

- On September 21, 1938 a devastating hurricane struck Long Island without much prior warning, with the center passing over West Hampton. Over 50 lives were lost on Long Island and the property damage was in the millions. In comparison with other storms, including the present time, this was the sixth most damaging hurricane in the United States. Patchogue escaped with tree losses and some damages to buildings.

- The last parts of the Ocean Avenue Hotel were torn down in 1939.

## 1940 – 1950

- The Elks Club on East Main Street, dormant since 1936, was re-opened as the Patchogue Hotel in November 1940.
- Leo's Inn on the West Lake was consumed by a fire on May 20, 1940.
- The first groups of volunteers for the draft started leaving Patchogue in 1940 and 1941 to enter the Armed Forces.
- Approximately 550 workers of the Patchogue Plymouth Mills Corporation, seeking a pay raise, walked out on strike June 2, 1941. Although a few workers returned to work after a few weeks, the mill strike lasted for 18 weeks. The management closed the mill at 5 p.m. June 27, 1941 after negotiations with the workers failed. By November 14, 1941, 470 mill workers had returned to their jobs. A new mill contract was negotiated in August 1944, and part of the deal was the payment of \$125,000 in back wages.
- The Maple Avenue School in Patchogue, dormant since 1939, was re-opened as a Aviation Trade School in August 1941.
- Part of Bailey's Mill was leased to Bruns, Kimball and Company. The firm built boats for the Army. The first three boats were delivered by December 16, 1941,
- With the entry of the United States into World War II, a potential blackout toward the sea was imposed on the Long Island South Shore in April 1942. Sugar rationing also went into effect at this time.
- The new Seton Hall school building on South Ocean Avenue was dedicated on November 11, 1942.
- The Patchogue USO Club was opened February 11, 1943 on East Main Street in the building which later became the Elks Lodge.
- Patchogue Village bought the property of the former Ocean Avenue Hotel in April 1944 for \$18,000.
- The Bossert Firm, operating in the former Bailey Mill complex, employed 253 people in 1944 making prefabricated homes for England under contract of the US. Land-Lease Program. The original order was for 30,000 pre-fab homes. About 320 homes were completed before the halt of the Lend-Lease Program and the cancellation of the order.
- A large fire on January 9, 1946 destroyed the upper floor and the tower of the Swezey and Newins building on the Four Corners. The fire also caused severe damage to the rest of the building..