

The Lloyds of Lloyd Neck (1676-1885)

Lords of the Manor for Two Centuries

Although preceded by the Matinecock Indians as well as by other English settlers, it was the Lloyd Family of Lloyd Neck whose two-centuries of ownership gave their name to this peninsula, to Lloyd Harbor to the south, and ultimately to the Village of Lloyd Harbor incorporated in 1926. The original Matinecock name for Lloyd Neck, *Caumsett*, meaning “place by sharp rock,” is still preserved in the name of the State Historic Park that spans 1,426 acres of the former Marshall Field III estate on Lloyd Neck. However, “Horse Neck,” the name originally used by Huntington farmers who grazed horses there in the 17th Century, remains merely a footnote in historical records.



The Henry Lloyd Manor House (1711)



The Joseph Lloyd Manor House (1766)

Boston merchant James Lloyd acquired the neck in 1676. On March 8, 1685, Lieutenant Governor Thomas Dongan granted James Lloyd the royal patent for Horse Neck, formally renaming it the “Manor of Queens Village,” annexed to Oyster Bay, Queens County. James Lloyd remained in Boston, renting the property out to tenant farmers, but in 1711 his 24-year-old son, Henry, gave up a shipping business in Newport, R.I., to farm the Manor. His “salt box” home, the Henry Lloyd Manor House, still survives on the grounds of Caumsett State Historic Park, where it has been restored, and is maintained and interpreted by the Lloyd Harbor Historical Society.

After Henry’s death in 1763, his son, Joseph, built a larger house to the west in 1766. During the American Revolution members of the Lloyd family found themselves on opposing sides. Joseph was a patriot and fled to Connecticut to escape the British occupation of Huntington. He was accompanied in his exile by Jupiter Hammon – an educated slave known today as America’s first published black poet – whom Joseph had inherited from Henry Lloyd. In 1778 the British constructed Fort Franklin (named for Benjamin Franklin’s Tory son, William) on Lloyd property at the western edge of Lloyd Neck (an area now called “Fort Hill”) overlooking Cold Spring Harbor. Another fortification was built on the east end of the neck, near a large rock now called Target Rock, which British warships are said to have used for target practice.

After the Revolution, the Manor continued in the Lloyd family for several generations. The last Lord of the Manor, Henry Lloyd IV, acquired the property in 1841 and built a dock near the Causeway as a stop for Oyster Bay-to-New York steamboats. The Lloyd estate changed hands several times prior to the twentieth century, but remained only sparsely developed. In the early 1880s, steamboats brought tourists to a popular beach recreation complex at the end of the Causeway called Columbia Grove. In 1885 the New York State Legislature finally separated the Manor from Oyster Bay, Queens County, establishing it as part of the Town of Huntington, Suffolk County.

Both the Henry Lloyd Manor House and the Joseph Lloyd Manor House are restored and open to the public.

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