

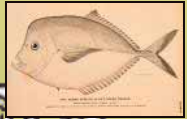
Brookhaven Town *(Suffolk County, Long Island, N.Y.)*

@ 350 Years

Part X:
Brookhaven in the Lost Years:
Early & Antebellum U.S.,
1783-1861

comp. & ed. by
Mark H. Rothenberg
© 2005 Mark H. Rothenberg

The Patchogue-Medford Library
Salutes the Town on its Anniversary



From Double Indemnity to Perceived Rehabilitation, 1783-1800

Guilt by Association: Once was Not Enough, For Auld Lang Syne, Part 1

✦ Fine evidence that the American Revolution was a Civil War, is that L.I. (including Brookhaven), was **Twice Punished: First, For Being too Rebellious; Next, for Being too Loyal**. Most Suffolk County residents, esp. once the British imposed a loyalty oath, remained **suspect**, & fair game for expropriations, under **British occupation**. They suffered outright thefts & robberies, confiscations, extortions, vandalism, forced labor or transportation, & stockpiling of supplies aiding the enemy (usually under duress), destruction or denial of a means of livelihood, arrest & imprisonment, occasional execution, & other offences. **Those who refused to swear allegiance could lose all** they owned, and find themselves in jail or prison. It was a generally harsh occupation, compounded by outrages of increasingly indiscriminate American & Tory raiders, on their own people, sometimes without redress, or even partial redress. **As the conflict wore on, many Loyalists fell victims to the very Army they had supported**, gradually public opinion swayed and drifted to the American cause. Residents endured loss of food,, animals, property, livelihood, firewood & fencing, only

From Double Indemnity to Perceived Rehabilitation, 1783-1800

Guilt by Association: Once was Not Enough, For Auld Lang Syne, Part 2

▲ to suffer further, at war's end, when New York State law imposed an indemnity on all L.I. residents, for disloyalty, i.e., having been behind enemy lines & supported the enemy war effort, whether forcibly or willingly. The indemnity was harsh, as it was often imposed on the most Patriotic faction of the population, as there had already been, by war's-end, a major Loyalist exodus from the Island. Some Tories stayed on or returned later. Many had their land and livelihoods forfeit. The blanket punishment meted out conveniently ignored returning U.S. veterans, those who had fought or spied for the U.S. cause, at times to great effect, often at the risk of their lives & ready British retribution against their families, or property on L.I. It was heedless that labor, goods, & possessions routinely had been extorted & commandeered under threat or force, and that many had been jailed, rather than obey (and British jails carried their own terrors), denying them the means to repay. At the time imposed many of those affected were at a bare subsistence level. The indemnity succeeded in compounding their woes, wrought by 7 years' hostile occupation, by adding about another 7 years of blocked recovery, and hostile governance. Upstate/downstate rivalries might well date from this divide.

From Double Indemnity to Perceived Rehabilitation, 1783-1800

Guilt by Association: Once was Not Enough, For Auld Lang Syne, Part 3

- ✦ The suffering of those returning to this devastated land, which in Suffolk and Kings Counties had generally favored the patriotic cause, deserves greater study and publication that it has yet received. L.I. Diaries, correspondence, legal cases, and account books of the these years need to be examined collectively, to properly judge the effects. The indemnity could only be paid, as as people gradually recovered their lives, property, reestablished livelihoods, established credit, recovered some wealth, & some self-respect. Yet, Town & Isle rebounded, though slowly, repaying their "debt " to the State, gradually prospering under the republic, that their signers, statesmen, officers, soldiers, sailors, raiders, & spies, sons and daughters had had a notable hand in creating, & repeatedly saving. By the time NYC, former British Headquarters, N. America, became the 1st U.S. capital under the Constitution, it too had been "rehabilitated", and there was no longer any excuse to continue to punish Long Island. With a bit of stability and security restored, L.I. and Brookhaven had re-entered the fold of acceptability.

President George Washington Tours Long Island & Brookhaven

April 1-19, 1790, Pt. 1: The Pressure Cooker of Precedents

1st U.S. President Briefly Escapes U.S. Capital & National Affairs

- **New York City in 1789-1790** (former British Headquarters, North America) ironically, if fittingly, became the **first U.S. capital, under the Constitution**, & a hotbed of political & diplomatic ferment & intrigue.
- **Everything was new, an adventure in precedent, a pressure cooker.**
- By **April 1790**, a number of key votes in Congress lay just ahead
- At home passions aroused by the **Federalist vs. anti-Federalist debate** had drifted into the **partisan politics**, which George Washington disdained.
- The nascent **French Revolution**, a source of both pride & concern, was being closely watched. At this point Louis XVI was still enthroned. The flight to Varennes, (led by Washington's protégé Lafayette), regicide, & the reign of Terror still lay in the future; waiting to expand on U.S. polarization.
- Between **April 1-19, 1790 alone**, just prior to his trip to L.I., some of the matters on his platter included:
 - **U.S. citizens taken prisoner in Algiers**, & the **problem of securing their release**
 - There had been a **diplomatic affront from Spain**, which had **summarily sacked its colonial governor, Don Blas Gonzalez, of Chile**, for allowing a U.S. ship in distress, the *Lady Washington*, to put into port for repairs.
 - **Diplomatic appointments** had to be made, & foreign appointments confirmed

President George Washington Tours Long Island & Brookhaven

April 1-19, 1790, Pt. 2: Making Determinations

1st U.S. President Briefly Escapes U.S. Capital & National Affairs

- ✦ **Conflicting state-to-state claims were being resolved**
- ✦ **State-to-federal relations were being clarified.**
- ✦ The **need for a national coinage** was being raised by Thomas Jefferson in his correspondence, as U.S. Ambassador to France (soon to be Secretary of State)..
- ✦ To humor him, **Washington sat for a portrait** by Edward Savage, for John Adams (one of his finest life portraits, now in the Adams National Historic Site, Quincy, Mass.)

✦ Some of the **Congressional bills on his desk in April** included:

- ✦ one for the **regulation of the much-shrunk peacetime army** (near and dear to Washington's heart), which had been under much discussion
- ✦ Another **to forbid exportation of goods not first inspected by the various states**
- ✦ The **first national patent law**
- ✦ One for **provision of scouts on the frontier** to give advanced warning of hostile Indian preparations
- ✦ Another act, dealing with **customs regulation at the ports**

- ✦ Then there were the **constant evening social rounds** and **felt need for exercise.** Frequent exercise with the family in his coach, or long rides between meetings and engagements are noted in his diary.

President George Washington Tours Long Island & Brookhaven

April 20-21, 1790, Pt. 3: Stepping Out

1st U.S. President Briefly Escapes U.S. Capital & National Affairs

- George Washington needing a break, decided on a whirlwind tour of the nearby Long Island countryside, & took his diary with him.
- That wasn't all. Sending his servants (slaves) and baggage on ahead of him, but delayed by bad weather by a day, he left Manhattan via the Brooklyn Ferry on April 20th.
- That day, he traveled from Brooklyn via Flatbush, New Utrecht, & Gravesend, to Jamaica, staying at Warne's Tavern.
- Early on April 21st, he proceeded through S. Hempstead viewing the Hempstead Plains, and headed to the South [Country] Road [roughly today's Montauk Highway], to Squire Thompson's [today's Sagtikos Manor, in W. Bay Shore].

President George Washington Tours Long Island & Brookhaven

April 22-23, 1790, Pt. 4: Traveling Into Brookhaven, & Out

1st U.S. President Briefly Escapes U.S. Capital & National Affairs

- From Washington's Diary:
- **"Thursday 22^d.** About 8 O'clock we left Mr. Thompson's – halted while at one Greens distant 11 miles and **dined Harts Tavern** in Brookhaven town ship five miles farther. To this place we travelled on what is called the South road described yesterday but the Country through which it passed grew more and more Sandy and barren as we travelled Eastward, so as to become exceedingly poor indeed but a few miles further Eastwards the lands took a different complexion we were informed. **From Harts** we struck across the Island for the No. side, passing the East end of the Brushey Plains and Koram 8 Miles – thence to Setakit 7 Mi. more to the House of a **Captn. [Austin] Roe** which is tolerably dect. [decent] with obliging people in it."
- [Yes. Washington actually slept there, though it is now relocated and a private residence.]

President George Washington Tours Long Island & Brookhaven

April 22-23, 1790, Pt. 5: Traveling Into Brookhaven, & Out

1st U.S. President Briefly Escapes U.S. Capital & National Affairs

- [Added Note: **Gilbert Hart** appears in the **1790 Census**, in Patchogue, who, unlike Washington's other stopping places, owned no slaves. **Captain Austin Roe** was a member of the Setauket Spy Ring in the Revolution, of whom, one would think Washington knew more than he confided in writing.]
- **Washington's Diary (continued):**
- "The first five Miles of the Road is too poor to admit Inhabitants or cultivation being a low scrubby Oak, not more than 2 feet high intermixed with small and ill thriven Pines. Within two miles of Koram there are farms but the land is of an indifferent quality much mixed with Sand. Koram contains but few houses. From thence to Setalket the Soil improves, especially as you approach the Sound; but is far from being of the first quality— still a good deal mixed with Sand. The road across from the So. to the No. Side is level, except a small part So. of Koram but the hills there are trifling.

President George Washington Tours Long Island & Brookhaven

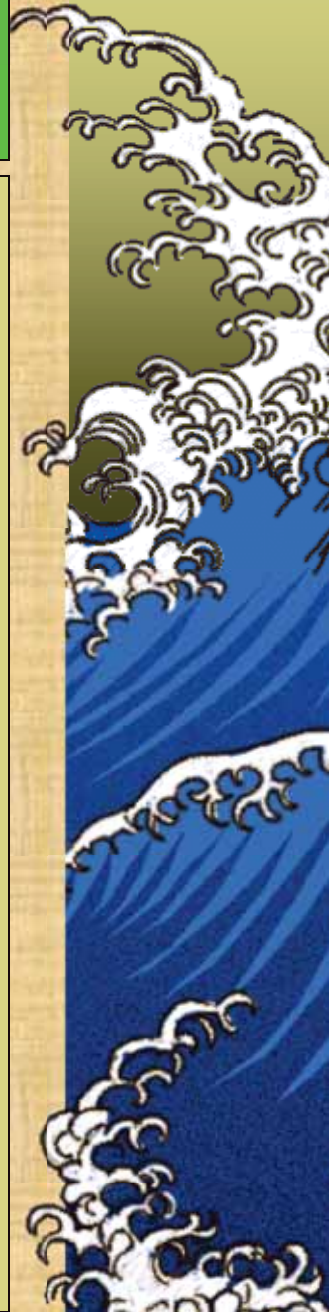
April 22-23, 1790, Pt. 6: Traveling Into Brookhaven, & Out

1st U.S. President Briefly Escapes U.S. Capital & National Affairs

- Washington's Diary (continued):
- Friday 23^d.** About 8 O'clock we left Roes, and baited the horses at Smiths Town..."
- His trip continues after lunch at Widow Blidenburgh's through Huntington to Mr. Young's at Oyster Bay. His sole reference to the Revolution is of the Lloyds of Lloyd Neck, north of Huntington. On **Saturday, April 24** he got up extra early, breakfasted at multiple mill owner, Mr. Onderdonck's, enjoying his company, then went on to Flushing, Newton and Brooklyn, crossing to Manhattan before sundown.
- Next morning he was back to being President.
- Source:** U.S. Library of Congress. American Memory Project. "April 1790" *In The Diaries of George Washington*, v. 6, Donald Jackson & Dorothy Twohig, ed. *The Papers of George Washington*. Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1979.
[http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/mgw:@field\(DOCID+@lit\(wd0612\)\)](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/mgw:@field(DOCID+@lit(wd0612)))

Slave Examined to Determine His Worthiness of Manumission – March 5, 1798

- ▶ “We the Undersigned in Conformity to the Act of the Legislature of the State of New York intitled an *Act Concerning Slaves* passed 22 Feb-y 1788 – do hereby Certify that on Application of Genl. Smith in behalf of Mrs. Ruth Woodhull have Examined as Certain Negro man Slave Named Ben and are of Opinion that Said Negroman is of Sufficient ability to provide for himself and that the Said Negro man is under the Age of fifty Years.
- ▶ Nicholl Floyd, Richard Robinson, Stephan Overton, Joseph Brewster, Jur., Caleb M. Hulse, Merritt S. Woodhull} Trustees”
- ▶ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 7.

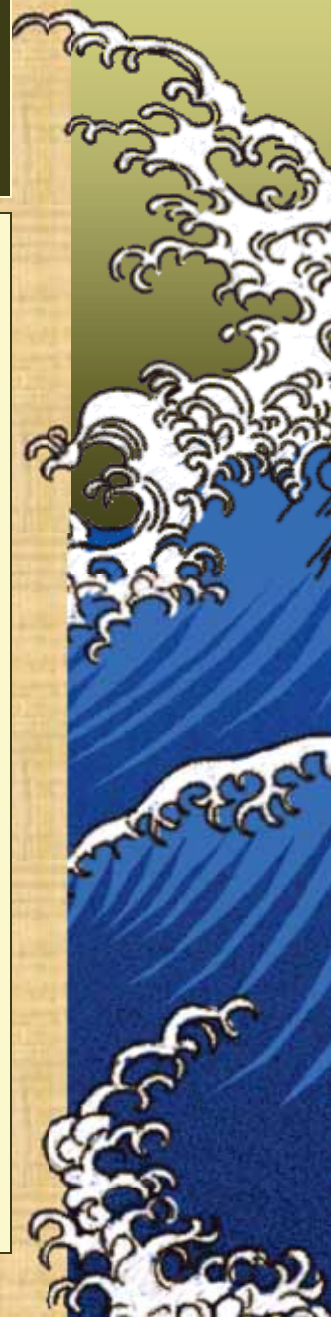


"ITEMS – SEAWEED – DEER – OYSTERS"

April 3, 1798

▲ "At a town meeting, April 3rd, 1798, it is voted by inhabitants of said town, that no person is intitled to seaweed by heaping it up on public Beaches; also, voted that no foreigners Hunt Deer or other game in said town; also, voted that no Oysters or Fish be ketched by foreigners."

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records Town of Brookhaven, Up to 1800.** Patchogue, NY: Printed at the Office of the "Advance", For The Town, 1880: p. 214.



Recording a Slave Birth with the Town Relative to Pending Statewide Abolition December 24, 1799

- ▶ "Agreeable to a Law of this state for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery Passed the 29 of march 1799 Samuel Smith of the Town of Brookhaven Makes Return to the Record of sd Town that he had a feemale Child Born of a Slave of his On the first Day of September 1799 Childs Name is **Aner** – Entered the 24 of December 1799."
- ▶ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 23.
- ▶ Note: The slave is given **no surname**, which was pretty usual, and the birth date is not clear, just the date the clerk made the entry. Aner may mean Anna.

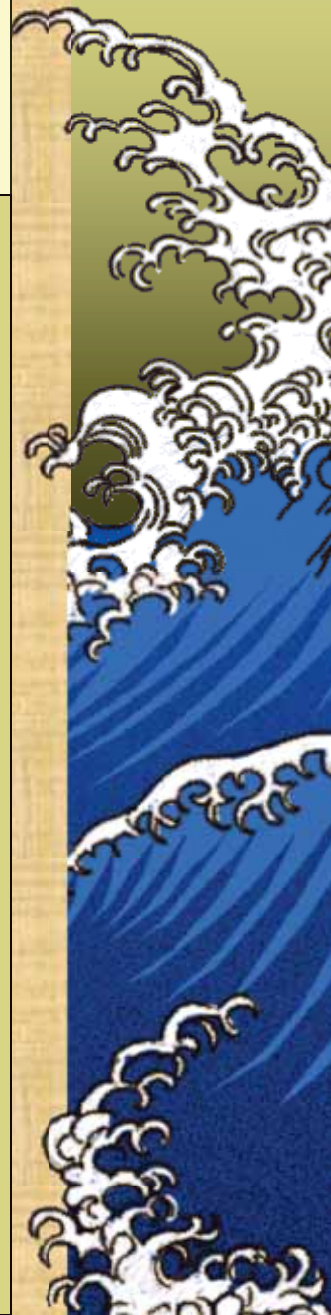


Abolition Accounting

by William Floyd to Brookhaven Town

1799, 1801 & 1802

- ▲ "Agreeable to a Law of the State of New York for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery Passed the 29th of march 1799 – General William Floyd of the Town of Brookhaven Made Return to the Record of said Town of Brookhaven that he had a feemale Child Born of a slave of his on the Third Day of October 1799 Sd Childs name is Rachel.
- ▲ Entered By me Isaac Hulse Town Clk..."
- ▲ "Agreeable to a Law of this State Genrl Wm Floy[d] made return to the Record of Brookhaven that he had a male child born of a Slave of his on the 23rd Day of November 1801 – Childs Name is Hector – Recorded April 5th, 1802
- ▲ A Wetmore T[own] Clerk"
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 25.



Abandonment to an Apprenticeship (& Possible Abuses): Parents Separate & Consign Two Sons to Indentured Servitude A Stern Recourse of Poverty: Schooling in a Trade -- April 8, 1800

- ✦ "Brookhaven Moriches April the 8, 1800 –
- ✦ Personally Appeared before me Benjamin Edwards one of the Justices of the Peace Pomp a Melatter [mulatto?] man & Sary Arch Wife and Acknowledged that they of their Own free and Voluntary Will have Bound their Son Named William unto David Day to Serve him [until] he Arrives to the Age of Twenty One years of age.
- ✦ BENJAMIN EDWARDS Justice"
- ✦ "Brookhaven Moriches April the 8, 1800 –
- ✦ Personally Appeared before me Benjamin Edwards Justice of the Peace Pomp a Melttermann & Sarah Arch his Wife and Acknowledged that they of their Own free and Voluntary Will have Bound their Son Named Sonney unto Capt – John Havens to Serve him [until] he Arrives to the Age of Twenty One years of age.
- ✦ BENJAMIN EDWARDS Justice"
- ✦ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 30.

Hot Water Street & Pond & Cranberry Marsh

November 18, 1800

- ▲ "We the Commissioners of Highways for the Town of Brookhaven do Lay Out a Road threw the Halsies Manner Between the North and South Devisions of Lots as the same is Laid Out and Reserved on the Card of sd Manner By the Name of Hotwater Street as follows Viz Begining at Brookfield East Line so Runing North 88 Degrees East 190 Chain then North 50 Degrees East 109 Chains four Rods Wide [standard street width] with sd. Reserve to the Southampton Line , also the pond called Crambary [Cranberry] Marsh we order throwed out [i.e., constructed] as the same is Laid Out on sd. Card four Rods wide all Round sd pond also a small pond Designated on sd Card By the Name of Hot water Pond we order thrown Out the wedth of sd pond from Hot water Street four Rods wide upon the North East and South west sides of sd pond we do hereby Return the same To be Recorded Novr 18 1800

▲ RICHARD FLOYD } Commissioners
▲ ISAAC HULSE } of Highways"

- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 38.



Highway by Petition & Design, March 10, 1801

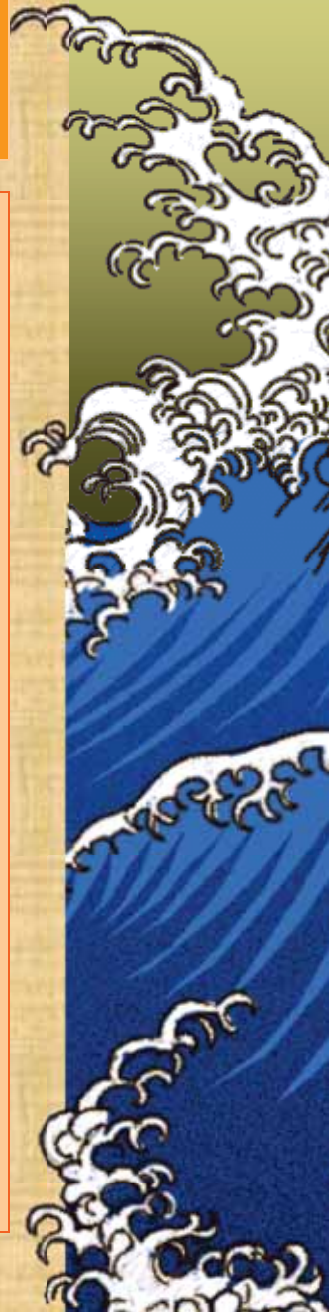
Note the Colorful Place & Road Names of the Area

- ★ “We the Commissioners of highways of Brookhaven Being **Pettitioned to By Sixty Eight of the freeholders and Inhabitants of Setauket in Said Town to Lay Out a Road from Setauket Southerly Agreeable to sd Petition We have Laid Out sd Road from the Sheeppasture Road By Saml Hawkins Southerly threw** a piece of Land that is Called **the Hundred Acres** Runing Between Simeon Hawkins House & Barn So to Continue Southerly as the **Oald Tract** Now goes to the **Cemetery Road** or **Post Road** at a Place Called the **Marked Trees** – Also Agreeable to sd Petition we have Laid sd Road **four Rods Wide** –
- ★ **Also Agreeable to sd Petition we have made Null & Void a Road** Runing Round West of Simeon Hawkinses from Nicolls Road to Where it Comes into the above sd Road Southward of Simeon Hawkins House which was Laid Out By James Smith & Shephan Swezy and Entered in Page 312 [of the Town Records] Which we Return to Be Recorded Done By us March 10, 1801
 - ★ ISAAC HULSE }
 - ★ RICHD FLOYD } Commissioners of Highways
 - ★ DANIEL SAXTON }”
- ★ **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y.:Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 38.
- ★ **Note:** Sheep Pasture Road, Nicholls Road, & Mark Tree Road exist today



Ward & Indenture -- June 7, 1802

- ▶ “Resolved By sd. Trustees at sd Meeting that in the Case of Barney O Goram that the Overseers of the Poor of the City of New York and that Thomas S Strong Esqr Be Appointed By the Trustees To Take Car of Him
- ▶ Resolved that Phebe Smith Daughter of John Smith be bound to David Cole untill she arrives at the age of eighteen years the Trustees paying him twenty two Dollars 50-100— [and fifty cents, fifty hundredths]”
- ▶ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N. Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 57.



Swans, Docks, Officials, Hogs, Rings & Yokes

Town Meeting Hot Topics, of March 7, 1803

- ▲ "At Sd Meeting *Annanias Smith* Made Application to sd Trustees for *Leberty to Build a Dock from the Shore of his Own Landon Swan Creek Neck [in today's East Patchogue, NY] Where He now Lives Out into the South Bay where his Dock Now is* and Said Trustees Agreeable to His Request Granted Said Annanias Smith Liberty to Build Said Dock....
- ▲ A list of newly elected town officers followed, then...
- ▲ Also at the foregoing Town meeting it was Voted By a Majority of Votes that *No Hogs Except Suckling Piggs Shall Run or Go on the Commons* in the Town of Brookhaven *Except they Be Ringed in the Nose With Sufficiant Rings and yoaked With Good and Sufficiant yoaks under the Penalty of 75 Cents for Every Hog for Every Offence If a dispute Shall Arise Concerning the Sufficiancy of of Either Rings Or yoaksto Be Determined by the Two Nearest fence viewers...."*
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N. Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 62-64. Note: *Fence Viewer* (i.e., inspector of fences) was then a public office.

“Old Rooster-Skin Narse” Annanias Smith

(of East Patchogue, New-York)

Brookhaven has Always had More than its Fair Share of Characters

- ▲ **Annanias Smith** was known as a prolific (late 18th-early 19th century) hunter, said to have at various times, worn the skins of every animal he ever killed. When his **favorite pet rooster** died, he couldn't bear the thought of parting with it...entirely, so wore its skin as his hat – head to fore, tail feathers to rear . He, given the times, and this ensemble, was oft mistaken for the Devil.

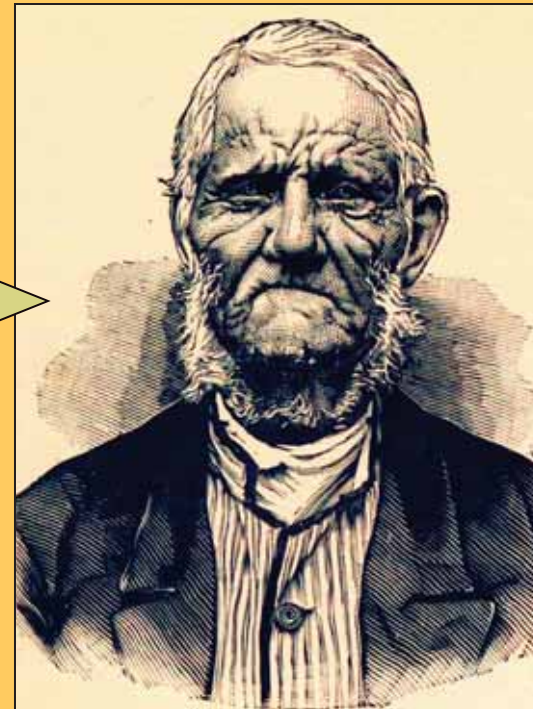
- ▲ While we don't know exactly what he looked like, and he must have been a sight, it would be nice to believe that his quirky, but more sedate **grandson, Joseph Marvin** (pictured to the right, at 93), resembled him closely, in old age.

- ▲ Annanias Smith had **fairly definite religious beliefs**, as well, which he didn't hesitate to express.

- ▲ In church he would prod someone with his long walking stick, saying loudly, “**That means you!**” or, with a sense of harmony and balance say, “**That I will take to myself!**”

- ▲ Once, having offended a new minister, not familiar with his antics, he was ordered to be carried out of services for being too

- ▲ assertive. Cradled by two strong men, he is reputed to have intoned, “**Well, well! I am more honored than my Savior. “He rode on one jackass, and I have two of ‘em.’**” Laughter broke up the meeting.



- ▲ Source: **History of Suffolk County, New York.** W.W. Munsell & Co., 1882: 92. Portrait [above].

Territorial Fishing: Catching a Big One

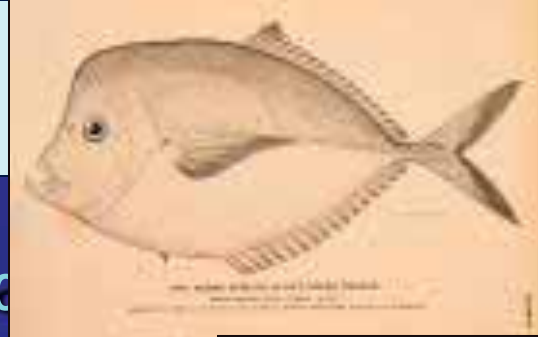
May 2, 1803

- ▶ "At Sd. Meeting sd Trustees for the Consideration of One Hundred Dollars To them In hand Paid By *George Brown John Turner* and *Isaac Wells*— have hereby Granted Liberty to sd. Geo. Brown John Turner Or any Other Person Or Persons to be Authorized By them *to Catch Fish in the [Great] South Bay in Pertnership With sd Town and Capt. William Smith for the Term of One year* from the Date Here of and Send them to Market Where and how they Please
- ▶ Signed in Behalf of the Trustees Town Seal hereunto fixed
 - ▶ SELAH STRONG Presdt LS
- ▶ Attest ISAAC HULSE Clk"
- ▶ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). [Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. \[1798-1856\]](#). Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 97.
- ▶ Note: On the next day, May 3, 1803, the United States made the **Louisiana Purchase** from Napoleonic France, doubling the size of the nation, though it had yet to be confirmed by Congress.



No Manure-Fishing in Great South Bay

Horse Fish – Protected Species – May 2, 1803



“Horse Fish or Blunt- Nose Shiner”

(above) –
Illustration
Courtesy of the
U.S. National
Oceanographic
& Atmospheric
Administration
(NOAA)



“At Sd. Meeting the Trustees Voted and Agreed and Enacted that *No Person Or Persons Shall Catch* in the South Bay for the Purpose of Plowing them in Or Burying them or after Being Caught Shall Smuther or Bury them or Plow them in to make Menure or Send them Out of the Town Every Person that Shall Be Guilty of Either of the Aforesaid Offences Shall forfeit and Pay for Either of the aforesaid offences Shall forfeit and Pay for Every Offence the Sum of Ten Dollars To be Sued for and Recovered in the Nam of the Trustees

Also at sd Meeting sd Trustees Voted and agreed that there Shall be Six Hundred Dollars Rased in sd Town By a Rate on the Inhabitants for the Support of the Poor and for Other Contingent Charge of sd Town for the Present Year”

Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 68-69.

Drifting Sound, Part 1

Or, Fencing in the West Meadow Beach Grass – April 3, 1804

- ✦ “Whereas a Number of the Inhabitants of the Town of Brookhaven have by their petition Represented to the Trustees of the freeholders and Commonality of the Town aforesaid, that by feeding off the Grass that Groes on the West meadow beach it Causes the Sand to Blow On the Meadows adjoining to Said Beach and Cover up the Same therefore they Pray for Leave and Liberty to fence So much of the Same as Will Be of use to preserve their Meadows –
- ✦ at a Meeting of the sd. Trustees the 3 Day of April 1804 held at the House of Goldsmith Davis in sd Town...It Was Voted and agreed at sd. Meeting that the Owners of sd. Meadow Should have Leave and Liberty to fence the Beach on the Highest Part of the Same, so as to Leave the Space of One Rod Wide on the [L.I.] Sound Shore above the Highwater mark for all Persons to pass with Teams and Cariages for the Purpose of Collecting the Drift that Comes on the same, and also to make as many Bars or Gates as Shall Be Sufficient for the Inhabitents to Go within the fence to put Down the Said Drift or Spread their Thatch or for any Other Purpose Whatsoever – and also not to Prevent any Person or persons...passing on any Highway Already Laid Out,: and also Whenever Ten Substantial Freeholders



Drifting Sound, Part 2

Or, Fencing in the West Meadow Beach Grass – April 3, 1804

▲ being Inhabitants Shall Request the fence Taken down and the Beach Lay in Common as at said Meadow Shall Remove their fence -- and it is also further agreed that this Liberty Granted Shall not Operate So far as to Give the Owners of the said meadow notwithstanding any Right or Title to the Said Beach nor Shall this Liberty Granted to them of fenceing the same Operate so as to Impower the Owners of sd Medow to hender any (Personsons) Inhabitants of sd Town from Takeing any Kind of Hay or Mulch, or any other thing Whatsoever that Shall Either Be Drifted By the Tide Carted or any of them Within the same and as hereto pass and Repass freely without Molistation or henderance with teams Carts Waggons Horses or any Other Way or manner as as they Shall think peroper or Do within the same by Drawing Bars or Opening Gates from Time To Time and *at all Times forever hereafter*– the Inhabitants of the Town that Pass Carefull To Shut up Bars and Gates after them”

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N. Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 74-75.



Brookhaven's State Election Results of April 27, 1804

▲ “Having held and Closed the Poll of the Election in the Town of Brookhaven the Twenty seventh Day of April One Thousand Eight hundred and four and Canvassed the Votes agreeable to the Act Entitled **an Act for Regulateing Elections** Passed the Twenty fourth Day of March One Thousand Eight Hundred and One do find the votes to be as followeth Viz

▲ For Governor **Morgan Luis** One Hundred & fifty one votes

▲ And **Aaron Burr** One hundred and four Votes. For Leut Governor **John Broom** One Hundred and forty Nine Votes – and **Oliver Phelps** One Hundred and four Votes –

▲ For Senators

▲ **William Denning** Two Hundred and Twenty Eight Votes

▲ **Ebenezar Purdy** One Hundred and Thirty five Votes

▲ **Thomas Thomas** One Hundred and Thirty five Votes

▲ **Cornelious C. Rosevelt** One Hundred and Two Votes

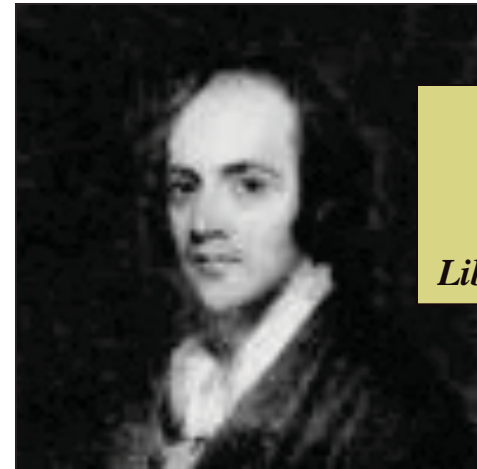
▲ **John Smith** One Hundred Votes –

▲ **William Edgar** Five Votes

▲ **William Smith** Five Votes

▲ MERITT S. WOODHULL JOHN ROSE JOSEPH BREWSTER HENRY RAYNER WILLIAM TOOKER } Inspectors...”

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 75-76.



Aaron Burr

Courtesy,

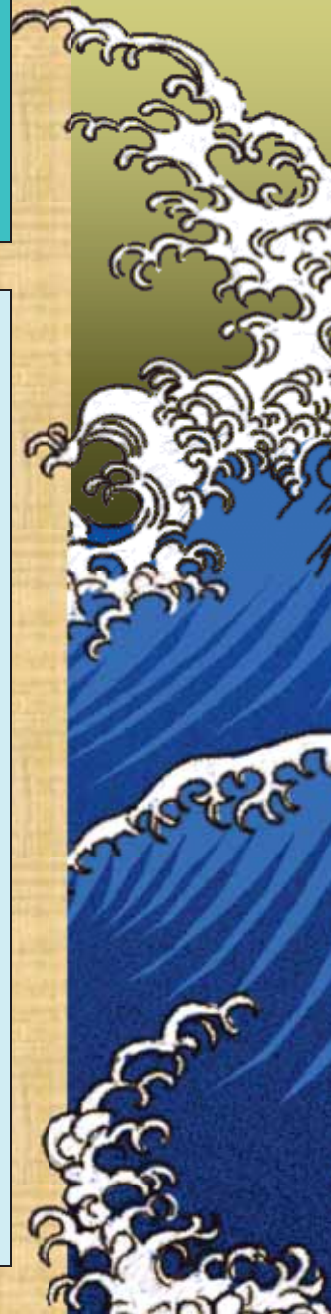
Library of Congress

Catch 'n Carry in Brookhaven

Fine & Preferential – Voted and a Greed

May 7, 1805

- ▲ "...at sd. Meeting sd. Trustees Voted and a Greed and hereby Enacted that **No fish Shall Be Caught In the South Bay in sd. Town or Be Carried Out of the Town To Market By any Person Or persons, Except such persons as Are Authorized and permitted to Catch sd fish and Carry them to Market on penalty of Twenty five Dollars fine, to be paid By Every Person for Every offence** – also it was Voted and a Greed and hereby Enacted By sd. Trustees that **No Clambs shall be Carried Out of sd Town By any Person or persons Without first Obtaining Leave and Paying Two Cents on a Bushel as Toleration on penalty of Paying Twenty five Dollars fine On Every Person or Persons for Every Offence.**
- ▲ LS SELAH STRONG Presdt."
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N. Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 97.



Parents Commit Two Sons to Indentured Servitude

December 14, 1805

- ▲ "...this Day Keeder Bur and Margaret Bur his Wife
Bound their Son Shadrack Bur Now of the Age of Eight
Years seven months and thirteen Days to Gabraell Mills
before me – MERITT S WOODHULL Justice"
- ▲ "...This Day Keeder Bur and Margaret Bur his wife –
Bound their son James Now of the Age of six years
Eleven months and Two Days To Gabraell Mills before
me – MERITT S. WOODHULL Justice"
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 104.
- ▲ Historical Note: This event took place 12 days after the Battle of Austerlitz, when Western & much of Central Europe became Napoleon's servants.



Hello, Young Oysters, Wherever You Bed

June 3, 1806

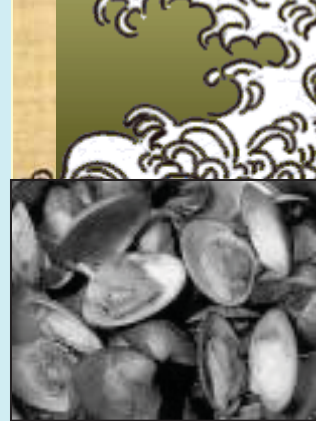
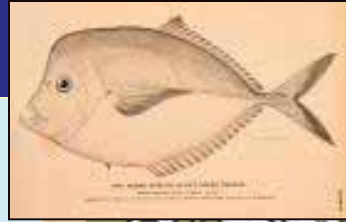
- ▲ "...at Said Meeting it was Represented to Said Trustees that There Hath Been Great Destruction Made to the Young Oysters and Shells With Them in the [Great] South Bay By Reason of the Inhabitants Catching and Takeing Up Young Oysters and Shells With Them in the South Bay in Partnership With said Town & the Heirs of Major Wm. Smith – Now therefore for the Preventing of such Destruction, to said young Oysters Being Done hereafter said Trustees Hath Voted and Agreed and hereby Enacted By the athority a fore said that If any Person or Persons shall Catch or Take Up any Oysters or Shells from the Beds on Which they Lay with in said Bay Every Person or Persons Shall forfeit and Pay Twenty Dollars for Every offence To be sued for the Use of the Town –
- ▲ Attest ISAAC HULSE Town Clk
- ▲ SELAH STRONG Presdt LS"
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 105-106.



Of Clambs & the Sacred Horsefish of Brookhaven

June 3, 1806

- “...at said meeting sd Trustees Voted and and Agreed and Hereby Enacted By the a thority a foresaid **that If any Person Or persons Shall Catch any Clambs or Horsefish** in any of the Bays or Harborus Within the Limits of the said Town, **Or Carry them Out of the said Town To Market** Being Caught or Taken in Either of the Bays or Harbours Within the Limits or Bounds of sd Town Every Person or Persons shall forfit and Pay **Twenty Dollars for Every Such offence, to Be Sued for and Recovered In the Name of the Trustees** for the use of sd Town allways **Excepting such persons as Shall Obtain Leave of sd Trustees or their Agent To Carry Clambs Out of said Town, *But Not to Carry Horsefish Out of sd. Town under any Pretence Whatsoever***
- Attest ISAAC HULSE Town Clk
- SELAH STRONG Presdt. LS”
- Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 106-107.
- Note:** The **Horsefish** could be one of a number of related, flat, generally silvery fish: the *Selene setapinnis*, moonfish, **Atlantic moonfish**, horsefish, horsehead, or **dollarfish**. A long shot is that this account may be referring to the **seahorse**, still found in its waters.



A Protest of the Protest?

Restrictive Repealing: Good-bye, Young Oysters...

August 5, 1806

- ▲ “Whereas said Trustees Passed a Law on the third day of June Last for the preventing any Oysters Or Shells Being Caught in the [Great] South Bay in Partnership with the Town and Wm. Smith – and at the above said Meeting *a Greeable to the Request and partition [i.e., petition] of a Number of the Inhabitants* of sd Town sd Trustees at their above said meeting Have *Passed a Law Repealing so Much of the first Mentioned Law – as to Grant Liberty of the Inhabitants of sd Town To Take shells and Oysters in that part of sd Bay that Lieth East ward of a south Line* from a Creek on the East side of Pine Neck Called Muddy Creek Extending sd Line to the south Beach [i.e., Fire Island] –

▲ SELAH STRONG Presdt”

- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N. Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 108-109.



Woodruff's Wharf, Great South Bay

January 6, 1807

- ▲ "...at said Meeting said Trustees Voted and a Greed that **Nethaniel Woodruff should have Liberty to Build a wharf or Dock Out into the south Bay** against his Own Land which he Now Possesses so as to Extend Out in to said Bay **Six Rods** and the said Trustees doth hereby Confirm unto said Nethaniel Woodruff the Right to Build said Wharf and to Occupy the same as his Property
- ▲ Attest ISAAC HULSE Town Clk"
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N. Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 106-107.



The Local Vote for State Officials – April 7, 1807

- ▲ "Statement of Votes taken at the Anniversary Election for Governor Lieut. Governor & Senator which Commenced on the Last Tuesday of April one thousand Eight Hundred and Seven

▲ Governor

- ▲ **Daniel D. Tompkins** one Hundred and Ninety four } **Morgan Lewis** one Hundred and Six }
Votes

▲ Lieut Governor

- ▲ **John Broom** one Hundred and Ninety seven }
- ▲ **Thomas Storn** one Hundred and two }
- ▲ **Thomas Lewis** one } Votes

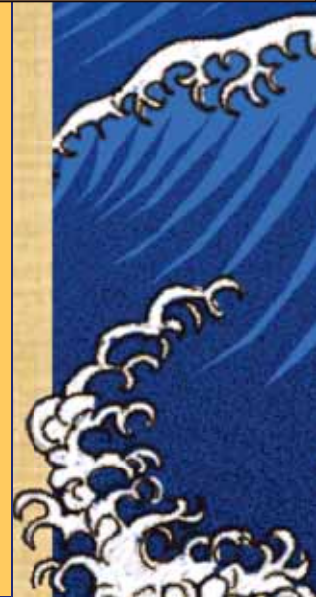
▲ Senator

- ▲ **Dewitt Clinton** one Hundred and Eighty nine }
- ▲ **Samuel Jones** one Hundred and three } Votes
- ▲ We Certify the above to be a true Statement and estimate of the Votes taken in the town of Brookhaven at the afores,d Election...."
- ▲ **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p.106-107.
- ▲ **Note:** In the world at large, **Napoleon**, having defeated Russia at **Friedland** (Feb. 8), would conclude the **Treaty of Tilsit** (July 7), rendering him master of most of Europe (less Britain).



DeWitt Clinton

*Courtesy of the
Cybrary, Univ.
of Winnepeg*



Fowling Up the Bay

Officially Privileged Fowler & Fishers -- May 5, 1807

- “At sd Meeting the **Priviledge of Fowling in the South Bay** Belonging between the Town and the Heirs of Major Wm Smith Deceas,d was hired out to Hampton Howell for fifty Dollars for one Year from this date With the Priviledge of Vending them wheresoever they Can find a Market but not to debar the Inhabitant of s,d Town from Gunning except on their own Bars
- Also the **Priviledge of fishing in s,d Bay** in Partnership with s,d Town and s,d Wm. Smith Was let out upon Shares to Capt. Josiah Smith and Hampton Howell who is to pay unto the Trustees one tenth part of all the fish they Catch in s,d Limits – but not to hinder the Inhabitants of s,d Town from fishing
- Also at s,d Meeting it was agreed By s,d Trustees that the **Law respecting Oysters and Clambs and Horsefish** Passed the third day of June 1806 is hereby confirmed or revised by s,d Trustees until a further Vote of s,d Trustees
- Entered by me By order of s,d Trustees –
 - MORDECHAI HOMAN Town Clerk”
- Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp.113-114.



Stopping Up the Upper Lower Beaver Otter Going Over Road

▲ "Brookhaven 13 Jan 1808

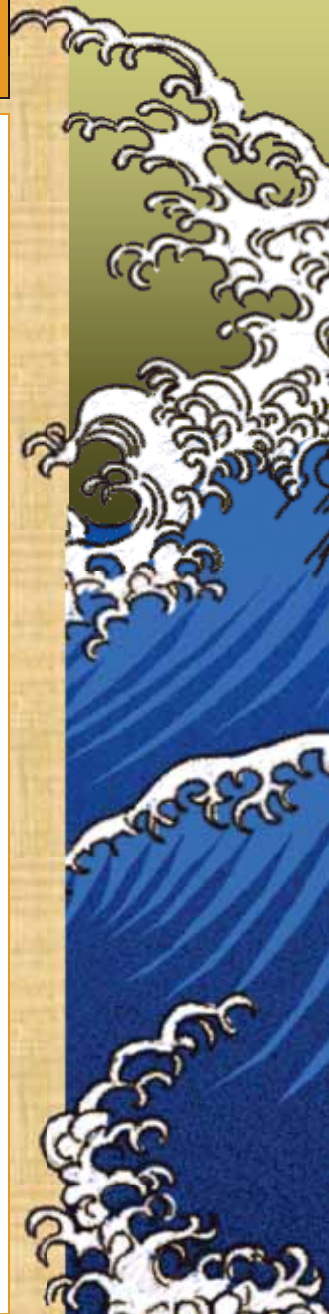
▲ We the Commissioners of Highways being Called by Robert and Charles Ellison and others to stop up the Road Laid out on the West side of Beaver Dam River having Viewed s,d Road do Judge it to be intirely useless and unnecessary to accommodate the Public *have Stopped it up from the head of the Beaver Dam River or Swamp on the West side of s,d River to the Lower going Over [i.e., ford] and have Laid out a Road from the head of the otter Swamp Northeasterly as it now Runs Crossing the Beaver Dam River at a place called the up[p]er going Over sd Road to be four Rods Wide the old Road Stopped up and the New one Laid out by us this thirteenth Day of January AD 1808*

▲ WILLIAM JAYNE }

▲ JOHN ROSE } Commissioners

▲ Attest MORDECHAI HOMAN Town Clerk"

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp.116-117. **Napoleonic Note:** Less than a month earlier Napoleon had issued his 2nd Milan Decree, calling for tighter enforcement of his blockade of Britain.



Wild & Foul, & in Partnership with the Town & the Smiths

November 1, 1808

▲ "...Also at s,d Meeting it was Voted and agreed and hereby Enacted by the authority of the Same that **if any Person or Persons do kill any Brant or other Wild foul in the South Bay that is in partnership with s'd Town and the heirs of Wm. Smith Deceas'd or that is in partnership with s'd Town and Gen. John Smith or shall carry them out of s'd Town every Person so offending shall forfeit and pay to the Trustees aforesaid or their or their order the Sum of Twenty Dollars for each and every offence** to be sued for and recovered by s'd Trustees or their order before any Court having Cognizance thereof to be applied to the use of s'd Town

▲ **Attest MORDECHAI HOMAN Clerk"**

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N. Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 126.



Brookhaven Slave Manumissions During the War of 1812

- For the years 1812-Jan. 1815, the following slaves are listed in the Town records as having been freed following scrutiny under the conditions permitting manumission set by state law (under 45 years old & self-sufficient):

Name	Date Freed	Prior Owner(s)/Requestor
1. Betty	1812, June 2	Phillips Roe
2. Harry	1813, April 6	Jonas Hawkins, Jr. & Thomas S. Mount
3. Killis	1813, September 7	Samuel Thompson, dec'd.
4. Tamer	1814, March 1	Hannah Woodhull
5. Killis	1814, March 1	Thomas Strong
6. Sarah	1814, March 1	Theophilus Smith
7. Margett	1814, May 4	Robert Hawkins
8. Juleanor	1814, September 6	Wessell Sell

- Summarized from the: Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 162-186.



Slave Births Exceed Manumissions

In Brookhaven Town -- During the War of 1812

▲ Name	Date of Birth	Owner	Notes
▲ 1. Richard	1812 , Oct. 3	Colone]l. Nicoll Floyd	
▲ 2. Hannah	1812, Oct. 20	Theophilus Smith	
▲ 3. Harriet	1813 , Jan. 3	Ruth Thompson	
▲ 4. Phillip	1813, Mar. 15	Richard Robinson	Mother: Hannah –slave
▲ 5. Fanny	1813, Apr. 4	Theophilus Smith	Abandoned by Smith, Mar. 1, 1814
▲ 6. Pedro	1813, May 3	Mary Robert	
▲ 7. Fan[ny].	1813, Nov. 9	William Smith	
▲ 8. Isabellah	1814 , Jan. 7	Nicoll Floyd	
▲ 9. Sarah	1814, Mar. 1	Nicoll Floyd	
▲ 10. Samuel	1814, Sept. 9	General John Smith	[Mother: Jayne? – slave]
▲ 11. Arthur	1814, Oct. 12	Mary Robert	
▲ 12. Tamer	1814, Nov. 29	Nicoll Floyd	

▲ *Source:* Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Book D.** Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: 81-99.

No Discommode of Public Navigation

A Frame for the Great South Bay – May 5, 1812



- ▲ “At a meeting of the Trustees of the freeholders and Commalty of the Town of Brookhaven held in sd Town this fifth day of May 1812 Present at sd Meeting William H. Helme President William Beale Isaac Satterly Nathan Post Joseph B. Roe Benjamin Hutchinson John Robinson Trustees.
- ▲ **...Smith Mott made Application to sd Trustees for liberty to set up a frame in the South Bay** about twenty-five Rods from the Shore **opposite his own Land for the purpose of laying his Wood on** and We the sd Trustees after due consideration had in the premises do consider that the sd priviledge *will not discommode the public Navigation nor in nowise injure the public*, do hereby grant liberty to the sd Smith Mott to set up a frame as aforesaid in the South Bay **nearly opposite his own Land a little to the Westward of Connecticut River for the conveniency of laying his wood on for Vessels to Land from sd frame is to be forty feet by Sixteen** and this **Grant is Given for two Years and no longer** which is done Accordingly – William H. Helme President”
- ▲ *Source:* Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 161-162. Note: A “frame” avoids becoming a public dock.

Only You Can Prevent Battering Rams!

June 2, 1812

- ▶ An Act to prevent Rams from running at large for a certain time...
- ▶ Be it **Ordained** by the Trustees of the freeholders and Commonalty of the Town of Brookhaven that **if any Ram** shall be found running in the Commons or out of its Owners Inclosure Between the last say of August and the first day of November Ensueing the owner thereof shall for Each and every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of fifty Cents to be sued for and Recover'd by any person who will sue for the Same *According to the true intent and meaning of this act.**
- ▶ William H. Helme President"
- ▶ *"True intent and meaning" would seem to imply not using the ordinance to to settle grudges or get even with a neighbor.
- ▶ **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856].** Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 162-163.



War of 1812

School Districts Arrive, November 3, 1813, Pt. 1

- ▲ “The Commissioners of Common Schools for the Town of Brookhaven met a Coram on Tuesday the 3rd day of November and Divided the town into School Districts *According to Statute of this State* in such Case provided –
- ▲ **John Rose, Franklin Thompson, Mordechai Homan** } Commissioners of Common Schools
- ▲ No. one is to Embrace the Inhabitants of Neighbourhood of Stoney Brook –
- ▲ No. two is to Embrace the **Western part of Setaket** including the Inhabitants of Lubber Street and Dickersons Settlement
- ▲ No. 3rd is to Embrace the **Eastern part of Setaket**
- ▲ No. 4 is to Embrace the **Neighbourhood of Drown meadow** [today's Port Jefferson] and Adjoining Inhabitants –
- ▲ No. 5 is to Embrace the **Neighbourhood of oldmans** [today's Mt. Sinai] and Adjoining Inhabitants
- ▲ No. 6 is to Embrace the Village of **Millersplace and Hopkins Settlement**
- ▲ No. 7 is to Embrace the Inhabitants of **Rocky point** and people adjacent
- ▲ No. 8 is to Embrace the Inhabitants of the **Western part of Middle Island** About Rocconcama Pond to Smithtown line.



War of 1812

School Districts Arrive, November 3, 1813, Pt. 2

- **No. 9** is to Embrace the Inhabitants or **Settlement of New Village** as far West as James Hawkins and East to Richard Norton and Joseph Roes –
- **No. 10** is to Embrace the Inhabitants of Coram as far West as James Nortons
- **No. 11** is to Embrace the Inhabitants of the **North part of Middletown and Sweazey town** –
- **No. 12** is to Embrace the Inhabitant[s] of the **lower part of Middle Island** as far west as Isaac Howells (Deceasd) North to James Daytons and West to James Barnaby's –
- **No. 13** is to Embrace the Inhabitants of the Manner [Manor of St. George] as far West as George Cobits and prosper kings and East by Southampton including Halseys Manner –
- **No. 14** is to Embrace the Remainder part of the Manner –
- **No. 15** is to include the Inhabitants of the Eastern part of Moriches as far West as havens Mills –
- **No. 16** is to Embrace the remainder part of Morriches as far West as the paper Mill –
- **No. 17** is to Embrace the Inhabitants of Mastick as far West as fireplace [today's village of Brookhaven]
- **No. 18** is to Embrace the Inhabitants of West of fireplace Mills as far West as Jeffrey Brewsters –



War of 1812

School Districts Arrive, November 3, 1813, Pt. 3

- **No. 19** is to Embrace the Inhabitants West of Jeffrey Brewsters as far West as Austin Roe's
- **No. 20** is to Embrace the Inhabitants West of Austin Roes as far West as Patchogue stream –
- **No. 21** is to Embrace the Inhabitants West of Patchogue Stream as far West as Islip line
- **No. 22** is to Embrace the Inhabitants East of Thomas Aldrich in Middletown extending East to the Wading River Line.
- **No. 23** is to Embrace the Inhabitants of Coram hills as far East as the Widow Howells –"
- [Note: A succession of school district boundary adjustments was to follow in the days and months ahead. About 1850, many districts were consolidated, though by then, there had been other consolidations in town.]
- **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856].** Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 178-179.



Merchants Call for Establishment of a Town Bank

Specie Shortage Spoonerism

War of 1812 -- January 3, 1815

- ▲ "At a meeting of th Trustees of the freeholders and Commonality of the Town of Brookhaven for the time being held in s,d Town on the Third Day of January one thousand Eight hundred and fifteen at s,d meeting **Sundry Merchants and others of s,d Town made Application to the Trustees** aforesaid **praying them to establish a Bank** Consisting of Small Bill for the Accommodation of Change and s,d Trustees after due Consideration had in the premises **did** Vote and **agree** that there should be a quantity of Bills struck for the Accommodation of Change **during the present scarcity of Specie Change.** to be sub to the orders and regulation of s,d Trustees and their Successors in Office and Accordingly the s,d Trustees did apply to **Mr. Alden Spooner** Printer [of spoonerism fame?] and had twelve hundred Nine Dollars and Ninety two Cents. \$1200 92-100. Struck which was **deposited with Mordichai Homan** Town Clerk and Treasurer to be held by him Signed and put in Circulation if Call,d for..."
- ▲ **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y.** [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 188. **Napoleonic Notation:** Less than 2 weeks earlier in a titanic, 3-day battle, the European Allies had decisively defeated Napoleon at the Battle of Leipzig (Oct. 16-19).



“Child Name is Jane”: Recording a Birth into Slavery

- ▶ Timothy Miller made return that he had a female Child Born of a Slave of his on the 8th day of June 1815 Child Name is Jane
- ▶ Entered this 20th March 1816 Agreeable to the Law of this State for the Abolition of Slavery.
- ▶ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 85.



"...Required for the Convenience of the Public..."

Warden vs. The Brookhaven Commissioners of Highways Appeal of a Disputed Right of Way, December 16, 1820

- ▲ "We, Thomas S. Strong Joshua Smith and Divine Hewlett three of the *Judges of the court of common pleas of the County of suffolk* having been call'd to decide an appeal brought by *Warden tobey* against the proceedings of the commissioners of highways of the town of Brook haven in the said County laying out a public highway in the said town through lands of *Henry H. Howell* (now of *John Elderkin*) and of the said Warden Tobey and *having heard the proofs and Allegation* of the said Warden Tobey and the said commissioners do **adjudge** that the said highway has been correctly laid out and was required for the convenience of the public and do in all things confirm the said proceedings of the said commissioners in witness whereof we have hereunto set our respective hands and seals this 17th day of November 1820
- ▲ Entered this 16th Dec. 1820...."
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 234.



Samuel & Brewster Jayne Found a Town, and Miss the Train

Westward Bound: Local Man Founds Brookhaven, Mississippi

A Tale of the Old Southwest, Circa 1818

- After the **Battle of Horseshoe Bend (1814)**, Andrew Jackson's decisive victory over the Indians of the Mississippi Territory, securing it for U.S. settlement, the **Treaty of Ghent (1814)**, ending the war, the **Battle of New Orleans (1815)**, just after the peace, during the early postwar era (i.e., by 1818), **Samuel Jayne, of Setauket, N.Y., moved south to seek his fortune in the newly-opened territory, soon followed by his brother Col. Brewster Jayne.** Settling in what was then **Lawrence County**, they **built a home on a knoll overlooking the Mississippi River.** Later, in 1850, **Samuel organized** a small settlement, called **Brookhaven, Miss., consisting of a bar, post office, grocery, and mill** (on the Bogue Chito River), which **briefly prospered.** Unfortunately, when **Samuel denied the Illinois Central Railroad the right of way through his land**, for fear of fires, & his frightening the livestock, **the original settlement died on the vine, while a new one (of the same name) grew up at the rail terminus** (a mile Northward from its founder, who quickly became isolated). **Samuel Jayne departed in 1861, probably given the passions of the times, the sting of having missed a major opportunity, strained relations between founder & village, his age, & esp. his Yankee origins, and with Civil War. He may simply have worn out his welcome, felt uncomfortable, or in danger, & despondent enough to leave.** His convictions on slavery and states' rights are not mentioned. This is fertile ground for further historical research. The *L.I. Forum* article indicates that **Samuel was buried on his estate**, his wife remarried, and that the estate passed on to her husband, after her death. Brookhaven, Miss. Became a Confederate recruitment and hospital center in the Civil War.
- Sources:** Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). 350th Anniversary Committee. "Did You Know?" *Town Crier*, Fall 2004: p. 4, and "L.I.'s Mississippi Namesake." *Long Island Forum*, 16(4) Ap 1953: pp. 69, 74.

Results of the Latest U.S. Congressional Race

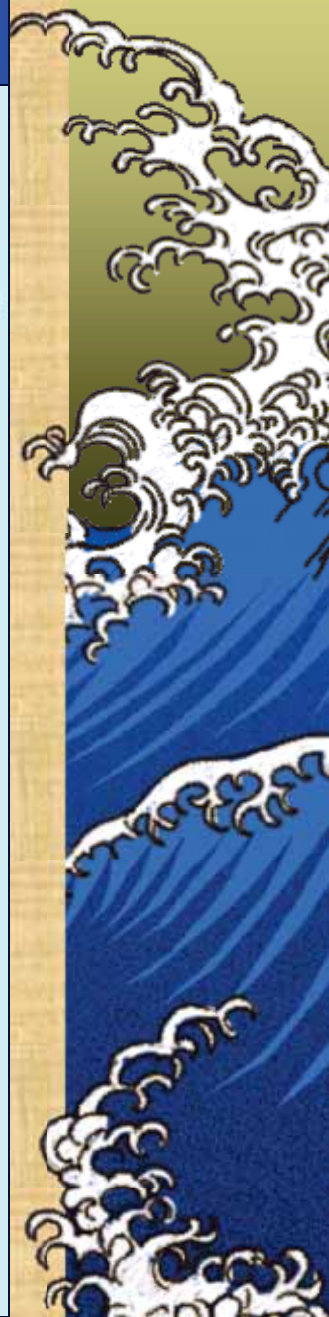
April 26, 1821

- ▲ "A true Canvas and estimate of the Votes taken at the Annual General Election held on the last tuesday in April *and* on the two succeeding days inclusive in the town of Brookhaven in the County of suffolk for the purpose of Electing two Members of Congress to Represent the first District of the state of New York in the house of Representatives of the united states – To Wit.
- ▲ **Cadwallader D. Colden** had *two hundred and twenty*}
- ▲ **Silas Wood** had *two hundred and thirty Eight*} *Votes*
- ▲ **Joshua Smith** had *one hundred and forty three*}
- ▲ **Peter sharp** had *one hundred and twenty seven*}
- ▲ Given under our hands at the said town of Brookhaven in the County of Suffolk this 26,th day of April 1821
- ▲ Timothy Miller Barnabas Wines }
- ▲ Daniel Davis John Rose } Inspectors
- ▲ Woodhull Smith } "
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y.** [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 230.



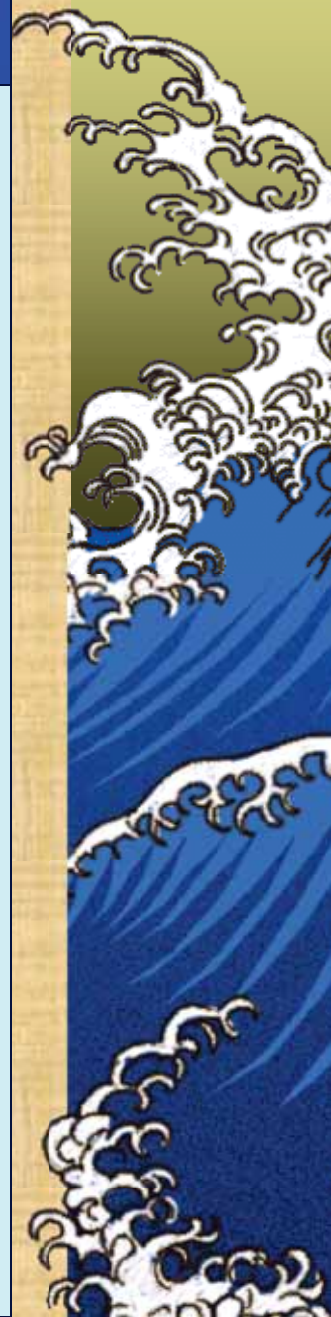
The Town Regulates a South Shore, Blue Point Wharfe, Pt. 1 Warden Tobey, Epenetus Mills & Brookhaven -- June 5, 1821

- ▲ "To all whome the presents shall come we the Trustees of the freeholders and commonality of the town of Brook haven send Greeting, *Whereas* we have heretofore granted to **Warden Tobey** the priviledg[e] of erecting and constructing a ~~Dock or Wharfe at~~ a place called **Blue point** on certain conditions and *whereas* the said Warden Tobey after constructing such Dock or wharfe has assigned his right therein to **Epenetus Mills** of the said town of Brookhaven and *whereas* the said Epenetus Mills has offered to relinquish the grant made to the said Warden Tobey and assigned to him on condition that he shall receive a new Grant and *whereas* we believe that it will be for the convenience and advantage of the freeholders and inhabitants of the said town to make such a Grant; *Now therefore Know ye* that **we the said Trustees** in consideration of the premises and of one Dollar to us in hand paid by the said Epenetus Mills the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, **have sold Granted and conveyed** and by these presents do do sell grant and convey to the said Epenetus Mills his Executors Administrators and Assigns all our right and title to the said Dock or wharfe and the land on which it has been constructed comprehended within the limits or Boundaries mentioned in the original grant to the said Warden Tobey *it being understood* that the said **Dock shall be and continue fourteen feet wide and one hundred and sixty Seven feet long** or thereabouts,



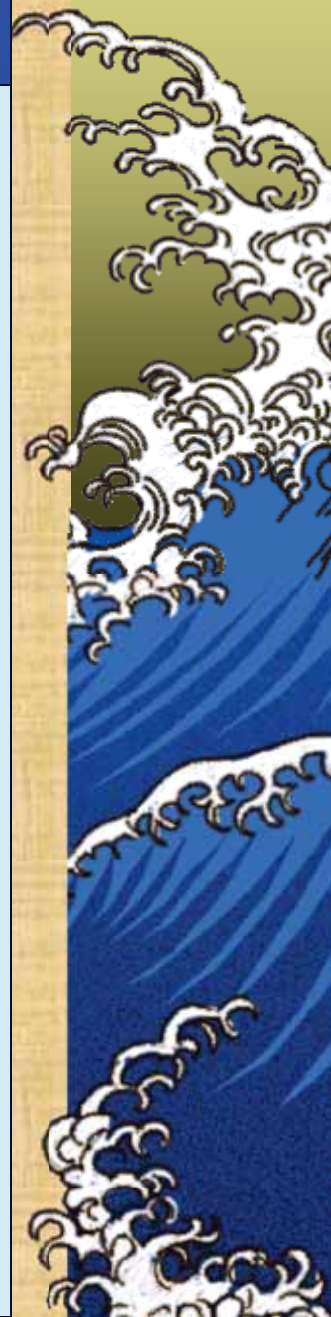
The Town Regulates a South Shore, Blue Point Wharfe, Pt. 2 *Warden Tobey, Epenetus Mills & Brookhaven -- June 5, 1821*

- ✦ provided nevertheless and these presents are *upon the express condition that* the said Epenetus Mills **shall not charge any greater rates of wharfage to any freeholder or Inhabitant of the said town than the following**, to wit, [1] for every four feet of cord Wood lying on the said wharfe over four hours and not exceeding one callended [i.e., calendar] Month the sum of six Cents [2] for every common Waggon load of drawn by a common team and lying over four hours and not exceeding twenty four hours the sum of Nine cents [3] for every sail Boat lying at the said Dock over four hours and not exceeding twenty four hours four Cents [4] and every sail Boat paying by the year if not sunk by the Dock one Dollar and twenty five cents the year [5] if lying sunk by the Dock four Cents for every twenty four hours, [6] and for other articles in the same proportion the said trustees however reserving to themselves the right to fix the rate of wharfage for all articles not herein particularly designated, [7] and also to put thereon the goods belonging to the town on such terms as they may thing [i.e., think] proper and it is *further understood and do hereby grant* that if any person shall obstruct the said dock by by setting up stakes Anchoring Boats near thereto or otherwise he or they shall be



The Town Regulates a South Shore, Blue Point Wharfe, Pt. 3 *Warden Tobey, Epenetus Mills & Brookhaven -- June 5, 1821*

- ✦ liable to pay the same wharfage as if the vessel was lying by or other obstruction placed on the said wharfe and all damages occasioned by such obstruction: *to have and to hold the said dock or wharfe with the privileges above mentioned, but subject to the conditions above stated to the said Epenetus Mills* his Executors Administrators and Assigns to and for his and their own benefit *for the period or term of twenty Years* from the date of these presents in Witness whereof we have caused to be signed by our president and countersigned by our Clerk and affixed our seal thereto the fifth day of June in the Year one thousand eight hundred and twenty one
- ✦ NICHOLL FLOYD President L.S.
- ✦ Attest MORDECHAI HOMAN town Clerk"
- ✦ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 240-241.



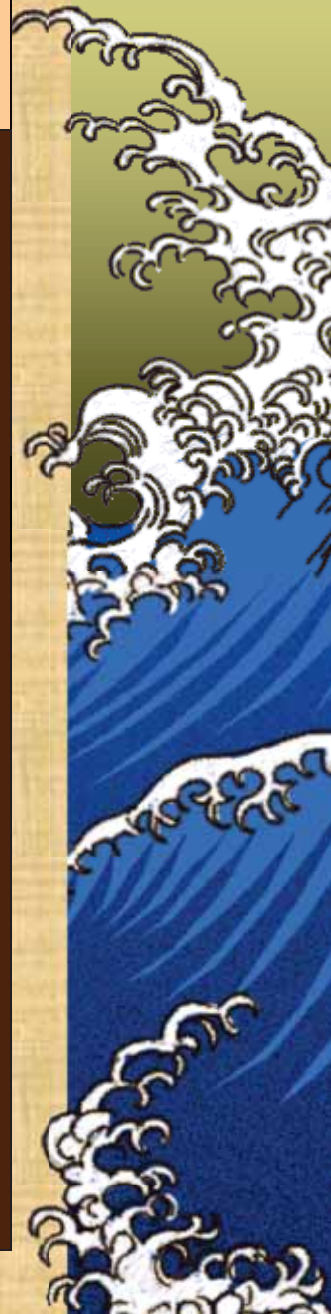
Reopening the *Shut Up Road* of Patchogue, Pt. 1 *Early Road Hogs' Bacon is Fried -- March 20, 1822*

▲ "We the commissioners of highways for the town of Brookhaven being call[e]d to open a certain Road at patchogue which was formerly open from the south country Road beginning near the house of Justus Roe in patchogue and leading to John Motts Mills but is now shut up by Stephen Jayne of the said patchogue and others we hereby order the said Stephen Jayne and others to open the said Road where they have shut the same to the width of three Rods the same to commence at and between the Barn of Oliver Russel and the Dwelling house of Justus Roe and running Northerly across the Lands of Stephen Jayne as the Road formerly Ran to the Gate which lets the Road into Ebenezer Akerleys land thence Northesterly through a small Grove of Oaks till it comes to a ditch to another Gate and from thence Northerly as it is now marked across the land of said Akerley to the Land of James Smith thence Across his land as it is



Reopening the *Shut Up Road* of Patchogue, Pt. 2 *Early Road Hogs' Bacon is Fried -- March 20, 1822*

- marked to the Lands of Ebenezer Jones thence across said Jones Land to the Lands of Stemhen Jayne and then across said Jaynes Lands to the house of John Mott senior and thence to continue on the said Road in the place where it now Runs **til the same shall hit the Coram Road at sandy Mile Hollow** which we return to be recorded this 20th day of March 1822
- Isaac Satterly } Commissioners of Highways
- Josiah Smith }
- Entered this 3rd. April 1822
- MORDECHAI HOMAN town Clerk"
- Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 241-242.



Bridging a Dam Strong Wharf, O'er Conscience Bay

Obviously Negotiated Terms & Conditions of Use, Pt. 1 – January 4, 1825

- ▲ "To all whome these presence shall come the Trustees of the freeholders and commonalty of the town of Brook haven send Greeting. Whereas **Thomas S. Strong** Esquire has by his petition presented to the said Trustees **requested permission to construct a dam and bridge over and across the westerly branch of Setauket harbour** commencing at the southernmost point of the peninsula formd by Setauket harbour and Conscience Bay known by the name of **little neck or St. Georges Manor** and running from thence to the **most convenient point at high water mark on the opposite shore** and to **construct a wharf on the easterly side of said dam and bridge**, and whereas it appears to the said Trustees that it will be proper to grant the prayer of the said petitioner inasmuch as notice has been duly given and published and no opposition has been made thereto as it cannot be productive of injury to any individual and as the construction of a wharf as proposed will be beneficial to the public Now therefore know ye that the said Trustees in consideration of the premises and also of one Dollar to them in hand paid at or before the ensealing and delivery of these presence by the said Thomas S. Strong the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do by these presence grant Bargain sell alien convey and confirm to the said Thomas S. Strong



Bridging a Dam Strong Wharf O'er Conscience Bay

Obviously Negotiated Terms & Conditions of Use, Pt. 2 – January 4, 1825

- ✦ And to his Heirs and Assigns forever so much and such land covered with water as it will be necessary to have use and take occupy possess and enjoy for the construction and continuance of such dam bridge and wharf and they do hereby authorize the said Thomas S. Strong his Heirs and Assigns to construct Build finish **keep in repair** and continue a dam Bridge and wharf over and across the said harbour at the place herein specified **and to charge demand sue for recover and receive a reasonable compensation and wharfage from all persons** however to be **subject to the controul of the Trustees** of the said Town **provided that they shall not be reduced by the said Trustees below the average wharfage chargd** for the use of the wharfs in the said town on the North side of the Island and **provided that the Trustees for the time being may load and unload goods Chattels belonging to the Corporation of the said town free of wharfage** in witness whereof the said Trustees have caused the Seal of the said Corporation to be affixed thereto and these presence to be signed by two of the said Trustees and countersigned by the Clerk of the said town the fourth day of January in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty five **reserving that there shall be forty feet space left for the ebbing and flowing of the water**
- ✦ In presence of Brewster Hawkins} Bryan Norton, Robert Hawkins, Samuel Hopkins } Trustees in the absence of the president
- ✦ Attest Mordechai Homan Town Clerk"
- ✦ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Clerk. **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y.** Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 262-263.



A Slave Manumission

April 5, 1825

- ✦ "Be it remembered that on the fifth day of April 1825 Mills Brewster Made application to the Trustees of the freeholders and commonalty of the town of Brook haven to Manumitt a certain Slave Named Peter and said Trustees being satisfied that said Slave is under forty five years and of Sufficient ability to provide for and maintain himself do hereby consent that he should be Manumitted as the Law of this State directs.
- ✦ THOMAS S. STRONG, president
- ✦ Attest
- ✦ MORDECHAI HOMAN town Clerk"
- ✦ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). [Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y.](#) [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 268-269.





Brookhaven Town's Greatest Fish Story, Pt 1

Daniel Webster & the Demon Trout, 1823-1827

Since 1820, **U.S. Senator Daniel Webster** had favored the fine summer fishing (along with quantities of rum & cider), on Brookhaven's Connecticut (now Carman's) River, esp. around **Carman's gristmill**. He and his oft renowned guests (e.g., future President Martin Van Buren) would lodge at **Carman's Tavern, Fireplace** [now South Haven, N.Y.], & his host, **Samuel Carman**, would usually accompany them fishing.

- A **huge brook trout** successfully **eluded & bedeviled Webster for 5 years, 1823-1827**, as it had others since 1821, growing larger with each spotting, and undoubtedly, in the telling.
- In 1827, the Senator arrived, highly resolved to catch his quarry.
- Spotted by **Carman's slave, Lige**, while Webster and guest, **N.Y.C. Mayor Philip Hone**, attended **South Haven Church** services, Lige quietly stole into the services, informed them (as previously instructed), and the normally hours-long devotions were quickly abbreviated, the pastor also being an avid fisherman. Pastor and flock adjourned & re-gathered to view the contest at the mill race. After several disappointments, just as the crowd was breaking up, the legendary behemoth was suddenly landed, creating a holiday atmosphere.



Brookhaven Town's Greatest Fish Story, Pt 2

Daniel Webster & the Demon Trout, 1823-1827

The Courier & Ives



➡ The Weathervane

Carman's
Mill ➡



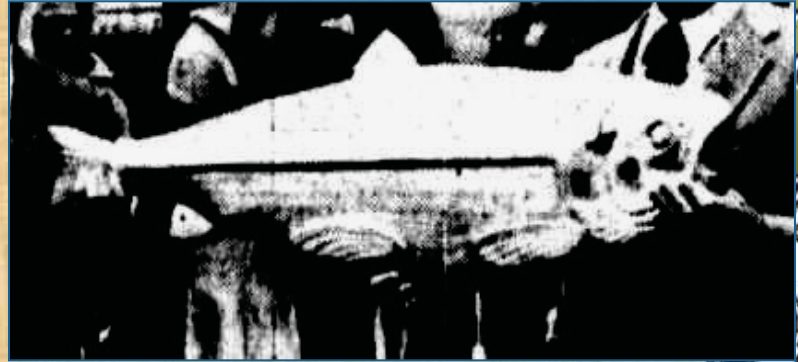
➤ Given its unusual size, it was taken to **Carman's general store** & weighed at 14 lb., 8 oz. It was traced. Enlarged by 1/3, so it would appear its proper size from the ground, a wooden facsimile became the **church's weathervane** (above left, owned by South Haven Church). Next day, the fish triumphantly accompanied Webster & Hone via stage coach to New York, then to **Delmonico's**, where it was prepared as a memorable dinner for **Daniel Webster, Mayor Hone, & Martin Van Buren.** Not long after, on July 4th, it was likely **Lige** who felt the most triumphant. Webster's prowess was also celebrated in the **Currier & Ives** period print to Left.

➤ Source: Karas, Nicholas. "**The Trout and Daniel Webster.**" *Dawn*, Dec. 31, 1966: 8-9. III

Carman's Mill

South Haven, NY, 1827

- The mill, purchased by Samuel Carman in 1798, was a popular fishing spot for early 19th century sportsmen, & was known for its large fish.
- The area under the race (lower left), just beneath the waterwheel (then removed & under repair), was the scene of Webster's 1827 triumph over the charmed-life trout (other sources state 1823 or "around 1835").
- As the mill stood in the way of the eastward expansion of Sunrise Highway, in 1958 it was destroyed, to make way for progress.
- To the Left: a large view of the Webster trout weathervane.
- For Lige, the Summer of 1827 would have been one of banner, if bittersweet, meaning...



Manumission Day -- July 4, 1827

Slavery Officially Ends in New York State

Brookhaven Slaves to be Free & Unequal

- ▲ **1799** – The NYS Legislature enacts a gradual emancipation bill, with provisos that after **July 4, 1827** (allowing 28 years' preparation time), children of mothers in slavery would be freed upon reaching age **25**, for women, and **27**, for men. But those born before 7/4/1827 might be kept enslaved for life.
- ▲ **1817** – The New York Legislature enacts a follow-up bill, emancipating all slaves born prior to July 4, 1827, on that date, as well.
- ▲ **1821** – The N.Y.S. legislature enacts a property restriction on voting, applicable only to non-whites, disenfranchising most, before they were even freed.
- ▲ **Source:** "July 4, 1827: The Day NY Freed Its Slaves." **Newsday**, July 4, 2003: A 4, A 38.



Roots of "Mill Town" & Cost of Prime Business Location

Damming Little Patchogue River, Pt. 1

Conditional Permission, Onerous Provisos, April 1832

- ✦ *"Whereas application has been Made to Barnabas Wines Samuel Hammond and John S. Mount Commissioners of Highways for the town of Brook haven by Nathaniel Smith and Daniel G. Gillett for permission to Make and construct a dam across little Patchogue Stream whear [sic] it crosses the South country road for the purpose of obtaining water Power to be applied to Milling or Manufacturing purposes and we the undersigned having examined the premises and believing that the public Interest will not Suffer but rather be promoted by the proposed measure permission is hereby given to the said Nathaniel Smith and Daniel G. Gillett and who ever else may be associated with them in the premises to build and raise said Dam on the Site above mentioned provided that they the said Nathaniel Smith and Daniel G. Gillett and whoever else may occupy or own said premises shall make and construct a good and Sufficient Road across said Dam and also make as many*



Roots of "Mill Town" & Cost of Prime Business Location

Damming Little Patchogue River, Pt. 2

Conditional Permission, Onerous Provisos, April 1832

- ▲ *bridges as may be necessary across the flues and wast[e] gates connected with the same for the purpose of passing and repassing carriages or otherwise and also clear out and open a pathway below said dam for the convenience of passing through said brook and further the said Nathaniel Smith and Daniel G. Gillett or their legal representatives shall ever after at their own expense and cost make and keep in repair all bridges more than one over or on said Dam so long as they shall use or occupy the premises for Milling or Manufacturing purposes and also the said Dam*

▲ *Dated April 1832*

▲ *John S. Mount }*

▲ *Samuel Hammond } Commissioners of Highways"*

▲ *Source: Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 327-8.*



Ferry Service Rates

September 17, 1833

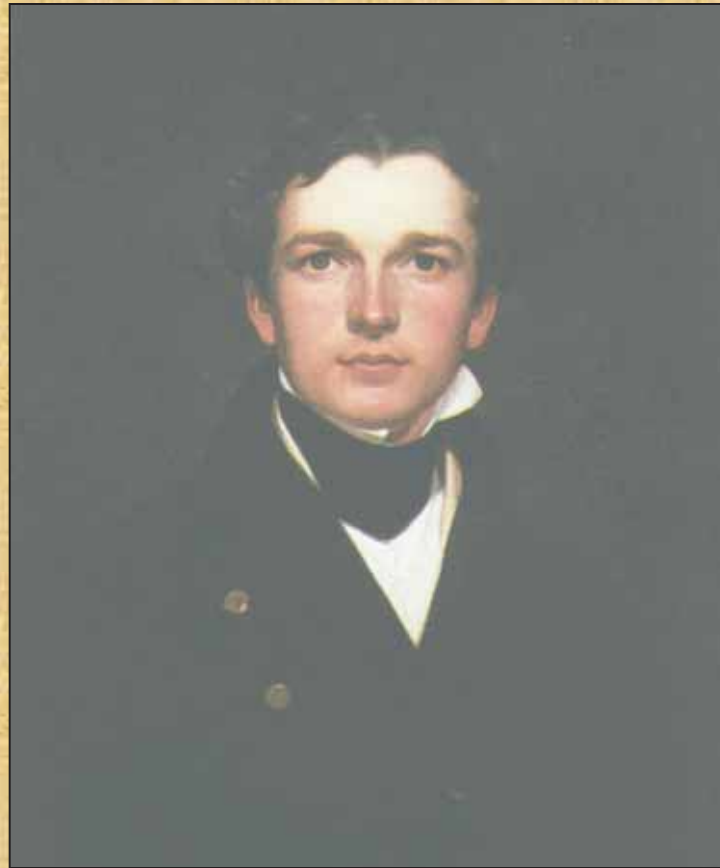
- ▲ "At a Meeting of the Trustees and freeholders and commonality of the town of Brook haven held on the 17th day of September 1833 said trustees agreed to allow Charles D. Hallock *wharfage for putting on Board or landing any Horse 12 ½ cents. for every thousand Brick six cents. For every Cask of lime three cents* done at Brook haven this day aforesaid
- ▲ DAVIS NORTON President"
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 327.



William Sidney Mount

Self-Portrait, 1832

William Sidney Mount a Setauket and Stony Brook resident, possessed artistic talents that distinguished him as *a premier American genre painter*. His life-like portraits and esp., his vivid, clear-eyed scenes of backwoods mid-19th century Long Island life, captured something of the humanity of his times, in an arresting style, for the ages.



Portrait Courtesy L.I. Museum of Art, History, and Carriages, Stony Brook, NY

Drowned Meadow (Port Jefferson)

Nautical Hauling & Repair Railroad Line, Pt. 1 , May 6, 1834

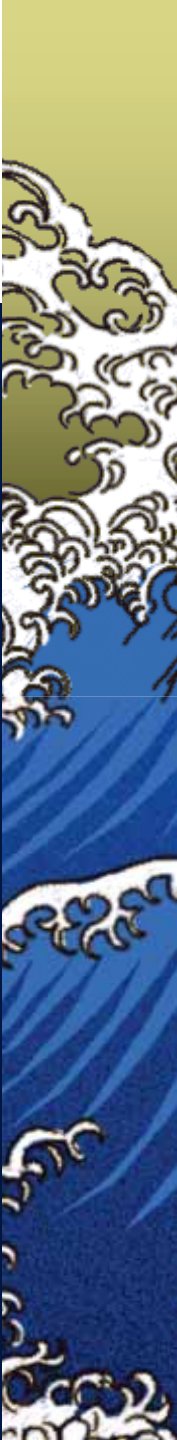
▲ “At a Meeting of the Trustees of the freeholders of the commonality of the town of Brook haven on the 6th day of May 1834 Messrs **Isaac Robbins** and **Charles T. Jones** made application for liberty to build a rail way at Drown meadow for the purpose of hauling out vessels to repair &c. and said Trustees after having duly considered the premises (and for and in consideration of the yearly rent or **Annuity of eight Dollars annually** to be paid to said Trustees or their Successors in Office on the first Tuesday in May hereafter) **Do by these presents grant** unto the said Isaac Robbins and Charles T. Jones their hiers [sic] or Assigns **for the term of twenty one years the right to build and construct a Railway** for the aforesaid term **on a certain tract or space of ground on Drownmeadow shore** the first Bound to set **sixty feet to the westward of the west side of the Dock** at Drownmeadow now Owned by James R. Davis at high water mark and from thence to extend westward on the shore Seventy feet and to extend southward to the highway and Northward into the harbour one hundred and thirty feet from the highwater mark for which said priviledg[e] the aforesaid Isaac Robbins and

Drowned Meadow (Port Jefferson)

Nautical Hauling & Repair Railroad Line, Pt. 2

May 6, 1834

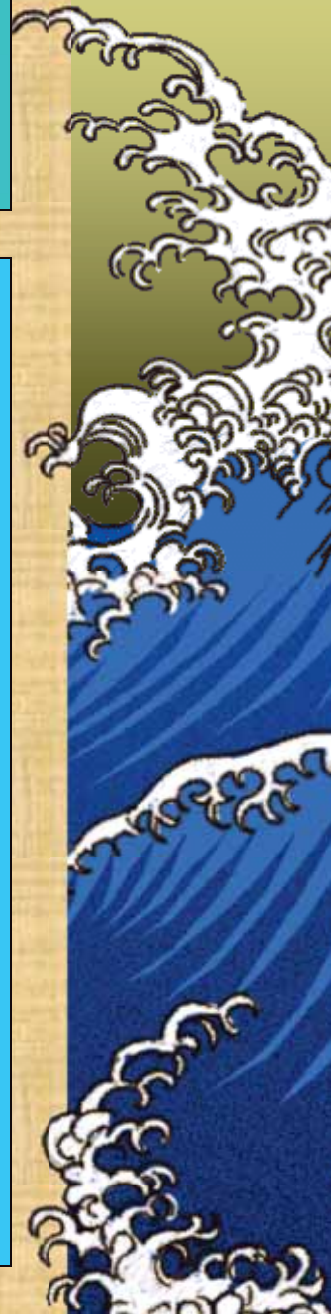
- ▲ Charles T. Jones their Hiers [sic] or Assigns shall pay unto the said Trustees or their successors in Office the yearly rent of eight Dollars on the day aforesaid. **Provided** however that the said **Isaac Robbins and Charles T. Jones** their hiers [sic] or Assigns shall have a right to relinquish and give up this grant at any time hereafter within said term with their paying up all arrearages to said town and removeing all obstructions (if any there be) that shall remain in the way of the public all of which is **Granted** accordingly this day aforesaid
- ▲ In the presence of **DANIEL OVERTON**, President
- ▲ **MORDECHAI HOMAN** town clerk
- ▲ On the **1st. Nov. 1836** the first Bound, sixty feet on the shore, was extended to seventy feet that being the first intent Attest M. HOMAN clerk"
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 328-329.



Life, Liberty, & the Pursuit of Ejectment

Obstruction to Navigation, November 1, 1836

- ▲ “At a Meeting of the Trustees of the freeholders and commonality of the town of Brook Haven held at the Inn of **Richard W. Smith** in the said town on the first day of November 1836 – Ordered that **Charles D. Hallock** *remove a certain lognow lying on the westerly side of his wharf at Stony Brook and which is hereby declared to be an obstruction* thereon within fourteen days next after his being served with a notice of this order and that in default thereof the attorney of this board commence an action of Ejectment against him.
- ▲ Mordechai Homan, Town Clerk”
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 362.



Survey for a Rail Line – February 20 & March 4, 1839

▲ "To all persons interested in the Great and little Divisions of land in the town of Brook Haven Transcript of a Survey taken by me on the 20th of february and 4th of March 1839. Started on the Rail Road line at a point 105 ch[ains] 72 Links South from Wintrups patent 1°. West from a certain Oak tree Marked near the Middle Island Road on the east side side of which tree was the East end of a certain line ran by me in 1836 a transcript of which Survey has been already filed. And ran along said R. Road line [actually north of the rail line to be] 67 ° 50' East, 173 Chains 75 links to Yaphank line which East of Connecticut River 17 Chains 25 links we next began on Yaphank line on South Country Road and ran westerly along said Road to a Marked pine tree Standing on the west side of Ellisons Swamp said to the Middle of the lot No. 15 in the Grat division Courses and distance as follows 1st South 45 ° 20' W. 3 C[hains] 00 [links]. 2nd 65 ° 20W. 18 C. 00. 3rd 55 ° 30 W – 20 C. 00 this brought us to Priest Hawkins Corner being West side of lot No. 8 – 4th. South 74 ° 25' W. 7..."

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 371-373.

Early 19th Century Brookhaven NIMBYism Precedent

No County Poor House *Here!*

& Paying School Inspectors, Poorly -- April 2, 1839

- ▲ “On the 2nd day of April 1839 being town Meeting day a vote was taken whether this town would consent to erection of a *County poor house* and it was *unanimously objected to* -- Also a vote was taken allowing the *Inspectors of Common School fifty cents* a day for their Services
- ▲ Attest MORDECHAI HOMAN town clerk”
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 362.



A Boundary Graven in Stone

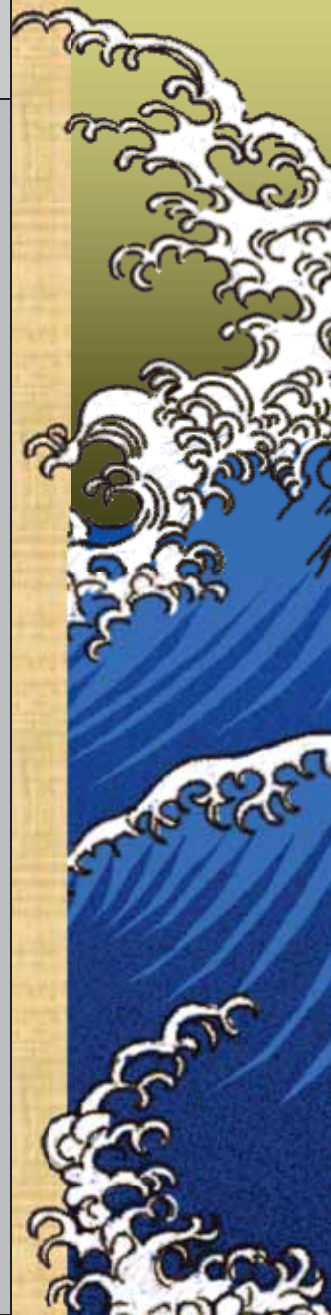
Where the Spreading Peperidge Tree once Stood

November 2, 1840

- “on the 2nd day of November 1840 a monument or Stone was erected at Wading River Between the town of Brook Haven at the request of Each town By David Worth Esq. Of Brook Haven and Noah Yound Esq. Of Riverhead being a committee appointed for that purpose from each town (viz) a Stone Marked on the west side with the letter B – and on the East side with the letter R. to stand and remain as a Monument between said towns being erected in the place where the old peperidge tree Stood as a dividing line between said towns in presence of

- ▲ Jonathan W. Mapes }
- ▲ Henry Hudson } of Brook Haven
- ▲ Charles Husdon }
- ▲ And Robert Woodhull }
- ▲ Vincent Mapes } of Riverhead
- ▲ Gabriel Mills }
- ▲ David Worth }
- ▲ Noah Young } Committee”

- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 385-386.

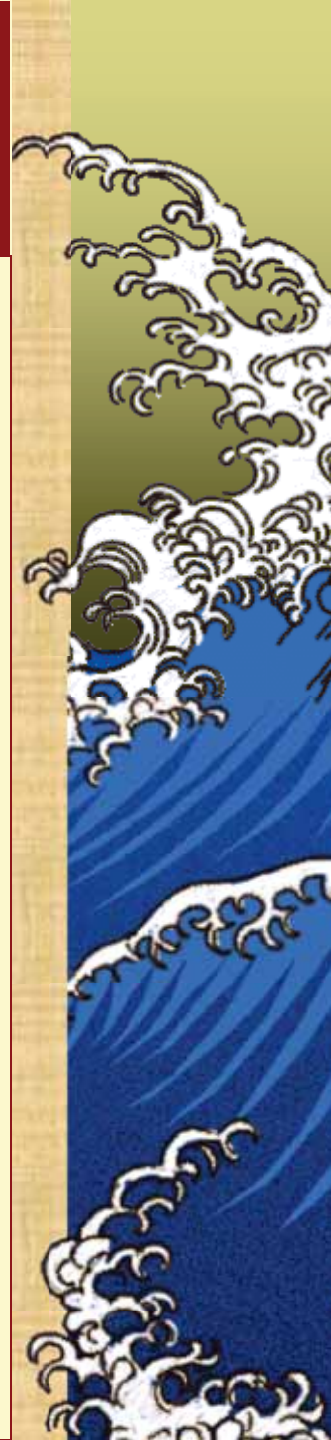


Brookhaven-Smithtown Boundary Dispute, Part 1

Submitted to Committee, Then to Outside Arbitration

September 6, 1841

- ✦ “Whereas a dispute has arisen between the towns of Brook Haven and Smith town County of Suffolk relative to the boundary line between them from the Mill dam at Stoney Brook to Long Island Sound. And **Selah B. Strong Davis Norton and Charles Phillips of Brook Haven and Joshua B. Smith William Wickham Mills and Joseph R. Hunting of Smith town** were **appointed** by their respective towns to **locate such line and in case of their disagreement to Submit the matter in difference to arbitration** with authority to bind their respective towns to abide by and perform the award to be made by the arbitrator ro be selected by them. –
- ✦ And whereas **the persons so appointed** having examined and considered the said Matter in dispute and **having disagreed** as to the location of the said Boundary line and having **thereupon appointed** and selected the undersigned **Charles H. Ruggles of Poughkeipsie [sic] in the County of Dutches[s] sole Arbitrator** to locate fix and determine the said boundary line between the said two towns from the said Mill dam to the Sound and agreed each Committee for their for their own town that their respective towns should submit to abide by and perform the Award of the undersigned Arbitrator in the premises provided such **Award should be made in Writing and subscribed by the said Arbitrator in duplicate on or before the first day of January 1842.** as may more fully appear by the by the said Instrument of Submission in Writing duly executed and **dated the sixth day of September 1842 [i.e., 1841]**



Brookhaven-Smithtown Boundary Dispute, Part 2

Arbitration Comes Late

January-February, 1842

- ✦ AND whereas the undersigned **Arbitrator** did take upon himself the burden of such Award and upon the said sixth day of September being attended by both the parties had a view of the premises and then and there heard the heard their allegations Writings and proofs on both sides but omitted to make his Award on or before the said first day of January in the year 1842
- ✦ And whereas the said Selah B. Strong Charles Phillips and Davis Norton **Commissioners appointed** on the part of the town of Brook Haven aforesaid and the said William Wickham Mills Joshua B. Smith and Joseph R. Hunting appointed on the part of Smithtown **agreed** by an instrument under their hands dated **January 1st. 1842 to extend the time for making the award** of the undersigned in the Matter herein before mentioned to the **22nd. day of February** then next and thereby agreed that if an award should be made concerning the premises by that day it should be binding and conclusive upon their respective towns. – **NOW therefore I the said Charles H. Ruggles** in pursuance of the authority contain,d in the said Insturment in Writing and after having Viewed the premises and been attended by the parties and having heard their Witnesses proofs and allegations as aforesaid, **Do by these presents Arbitrate Award order adjudge and determine of and concerning the premises as follows** that is to say **that the Boundary line** between the town of Brook haven and the town of Smithtown from the Mill dam at Stoney Brook to long island Sound



Brookhaven-Smithtown Boundary Dispute, Part 3

The Decision is Rendered & Recorded

February 14, 1842

- ▲ begins in the Middle of the main Channel of the Middle Branch of the said Stoney Brook at the said Mill dam and runs thence down the Middle of the said Main Channel of the aforesaid brook or Stream as the same now runs into the harbour and so along the Channel or deepest part thereof into Long Isladn sound, And the Middle of the Main Channel of the said stream until it comes to the harbour and thence the **middle of the Channel** of the harbour is hereby located fixed adjudged and awarded to be the **boundary line between the two towns** aforesaid from the Mill dam aforesaid to the Sound.
- ▲ In witness whereof I have made this my award in Writing in duplicate and subscribed the same this **14th. day of February** in the year **1842**

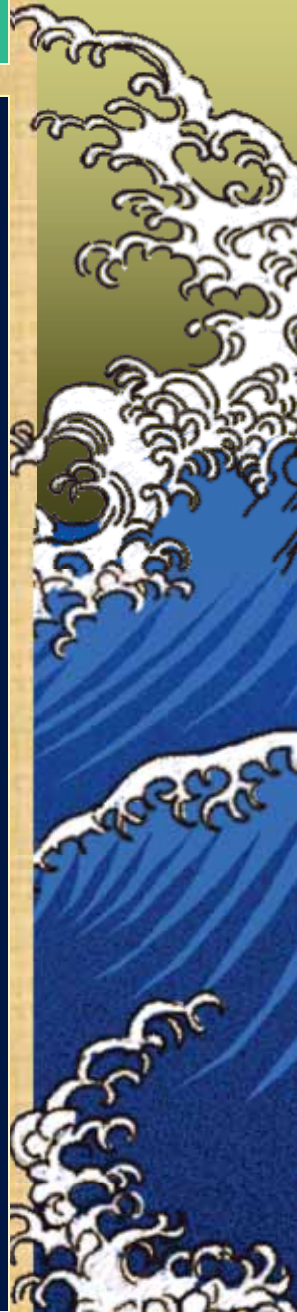
▲ **CHARLES H. RUGGLES"**

- ▲ "State of New York }
- ▲ Dutchess County } ss.
- ▲ On the fourteenth of february one thousand eight hundred and forty two before me came the honourable Charles H. Ruggles known to me as the person described in and who executed the foregoing Award and acknowledged that he had signed and executed the said Award for the uses and purposes therein expressed I find no alterations therein **let it be recorded let it be made in evidence**
- ▲ JOHN BRUSH Supreme Court Commissioner"
- ▲ **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856].** Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 387-389.



Nay to Oysters! – May 4, 1841

- ✦ “Be it ordained by the Trustees of the freeholders and the commonality of the town of Brook Haven that no person or persons shall Dredge or drag for Oysters in the waters of this town in the [Great] south Bay and that any person or persons offending against the provision of this ordinance shall forfeit the sum of twelve Dollars and fifty Cents for each and every offence to be recovered by and in the name of the said Trustees before any Court having Jurisdiction of the Matter done at Brook Haven this fourth day of May 1841, this act to take effect immediately.
- ✦ Silas Homan President. of Trustees...”
- ✦ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p.405



Favored Destination: The Long Island Railroad Opens a New Station in Medford Schedule -- June 26, 1844

- *Arrival of the Railroad meant an easier connection to the west, an easier landward commute to Brooklyn & New York City*
- *It also meant that Medford became a point of (re-)supply and distribution for local businesses*
- *It put Medford on the map as a clear destination, and hub of local transportation activity*

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD CO.



OPENING OF THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD TO MEDFORD STATION (PACHOGUE), FIRE PLACE & CARMAN'S RIV.

ON and after Wednesday, 26th instant, the train will run as follows:

Leave Brooklyn Depot, South Ferry,
" 9½ A. M., through.
" 4 P. M., Hicksville.
" 6 P. M., Jamaica.

RETURNING,

Leave Hicksville.....7½ A. M., 3½ P. M.
" Hempstead.....7½ A. M., 3½ P. M.
" Jamaica.....8 A. M., 1 & 4½ P. M.
" Carman's River.....1 P. M.
" Medford Station (Pachogue)...2½ P. M.
" Suffolk Station.....2½ P. M.

SUNDAY TRAIN.

Leave Brooklyn 9½ A. M., through.
" " 6 P. M., to Jamaica.

RETURNING,

Leave Jamaica.....8 A. M., 4½ P. M.
" Carman's River.....1 P. M.
" Medford Station.....2½ P. M.
" Suffolk Station.....2½ P. M.
" Hicksville and Hempstead....3½ P. M.

FARE FOR TICKETS

Purchased at the Office, at the following rates:

Bedford, E. N. York. 12½c	Hicksville.....56½c
Union Course.....18½	Farmingdale.....68½
Jamaica.....25	Deer Park.....87½
Brushville.....31½	Thompson.....\$1 00
Hempstead, and Carl	Suffolk Station.. 1 12½
Place and Branch. 37½	Medford Station. 1 50
Westbury.....44	Fire Place.....1 62½

☐ Fare when paid in the cars, 6 cents additional on each of the above rates.

Stages will be in readiness at the several places to convey passengers to the North and South sides of the Island, and at Carman's River to go to Greenport and intermediate places on the North side;—and to Quog, Sag Harbor, Montauk Point, and intermediate places on the South side.

Rockaway stages leave Jamaica on the arrival of the 9½ A. M. and 4 P. M. trains.

Brooklyn, June 22, 1844.

Fish House of the Old Man's April Fool

April 1, 1845

▲ "Be it remembered that on the 1st. Day of April 1845 the *Trustees of Brook Haven Granted Liberty to Charles Phillips Esq. To set a fish house on Mogers shore in the old mans* [Mt. Sinai] on the east side of the highway *but not so as to interrupt the public traveling –*

▲ attest MORDECHAI HOMAN town clerk"

▲ **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856].** Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 398.



The Mexican War Era, 1846-1848

Legislating Morality — Town Goes Dry, 1846

“At a Special town Meeting held in the town of Brook Haven on the 19th. day of May 1846, to determine by Ballot whether there should be License or no License granted in said town to Sell Strong or Spiritous Liquors Six hundred and Seventeen votes were given of which **four hundred and sixty seven votes were given for no license** and **one hundred and fifty votes were given for License...**”

- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p.405



The Mexican War Era, 1846-1848

Seasoning the Oysters, March 2, 1847

▲ "An Act for the Preservation of Oysters."

- ▲ "Be it ordained by the Trustees of the freeholders and commonality of the town of Brookhaven that if any person or persons shall take or catch any Oysters or Shells of Oysters in the South Bay Belonging to said town and William Sidney Smith between the 15th. day of June and the 15th. day of September in any year shall for every offence forfeit and pay to said town the sum of twelve dollars and fifty Cents to be sued for and recovered in any Court having Cognizance thereof and applied to the use of said town done at Brookhaven this 2^d. day of March 1847

▲ NATHANIEL TUTTLE, president, L.S.

▲ attest MORDECHAI HOMAN town clerk."

- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 408-409.



The Mexican War Era, 1846-1848

Setting Out the Dock of the Bay, Nov. 9, 1847

- ▲ “Be it remembered that on the 9th day of November 1847. the Trustees of the freeholders and Commonality of the town of Brook Haven granted liberty to Charles S. Newey **liberty to build and construct a Dock or railway into the south Bay** against the strand of Wm. C. Smith by his consent for the term of ten years and to be **twenty feet in width** and **to extend into the Bay six rods** for and in consideration of the sum of one Dollar and fifty cents Annually to be paid by the said Charles S. Newey or heirs or assigns to the said Trustees or their Successors in office on the first tuesday in April the first payment to be made the first tuesday in April 1848.

▲ NATHANIEL TUTTLE, President

- ▲ Attest MORDECHAI HOMAN town clerk”

- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p.



The Democratic Revolution of 1848 (May 4th)

The Freeing of the Oystermen!

▲ *"Be it Ordained* by the Trustees of the freeholders and commonality of the town of Brook Haven that *the Act passed the 4th. day of May 1841. prohibiting people from dredging for oysters in the waters of the [Great] South Bay be and is hereby repealed* done at Brook Haven this 7th. day of March 1848
NATHANIEL TUTTLE President L.S.

▲ In the presence of

▲ MORDECHAI HOMAN town clerk Copy"

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 413.



The Mexican War Era, 1846-1848

Private Road Suits the Accident Prone, 1848

"Release of Roads at Manor Station – 1848"

" We the subscribers do hereby release to the Town of Brookhaven all claim to damages arising from the use by the public of a private way to all persons who may travel, ride or drive thereon, which private way shall commence at the Highway north of the Manor Station and running Southerly to the Rail Road track, which said private way shall be two rods wide, that is one rod on each of us the said subscribers – Given under our hands the 24th day of June 1848–

J.G. WILBUR

In presence of

SETH RAYNOR

CHARLES PHILLIPS"

- Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p.405



Williamite Poor Relief

September 5, 1848

- ✦ "At a Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Brookhaven on the 5th Day of September 1848 present **Wm. S. Williamson**, Floyd Smith, **Wm. Phillips**, **William Penny**, & **W. Hawkins** it was unanimously voted that the sum of fourteen hundred dollars be raised by tax for the support of the Town-poor during the coming year –
- ✦ WM. S. WILLIAMSON President
- ✦ Attest – B.T. HUTCHINSON Town Clerk – "
- ✦ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 418.



- "At a Special Town-meeting held pursuant to public Notice at the house of Lester H. Davis in the Town of Brookhaven on the 4th day of January 1849 to choose a person to fill the **vacancy in the office of Trustee and Overseer of the poor** caused by the **death of Isaac Davis** on the 30th Ult[imate]. Brewster Woodhull & Charles Phillips Justices of the peace being present presided, and Benj. T. Hutchinson Town-Clerk, acted as Clerk, whereupon after canvassing the votes it was decided that **Samuel Carman** was chosen to fill said vacancies --
- BREWSTER WOODHULL Justice of the Peace
- BENJN T. HUTCHINSON
- Town-Clerk --."
- Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 419.

Gold Fever:

Thomas Mulford & the Patchogue 49'ers

- ▲ Patchogue, N.Y. was hardly immune to the wave of **gold fever** that seized the country in **1849**, prompting one resident, **Thomas Mulford**, to organize a expedition to California, pooling money to **charter a ship for the long voyage around Cape Horn** to gold fields. Finding the best stakes already taken, many lost heart and took the round trip back, including his brother, **Edward**.
- ▲ The enterprising Thomas remained, and soon discovered that **supplying the miners** (initially with game) was an equally effective route to wealth. Soon he was **supplying several concerns in the San Francisco area**.
- ▲ Next, he **started a hotel**, adding a **miner's supply house**, in partnership with Edward (persuaded to make a return voyage). The business, located at San Francisco's **Mulford's Landing**, prospered. They were also joined by **Evelyn S. Mulford**, who became a **major supplier of tomatoes (to the East coast)**, but she was bankrupted by the 1905 San Francisco earthquake. Thomas fared better. His manse, e.g., was on a hill just outside the earthquake zone.
- ▲ **Thomas Mulford** likely surprised his neighbors when he purchased one square mile of underwater land, and **introduced oyster culture to the West Coast**.
- ▲ Edward, again headed East.
- ▲ **Thomas** purchased a square mile of upland area and began **intensive farming**, an operation that continually expanded. He also dabbled in politics, becoming **one of the founders of Alameda County**. At his **death in 1907**, his farm alone was valued at \$100,000. Not bad for a lonely upstart from Brookhaven Town.
- ▲ **Source:** "Rare Old Postal Items Recall Local Gold Rush Adventurers." [Patchogue] **Argus**, October 26, 1937: p. [?].



April 2, 1850, Pt. 1

Annual Town Elections Held at the Lester H. Davis House

A Section of Davis House in 2003 ➞



▲ "At an annual Town meeting held on the 2nd. day of April 1850 in the Town of Brookhaven and at the house of L.H. Davis in Coram the following officers were duly chosen viz

▲ **Supervisor**

▲ George P. Mills

▲ **Justice of the Peace**

▲ Brewster Woodhull

▲ **President of Trustees**

▲ William C. Booth

▲ **Trustees**

▲ Benjamin Bruster

▲ Horace Hudson

▲ *Note: Photo courtesy of Carrie Locke, Patchogue-Medford Library*



April 2, 1850, Pt. 2

Annual Town Elections Held at the Lester H. Davis House

A Section of Davis House in 2003 ➞



- ▲ Isaac N. Gould
- ▲ Nathaniel Tuthill
- ▲ Thomas J. Elison
- ▲ Joel Robinson
- ▲ Overseers of the Poor
- ▲ William C. Booth
- ▲ Horace Hudson
- ▲ Town Clerk
- ▲ Samuel A. Hawkins
- ▲ Collector
- ▲ William S. Williamson
- ▲ Assessor
- ▲ Moses Swezey 3 years



April 2, 1850, Pt. 3

Annual Town Elections Held at the Lester H. Davis House

A Section of Davis House in 2003 ➞



▲ Commissioner of Highways

▲ Nathaniel Tuthill 3 years

▲ Constables

▲ Noah Overton

Charles Hopkins

▲ John Hawkins

William Penny 3rd.

▲ Bryant N. Overton

▲ Sealer of Weights and measures

▲ Lewis R. Overton

▲ Inspectors of the Election

▲ 1[st] Dist[ri]ct 1 Floyd Smith

▲ 2 John M. Williamson

▲ 3 John R. Satterly

▲ 2[nd] Dist[ri]ct 1 James Hallock

▲ 2 Smith Davis



April 2, 1850, Pt. 4
Annual Town Elections Held
at the Lester H. Davis House
A Section of Davis House in 2003 ➡



- 3 Walter Dickerson
- 3rd Dist^{ri}ct 1 Joel Robinson
 - 2 John S. Havens
 - 3 James Stephens
- 4th Dist^{ri}ct 1 James Ketchum
 - 2 Bruster Terry
 - 3 William Raynor
- 5th Dist^{ri}ct 1 Davis Norton
- 2 Lester H. Davis [whose home was the town hall]
 - 3 Franklin Overton
- Overseers of Highways. Chosen 2nd. April 1850
 - No. Dist^{ri}ct No.
 - 1 Edward Seabury 25 John Corey



April 2, 1850, Pt. 5
Annual Town Elections Held
at the Lester H. Davis House
A Section of Davis House in 2003 ➡



No. Dist[ri]ct	No.
➤ 2 Lewis Hallock	26 James Russell
➤ 3 Sylvester Hawkins	27 Joseph C Hammond
➤ 4 William C Tooker	28 William E Gould
➤ 5 Floyd Smith	29 Davis Norton
➤ 6 Ames Sturdevan	30 John E Smith
➤ 7 Charles Jayne	31 Ham Smith
➤ 8 Henry Hawkins	32 Richard [sic] Smith Pond
➤ 9 Lewis G Davis	33 Lhomadue [L'hommedieu] Smith
➤ 10 George p Hellem	34 Hiram Overton
➤ 11 Joel Brown	35 Daniel Lhomadue
➤ 12 Henry Tuthill	36 Lester Rowland
➤ 13 Jeremiah G Wilbur	37 Joseph Davis



April 2, 1850, Pt. 6
Annual Town Elections Held
at the Lester H. Davis House
A Section of Davis House in 2003 ➡



- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| ➤ 14 Nathan Raynor | 38 Samuel F Norton |
| ➤ 15 Solon Culver | 39 Richard W. Hawkins |
| ➤ 16 Parker S Robinson | 40 Jehial Randal |
| ➤ 17 Nicol Overton | 41 Lewis Gordon |
| ➤ 18 Samuel Carman | 42 – Dissolved |
| ➤ 19 Azel Hawkins | 43 Thomas J King |
| ➤ 20 Henry W. Titus | 44 Jefry S Hutchinson |
| ➤ 21 David Hedges | 45 Jonah Turner |
| ➤ 22 William S Preston | 46 Hurman Hallock |
| ➤ 23 Walter Howell | 47 Nicolas Terril |
| ➤ 24 William Rowland | 48 Elihu Hawkins |
| ➤ LESTER DAVIS Town Clerk" | |

➤ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). *Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]*. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 428-31. Note: Photo courtesy of Carrie Locke, Patchogue-Medford Library

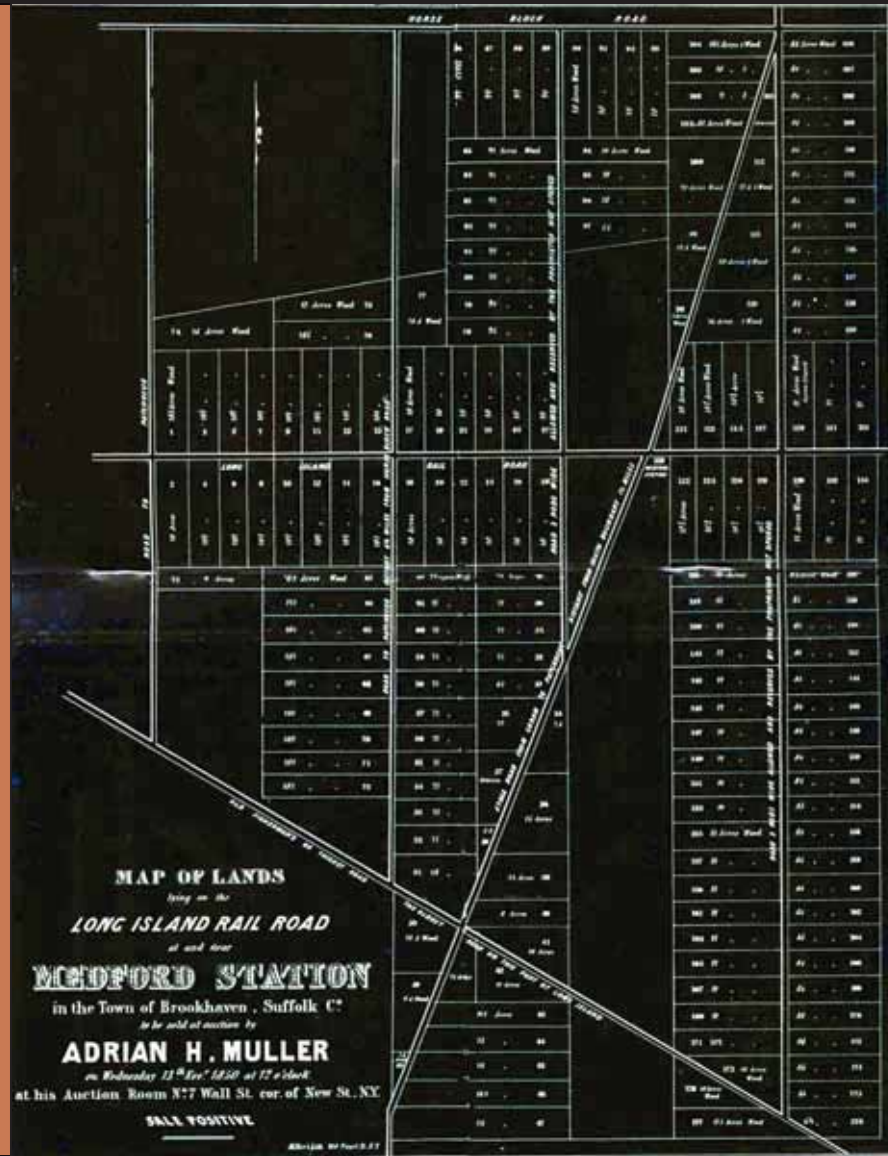


Long Island Railroad Auctions Land

179 Lots – Ranging in Size from 1 to 20 Acres

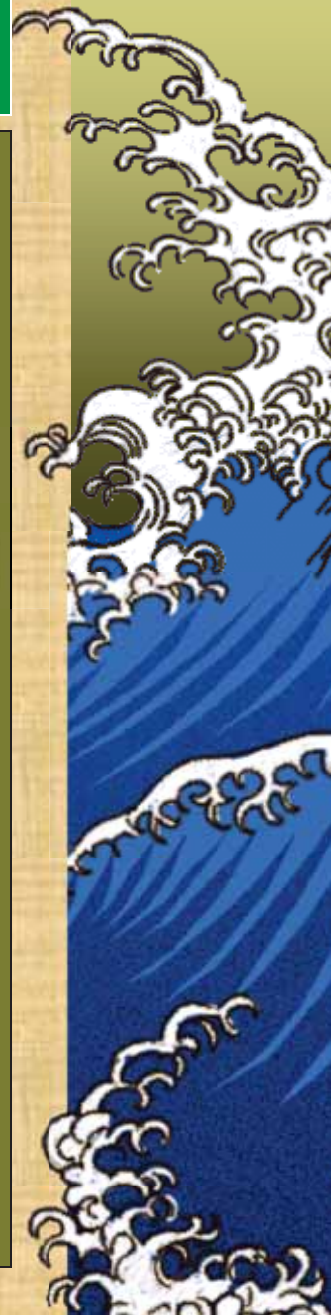
Near Its Medford Station -- Nov. 13, 1850

- *Horse Block Road runs E-W at the top of the map*
- *The road running diagonally from SW to NE is the "Stage Road from Coram to Patchogue"*
- *The LIRR is the thick E-W line, just north of the map's center ➡*
- *Medford Station is located at the SE junction of the LIRR & the Stage Road (today's Rte. 112)*
- *"Old Fisherman's or Thicket Road" oldest in the area is the diagonal line running SE to NW*
- *Incidentally, Robert Louis Stevenson was born on this date, & just over 2 months earlier, on Sept. 9th, the Compromise of 1850 had saved the U.S. from Civil War*



Town to Keep 2 Sets of Books – May 7, 1850

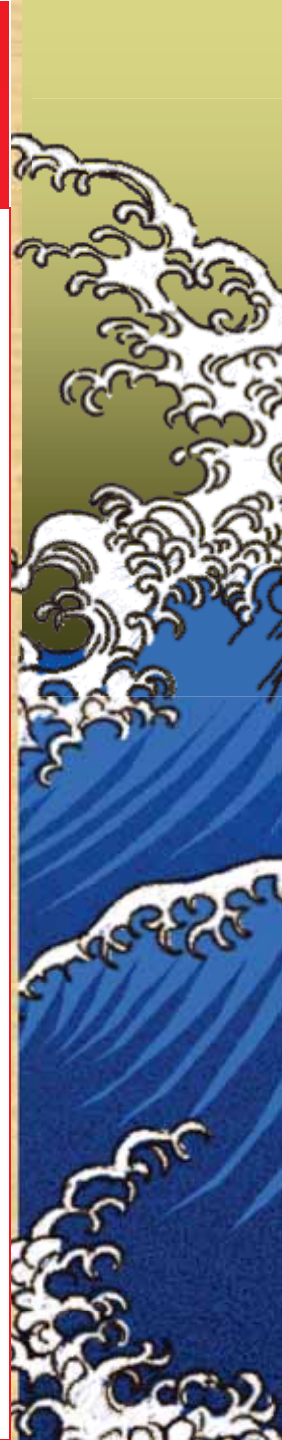
- ▲ “At a Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Brookhaven on the 7th day of May 1850 present Wm. C. Booth president Nathl Tuthill Isaac N Gould Horace Hudson Benjamin Brewster Thomas J. Ellison it was resolved and **voted that The Overseers of the Poor keep their acc[oun]ts separate from the Board of Trustees and that a Book be procured at the expence of the Town** for that purpose For the ensuing year. W.C. Booth. Prsd.
- ▲ Adjourned to June 4th
- ▲ SAMUEL A. HAWKINS – Clerk”
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 431.



Still Indenturing, After All These Years

The Case of "George W.", Phase 1– October 8, 1850

- ▲ "At a Meeting of the Board of Trustees...The Trustees all present – in the case of the Colored Boy **George W.** at Richard Corwins *Mr. Corwin claiming the right to the Boy by Indenture according to an agreement with the overseers of the poor at the time the Boy was a pauper* for some cause it was deferred *The Boy has since been Indentured by the Mother to Austin Roe* Mr Roe claiming the right to the said boy by Indenture *on the ground that the boy was not a pauper at the time and therefore was not under the controle of the overseers*
- ▲ The Board concluded to defer the matter until next meeting to ascertain the Legality of the Indenture &c adjourned until the first tuesday of December. next at 9 oclock A.M."
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 437.



Have Horse, Will Travel

Overton's Livery Stable, ca. 1850-70

Taxi & Parking Garage of Its Time

If you needed to be picked up or dropped off at a rail or stage coach station, to or from a boat...

If you needed a dry, safe place for your horses, where they could find food, water, and be groomed...

The livery stable was what you needed, when on the road.



Courtesy Patchogue-Medford Library Local History Room

Choosing One Indenture Over Another & Chastizing the Poor Overseers

The Case of "George W.", Phase 2 – December 3, 1850

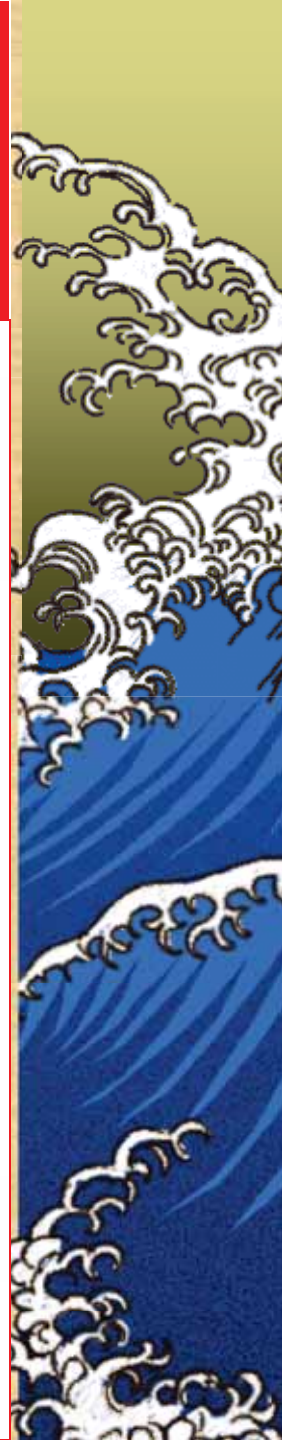
- ▲ "At a Meeting of the Board of Trustees...the Board all present *the Board decided that the Overseers of the Poor had no right to interfere with the Colored Boy George W. Indentured to Austin Roe by his Mother as he was not a pauper at the time.*

Adjourned to the 14th day of Jan. next at 9 oclock A.M.

WM. C. BOOTH President

SAMUEL A. HAWKINS Clerk"

- ▲ **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856].** Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 437.



Moon-Struck in Utica & Deferring the Question(able)

From 2 Town Board Meetings at Lester H. Davis' House

March 14, 1851 & April 1, 1851

- ▲ "...a Bill was presented by David Smalling in behalf of his son a Lunatic at Utica laid over to next meeting...." (3/14)
- ▲ "...The Bill of David Smalling in Behalf of his son a Lunatic was reconsidered and the Board decided to refer the matter to the new board of Trustees for the ensuing year." (4/1)*
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y. : Town). Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: pp. 443-445.
- ▲ *Side note: One has to really wonder at coincidence vs. intentionality in an April Fool's Day decision to pass this particular hot potato on to the next sitting board. Ah, American politics!



Recording a Well-Turned & Furnished Vegetarian Bargain -- May 19, 1851

Setting Up a Relative Business, Pt. 1: Tavern on the Greenery?

▲ "Know all men by these presents that I **Nelson Terry** of the Town of Brookhaven County of Suffolk and State of New York of the first part **for and in consideration of the sum of five hundred Dollars** lawfull money of the United States to me **paid by W. Carman Terry** of said Town County and State aforesaid of the second part the receipt whereof **is hereby acknowledged have Bargained and sold** and by these presents **do grant & convey** unto the said party of the second part his executors administrators and assigns **four Acres of corn one and half acres potatoes 2 Acres of oats ten acres of English Grass five Beds and the Bedding two Doz[en] Win[d]sor and wood bottom chairs five Looking Glasses five wash and candle stands two Ingrain carpets one Rag carpet five window shades bar fixtures and clock stove in Bar Room four dining Tables one Bureau two long tables and four**



Recording a Well-Turned & Furnished Vegetarian Bargain -- May 19, 1851

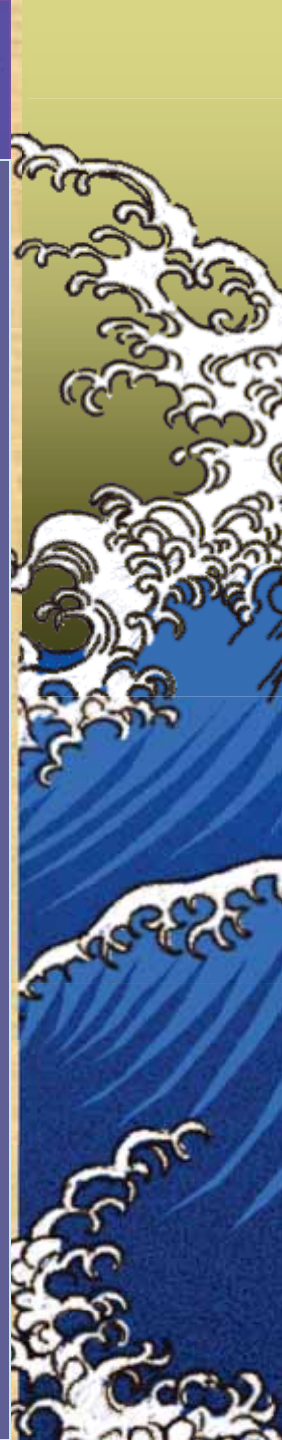
Setting Up a Relative Business, Pt. 2: Tavern on the Greenery?

- ▶ **Benches one Rocking chair now in my possession to have and to hold** unto the said party of the second part his executors administrators and assigns and **I do for myself**. My heirs Executors administrators and assigns covenant and **agree to** and with the said party of the second part his executors administrators and assigns to **Warrant and defend the sale of the said property goods and chattels** hereby made unto the party of the second part his Executors administrators and assigns **against all and every person** and persons whomsoever
- ▶ In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal
this 19th day of May 1851 Nelson Terry L S"
- ▶ **Source:** Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1798-1856]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 451.



A Cold Day in May - Pension Redux – May 6, 1856

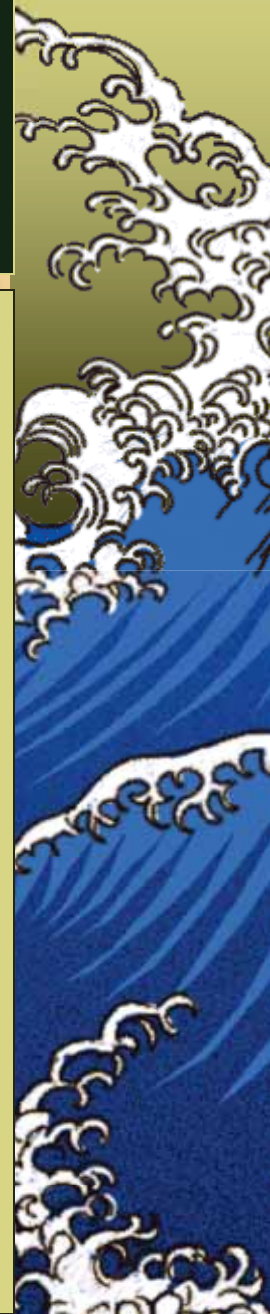
- ⌞ "At sd Meeting
- ⌞ Board decided to reduce Mrs. Blydenburgh pension to 3/. Per week.
- ⌞ also to Reduce Minor Swezey pension to one Dollar
- ⌞ also to Reduce Mary Raynors " to 4 / per week
- ⌞ " " " Mary Robinson " to 4 / " "
- ⌞ Board decided to allow Mrs. Biggs 8 / till next Meeting
- ⌞ " to allow Angeline Marvin but 4 / per week
- ⌞ Board allowed Mrs. Furman 4 / per week for keeping Enos Hulse
- ⌞ Board adjourned to meet the 1st tuesday in June next
 - ⌞ Davis Norton Pres[iden]t --
- ⌞ S.A. Hawkins Town Clerk"
- ⌞ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1856-1886]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 9-10.



Real Estate Wheeling & Dealing in West Bay & Stony Brook

Eelgrass, Thrill on the Hill, Ham for the Poor

June 3, 1856



▲ "... Board decided to lease Welden Avery the *Eeling in west Bay* for one year at \$10. Board authorized Mr. Beale to *Sell the Grass in W. Bay* Board decided (on application) to *Sell the land at Stony Brook called School House Hill to the Inhabitants of that School District as a Site for School House* for the sum of \$75. Board employed *Ham Smith to oversee Poor House* for the sum of \$20. adjourned to meet 1st Tuesday in Aug.

▲ D. Norton Presdt."

▲ Source: **Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town)**. Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1856-1886]. **Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 10.**

Heist of A Cash Cow from the Alms House

Or, No Moral Qualms about Alms
Got Milk? -- November 11, 1856

▲ “It was voted and agreed at s[ai]d Meeting that Ham Smith the overseer of Alms [Poor] House shall sell the cow belonging to the House for the Hiest price he can obtain...”

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1856-1886]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 15.

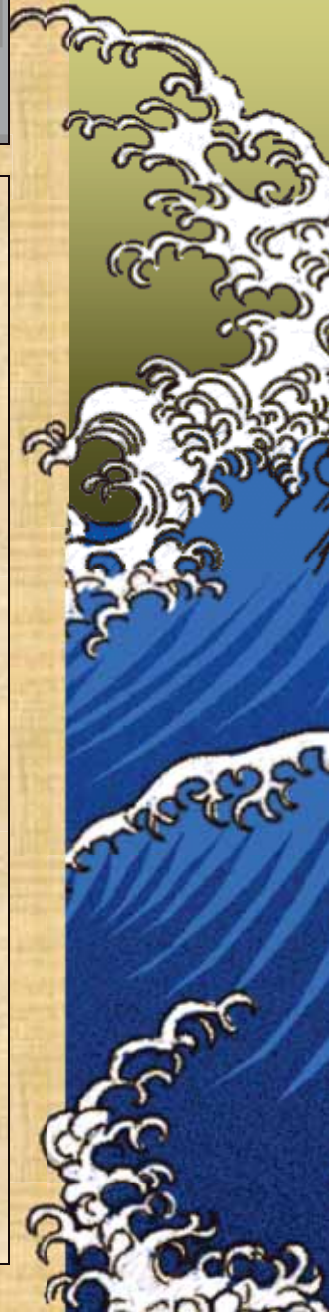


Considering a Perfectly Unreasonable Bill

January 6, 1857

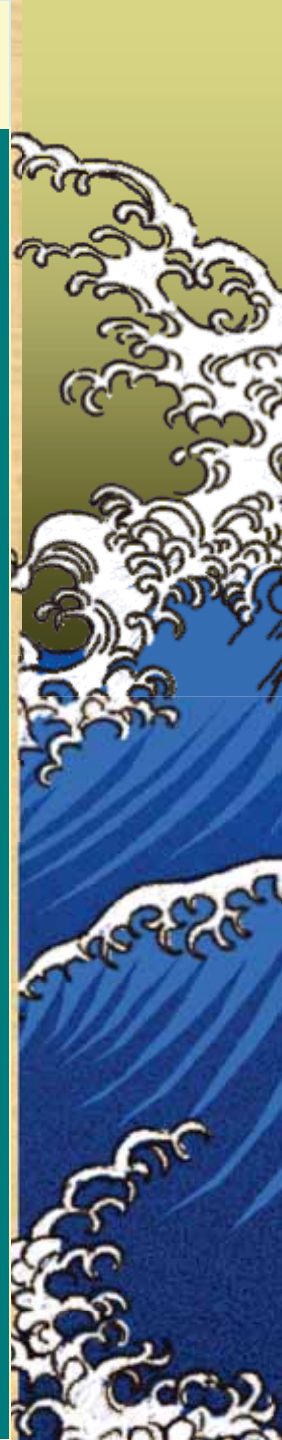
▲ "... at said meeting Jehial W. Randall presented a bill which was thought unreasonable But to be reconsidered at next meeting..."

▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1856-1886]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Times Steam Job Print, 1888: p. 15.



Well-Seasoned Oystering – March 5, 1861

- ▲ “...In relation to the protection and **regulation of the Oyster Privileges** of all that part of the Great South Bay called the **West Bay**, the Board of Trustees do unanimously pass the following Act and Resolutions viz.
- ▲ Be it ordained by the Trustees of the Freeholders and commonality of the Town of Brookhaven that **no Oysters or Oyster Spawns** shall be caught or taken in any part of the **Great West Bay** from the first day of June to the fifteenth day of September, and that if any person or persons shall catch or take Oysters or Oyster Spawn in or from any part of the said Great West Bay at any time during said period such person or persons so offending shall forfeit and pay to the said Town the sum of **Fifteen Dollars** for each and every such offence to be sued for and recovered in any court having cognizance thereof –
- ▲ Ordered that a person be appointed to **Collect the Toleration for Oystering** in said Bay during the rest of the year from **September 15th to March 1st 1862** –
- ▲ Also Resolved that **George W. Smith** be and he is hereby appointed Agent for the Town to collect the Toleration of One and a half dollars if paid before the **25th of Sept.** and after the date **Two Dollars** from each person who is permitted to catch”
- ▲ Source: Brookhaven (N.Y.: Town). **Records of the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, N.Y. [1856-1886]**. Port Jefferson, NY: Burr Printing House, 1893: p. 103.



ANTEBELLUM BROOKHAVEN

Whalers & Clipper Ships, Coastal Traders, Mills, Railroad, Slavery Stance
Newspapers, Literary, Social & Political In & Out-Crowds

- **Long Island Railroad (across central Brookhaven), en route to Greenport**
- **Whaling Industry & Far Eastern Coastal Trade: Shipyards burgeoned, esp. in the North Shore villages of Port Jefferson, Setauket, and Stony Brook; South Shore shipyards produced a variety of craft.**
- **Mills grew into early factories: lace, cotton, paper, tanneries, as well as traditional grist mills**
- **Trade with the South: Georgia cotton supplied Patchogue mills**
- **Growing awareness of national affairs, literary and political figures**
- **Stances on slavery nullification, and states rights [?]**

