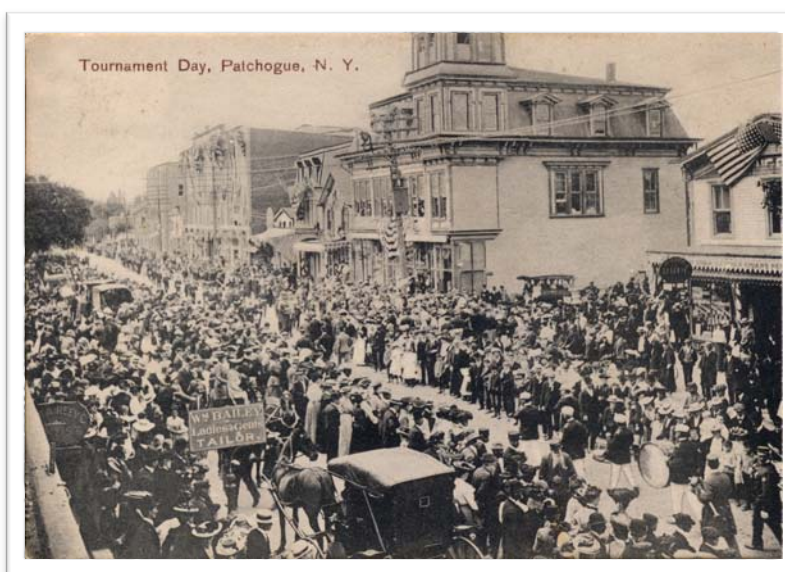


# Downtown Patchogue Walking Tour



Firemen's Tournament Parade 1908

Welcome to Patchogue  
“Queen City of Long Island’s South Shore”

Walking map in centerfold

Cellphone tour at  
[www.history.pmlib.org/patchoguewalkingtour](http://www.history.pmlib.org/patchoguewalkingtour)

## Patchogue History

- Patchogue is named after the Pochoaug Indians.
- Connecticut Governor John Winthrop and family owned land from 1666 to 1752.
- A 1758 land lottery brings 4th and 5th generation settlers from other parts of Long Island and New York City to win seven large lots in Patchogue.
- Commercial activity centers on grist, paper, twine, cotton and lumber mills built on creeks along today's Montauk Highway over next 130 years.
- By 1886 one mill powered the Patchogue Electric and Light Company. An adjoining mill site grows into enormous Patchogue-Plymouth Lace Mill. By 1900, the Lace Mill and the Bailey Lumber Mill are prime employers.
- Shellfish and fish from local waters feed early settlers and grows into large seafood industry. Shipbuilding industry grows on Patchogue River.
- Railroad's arrival in 1869 revolutionizes travel to and from Patchogue.
- Hotels and boarding houses lodge vacationers escaping city from 1880 – 1930.
- Resort industry spawns theaters featuring vaudeville acts, concerts, plays and lectures.
- Downtown Patchogue is popular regional shopping center from 1920's to early 1960's.
- Malls pull shoppers away from Patchogue leading to several decades of decline.
- Patchogue's current resurgence due to determined Village officials, businesses and organizations.
- Renovated Patchogue Theater, new restaurants, music venues, shops and condominiums change Patchogue's landscape once again.

**1. ARTSPACE** (20 Terry Street) provides live/work spaces for artists and their families. The 2011 Artspace building features Patchogue Arts Council and Plaza Cinema & Media Arts Center, bringing arthouse films to central Suffolk residents. HHL Architects of Buffalo described their building as “Mondrianesque exteriors of plain brown brick ...to recall the Village’s commercial history... with steel-edged glass panels for a modern look.”



**WALK ALONG THE COMMUNITY GARDEN  
TOWARDS SOUTH OCEAN AVENUE**

**2. EGAN & GOLDEN LAW & MCGIFF HALVERSON LAW BUILDING** (96-98 South Ocean Avenue) housed **New York Telephone Co.** and its switchboard operations from 1918 -1956. Size and shape of windows and doors on the original half of today’s building remain nearly identical to the old New York Telephone Co. facade. 96-98 South Ocean Avenue was recently remodeled, as were many business façades you will see on the tour. Older, smaller bricks, or missing or repaired mortar between bricks, can announce that a building is older than it appears. Two of the many new condominium projects in Patchogue are to the left.



## CROSS TERRY STREET AND SOUTH OCEAN AVENUE AT THE CROSSWALKS

### 3. THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PATCHOGUE

(10 Church Street) was built in 1889. The church's High Victorian Gothic style has steeply pitched roofs, gables and soaring towers with medieval elongated windows. Tidden & Arnold of Brooklyn designed the three large round stained glass windows. The National Register of Historic Places recognizes the United Methodist Church as an architecturally and historically important American building.



4. THE UNION SAVINGS BANK (62 South Ocean Avenue, today's **Industrial Coverage Corporation**) is beautifully encased in white marble in the neoclassical style. Greek columns support a pedimented doorway. Balustrades surround the rooftop and arched windows run along Church Street. The Union Savings Bank was constructed in 1911 by a group of Patchogue's citizens. Emerson Terrell, one of the bank's founders and presidents, built a large number of houses and commercial structures in Patchogue. The National Register of Historic Places recognizes the Union Savings Bank building as an architecturally and historically important American building.





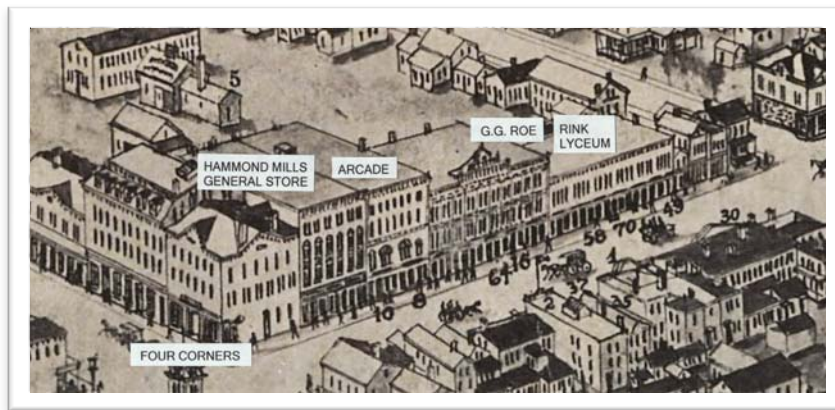
This 1910 postcard view shows the Union Savings Bank and many stores leading to the Four Corners, the intersection of Main Street and Ocean Avenue. The tower at the Swezey & Newin's Department Store stands as a beacon and landmark on the Four Corners. Trolley tracks lead down the center of South Ocean Avenue to boarding houses and large hotels on the Bay. A horse drawn buggy and an automobile pass one another demonstrating seismic historic and technological changes occurring in 1910.

**5. FAMILY MELODY & WALLEN'S MARKET** (77 & 83 South Ocean Avenue, aka **Hochheiser Five & Dime** -1929 & **Sugal Building** -1928) illustrate how downtown commercial structures are three-dimensional masses. The arrangement of architectural elements like windows and doors determines form, as does the size and shape of a building lot. The form of these two buildings is very similar. Both are alike in size, have similar roof parapets, two second floor windows and plate glass covers the majority of their street level frontages. However, a large difference in plate glass height, second story window size, façade color and sign size make these buildings look very different from one another.



## CROSS AT THE CHURCH STREET CROSSWALK

**6. 59 SOUTH OCEAN AVENUE** (Dollar General) was the site of the **Clinton Roller Skating Rink** built in 1885 when the national roller skating craze came to Patchogue. Soon the skating fad died and owner Gillette Gelston Roe converted the rink to a Lyceum, a venue for entertainment, social and political meetings. Later the Rink/Lyceum was turned 90 degrees to create a row of street front stores. 'Gilly' Roe then added more stores on adjacent parcels, all to become known as the G.G. Roe Block.



1905

In 1888, new stores in the former Rink/Lyceum included men's and women's 'furnishings', variety store, liquor store and furniture store. The second floor contained attorney, insurance, real estate and surveying offices. In 1928, investors from Far Rockaway bought the G.G. Roe Block. The new owners demolished its 226 feet of two and three-story structures, leaving one-story storefronts to be filled by national chain stores. By 1943, **Jay's Cotton Shop**, **Cannon Shoe**, **Ruby Lane**, **S.S. Kresge 5 & 10** (becoming Kmart in 1977), **J.C. Penney**, **Montauk Drug**, **Miles Shoes** and **W.T. Grant** were located in the G. G. Roe Block.



**7. 360 TAIKO SUSHI & LOUNGE** and **JAMES JOYCE** (47 & 49 South Ocean Avenue) were most recently occupied by **Jay's Cotton Shop**, a very long-lived Patchogue store. Jay's opened here in the mid-1930s and closed around 2004. Hundreds of stores have occupied the G. G. Roe Block since the Lyceum was turned and converted to stores in 1888 over 125 years ago.

Jay's had recessed entrances flanked by plate glass windows. Recessed entrances were first used in the 19th century to protect customers from inclement weather and showcase merchandise to entice shoppers. Restaurants do not have recessed storefronts to maximize interior seating. Aluminum and stainless steel framing elements were introduced in the 1920s and 1930s. Today's trend in storefront window trim is black metal. Neon signs became popular in the 1930s and 1940s.

**WALK UP SOUTH OCEAN AVE TO THE  
CHURCH STREET PARKING LOT ENTRANCE  
& FURMAN SQUARE**

**8. THE CHURCH STREET PARKING LOT** is one of Patchogue's large downtown parking areas. Patchogue Village began purchasing property and houses around the Main Street area in the 1930s. Large parking fields like this were completed in the early 1960s. In 1900, a large annex to the Central Hotel was located in today's parking lot, possibly to house staff. At another time, a large livery stable and laundry were located here, behind the Central Hotel on Main Street.

**Leroy Thurber's  
Patchogue Bottling  
Works** was in the parking lot in 1910. There ginger ale, mineral waters, soda and sarsaparilla were bottled for hotels and private homes.



A newspaper advertisement promises these drinks contained "No Dirt."



**9. HANS GABALDI MURAL** (Furman Square) was painted for Patchogue's Centennial celebration in 1993. The mural includes the Methodist Church, school and waterfront hotels. The Italianate building above the trolley still stands on East Main Street. The trolley sits in front of the Hammond-Mills General Store, today's Dove Building on Patchogue's Four Corners. The postcard shows Suffolk Traction Company workers laying trolley tracks in Patchogue in 1907 on upper South Ocean Avenue. The trolley was active from 1911 to 1919.



The **Olympia Confectionary Store** was located on this spot, where the Church Street parking lot entrance is situated now. The Olympia was a popular restaurant for many years with a soda fountain and lunch counter. The Olympia building was built in 1878 and destroyed by fire in 1953.



**10. CONKLIN'S STATIONERY STORE** (29 South Ocean Avenue, today's **Alterations by Lucy**) opened in 1885 across the street from the Olympia Confectionary Store location and sits behind the carriage facing forward in the postcard. The Hammond-Mills Building appears on the left and on the right, men stand in front of Ginnochio's Store. Howard Conklin's postcards provide a valuable and irreplaceable look at Patchogue's buildings, people and history. Conklin sold photography products as the 'laying trolley tracks' postcard shows a Kodak sign in front of his store.



**11. DOVE BUILDING** (2 East Main Street, originally the **Mills Building**) is a large commercial block building remodeled during the 2000's in a Tudor and brick style. Matching brown and black pinstripe awnings unify the Dove Building on its East Main Street and South Ocean Avenue elevations. Chase's Wall Map shows 'Roe's Store' on this corner in 1857. Jesse Mills replaced the original general store with a three-story building constructed by Emerson Terrell. It became the **Hammond Mills General Store** in 1876,



when Mills and L. Fremont Hammond became partners. Hammond was also president of the Union Savings Bank for some time and vice-president of the Patchogue Bank.

Jesse Mills added a building called the **Arcade**, and in 1897 added a four-story building between the General Store and the Arcade. Later all were expanded to three and four stories. Behind the Arcade was a yard for shoppers' horse drawn carriages. Hammond-Mills sold groceries, hardware, carpets and furniture. Some locals traded produce, eggs and handmade items.

In 1923, Jesse C. Mills sold the Mills Building to Corydon Searing, whose widow sold to Hyman Steiner in 1945. In 1945, Woolworth's



5 & 10 faced East Main Street. Edgar Sharp's Real Estate and Insurance office, Blum's and Whelan Drugs were on South Ocean Avenue. The Patchogue Club for Servicemen, Suffolk

County Probation Department, Children's Court, Christian Science Reading Room and Maibour's Typewriter Service occupied second floor offices. The third and fourth floors were unoccupied. The Mills Building and the Arcade building were destroyed by fire in 1956.

Pharmacist John Conklin stands at his Mills Building Store on East Main Street in 1902. Patchogue's first telephone was installed in Conklin's Pharmacy in 1904.



**WALK TOWARDS THE FOUR CORNERS**

### 12. THE RICHARD YORK SHOE STORE (14 South Ocean

Avenue) was constructed of sturdy brick in the early 1930s. A course of cut-brick blind miniature arches runs under the roof eaves. The Roe Agency building at 125 East Main Street was built in similar tan brick a few years earlier. Richard York opened in Patchogue in 1927 and moved to this building in 1931. Richard York and Blum's are Patchogue's oldest stores.



**13. FURMAN BUILDING** (2 South Ocean Avenue) is a classical two-part commercial block building. Second story windows are highlighted by masonry half-rounds and tooth-like dentil molding runs below the roof. A box window faces the Four Corners above the building's name. An entry door on the South Ocean Avenue elevation has ornamental pilasters and a triangular pediment. The Furman building was built in 1935, replacing what the *Patchogue Advance* called "a group of unsightly old frame structures," visible in a few of this tour's postcards. Earlier inhabitants were Ginocchio's Fruit and Confectionary Store (1890), Grand Army of the Republic, Veterans of the Civil War Meeting Hall and Budd Brothers Liquor Store.



Budd Brothers sold ales and "dark brewn beers bottled fresh daily." Earlier a cemetery stood on this site.

**STOP IN FRONT OF THE FURMAN BUILDING  
AND LOOK ACROSS WEST MAIN STREET**

**14. NEW VILLAGE AT PATCHOGUE** (1 Village Green Way, 1-25 West Main Street and Havens Avenue) was constructed from 2011 to 2013 by Tritec Corporation as a major contribution to Patchogue's revitalization and renaissance. New Village is a 3-part commercial block building. Horizontal banding defines restaurants and stores as the first block and a horizontal band below the fifth story makes for a 'three block' commercial structure.



The stylized tower facing the Four Corners is a nod to the Fishel-Swezey Tower and Patchogue's historic past. New Village replaced the old Swezey's Department Store, five or six smaller buildings, a parking garage and parking lot from North Ocean Avenue to Havens Avenue. In 2012, Tritec relocated the 1908 Carnegie Library, which stood behind Swezey's on Lake Street, to 160 West Main Street, next to Suffolk County's 6<sup>th</sup> District Court.

New Village attracts new residents and businesses proud to call Patchogue home. Later in the tour, New Village is more visible from vantage points farther down West Main Street.

**15. SWEZEY & NEWINS DEPARTMENT STORE** (1 West Main Street) got its start in the Fishel Building in 1894. When



27-year old Arthur Swezey was fired from his job at Hammond-Mills for saying he wanted to own the store, he and Fred Newins opened Swezey & Newins Department Store across the street.

The Fishel-Swezey building was Victorian Second Empire architecture complete with 3-story tower, mansard roof and rounded windows in the cupola. Emerson Terrell built it in 1869. Owner Smith W. Conklin added a large clock to the tower in 1914. After a 1946 fire, Swezey's was remodeled minus the clock tower and third floor. For decades, Swezey's Department Store was the place to shop for quality goods and clothing.

### TURN LEFT AND CONTINUE DOWN WEST MAIN STREET TO LOOK ACROSS THE STREET AT

**16. 31 WEST** (31 West Main Street) is a modern adaptation of a 3-part commercial block building. Horizontal banding unifies a large expanse of windows. The light toned banding running across the street level storefronts, with matching stonework stanchions below, highlight its retail stores. The **Syndicate Building** (later **Wedgewood Building**) was built here in 1898 by Emerson Terrell. Although this façade has changed many times over the years, the building retains its original mass.



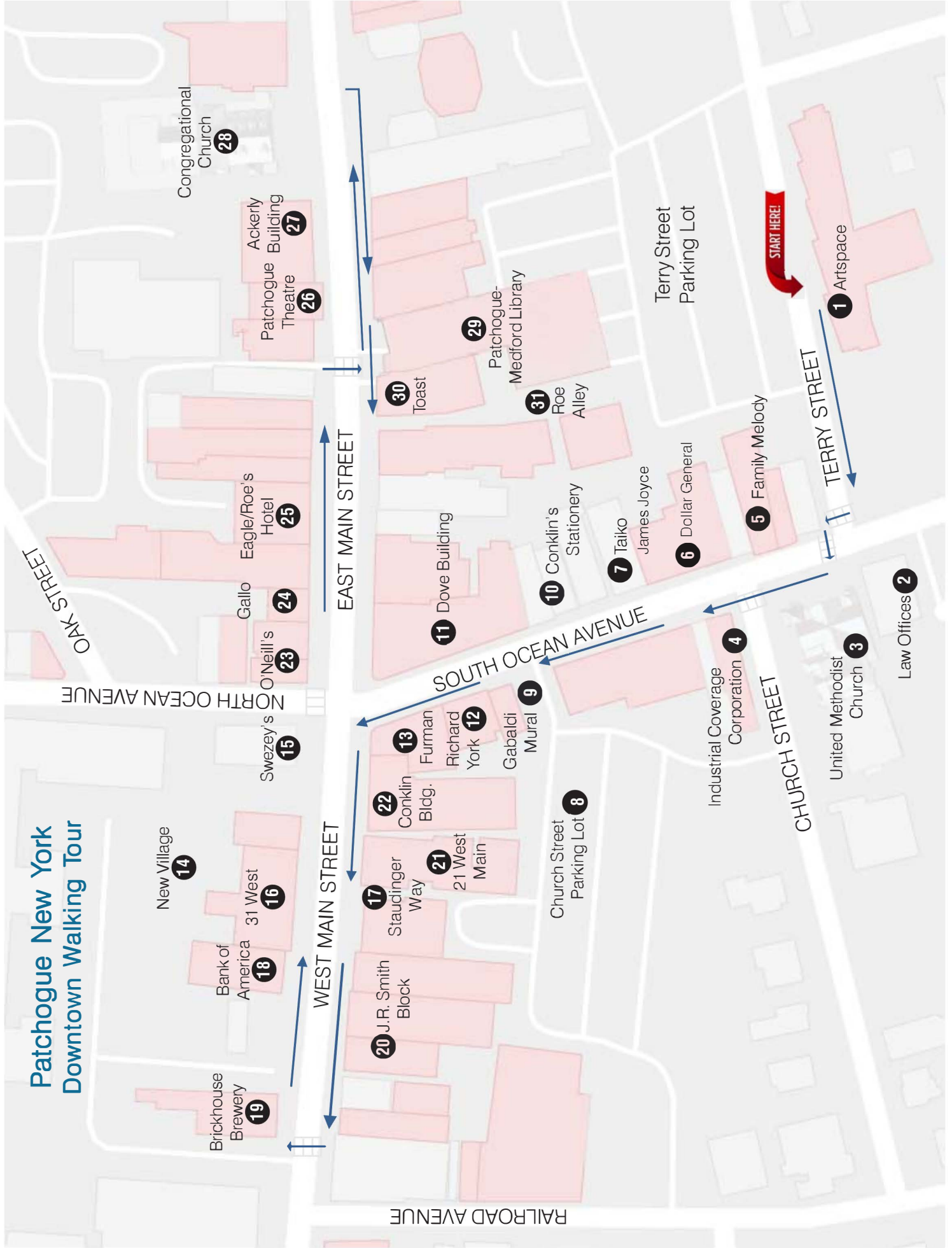
### WALK DOWN WEST MAIN STREET TO

**17. ELOISE STAUDINGER WALKWAY** was named for Eloise Staudinger, longtime Colony Shop owner and champion of Patchogue's business district. Architectural 'telltales' are visible in the alley on the wall of Gino's Pizzeria. The rectangular boxes of darker colored brick are telltales of windows and a door once facing the alley.

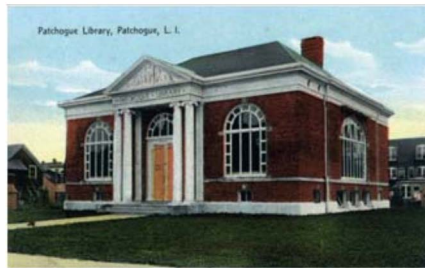




# Patchogue New York Downtown Walking Tour







## THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY

The Patchogue Library began as an association in 1883, was made public in 1900 and had 7 different locations before the Carnegie Library was built in 1908. Steel magnate Andrew Carnegie funded the construction of libraries around the world. Carnegie provided \$15,000 to the Patchogue community to build a library on the condition they support its continued maintenance. Architect John Van Pelt chose a neoclassical design with Greek columns for the new Carnegie Library. Edwin F. Bailey of the Bailey lumber mills donated land on Lake Street for Patchogue's new library.

The Patchogue Library, becoming the Patchogue-Medford Library in 1973, was located in the Carnegie building from 1908 – 1981. Briarcliffe College took over in 1981 and remained until 2003. The empty Carnegie Library sat behind Swezey's Department Store in the area transformed into New Village at Patchogue. A group of local citizens formed "Friends of the Carnegie Library" to propose the historic

Carnegie be saved and adaptably reused. TRITEC Corporation funded and moved the Carnegie to property donated by Suffolk County to the Village of Patchogue. In 2012 the 100-ton brick building was lifted and transported, at a two inch per minute crawl, to 160 West Main Street, where it stands today. The Knapp-Swezey Foundation funded renovations of the Carnegie Library and it opened as the Patchogue-Medford Library's Teen Center in 2016. The Greater Patchogue Historical Society Museum is also located in the renovated Carnegie Library.

**CONTINUE TO BOBBIQUE TO VIEW BANK OF  
AMERICA ACROSS THE STREET**

**18. BANK OF AMERICA BUILDING** (47 West Main Street) was opened in 1925 as the **Citizens Trust Company**. Citizen's Trust was renamed **The Patchogue Bank** after these two banks were forced to merge in 1933 after many U.S. bank failures and FDR's 1933 Bank Holiday solution. *The Patchogue Advance* covered the Bank's last payment to the federal government in 1954 for the bailout funds the bank received in 1933.



The beautiful temple fronted façade is a Greek Revival building. Ornate pediments crown the Greek columns. The alternating floral motifs above the entry transom contrast with the simplicity of the relief 'rounds' on the door surround. Simple dentil molding above the

floral motifs is reiterated below the massive "The Patchogue Bank" sign and in the temple's gable.

**ALSO VISIBLE ACROSS WEST MAIN STREET  
IS NEW VILLAGE SURROUNDING**

**19. BRICKHOUSE BREWERY** (67 West Main Street) is the oldest commercial building in Patchogue. The **J.S. Havens General Store** was destroyed by fire and its wooden structure rebuilt in brick in 1862.



Owner John S. Havens died in 1903 after serving as Patchogue's Postmaster and Brookhaven Town Supervisor. It is believed that

this building was a stop on the Underground Railroad and escaped slaves were hidden in the basement. John Havens was descended from Long Island Quakers who were strong abolitionists.



In 1914 James G. Shand opened **Shand's Hardware Store** here, selling to the farming and business communities. James Shand began his career at the Hammond-Mills store on the Four Corners like Arthur Swezey.

After the very popular Shand died in 1961, his family continued the business until 1990. In 1996, new owners, Brickhouse Brewery, remodeled the front addition for its microbrewery. The owners preserved the historic appearance of John Havens' original building by matching the original brickwork. Uncovered during renovation, an early Shands advertising sign is visible on the west side of the Brickhouse Brewery.

**CROSS WEST MAIN STREET AT HAVENS AVENUE  
CONTINUE TO BANK OF AMERICA  
TO CLOSELY VIEW ITS MASONRY HIGHLIGHTS.  
LOOK ACROSS WEST MAIN STREET TO**

**20. JOHN ROE SMITH BLOCK** (32 West Main Street) was built in the 1870's in Second Empire Victorian architecture. The French mansard roof is short and sloped with decorative floral shingles. Brackets run above and below the mansard roof. Earlier images show a large tower facing the Four Corners. In 1883, Patchogue's library got its start here in Floyd Overton's shoe store. The **Colony Shop**, a children's clothing store, was here for many years and is now on East Main Street.



**21. 22 WEST MAIN** (today's **Hoptron Brewtique**, **Tricia's Hair Gallery** and **Gino's Pizzeria**) was recently remodeled with a new façade. The design mirrors New Village and 31 West across West Main Street. Daniel Gerard's home was torn down in the 1870's to make way for the 100-room **Central Hotel**. The Central Hotel and



Roe's Hotel on East Main Street were open year round. In the off-season, these hotels catered to hunting parties, business conventions and traveling salesmen.

**22. CONKLIN BUILDING** (8-10 West Main Street) was built next to the Central Hotel and was originally the **Star Palace Theater**. The Star's entrance is the large rounded vault on the postcard's left side. The Smith Block tower sits behind the Star with the Syndicate Building across the street. The Lace Mill is in the distance. George Holmes first introduced movies to Patchogue in 1908. In 1915, he built his second Star Palace Theater on this land leased from Smith Conklin. In 1917, Holmes leased the Star Palace to Nathan and Fanny Goldstein.



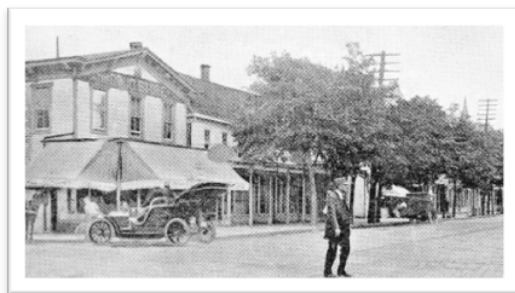
During World War I, Camp Upton soldier Irving Berlin held auditions for his musical revue "Yip Yip Yaphank" at the Star Palace before it's run on Broadway. Irving Berlin went on to become one of America's greatest Broadway musical composers.

After the Goldstein's 10-year lease expired in 1927, George Holmes sold the Star Palace building to Daisy Conklin Furman, Smith Conklin's daughter, so she now owned both the land and the building. Small shops in the front of the former theater building were demolished and a new front erected in 1928. The refurbished Star Palace, now the **Conklin Building**, was leased to **Green Stores of Boston** purportedly for \$280,000/20-year lease. The Green Stores sold ladies' and infants' wear, electrical goods, hardware, novelties and house furnishings.

In 1928, a men's Republican Club, women's Sorosis Club and attorney Herman Schoenfeld leased second floor offices in the Conklin Building. During the 1930's, foreclosed homes and repossessed autos were advertised in the *Advance* to be sold at Suffolk County public auction in front of the Conklin Building. In 1952, Mayor Swezey opened the ultra-modern **McLellan's Store** which employed over 50 people.

### **WALK TO THE FOUR CORNERS IN FRONT OF NEW VILLAGE AND TAKE CROSSWALK TO**

**23. O'NEILLS JEWELRY AND SALES EXCHANGE BUILDING** (1 East Main Street) was built after a wing of **Roe's Tavern** was removed for a pharmacy and living quarters for Dr. Chapell, according to a 1930's article in the *Advance*. In 1876, Justus Roe's fledgling steel tape measure company got its start on the second floor. In 1881, druggist Nelson McBride opened **McBride's Pharmacy** in the same building that is standing here today. The bulk of the pharmacy's business was compounding prescriptions.



McBride remodeled the drugstore often adding the latest in soda counters and decor. Nelson McBride operated in this building until his death in 1931.



In 1933, a fire destroyed the adjacent Roe Tavern, today the site of Gallo Restaurant. Owner Burd enclosed McBride's Pharmacy building in brick and rebuilt the Tavern (then referred to as the Burd building) in brick. O'Neill's Jewelry & Sales Exchange has been a member of Patchogue's business community since 1973.



**24. GALLO RESTAURANT** (3 East Main Street) was an early contributor to Patchogue's revitalization, opening in 2003. This is the site of **ROE'S TAVERN**, built in 1820 by Austin Roe (1749 - 1830) and/or his son, Justus Roe. Austin Roe is famous today as a Setauket Spy Ring courier for George Washington's secret service during the American Revolution. Taverns served as post offices and 'gossip and news central' for villages, two hundred years before cell phones, television and the Internet. Roe's Tavern was a stagecoach stop between Brooklyn and Sag Harbor.



In 1851, Justus' son Austin built the **Eagle Hotel** 100-200 feet down East Main Street. By 1857 the original Roe's Tavern is called Roe's Hotel on a map. The original Roe's Tavern/Hotel was used by many other businesses

until it was destroyed by fire on February 8, 1933.

**CONTINUE WALKING DOWN EAST MAIN STREET**



**25. EAGLE/ROE'S HOTEL** (25-49 East Main Street) was located approximately between today's **BLUM'S** and **PUBLIC HOUSE 49**. Austin Roe's grandson, "Uncle Austin", as he was called, and his wife, Martha Ketcham Roe, worked side by side at the Eagle Hotel for many years. Austin and Martha retired in 1892 and their son "Gilly" (Gelston G. Roe) often leased the hotel to outside managers.



An enormous addition was built to the left side of the Eagle Hotel in 1893 to sit between the Eagle and the original tavern. In the 1910 postcard, the Eagle Hotel is the small wing on the right. Downtown architecture in the mid-nineteenth century like the 1851 Eagle Hotel was typically unadorned. The larger 1893 Roe's Hotel addition was built in the High Victorian style popular forty years later. Details include dentil molding below the remarkably grand roof balustrade with overhanging eaves and support brackets. The miniature gable on the roof announcing Roe's Hotel is elegantly applied.

In 1910 Roe's Hotel had a telegraph office, stores and the hotel lobby on street level. The bar, dining room and kitchen were located behind the stores and guest rooms were upstairs. The image above shows Roe's Hotel enlarged by storefront additions reaching to the street, a common practice when real estate is at a premium.

In the early 1900's, bicycle clubs ("wheelmen") raced 50 miles from the city on Saturday, overnighed at Roe's Hotel, then rode 50 miles back to the city on Sunday to complete a "century run." Special train cars outfitted to carry bicycles returned some weary cyclists to the city.

Today this is the home of many stores, encompassing the area from Blum's to around Public House 49. Blum's got its 1927 start in the Mills Building but was here during a devastating fire in 1934. After the fire, this section of East Main Street was rebuilt for street front stores with only a small portion of the venerable Roe's Hotel remaining.

**BEFORE YOU TAKE THE CROSSWALK,  
CAN YOU SPOT THESE?**

Pre-1930 Masonry



1924 Masonry Swag



Pre-1885 Italianate Building



**CROSS MAIN STREET USING THE CROSSWALK  
TO VIEW ACROSS THE STREET**

**26. PATCHOGUE THEATER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS** (71 East Main Street) was purchased in 1997 by the Patchogue Village Board in an early bid to revitalize downtown Patchogue. The restoration of the theater began with local business help and grants. Sixty thousand pounds of steel were added to the stage to support seventeen tons of lighting and scenery. A five thousand square foot addition accommodates large modern sets and a loading dock enables each arriving production to set up and dismantle with ease.



Ward & Glynne's Theater opened here in 1923 and became known for its magnificent interior decoration. Broadway productions, vaudeville acts and burlesque shows were popular. The theater presented first run films with stars like Gloria Swanson appearing in premieres. During the Depression the theater became a movie theater.

**27. ACKERLY BUILDING** (75-89 East Main Street) was completed in 1924 and architecturally is a 'central block with wings.' The central block is crowned by two Grecian urns with 'support' pedestals and a raised "Ackerly Building" sign. The broken horizontal band below the windows sets apart the three vertical masses: the central block and its mirror wings. The uninterrupted band across the top of the building pulls architectural elements together. Look for crosses holding the date of construction, wreaths, rosettes and colored tiles. In 2012 Hurricane Sandy blew off the top of one urn. The lower façade and street entrances are modern changes.



**28. CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PATCHOGUE** (95 East Main Street) was built in 1893 in the fabulous Victorian Richardsonian Romanesque style featuring rough-faced squared masonry, unusual stone sculptured shapes, and round-topped



arches over the windows, entrance and porch supports. Other notable features are brownstone, a clock tower and highly stylized cornices. The Congregational Church was added to the National Register of Historic Places on its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1993.

**RETURN TO THE PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD LIBRARY**

**29. PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD LIBRARY** (54-60 East Main Street) occupies a large commercial structure built for **W.T. Grant & Co.** in 1953 when **Dr. William Roe's house** (later **Brown's Boarding House**) was removed. Grant's grand opening was a 3-day sales bash promoting "4 great stores in 1" - fashion, variety, dry goods and hardware-home furnishings. Teenagers could purchase the latest 45 phonograph records, look at new fashions or sit in juke-boxed booths at the luncheonette. The Library outgrew the Carnegie Library building behind Swezey's Department Store and moved here in 1981.



### ENTER THE LIBRARY AND LOOK TO THE RIGHT



**THE ZOELLER MURAL OF THE PATCHOGUE RIVER** was painted for the interior of the white marbled Union Savings Bank on South Ocean Avenue by artist Robert Zoeller in the 1950s. The sloop Edward takes goods and passengers to Fire Island around 1905. Look for a three-masted schooner and oyster sloop. A tug is docked in front of E. Bailey & Sons Lumber and Moulding Mills. The riverbanks are lined with ship and boat building shops, a major industry for Patchogue from 1850 - 1930. On the right is the Jones' coal yard and coal carrying schooner. Vacant land on the southeast portion of the river was the large Kate Gilbert estate until 1915.

**RETURN TO MAIN STREET, TURN LEFT,  
STOP IN FRONT OF TOAST COFFEEHOUSE**

**30. TOAST COFFEEHOUSE BUILDING** (46 East Main Street) was constructed for **National Shoe Store** in 1953, at the same time as the adjacent W.T. Grant. **Justus Roe's House** was on this site. The house was the **Nicholls Hotel** from 1919-1945 and later became **Brudi's Hotel**. The two Roe homes remarkably remained here until 1953. The Roe Steel Tape Manufacturing Plant located behind them in today's Terry Street parking lot remarkably remained here until 1960 as Patchogue's regional shopping area grew up around them.

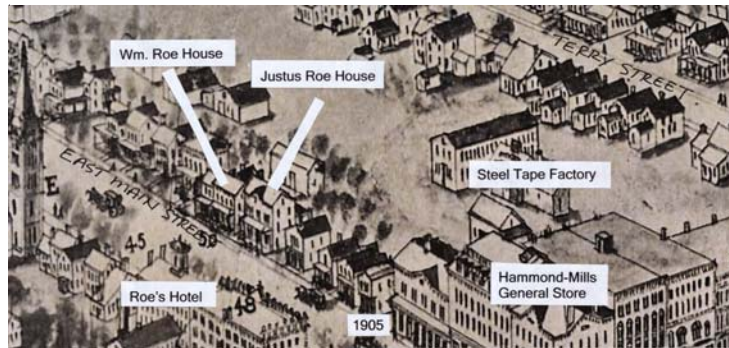


**TURN DOWN ROE ALLEY**

**31. ROE ALLEY & TERRY STREET PARKING LOT** were an entrance and home of **Justus Roe & Sons Steel Tape Manufacturing Plant**. Justus Roe was Gilly Roe's older brother, both sons of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Austin Roe mentioned on this tour. Justus began experimenting with his new tape measure at today's O'Neills Exchange. By 1885, his shop was located in the still standing Italianate at 18-24 East Main Street. By 1900 the Roe Steel Tape Plant was in today's parking lot. The first of two buildings was 103 feet long to produce 100 foot long steel tape measures. The steel tape factory's operations were moved to River Avenue in 1960.

A dressmaking factory occupied one of the buildings for a time. A blacksmith shop and stables were also here. A fire destroyed a row of houses along Terry Street before it became this parking lot.





Businesses moved around Patchogue to different locations for better rents, more suitable accommodations or advantageous locations. *The Patchogue Advance* welcomed and announced newcomers arriving to manage stores, restaurants, boarding houses and hotels, during the golden age of tourism on Long Island, 1880-1930.

Search for a name or Patchogue street address in the *Patchogue Advance*, 1927-1961 and the *Long Island Advance*, 1961-1979 online at [www.nyshistoricnewspapers.org](http://www.nyshistoricnewspapers.org)

See Patchogue Local History Pages and Digital PML at [www.pmlib.org](http://www.pmlib.org) or [www.history.pmlib.org](http://www.history.pmlib.org)

Visit the Patchogue-Medford Library's Local History Room in the back of the Library

## Directions:

GPS: 20 Terry Street, Patchogue, NY

Take LIE Exit 63 South (North Ocean Avenue) or  
Sunrise Highway Ext 52A south to Patchogue.  
North Ocean Avenue intersects Main Street at  
Patchogue's Four Corners. Continue through the  
intersection and make the first left onto Terry Street.  
Enter the Terry Street Parking Lot on your left behind the  
Patchogue-Medford Library and across the street from  
Artspace and Plaza Cinema.

Carrie Locke  
Celia M. Hastings Local History Room  
2017

**PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD**  
**LIBRARY**  
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