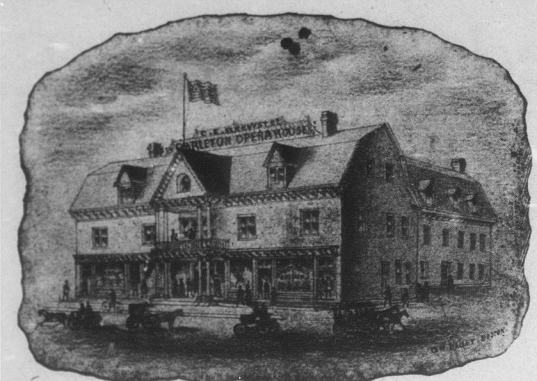


BANKING SERVICE AVAILABLE HERE SINCE 1888

Until Then Local People Were Dependent Upon Patchogue. — First Bank Used Two Rooms.

The South Side Bank in 1888 gave Bay Shore the first service its residents could enjoy without traveling all the way to Patchogue where the nearest bank was located. Originally the financial institution occupied two rooms in the Stillenwerf block on Main street, west of what is today John Stewart's fish market.

In 1891 it moved to Second avenue and Main street, occupying the remodeled Congregational Church. A new building on the same site was built in 1904 and enlarged thirteen years later. In July, 1931, the bank moved to its modern building at the corner of East Main street and North Bay Shore avenue. Richard M. Brown served as president and cashier when the new enterprise was launched, while Treadwell O. Smith was vice-president. Perry S. Wicks became cashier in



Carleton Opera House, later remodelled into a department store by H. H. Freedman and now King Kullen's Market.

1892, being elected eight years later to the presidency, a position he held until 1922. The original directors were Henry D. Brewster, James H. Dosses, Richard M. Montgomery, William Nicoll, Richard M. Haven, Edward J. Redington, Joseph Robins, Treadwell O. Smith, Morris J. Terry, and Edward B. Underhill. The present officers of the South Side bank are John J. Gibson, president; Dr. William A. Hulse, vice-president; Lucius K. Redington, cashier; Frank B. Weicher and Dr. N. Fields, assistant cashiers; John L. Abrew, Freeman T. Hulse, Dr. E. J. Robbins, W. Kingsland Macy, Lucius K. Redington, Dr. William A. Hulse, Perry S. Wicks,

The First National Bank & Trust Company was organized in June, 1911. Three months later it occupied the original building at the southwest corner of Main street and Ocean avenue, a structure built by Carleton E. Brewster Sr. and James H. Deas of Bay Shore. William H. Robbins was elected president of the bank at its opening, while Dr. George S. King became vice-president and Olin S. Brewster cashier. The original directors were Perry S. Wicks, Selah T. Clock, John J. Gibson, William H. Robbins, Carleton E. Brewster Sr., Oliver H. Rogers, Jeremiah Robins, Dr. George S. King and Richard Bachia.

It is worthy of mention that the three main officers of the First National Bank—President William H. Robbins, Vice-President George S. King and Cashier Olin S. Brewster—have been kept in their posts of responsibility since the bank opened 23 years ago. Two officers have been added to the growth in business, namely John E. King Sr. vice-president, and John C. Cochrane, assistant cashier. Present directors are Guy O. Walzer, Joseph M. Greenhalgh, Olin S. Brewster, Dr. George S. King, William H. Robbins, John E. King Sr., Robert J. Bartley, Oliver E. Rogers, Roy B. Davis, and William Emmettmann Jr.

U. S. BOATS OUTWITTED ENEMY DURING WAR OF 1812

The War of 1812 occurred so long ago that no written records of battles at sea or on land in this vicinity could be found. The best available information has come from Arthur E. Robinson of Bay Shore, whose ancestors made their home for generations in the neighborhood of East Patchogue.

According to a story which has all evidence of being authentic, some freight boats outwitted a British gunboat in Fire Island Inlet. The episode began while East Patchogue baymen were on their way out of Great South Bay and were about to sail through the inlet with a cargo of wood for New York.

A British sloop of war was heading toward the freighters, so their captains had to make a quick decision. The Long Islanders went ashore, hid behind the sand dunes, and fired.

Believing that the stunt was a trap, the British vessel fired some shots at the dunes and fled.

Highway work a few generations ago was done by residents who chose to donate one day's labor rather than pay their \$1 road tax.

Oyster Industry Had Big Payroll With Headquarters Near Maple Ave.

Until about 25 years ago the oyster industry flourished here, shipments of one company alone amounting to 75,000 bushels in a single season from October to February. Selah Clock, Edgar Reybert and Henry Brown were among the leading operators at "the turn of the century."

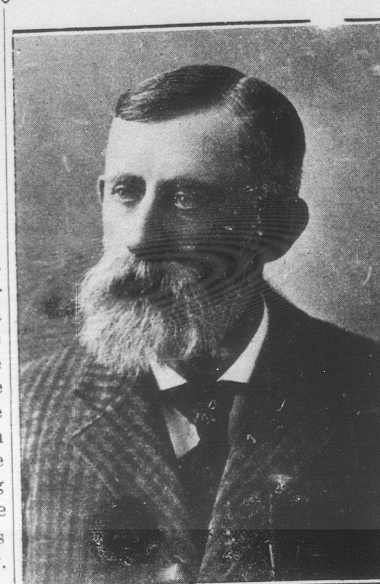
On the east side of the creek near Penatquit Point, Edgar Reybert had a crew which measured approximately 60 by 25 feet, as well as a big cellar on the shore capable of storing about 2,000 bushels. He loaded oysters at Maple Avenue Dock to ship them by water, while others were sent on trains. From 25 to 30 persons worked on large boats. Mr. Reybert's boat, the "John H. Vall," towed six dredges to catch about 150 bushels a day. He had 200 acres or so of bay bottom in the two channels.

The Ray Fish Company building these financiers, it was believed, sought despoils to be loaned in a distant state for the promotion of an industry in which Bay Shore had no interest. The National Bank was therefore established, not only to prevent the "farming out" of local deposits to outside capitalists, but also to meet the village's expanding needs.

Soon Mr. Clock's business was amalgamated into the Fire Island Oyster Company, the stock being held by him and Fred Boardley. The Seal Ship, a company that came later, brought out not only the Fire Island Oyster Company, but also Pauch Brothers of Port Chester, and James A. Cochrane. At that time the Seal Ship concern had a plant in Sayville similar to the one now maintained by the Blue Points Company at West Sayville.

The underwater land of Mr. Clock's company totaled thousands of acres—from near Blue Point to the beach and northeast of Point o' Woods. The oysters shipped by Mr. Clock were mostly opened ones.

Isaac Schwab had a cigar-making plant back of the store at the northwest corner of Main street and Fourth avenue. He employed about four men to manufacture such well known brands as "Blanche," "La Crema," and "Chico." He was a Civil War veteran.



Captain Edgar Reybert

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Meanwhile picturesque summer estates were built in the village. Landscapers had plenty of work to do, as the wealthy homeowners wanted their residences to compare most favorably with the other mansions rising about them. Among the builders who received contracts for contract because of their excellent workmanship were Charles White, William H. Young and Leonard Young. Charles E. Kirkup, Van Buren Hulse, and John B. Pullis. Each handsome residence served to attract others. South Clinton Inn (now one block further west) was soon lined with huge estates on a tract owned by the Blizard and William Johnson.

The pastion was a two and one-half story structure, with bath houses on either side and in the rear. Refreshments were sold outwards, while the Benjamin family resided on the second floor. Just east of the beach, between it and Clinton avenue, stood what is at present O'Neill's Bay Shore hotel. The hotel was managed by Jack Blizard and William Johnson.

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Summer Attractions Lured Rich; Caused Rapid Changes

From an obscure little village in the 30's Penatquit gained prestige steadily until half a century later it rated among the best known summer places on the Atlantic coast—chiefly because it was "discovered" by people who knew what they wanted and were able to choose the very finest.

Strangers began coming out for summer pleasures upon the establishment of the Olympic Club on Saxon avenue near the bay. Increasing popularity of the village went hand in hand with the club's growth from a simple camp to an aristocratic society.

The Donny House, meanwhile, was often used as a stopover by people who learned to love the vicinity. Visitors observed the beautiful little brooks, trout streams, and pretty creeks where they could moor their boats after a cruise on Great South Bay, which is widest at this point. Delicious fish, brought fresh from nearby waters, won the praise of stately ladies and aroused the life Walton spirit among their husbands. Party boating to accommodate fishermen from the city, began to take its place alongside clamming and oystering as an industry.

About 1870 John Rogers, an ex-actor, who owned a fertilizer factory on the ocean beach west of Point o' Woods where he used menhaden (bunkers) for raw material, came to Bay Shore from Sag Harbor and opened a boarding house on Ocean avenue, despite the advice of friends. Later he opened the Prospect House. An entire article might easily be written about the Prospect House, which perhaps did as much as if not more than any other single factor to give the community favorable advertising. Families began coming out from the city year after year. The establishment was enlarged many times; summer cottages sprang up around it, under the kindly management of John Rogers. Dances and card parties at the hotel were real social events.

The Linwood Hotel on Clinton avenue, conducted for many years by John B. Pullis, was another popular summer resort. Although it by his son, Eugene, until a fire of unknown origin on Thanksgiving Day, 1923, destroyed nearly all the hotel, the place was a severe blow to Mr. Benjamin, who ran the house, valued at \$20,000. The resort started when this village was just coming into prominence as a summer community. It was a safe to say that the fun enjoyed by visitors at Benjamin's Pavilion contributed largely toward making Bay Shore a haven for New York people, many of whom would be satisfied with nothing less attractive than the pleasantly arranged equipment offered at the site of what is today Bay Shore Beach.

The pavilion was a two and one-half story structure, with bath houses on either side and in the rear. Refreshments were sold outwards, while the Benjamin family resided on the second floor. Just east of the beach, between it and Clinton avenue, stood what is at present O'Neill's Bay Shore hotel. The hotel was managed by Jack Blizard and William Johnson.

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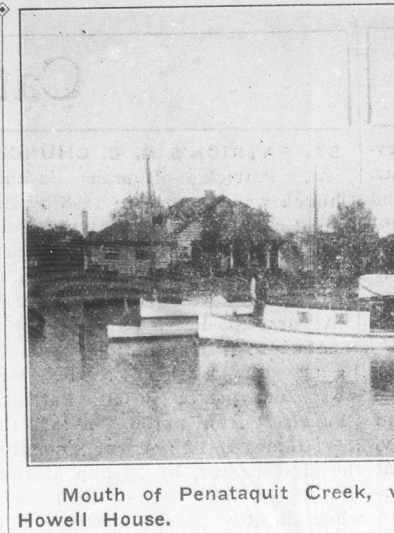
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Mouth of Penatquit Creek, viewed from old public dock near Howell House.

Clock brothers—Hallett and Nathaniel of Islip. Persons induced to erect homes were men like Charles Gaidner, the well-known mustard manufacturer. The same high type of citizen erected mansions on South Country road, establishing such places as the Southward Hotel Club, which in these days was the estate of Henry E. Hyde, president of the Equitable Life Insurance Company.

J. Adolph Mollenhauer, a leader in the sugar industry was another example of the outstanding men attracted to Bay Shore. After he founded his estate on South Awixa avenue Mr. Mollenhauer contributed generously toward the up-building of the village. His interest in civic affairs aided many ventures that otherwise might have failed or proven much less beneficial to the community.

Benjamin's Beach Enjoyed Tremendous Popularity

For about 45 years Benjamin's Bathing Pavilion at the foot of Clinton avenue was the most popular center of summer sports in western Suffolk County. Established by Robert Benjamin, who ran the house, valued at \$20,000. The resort started when this village was just coming into prominence as a summer community. It was a safe to say that the fun enjoyed by visitors at Benjamin's Pavilion contributed largely toward making Bay Shore a haven for New York people, many of whom would be satisfied with nothing less attractive than the pleasantly arranged equipment offered at the site of what is today Bay Shore Beach.

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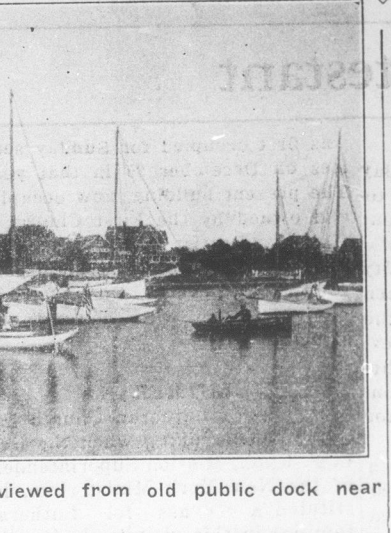
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Another magnificent stopping place for summer people was the Linwood Hotel on South Clinton avenue, which survived until 1923, when it burned to the ground. During its years of great activity the well known resort was managed by John B. Pullis, who makes his home on Ocean avenue. Amid ideal surroundings at the corner of Linden Place, wide porches provided a view of spacious lawns and tree-lined avenues around it. Although the Linwood was not opened until 1889 or thereabouts, excellent accommodations endeared it very soon to a large clientele.

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