

Patchogue's Hotels and the Tourist Industry



When Patchogue became an attraction to tourist from New York, the local business men took advantage of this opportunity and built many hotels to accommodate the vacationers. In 1902 Patchogue could offer beds to 1600 guests in hotels and boarding houses.



With the arrival of the South Shore Railroad line in Patchogue in 1869, Patchogue could be reached by train from New York City in 1 ½ hours. New Yorkers could now escape the hot, crowded city and spend a relaxing weekend on the cool shores of the Great South Bay or Fire Island. This is the Patchogue Railroad Station at the end of the century. In 1869 four passenger trains and one freight train traveled to and from New York. By 1904 this number increased to fourteen trains daily.



One of the first hotels in Patchogue was the Mascot, located at the foot of South Ocean Avenue. Previous to 1880, William C. Horton and Francis Silsbe sold soft drinks and cigars from a small building on this spot. John N. Silsbe bought them out and secured a lease from Brookhaven Town to build a dock and hotel here.