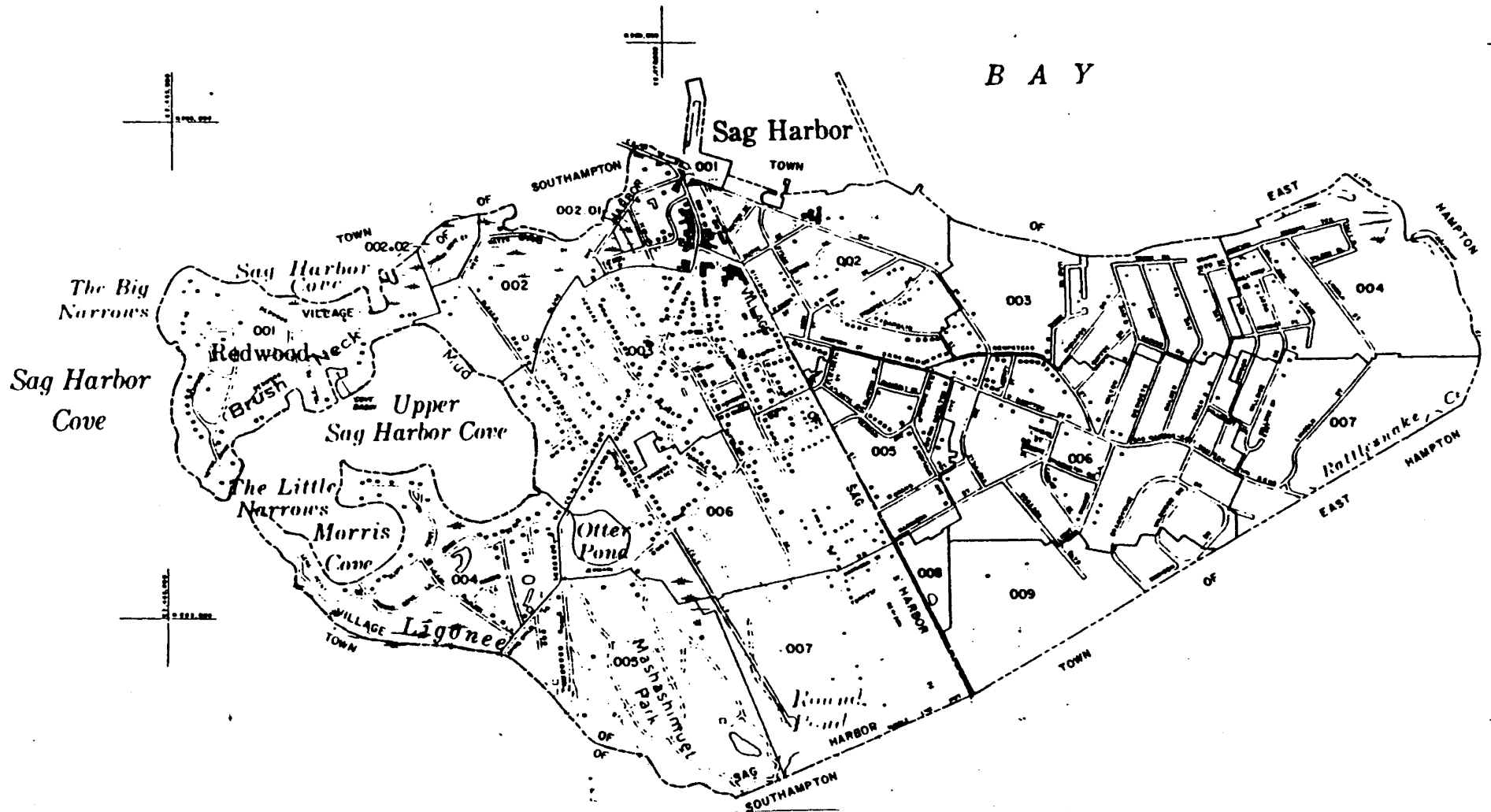
903-2-1-(2.1-50.1)✓
903-2-2-(1-49)
903-2-3-(1-23.2)✓
903-3-1-(1-108)
903-3-2-(1-57)
903-3-3-(1-72)
903-3-4-(2-76)
903-4-2-(6,7,8,9,10,11,12,63,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,23,65.1,61.1,24,26,28.3,27,28.2,29,33,34,35,36,37,38.1,39,40,41)
903-5-1-(1-29)
903-5-2-(2-11)
903-6-1-(1-62.5)
903-6-2-(3.1,4,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,17.1)

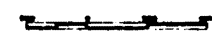
All numbers in parentheses represent an entire block;

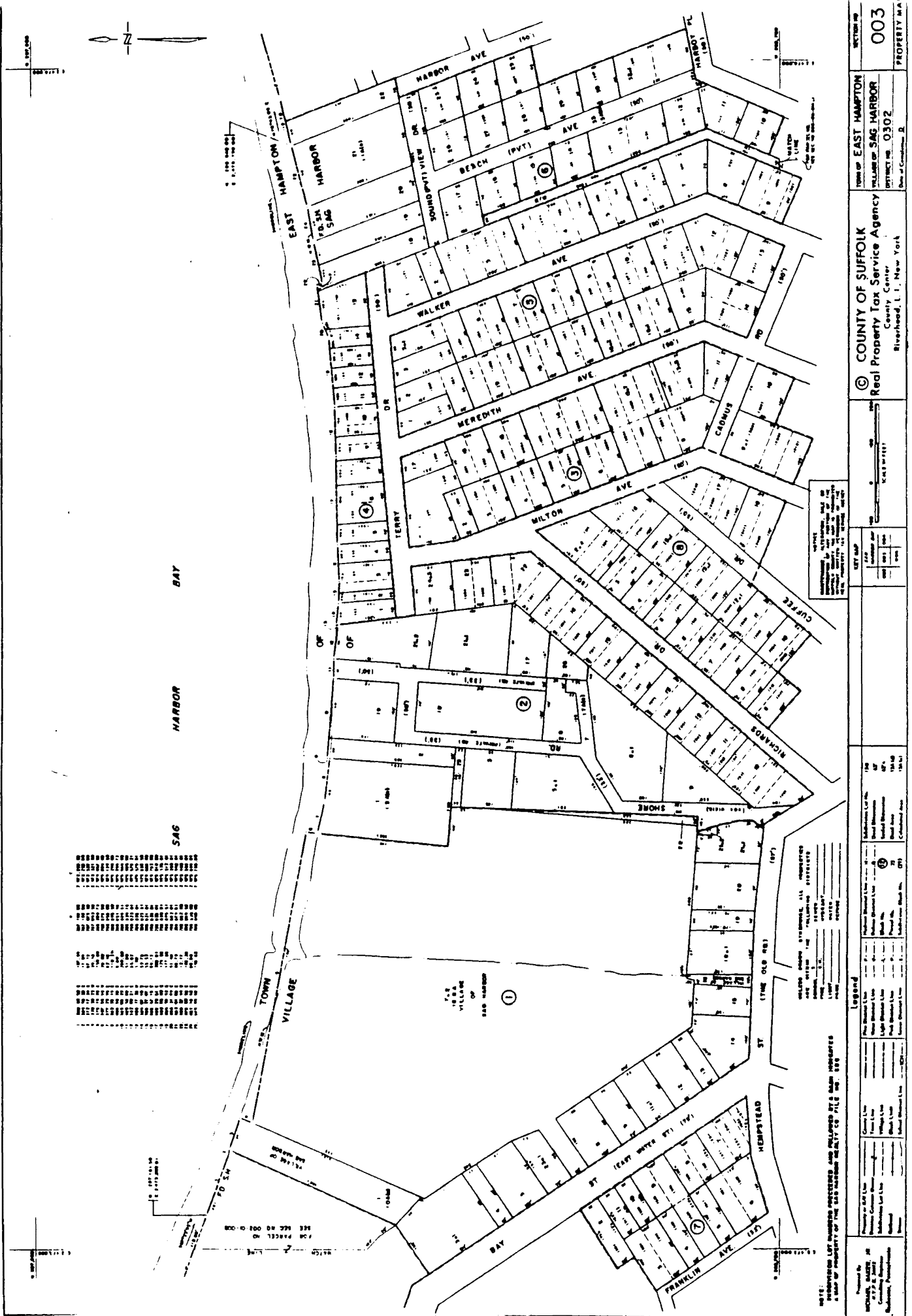
however, the property numbers within that block may not represent a complete numerical sequence. Three blocks were not surveyed in their entirety -- individual lot numbers are given for those blocks.

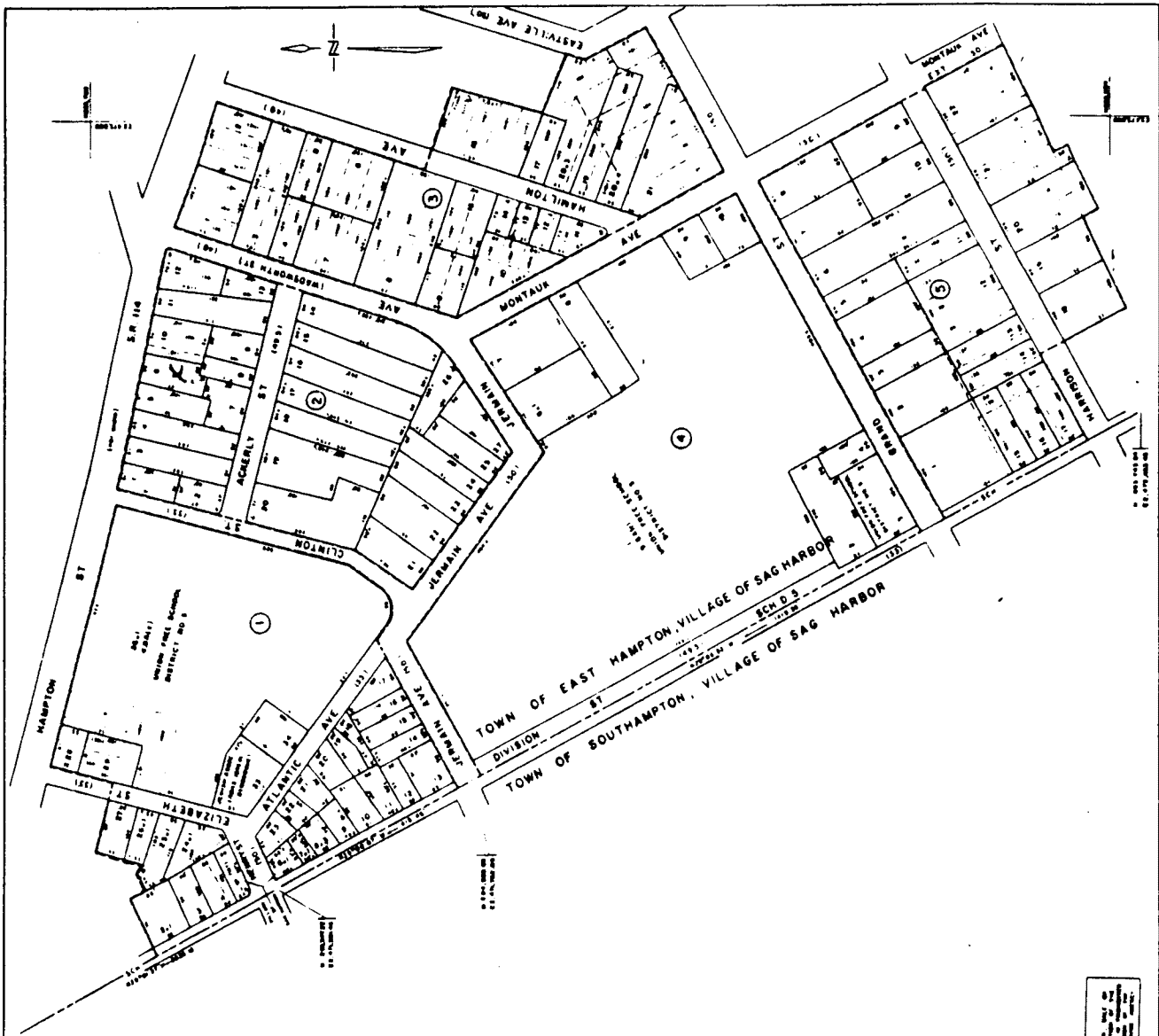
SAG HARBOR

BAY



Prepared by WILLIAM B. SMITH, JR. S.T.A. 1960 Consulting Engineer Buffalo, Pennsylvania	Legend County Line _____ Town Line _____ Village Line _____ Water Line _____	 APPROX SCALE IN FEET	© COUNTY OF SUFFOLK Real Property Tax Service Agency County Center Riverhead, L. I., New York
---	---	--	--





PROPERTY MAP SECTION 005 EAST HAMPTON SAG HARBOR COUNTY OF SUFFOLK REALTY CENTER BROOKLYN, N. Y.	
LEGEND All lots shown on this map are subject to the following conditions: 1. All lots are subject to the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law. 2. All lots are subject to the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law. 3. All lots are subject to the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law. 4. All lots are subject to the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law. 5. All lots are subject to the provisions of the Real Property Tax Law.	
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR COUNTY OF SUFFOLK REALTY CENTER BROOKLYN, N. Y.	TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR COUNTY OF SUFFOLK REALTY CENTER BROOKLYN, N. Y.

VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR
TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON

SECTION NO
003

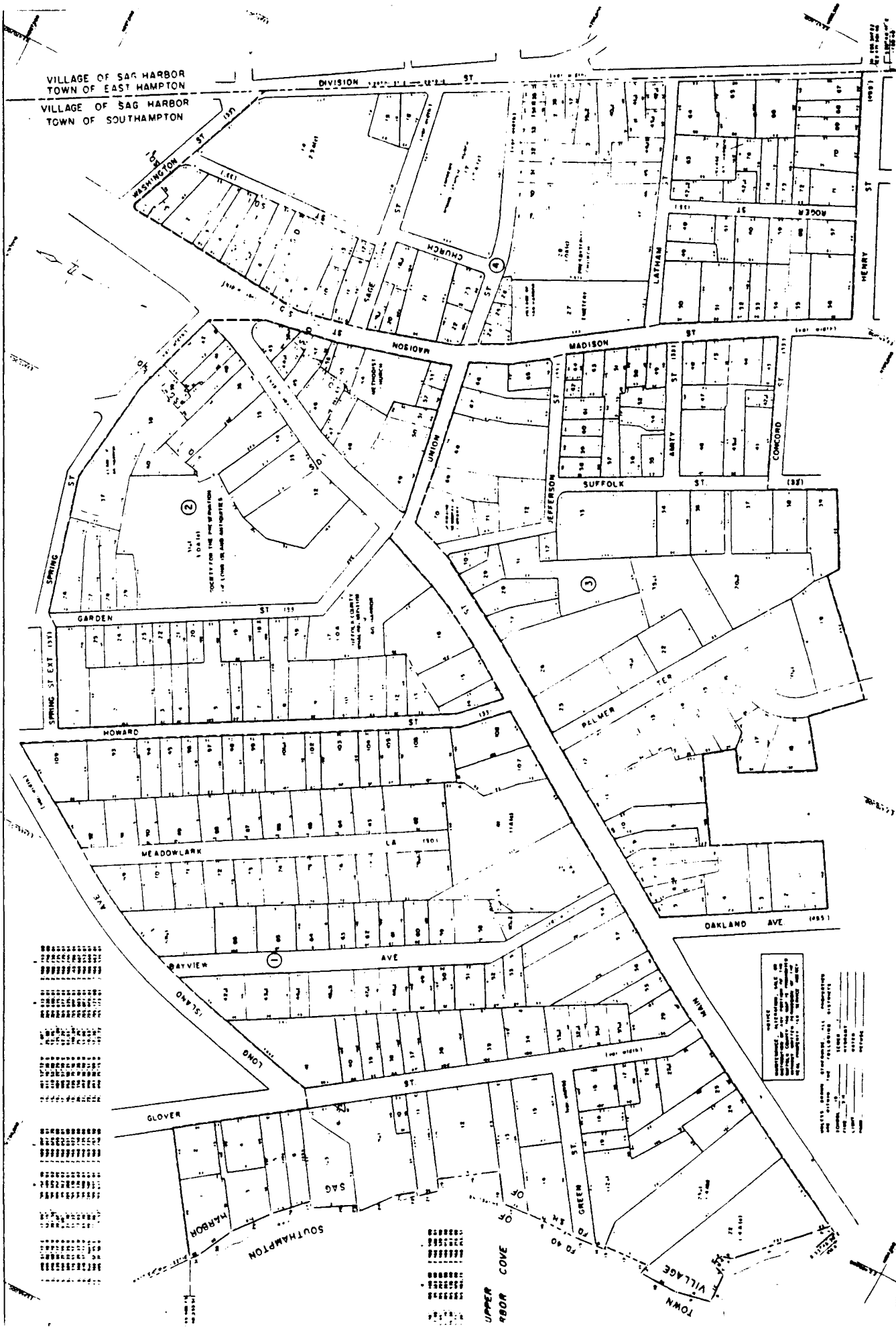
TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON
VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR
DISTRICT NO 0903

© COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
Real Property Tax Service Agency
County Center

KEY MAP
1/4" = 100' 1/2" = 200' 3/4" = 300'

LEGEND
1. Public Street
2. Private Street
3. Railroad
4. Waterway
5. Unimproved Land
6. Improved Land
7. Forested Land
8. Wetland
9. Other

Property	Assessed Value	Market Value	Assessed Value	Market Value	Assessed Value	Market Value
1. Public Street	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2. Private Street	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3. Railroad	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4. Waterway	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5. Unimproved Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6. Improved Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7. Forested Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8. Wetland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9. Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



Recommendations

The information contained in this report and in the accompanying intensive level survey forms will be useful in supplementing the planning and review procedures already in place in the Village of Sag Harbor. The village has a zoning ordinance which addresses Historic Preservation and Architectural Review (1974, amended 1985 and 1986). This local historic preservation program follows the guidelines of New York State's Certified Local Government Program, and has proven effective as a review process for the village's historic resources. This project represents the first inventory of properties within the current historic district. The information will also be used to determine historic preservation concerns in the SEQRA review process, and assist the State Historic Preservation Office in its review of National Register eligibility for individual properties.

The primary objective of this report and the intensive level survey was to provide an inventory of structures potentially eligible for an historic district which would be larger than the current district, established in 1973. The research has shown that significant numbers of properties that are both related to the historic contexts of Sag Harbor and maintain integrity as historic buildings are located outside the boundary of the 1973 district. Further, the properties are contiguous and adjacent to the existing district. It is therefore recommended that a new National Register Historic District nomination be drafted to more completely recognize and protect these properties. This expanded district should also be designated for protection under the local ordinance. The boundary of this enlarged district is drawn on the accompanying tax maps. The original district is shaded in dark grey. The areas proposed to be added to this district are shaded in light grey. The new district, then would include all shaded areas. This boundary reflects the properties which were found in our survey to maintain historic integrity and relate to the historic contexts outlined above. The boundary is drawn around a group of buildings which are clearly historic in nature, though there are modern intrusions and noncontributing properties within the district.

Several research questions were designed at the beginning of this project. Some aspects of these questions do warrant further investigation:

1. Sites related to pre-European settlement. The presence of native Americans in Sag Harbor was documented by Sag Harbor resident William Wallace Tooker early in the twentieth century. Unfortunately, little specific site information was recorded in the recovery of artifacts

undertaken by Tooker. Further research may identify sites with potential for archaeology, information important to the development of new sites within the Village.

2. Eastville. A successful investigation of the families and properties of the Eastville area has established its uniqueness and importance as a working class, integrated community dating from at least the 1840s. Additional research of individual property records and family genealogies may add information about the social and economic status of these families. The community might also be analyzed by an historian familiar with Native American and African American communities to further understand the importance of the Eastville example.

3. Nineteenth century agricultural activity. Little evidence of agricultural activity was found in the community, either in documentary sources or in surviving agricultural buildings. References to properties such as the Bebee Farm all appear to relate to properties of the nineteenth century, and no farmhouses, outbuildings or fields are extant. The one surviving agricultural property, the Cilli farm on West Glover Street, does not appear to have been established until after World War I. Further investigation is warranted for this property to determine the property's nineteenth century use, and a full history of the surviving buildings, as this large property is a likely inclusion in the new district (tax i.d. number 903-2-1-26.1).

4. Seasonal visitation. The influence of summer visitors beginning in the 1870s has been well documented, and the properties related to summer visitation have been identified.

5. Mrs. Russell Sage. Mrs. Sage's building activities have been documented, and the resulting buildings identified.

6. Industry and invention. The activities related to nineteenth industries after the decline of whaling have been documented, and the related buildings identified. One property type, the boarding house, merits further investigation to determine if its use was limited to summer visitors, or also served the working year round population.

7. Immigration. The fact of immigration has been well documented, although further federal census research may add information about countries of origin, age of immigrants, etc.

Several areas and properties identified in the survey

forms appear to warrant further investigation, including:

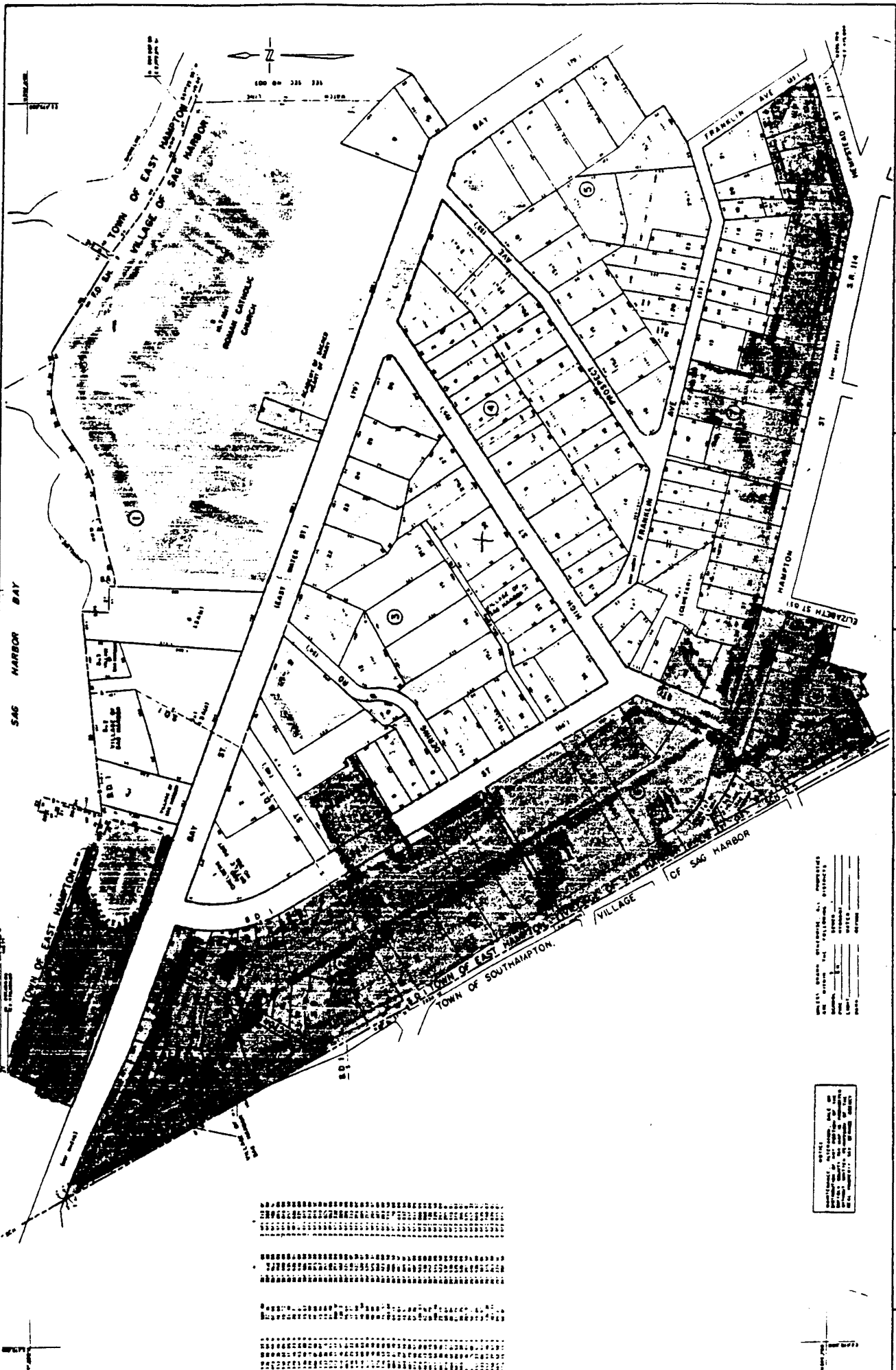
1. Properties in the commercial district, primarily the north end of Main Street. This area is in the current historic district, and should remain in any future district that may be drawn. The buildings in the commercial district are primarily of nineteenth century origin, though most of them have been so altered as to appear as twentieth century buildings. However, the overall streetscape is one which retains the scale, massing and fenestration of the nineteenth century. Individual facade treatments, window and door details, and signage are often modern in character. Further investigation and research should be undertaken to establish histories for these buildings. The village should become an advocate for the retention of historic details and the reinstallation of period treatments whenever possible. The future work proposed for the Municipal Building would be a good opportunity to encourage similar standards for the surrounding commercial buildings.

2. Areas west of the commercial district. An area behind the buildings on the western side of Main Street was included in the original historic district, although there are no historic resources identified in our inventory. If no historic resources can be identified, this area should not be included in the new district.

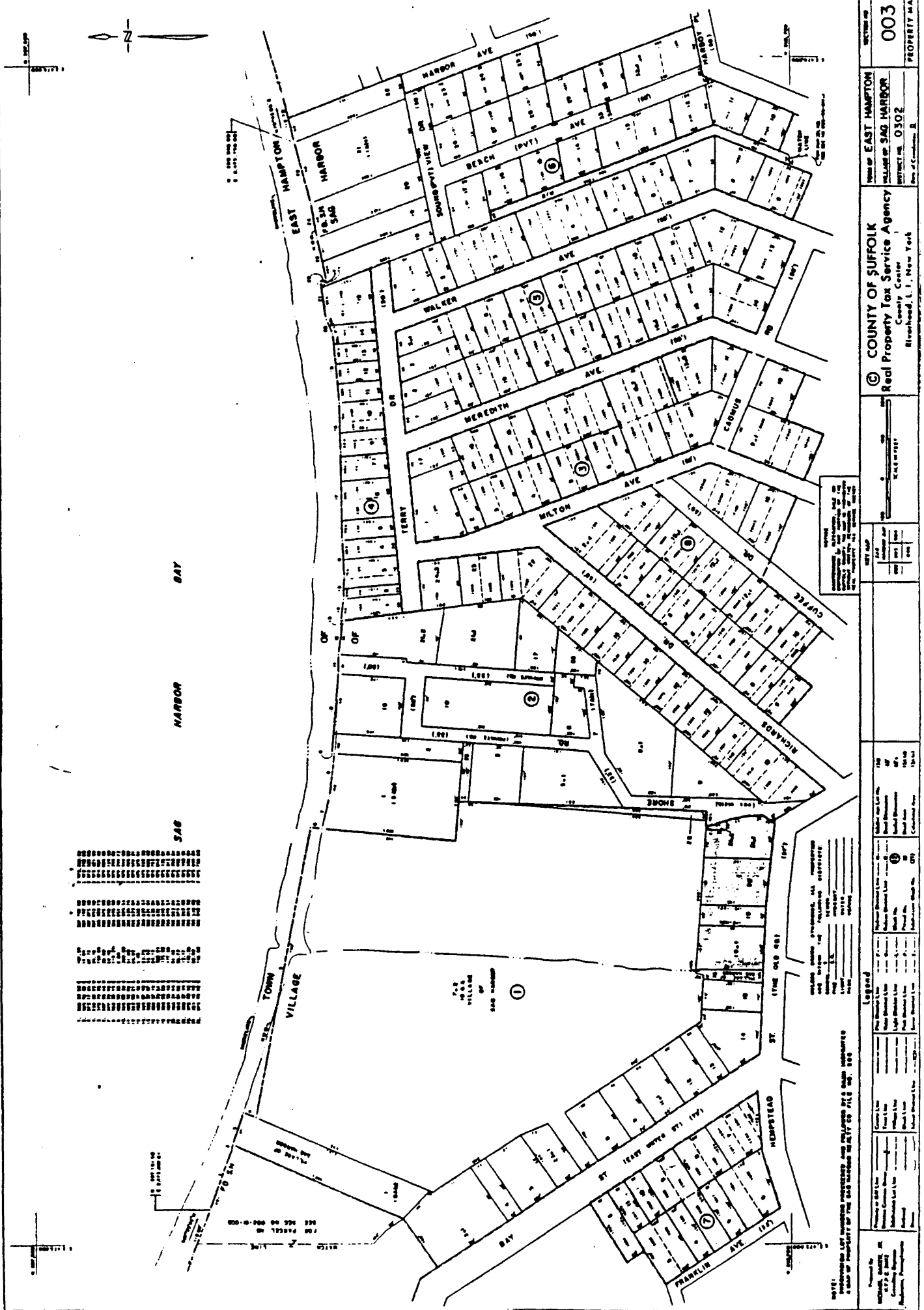
3. Properties not eligible for National Register nomination because they do not meet the general criteria of age. The developments "Azurest" and "Ninevah" were not surveyed at this time as all of the properties appear to have been developed after 1940. However, the areas were not evaluated for other areas of significance which may deem them eligible for National Register consideration at a later date. Another property ineligible because of the criteria of age is author John Steinbeck's property on Bluff Point Rd. (tax i.d. 903-4-1-11), which Mr. Steinbeck occupied from 1955 until his death in 1968. This property is not contiguous to the proposed historic district, and would need to be evaluated for individual nomination to the National Register.

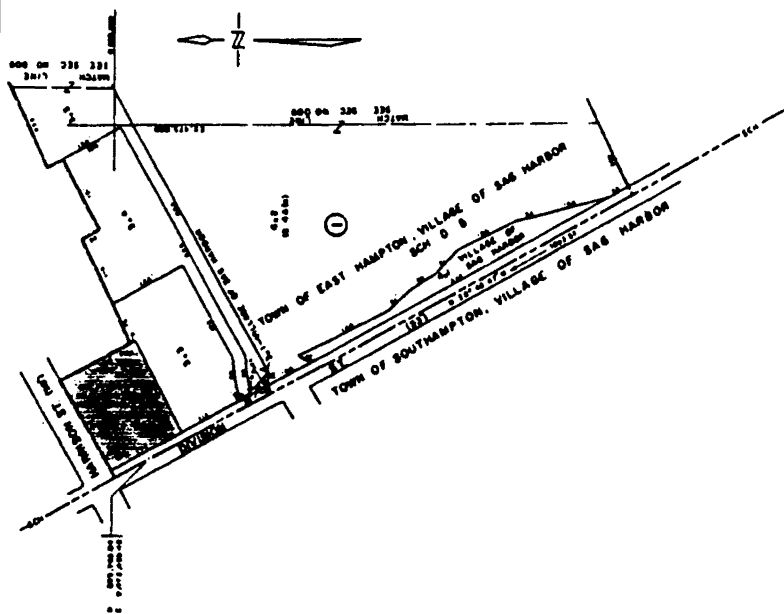
Finally, it is hoped that the public's awareness of preservation issues, which has been heightened during the course of this project, will continue to grow through public education encouraged and sponsored by the Village. The historic resources of the Village are an invaluable asset to understanding the growth and development of the culture of this community. Throughout the survey process, the project team encountered interested, curious and dedicated residents. But there are serious threats to the built environment in Sag Harbor; "improvements" to

historic buildings which are not sensitive to historic character; new additions and buildings not keeping in scale or character with the neighborhood; and a general erosion of historic details from streetscapes, parks and commercial areas. It is hoped that this report will encourage more research, interest and involvement on the part of the citizens of Sag Harbor in their efforts to preserve their community.



COUNTY OF SUFFOLK Real Property Tax Service Agency County Center		EAST HAMPTON SAG HARBOR 002
LEGEND (List of symbols and descriptions for the map)		100' 0" 200' 0" 300' 0" 1:10,000
METERS 0 100 200 300 1:10,000		100' 0" 200' 0" 300' 0" 1:10,000
METERS 0 100 200 300 1:10,000		100' 0" 200' 0" 300' 0" 1:10,000

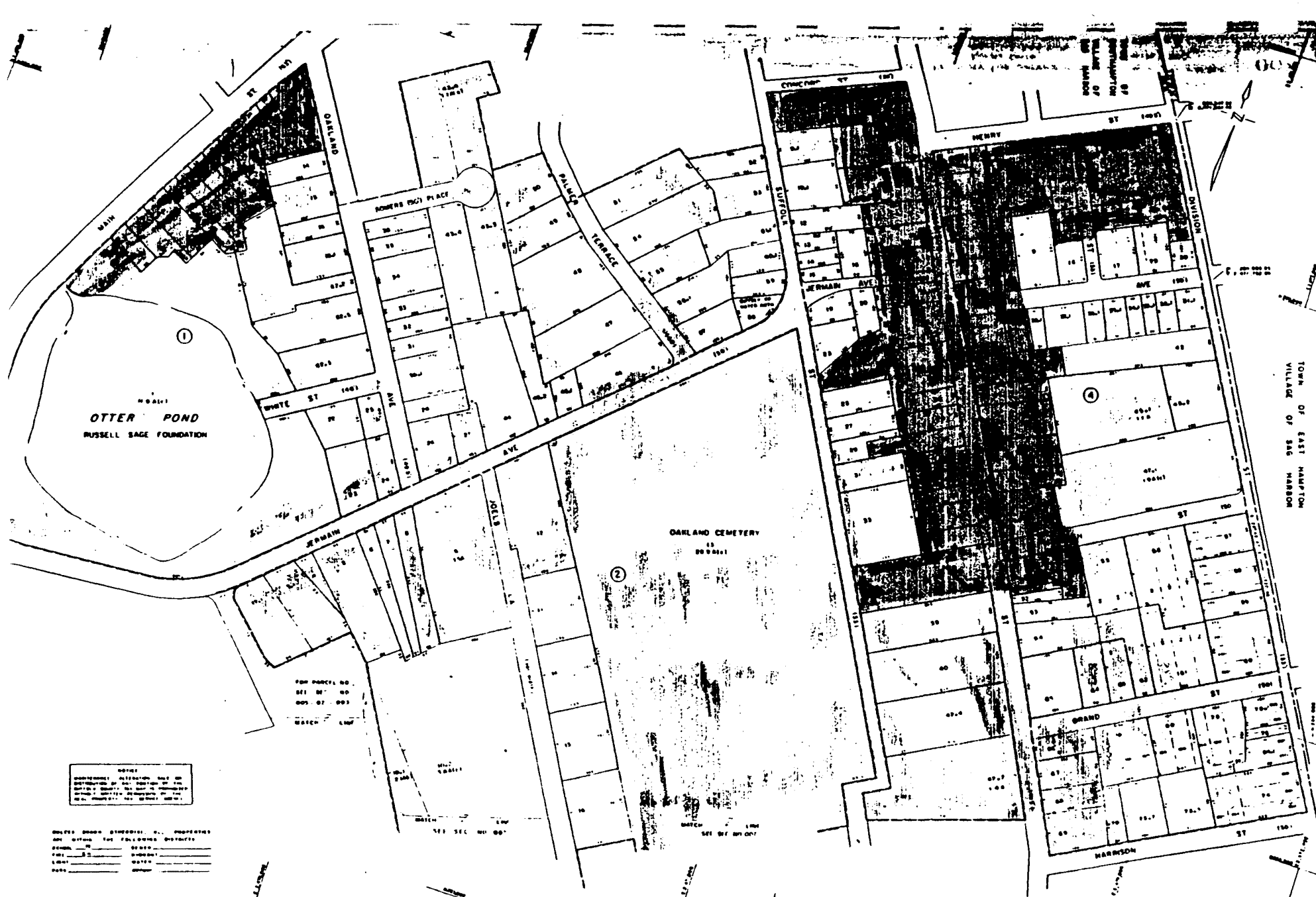




1-800-828-1111. For more information, call 1-800-828-1111. For more information, call 1-800-828-1111. For more information, call 1-800-828-1111.



SECTION 100		007		PROPERTY MAP	
TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON		VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR		DISTRICT NO. 0903	
© COUNTY OF SUFFOLK Real Property Tax Service Agency County Center Brookhaven 1, New York					
1" = 100' MAP 1" = 100'		1" = 100' MAP 1" = 100'		1" = 100' MAP 1" = 100'	
1" = 100' MAP 1" = 100'		1" = 100' MAP 1" = 100'		1" = 100' MAP 1" = 100'	



NOTES
 1. ALL LOTS ARE SHOWN WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE OWNERS NAMES.
 2. ALL LOTS ARE SHOWN WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS.
 3. ALL LOTS ARE SHOWN WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE TAX MAPS.
 4. ALL LOTS ARE SHOWN WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE LOT NUMBERS.

OWNER'S NAME
 ADDRESS
 CITY
 STATE
 ZIP

Legend

Property to be sold	County to be sold	Full District to be sold	Partial District to be sold	Sub-district to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold
County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold	County to be sold

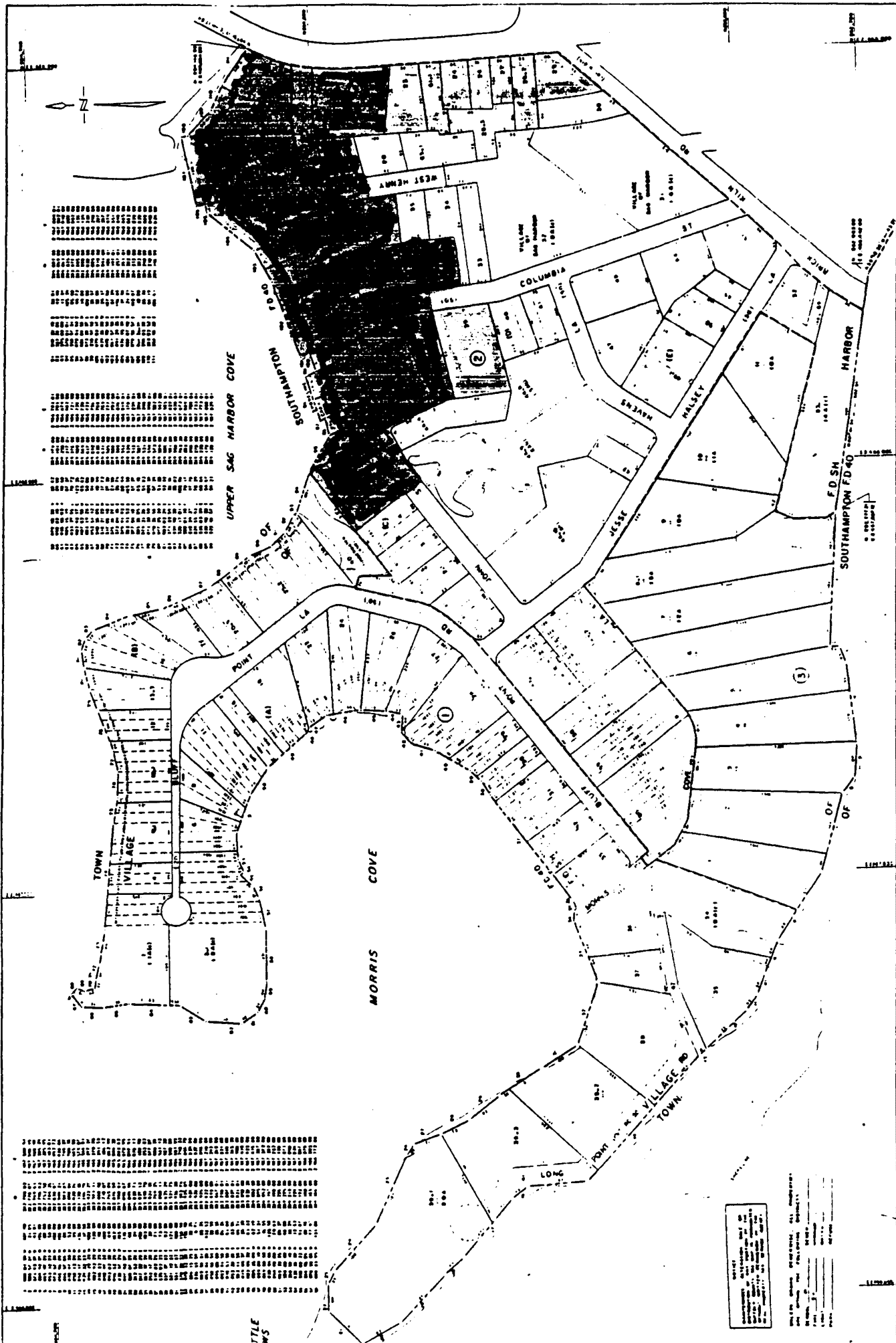
KEY MAP



© COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
Real Property Tax Service Agency
 County Center
 Riverhead, L.I., New York

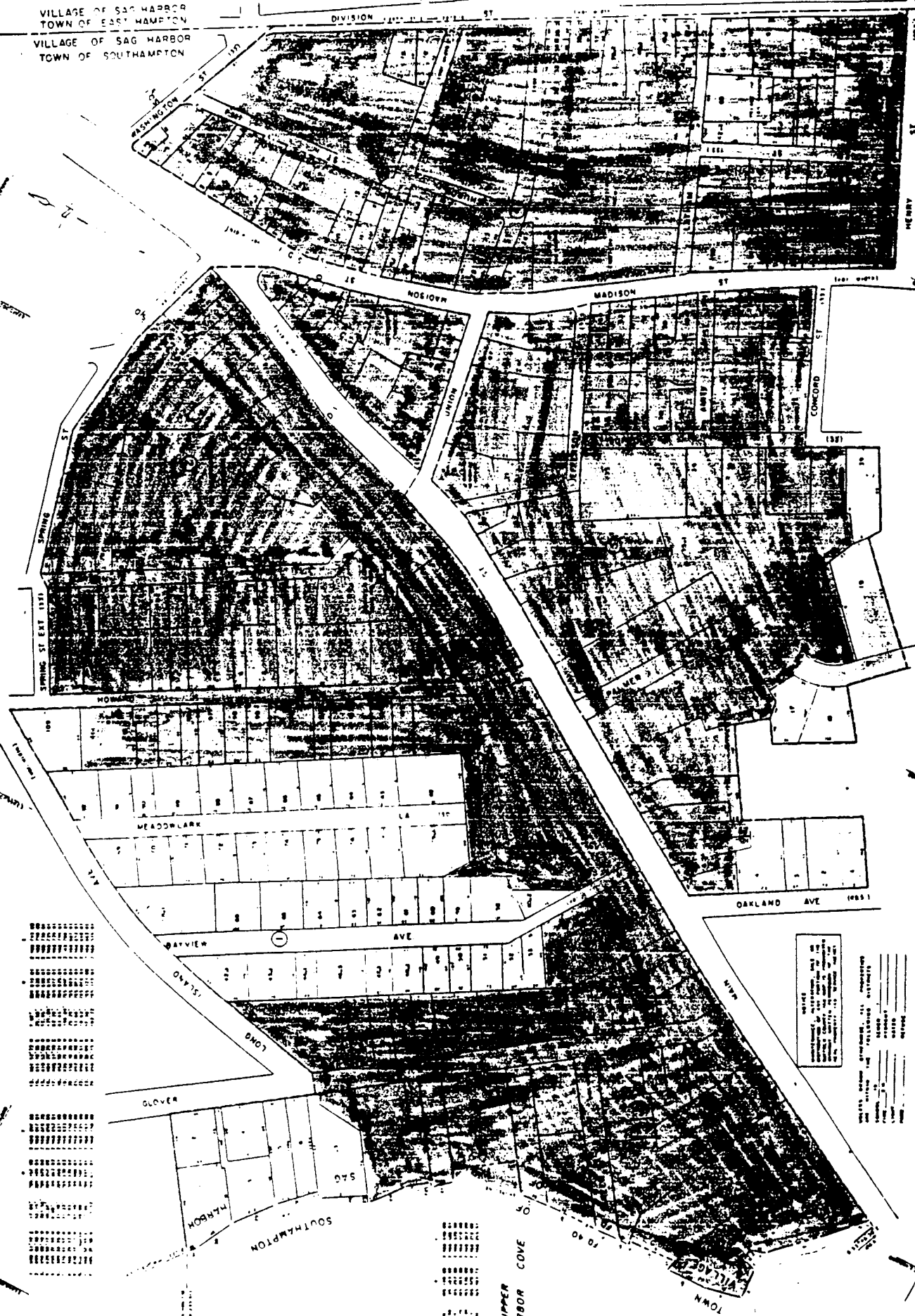
TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON
 VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR
 DISTRICT NO. 0903

SECTION NO.
006
 PROPERTY MAP



COUNTY OF SUFFOLK Real Property Tax Service Agency County Center Riverhead, L.I., New York		SECTION 004 004 PROPERTY MAP
TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON VILLAGE SAG HARBOR DISTRICT NO. 0903 Date of Completion		
LEGEND (1) Unimproved Land (2) Improved Land (3) Water (4) Other		
SCALE 1" = 100'		
TITLE 195		

VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
VILLAGE OF SAG HARBOR
TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON



SECTION 10

TOWN OF SOUTHAMPTON

RECEIVED SAG HARBOR

DISTRICT NO. 0903

003

© COUNTY OF SUFFOLK

Real Property Tax Service Agency

County Center

Scale: 1" = 100'

LEGEND

Shaded areas: Wooded land

Unshaded areas: Developed land

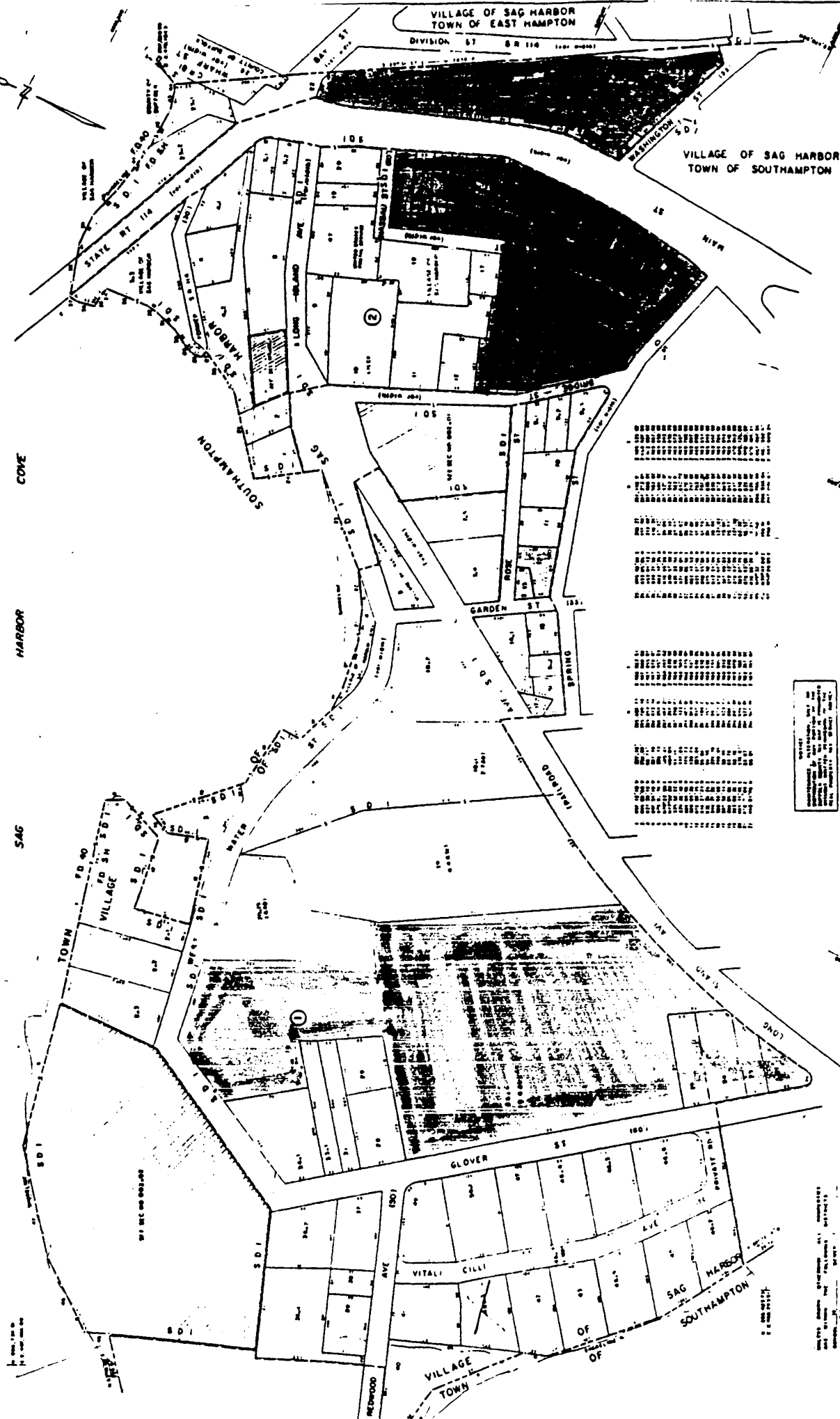
Lines: Property boundaries

Arrows: Water flow

INDEX

Map No. 0903

Scale: 1" = 100'



COUNTY OF SUFFOLK
Real Property Tax Service Agency

Legend

[illegible]

002
SOUTHAMPTON
HARBOUR
0903

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:
Sag Harbor Village District

AND OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Various

CITY OR TOWN:
Sag Harbor

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"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Various

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Sag Harbor

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:
New York State Historic Resources Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1968 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
N. Y. S. Division for Historic Preservation

STREET AND NUMBER:
Office of Parks and Recreation, So. Swan Street Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Albany

STATE:
New York

CODE:
36

Representative: Otis G. Pike
Congressional District: 1

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

OFFICE COPY

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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

6. Representation in Existing Surveys
(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Long Island Landmarks
1970, Reprinted 1971 State
State office of Planning Coordination
488 Broadway
Albany, NY

The Architecture of Suffolk County
1971 County
Heckescher Museum, Huntington
Parrish Art Museum, Southampton
Guild Hall of East Hampton

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)		(Check One)	
	<input 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>Hemmed in by hills, marshes, and bodies of water, Sag Harbor underwent a clustered, close-knit form of development. Since the principal movements in the Village's formative period were in a north-south direction, to and from the waterfront and its associated business district, the street pattern is dominated by major routes radiating from a point on the waterfront near Long Wharf. East-west movements between the radial streets was clearly secondary.</p> <p>The lower (northern) section of what is now Main Street was first laid out in 1745. At the time of the Revolution, the Sag Harbor Settlement extended as far south as Union Street and an early map indicates the presence of the northerly section of Madison Street. Development of the waterfront was only beginning at this time, but there were already several docks and wharfs including what is now Long Wharf. Much of the central core of the village developed by the close of the 1840's, but "froze" to a large extent during the depression of the third quarter of the 19th century. With the economic revival that accompanied industrial enterprize, and the village's role as a summer colony, many of the remaining streets developed late in the 19th century in the area surrounding the old central core.</p> <p>The present district extends southward from the waterfront along the major radial streets: Main, Madison, Division, and Hampton. West of Main Street the district includes portions of John, Glover, Bayview, Howard, Garden, Spring, Bridge, Rose, Meadow, and Nassau Streets. The district reaches eastward from Division and Hampton Streets to include parts of Rector, Burke, Love, East Union, High, and Hempstead Streets. The southern boundary is an irregular line drawn between Main and Hampton Streets with emphasis on the corridors along the north-south routes.</p> <p>The central core of the village, which envelops the waterfront business district and spreads south along the major radial streets, is characterized by a heavy concentration of buildings of the colonial, Federal, and Greek Revival styles. It is this concentration, notable for its quantity as well as the quality of certain individual structures, which gives particular credence to the late 19th-century observer's description of Sag Harbor as a "finished village," which stopped growing c1850.</p> <p>A common form in this district is the 18th and early 19th century, wood-frame, three-bay or "half house," found in both 1-1/2 and 2-1/2-story versions. Representative of the former are the Tinker Alley Tavern and two dwellings on the west side of Church Street (north and south of the junction with Sage Street). These shingled and clapboarded cottages are generally plain with interior end chimneys and rectangular door enframe-</p>				

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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

7. Description p. 2 (Continuation Sheet)
(Number all entries)

ments incorporating four-or six-light transoms. Several cottages of this form also bear details expressive of the Greek Revival mode.

Also common in the village is the 2-1/2 story side-hall half-house which is represented by the Nathaniel Prime House (c 1797) and the Benjamin Glover House (c1810). The former, a shingled, gable-roofed structure, is ornamented only by the detail of its door enframingent. Built by and for carpenter-builder Benjamin Glover, the Glover House is a more elaborated example of this building type. Notable features include fascia board ornamented by applied blocks imitative of stylized modillions, door enframingents with fluted Tuscan pilasters, and a one-bay pedimental porch.

The finest example of the wood-frame, 1-1/2 story, 5-bay structures in Sag Harbor is the Jared Wade House (c1797), at the corner of Madison and Union Streets. Served by interior end chimneys, this form is usually very simple. The Wade House is distinctive for its well-proportioned, finely detailed door enframingent composed of molded architrave with leaded transom and sidelights surrounded by an elliptical fanlight. The Burdick House on Garden Street is similar although less sophisticated.

The two-story, five-bay building form of the Colonial and Federal periods is exemplified by the Custom House (1789) on Garden Street and the Sybil Douglas House on Main Street. The former is a very commodious but simple, shingled and clapboarded structure ornamented only by its mantel-frame door with wood-muntined transom in a fan pattern. More consciously elaborated, the gambrel-roofed Douglas House is distinctive for its modillioned cornice, pedimental facade gable with lunette window, elliptical windows canted toward the center in the gable ends, and the elliptical motifs of its door enframingent and pedimented porch.

The Greek Revival Mode of architectural design may be found expressed in a variety of structures from the simplest vernacular cottages to sophisticated designs such as the Benjamin Hunting House. In addition to the one and 1/2 story, three-bay cottage bearing Greek Revival Motifs, the vernacular expression of this style is also exemplified in Sag Harbor by the Hand House, representative of many similar dwellings. Sited with its gable end serving as the front elevation, the dwelling is characterized by a period door enframingent and two-story corner pilasters rising to a modillioned pediment which encloses a triangular, leaded window. The L'Hommedieu House at the corner of Main and Bayview Streets, is unique in Sag Harbor. Urban in its vertical, enclosed, cubical shape, the brick and brownstone dwelling stands nearly three full stories, with the top story lit by low horizontal

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET P. 2

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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

7. Description p. 3 (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

windows in a wide frieze. Especially elegant detail may be found in the door enframingent.

The only temple-front Greek Revival structure in Sag Harbor, the Benjamin Huntting House, now the Whalers Museum, is a striking articulation of this style, significant for the elegance, attenuated grace, and rich multiplicity of detail. Attributed to Minard LaFever, the structure is irregular in outline yet balanced in composition. Worthy of particular note is the above-cornice cresting which employs the whaling motifs of harpoon and spade.

The architectural highlight of the district is the nationally significant Whalers Presbyterian Church situated on Union Street between Church and Division Streets. Attributed to Minard LaFever, the structure's battered walls exhibit Egyptian Revival tendencies as do the tall slit-like windows. Detail is varied and includes Greek Revival Motifs as well as above-cornice edging composed of adaptations of whaling implements. The structure's tall tower was destroyed in a hurricane of 1937.

One of the purest examples of the Gothic Revival Style in the village, the dwelling on the southeast corner of William and Henry Streets is characterized by high pointed cross-gables, C-scrolled barge boards, finials at the apex of the gables, and pointed windows with wooden tracery. The architectural modes of this period may be found expressed on numerous structures in the village by the simplification of the above motifs and by a proliferation of applied wooden ornament. The Hedges House on Main Street perhaps best illustrates the use of milled ornament common for much of the Victorian Period.

Constructed with the accumulated wealth of whaling prosperity just as the village entered its economic depression, the Hannibal French House is a fine example of the Italianate style. Rich in detail, the structure is elegant yet not excessive. This period of construction in Sag Harbor also produced the Napier-Howell House, a large, clapboarded, hip-roofed dwelling crowned by a balustrade and ornate belvedere. Another structure dating from the third quarter of the 19th century which deserves particular mention is the mansard-roofed Crocket House on Main Street, one of the few examples of this form in Sag Harbor.

The construction which followed the fire of 1877 and the revival of the village's economy during the latter part of the 19th century, occurred in the outlying blocks of the village and in the waterfront business district. In addition to simple utilitarian structures such as the Murray Hill Hose Company building at the junction of Elizabeth and Atlantic Streets this period is illustrated in the southern regions of the village by structures

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET P. #3

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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

7. Description p. 4 (Continuation Sheet)
(Number all entries)

such as the Schuman House at the junction of John and Columbia Streets, and the three-story, clapboarded and shingled dwelling on the east side of Palmer Terrace at the bend. Compactly massed with a turret beginning at the second floor, the latter is a shingled structure varied by applied "strapwork" ornament, overhung second floor, and laticed porches. Also worthy of note is the John Jermain Library erected in 1910 in the classical revival style across Main Street from the Huntting House.

Long Wharf, located at the base of Main Street forms the focal point of the waterfront area today. A wood-framed windmill has been moved to a point in front of the wharf and from this point, a series of three-story, late 19th-century brick structures extend southward up Main Street to the convergence of Main and Madison where stand several commercial structures constructed of wood-frame and sheathed by shingles or clapboards. The streetscape of the business district is largely dominated by two buildings which substantially predate the last fire: the three-story, six-bay, crenellated, brick block begun after the 1845 fire and known since 1877 as the American Hotel; and the four-story, brick Municipal Building. Originally built following the 1845 fire, the latter structure has undergone some ornamental alterations during its long history as hotel, school, and municipal hall. Notable features are the cupola, clustered octagonal brownstone columns, and a bracketed cornice. Behind the main business structures are numerous largely wood-frame dependencies, with the notable exception of the Bulova Watch Company Building located at Washington and Division Streets. Begun in 1881 for the Fahys Watch Case Factory, the four-story brick structure, punctuated by a series of segmental-arched windows, is dominated by a five-story tower.

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)

☐ Aboriginal

☐ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

☐ Philosophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☒ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

☐ Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☒ Commerce

☐ Literature

☐ itarian

☐ Communications

☐ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A whaling community which flourished during the first half of the 19th century, the Sag Harbor Village District is an historical environment of 18th and 19th century structures remarkably uninterrupted by 20th century intrusions. Maritime and cultural links with New England associate the village visually with ports of that region rather than with other communities of New York. Formerly a U.S. Port of Entry and a center of maritime trade and commerce, the village is extraordinary for the quantity of structures present from the 18th and first half of the 19th century, as well as for the quality of individual buildings.

Growth of the agricultural hinterland of eastern Long Island by mid-18th century created a demand for a convenient outlet for agricultural surplus and a depot for the importation of goods and raw materials.¹ In response, the "Harbor of Saggs", well endowed with natural physical advantages, developed as a port which, by 1770, had generated a village of 36 dwellings. The relative ease of water-borne commerce with New England, and the opening of trade with the West Indies between 1760 and 1770 made Sag Harbor a seaport of substantial economic significance. The opening of a stage route between the village and New York City reaffirmed the importance of Sag Harbor's geographic position, a factor recognized during the Revolution by the British who occupied Long Island from the defeat of the Americans at the Battle of Long Island in August 1776 until evacuation in November 1783. Sag Harbor became an important supply depot as well as a base for the British fleet and site of a British fort, constructed near the present Whaler's Church.

At the close of the Revolution the whaling industry belonged predominantly to Nantucket, with 150 vessels and 2000 men employed. At this time the industry on Long Island still constituted a small-scale, offshore enterprise for small ships. In 1785 Col. Benjamin Huntington and Captain Stephen Howell of Sag Harbor outfitted the brig Lucy and sent her on a whaling voyage to the coasts of Brazil and Africa. By the end of the 18th century Sag Harbor's home fleet amounted to only four vessels but whaling was exhibiting considerable promise.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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

8. Significance p. 2 (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Although Whaling was still in its infancy for Long Island, Sag Harbor's shipping prospered and in 1788 brought to the village designation as a United States Port of Entry, the first in New York State. (The village ceased to function in this capacity in 1913.) Between 1790 and 1800 some 100 vessels called at the port and registered tonnage more than quadrupled during the decade 1795 to 1805. By 1810 Sag Harbor's population totaled 850. Trade at this period consisted of exports such as wood, grains, leather, and fish, while imports included lumber, stone, brick lime and general merchandise.

The War of 1812 temporarily interrupted the quarter-century of growth which had occurred in Sag Harbor following the Revolution. With the close of the war in 1814 whaling resumed on a small scale and in 1817 the first ships of Sag Harbor sailed to Cape Horn and the Pacific. On May 26th, 1817, the village was struck by the first of three destructive fires which on separate occasions were to consume major portions of the business district. Recovery from the debilitating effects of both war and fire was slow, and the port did not regain its former importance until the 1820s and early 1830s when whaling vessels increased noticeably in quantity.

The burgeoning whaling industry developed rapidly, and with it the economic wealth of the port. Shipping records from 1820 to 1850 indicate the arrival of 490 ships with total value estimated at nearly \$15 million, nearly half of which occurred in the decade 1837-1847. At its peak in 1845 the Sag Harbor whaling fleet numbered 63 vessels, operated by twelve firms, and two years later, a total of 32 whaling vessels returned to the port laden with cargo valued at nearly one million dollars. In the 1840s Sag Harbor employed more than 1000 seamen in addition to village residents in the whaling industry and ranked as a whaling port behind only New Bedford and Nantucket, thus surpassing the ports of New York, Mystic, and Providence as well as the other ports of Long Island. In addition to the volume of its commerce, Sag Harbor's shipping history includes two other distinctions: in 1845 Capt. Mercator Cooper is believed to have flown the first American flag in a Japanese port from the whaleship "Manhattan" of Sag Harbor, and in 1848 the bark "Superior" of Sag Harbor is understood to have been the first whaler of any nation to pass through the Bering Strait into the Arctic Ocean.

According to James Fenimore Cooper, "the true Maritime character of...all Suffolk, was derived from the whalers, and its proper nucleus was...at Sag Harbor."² By the time the industry reached its height at the close of the 1840's much of the wealth which produced the statelier dwellings had been amassed and much of the central core of the Village, between Jermain Avenue and the

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET 2

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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

8. Significance p. 3
(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

waterfront had developed. The population of the Village swelled from 150 following the 1817 fire to more than 3,600 by 1845. The completion of the Main Line of the L. I. Railroad to Greenport in 1844, combined with the bridge to North Haven, built in 1834, helped to fix Sag Harbor's position as a communications line and point of transportation interchange for eastern Long Island.

By the year 1845 there were some 80 firms doing business on Main Street in the compactly developed area of the waterfront. On November 12 fire destroyed approximately 95 of the densely packed wooden structures of Main Street and the Waterfront, which constituted the entire lower western part of the village. Re-building began almost immediately but placed a severe strain on an economy which in 1848 began an abrupt decline with the whaling industry throughout the country. By 1850 the number of whale ships enrolled in the Sag Harbor Customs District had dwindled from a peak of 63 to 14. Only four whaling vessels arrived at the port in 1851, with a cargo valued at only \$175,000, and by 1869 no whaleships left port.

With the 1850's and 1860's the once prosperous village dwindled into a severe economic depression. Contemporaries described it as:

...one deserted village--a seaport from which all life has departed..." and, in 1876, "merely a place in which farmers do a little trading... The houses all have a comfortable, cozy look... [Sag Harbor] is a finished village. It stopped growing a quarter century ago..."³

On February 18, 1877 the third of Sag Harbor's major conflagrations swept the wharves and business section of the Village, destroying 31 buildings including the music hall, Nassau House Hotel, Flour mill, residences on Rysam Street, and the remaining whaling warehouses. This fire marks the close of the village's depression, for although several manufacturing ventures had begun and failed, Joseph Fahys successfully relocated his watch-case factory in 1881 in Sag Harbor where it proved the village's economic mainstay until forced to close during the depression in 1930. It was this factory, together with Sag Harbor's position as a commercial center for the surrounding agricultural area, and its appeal as a summer colony of small cottages that kept the village alive economically in the last quarter of the 19th and the early 20th centuries. At its lowest ebb in the mid 1870's, Sag Harbor's population had dropped to slightly over 2,000. In 1907 the Brooklyn Eagle observed that:

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET p. 3

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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

8. Significance p. 4 (Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Sag Harbor has awakened from its moribund condition that followed the decline of the whaling industry and become a hustling manufacturing village of from 4,500 to 5,000 population, but not as important relatively as fifty years ago.⁴

Today the village economy is based on four major industries, the influx of seasonal residents and tourists, and retail trade. In anticipation of the influx of population and resultant pressures upon the land which can be expected if the potential for suburbanization of eastern Long Island is fulfilled, the village of Sag Harbor is currently studying methods to control growth in order to safeguard the significant contribution made by its historic resources to the visual environment of Sag Harbor.

-
- ¹ Historical material is drawn from Robert M. Pine's Report to the Sag Harbor Historic Preservation Commission, Of Whales, Wars, and Fires: Sag Harbor Past, Present and Future, June 1973.
- ² Quoted in Pine, Of Whales, Wars, and Fires..., p. 28.
- ³ The Corrector, December 9, 1876, quoted in Pine, Of Whales, Wars, and Fires..., p. 58.
- ⁴ Quoted in Pine, Of Whales, Wars, and Fires..., p. 58.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Pine, Robert M. Of Whales, Wars and Fires: Sag Harbor Past, Present and Future. A Proposed Historic Preservation Program for the Village of Sag Harbor prepared by the Sag Harbor Historic Preservation Commission of the Village Planning Board, June, 1973.

Rosebrock, Ellen Fletcher. Architecture in Sag Harbor, New York. A report prepared for the Sag Harbor Historic Preservation Commission, December 1972.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	41° 00' 17"	72° 18' 18"			
NE	41° 00' 17"	72° 17' 51"			
SE	40° 59' 30"	72° 17' 51"			
SW	40° 59' 30"	72° 18' 18"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 300 acres

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		Commission	
Lynn Beebe Weaver / Robert Pine (Sag Harbor Historic Preservation)			
ORGANIZATION		DATE	
N.Y.S. Division for Historic Preservation		June 73	
STREET AND NUMBER:			
South Swan St. Bldg. /			
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE	CODE
Albany		New York	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

Form 10-301
(July 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Sag Harbor Village District		
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
New York	Suffolk	Sag Harbor
STREET AND NUMBER		
Various		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
Village Map by Sag Harbor Savings Bank	ca. 1972	

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.

Bibliography

Adams, James Truslow. History of the Town of Southampton (East of Canoe Place). Bridgehampton: Hampton Press. 1918.

Bayles, Richard M. Historical and Descriptive Sketches of Suffolk County. Port Jefferson, NY. 1874.

Benjamin, Asher. The Practical House Carpenter. Boston: Published by the author, R.P. and C. Williams, and Annin and Smith. 1830.

Bensel, A.A., compiler. East Long Island Directory 1889-90. New York: The Columbia Press Company. 1889.

The Boroughs of Brooklyn & Queens, Counties of Nassau and Suffolk LI NY. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co. 1925.

Boyd's Long Island Business Directory, 1888-89. Brooklyn, N.Y.: W. Andrew Boyd. 1889.

Davies, Peter. The Return of Byram's "Oakland Cottage". Manuscript, 1988. Copy, JJL.

Dwight, Timothy. Travels in New-England and New York. New Haven: Timothy Dwight. 1822.

Epstein, J. and E. Barlow. East Hampton: A History and Guide. New York: Random House. 1985.

Gazetteer of the State of New York. Syracuse, NY: R.P. Smith Publisher. 1860.

Halsey, Doris. "Byram of Sag Harbor," unpublished paper delivered to the Early Trades and Crafts Society, April 18, 1972. Copy, JJL.

Hazard, Russella. "Otter Pond," manuscript, 1957. Copy, JJL.

Hedges, H.P. Early Sag Harbor: an address delivered before the Sag-Harbor Historical Society, February 4, 1896. Sag-Harbor: J. H. Hunt, Printer. 1902.

Hedges, H.P. A History of the Town of East-Hampton, NY. Sag-Harbor: J. H. Hunt, Printer. 1897.

Hedges, H.P. Sag-Harbor in the Revolution. Sag-Harbor: Express Print. 1909.

Hefner, Robert. Historic Preservation Report Town of East Hampton. Phase One: Reconnaissance Survey. Town of East

Hampton, NY. 1989.

Holsten, Margaret. Ephraim Niles Byram (1809-1881) Sag Harbor (NY) Craftsman. Thesis, State University of New York at Oneota. 1977.

Lafever, Minard. The Beauties of Modern Architecture. Newark, N.J.: W. Tuttle & Co. 1835.

Lewis, Arnold Meredith. Sag Harbor: The Study of a Small Community. Thesis, International YMCA College, 1930.

Long Island Railroad. Long Island. Long Island Railroad. 1890.

Long Island Railroad. Long Island. Long Island Railroad. 1898.

Long Island Railroad. Long Island. Long Island Railroad. 1907.

Long Island Railroad. Long Island. Long Island Railroad. 1917.

Mashashimuet Park and Social Center, Report of the Director, June 1911 to June 1913. Copy, JJJ.

The Name in the Case. De Vinne Press, no date. Copy, Pennypacker Collection, East Hampton Public Library.

Palmer, William R. The Whaling Port of Sag Harbor. Thesis, Doctor of Philosophy, Columbia University, 1959.

Pine, Robert H. Sag Harbor: Past, Present and Future. Prepared for the Sag Harbor Historic Preservation Commission, Village of Sag Harbor, NY. 1973.

Prime, Nathaniel S. A History of Long Island. New York: Robert Carter. 1845.

Rattray, Jeanette Edwards. East Hampton History. Garden City, NY: Country Life Press. 1953.

Rosebrock, Ellen. Notes relating to historic buildings in Sag Harbor. Manuscript, 1973. Copy, JJJ.

"Safe Harbor for the Social Sciences: The Russell Sage Foundation at 75." Booklet, no date. Copy, JJJ.

Sag Harbor Estates Promotional Brochure. No date. Copy, JJJ.

"Sag Harbor's Long Wharf." Copy, Long Wharf File, JJJ.

"Sag Harbor in the Land of the Sunrise Trail 1707-1927."
Copy, JJL.

Scrapbooks "I" and "B". JJL.

Sleight, Harry D. The Whale Fishery on Long Island.
Bridgehampton, NY: The Hampton Press. 1931.

Tucker, Kathy. A Short History of St. David's A.M.E. Zion Church. Booklet, no date. Copy, JJL.

Van Liew, B.F. Long Island Domestic Architecture.
Setauket, NY: Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities. 1974.

Willey, Nancy B. Built by Whalers. Sag Harbor: Old Sag-Harbour Committee. 1945, rev. 1948.

Willey, Nancy B. Historic House File. JJL.

Wortis, Helen. "Black Inhabitants of Shelter Island."
Long Island Forum, August, 1973.

Zaykowski, Dorothy. Sag Harbor and Its Illustrious Past 1707-1920: A History for Reference and Research.
Manuscript, 1989: to be published by the Sag Harbor Historical Society, 1991.

Maps

"A Chart of the port of Sag Harbor." Erza L'Hommedieu, surveyor. Manuscript, c. 1800. Copy, Pennypacker Collection, East Hampton Public Library.

Map of Suffolk Co., L.I. Surveyed by J. Chace, Jr. Philadelphia: John Douglass. 1858.

Atlas of Long Island, New York. Surveyed under the superintendence of F. W. Beers. New York: Beers, Comstock and Cline. 1873.

Atlas of Suffolk County, Long Island. Brooklyn: E. Belcher Hyde. 1902.

Atlas of a Part of Suffolk County, Long Island, New York. Brooklyn: E. Belcher Hyde. 1916.

Sag Harbor, Suffolk County, New York. Base map prepared by the Sag Harbor Planning Board, February 1973.