

Historic Greenport



— Chronology & Historic District Walking Tour —

Compliments of the Village of Greenport Business Improvement District

www.greenportvillage.com

Chronology of Greenport

— Early names for the Greenport area were Winter Harbor, Stirling and Green Hill.
It has always been in the Town of Southold.

- 1636-38 Earliest known resident of Greenport area was Capt. Matthew Sunderland. Records show that James Farrett, agent for the Earl of Stirling (a Scot) collected rent from Capt. Matthew Sunderland for a house on Hashamamock Pond, near the west border of Greenport.
- 1640 Settlers led by Rev. John Youngs arrived from New Haven, CT and established a church whose bounds extended from Plum Gut to Wading River.
- 1642 Greenport area was officially part of the Connecticut Colony.
- 1664 Area became part of New York.
- Late 1600s King's Highway (Route 25) was established, opening a lane from the highway to a wharf on Stirling Creek.

Early industries involved harvesting turpentine, making wood casks and raising cattle.

- 1673 The Dutch took New York and Southold gave allegiance to Connecticut. When the English retook New York in 1674, the colony reluctantly became New Yorkers again.
- 1687 John Youngs sold 200 acres on Stirling Creek to William Booth. Then known as Winter Harbor, the area now includes a large portion of Greenport.
- 1755 Benjamin Franklin visited Greenport when he traveled overland from Philadelphia to take a boat to New London en route to Boston to visit his mother.
- 1755 William Booth Inn (also known as the Constant Booth Inn) was built at Winter Harbor. In 1757, General Washington (then Colonel) waited at the Inn for a boat to transport him to New London while traveling to Boston.
- 1776 Col. William Floyd, a Long Islander, became a signer of the Declaration of Independence.
- 1776 After the Continental Army lost the Battle of Long Island in August, area residents who had refused to take an oath of allegiance to George III, left from the Stirling Harbor wharf with livestock and family possessions to travel to Connecticut. They did not return until the war ended.
- 1795 The *Minerva*, with Captain Fowler at the helm, was the first whaling ship to homeport in Greenport.

1810 *Cod fishing and related boat building and chandlery became a growing business for the Peconic Bay ports.*

- 1820 After his death, the south part of Capt. David Webb's farm was divided into lots and auctioned for about \$2,300. Greenport thus extended its south boundary from Webb Street to the bay.
- 1827 Main Street was laid out with a new wharf at the foot.

- 1800-1860 *Whaling was a major industry for Greenport and over the period 25 vessels used it as homeport ...* Shipbuilding and the movement of goods—produce from farms, cotton goods from cities and slaves from Africa and St. Thomas—created a busy port.
- 1831 Clark House opened on the present site of Ireland House. Over 97 years numerous visitors were welcomed including such notables as John Quincy Adams, Admiral Dewey and General Winfred Scott.
- 1831 Village's name changed to Greenport. Village included 15 homes with others in progress, 5 stores, a warehouse, numerous mechanic shops, wharf and 2 ways, 2 whaling ships and smaller fishing vessels and packets.
- 1834 The first vessel built in Greenport was the sloop *Van Buren*, built by Caleb Horton. The first ship was the *Jane Bishop*, named after the daughter of the builder, Hiram Bishop.
- 1838 *Village of Greenport was incorporated.*
- 1844 The Long Island Railroad Company, founded in 1834, completed its main line to Greenport providing a fast (11-hour) NY-to-Boston route. Prior to the railroad, it was a 3-day trip between NY and Greenport plus a LI Sound crossing and train or road trip from Connecticut to Massachusetts.
- 1844 The Damper Engine Company was Greenport's first organized volunteer fire fighting outfit.
- 1848 The California Gold Rush caused many whaling ships to be converted to passenger transports for would-be prospectors.
- 1856-57 Between December and February, cold and snow blizzards isolated the village. Peconic Bay was frozen all winter.
- 1857 *The Suffolk Weekly Times* published its first issue. The founder and editor was 27-year-old, John J. Riddell. An annual subscription was \$1.50.
- 1859 Capt. Jonathan Preston received a state charter to ferry between Greenport and Shelter Island.
- 1858 *Commercial scalloping began.*
- 1860 *Menhaden was a well-established industry...* with a large fleet of boats and factories for the extraction of fish oil.
- 1861 Suffolk County's first telegraph line was opened with wires between Greenport and East Hampton by way of Sag Harbor, with underground cables to Shelter Island.
- 1861 Civil War. The area was strongly pro-Union and adopted resolutions favoring a constitutional amendment to end slavery in the country forever.
- 1864 Greenport received the First National Bank charter on Long Island.
- 1867 Greenport was becoming a modern village – population exceeded 2,000 and there were stores, several saloons, tradesmen shops, fine hotels and a bank.
- 1870 Manuel Claudio opened a saloon near the Main Street Wharf and later moved to the present location and added the restaurant and a hotel.
- 1878 Stirling Hall opened and was a venue for Greenport's entertainment until destroyed by fire in 1899.

- 1879 Greenport grammar school was erected.
- 1880 Greenport's population was 2,370.
- 1881 A total of 5,350 ships were logged into Greenport harbor. The area had 97 fish factories employing 2,805, 286 sailing vessels and 73 fishing boats.
- 1883 A new county called Nassau was to be formed by taking towns from Queens and Suffolk.
- 1883 A special LIRR train took 500 people to the "grandest event of the 19th century," the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge.
- 1884 *The area's oyster industry began* ... when NY State deeded the grounds beneath Peconic Bay to the Suffolk County Oyster Commission. By 1908, thirty companies were operating. The local industry peaked in the 1930s and continued into the 1960s.
- 1884 *Ohio*, a major war ship built in 1820, was brought to Greenport by Capt. Preston for its scrap iron and copper. The empty hull was blown up and sunk off Conklin's Point.
- 1887 Greenport Light and Power Company was incorporated. The Village continues to provide these utilities to its residents.
- 1888 Village included 300 homes, 20 stores, 7 churches, 6 hotels or inns, 3 shipyards, 4 wharves, 1 school, 2 banks, 2 newspapers, 3 fire companies, several fish factories, light and power company, water company, police and post office.
- 1888 A blizzard with rain, hail, snow and fierce winds caused heavy tree damage and hard frozen snow drifts 10 to 25 feet deep that closed the railroad for four days after the storm.
- 1891 Greenport breakwater was built to protect the deepwater harbor of Stirling Basin.
- 1894 Greenport Auditorium began its 44-year history as the Village's center of cultural entertainment.
- 1899 The elegant Greenport Opera House replaced Stirling Hall at the corner of Bay and Main Streets. It survived until 1956 when only the first story was saved from demolition and used for the post office and a lawyer's office.
- 1900 Greenport's population was 2,674; Southold Town was 8,989.
- 1904 Greenport High School was built.
- 1905 Eastern Long Island Hospital opened and was the only hospital east of Mineola.
- 1910 Greenport's population reached 3,098.
- 1912 Eight-year old Marshall Drew of Greenport survived the sinking of the *Titanic*. His father, James, was lost at sea.
- 1913 Parcel Post began operations at Greenport Post Office and free mail delivery was inaugurated.
- 1914 Crushed stone replaced the dirt roads of Front and Main Streets.
- 1915 A new moving picture theater opened on Front Street with seating for 800.
- 1917 Floyd Memorial Library located at the corner of First and North Streets was dedicated. It took 13 months to build and cost \$30,000.
- 1917 Military conscription began and many Greenporters served in the war overseas.
- 1918 Greenport voted in favor of giving women the right to vote.
- 1922 A North Fork chapter of the Ku Klux Klan was organized and meetings were held in a house on First Street.

- 1923 *Greenport became a major center for bootlegging liquor during Prohibition.* Unemployment dropped to near zero.
- 1926 The Shelter Island Express train from New York to Greenport derailed in Manorville and crashed into Golden's Pickle Factory killing 6 people including the train's engineer and fireman, both Greenport residents.
- 1928 The Arcade store opened on Front Street.
- 1930 The entire crew of the victorious *Enterprise*, Vanderbilt's entry into the America's Cup, was mustered in Greenport.
- 1933 Mitchell's Restaurant opened on the waterfront.
- 1938 A Category 3 hurricane hit Greenport. Its path caused major damage and 600 deaths (none in Greenport) on Long Island and in New England. Hurricanes were not named until World War II.
- 1941-45 Minesweepers were built and launched from Greenport Basin and Construction Co.
- 1942-43 The Pickett Patrol was headquartered in Greenport. With donated wooden sailboats, the U.S. Navy patrolled the coast for German submarines.
- 1949 Cornerstone laid for Greenport's new modern Eastern Long Island Hospital.
- 1950 Skyway Drive-in theater opened in Greenport.
- 1956 First bank drive-up in Suffolk County installed by Bank of New York.
- 1958 Main Street ferry landing abandoned when new ferry slips were completed at the foot of Third Street.

- 1960s *Tourism grew rapidly* ...as summer visitors crowded Greenport's streets and shops and its marinas filled with pleasure boats.
- 1961 Island's End Golf Course opened to the public on the former Prince family farm. The pro shop is in the old barn.
- 1963 Long Beach Lighthouse (Bug Light), built in 1870 and discontinued in 1948, was destroyed by arsonists.
- 1967 The first (and still only) traffic light in the community was installed at the intersection of Front and Third Streets.
- 1978 Mitchell's Restaurant Bar and Grill, a Greenport waterfront landmark, burned to the ground.
- 1979 Stirling Historical Society of Greenport opened its museum, Ireland House. (*This is the starting location for the walking tour.*)
- 1990 Bug Light was reconstructed and relighted.
- 1998 An addition to the Floyd Memorial Library was completed doubling the building size.
- 2000 Greenport's population was 2,050 and the Town of Southold was 20,600.
- 2002 Mitchell Park, the site of the former restaurant, opened and quickly became the favored location for community events.

...and many more years to come.

Walking Tour of the HISTORIC DISTRICT of GREENPORT

Begin the tour at Ireland House at 319 Main Street on the north side of the village parking lot and north of the gazebo.

Ireland House is the home of the Stirling Historical Society. The house was built in the early 1830s on the south side of Adams Street about 100 feet from its present location. The house was home to numerous Greenport working families many of whom rented from the property owners.

The house style is Greenport Vernacular, a common house form built from the 1750s. It is a simple small-scale half house with a plain façade, painted clapboard, a doorway with sidelight and transom and 6/6 pane windows. It is a half house because windows are on one side of the front door.

In 1973, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Preston donated the house to the Stirling Historical Society and in 1976, the Society moved it to the present location at 319 Main Street.

The Society named the house after Margaret E. Ireland, a well known civic worker and an admired, colorful resident of Greenport. She was a newspaper correspondent for the NY Herald Tribune, the NY Journal American and local papers; a tireless fund raiser for Eastern Long Island Hospital and Burton Potter Post American Legion, and matron of Greenport Police Department. Ms. Ireland's grandparents lived in the house in the late 1800s and raised their family there. Later Ms. Ireland's parents, James and Margaret Grady, lived in the house and when Ms. Ireland returned to Greenport in 1918, she also took up residency with her children. She lived in the house until her death in 1962 at the age of about-83. Because Ms. Ireland said, "ladies never tell their age," the family cannot confirm her date of birth.



TOUR WALKING OPTIONS

You have two walking options. Face east towards Bank of New York across the street and either **A**, walk down Main Street south toward the waterfront, circle around by way of Carpenter, Bay, Central and back onto Main, or **B**, walk north on Main to Memorial Park, left to First Street and then south on First back to the village. See map on back cover for routes.

Please be respectful of the properties and their occupants, as most of the buildings are private residences. Enjoy your tour!

Tour A ~

#1 **Bank of New York Building** c. 1864 238 Main Street

Built by Charles Langton Corwin for the First National Bank after the bank received the first national bank charter on Long Island in March 1864. The bank is one of the last original brick structures and the only original of its period in this sector of Main Street. The second story, side and rear sections were added between 1897 and 1909. The brackets are cast iron; sills and keystones are granite. The first drive-up teller window on Eastern Long Island was added in 1958.

#2 **Reeve Building** c. 1873-90 210-212 Main Street

This is one of the most ornamental commercial structures in the business district. It has an arched parapet with wide bracketing and dentil work along the cornice with wood lettering that spells Reeve's Building. Note the scalloped shingles and ornate false front at the roofline. The Freemasons met on the second floor for years before completing the Johnston Memorial Masonic Temple located at 430 Main Street in 1901.

#3 **Kramer Building** c. 1850's 206-208 Main Street

A fine Italianate brick store and key building in the heart of the commercial district, this is one of the few buildings of this type and vintage that were not lost to fire or random replacement. The



first of three druggists to occupy the building was G. H. Corwin. A rear addition housed the first telephone exchange in Greenport in 1906 and in the 1920s, a speakeasy was situated on the second-floor rear.

#4 **Whitney Hubbard Gallery** c. 1858-73 207-209 Main Street

Over the years and even today, this building was most often used as a studio or art gallery. It was the gallery of famous American Impressionist artist Whitney Hubbard (1875-1965) whose works are shown in the Corcoran Gallery, Brooklyn Museum, Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts, the Atlanta Museum and numerous others. Photographers rented studio space from 1897 through the 1920's. Frank Hartley and Hugo Frey were among the other notable tenants.

#5 **Claudio's** c. 1838-58 111 Main Street

Manuel Claudio arrived in Greenport aboard the Portuguese whaler *Neve* in 1854. Upon retirement in 1870, he established a saloon on lower Main Street. He later acquired the present property at the Main Street Wharf and opened the restaurant and a hotel. Claudio's quickly became an integral part of the Greenport harborscape and has been operated by the Claudio family ever since. The building, on the National Historic Register since 1945, has a two-story enclosed porch and paneled door entries with spindled brackets. Inside is an ornate mirrored bar that Manuel salvaged from a New York Bowery hotel and installed in 1886.

#6 **Preston's** c. 1873-82
102 Main Street

This site is symbolic of Greenport: Since 1827 when Main Street was laid out with the wharf at its foot, ship captains met, provisioned and transported people and products from this location. The main building complex facing Main Street consists of two joined stores and a separate shop that was formerly a coal storage building. The latter was moved by the Navy in WW II and used as a machine shop for boat repairs and construction.



Over the years, Preston's has serviced and provisioned a large assortment of yachts, including those of the Vanderbilts and the Astors.

#7 **The Osprey**

The bronze sculpture, Morning Call, is more closely viewed from the Preston and Claudio docks at the foot of Main Street. The 25-foot piece was sculpted by Roberto Julio Bessin for the Village of Greenport and installed June 2002 on the dock of the Greenport Yacht & Shipbuilding Company. The pedestal is a 20-foot steel beam salvaged from The World Trade Center.

◆ *Walk North on Main and turn right on East Front Street to Carpenter Street.*

#8 **Greenport Yacht & Shipbuilding** c. 1860
201 Carpenter Street

The configuration of the marine railway in this yacht yard has remained relatively unchanged since its installation in the 1850s. Boats of up

to 1000 tons can be hauled on it. In the early 1900s, members of the New York Yacht Club had their boats overhauled here and America Cup contenders recruited crew from the yard. During World War II, the yard employed 1200 employees who worked on the construction of mine-sweepers and landing craft.

#9 **Jail House** c. 1910
232 Carpenter Street

This was the village's first official jail; its predecessor was a tool shed behind the old village hall. The village lock-up was called The Greenlight Hotel because when occupied, a green light in front was turned on. Located in the historic commercial district, the jail stands out because of the barred window and all-brick exterior. The jail has three cells with pressed tin walls. It is no longer used in its official capacity.



◆ *Turn East (right) on Bay Avenue.*

#10 **151 Bay Avenue** c. 1837/1897

This location is an important introduction to the residential neighborhood that borders the village's commercial center. The house originally on the site was moved and only the rear kitchen wing was kept when the main Queen Anne house was built prior to 1897. John G. Champlin, grocer and dry goods, was an early owner of the 2 1/2-story house. There is a wrap-around porch and 5-window bay on the first story with tower above. Double-bracketed cornices are featured throughout.

#11 **168 Bay Avenue** c. 1859/1863

One of several large Bay Avenue homes built by the rising merchant class of Greenport. Italianate style with double bracketed cornice above two open front porches with tapered square columns. Porch columns have beveled corners that create illusion of arches; the single porch rail has decorative bracketing along the bottom. Eastern front door is flanked by sidelights with etched floral pattern.

#12 **Kendrick House** c. 1810

152 Bay Avenue

D. Kendrick, a ship carpenter, was the original owner of the house that is the oldest on this tour. This small Greek Revival gem is one of the few 1½-story houses on a 2-story block.

#13 **Lyons House** c. 1873-90

141 Bay Avenue

The house was originally owned by the Lyons, a prominent family in 19th century Greenport that included a lawyer and department store owner. The building is a 2-story Italianate with flat roof, double bracketed cornice and ornate widow's walk with arched windows on 4 sides. The porches have gingerbread railings, decorative brackets and square columns.

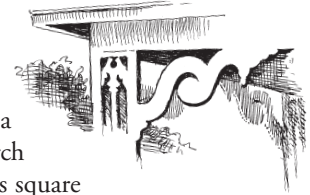
#14 **122 Bay Avenue** c. 1858-73

One of the more original houses on the block. The front door is located directly below a center gable and has a gabled pediment with square columns. Long 2/2 windows flank the front door and are in the gable above the door. The house has irregular bracketing and 3/3 eyebrow windows on the front 2nd story.

◆ *Before heading one block north (left) to Central Avenue (Tuthill Street prior to 1897), take a moment to admire the bay view from the public dock at the end of Bay Avenue.*

#15. **123 Central Avenue** c. 1838-58

One of the major houses on the street and originally part of the Tuthill estate. Remodeled in the mid-1890s. This is a flat-roofed 2½-story house with a front porch that wraps to the east side. The porch has square column bases, paired brackets, decorative finials and spindle balustrade. The front door is Greek Revival. The first floor windows fronting the porch are 9/9 floor-to-ceiling



#16. **145 Central Avenue** c. 1838-58

One of the few examples in Greenport of a 1½-story half-house that developed into a full house. The first portion was built between 1838 and 1858; the west half was added between 1858 and 1873 when the A. Waynes family were residents.

#17. **163 Central Avenue** c. 1875

The house belonged to George Webb, a ship painter and dealer in paints and oils. It is a 2½-story building with a 1½-story eastern wing. A one-story porch with turned columns on pedestals extends across the frontage of both wings. This is an excellent example of Italianate architecture that retains many notable features of the style. It has excellent bracketing and an articulated entablature over the main doorway and sidelights.

#18. **320 Carpenter Street** c. 1815

On the southeast corner of Central and Carpenter is a smaller scaled, 1-story 3-bayed house built in Federal style near the beginning of the 1800s. This is one of Greenport's earliest surviving residences. Pilasters and a decorative pediment with dentiled cornices flank the centered front entry. The house has three small eyebrow windows of 12 panes each located under the eaves.

#19. **510 Carpenter Street** c. 1840s

The original 2-story house, built in the 1840s, is small and narrow and can be seen at the rear of the property. It was moved to give frontage room to the new cross-gabled house built in 1873. The houses are good examples of the simple Victorian vernacular for working class families of the time.

#20. **515 Carpenter Street** c. 1909

This former boathouse was moved from the Mitchell property at the foot of Bay Avenue in 1971 and extensively renovated in the late 1990s. It is a 2-story house with a deep sloping gambrel roof. Large double doors with diamond windows face north and south. It is on a small lot and is one of the few residences on the west side of Carpenter since Main Street properties extended through to Carpenter.

#21. **608 Carpenter Street** c. Late 1800s

Sitting close to the street, this is one of several original saltbox homes on Carpenter Street. These small old houses are sited close to the street on deep narrow lots. They compliment and add to the diversity of architectural styles on the street.

◆ *Return to Main Street on Case Street and as you head south back toward Ireland House, you will see Tour **B** properties # 22 through #31 in reverse order.*

Tour B ~

#22. **Stirling Square**

c. 1880s

302-310 Main Street

The corner complex includes 1885 Arnott's drug store (see stained glass on south side), Swain's Livery with carriage house and auto barn at east rear and a gabled house on the north frontage unchanged by commercial use. The drug store has heavily

sculpted bracketing along the Italianate roofline.



#23. **Walter Havens Cottage** c. Early 1800s

425 Main Street

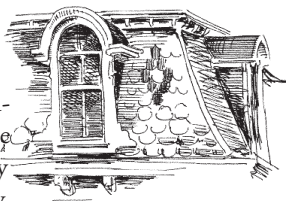
In 1864-65, this was a country store owned by Walter Havens. It is a fine example of a Cape Cod half-house. The doorway is Greek Revival with slender round pilasters. The eight-paneled door has bentwood sidelights with a matching transom above.

#24. **The Times Building** c. 1909
429 Main Street

The name appears on the building frontage above the Ionic relief columns that separate the multi-paned display window. This was the first permanent office of The Suffolk Times, a weekly newspaper published in Greenport from 1857 until 1989. The weekly continues to document Greenport and Long Island's East End from its present office in Mattituck.

#25. **Phillips House** c. 1830; rebuilt 1860
433 Main Street

Named after S. W. Phillips, president of the Peoples National Bank in the late 1880's, the house is one of the most decorative buildings in this sector. It has a scalloped slate roof, massive decorative woodwork, heavily bracketed mansard roof, and a carriageway through south wing. A notable feature is the pair of white cast iron lions straddling the front steps.



#26. **Timson Hotel** c. 1830
437-455 Main Street

The 3½-story north section was the original construction with the 2-story south wing added after 1890. The hotel was located at an important juncture of Main and Central Avenue. When the wharf at the foot of Central Avenue was completed in 1838, the hotel was in an excellent location to receive



#25

guests from the boats that docked at the wharf. It was also two blocks from Stirling Hall (located at the southeast corner of Main and Bay) that provided entertainment to guests and Greenporters until it burned in 1899.

#27. **Greenport Auditorium** c. 1894
434 Main Street

The Auditorium is a large, handsome and impressive Queen Anne structure built through the “pluck and public spirit” of Miss Sara Adams to “uplift the moral tone of the community.” The architect was George H. Flack and the builder was Charles Corwin. Until 1938, the Auditorium was the center for cultural entertainment that included serious drama, vaudeville and band music. Despite its current use as a furniture store, the owners have preserved the interior – its dressing rooms in the basement below stage, the curved balcony with ornate metal grillwork and the stage are in excellent condition.



#28. **H. E. Wells House** c. 1873
455 Main Street

This large Queen Anne house was built in front of a house built in the early 19th century. The street frontage shows two bay windows and heavy paneled doors with cast hardware. The façade has scalloped shingles, large clapboards and a sunburst design at the peak of the roof. Mr. Wells, the original owner, discovered the bunker process of extracting fish oil.



#24

#26

#27

#28

#29. **500 Main Street** c. 1858

The house marks a border between the commercial developments on lower Main Street near the wharfs and the residences built primarily for merchants to the north. Built in Greek Revival style, a distinguishing feature of the property is the two-story porch that was added between 1890 and 1897. The porch has four 8-sided columns topped by double brackets and 4/4 porch windows that extend to the porch floor.

#30. **Captain Wells House** c. 1864/70
530 Main Street

Italianate villa of grand proportions built for Captain Wells at the height of the whaling industry. The house has twin-arched windows on all sides of the tower and elegant arches on front porch. After losing his whaling fortune, Captain Wells had his ship, the *Swallow*, enlarged and went to Africa to obtain slaves. He collected the human cargo and started homeward but was never heard of again. The crew, however, arrived safely, sold the slaves and the ship.



#31. **Captain Case House** c. 1850/70
527 Main Street

Ebenezer W. Case lived here through the above period. The 2½-story house with mansard roof, embellished in 1870, is vintage Victorian. It is bracketed French Second Empire style with side bay window, jigsaw porch detail, dentils under window caps and a double front door.

#32. **Grosvenor C. Adams House** c. 1870
630 Main Street

Mr. Adams was the president of the First National Bank from 1864 when

the bank was chartered until his death in 1883. The house is Queen Anne style with inverted truncated shingles on gable pediments. Bracketed cornice, double front door with round head; 2-story south bay with paneled dado. Notable entablatures on rear porch door and windows.

#33. **Conklin House** c. 1820
636 Main Street

This Greek Revival house was built for the Conklins by Orin Wiggins and is one of the older structures in this area of Main Street. It is a 1½-story cottage with a hand-constructed window and door cornices. Much of the original detail is intact.

#34. **Civil War Monument** 1883
Broad and Main Streets

“The community is indebted to the energetic work of the ladies of the Soldiers Aid Society” for the Soldiers Monument and were assisted by comrades of the Edward Hunting Post II G.A.R. Beginning with a Fourth of July benefit dinner, the ladies of the Soldiers Aid Society raised the funds (\$1,000) for the monument. The Quincy granite monument is a tribute to the death of 29 Greenporters. It was installed in November 1883 and dedicated on Decoration Day 1884.

In early years, the convergence of Main, Broad and Stirling Streets was called Steamboat Corner and led to the docks in Stirling Harbor. People gathered here to watch the boats in the harbor and share tales of sea adventures.



◆ *You have the option of walking along Stirling Street to house #35 and then on to views of the marinas of Stirling Harbor where Greenport was first settled. Stirling Street/Avenue links back to Carpenter Street at #20 on Tour A. (see second option below)*

#35. 162 Stirling Street c. 1883

This prominent waterfront site was the location of the T. Hempstead pottery prior to the construction of the house by Mr. Beck, president of N.Y.C. Fire Insurance Co. The house, set on spacious grounds, has several unique features some of which were added in 1908: Palladian style window in the front gable; wood fanlight carving in gable tip; scalloped shingles with finial-like ornaments; double front doors with large beveled glass windows and a turret.

◆ **OR... continue on Tour B north along Main Street to Memorial Park and then south on First Street where you find many fine examples of late 19th century residences.**

#36 Townsend Manor Inn

(a) 714 Main Street 1835

One of three buildings comprising the inn property. The highly visible house, residence of whaling Captain George Coggsell, has a two-storied columned façade with dominant exterior moldings. The property backs onto Stirling Creek thereby providing boat dockage. Captain Coggsell moved to California in 1849 though Widow Coggsell was in residence in 1858.

(b) 726 Main Street c. pre 1858

Architecturally, the Gingerbread House represents a highly individualistic handling of Italian elements by an unknown architect. Its elaborate cor-

nice has large and small fleur-de-lis motifs. The front door transom and sidelights have very rare, original, stained dark red and blue windows with cutout, stencil type designs. In 1858, the house was the residence of G. Cripps.

#37. **Memorial Park**

Main and First Streets

The small triangular park is located where First and Main Streets converge. The park has three monuments dedicated to the memory of Greenporters who served in the U.S. military in World War I, World War II or the Vietnam Conflict.

#38. **633 First Street** c. 1870

The house is partially hidden by a 10-foot evergreen fence. It was the 1873 residence of G. H. Cleaves, a druggist who worked for G. H. Corwin. It is a large two-story Italianate with flat roof. The exterior and interior are rich in late 19th Century detail. Exterior has paneled fascia board with double solid ribbon brackets. A side porch was added in 1897 and extended prior to 1909.



#39 **602 First Street** c. 1850

This fine example of Italianate style was built in 1850. The second-story arched window carry upward the effect achieved by the arched front door with its etched ruby glass sidelights. Brackets and all exterior woodwork are well proportioned and executed. Note the finely detailed half octagonal bay window on the south elevation. Between 1897 and 1909, the cupola was removed and the roof changed from slate to shingle.

#40. 603 First Street c. 1847

In the 1850s, Captain Tyler owned the house. One of the few brick buildings in the village, this residence is an excellent example of Federal style with elegant Greek Revival elements. The columned portico doorways are outlined by narrow sidelights and transom and dentils under the eaves. Note the balance achieved by the matching entries facing the two corner streets.

#41. Floyd Memorial Library 1917

110 North Street

The funds (\$30,000) to construct the library were donated by Miss Grace Floyd in memory of her father, David Gelston Floyd, a whaler, banker and grandson of General William Floyd signer of the Declaration of Independence. The library was designed to resemble the Floyd homestead, Brecknock Hall on Sound

Avenue, and the stones came from the estate's quarry. D. Stanley Corwin completed the construction in 13 months. In 1998, the 3-story west wing more than doubled the size of the library.



#42. 529 First Street c. 1874

An inscription on the basement wall dates the house June 1874 for the owners named Hubbard. An extremely fine building set farther back from First Street like its neighbors at 519 and 525. It has a distinctive

Mansard style with Italianate details that include fine bracketing, window caps over second-story dormers and scrollwork under eaves.

#43. Andrew Wiggins House c. 1858

519 First Street

This house, a conglomeration of Italianate and Mansard styles, contains some of the finest exterior trim and features found in the area. The exceptional workmanship is by Andrew Wiggins, carpenter, who built the house for his own family. Elaborate bracketing, dentil work, arched window caps and paneling are visible on the front of the house. Look toward the back of the left side of the house to see a continuation of the beautiful woodwork on the side porch.

#44. Whitney Hubbard House

c. 1858/73

511 First Street

Late Greek Revival doorway with interesting turned trim on door pilaster. Note dentils under roof eaves and door cap, and double arched windows in gable. Whitney Hubbard, notable Long Island Impressionist painter, inherited the house from his father, Elijah, a confectioner. The family retained ownership from 1880 to 1965. Whitney's studio was on Main Street.



#45. **Ackley House** c. 1845
509 First Street

Ackley House is one of two brick residences (the other is #40) in Greenport. Its style is Federal while the entry door trim and sidelights are Greek Revival. Note the elegance achieved by the row of windows on the second story and the attractive dentils at roofline and around door portico. There has been very little change in the exterior and interior.



#46. **William Corey House** c. 1882
440 First Street

Small village estate built by William D. Corey of Webb and Corey, a major port chandlery. The house's roof is slate with a Victorian cast iron

roof railing outside the third story. The façade has scalloped shingles and decorative brackets. An Ionic-columned porch wraps the front and south side of the house providing access to the Colonial doorway with arched transom and sidelights. When built, it was reported to be “one of the handsomest places in Greenport – everything about it is as neat as a pin.”

#47. **Hartley House** c. 1882
437 First Street

This is a late 19th century, 2½-story cross-gabled house with fine decorative woodwork on the porch and in gables. Most windows have pediment molding; small cathedral windows in each of the four gables. The house was the residence of Charles W. Hartley, a harness maker who in the 1880s located his business near 1st and Front Streets.

◆ *Tour B ends here. Return to Ireland House by walking east through the village parking area.*



Sources for this chronology and the walking tour include:

- *Greenport, Yesterday & Today, The Diary of a Country Newspaper*, Elsie Knapp Corwin. Amereon House, 1972. Limited publication.
- *Images of America: Greenport*, Antonia Booth and Thomas Monsell. Arcadia Publishing, 2003.
- Building-Structure Inventory of the Historic District by the NY Division for Historic Preservation, Greenport Village Hall; archival files in Floyd Memorial Library, the archives of *The Suffolk Times*, and two earlier editions of the walking tour prepared by Everett Holland.
- Data and reviews were provided by James Monsell and Thomas Monsell, Greenport Village Historians; J. Vincent Quatroche, Historian of The Stirling Historical Society; Antonia Booth, Southold Town Historian; Merlon Wiggin, lighthouse and maritime historian; Robert E. White, native Greenporter and local historian, and numerous other Greenporters who contributed additional tales and details of our village heritage.
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The Village of Greenport ~ Walking Tour ~

...takes you on a route that highlights our history and architectural diversity. There are many other points of interest throughout our village. Enjoy!

- A. The Stirling Historical Society – Ireland House (start of tour) and Berger House
- B. The Greenport Jail House
- C. The Marine Railway
- D. Carousel
- E. Mitchell Park
- F. North Ferry to Shelter Island
- G. East End Seaport Maritime Museum
- H. Railroad Museum

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