



LOCAL HISTORY INFORMATION FOR GENEALOGY RESEARCH IN THE TOWN OF BABYLON

Some information to help the genealogy research of people who lived in the Town of Babylon – the Hamlets of Copiague, Deer Park, East Farmingdale, North Amityville, North Babylon, North Lindenhurst, West Babylon, Wheatley Heights, Wyandanch, the Barrier Island communities and the Villages of Amityville, Babylon and Lindenhurst.

Town of Babylon, Office of Historic Services
at Old Town Hall
47 W. Main Street, Suite 2
Babylon, NY 11702
(631) 587-3750



Old Town Hall, built 1917-1918

Researching a family tree can be a wonderful and rewarding project. But it can be difficult to find ancestors if you are unfamiliar with the community where they lived. This booklet is designed to give some information about the community names in the Town of Babylon – when they were established, railroad stations, post offices – and information about where you might find birth and death records.

If you have questions, please reach out the Town Historian's Office. We are happy to help answer questions during your research.

Historic Dates Related to Community Names in the Town of Babylon

Town of Babylon – prior to 1872, Town of Babylon was part of the Town of Huntington

- **Amityville – village incorporated, 1894**
 - area named 1846; previously known as “Huntington South” or “West Neck”
 - the Amityville School District serves students in the Village of Amityville, part of the hamlet of North Amityville and a small part of Massapequa (a/k/a West Amityville)
 - post office named “Amityville” in 1850; railroad station established 1867/1868
- **Babylon – village incorporated, 1893**
 - area named 1803; previously known as “Huntington South”
 - Babylon village is served by two school districts: Babylon and West Babylon
 - post office named “Babylon” in 1830; railroad station established 1867
- **Copiague**
 - area named around 1900; previously known as East Amityville, Powell’s or Great Neck
 - railroad station established 1901; post office named “Copiague” in 1903
 - the Copiague School District serves students in the hamlet of Copiague (including Amity Harbor and American Venice) and part of the hamlet of North Amityville
 - northern part also known as “Marconiville” (c.1906-1930s)
- **Deer Park**
 - area named around 1842; previously referred to as the Lower Half Hollow Hills
 - railroad station established 1842
 - post office named “Deer Park” in 1851
- **East Farmingdale**
 - area previously known as “Pinelawn” (1898-1960s)
 - railroad station established 1897, named “Melville”; renamed “Pinelawn” in 1898
 - post office: Farmingdale
- **Lindenhurst – village incorporated, 1923**
 - area named “Breslau” in 1870; renamed “Lindenhurst” in 1891; prior to 1870, known as “Neguntatogue” or “Huntington South”
 - the area dubbed the “City of Breslau” was much larger than the current Village of Lindenhurst, and included areas that are not part of Copiague and North Lindenhurst
 - railroad station established around 1868 as “Wellwood Station”; renamed “Breslau” (1870-1890); renamed “Lindenhurst” (1891-present)
 - post office named “Breslau” in 1870; renamed “Lindenhurst” (1891-present)
- **North Amityville**
 - starting in the 1850s, the area was referred to as “Amityville”; the name “North Amityville” came into use in the mid to late 1800s, as a reference to being “north of Amityville”
 - following the 1894 incorporation of the Village of Amityville, North Amityville became a hamlet, distinguishing it from property under the village’s jurisdictions
 - the hamlet is served by two school districts: Amityville and Copiague
 - post office: Amityville

- **North Babylon**
 - up through the mid to late 1800s, the area was referred to as “Babylon”; the name “North Babylon” came into use in the early 1900s, most likely as a reference to being “north of Babylon”
 - post office: North Babylon established in 1963. Prior to that time the area was served by the Babylon Post Office.

- **North Lindenhurst**
 - commonly referred to as “Lindenhurst” (1891-present); previously known as “Breslau” (1870-1890)
 - post office: Lindenhurst

- **West Babylon**
 - up through the mid to late 1800s, the area was referred to as “Babylon”; the name “West Babylon” came into use in the early 1900s, most likely as a reference to being “west of Babylon”
 - post office: West Babylon established in 1950. Prior to that time the area was served by the Babylon Post Office.

- **Wheatley Heights**
 - known as Wyandance or Wyandanch (1880s-1970s) and West Deer Park (1840s-1880s); previously referred to as the Lower Half Hollow Hills
 - post office named “Wheatley Heights” in 1974

- **Wyandanch**
 - starting in the mid-1800s, known as “West Deer Park”; previously referred to as the Lower Half Hollow Hills
 - in the early 1870s there was a reference to the downtown area as “North Breslau”
 - railroad station established 1875 named “West Deer Park”; renamed “Wyandance” in 1889, which became “Wyandanch”

- **Nassau County** – prior to 1899, the present Nassau County was part of Queens County
 - For example: “Oyster Bay, Queens County, New York” became “Oyster Bay, Nassau County, New York”

- **New York City** - The modern City of New York was formed in 1898 through the consolidation of its five boroughs: Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx, and Staten Island.

<u>Borough</u>	<u>County</u>	
The Bronx	Bronx County	Part of Westchester County until 1914.
Brooklyn	Kings County	
Manhattan	New York County	
Queens	Queens County	Until 1899, included present Nassau County.
Staten Island	Richmond County	

School Districts

ToH No. – School district number assigned for the Town of Huntington, before 1872.

ToB No. – School district number assigned for the Town of Babylon, in 1872.

District Name	Year District Formed	ToH No.	ToB No.	Town of Babylon communities served
Amityville Union Free School District	1862 ⁽¹⁾	23	6	village of Amityville and western part hamlet of North Amityville
Babylon Union Free School District	1805	21	1	most of village of Babylon, except for westernmost area
Copiague Public School District	1832 ⁽²⁾ , or earlier	22	5	hamlet of Copiague (including Amity Harbor and American Venice) and eastern part hamlet of North Amityville
Deer Park School District ⁽³⁾	1923	24 (part)	7	hamlet of Deer Park
Farmingdale School District	---	---	---	part of hamlet of East Farmingdale
Half Hollow Hills Central School District	1954 ⁽⁴⁾	---	n/a	hamlet of Wheatley Heights and part hamlet of East Farmingdale
Lindenhurst Union Free School District	1841 ⁽⁵⁾	29	4	village of Lindenhurst, hamlet of North Lindenhurst and the community of Venetian Shores
North Babylon Union Free School District	1832 ⁽²⁾ , or earlier	19	3	hamlet of North Babylon
West Babylon Union Free School District	1832 ⁽²⁾ , or earlier	20	2	hamlet of West Babylon and westernmost part of village of Babylon
Wyandanch Union Free School District ⁽³⁾	1923	24 (part)	9	hamlet of Wyandanch

¹ The website for the Amityville School District states that the district was formed in 1862. Confirmation of this date is being researched. -- *About our district*. Amityville Union Free School District District | About Our District. (n.d.). http://www.amityvilleschools.org/district/about_our_district; accessed March 18, 2025.

² The year 1832 is the earliest district date published in "School Trustee Annual Census Reports, 1827-1863," published by the Town of Huntington (1982); research to confirm these dates is on-going.

³ These present school districts for Deer Park and Wyandanch were one school district – Town of Huntington District No. 24 and then Town of Babylon District No. 7. In 1923, the large district split into the two districts that are used today; Deer Park, District No. 7 and Wyandanch, District No. 9. The previous Town of Huntington District No. 24 was established in 1832, or earlier (see footnote no. 2).

⁴ The Half Hollow Hills District website states that the district was "organized in 1954 with the merging of three union free school districts." -- About us - Half Hollow Hills school district. (n.d.). <https://www.hhh.k12.ny.us/district/about-us>; accessed March 18, 2025.

⁵ The website for the Lindenhurst School District states that the district was formed in 1841. Confirmation of this date is being researched. -- District, L. U. F. S. (n.d.). *Lindenhurst Union Free School District*. Lindenhurst Union Free School District - About Our Community. https://www.lindenhurstschools.org/46993_2; accessed March 18, 2025.

Town of Babylon, as recorded in the State and Federal Censuses, 1790-1950

Federal Censuses appear in **black** and New York State Censuses appear in **blue**.

- **1790 to 1840 Federal Censuses** – Town of Babylon was part of the Town of Huntington, listed as – Huntington (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - These census documents recorded the name of the “head of household,” only. Other household members were recorded by gender, age range and free/enslaved status, not by name.
 - In 1820, some pages refer to “So. Huntington” or Huntington South on the page margins.
- **1850 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon was part of the Town of Huntington, listed as – Huntington (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - This is the first census that describes each member of the household by name.
- **1855 NY State Census** – Town of Babylon was part of the Town of Huntington – *Suffolk County records do not appear on Ancestry.com (Also, New York County, Queens County and Westchester County records do not appear on Ancestry.com)*
- **1860 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon was part of the Town of Huntington, listed as – Huntington (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - Some records include the Post Office designation for Amityville and Babylon
- **1865 NY State Census** – Town of Babylon was part of the Town of Huntington, listed as – Huntington (town), Suffolk (county) *(Also, New York County, Queens County and Westchester County records do not appear on Ancestry.com)*
- **1870 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon was part of the Town of Huntington, listed as – Huntington (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - The communities that were previously recorded with Post Office designations for Amityville and Babylon, were recorded as Huntington Post Office
- **1875 NY State Census** – Town of Babylon (established 1872) – *Suffolk County records do not appear on Ancestry.com (Also, New York County, Queens County and Westchester County records do not appear on Ancestry.com)*
- **1880 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - There were two identified districts and the community names Amityville, Babylon, Deer Park and West Deer Park may appear at the top of the record page
 - *Westchester County records do not appear on Ancestry.com*
- **1890 Federal Census** – *not available; most of it was lost in a 1921 fire*
- **1892 NY State Census** – Town of Babylon – *Suffolk County records do not appear on Ancestry.com (Also, New York County, Richmond County and Westchester County records do not appear on Ancestry.com)*
- **1900 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - There were five identified districts and the community names Amityville and Babylon may appear at the top of the record page

- **1905 NY State Census** – Town of Babylon – *Suffolk County records do not appear on Ancestry.com (Also, Nassau County, New York County, Queens County and Richmond County records do not appear on Ancestry.com)*
- **1910 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - There were five identified districts and the community names Amityville, Babylon and Lindenhurst may appear at the top of the record page
- **1915 NY State Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county)
 - There were ten identified districts and the community names Amityville, Babylon, Copiague, Deer Park, Lindenhurst, Pinelawn and Wyandanch may appear at the top of the record page
- **1920 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - There were five identified districts and the community names Amityville, Babylon, Copiague, Farmingdale, Lindenhurst, and Pinelawn may appear at the top of the record page
- **1925 NY State Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - There were twelve identified districts and the community names Amityville, Babylon, Copiague, Lindenhurst, Oak Beach, and Pinelawn may appear at the top of the record page
- **1930 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - There were five identified districts and the community names Amityville, Babylon, Copiague, Farmingdale, Lindenhurst, and Pinelawn may appear at the top of the record page
 - Amityville (six districts, including parts of North Amityville and hospitals)
 - Babylon (twelve districts) – village of Babylon and all other town of Babylon communities, including Copiague, Deer Park, East Farmingdale, North Babylon, Oak Beach, West Babylon, Wyandanch
 - Lindenhurst (two districts)
- **1940 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - There were 22 identified districts and the community names Amityville, Babylon, Copiague, Deer Park, Farmingdale, Lindenhurst, Pinelawn, and Wyandanch may appear at the top of the record page
- **1950 Federal Census** – Town of Babylon, all communities, listed as – Babylon (town), Suffolk (county), New York (state)
 - There were 52 identified districts and the community names Amityville, Babylon, and Lindenhurst. The hamlets – Copiague, Deer Park, East Farmingdale, North Babylon, West Babylon and Wyandanch – may appear as “Babylon Township.”

Birth and Death Records – recorded by the municipality *where the birth or death actually took place*, which was not necessarily where the person resided.

- New York State did not require Town Clerks to record Birth, Death and Marriage records until 1881.
 - The Town of Babylon was formed in 1872 but the Town Clerk for the Town of Babylon does not have Birth, Death and Marriage records prior to 1881.
 - The Town of Babylon was part of the Town of Huntington, prior to 1872. However, the Town Clerk for the Town of Huntington has very few vital records prior to 1872.
- For records of Births and Deaths **at Hospitals**, after 1881
 - Amityville
 - Louden Hall or Knickerbocker Psychiatric Hospital
 - 1886-1894 – see Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - 1894-1900s – see Village Clerk, Village of Amityville
 - Brunswick Home, later Brunswick Hospital
 - 1880s-1894 – see Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - 1894-2000s – see Village Clerk, Village of Amityville
 - Long Island Home, later South Oaks Hospital
 - 1882-1894 – see Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - 1894-2000s – see Village Clerk, Village of Amityville
 - Reed General Hospital
 - 1923-1941 – see Village Clerk, Village of Amityville
 - Babylon Village
 - South Side Hospital (hospital moved to Bay Shore, 1923)
 - 1911-1923 – see Village Clerk, Village of Babylon
 - Copiague
 - Nassau Suffolk General Hospital (later renamed Lakeside Hospital)
 - c.1930 to 1940s/1950s – see Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - Lakeside Hospital (hospital closed in late 1970s)
 - 1940s/1950s to 1970s – see Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - Bay Shore
 - Dr. King's Hospital, Bay Shore
 - 1910s to 1960s – see Town Clerk, Town of Islip
 - South Side Hospital
 - 1923-present – see Town Clerk, Town of Islip
 - West Islip
 - Good Samaritan Hospital, West Islip
 - 1958 to present – see Town Clerk, Town of Islip

- For records of Births and Deaths **at Home**, after 1881
 - Amityville (village)
 - 1881-1894 – see Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - 1894-present – see Village Clerk, Village of Amityville
 - Babylon (village)
 - 1881-1893 – see Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - 1893-present – see Village Clerk, Village of Babylon
 - Lindenhurst (village) – also known as Breslau prior to 1891
 - 1881-1923 – see Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - 1923-present – see Village Clerk, Village of Lindenhurst
 - See Town Clerk, Town of Babylon
 - Copiague
 - Deer Park
 - East Farmingdale
 - North Amityville
 - North Babylon
 - North Lindenhurst
 - West Babylon
 - Wheatley Heights
 - Wyandanch
- Municipal Clerks
 - Town of Babylon, Town Clerk – (631) 957-4292 • 200 E. Sunrise Highway, Lindenhurst, NY 11757
 - Town of Huntington, Town Clerk – (631) 351-3206 • 100 Main Street, Huntington, NY 11743
 - Town of Islip, Town Clerk – (631) 224-5490 • 655 Main Street, Islip, NY 11751
 - Village of Amityville, Village Clerk – (631) 264-6000 • 21 Ireland Place, Amityville, NY 11701
*Records only exist after the 1894 incorporation of the Village of Amityville.
 - Village of Babylon, Village Clerk – (631) 669-1500 • 153 West Main Street, Babylon, NY 11702
*Records only exist after the 1893 incorporation of the Village of Babylon.
 - Village of Lindenhurst, Village Clerk – (631) 957-7500 • 430 So. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst, NY 11757
*Records only exist after the 1923 incorporation of the Village of Lindenhurst.