

The purpose of the Archives is to collect, preserve, and provide access to the permanent records generated by the various departments of the Town of Huntington, as well as ensure that these records will be available for future generations. The archival activities we implement enrich education, improve access to historical records and serve as a source of information for residents, teachers, students, community groups and a range of researchers. In addition, our activities help in highlighting the Town's historical organizations and sites.

The Archives is open for research on weekdays, except holidays, by appointment only.

Hours: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

For additional information contact:
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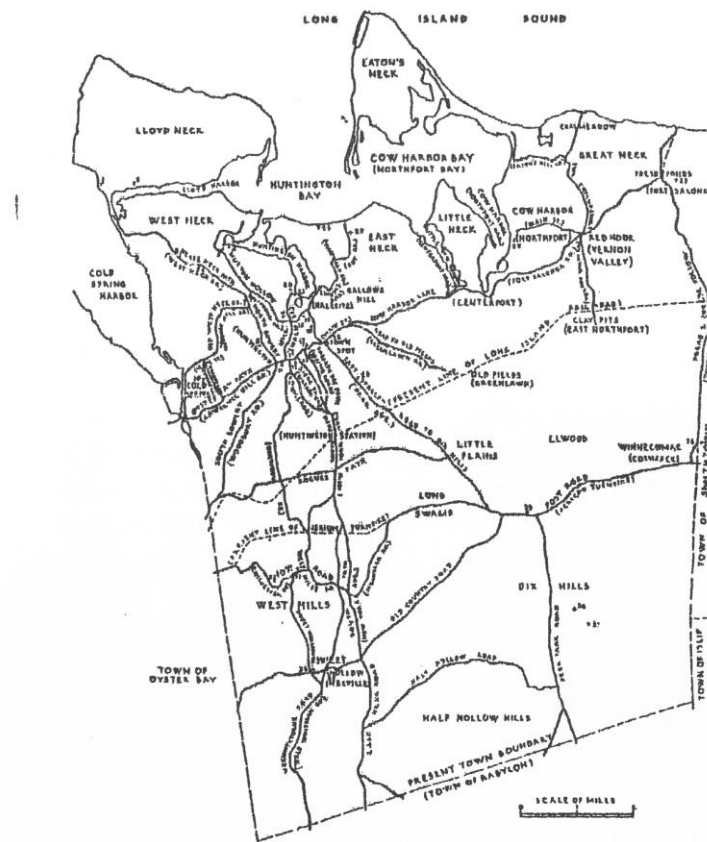
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HUNTINGTON

TOWN CLERK'S ARCHIVES

Jo-Ann Raia, RMC, Town Clerk/RMO



Why Huntington?

There are two theories as to how the Town of Huntington was named. *Why Huntington?* is a question that remains unanswered to this day.

One theory is that the English settlers named this Town **Huntingdon** after Oliver Cromwell's birthplace, *Huntingdon, England*. At the time this area was settled, Cromwell was the Lord General and Commander in Chief of the Commonwealth of England and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. It is possible then, that because of Cromwell's prominence, this Town was named after his birthplace. The spelling Huntingdon appears in many of the early manuscripts which are housed in the Huntington Town Clerk's Archives. As the years went by, the spelling changed to "*Huntington*" probably for easier usage.

The other theory is that the settlers referred to this area as the "*Hunting-Town*" hence becoming "*Huntington*" because of the bountiful wildlife that made the area good hunting grounds.

Did you know that...

This area was occupied by the Indian tribe *Matinnicoke* and was called *Ketewomoke*. The Chief of the Matinnicoke Indian tribe was *Raseokan*. He was known as the *Sagamore of Ketewomoke*.

In 1653, three men from Oyster Bay, Richard Holbrook (Holbrock), Robert Williams and Daniel Whitehead, made the first purchase of land in this area from the "Matinnicoke" (Matinecock) Indians, establishing Huntington. They are named in it as the grantees. The boundaries of the premises contained about six miles square. They are understood to include the area between Cold Spring Harbor, on the west, to Northport Harbor on the east. Then, the Sound on the north to the line where is today known as Old Country road. The same day that this deed was given by the Indians to three Oyster Bay men, the latter assigned

all their interests in the premises to certain residents of Huntington who became the proprietors, and they and their descendants, or assigns, were ever after called the proprietors of the first or "old purchase."

The 1653 Indian deed, also known as the First or Old Purchase, is one of the many manuscripts residing in the Huntington Town Clerk's Archives.

The Matinnicoke Indians called

Huntington - Ketewomoke

Northport - Cow Harbor

Lloyd Neck - Horse Neck

Cold Spring Harbor - Warwepec

Long Island Sound - Caumset

In 1997, **Huntington, New York** was named the "*Culture Capital of Long Island*" and one of the 50 fabulous places nationwide to raise a family.

There is also

Huntington, AR; Huntington, CA; Huntington, IN; Huntington, MA; Huntington, MI; Huntington, OH; Huntington, OR; Huntington, PA; Huntington, TX; Huntington, UT; Huntington, VA; Huntington, VT; and Huntington, WV.

Not to be confused with

Huntingdon, PA; and Huntingdon, TN.

Activity: *Plan a class trip or ask your students to visit the Huntington Town Clerk's Archives to view the 1653 Indian deed and other manuscripts relating to Colonial times.*

Ask for copies of all our handouts.