

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Marion Carll Farm

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

475 Commack Road,

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Commack

VICINITY OF

First

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

New York

036

Suffolk

103

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☒ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Board of Education
Union Free School District Number Ten

STREET & NUMBER

80 Happaugue Road,

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Commack

VICINITY OF

Long Island, New York

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Clerk's Office, Town Hall

STREET & NUMBER

200 Howell Avenue

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Town of Riverhead, Long Island

New York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic Resources Survey

DATE

Summer, 1977

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Division for Historic Preservation

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Albany

New York

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT ☒ DETERIORATED
☒ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☒ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED
☒ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Marion Carll Farm was occupied and worked by members of the Carll family from 1701 until the present time. The nearly ten-acre complex forms the nucleus of what was once a much larger parcel of land, most of which is now a golf course. The structures contained within the property boundaries represent successive stages in the growth of the farm over a two hundred year period and are surrounded by a picturesque landscape of fields, pastures, corrals, large old trees, and a duck pond.

The following building descriptions correspond numerically to the building index on the nomination's general plot plan:

1. The 1860 farmhouse is the farm's most distinctive architectural feature. Erected by John Carll to replace a 1748 structure destroyed by fire, the white clapboard house is the third residence to have been built on the property. The large central section, two stories high and five bays wide, is Federal in proportion and configuration. The gable roof with two brick chimneys has bracketed eaves on all facades. Fenestration, with the exception of a large bay window west of the front entrance, consists of rectangular four-over-four windows with simple molded surrounds and louvred shutters. A one-story veranda with four octagonal Doric columns extends the width of the main (south) facade. The veranda roof eaves are also bracketed, the brackets appearing in pairs above the columns. A wing to the west, original to the house, is two stories high and two bays wide. The wing has the flat roof of the Italianate style, but is related visually to the main section of the house by the use of clapboard sheathing, louvred shutters on the rectangular windows, and bracketed eaves. The west facade of the wing has a small, enclosed entrance porch on which the decorative bracketing is repeated.

2. Directly behind the farmhouse is the white clapboard privy with a panelled door and shingled gable roof with broad overhang. Constructed during the early part of the twentieth century, the building, no longer in use, once provided accommodations for three occupants.

3. The one and one-half story garage is located northwest of the farmhouse. Clad in shingles, with white trim and a gable roof, the structure has a shed-roofed addition to the rear. The building originally served as sleeping quarters for farm workers and contained space for wood storage. It was remodelled into a three-car garage in the twentieth century.

4. In the center of the building complex is the small smoke house. Originally of board-and-batten construction, the building has been repaired on the west wall with patterned metal siding. The shingled roof is intact. The door of vertical boarding is hung on early strap hinges and is fastened with a wooden latch. The smoke house is no longer in use.

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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5. The tin-roofed milk house, built following World War I, is the most recent addition to the farm complex. It is sheathed in red-painted vertical boarding with white trim. Irregular fenestration includes two exterior doors. The former milk house is used today as a nature study center for Commack school children.

6. The horse barn and attached carriage barn date from the early nineteenth century. The one and one-half story structures have wood frames with interlocking joints and board-and-batten exteriors; the horse barn contains the original mangers. The barns and a rear lean-to addition are roofed with tin and have irregular fenestration. A simple exterior stairway provides access to the carriage barn's loft area. The structures presently serve as tool and work sheds.

7. The nearby nineteenth-century sheep barn, constructed of vertical boarding set on a 1750 fieldstone foundation, has a low gable roof and the large characteristic doors necessary to accommodate livestock and equipment. The building is used today for hay storage.

8. An additional barn, containing an eighteenth-century grain storage area, stands northwest of the sheep barn and is also constructed of vertical boarding. The present tin roof overlays the original wood shingles. Two silos, sheathed with horizontal boards, are attached. A 1920's lean-to addition on the north side of the barn, built in connection with the development of the dairy operation, contains animal stalls.

9. The storage barns are located southeast, across the lane, from the other structures in the complex. The central and largest of these is one and one-half stories high and has a gable roof clad in metal. The main (north) facade is of board-and-batten construction. Fenestration consists of a small four-paned window under the peak of the gable and a door of vertical boarding with wrought iron strap hinges and thumb latch. The facade of a lean-to addition on the east is also of board-and-batten construction. The remaining facades of both sections are of horizontal wood siding. Adjacent to this building on the west is a small barn of vertical boarding with a shingled gable roof. A portion of this building was originally a corn crib and is raised on blocks to allow increased air circulation and to provide protection against rodents. The roof acquired its salt box configuration when an addition was made to the west. The single door in the older part has wrought iron hardware; the double door in the addition is hung on cast hinges. The third building in this group, east of the central barn, is constructed of vertical boarding with a shingled and flared roof.

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Entrance is provided by white-painted double garage doors, the upper parts of which are windows. Adjacent to this structure are two chicken coops with vertical board sheathing, one open and one closed.

SIGNIFICANCE

RIOD AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

HISTORIC	— ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	— COMMUNITY PLANNING	— LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	— RELIGION
0-1499	— ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	— CONSERVATION	— LAW	— SCIENCE
0-1499	— ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	— ECONOMICS	— LITERATURE	— SCULPTURE
0-1499	— ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	— CONSERVATION	— LAW	— SCIENCE
0-1599	X AGRICULTURE	— ECONOMICS	— LITERATURE	— SCULPTURE
0-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	— EDUCATION	— MILITARY	— SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
0-1799	— ART	— ENGINEERING	— MUSIC	— THEATER
0-1899	— COMMERCE	— EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	— PHILOSOPHY	— TRANSPORTATION
0-	— COMMUNICATIONS	— INDUSTRY	— POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	— OTHER (SPECIFY)
		— INVENTION		

CIFIC DATES 1860; eighteenth century through twentieth century BUILDER/ARCHITECT farmhouse: John Carll

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Marion Carll Farm, first settled about 1700 by colonists, is associated with the earliest settlement of the area and the eighteenth and nineteenth-century agricultural development of Suffolk County. The architecturally notable farmhouse and the outbuildings on the property present the historical evolution of the farm itself and the prosperity of the Carll family who owned and worked the farm continuously for over two hundred and fifty years. In spite of twentieth-century encroachments on other parts of the former Carll property, the integrity of the building complex and its immediate environment remains intact. The Marion Carll Farm building complex is one of the few surviving direct links with central Long Island's early settlement and the only largely unaltered reminder of Commack's agrarian era.

The land on which the farm stands was originally inhabited by members of the Secatogue Indian tribe.¹ A 1698 deed of record conveyed the parcel called by the name Wenycommick² from "Wameas, Tuckin, and Charles Pameque the Secatogue Indians of Suffolk County"³ to John Skidmore and John Whitman.⁴ The confirmation patent of Winnecomac, meaning "Good Land"⁵ was granted a short time later by Lord Cornbury, the English governor of New York, to a Charles Congreve equally with Whitman and two others.

In 1701, Timothy Carll, descended from Ananias Carll who had settled Hempstead in 1670, bought acreage within the Winnecomac Patent. The land, riched by glacial deposits and previously cleared by the Indians to

Benjamin Thompson, The History of Long Island (New York: Gould, Banks and Co., 1843), Vol. I, p. 95.

Michelle Rosen, Commack: A Look Into the Past (Commack, New York: Commack Public Schools, 1970), p. 9.

ibid.

John was the great-great-great grandfather of poet Walt Whitman who lived in the Commack area.

sen, Commack, p. 6.

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insure the growth of grass for the sustenance of deer, responded well to cultivation. The property has never been archaeologically tested for cultural materials.

The Carlls were respected members of the Commack community (Town of Huntington) from the time they settled on the land. Israel Carll represented "the county of Suffolk in the House of Assembly of the State of New York"⁶ at various times from 1802 to 1817; and other members of this agriculturally-oriented family found additional employment as surveyors, draftsmen, court clerks, and school district officials.

The physical characteristics of the property have evolved through the years reflecting the growth of the Carll farm and improvements in agricultural practices. Horse, sheep, and storage barns were erected as the need arose, and several of those dating from the eighteenth century are standing today. Corn cribs, corrals, pig pens and chicken coops, a well, and a smoke house were important adjuncts to farm activities and additions to the complex. The milk house was constructed following World War I to accommodate a shift in emphasis from the cultivation of seed crops to dairy activities. Increased stall space was provided for dairy cattle by a 1920's addition to the eighteenth-century storage barn.

All of the early buildings were constructed from wood cut on the site, and the larger ones were set on foundations of fieldstone harvested from the Carll fields and pastures. Their simple outlines, demonstrating close adherence to the formula of "form follows function," are enhanced by the weathered character of the old boards, the roofs of split wood shingles, and the wrought iron hardware. Placement of the buildings was related to convenience and to the distinctive natural features of the property. Two ponds on the property provided water for livestock and waterfowl habitats. There were orchards of plum, apple, and pear trees,⁷ some of which are still standing, and many of the black walnut, locust, and maple trees planted one hundred and fifty years ago still flank the farm lane.

The farmhouse Timothy built in 1701 was replaced with a second, on the site of the first, by Silas Carll in 1748. After the second residence burned, John Carll, in 1860, erected the present farmhouse east of the earlier site. Standing on a foundation of locally manu-

⁶Thompson, History, pp. 260-261.

⁷Historic map, drawn from memory by Howard Carll, brother of Marion.

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factured bricks, the white clapboard residence, located near the entrance to the farm from Commack Road, is striking in its contrast to the weathered appearance of the outbuildings beyond it. The house is architecturally notable, combining on the exterior of its central mass the lines and proportions of the Federal period with decorative elements from the Italianate style. The transitional character of the house is also reflected on the interior where John Carll chose a traditional central-hall floor plan but acknowledged prevailing decorative styles of the Victorian period in the hand graining of the black walnut woodwork.

In the 1930's, Marion Carll's brother John turned a large part of the property surrounding the central complex into an airport called Sky Ranch. The storage structures near the farm's present southern boundary were used at this time as repair and service garages for the airport and provided hanger space for small planes. After her brother's death, Miss Carll leased the airport land to what is now the Commack Hills Country Club. The lease was established on a long-term basis in order to assure that the farm of approximately ten acres would be protected by the open space which formerly functioned as cultivated fields and pasture land. Marion Carll died in 1968, leaving the Carll Farm to the Commack School District with the stipulation that the property be used as an educational and community center. The school district is now working with a group of private citizens to carry out the conditions of Miss Carll's will and establish such a center. The nineteenth-century farmhouse is still occupied by a member of the Carll family.

The Marion Carll Farm, significant architecturally and historically, survives in a densely developed area as a symbol of the important agricultural development of central Long Island and of one family's contribution to that development.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 9.302QUADRANGLE NAME GreenlawnQUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1, 8 6, 43, 9, 00 45, 2, 06, 4, 0B 1, 8 6, 43, 9, 00 45, 2, 05, 4, 0C 1, 8 6, 43, 5, 90 45, 2, 05, 4, 0D 1, 8 6, 43, 5, 90 45, 2, 07, 00E 1, 8 6, 43, 7, 00 45, 2, 07, 0, 0F 1, 8 6, 43, 8, 40 45, 2, 06, 30G H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY
 contact: Austin N. O'Brien 518-474-0479
 Program Assistant, Division for
 Historic Preservation

NAME / TITLE

Karen Morey Kennedy (see continuation sheet)

ORGANIZATION

Preservation Consultant

STREET & NUMBER

20 Hix Avenue

CITY OR TOWN

Rye

DATE

March 31, 1979

TELEPHONE

(914) 967-6091

STATE

New York

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Director, Historic Preservation Field Service Bureau DATE 4/16/79

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

TEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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10-74)

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Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries of the Marion Carll Farm encompass a 9.3 acre plot, slightly irregular in shape. Beginning at a point on Commack Road approximately 142 feet south of the intersection of the farm drive and Commack Road, the dimensions of the property are: 970.10 feet due west; 465.73 feet northerly; 368.49 feet northeasterly; 526.25 feet southeasterly; 135.95 feet due east to the point where the property line meets Commack Road; approximately 164 feet due south along Commack Road to point of beginning.

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Preliminary information and assistance provided by:

Phyllis Renick
23 Ketay Drive
East Northport, New York

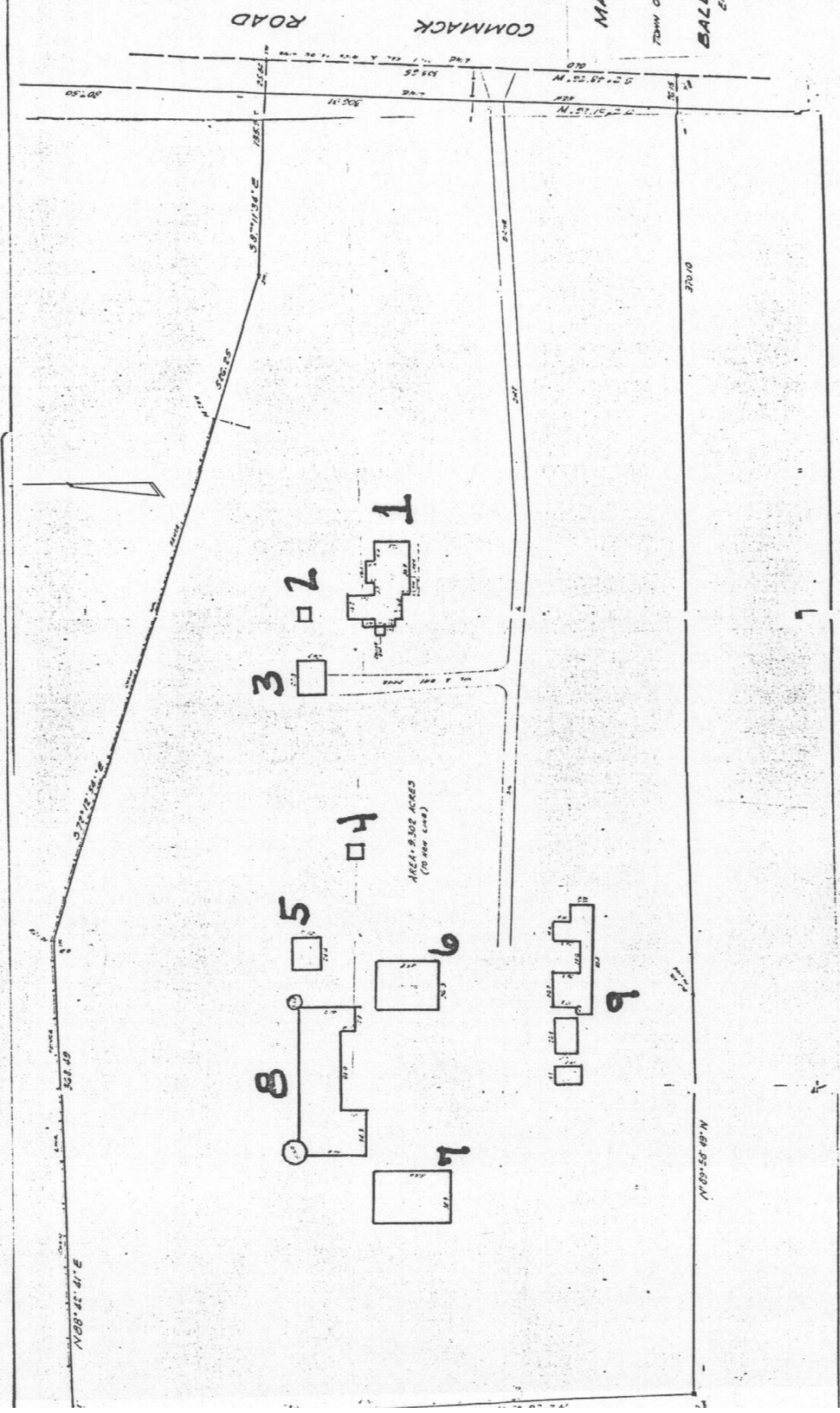
(516) 368-0042

RECORDED IN
BOOK 100 PAGE 100
1711-10-1-100
Hudson, N.Y.
11/11

MAP OF PROPERTY
SITUATED AT
COMMACK
TOWN OF ALBANY, NEW YORK - SUFFOLK CO., N.Y.
SUPERVISED UNDER
BALDWIN & CORNELIUS
ENGINEERS & SURVEYING
COMMACK, N.Y.
SCALE 1" = 40'

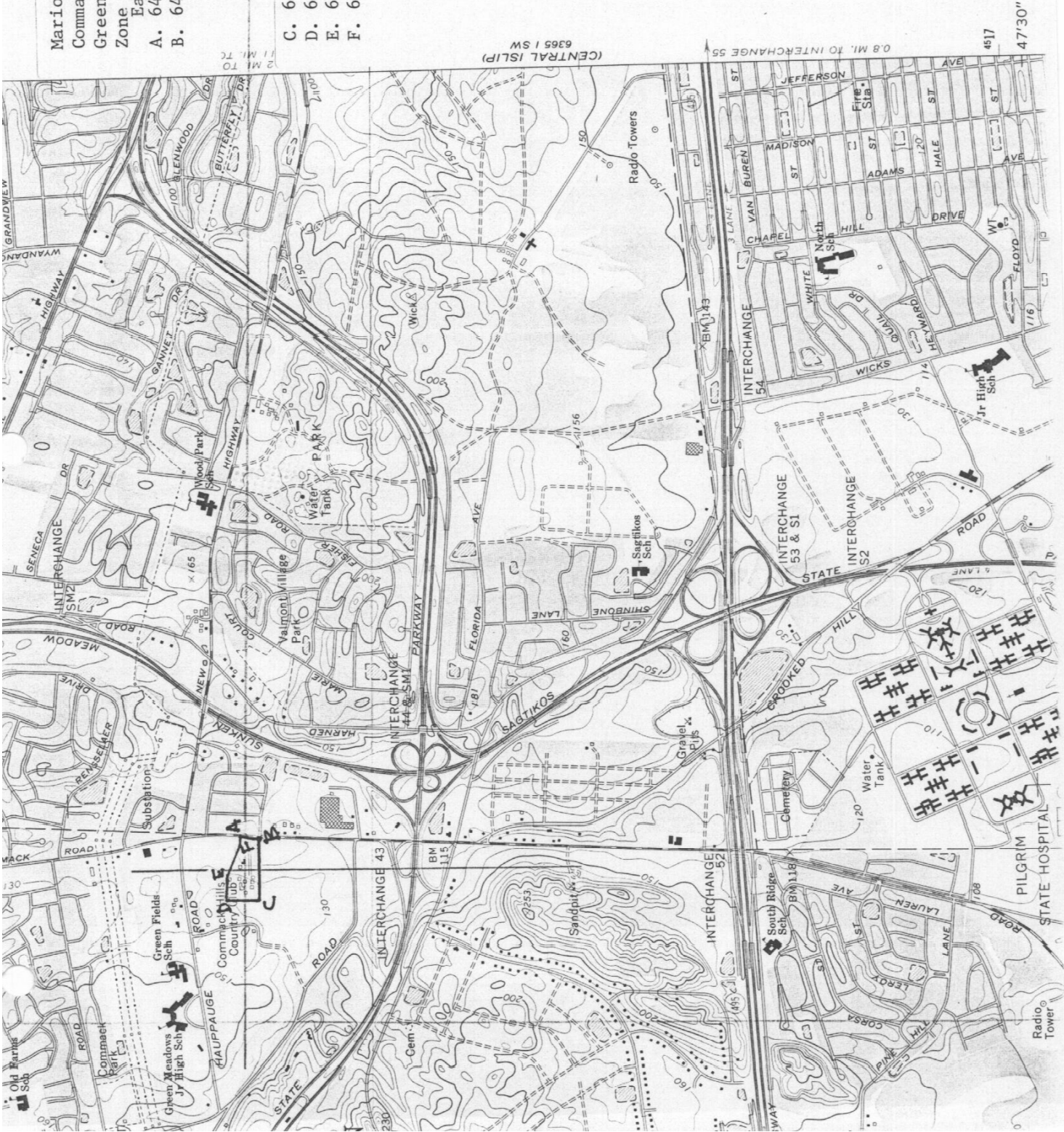
1711-10-1-100

Marion Carll Farm
Commack, Suffolk County
General Plot Plan



Marion Carll Fa Farm
Commack, Suffolk County
Greenlawn Quadrangle
Zone 18
Easting NorNorthing
A. 643900 4524520640
B. 643900 4524520540

C. 643590 45:4520540
D. 643590 45:4520700
E. 643700 45:4520700
F. 643840 45:4520630





Marion Carll Farm 1
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. for Hist. Pres., Albany, NY

Farmhouse
Main (South) Facade

Marion Carll Farm 1
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY

Farmhouse
Rear (North) and East Facades



Marion Carll Farm
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979

1,2

Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY

Farmhouse and Privy
Rear (West) Facades

Marion Carll Farm
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979

3

Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY

Garage
South and West Facades



Marion Carll Farm 4
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY
Smokehouse
Main (East) and South Facades

Marion Carll Farm 5
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY
Milk House
South and West Facades



Marion Carll Farm 5,8
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY
South Facade of Milk House
East Facade of Barn with Silo

Marion Carll Farm 6
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY
Horse and Carriage Barns
West Facade



Marion Carll Farm 7
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY
East Facade, Sheep Barn

Marion Carll Farm 8
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY
South Facade, Barn



Marion Carll Farm 8
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY
Sheep Barns
North (rear) and East Facades

Marion Carll Farm 8
Commack, Suffolk County
Photo: Michael Porter
January, 1979
Neg: Div. of Hist. Pres., Albany, NY
Sheep Barns
Eighteenth-Century Timber Framing



Marion Carll Farm

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Commack, Suffolk County

Photo: Michael Porter

January, 1979

Neg: Div. of Historic Pres., Albany, NY

Main (north) Facades, Storage Barns