

WEST ISLIP - Past - Present - Future

Islip Bulletin Town

And
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FIRST BANK OPENS IN WEST ISLIP

Old West Islip and It's Growth to Present Day

By Betty Edwards

The beginnings of West Islip's colorful history were recorded 264 years ago when the Willetts brothers, Thomas and Richard of Quaker faith, bought a huge tract of land, which included West Islip, from the Secatogue Indians in the year of our Lord 1692.

A comparatively small Indian tribe, the Secatogues lived on the shores of the Great South

Bay from West Islip to Patchogue. History tells us that they were fishermen, clam diggers and good sailors.

The Secatogues took their name from the nature of their land "Black Grass Meadows" and West Islip settlers took the name of the Quaker brothers for their Willetts Lane at the southeastern end of the hamlet from Old County Road to the Great South Bay. Today most of us

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Bank, 43 Years Old, Has \$17 Million Resources

Saturday not only marks a red letter day for the community of West Islip, but it also marks the third step in the rapid growth of the Bank of Babylon which was established on June 2, 1913.

The bank, opening with a capital of \$60,000., now has capital accounts of approximately \$1 million.

The Bank of Babylon, with its opening of its branch in West Islip on Saturday, now boasts of a main office at 48 Deer Park Avenue, Babylon, and a branch in Deer Park. The rapid growth of West Islip in recent years prompted the institution's board of directors to seek permission of state banking authorities to open a branch bank for the convenience of residents of West Islip.

Mrs. John Robbins, mother of Judge John Clinton Robbins, a vice-pres. of the Bank of Babylon, was the first depositor on that eventful day of June 2, 1953. At that time the institution was located on the east side of Deer Park Avenue in the Ohlmiller

Building now occupied by a 5 & 10¢ store.

John Robbins Higbie was elected the first president of the bank, Counselor Albert D. Haff was named vice-president and Emslie J. Heartt the cashier.

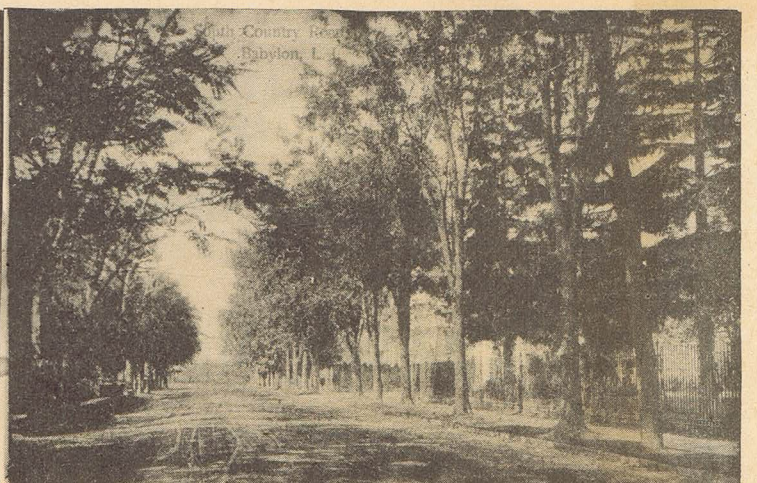
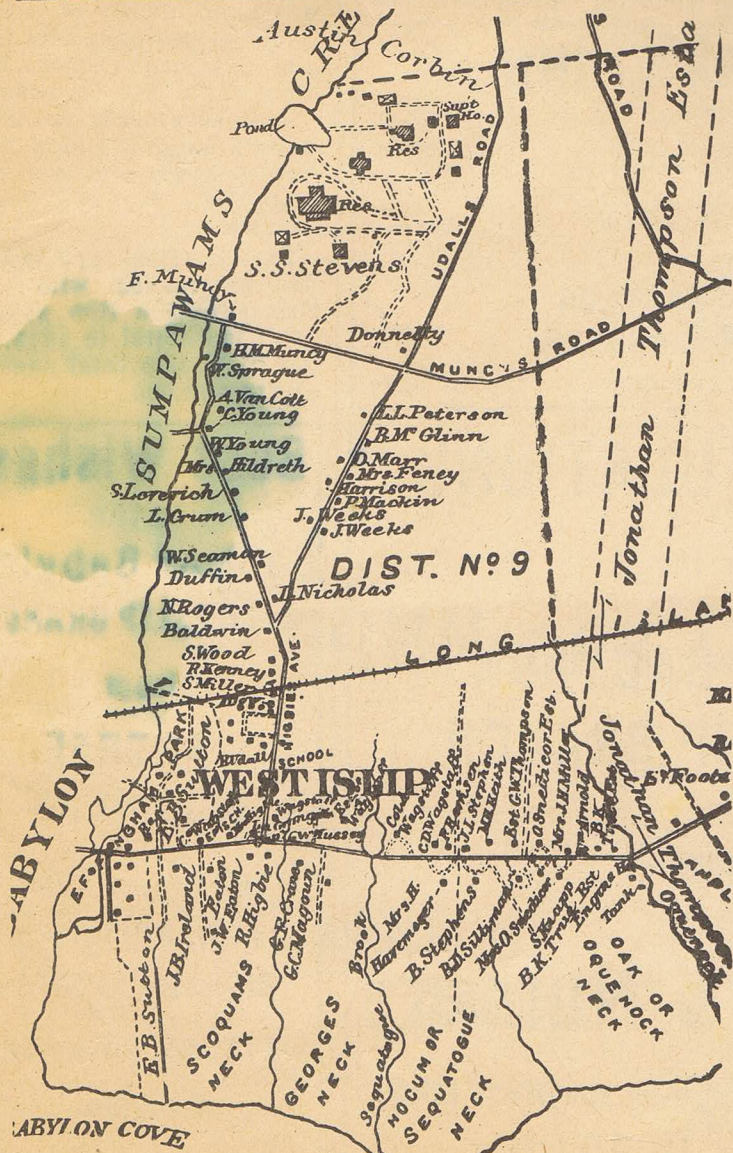
The present president of the bank, Guilford C.

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Bank to Hold "Open House" on Saturday

Everyone gets into the act Saturday when the Bank of Babylon holds "Open House" at its spanking new West Islip office on Higbie Lane. Everyone—young and old—will come in for their share of free gifts ranging from a shopping guide for the ladies, a tackle box for

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Montauk Highway, was once So. Country Road fifty years ago.