



Main Road in East Marion in the 1800's.

## A Self-Guided Historic Walk Down Main Road

East Marion has numerous beautifully maintained historic structures dating back to the early 1700's. This brochure offers a glimpse into a sampling of these wonderful structures along a section of our Main Road. At your leisure, enjoy the journey into our rich heritage.

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**EMCA**  
EAST MARION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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## Self-Guided Historic Tour Map



### TOUR HOUSE LIST

1. The Sherrill House, 8125 Main Rd.
2. Captain Griffing House, 8245 Main Rd.
3. Griffing-Nowell House, 8295 Main Rd.
4. Edwin Tuthill House, 8485 Main Rd.
5. Post Office, 9165 Main Rd.
6. Sears Catalogue House, 10305 Main Rd.
7. Harmon Tuthill House, 10575 Main Rd.
8. The Church, 10420 Main Rd.
9. Mile Marker, 10020 Main Rd.
10. The Chapel, 1920 Main Rd.
11. Deacon Tuthill House, 9000 Main Rd.
12. The Horton House, 8520 Main Rd.

## GLOSSARY

**Capped windows** – any horizontal decorative element over the top of a window.

**Corbeled chimney** – a technique used in masonry work. Adjacent courses of brick, most often at the top of a chimney, are recessed and projected out which provides a decorative effect.

**Double bracketed** – a stylistic element used mainly on Italianate buildings in which brackets around the eaves are installed in closely spaced pairs.

**Gable roof** – a type of roof design consisting of two planes meeting at a peak creating a triangular space below.

**Gable & cornice returns** – a horizontal decorative element at the lower ends of a gable or cornice, turning back in toward the center of the house.

**Georgian cape** – an architectural style popular in England during the reign of King George I to King George IV. It is defined by symmetrical elevations and classic Greek elements.

**Hipped roof** – a type of roof design in which all sides are pitched.

**Italianate house** – a varied interpretation of Italian architecture. Style includes shallow roof pitch, extended eaves and cornices, decorative brackets, and arched topped windows. Many have cupolas and or towers.

**Pedimented windows** – any window with a triangular decorative element over the top.

**Pendants** – decorative elements of turned wood that hang down. Most often found on porches, they are also referred to as "drop pendants".

**Spandrels** – a stylistic element, most frequently used in East Marion on porches. It consists of curved decorative elements where the cornice of the porch intersects with the porch columns and continues horizontally across the opening between the columns.

**SPLIA** – Society for the Preservation of Antiquities. On 1/9/18, SPLIA changed its name to Preservation Long Island.

**Stick style** – an architectural style, originally based on the work of British decorator Charles Eastlake in which decorative elements are less ornate than other Victorian styles, incorporating straight lines resembling sticks. Horizontal and

vertical bands of wood trim are frequently used on the exterior walls. This style is sometimes referred to as "Eastlake".

**Tabor entry** – extraordinary early 1800 entryways in East Marion, richly decorated with carvings by local carpenter Amon Tabor.

**Transom door** – more accurately defined as a transom window. On the exterior, it is a small horizontal fixed pane window above a door. In East Marion, transom windows are often decorated with intricate metal grills. Indoors, transom windows are hinged and can be opened to allow for air circulation even when doors are closed.

**Tuscan villa** – one of many interpretations of the Italianate style. Associated with the homes of the Tuscany region of Italy, it is characterized by a hipped roof of very shallow pitch, wide overhanging eaves and tall windows, especially on the first floor. Many have cupolas where the four roof segments meet.

**Victorian eclectic** – the Victorian era, loosely defined as the time of Queen Victoria's reign (1837-1901), consisted of many different styles. Consequently, structures from this time period often included elements from a variety of styles. Any building from the Victorian period incorporating a variety of design elements can be considered "Victorian Eclectic".



1

## The Sherrill House

8125  
Main Road



2

## Captain J. M. Griffing House

8245  
Main Road



3

## The Griffing-Nowell House

8295  
Main Road



4

## Edwin Tuthill House

8485  
Main Road



# Self-Guided Historic Tour Homes

*Homes should only be viewed from sidewalks or the grass in front of the property line.  
Please respect the home owner's privacy. Do not enter onto any properties.*

## 1. The Sherrill House: 8125 Main Road

Built in the early 1800's, this house was known as the Sherry House and later known as the Redmond House by SPLIA, but is in fact the Sherrill House. Stylistically, it is a one and a half story cottage with 12" underlay flooring, locust posts, stone foundation, well-in-basement, and a Tabor entry. It was updated with Victorian details circa 1890, as it was then the architectural fashion. A second floor rear dormer was added in the 1960's. A complete restoration / renovation was made in 2004.

Charles and Bethiah (Rackett) Sherrill were married in 1830 and occupied the house with their four children — Darius, Charles, Caroline and Erastus. Caroline inherited the house and lived in it until 1880 with her husband Benjamin Downs. The Redmond family acquired the house, and possibly added the Victorian flourishes, living in it through at least 1909.

## 2. Captain J. M. Griffing House: 8245 Main Road

With the completion of the Long Island Railroad's Line to Greenport, East Marion experienced an economic boom. Mid 1800's architecture of East Marion reflects this economic upturn with many houses tending to be larger "L" shaped houses built for sea captains, such as this one built by Captain Joseph Griffing. It was passed on through marriage to the Muir family. May Muir, a craft club member and excellent cook, was known for her delicious roasted "coot". Current owners are only the fourth family in this house.

This gracious two story double-bracketed Tuscan villa with flat roof and square cupola has unusual capped windows and an eastern section with a hipped roof. Observe the unique front door with a transom. There are lovely six over six windows and clapboard siding. Look up and see the large twin corbeled chimneys; look down and see the field stone foundation.

## 3. The Griffing-Nowell House: 8295 Main Road

This beautiful Georgian Cape style home was built in 1775. Despite its years, it stands in excellent condition with original details in place. This carefully crafted home has a formal style with a proportional, symmetrical and balanced façade. It still maintains its original cedar shingles, 9/6 double-hung sash windows and paneled doors. It features wood pegged window frames with wavy glass.

The east wing was moved to the backyard for use as a shed and was replaced by a 1912 Craftsman cottage. The roof-line is original; its steepness helping to slough off heavy snow.

The porch was added in 1901, the sun room in the 1980's and full restoration was completed in 2017. It is one of a long line of homes built by those who made their living from the sea.

## 4. Edwin Tuthill House: 8485 Main Road

The Edwin Tuthill House is an attractive Italianate house built in the second half of the 19th century. It is a 2 ½ story house with a side entrance. It features an L-shaped gable roof with paired brackets.

The entrance has a double leaf door with transom. There is a wonderfully intact porch with ornamentation of spandrels and drop pendants. The home retains its original highly ornate cast iron fencing. Note the pointed gable peak windows. The house also has a large, original carriage house in the back in a remarkable state of preservation. It is said that this was the first home in East Marion to have an indoor bathroom.



5

### East Marion War Memorial Post Office

9165  
Main Road



6

### Sears Catalogue House

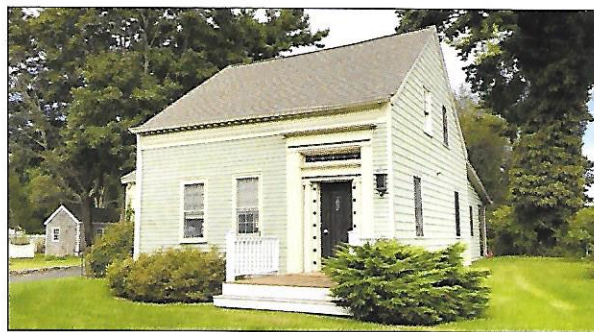
10305  
Main Road



7

### Harmon Tuthill House

10575  
Main Road



8

### East Marion Community Church

10420  
Main Road



## 5. East Marion War Memorial Post Office: 9165 Main Road

From 1883 until 1911, the East Marion Post Office was housed in B.C. Tuthill's store on the north side of Main Road across from Bay Avenue.

During the Great Depression, due to an insufficient volume of mail, the post office lost its charter, regaining it in 1938. In the late 1940's it was housed in a small room of the dilapidated mansion on the corner of Stars and Main Roads.

After WW II the East Marion Fire Department thought a post office was needed. A committee was formed in 1946, and in 1947 the East Marion War Memorial Association, a not-for-profit entity was incorporated. The five trustees resolved a disagreement regarding the building design in favor of wood over brick.

East Marion residents contributed the bulk of the \$7,000 construction cost as well as time, materials and labor during construction on a cow pasture, which was also purchased for \$8,500 by residents.

The War Memorial Post Office was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1949. Plaques commemorate veterans who served in WW II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. A separate monument honoring WW I veterans is located in the front yard.

Our post office is believed to be the only war memorial post office in the country, and the only one self-financed.

## 6. Sears Catalogue House: 10305 Main Road

This house c. 1910 is a Craftsman Sears Catalogue house. A variety of house models could be chosen from the Sears, Roebuck Book of Modern Homes between 1908-1942, and Sears would send all needed materials by railroad. Later models even had pre-cut stamped lumber sent. These homes were popular for

their sturdy structure, the do-it-yourself construction and 'modern' architectural concepts.

John Jetter built this home for his first wife Minnie Rackett, who passed away in 1912 before the house was completed. In 1918 John married Alice Hope Vail, and they lived in the house until his passing in 1963. Alice then turned the house into a boarding house known as The Green Lantern for the green light that hung on Main Road. The Jetter family lived in the house until 1982.

Today this house still possesses many custom elements that can be found in the 1910 Sears, Roebuck Home Builder's Catalog. Some of these original features include the oak veneered front door, the leaded and colorful art glass windows, two grand colonnades with Corinthian-style capitals between the living and dining rooms, pedimented window and door moldings, as well as the five-panel doors and their bronze hardware and knobs with "Greek" embellishment.

## 7. Harmon Tuthill House: 10575 Main Road

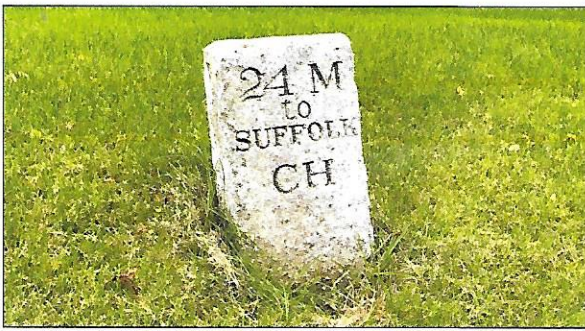
The Harmon Tuthill House is a landmark along Main Road, often referred to as "The House with the Amon Tabor Doorway". Harmon Tuthill, who built the dwelling about 1830, was a ship captain and later the successful owner of several fish factories. He descended from Henry Tuthill, one of the founders of Southold Town. The doorway is one of several beautiful local entrances designed and built by Amon Tabor, III, a carpenter famous for his carvings.

This entryway is especially notable for its free-standing Ionic columns and two vertical rows of blue dots. Notice also the original knob and key plates. A one-and-a-half story wood built "half house" of the side entrance plan, this post colonial building has exceptional interior woodwork- heavy and deeply carved. Amon Tabor, III was the third of that name to reside in Orient, his ancestor having settled there in the first half of the 18th century.

*Continued on reverse side*



9

**Mile Marker (24M)**10020  
Main Road

10

**The Chapel**9920  
Main Road

11

**Deacon W.H. Tuthill House**9000  
Main Road

12

**The Horton House**8520  
Main Road*Continued from reverse side***8 • East Marion Community Church: 10420 Main Road**

In 1810 the East Marion Church was organized as a Baptist congregation. When the East Marion Baptists joined with a Methodist group in 1846, they constructed a small, square building with a small spire. Congregation growth led to enlargement in 1860, and again in 1891. This provided room for a choir, pipe organ and two additional steeples of differing heights, patterned shingles and bracketed eaves. The present face dates to 1904 and is notable for triangular steeple windows and extraordinary leaded glass windows.

In recognition of the many different denominations within the Church, the name was changed to the East Marion Community Church in 1977. The congregation of the MQV Church Iglesia Mas Que Vencedores bought the Church in 2016.

**9 • Mile Marker (24M): 10020 Main Road**

A set of stone markers lining the Main Road from the Hamlet of Laurel to Orient Point indicate the distance from the Court House in Riverhead. The blocks of gneiss were installed pursuant to the April 7, 1829 resolution of Southold Town Board, calling for "... Mile Stones lettered with a chisel." Mile Marker 24 had been missing for a number of years until it was found more than 20 years ago in the Town Dump by a now-deceased East Marion resident. The marker was taken to S.D. Staples Monument, who reinstalled it on Main Road after incising the current lettering.

**10 • The Chapel: 9920 Main Road**

The East Marion Baptist Chapel was built on the site of the Temperance Hall in 1886. The chapel was largely used for meetings and mid week services. The Architecture of the Chapel is described as Victorian eclectic and is considered a fine "stick style" structure. It features a steep pitched roof with small brackets under over hanging eaves and a shed roof dormer. It also has clipped shingles in the upper gable peak over a bank of small diamond

paned windows surrounded by "stick work". The central gable next to the front entrance also features "stick work" and a trefoil of sunbursts. Behind the Chapel is The East Marion Cemetery. Although founded by the people of East Marion in 1859, there are stones with death dates well before the cemetery's opening. It also contains the only military cemetery in Southold Town and is decorated with shells from the former Fort Terry on Plum Island.

**11 • Deacon W.H. Tuthill House: 9000 Main Road**

The original 1 and ½ story, 3 bay, gable roof house predates 1838. In 1880 Samuel Hawkins expanded the house, building the two story eastern section. Two gables feature similar pointed windows. A wing has been added on the rear of the house. The front features porches with scrolled brackets. The marvelous scallop shingles are intact. The house is still supported by locust poles.

Inside a closet of this house are remnants of an Anglo Japanese wallpaper. Also inside are floorboards 15" wide. It is unknown whether these boards were from the King's Eastern Pines, marked with the King's broad arrow (3 slashes) and forbidden for colonist use. Clashes between settlers and the British were known as The Pine Tree Riots, and some historians believe was the first real rebellion against British rule. The Eastern White Pine became the symbol on the first colonial flag. This delightful house is on the Southold Town Historic Register.

**12 • The Horton House: 8520 Main Road**

This beautifully maintained house was built c. 1840. The western section is one story and the eastern section is two stories. This home has several unique features including original shutters, an early asphalt shingled roof and an unusual arch-top brick chimney. There is a carriage house in the rear. Other interesting features include a granite foundation, front gable and cornice returns, along with wonderful six over six windows. Henry A. Belloste built this house. His descendants, the Horton's and Brown's, lived there. The current residents are only the seventh family to own this house.