

A COMPILTION OF AFRICAN AMERICANS AND HISTORIC SITES IN THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON

Presented by

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN
HISTORIC DESIGNATION COUNCIL (AAHDC)



**AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC
DESIGNATION COUNCIL
(AAHDC)**



HUNTINGTON TOWN BOARD

**Frank P. Petrone, Supervisor
Mark Cuthbertson, Councilman
Susan A. Berland, Councilwoman
Stuart P. Besen, Councilman
Glenda A. Jackson, Councilwoman**

**AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DESIGNATION
COUNCIL (AAHDC) MEMBERS**

**Irene Moore, AAHDC Chair
Thelma Jackson-Abidally
Gennifer Ellis
John Johnson**

**Robert Hughes, Secretary
Town Historian**



Dear Resident:

Over the past two years we have worked to create the African American Historic Designation Council (AAHDC). This Council was organized to uncover the contributions of African Americans to the rich and diverse history we share in the Town of Huntington.

It is our hope that with this booklet, we will help to educate the public about the history of African Americans in the Town and encourage people to come forward to share their personal family histories. Over time, the Council will work closely with the Historic Preservation Commission and the Town Historian to create a more thorough narrative of the legacy of African Americans in Huntington.

With your assistance, we can achieve this goal. We have provided an insert in this booklet for your convenience that will allow you to share your family history. Please complete the insert and forward it to the address listed on page twelve. The Council will contact you if additional information is needed.

On behalf of the Town Board, we would like to officially welcome the AAHDC to the Town and thank them for compiling this booklet and sharing it with the residents of Huntington.

Sincerely,

FRANK P. PETRONE
Supervisor

GLENDA A. JACKSON
Councilwoman

Contents

Foreword.....	1
African American Historic Designation Council’s Mandate.....	2
History of African American Historic Designation Council.....	3
John William Coltrane.....	4
Booker Taliaferro Washington.....	5
Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church	6
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church.....	7
Samuel Ballton “The Pickle King”	8
Elijah.....	9
Jupiter Hammon.....	10
“An Address to Miss Phillis Wheatly”.....	11
Informational Sheet.....	12
Selected Bibliography and Articles.....	13
Photograph Captions and Credits.....	14
Acknowledgements.....	15

FOREWORD

In recognition of Black History Month, The African American Historic Designation Council (AAHDC) is pleased to present this booklet which includes a compilation of historic sites and African Americans who have not only contributed to the rich and diverse history of Huntington, but have made a difference in the larger society. As indicated in the Town of Huntington's mandate, the Council will, in collaboration with the Huntington Historic Preservation Commission and the Town Historian, assist the Town in identifying and researching historic sites having ties to African American heritage in the Town and explore the many potential undiscovered locations which deserve to be celebrated and protected.

To ensure proper recognition of African Americans' contributions to the Town of Huntington, the Council is requesting your assistance. Please complete the insert enclosed in this booklet and forward your information to the address listed on page twelve. The success of this endeavor will depend largely on your support and the support of others like you.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank the Town Board, specifically Councilman Mark Cuthbertson and Councilwoman Glenda Jackson for working toward the collective goal of the community to start an organization focused around preserving our heritage in the Town of Huntington. We would also like to thank J. Stewart Moore, Esq. for providing advice to the Council, having the vision for its creation and seeing it through. The contributions and accomplishments of African Americans recorded in the Town's archives will be preserved for future generations.

Sincerely,



Irene Moore, AAHDC Chair

Members:

Gennifer Ellis
Thelma Jackson-Abidally
John Johnson

Robert Hughes, Secretary
Town Historian

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DESIGNATION COUNCIL (AAHDC)

The African American Historic Designation Council (AAHDC) will assist the Town in identifying and researching historic sites having ties to African American heritage in the Town of Huntington and explore the many potential undiscovered noteworthy locations in the Town which deserve to be celebrated and protected. Most recently, the Town Board designated as historic landmarks, the John Coltrane Home in Dix Hills, where he wrote "A Love Supreme," and the Booker T. Washington Home in Fort Salonga, where he spent the last summer of his life. The AAHDC will help to further the endeavor of the Town to preserve and celebrate black history.

The African American Historic Designation Council will engage in the significant task of ensuring proper recognition of all sites that hold historical value to African American history in the Town. Such a council will locate and research important areas, which have been key to the legacy of African Americans in Huntington, and make recommendations, where appropriate, for landmark designation under the Town Code.

The African American Historic Designation Council will be comprised of five (5) members. Each Town Board Member, along with the Supervisor, will appoint one person to the Council. Such appointees will be chosen due to their exemplification of leadership within the Town of Huntington as well as their interest and concern for the African American history that our Town possesses.

The African American Historic Designation Council will serve as a subcommittee of the Historic Preservation Commission and the Town Historian shall serve as an ex officio non voting member and as Secretary of the Council.

The members of the Council shall serve without compensation.

Meeting Procedures:

The Council shall meet at such times as the Chairman of the Council or a majority thereof may determine. The Council shall keep minutes of its meetings and proceedings. A Quorum of the Council shall be duly constituted with four of the members present or by proxy.

Powers/Duties. The Council Shall:

Recommend to the Historic Preservation Commission particular places, sites, structures and buildings, or districts of African American historical significance for consideration as historic landmarks or landmark districts in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article VI of the Town's Zoning Code.

Review and issue written reports on all municipal proposals relative to uses or structures affecting African American historic landmarks and districts.

Make studies and inquiries into federal and state grants and tax incentive programs relative to the preservation or rehabilitation of designated African American historic landmarks and districts.

Increase public awareness of the value of historic, architectural, and cultural preservation by developing and participating in public information programs.

History of Council

The first official meeting of the Council was hosted by Councilwoman Glenda A. Jackson on Thursday, March 23, 2006 at 6:00 p.m., in room 304 of Town Hall, 100 Main Street, Huntington, New York. Joined by Town Historian Robert Hughes, Councilwoman Jackson discussed the vision and objectives of the AAHDC. Expressing deep appreciation for the history of the Town, Councilwoman Jackson remarked, "This is a vital point in our Town's legacy, the preservation of our history is essential and needed for all. This Council will reveal untold history and is a safeguard for our children." Appointed members are Irene Moore, John Johnson, Jerry Brown, Sr., Thelma Jackson-Abidally, and Gennifer Ellis. Present at the first meeting were Mrs. Gennifer Ellis, Mrs. Thelma Jackson-Abidally, Mr. John Johnson, Mrs. Irene Moore, J. Stewart Moore, Esq., and Ms. Susannah Mrazek. (1)



The African American Historic Designation Council (AAHDC) began as part of the collective vision of Attorney J. Stewart Moore, Councilman Mark Cuthbertson and Historian Robert Hughes. Mr. Moore attended a meeting of the Huntington Historic Preservation Commission in 2005 where he was invited to speak. He spoke about the importance of placing a resolution on the agenda for creating an African American Historic Designation Council in the Town of Huntington, and later presented the idea to Councilman Mark Cuthbertson. Councilman Cuthbertson was instrumental in presenting this resolution to the Town Board, and on September 13, 2005, resolution Number 2005-596 to create the African American Historic Designation Council was voted on and passed by the Board. (2)

Goals and Objectives:

- To locate, research, and preserve African American history and culture through collecting and documenting information, and sponsoring programs that will enhance research and promote public interaction.
- To become an outstanding resource for African American historical information.
- To educate and promote an understanding and appreciation of history through collections, exhibitions, and programming.
- To conduct and develop programs using various interdisciplinary initiatives to educate and inform the community.
- To preserve and tell the story of Huntington through interactive and engaging museum exhibits.

John William Coltrane

On Candlewood Path in Dix Hills, New York. obscured among overgrown trees, sits the home of jazz legend John Coltrane, a worldwide jazz icon. Born on September 23, 1920, in Hamlet, North Carolina, Coltrane followed in the foot steps of his father who played several instruments. He learned music at an early age, influenced by Lester Young and Johnny Hodges and others which led him to shift to the alto saxophone. He continued his musical training in Philadelphia and was called to military service during World War II, where he performed in the U.S. Navy Band.



After the war, Coltrane continued his zest for music, playing the tenor saxophone with the Eddie Vinson Band, performing with Jimmy Heath. He later joined the Dizzy Gillespie Band. His passion for experimentation was beginning to take shape; however, it was his work with the Miles Davis Quintet in 1958 that would lead to his own musical evolution. He was impressed with the freedom given to him by Miles Davis' music and was quoted as saying "Miles' music gave me plenty of freedom." This freedom led him to form his own band.

By 1960, Coltrane had formed his own quartet, which included pianist McCoy Tyner, drummer Elvin Jones, and bassist Jimmy Garrison. He eventually added other players including Eric Dolphy and Pharaoh Sanders. The John Coltrane Quartet, a novelty group, created some of the most innovative and expressive music in jazz history, including hit albums: "My Favorite Things," "Africa Brass," "Impressions," and his most famous piece, "A Love Supreme." "A Love Supreme," composed in his home on Candlewood Path, not only effected positive change in North America, but helped to change people's perception of African Americans throughout the world.

In 1967, Coltrane succumbed to liver disease leaving behind a legacy of successful accomplishments, many of which are heard in motion pictures, television, and radio throughout the world. His legacy continues with people embracing his music from all walks of life. In 1972, "A Love Supreme" was certified gold by the RIAA for exceeding over 500,000 copies sold in Japan. "A Love Supreme." and the classic album "My Favorite Things," were certified gold in the United States in 2001. In 1982, the RIAA posthumously awarded John Coltrane a Grammy Award for "Best Jazz Solo Performance" for the work on his album "Bye Bye Blackbird," and in 1997 he received the Lifetime Achievement Award. (3)

Coltrane and his wife Alice moved into the house on Candlewood Path in 1964 where their children were born and his family continued to live until 1973. Mrs. Coltrane, a pianist and composer, recorded albums in the basement of their home. Councilwoman Susan Berland and Councilman Mark Cuthbertson proposed legislation in May of 2004 to declare the house a historic landmark, which was unanimously passed by the Town Board. This resolution was introduced to the Town Board by Steve Fulgoni, who was instrumental in saving the Coltrane home from demolition. The house was purchased by the Town through the Environmental and Open Space and Park Fund and is currently cared for by Friends of the Coltrane Home in Dix Hills.



On June 18, 1983, Mrs. Alice Coltrane received an invitation to The White House from former President and Mrs. Clinton in appreciation of John Coltrane's historical appearance at the Newport Jazz Festival. On Friday, January 12, 2007, Mrs. Coltrane died of respiratory failure in West Hills Hospital in Los Angeles, California.

Booker Taliaferro Washington

Perched on a hilltop on Cousins Lane in Fort Salonga, Long Island overlooking the Long Island Sound, sits the summer home of Booker Taliaferro Washington, founder of Tuskegee Institute, and one of the most prominent blacks during his time. Although the house is in desperate need of renovation, the structure is sound and very little changes have been made since Washington and his family purchased the house in 1911 and resided there during the summers until his death in 1915.

Washington was born into slavery on the tobacco farm of James and Elizabeth Burroughs in Franklin County, Virginia on April 5, 1856. His mother was a cook for the Burroughs and his father was a white man from a neighboring farm. He was freed from slavery at age nine and moved to Malden, West Virginia with his mother Jane, his brother John, and his sister Amanda. His family joined his stepfather who had been rescued earlier from a nearby farm by a party of 'Yankee' raiders shortly after the declaration of the Emancipation Proclamation, "a proclamation issued by Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, proclaiming "That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free." ... (4) Booker T. Washington learned to read and write while working as a manual laborer, which included working in a salt mine at 4 a.m. so he could attend school later in the day. Within a few years, he was taken in as a houseboy by a wealthy town-woman who further encouraged his longing to learn. At age sixteen, he entered Hampton Institute to train as a teacher. He paid for his education and earned his living by performing menial tasks and later became an instructor at Hampton. In 1881, he founded and was named the first leader of Tuskegee Institute, a vocational school located in Tuskegee, Alabama. He was granted an honorary Masters of Arts degree from Harvard University in 1896 and an honorary Doctorate degree from Dartmouth College in 1901. (5)

Washington dined at the White House with Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, and informally advised both Presidents Roosevelt and Taft during their tenure as presidents. Other significant roles in American history included his speech at the September 1895 Cotton States and International Exposition in Atlanta where he urged blacks to remain in the South. Mr. Washington's proposition that black people give up their political power, insistence on civil rights, and the higher education of Negro youth, so that they could concentrate their energies on industrial education, the accumulation of wealth, and the conciliation of the South, was met with approval from some and criticism from others, including William Edward Burghardt Dubois, educator/ historian, and the first black American to graduate from Harvard with a doctoral degree in History. Washington's position on those issues overshadowed some of his accomplishments. He was a renowned educator, orator, prolific writer and author and is best remembered for helping black Americans overcome economic slavery that held them down long after they were legally free citizens. (6)

While staying at Fort Salonga, Washington often worshipped at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Huntington, where he served as a Sunday School teacher. He frequently visited the downtown area in Northport. He was invited by the pastor to speak at St. Paul Episcopal Methodist Church in Northport, which infuriated some of the members; however, his eloquent speech was well received and enormously changed the attitudes among the congregation in the community. (7) He also spoke at the Huntington Opera House and donated proceeds from three of his speeches given in Huntington to the Huntington Sewing and Trade School, which is owned by and houses the offices and archives of the Huntington Historical Society.

On May 21, 2003, the Town of Huntington installed a historic marker on Cousins Lane commemorating the location where Washington and his family spent their summers. Thelma Jackson-Abidally was responsible for this accomplishment. She received a proclamation from the Town for her efforts.



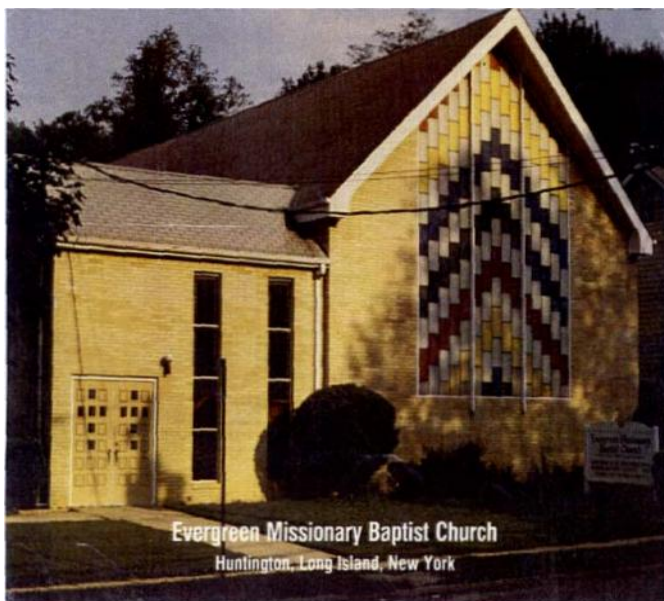
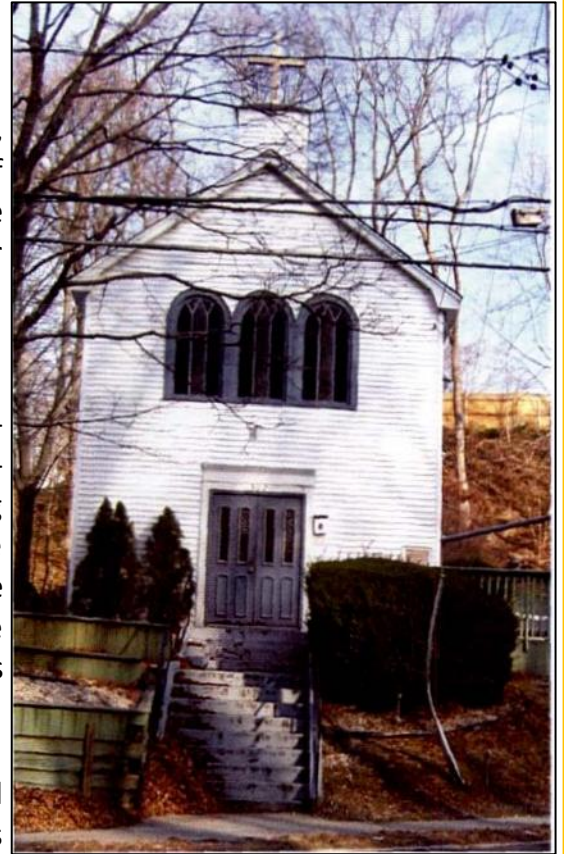
Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church

The Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church was founded and organized in 1910 by Reverend William H. Roper, and on April 10, 1914, it was incorporated in the Town of Huntington, County of Suffolk, State of New York. Among the first trustees elected were Brother Albert Gregory, Brother Edward Brown, and Brother Benjamin Ballton.

Reverend Roper was succeeded by Reverend William Alston, Reverend George Abbot, Reverend Ruben Green, and the Reverend Dr. William F. Houston. Reverend Houston pastored at Evergreen for twenty-seven years at the original site, 302 Spring Road, in Huntington, New York. Under his leadership, the church was remodeled, architectural plans for a new Church were drawn and land for the new edifice was purchased. Upon the death of Reverend Houston, Reverend William F. Bailey served as Interim Pastor from 1967 until September 1969.

The Reverend A.B. Harris, Associate Minister at the Hollywood Baptist Church in Amityville, New York, was called to serve as pastor of the Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church. The Church was reorganized, the building program was reinstated, and ground was broken in 1970 for land rededication. Construction proceeded in December 1971, and on June 10, 1973, the congregation marched from the Church on Spring Road to the new edifice located at 17 Woodhull Road, in Huntington. In 1974, the old Church was sold.

In the fullness of time, on March 9, 1985, Reverend A.B. Harris passed away. A special Church meeting was called, and the Reverend Larry Washington was elected to serve as Interim Pastor during the mourning period of one year. Reverend Larry Washington was elected on June 13, 1986 to serve as pastor, becoming the eighth pastor to lead the oldest and largest African American Baptist Church serving the community in Huntington. Under his leadership, which was in the making during his one-year tenure as Interim Pastor, the Church grew spiritually, physically, and financially. Outreach programs were implemented along with the ordination of Deacons, and the consecration of Deaconesses. The Music Department was enhanced and Assistant Pastors were added to the pastoral staff. (8)



On April 9, 2006, Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church celebrated its Ninety-Sixth Anniversary under the leadership of the Reverend Dr. Larry Washington.

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church

Bethel A.M.E. Church, the oldest African American Church in Huntington, was incorporated in 1843. The Church has served as a beacon of the African American community for over 163 years. Some of the original incorporators of the Church were said to be brickyard workers employed in the Crossman Brickyards in West Neck currently known as Lloyd Harbor. It has also been noted that the founders of the Church and their families are buried in the small cemetery behind the Church.

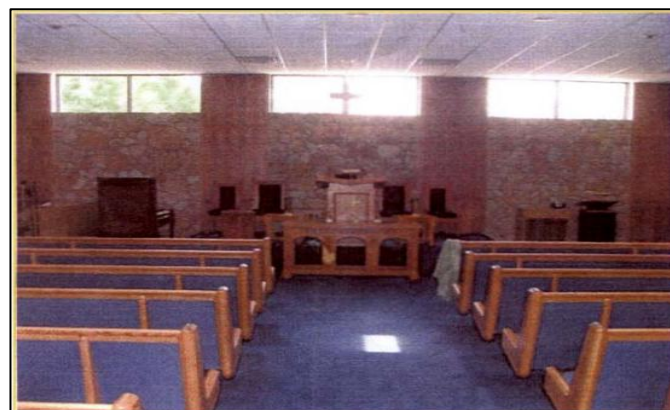
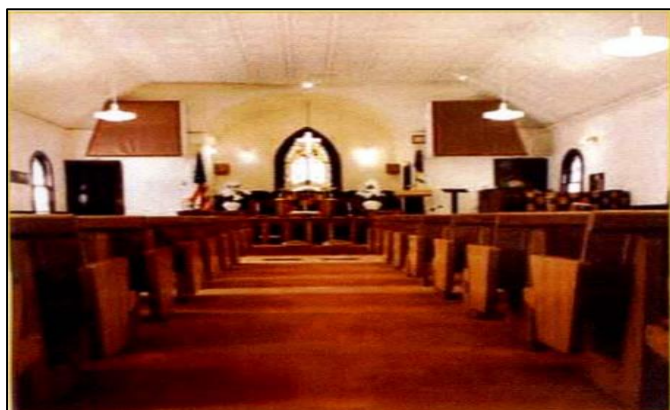
As indicated in the "Historical Sketch," written by the former pastor, Reverend Chas E. Wilson, the earlier records of the Church are said to have been destroyed by fire. However, "in 1845, Bethel A.M.E. Church had a considerable membership" and according to oral history, earlier prayer meetings and religious services were held in the homes of members living in the Wall Street area. (9)

"On June 5, 1843, the incorporation was affected. The certificate of incorporation, found on record at the County seat, in Riverhead, L.I., shows that the male members of the African Methodist Episcopal Ebenezer Church, in the village of Huntington, met in the Methodist Episcopal Seminary of said village for the purpose of electing five Trustees for the said Church." (10)

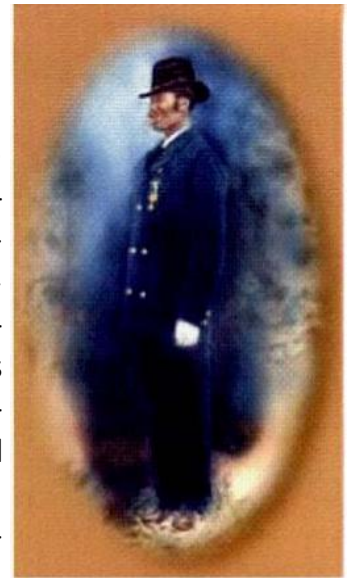
This was the first incorporation of the congregation: Charles Burch was the secretary of the meeting and Reverend William Moore, was Elder in charge and presided. The Trustees elected were, Smith Green for one year, Peter Crippen and Oliver Strong for two years, and Nelson Smith and Joseph Lawrence for three years. The incorporation was recorded November 27, 1843. This was just twenty-seven years after the A.M.E. Denomination was organized in 1816. On November 2, 1844, the congregation purchased a new plot known as "The Seminary." It is not clear when the name Bethel was adopted; nevertheless, some time between November 2, 1844 and March 13, 1854, Ebenezer was dropped and the Church became known as "The African Methodist Episcopal Church of Huntington." (11)

The Reverend William Moore, listed as the first Pastor of the Church in 1843 was succeeded by a long list of pastors throughout the years, including more recently the late Reverend Clarence B. Johns, Jr. Bethel A.M.E. Church was included in the Old Huntington Green Historic District in 1980, and listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1985.

On May 7, 2006, the faithful members of Bethel, under the leadership of Reverend Michael D. Washington, realized their dream as a caravan of close to fifty cars lead by police escort traveled through the streets of Huntington to their new Church located at 1841 New York Avenue in Huntington Station.



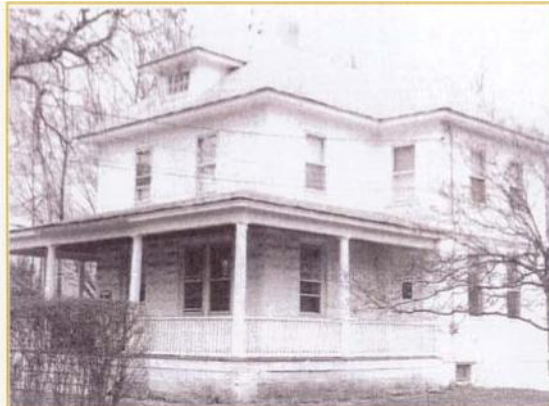
Samuel Ballton, "The Pickle King"



Samuel Ballton, one of nine children, was born into slavery on the plantation of Vincent A. Marmaduke, in Westmoreland County, Virginia on January 1, 1838. In 1861 he married Rebecca, a slave from a neighboring plantation. He and other able-bodied slaves were hired out to work as section-hands on the Virginia Central Railroad in the Blue Ridge Mountains. When the Civil War broke out, Ballton managed to escape and was able to secure a job as a cook with the Sixth Wisconsin Regiment at Fredericksburg. Although he risked capture, he stole back to see his wife several times, and was eventually able to take her to freedom. Early in 1864 Ballton went to Boston, Massachusetts, where he enlisted in the Fifth Massachusetts Cavalry and was active in the service. He was honorably discharged on November 30, 1865. (12) "Ballton came to Greenlawn in 1873, where he started out as a tenant farmer and went on to become a comfortable landowner. Ballton settled in Greenlawn after the Civil War and became one of its most prominent citizens by the turn of the century. His first job in the Greenlawn area was as a farmer for one of the town's wealthiest landowners. He established a reputation for diligent and industrious work. Later he was employed as a shareholder for Alexander Gardiner, owner of the largest farm in Greenlawn, and gained much notoriety by growing record numbers of cucumbers and cabbages. He was nicknamed Greenlawn's "Pickle King," as a result of growing and processing 1.5 million pickles in one season." (13)

"Moving beyond tenant farming, Ballton was able to acquire some capital as a buying agent for a large Boston pickle house. With his own capital and loans from white neighborhood farmers, Ballton began to buy land and build houses near the new railroad line. Sixteen years after moving to Greenlawn with no money, friends, or formal education, Ballton became a successful landowner and entrepreneur. He is still remembered in the village as an outstanding founding member of the Greenlawn Community." (14)

Samuel Ballton and his wife, Rebecca, celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in one of the houses he built in Greenlawn on Boulevard Avenue Extension. He built other houses in Centerport and Northport. Leaving behind a legacy of success stories, Ballton died on April 30, 1917, at the age of 79. His funeral was held at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Huntington, with the pastor, Reverend J.M. Procter officiating. He was buried in the Huntington Rural Cemetery. (15)



Elijah

Elijah was born in 1750 during Slavery and the Manumission Period (1653-1827), at 647 Main Street, in Northport, New York. He was baptized on December 6, 1750, at Old First Church in Huntington. Elijah, the son of Sampson and Sarah, was a slave, owned by John Scudder. Elijah's mother Sarah was possibly Choctaw, a Native American Indian, captured on the Carolina frontier, sold in Charleston as a child, purchased by a New York slave dealer, and then sold to Timothy Scudder. Elijah's parents had five children, all of whom were baptized at Old First Church. They were Sampson Jr. (1738), twins Ruth and Daniel (1742), Elijah (1750), and Sarah (1757). He received a basic education and was sold in 1770 to Mary (Carll) Platt, widow of Obadiah Platt, Esq. of Platt's Tavern, and lived next door to Latting's Hundred, currently known as 424 Park Avenue. (16)*

In 1779, Elijah became a celebrated hero known as "the man with the bullet proof head," after the well-publicized attack on Platt's Tavern during the American Revolution by British Troops, where he wounded an attacker with a hatchet. He saved the life of Gilbert Platt, and miraculously survived a gunshot wound to the head. (17)

Elijah, an accomplished musician and fiddler, was in great demand providing music at local festivities. He earned income as a celebrity attraction and musician. He frequently visited his family at Latting's Hundred and worked there as a musician. He is listed in the 1790 Census and was bequeathed to Gilbert Platt in 1793. Elijah lived to see the New York State Manumission Act of 1799, but was too old to gain his own freedom. (18) He died in 1810 and is buried in the Old Burying Ground on Main Street in Huntington in section three, in the Platt Family plot, at the head of Mary (Carll) Platt. (19)



**Many local slaves gained their freedom at Latting's Hundred, pursuant to the provisions of the New York State Manumission Act of 1799, under the authority of Samuel Fleet, Sr., who served as Overseer of the Poor from 1805 to 1823. Samuel Fleet purchased Latting's Hundred in 1793 and conducted his official business in the parlor. Manumission papers, or "Freedom Papers," were issued in the parlor to each freed person and copies were entered into the Town Records.*

Jupiter Hammon

Jupiter Hammon, America's first African American published colonial Poet, was born on October 17, 1711, in Lloyd Neck (originally Caumsett, meaning, "place by sharp rock," named by the Matinecock Indians), Long Island, on the property of Henry Lloyd. Jupiter's father, Obium, was a slave belonging to Henry Lloyd and his wife, Rebecca. (20)

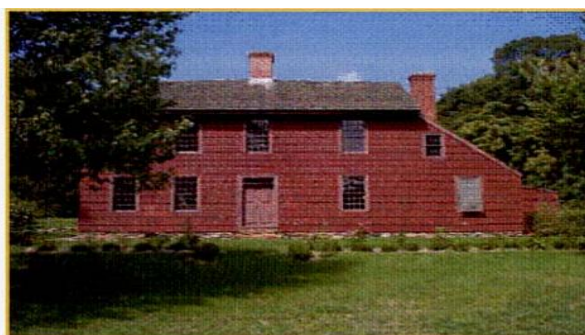
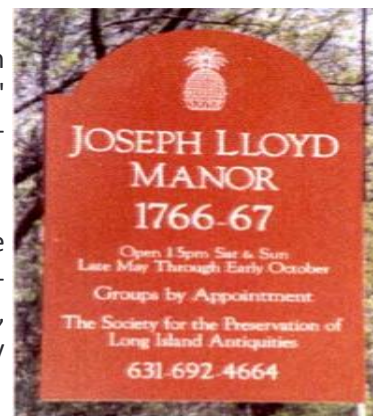
James Lloyd, a Boston merchant, bought the peninsula that now bears his name. He won a royal land grant in 1685 that made it the "Lordship and Manor of Queens Village." Although he never left Boston to visit the property, at his death, his son, Henry, took over the land and built the first manor house. Henry's four surviving sons, Henry II, John, Joseph and James, inherited the estate in 1763. (21)

"Jupiter shared a close relationship with the Lloyd family. It is stated that he was referred to as 'brother Jupiter.' He lived in the Manor house with the family and went to school with the Lloyd children. Jupiter worked alongside Henry in his business, and was often sent to New York City to negotiate trade deals. Henry credited Jupiter with being an astute negotiator, as well as being scrupulously honest. Henry's reliance on him indicated that Jupiter's education went far beyond the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic." (22) Upon the death of Henry Lloyd in 1763, Jupiter went to live with Henry's son, Joseph, who built a larger manor house in 1766. During the American Revolution, Joseph, a patriot, fled to Connecticut, taking Jupiter with him. They returned after the war and Jupiter continued to write poetry and prose, later becoming a leader in the African American community. (23)

As indicated in the African American Archive by Kai Wright, Jupiter Hammon became the first African American to publish a poem. His liturgical "An Evening Thought, Salvation by Christ with Penetential Cries," was released on Christmas Day in 1760. Hammon was deeply religious, reflecting the general mood of the time, and his poetry dwelled on Christian spirituality. He would publish three more poems and four works of prose before his death sometime after 1790. When Jupiter published his second poem, "An Address to Miss Phillis Wheatley," he chose to honor Phillis Wheatley, one of the first recognitions of Wheatley as the originator of African American literature. (24)

"In the twilight of his life, Jupiter Hammon published an essay ostensibly aimed at his fellow African Americans, both slave and free. The 1787 essay 'An Address To The Negroes Of The State Of New York,' characteristically laden with Christian appeals, both uplifts and scolds the new nation's black population. Hammon warns slaves not to be overly concerned with attaining temporal freedom, but rather to focus on salvation in the Christian afterlife. He urges both free and bonded blacks to remember Christian principles, and to mind their behavior in the face of the oppression of slavery. Yet, he also assures his audience of the divine justice white slave owners will ultimately face and prays for emancipation, though he states that he believes himself to be too elderly to handle freedom." Hammon's address is credited with inspiring later efforts toward the ultimate manumission of slaves in New York State. (25)

Jupiter Hammon's death was unrecorded. He spent his final years living with John Nelson Lloyd, a great-grandson of Henry. He was buried on the Lloyd land in an unmarked grave.



"An Address to Miss Phillis Wheatly [sic], Ethiopian Poetess, in Boston, who came from Africa at eight years of age, and soon became acquainted with the gospel of Jesus Christ." Miss Wheatly; pray give leave to express as follows:

*O come you pious youth! adore
The wisdom of thy God,
In bringing thee from distant shore,
To learn His holy word.*

*Thou mightst been left behind
Amidst a dark abode;
God's tender mercy still combined,
Thou hast the holy word.*

*Fair wisdom's ways are paths of peace,
And they that walk therein,
Shall reap the joys that never cease,
And Christ shall be their king.*

*God's tender mercy brought thee here;
Tossed o'er the raging main;
In Christian faith thou hast a share,
Worth all the gold of Spain.*

*While thousands tossed by the sea,
And others settled down,
God's tender mercy set thee free,
From dangers that come down.*

*That thou a pattern still might be,
To youth of Boston town,
The blessed Jesus set thee free,
From every sinful wound.*

*The blessed Jesus, who came down,
Unveiled his sacred face,
To cleanse the soul of every wound,
And give repenting grace.*

*That we poor sinners may obtain,
The pardon of our sin;
Dear blessed Jesus now constrain,
And bring us flocking in.*

*Come you, Phillis, now aspire,
And seek the living God,
So step by step thou mayst go higher,
Till perfect in the world.*

*While thousands moved to distant shore,
And others left behind,
The blessed Jesus still adore,
Implant this in thy mind.*

*Thou hast left the heathen shore;
Through mercy of the Lord;
Among the heathen live no more,
Come magnify thy God.*

*I pray the living God may be,
The shepherd of thy soul;
His tender mercies still are free,
His mysteries to unfold.*

*Thou, Phillis, when thou hunger hast,
Or pantest for thy God;
Jesus Christ is thy relief,
Thou hast the holy word.*

*The Bounteous mercies of the Lord,
Are hid beyond the sky,
And holy souls that love His word,
Shall taste them when they die.*

*These bounteous mercies are from God,
The merits of His son;
The humble soul that loves His word,
He chooses for His own.*

*Come, dear Phillis, be advised,
To drink Samaria's flood;
There nothing that shall suffice
But Christ's redeeming blood.*

*While thousands muse with earthly toys;
And range about the street,
Dear Phillis, seek for heaven's joys,
Where we do hope to meet.*

*When God shall send his summons down,
And number saints together,
Blest angels chant, (triumphant sound),
Come live with me forever.*

*The humble soul shall fly to God,
And leave the things of time,
Start forth as 'twere at the first word,
To taste things more divine.*

*Behold! the soul shall waft away,
Whene'er we come to die,
And leave its cottage made of clay,
In twinkling of an eye.*

*Now glory be to the Most High,
United praises given,
By all on earth, incessantly,
And all the host of heav'n.*

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN RESERVED JUST FOR YOU. PLEASE SHARE YOUR INFORMATION ABOUT AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON WITH THE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DESIGNATION COUNCIL (AAHDC). YOUR INFORMATION WILL ALLOW THE COUNCIL TO COMPILE AND PRESERVE PERTINENT INFORMATION ABOUT THE HISTORY AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE TOWN. AN INSERT HAS BEEN PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

PLEASE FORWARD COMPLETED INSERT TO:

MRS. IRENE MOORE, AAHDC CHAIR
C/O COUNCILWOMAN GLENDA JACKSON
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON
100 MAIN STREET
HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK 11743

Selected Bibliography and Articles

- (1) Mrazek, Susannah. Excerpts taken from *African American Historic Designation Council's* publication. Town of Huntington's web site, March 25, 2006.
- (2) Jackson-Abidally, Thelma. Excerpts taken from *African American Historic Designation Council's History with Goals and Objectives*, May 2006.
- (3) Excerpts taken from JohnColtrane.com
- (4) Washington, Booker T. *Up From Slavery: An Autobiography*. Williamstown, Massachusetts 01267: Corner House Publishers, 1978.
- (5) Booker T. Washington National Monument. *Booker T Washington Ethnographic Overview and Assessment*. Hardy, Virginia.
- (6) Ibid.
- (7) Jackson-Abidally, Thelma. *African Americans in Northport: An Untold Story*. New York: Maple Hill Press, 2000.
- (8) Excerpts taken from Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church's Ninety-Six Anniversary Bulletin. April 9, 2006.
- (9) An "Historical Sketch," Reverend Chas E. Wilson, Pastor, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E) Church. Huntington, New York. July 29, 1948. Huntington Historic Society, 209 Main Street, Huntington, NY.
- (10) Ibid.
- (11) Ibid.
- (12) "The Pickle King is Dead." *The Long Islander*, Friday, May 4, 1917: courtesy of Huntington Historic Society, Huntington, NY.
- (13) Day, Lynda R. *Making a Way to Freedom: A History of African Americans on Long Island*. New York: Empire State Books, 1997.
- (14) Ibid.
- (15) "The Pickle King is Dead." *The Long Islander*, Friday, May 4, 1917: courtesy of Huntington Historic Society, Huntington, NY.
- (16) Metcalf, Rex. *Slavery and the Manumission Period (1653-1827)*. Huntington Historic Preservation Commission, December 7, 2006.
- (17) Ibid.
- (18) Ibid. The New York Manumission Act of 1799 provided for the abolition of slavery in New York State.
- (19) Ibid.
- (20) Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, Cold Spring Harbor, NY.
- (21) Ibid.
- (22) Lloyd Harbor Historical Society, Lloyd Harbor, NY.
- (23) Ibid.
- (24) Wright Kai. *The African-American Archive: The History of the Black Experience Through Documents*. New York: Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers, Inc., 2001.
- (25) Ibid.

Photograph Captions and Credits

- Front Cover Allen Family Children. Huntington. c. 1905. (Photograph courtesy of the Huntington Historical Society.)
- xxii - top l Supervisor Frank Petrone. 2006. Photograph taken from Town of Huntington's web page. Excerpts taken from JohnColtrane.com
- xxii - top r Councilwoman Glenda A. Jackson. 2006. Photograph taken from Town of Huntington's web page.
- Page 3 - top r African American Historic Designation Council members. Photograph by Susannah Mrazek.
- Page 4 - top l The Coltrane Home. Photograph by Steve Fulgoni.
- Page 4 - bottom l John Coltrane with Soprano Saxophone.
- Page 4 - bottom c John Coltrane with Tenor Saxophone.
- Page 4 - bottom r John Coltrane with Cello.
- Page 5 - top Booker T. Washington Historic Site Marker. Photograph by Irene Moore.
- Page 5 - bottom l Booker T. Washington Home — back. Photograph by Irene Moore.
- Page 5 - bottom c Booker T. Washington, timesdispatch.com, Article "Booker Taliaferro Washington." February 1. 2002
- Page 5 - bottom r Booker T. Washington Home — front. Photograph by Irene Moore.
- Page 6 - top l Former Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church — Photograph by Irene Moore.
- Page 6 - bottom r Evergreen Missionary Baptist Church — Photograph by Alan Mills.
- Page 7 - top l Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church - Historic Site Marker. Photograph by Robert Hughes.
- Page 7 - center l Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church. Photograph taken from web page.
- Page 7 - bottom l Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church's Sanctuary (old).
- Page 7 - bottom r Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church's Sanctuary (new).
- Page 8 - top Samuel Ballton. Courtesy of Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Association.
- Page 8 - bottom l Samuel Ballton in uniform.
- Page 8 - bottom c Samuel Banton Home. Photograph courtesy of Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Association.
- Page 8 - bottom r Samuel Ballton Pickle Plant. Photograph courtesy of Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Association.
- Page 9 - top l Latting's Hundred (currently known as 424 Park Avenue.) Photograph by Rex Metcalf.
- Page 9 - center l Parlor at Latting's Hundred. Photograph by Rex Metcalf.
- Page 9 - bottom r Tap Room at Latting's Hundred. Photograph by Rex Metcalf.
- Page 10 - top l The Joseph Lloyd Manor Historic Marker. Photograph courtesy of the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, Cold Spring Harbor, New York.
- Page 10 - center l The Joseph Lloyd Manor House. side. Photograph courtesy of the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, Cold Spring Harbor, New York.
- Page 10 - bottom l The Joseph Lloyd Manor House, front. Photograph courtesy of the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, Cold Spring Harbor, New York.
- Page 10 - bottom c The Henry Lloyd Manor House. Photograph courtesy of the Lloyd Harbor Historical Society, Lloyd Harbor, New York.
- Page 10 - bottom r Slave Quarters at Joseph Lloyd Manor House. Photograph courtesy of the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, Cold Spring Harbor, New York.

Acknowledgements

The African American Historic Designation Council would like to extend its sincere appreciation to those individuals who contributed their time and effort in helping to ensure the successful completion of this booklet. Special thanks to the Town Board, especially Councilwoman Glenda Jackson; Robert Hughes, Town Historian; Charla Bolton and Rex Metcalf, Huntington Historic Preservation Commission; J. Stewart Moore, Esq.; Susannah Mrazek, Legislative Assistant to the Town Board; Jose Caceres, Image Artist; Julian J. Moore, Esq., Editor; the staff of the Huntington Station Enrichment Center; the staff of the Town of Huntington Printing Office; the staff of the Huntington Historical Society; The Lloyd Harbor Historical Society; the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities (SPLIA); and The Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Association.

Compiled by The African American Historic Designation Council

Edited by Julian J. Moore, Esq.

Co-edited by Irene Moore

Image Artist, Jose Caceres

Printed by the Town of Huntington Printing Office - February 2007

