

HISTORY, CULTURE & PARKS

Historic Significance

The entire Moriches study area has great historic significance with a large number of historic sites and structures dating back to the 18th century that have survived the wave of new development throughout the region.

In fact, the first deed for property in Moriches, which included the Havens Estate, was executed almost three centuries ago in 1698.

Conveyance between Jacob Doughty and Samuel Terrell

October 17, 1698

Transcribed by Nan Peel from the original document filed at the County Center in Riverhead, New York. Explanatory footnotes added.

Deeds Liber A

Pages 87A - 87B

This Indenture made ye seventeenth day of October in ye tenth year of ye reign of our Sovereigne lord William ye 3rd by ye grace of God of England Scotland France & Ireland Kind Defender of ye faith & C¹ & in ye year of our lord 1698 Between Jacob Doughty of Jamaica in Queens County of ye Province of Nyorke of ye one party & Samuel Terrill late of Brookhaven in ye County of Suffolk of ye said Province of ye other parte. Witnesseth that ye said Jacob Doughty for good causes him thereunto moving Especially for ye sum of twenty three pounds ten shillings good & lawfull money already received ye receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged Hath given granted aliened² sould conveyed assured & Confirmed & by these presents doth give grante alien sell convey assure & Confirme unto ye said Samuel Terrill his heires & assignes all of ye one moyity³ or equall hálfe of a certein necke tract or parcell of land called Waracta lying & being on ye Southside of Nassau Island⁴ bounded on ye East by a Creeke called Meriches.⁵ on ye west by a Creeke called Sweniches⁶ To Have & to hold one moyity or equall half of ye said necke or parcell of land called Waracta with all & singular ye

1 Et cetera.

2 A-liened: having given legal right to hold property.

3 Moiety: a half.

4 The name given to Long Island by the early Dutch settlers, who mainly occupied the western end of the island.

5 Known today as "Terrell River."

6 Known today as "Senix Creek."

lands meadows profits priviledges & appurtenances⁷ to ye same belonging
or any wise appertaining to ye said Samuel Terrill his heires &
assigns for Ever to ye proper use & behoofe of the Said Samuel Terrill
his heires & assigns for Ever. And ye said Jacob Doughty for himself
his heries Executors or Administrators doth hereby covenant promise
& grant that ye premises are clearly acquitted from all incumer-
ances & ye same to ye said Samuel Terrill his heires & assignes doth
hereby warrant & confirme and of it be needful to give any further
assurance of ye same. In Witness whereof ye sd Jacob Doughty hath
Hereunto set his hand & seale ye day & year aboveso.

Sealed & delivered in presence of Jacob Doughty seale
Tho. Helme Anthony Tomson
Oct ye 18: 1698 Jacob Doughty of Jamaica in Queens County
appeared before me & acknowledge ye within written to be his
act & deed. Richard Wodhull Justice

Inventories show that there are a total of 271 historic sites in the study area. In 1973 and 1974, the Moriches Bay Historical Society compiled historic and natural resource inventory forms for proposed historic districts in the Kaler's Pond and Center Moriches areas respectively, which were sent to the New York State Historic Trust Office in Albany, New York. The proposed Kaler's Pond Historic District included 14 sites; there are 34 sites in the proposed Center Moriches Historic District. The Town of Brookhaven Community Development Agency, in conjunction with the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, updated inventories in the study area by surveying historic properties in Moriches, Center Moriches, East Moriches and Eastport. From previous and current historic surveys within the study area, it is apparent that the region has a wealth of historic and cultural resources. The Moriches, Center Moriches, Kaler's Pond, East Moriches and Eastport areas appear to be eligible for creation of historic districts.

The Historic, Cultural and Parks Committee carried out a current study and compilation for this Hamlet Plan which includes a proposal for the creation of an Historic Trail traversing the four Hamlets west-to-east that highlights buildings, properties, and proposed historic districts. See Plate 1.

A second important proposal is the creation of a greenbelt connecting the Moriches Rayn the recently established third New York State preserve - the Long Island Pine Barrens Forest

"For recreation purposes, connections should be made between existing and proposed open spaces to create a greenbelt system (many of these are specifically identified in the Brookhaven Open Space Study completed in 1984 and adopted by the Town)"*

⁷ Rights, privileges, or improvements belonging to and passing with a principal property.

*Town of Brookhaven 1987 Land Use Plan. Page 13