

*financial backing of colorful entrepreneur P.T. Barnum. The Oneck House and the Ketchaboneck House followed, as did crude bathhouses on the oceanfront at the foot of Beach Lane, now the site of Rogers Beach Pavilion.<sup>31</sup>*

### COMMUNITY CHARACTER TODAY

The historic, small town charm of Eastport is important as the gateway to Southampton Town for visitors and residents alike.

Historic structures, picturesque narrow lanes and large estates lining South Country Road throughout Remsenburg provide country ambiance and highlight the architectural beauty of turn-of-the-century homesteads.

The majestic Pine Barrens forest framing Sunrise Highway, Speonk-Riverhead Road, and Old Country Road provides a scenic route and helps to highlight to visitors that they have entered a special place, both environmentally and historically.

Much of Old Country Road in Westhampton, Speonk, and Eastport still provides a scenic route reminiscent of the days when small family farms dotted the landscape.

The Atlantic Ocean, Moriches Bay, creeks, ponds and other waterfront vistas throughout the area are community assets that should be treasured together with greenbelts, parkland areas, and hamlet heritage resource areas.

### HAMLET HERITAGE RESOURCES

*The Southampton Town Code defines “Hamlet Heritage Resources” as “man-made objects at least 50 years old that are connected to human activity. These resources could be any buildings used to house human or animal activities, e.g., homes, sheds, garages, mills, barns, agricultural buildings, offices, schools, churches, commercial and public-use buildings. It could be structures such as bridges, canals, roads, docks, fences, monuments and sculptures. It could also be burying grounds, trails, archaeological and commemorative or historic sites. These resources, when grouped together, help convey the special heritage of an area.”*

A “Hamlet Heritage Resource Area” is “an honorary title bestowed in recognition of the special character of a neighborhood, hamlet or area. It honors the properties and the community that has cherished its historic heritage. Properties selected as hamlet heritage resources retain the same current Town rights, uses or regulations. Properties selected as part of Hamlet Heritage Resource Areas are not designated as Town landmarks or Town historic districts. The Hamlet Heritage Resource selection is for honorary purposes only.”<sup>32</sup>

A Historic District, under Town Zoning Code, is a designated area where additional regulations apply to various properties within the area and alterations to properties and demolitions require additional review by the Town’s Landmarks and Historic Districts Board (“Landmarks Board”). In a Historic District, a building permit cannot be issued until a Certificate of Appropriateness is approved by the Landmarks Board concerning the proposed construction activity.

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<sup>31</sup>Adapted from *Newsday*, “History of Long Island” and “www.hamptonstomontauk.com”

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<sup>32</sup>Section 330-5, “Definitions”, *Southampton Town Code*.

A Landmark, under Town Zoning Code, is a designated property or structure where additional regulations apply similarly requiring alterations and demolitions to undergo additional review by the Town's Landmarks Board and issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness prior to building permit approval.

The Town of Southampton presently does not contain any locally designated Historic Districts within its jurisdiction, with associated additional regulations. The Villages of Southampton and Sag Harbor do have historic districts. The Town of Brookhaven has 11 historic districts including its Main Street portion of the Hamlet of Eastport, and a little further west along the Montauk Highway -- the downtown area of East Moriches and the downtown area of Center Moriches.

There are two properties listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places in the Study Area, both of which are on Montauk Highway: (1) "The Fordham Mill," built in the early 1800s on the Speonk River at the easterly border of Westhampton in the vicinity of Brushy Neck and Speonk Mill Road; and (2) "The Stephen Jagger House, circa 1748" located east of Summit Boulevard and west of North Quarter Court, which burned to the ground in 1979.

There is only one property currently listed as Southampton Town Landmarks (local designation regulated under Town Zoning Code): The Fordham Mill, also noted above as a registered National Historic Place, which presently houses an antiques and outdoor furniture store (Town Historic Landmark designation 1986).

The following sections discuss the potential Hamlet Heritage Resources for Eastport, Remsenburg-Speonk, and Westhampton. (See Exhibit III-1, Potential Hamlet Heritage Areas and Historically Significant Sites.)

### **Eastport Hamlet Heritage Resources**

The corridor on Montauk Highway, from the western Southampton Town line to the Speonk-Remsenburg border and commonly known by Eastport residents as "Main Street," is almost entirely comprised of residential and non-residential structures with at least some historical significance.

Eastport Historian Ron Michne Sr. documented 45 properties in the Historic Profiles Report, some of which contain homes that are over 200 years old and some of which reference structures which are no longer present but had historical interest to area residents for purposes of the report. A Map is attached highlighting the identified properties containing Hamlet Heritage Resources, together with a key listing denoting Tax Map numbers, street addresses, and "common name" of the site, if any.

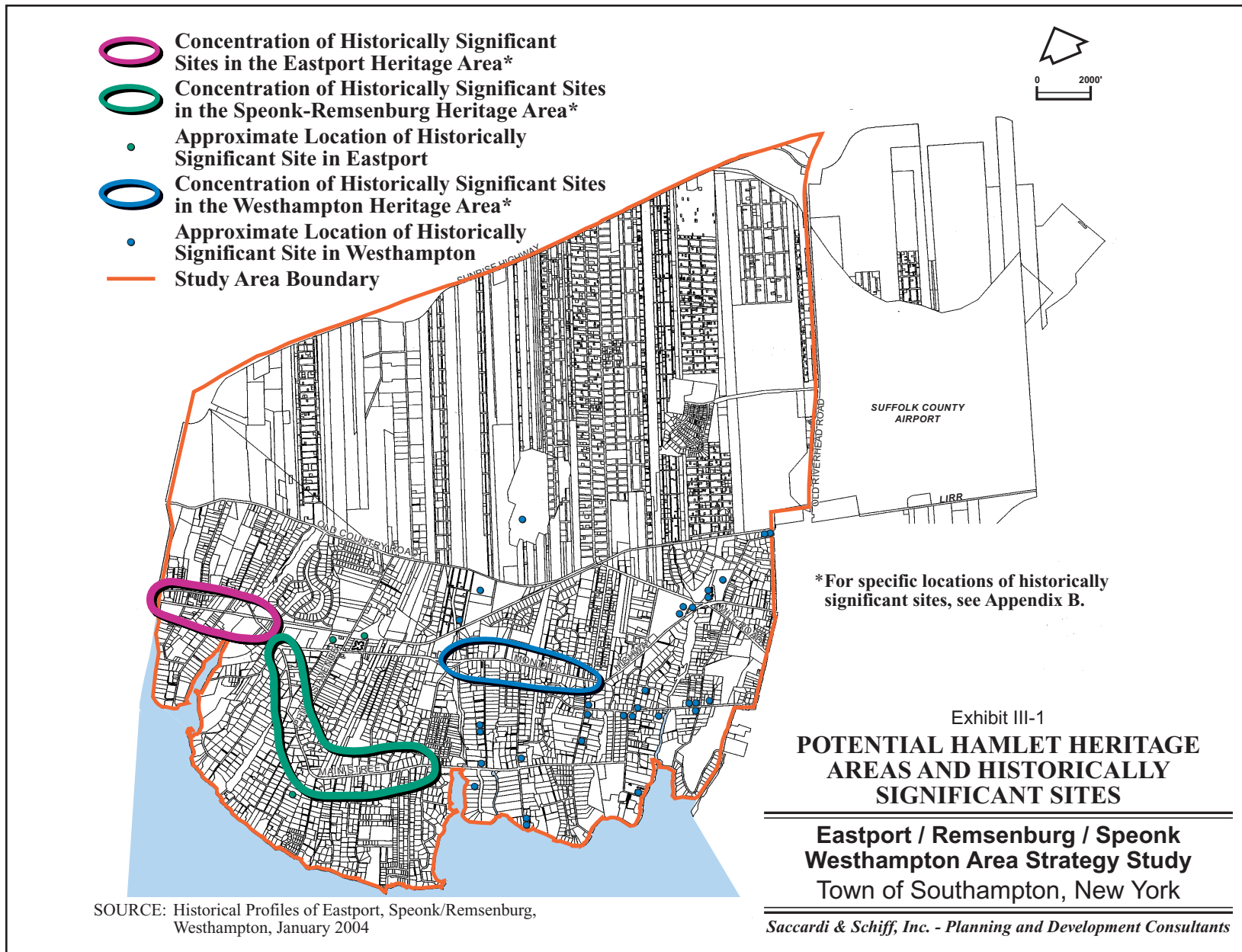
The following excerpts from the Historic Profiles Report provide a sampling of Eastport's special historic charm and mixed-use neighborhood character along Main Street<sup>33</sup>:

#### ***Pickford Robinson House, circa 1720, 457 Main Street***

The large mid-Victorian house in the front was once the home of Pickford Robinson, author of "The Pictorial History of Eastport, Long Island"- a book which was handed out in the 1920s as a promotional guide. The smaller house in the rear of the property is the oldest known structure in Eastport which is still used as a private residence. Although it was originally built on the North Shore of Long Island between 1720 and 1740, it was carefully marked and disassembled and brought by wagons from its original location to the southwestern corner of North Bay Avenue, near Montauk

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<sup>33</sup>"*Historic Profiles Report for Eastport, Speonk-Remsenburg, Westhampton*", dated January 2004.





Highway, in Eastport circa 1775. It was then carefully assembled by John Tuttle, using marks in Roman numerals and arrows carved in the hand hewn beams. It was first used in Eastport as a residence by John M. Tuttle Jr., then by his son William and family, then by one of William's sons, Cephas Tuttle. In that same year, 1891, Cephas Tuttle died and the house was moved west on Montauk Highway and placed behind the second house past River Avenue on the south side of the road on the property of Pickford Robinson. He was in the painting and paper hanging business and used the building to store paint, wallpaper and supplies. After his death, the house was converted back to a residence and rented out. In December 1968, after being vacant for nine years, it was purchased by Rudy and Alta Mae Grimminger. Complete restoration work was started but Rudy died in 1977 before completion. In 1990, an extension was added to the back, which blends nicely with the old structure.

***Wells-Tuttle House, circa 1775, 388 Main Street***

Site of the oldest house built in Eastport in 1775 by John Tuttle, for his son Daniel Tuttle. Daniel's son, Wells Tuttle, who was born in this house in 1803, lived in it for many years until his death in 1887. Four more family members were also born there. At one time, three families lived in the small house. It was originally located about thirty feet closer to the road, but was moved back and placed on a new basement in 1939 by its owner at that time, Bart Brown. During the move, he detached the west wing, and reattached it to the north side of the house to make room for an extension on the east side of the garage. Wood and materials salvaged from the beach, after the 1938 Hurricane, were used for the addition. In 1959, Stan Durst bought the house and garage. In 1962, Stan bought the old Eastport Railroad station house and had it moved in the back of the garage and placed it on a high foundation to allow indoor mechanical work on large trucks.

***Tuttle House, circa 1795, 368 Main Street***

This is the fourth oldest house in Eastport, built in the mid 1790s. Francis Tuttle and his wife Etta lived in this house for many years until his death, January 13, 2004. Francis was the grandson of Louis S. Tuttle, who ran the blacksmith shop in Eastport located at 360 Main Street.

***Eastport Bible Church, 1853, 386 Main Street***



The original church was built in 1853 at a cost of \$1,495. In 1896, it was picked up, moved back and turned ninety degrees, and now faces east. A large extension was added to the south side, at a cost of \$4,411; basement excavated in 1959; the nursery in 1976. In 1994, the entire roof and three steeples were re-shingled by Gary Tuttle of Eastport. Located behind the church, are three separate cemeteries.

The first is the original church cemetery. The small cemetery enclosed by a white fence is known as the Brown cemetery although it is the Tuttle family cemetery, and the third and largest belongs to the Eastport Cemetery Association.

***Raynor Farmstead, circa 1850s, 384 Main Street***

Large mid-Victorian home built in the 1850s for Egbert Raynor, presently the home of his grandson Franklin Raynor. This historic farmstead has the Raynor Family agricultural land holdings to its rear, visible from Main Street. The land is actively farmed under a lease arrangement by the Olish Family of Eastport who market the fruits of their labor at a popular roadside farmstand on Eastport-Manor Road on the Brookhaven side of Eastport, just south of the Sunrise Highway interchange, and at another farmstand located on Montauk Highway in Westhampton Beach.

***Louis S. Tuttle House and Shop, circa 1860, 360 Main Street***

Former Louis S. Tuttle house and blacksmith shop. “Lou Jack,” as he was known, had the last working blacksmith and wheelwright shop here in Eastport. The original hearth, bellows, anvil and tools were left in place and the mower sales and report shop is operated around them. The house was built in 1860, about the same time as the shop. Francis Tuttle, Lou Jack’s grandson, used the former blacksmith shop as a lawn mower sales and repair shop for decades.

***Roadside Postal Marker placed by Order of Postmaster General Benjamin Franklin, 1772, adjacent to Wells House late 1880s, 427 Montauk Highway***

Built in the late 1880s, this was the home of Mrs. S.A. Wells. On the front lawn of this property is a mile marker, put there in 1772 by Order of Postmaster General Benjamin Franklin. In the 1700s and 1800s, mail arrived by stagecoach.

Milestones were placed one mile apart on the south side of Montauk Highway noting the distance to the next village. Only five mile markers remain between Eastport and Patchogue with two still at Eastport. The other mile marker is located across from a private home located on Montauk Highway (i.e., Arthur Dawson residence 1975) in the west part of Eastport (Brookhaven Town).



On South Bay Avenue, historic farmsteads still exist including the “W.H. Pye House,” now owned by the Kostuk Family. Located on the west side of the Southampton Town Trustee Dock, this beautiful home was originally located on the east shore of the West Creek. It was turned 180 degrees and moved closer to the Town Dock parking lot in the 1930s. At the time, Mr. Pye had the largest duck farm in Eastport. The Kostuks discontinued duck farming and the surrounding acreage has been subdivided into waterfront residential home sites. Directly across from the mid-Victorian home is the Eastport Marina facility, Trumpets restaurant, and nearby are bed and breakfast resort lodging accommodations.

At one time no less than thirty duck farms lined the shores of the creeks and bays of Eastport, Speonk, Remsenburg and Westhampton. Now only one duck farm remains – formerly the Gordon Farm – and last Eastport duck farmers Chester Massey and his son Paul Massey have run a successful operation since the 1930s on their waterfront acreage, which spans both the Southampton and Brookhaven sides of

Eastport. In 1987, the farm nearly closed when Long Island's main processing plant, run by a cooperative of duck farmers, closed. But, the Massey's changed their focus to nurturing hatchings and now incubate and hatch between 4,000 and 5,000 eggs a week for the Jurgielewicz Farm in Moriches. In addition, the Massey Family grows some ducks to full size and process them at Jurgielewicz's plant facilities.

The Long Island Country Club, which has extensive property holdings that span both sides of Old Country Road from Seatuck Creek to the Sunrise Highway, has a history dating back to 1867 as the "Seatuck Club." Its membership enjoys the club's facilities and forested areas for hunting and fishing. The main building, located on the south side of Old Country Road and also visible from Eastport's Montauk Highway Bridge, was constructed in 1899. It is located in the Town of Brookhaven, just west of the Southampton Town Line. A farmhouse with open pastures and a cemetery is located on the north side of Old Country Road running up to the Sunrise Highway service roads. Most of this property is also located in the Town of Brookhaven portion of Eastport. The Long Island Country Club owns title to the western half of West Pond, while the eastern half is under jurisdiction of the Southampton Town Trustees

### **Remsenburg-Speonk Hamlet Heritage Resources**

The entire stretch of South Country Road, also commonly referred to as "Main Street" by Remsenburg residents, is replete with historic homes and structures, and has been previously identified as a potential Historic District in the draft Town-Wide Cultural Resources Survey commissioned by the Town in 2000. The area has a wealth of hamlet heritage resources, many of which are over two centuries old, meticulously maintained and lovingly restored.

Eastport Historian Ron Michne Sr. documented 55 properties in the Historic Profiles Report, all of which are over 100 years old and there are many more structures in excess of 50 years. A Map is attached highlighting the identified properties containing Hamlet Heritage Resources, together with a key listing denoting Tax Map numbers, street addresses, and "common name" of the site, if any.

The following excerpts from the Historic Profiles Report provide a sampling of Remsenburg's built environment and special historic ambiance along Main Street (South Country Road):<sup>34</sup>

#### ***Ira B. Tuthill House, circa 1757, 170 South Country Road***

One of four of the oldest houses in Remsenburg, this house was built around 1757. Ira Tuthill owned a lot of property in Speonk and was a Long Island Railroad engineer.

#### ***Phillips/Dayton House, circa 1757, 156 South Country Road***

One of four of the oldest houses in Remsenburg, built around 1757.

#### ***George Chappell Halstead House, circa 1750, 86 South Country Road***

Built about 1750, this house is one of four of the oldest houses in Remsenburg. It was completely restored in 1929. Many of the original beams with locust pegs are still intact, as well as the wide-board floors in several rooms.

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<sup>34</sup>*Historic Profiles Report of Eastport, Speonk-Remsenburg and Westhampton,* dated January 2004.



***Oliver Raynor House, circa 1760, 189 South Country Road***

One of the oldest houses in Remsenburg, built about 1760.

***Captain Rogers House, circa 1790, 92 South Country Road***

Built circa 1790, known in the 1930s as “Leisure Hour Supper Club.” Mrs. Edward Lyon would prepare meals for members of the club, however it was BYOB.

***Remsenburg Chapel and Cemetery, 1853, 1 Basket Neck Lane***

This 1853 wood church is also known as “The Chapel.” The Phillips Family, original settlers of Speonk, are buried in the church-owned cemetery.



***Fordham House, circa 1820s, 122 South Country Road***

This early 19<sup>th</sup> century dwelling served as an inn, boarding and feeding stagecoach stop for travelers in the 1820s. The building received a large addition in the 1920s.

***Jacob A. Raynor House, early 1800s, 162 South Country Road***

This house was built by its original owner, Jacob A. Raynor, in the early 1800s. He used hand-hewn beams with mortise and tenon construction using wood pegs. Presently owned by Stephanie Davis and Richard Baldwin. It was previously located one parcel west, where Stephanie’s parents, Lloyd and Lois Davis, built their home. Both properties were owned and occupied by at least eight generations of the same family.

***Remsenburg Academy, early 1860s, 130 South Country Road***

The Academy was built in the early 1860s. This select school for elite young gentlemen of New York City who boarded with local farm families was run by John W. Tuthill. It is now owned by the Town of Southampton, as it was bequeathed “to the residents of Remensburg” and accepted by the Town, on their behalf. The Town has entered into a long-term lease and management agreement with the Remsenburg Academy Association for the property to continue its use as a community center and library for the residents of Remsenburg.

***Captain Jeramiah Rogers House, early 1860s, 136 South Country Road***

This house was built in the 1860s for Capt. (Hon.) Rogers, who picked up summer visitors at the Speonk train station and delivered them to “The Ocean House” next door. From there, he would sail them across the bay for ocean bathing. Years later, he sold and delivered coal.

***The Ocean House, 1871, 132 South Country Road***

The Ocean House was built in 1871, owned and operated by John W. Tuthill. An ad in the July 10, 1898 Brooklyn Eagle states “Ocean House, Speonk, L.I. Situated near Great South Bay: Fine sailing, surf and still water bathing, driving and cycling, large shady grounds. Circulars, etc. John W. Tuthill.” More than two years after the hamlet name change controversy from Speonk to Remsenburg, his June 18, 1899 ad added “A first class table, with all kinds of fresh vegetables, poultry, eggs, meat and fruit. Airy rooms, Music. Fine lawn with shade trees,” but he still referred to it as “The Ocean House, Speonk, L.I.” In the summer season of 1908, room and board was \$8 to \$10 per week.

***Remsenburg Community Church, 1896, 163 South County Road***

The cornerstone was laid on April 18, 1896 by the pastor Reverend Minot Morgan. The handsome brick church was presented to the Presbyterian Society in Remsenburg by Dr. Charles Remsen and dedicated on September 15, 1896. Issac Greene, an eminent architect, designed the building. The historical record notes that Dr. Charles Remsen, a wealthy summer resident from New York City liked the area so much he contemplated erecting a library, public building or possibly a church. The newly installed pastor promised Dr. Remsen that, if he provided money to build the memorial church, not only the frail building, but the entire village would be a memorial in order to exalt the name of his distinguished family. Dr. Remsen agreed under one condition - that no objection be made by the people. The pastor, Reverend Minot Morgan, then solicited signatures to a petition to the Postmaster General, explaining to the citizens of Speonk that Dr. Remsen’s proposed gift was conditional upon the new name. Thus began the controversial name change of the southern portion of the Speonk community, which ultimately led to the establishment of two postal districts

to keep everyone happy – one named Speonk and the other named Remsenburg - and the gift of the brick Remsenburg Community Church.



In addition to the many historic structures dotting South Country Road in Remsenburg, there are other hamlet heritage resources dispersed along its country lanes, along Montauk Highway and Phillips Avenue in Speonk.

***Dr. Charles Remsen House, 1890s, Remsen Lane***

This house, located at the end of Remsen Lane, was the summer home of Dr. Charles Remsen. It had no heating system when he spent the summers there in the 1890s. There was heat in his farmhouse, located north from there, on the east side of Remsen Lane adjacent to the farm. The farm workers and caretaker lived in the farmhouse. Adjacent to the road, near the farmhouse, is the Historic Remsenburg Cemetery, a.k.a. Tuttle and Tuthill burial ground.





There is also a private burial ground of Phillips and Tuthills located on the west side of Club Lane. The earliest interment date here is 1796.

On Speonk Shore Road is the Town Trustee Boat Basin and Westhampton Yacht Squadron. The Yacht Squadron is a rebuilt structure dating back to 1920s when it had a prior use associated with the Jagger Family of Innkeepers in Westhampton. Following a fire in the 1920s, the Jaggers rebuilt a resort lodging facility on the bayfront at the end of Jagger Lane called the Cedar Beach Hotel. The new Cedar Beach Hotel fell victim a second time – this time to the infamous '38 Hurricane. The hurricane had washed two roofs ashore at the end of Jagger Lane, this lumber was used to rebuild the hotel once again. Soon thereafter, the property was sold and the building floated down the bay on a barge in three pieces. It was reassembled and rebuilt as the Westhampton Yacht Squadron's dining room and main office.

Also of special significance in Speonk is the railroad station located on North Phillips Avenue. The original structure built on-site dates back to the late 1860s<sup>35</sup> and was used as a freight station. In 1901, a new wood building used by the railroad replaced the old structure<sup>36</sup>. This station was part of the Sag Harbor Branch of the Long Island Rail Road, which included the following stops:<sup>37</sup>

- Moriches (Eastport) - 1869 - name changed to Eastport in 1881
- Speonk - 1869 - at Phillips Avenue
- Westhampton - 1869 -at Depot Road
- Quogue - 1869 - originally at Lewis Road
- Atlanticville (East Quogue) - 1871 - name changed to East Quogue 1891
- Good Ground (Hampton Bays) - 1869 - at Ponquogue Avenue – name changed to Hampton Bays
- Southampton - 1870 - at Main Street
- Water Mill at Station Road – 1875
- Bridgehampton - 1870 - at Butter Lane
- Sag Harbor - 1870 - at Water Street



<sup>35</sup>[www.lirrhistor.com/lirrsta.html](http://www.lirrhistor.com/lirrsta.html)

<sup>36</sup>*Historic Profiles Report of Eastport, Speonk-Remsenburg and Westhampton,* dated January 2004.

<sup>37</sup>[www.lirrhistor.com/lirrsta.html](http://www.lirrhistor.com/lirrsta.html)

On North Phillips Avenue, the “Kropps Boarding House” was once known as the “Cottage of W.H. Fordham, Speonk” as printed on an old postcard in the Historic Profile Report. In the 1920s, it was known as “Hoag Hospital” and many local Speonk and Eastport senior residents were born there. The Kropps turned it into a boarding house in the 1930s by first renting rooms to crews of the Long Island railroad. The property is currently owned by a Wantagh-based Sanborn Land Development Company and has been used for decades as a pre-existing complex of multi-unit rental apartments.

At the intersection of Montauk Highway and Old Montauk Highway at the eastern gateway to Speonk, “The Fordham Mill” still stands - a Town Historic Landmark that has also been listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. In the early 1800s, Jonathan and Enoch Jagger dammed the stream and built a saw mill. The property passed from Enoch Jagger to Cephias Jagger and his wife Maria C. Jagger. In 1844, Cephias Jagger sold the property and the mill to Daniel Wells Tuttle, who was in the carriage manufacturing business.

In 1859, Daniel Tuttle built the flat-roofed section of the brick mill that is located on the eastern side of the present day building configuration. Photos as late as the 1920s still show the original wooden structure of the first sawmill and carriage factory. Beginning in the 1860s, the day-to-day activities of the carriage shop were aided by Daniel’s two sons, Lewis and Elias P. Tuttle. Although both brothers were partners in the saw mill and carriage shop, having bought the mill from their father in 1871, they each had side businesses as well which they worked at through the 1880s. Elias had a print shop that was located at first in the brick mill, and Lewis had begun to work as funeral director with the addition of a hearse carriage the firm had acquired in trade. Lewis and Elias ran the mill together until about

1895 when Lewis sold his half share and left to pursue his funeral business (at the corner of Brushy Neck Road) full time and the mill was leased to E.O. Fordham. Eventually in 1911, Mr. Fordham purchased the property from Elias Tuttle and converted it from water power to electric power greatly improving the efficiency of the mill. Fordham ran the mill until his death in 1945, at which point operation of the mill was taken over by a long time employee Wilbur Benjamin. Eventually in 1947, Mr. Benjamin bought the mill and property from the Fordham heirs. Wilbur Benjamin kept the mill until 1960 when it was sold to John Salomon. The mill passed ownership a few more times until it was bought and converted into an antique store, which it still is today.



North of the Long Island Railroad and west of a manmade groundwater-fed lake created by the Mason Mix Company in the 1970s (called the “Water Hole” by locals) is the site of an old fish hatchery that spans the tributaries of the Speonk River. From this hatchery, trout were raised and supplied to “Tuttle’s Lake” (a.k.a. Fordham Pond) south of the railroad tracks for the pleasure of an exclusive fishing club, whose



members were wealthy businessmen from New York City. The Pepperidge Lake Trout Hatchery was built in 1895 and was in operation until 1969. Footbridges and related structures remain on this picturesque property.

### **Westhampton Hamlet Heritage Resources**

There are several community crossroads of historical interest in Westhampton, although much of the area has undergone change in the past few decades and the Historic Profile Report details what was once present.

Local Historian Ron Michne Jr., who also serves as Village Historian for Westhampton Beach, identified 64 properties with historic significance, many of which no longer hold historic structures or only remnants of hamlet heritage resources. A Map is attached highlighting the identified properties containing Hamlet Heritage Resources, together with a key listing denoting Tax Map numbers, street addresses, and “common name” of the site, if any.

The following excerpts from the Historic Profiles Report provide a sampling of Westhampton Hamlet Heritage Resources at a variety of community crossroad locations.<sup>38</sup>

At the community crossroads at Beaverdam, early settlers of the Westhampton area developed their industrial and social center. Beaverdam was the site of the first mill, church/meetinghouse, cemetery, school, stagecoach stop and postal delivery location. A grist mill was built at Beaverdam as early as 1748, at a location just south of where present day Old Country Road edges Cook’s Pond. In 1746, Abigail Howell was given use and improvement of the stream by

the Town of Southampton at Beaver Dam. An old map of the area shows that “all roads lead to the mill.” The mill passed hands a number of times over the nearly two hundred years of its existence. It was lastly owned by the Cook Family, and it is this surname that the mill and pond adjacent to Old Country Road became known by area residents.<sup>39</sup>

Cook’s Mill is no longer present, having been devastated by the Hurricane of 1938. The Daniel Cook House, originally built in the 1930s adjacent to Cook’s Pond, was moved to Station Road in the 1980s to make way for the Beaver Lake Condominiums on land that once held the Westhampton Presbyterian Church, now in Quogue. The Westhampton Cemetery is a Hamlet Heritage Resource in the Beaverdam area with tombstone markers dating back to the early 1750s.

At the community crossroads at Beaverdam, the “Bailey’s Motel” 35-acre land tract remains a critical scenic vista framing the intersection of Montauk Highway and Old Country Road. Early ownership of the property actually begins with Jonathan Raynor (1681-1741) who acquired huge tracts of land in the Westhampton and Westhampton Beach area. In Jonathan Raynor’s will dated 1740, Nathan Raynor was given all the property on the west side of Beaverdam running south to the bay, including all the meadows on Apaucuck Neck. Sometime around 1750, it is believed that Nathan Raynor built a small house on the western side of old Montauk Highway (presently called Nadine Drive) just to the north of the present Bailey’s main house. The Beaverdam to Apaucuck Neck land was passed down to Nathan’s son Elihu. Today, all that is left of the

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<sup>38</sup>Adapted from “*Historic Profiles of Eastport, Speonk-Remsenburg and Westhampton*,” January 2004.

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<sup>39</sup>*Ibid.* “Cook’s Pond” is a park asset of the Southampton Town Trustees. In later years, this body of water has also been referred to as “Bellringer’s Pond” for a subsequent property owner, and “Beaverdam Lake” as it is fed by “Beaverdam Creek,” and adjoins the subdivision of “Beaver Lake West” (now “West Lake”) and “Beaver Lake Condominiums.”



Raynor homestead at Beaverdam is a stone lined foundation hole and the brick section where the oven and fireplace were located.<sup>40</sup>

In 1799, Thomas Nichols Rogers purchased the whole west side of Beaverdam from Elihu Raynor. His son Lester occupied a home on the property until his death in 1895. Adjacent to the present Bailey's main house, there was built another home as can be seen on the back kitchen section. David Rogers added the front section onto the main house in 1890 and began taking in boarders in the home's four upstairs rooms. The Rogers family ran the boarding house until the 1920s when they lost the home due to financial troubles. Irving and Irene Bailey bought the property in 1942. In 1963, the Bailey's built the motor lodge section in the back to accommodate increased demand for room accommodations. Mr. Bailey purchased a latrine from the World War II Army which had an encampment in Westhampton Beach and made it into another section of rooms. He added yet another section, until he had a total of fifteen rooms on the property for transient lodging. Mr. Bailey and his two sons continued operating the motel until retiring in November 2002 and selling the property to a real estate developer.<sup>41</sup>

The properties adjacent to the Casa Basso Restaurant are also a Hamlet Heritage Resource in the Beaverdam area. The castle-shaped building was built in 1906 and

served as the former pottery studio of famous sculptor Theophilus Anthony Brouwer, who died in 1832, leaving a legacy of pottery that is part of the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC. Brouwer's pottery is listed in "Kovell's Collectibles" and is very valuable to collectors today. His larger-than-life concrete sculptures are not confined to any museum, but left in the open for all to see and enjoy in our region. Huge concrete structures dot the landscape of a number of small towns on Long Island – swordsmen, fairies, animals, soldiers, and the largest man-made eagle ever constructed. The man who created them lived in a castle surrounded by a fairyland and sailed concrete boats on Beaverdam Creek.

The Brouwer Family had moved from East Hampton to Westhampton area around 1900, when he purchased all the property on the west side of Beaverdam Creek all the way to South Country Road. The Theophilus Brouwer Home is located just south of the present day Casa Basso Restaurant. Behind Pastor Chevrolet, is the original site of the Brouwer Kiln and Studio. The castle-like structure was built in 1903 and is now a private residence. The Casa Basso Restaurant was built in the 1930s.



<sup>40</sup>Adapted from "*Historic Profiles of Eastport, Speonk-Remsenburg and Westhampton*," January 2004. Area residents also note that archeological work was undertaken on the "Bailey's Motel property" in the vicinity of Nadine Drive by university research specialists a few decades ago.

<sup>41</sup>Presently, the property is slated for a density incentive condominium housing development in a clustered site plan to preserve over 70% of the site for open space and scenic conservation purposes, and providing a requisite number of below market rate housing units for moderate income persons. The historic home is said to also be slated by the developer for continued use as a single family home and/or a bed and breakfast facility.

At the community crossroads at Tanners Neck, a grouping of homes from the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century exist, including one that was the former farmstead for the North Quarter Road area, one that served as “a porch post office” in the 1860s, one that served as the Tanners Neck School in the early 1990s, as well as the Westhampton Methodist Church and Parsonage, rebuilt in 1917.

***Westhampton Methodist Church, 1917, 116 Montauk Highway***

Build on timbers hewn from nearby woods in 1832, the first Westhampton Methodist Church was located here at the corner of North Quarter court, the site of the present day Westhampton Methodist Church. The original small wooden structure had a peaked roof and double doors in the front. It was heated by two wood stoves and lit by oil lamps. Many improvements were made through the years, including a parsonage built on the east side of the church, but it was finally decided that a new church building was a necessity. A groundbreaking for the new church took place December 1905. The building was completed and formally



dedicated August 1906. The new church building was noted for its appearance of churchly distinction. In 1917, a new parsonage was built on the site of the original one to house the church’s minister. This 1917 parsonage building presently remains in use. Services were held at this church until a fire of unknown origin destroyed the building in January 1919. There was talk that the church should not be rebuilt and that the parish would merge with the Beach Methodist church in nearby Westhampton Beach. The congregation decided to again rebuild their church on its original location. The cornerstone to the new building was laid on May 25, 1919 and the dedication was held in November 1919.

***Stephen Jagger House, 1748, 112 Montauk Highway***

The Stephan Jagger House, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, was built about 1748, and served as a Jagger homestead for over 225 years. It burned to the ground in 1979. All that remains is part of a brick foundation and a few daffodils. The property is located west of Summit Boulevard and east of the Westhampton Methodist Church.

***Joshua Tuttle House, circa 1840s, 1 North Quarter***

Located on the corner of Montauk Highway and North Quarter is the house lived in by Joshua Tuttle and his wife Christiania Howell Tuttle. The house was built in the 1840s on property once owned by Cephas Jagger, an early settler of the Tanners Neck area and a prior owner of the sawmill in Speonk for a time. The Tuttle set up a farm in the North Quarter area that stretched from Montauk Highway to the railroad tracks. The couple lived there until their deaths.

***Andrew Jackson Jagger House, circa 1860s, 172 South Road***

The Andrew Jackson Jagger House, located on the corner of Tanners Neck and South Road, was built in the 1860s. It once served as the post office for the Tanners Neck area before an

official post office building was established. Mail arrived to the area by stagecoach beginning in the early 1880s and was then delivered by horse or foot to “porch post offices” usually located in a centralized residence. The structure is now a private home.

At the community crossroads near Jagger Lane and Montauk Highway there is a small, private Jagger Family cemetery with internment dates from the late 1800s. A sprinkling of historic homes and barns exist along this stretch of Montauk Highway as well. On the corner of Jagger Lane and South Country Road sits the Jagger Family historic homestead, originally built in 1865 by Seth Ransom Jagger and his wife Mercy Gager. After Seth’s death in 1892, his widow Mercy began taking in summer boarders for income. Before long, the Evergreens Hotel became a popular family resort comfortably accommodating up to 35 summer guests. The hotel closed immediately after the death of Mercy Jagger in 1934 and was converted back to a homestead for Dr. Seth Ransom Jagger and his family, until the early 1980s. It was sold once more until Bill and Susan Dalton bought in 1996 and made it a bed and breakfast lodging facility and renamed it the Westhampton Country Manor.

At the community crossroads at Brushy Neck, a grouping of homes from the late 1800s also exist including the Lewis Tuttle House and Mortuary Building, and the Elias P. Tuttle House and Printing Office, E.O. Wilcox’s relocated old farmhouse, E.O. Wilcox’s turn-of-the century Victorian and a few remaining duck farm buildings. Between the two creeks off South Country Road at the border of Speonk and Westhampton, “the largest and most profitable poultry farm in the world” once existed – A.J. Hallock’s “Atlantic Farms.”<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>42</sup>“*Historic Profiles of Eastport, Speonk-Remsenburg and Westhampton,*” January 2004.

### ***E.O. Wilcox House, circa 1870, 157 Montauk Highway***

This home was originally built circa 1870 and located at 9 Brushy Neck Road. It was lived in by E.O. Wilcox, owner of the duck farm that lined Brushy Neck Creek and the Speonk River, north of Atlantic Farm. The house was moved to its present location to make way for his new Victorian home on Brushy Neck Road.

### ***Elias P. Tuttle House, circa 1870, 152 Montauk Highway***

This home was built around 1870 by Elias P. Tuttle, brother of Lewis Tuttle, who together once owned and operated the adjacent saw mill and carriage shop at the Speonk River. Sometime around 1895, Elias moved his printing office from the Brick Mill to his property, into a small building he had built just to the west of his residence.

### ***Lewis Tuttle House/Mortuary Building, circa 1880, 52 Brushy Neck Lane***

This house was built about 1880 at its present location at the corner of Brushy Neck and Montauk Highway by Lewis Tuttle, brother of Elias P. Tuttle, who together once owned and operated the adjacent saw mill and carriage shop at the Speonk River, having bought it from their father in 1871. Sometime in 1865, Lewis Tuttle took a used hearse wagon as partial payment for a new hearse wagon from an undertaker in Center Moriches. Lewis Tuttle being the ambitious entrepreneur that he was, sometime around 1845 began arranging funerals and burials, with the help of his newly acquired second-hand hearse. As his reputation as a good undertaker spread, his business thrived. He arranged funerals and burials from Eastport in the west to East Quogue in the east. Lewis Tuttle eventually built a long building behind his house which he used for embalming, preparation and for storage of caskets. This building is still situated in



its original location at 50 Brushy Neck Lane and at present time is used as a private residence. Lewis Tuttle continued to conduct funerals until his death in 1907.

***E.O. Wilcox Victorian Home, 1899, 9 Brushy Neck Road***

Located on property on Brushy Neck just north of the Atlantic Duck Farm was the duck farm started by E.O. Wilcox in 1883. Ducks continued to be raised on the Wilcox farm until the late 1980s, when most of the duck buildings were demolished to make way for a land subdivision of upscale homes. Two original homes from the Seaside Ranch/Oceanic/Ensilage duck farm days remain, both still lived in by descendants of the Wilcox family. E.O. Wilcox had lived in the modest farmhouse at 9 Brushy Neck Road for about 15 year before he had it moved to 157 Montauk Highway. On the former site of his home, E.O. Wilcox built a grand Victorian home in 1899. The home was neglected for many years until a complete renovation utilizing the original blueprints was undertaken by direct descendant Dean Wilcox who still lives there today. Across from the Wilcox homestead, few of the former duck farm buildings remain on the west side of Brushy Neck Road, now in bad shape.

At the community crossroads at Apaucuck, there is also a grouping of historic homesteads, barns, workshops, former summer boarding houses (now used as residences) and history associated with the former Apaucuck Point Hotel and Point House Condominiums.

***Apaucuck Homestead, 1797, 153 South Road***

Elihu Raynor built a house in 1797, 100' south of South Road and 350' west of Apaucuck Point Road, which he called "Apaucuck Homestead." Elihu Raynor was the grandson of Johnathan Raynor, one of the first white settlers of Ketchaboneck, who had acquired large tracts of land in

Westhampton area. In the mid to late 1700s, the Beaverdam to Apaucuck Neck land was passed down to Elihu Raynor and his wife Elizabeth, who set up a farm adjacent to their homestead. Both Elihu's parents (Nathan and Jerusha) are said to have been buried, without tombstones, on Apaucuck Neck. Elihu farmed Apaucuck until his death in 1826, and the farm was divided between his two sons, Herrick Raynor and John Cook Raynor. The Raynor family lands stretched from the bay at Apaucuck Point all the way to the present day railroad tracks to the north side of Old Country Road.

***Old Raynor Homestead, circa 1797, 48 Apaucuck Point Road***

Located on the corner of South Road and Apaucuck Point Road is the "Old Raynor Homestead." Raynor Family history has this home being built sometime before Elihu Raynor built his "Apaucuck Homestead," circa 1797. The home's most well-known inhabitant was Thurston Herrick Raynor (1874-1961). Thurston changed some of the lands along South Country Road from row crops to dairy farming around the turn of the century. He had a very successful dairy farm until his death in 1961. The house is still known among locals as the Thurston Raynor House as he was the last member of the Raynor family to live there and was well-known around town.

***James D. Goodman House and Boat Building Shop, 1870, 146 South Road***

James Goodman, a local boat builder, built this farmhouse in about 1870. He built many of the boats that sailed on the bays during the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The shop where he crafted his wooden boats is located just to the east of his house, still standing, and in good shape. Goodman lived and worked on South Road until his death in 1913. Goodman's great granddaughter still lives in the house.

At the community crossroads of Baycrest Avenue and South Road, from about the turn-of-the-century to the mid 1940s, everyone in the community referred to area as “Culvertown.” In 1838, William Culver from Baiting Hollow settled in the area, having married into the Jessup Family who owned a large tract of land centering near the intersection of Baycrest Avenue and South Road.

***Richard Culver Homestead, late 1850s, 112 South Road***

The main part of this house was built by Richard Culver in the late 1850s. It is thought to be the oldest home built by a Culver in the Culvertown area. The height of Culvertown seems to be in the mid-1930s when over seventy Culver descendents lived in the area. Today, a few members of the Culver family still reside in Culvertown, but the majority have sold their properties, moved or passed away.

***C.R. Bishop House, circa 1870, 2 Bishop Avenue***

Located on the northeast corner of South Road and Bishop Avenue is the C.R. Bishop farmhouse, built around 1870. Since the 1850s, the Bishop family owned a large tract of property bordering the east side of Beaverdam Creek. There are several other farmhouses in the area, built circa 1880s to the turn of the century, probably by the Bishop family.

On Mill Road in Westhampton, there are some remaining farmhouses, barns, and other structures from the 1800s – including the former Stanton Bishop’s General Store, located about 400 feet east of Baycrest Avenue. This store was started in 1868 and carried the usual staple of dry goods, hardware, groceries, flour, meal, tobacco, and ironware. This space was also used as a post office for the Beaverdam area from 1871 until about 1900. Rogers Bishop was appointed Postmaster of Westhampton in 1871 until his death in 1881. His second wife, Jennie Brown Bishop, took

over as Postmaster and held this position until 1902. The Bishop family continued to run the store until it closed in the early 1900s. The old store is located in the same place it was built and is now used as a private residence.

The entire stretch of Old Country Road between Montauk Highway and the Brookhaven Town line, adjacent to the Pine Barrens area, is a scenic route of woodland buffers, commercial nursery stock, small family farms, residential homes and various mixed-uses. The largest intact piece of farmland in the Old Country Road area, left from the original Raynor agricultural tract that ran from Apaucuck Neck on the bay to the railroad tracks is the ten-acre Stanley Mill Farmstead. Adjoining small farms owned by various families and the larger land tract utilized by Peat and Son Nursery together evoke a historic, rural feel for the area with their homesteads, barns, and other agricultural outbuildings presenting as Hamlet Heritage Resources.



*Stanley Mill Farmstead, Westhampton*