

HERITAGE RECOGNITION PROGRAM To Identify and Honor Great Neck's Most Notable Homes



11 CRAMPTON AVENUE, GREAT NECK, NY

The neighborhood of houses on Crampton Avenue was constructed on the former John Brewer Estate by Crampton Brothers, Inc. in 1928, a time of dramatic real estate growth and development in Great Neck. Two natives of the village, James E. Crampton, a contractor and former livery owner, and his brother, John Crampton, built the group of bungalows as rental homes for working-classs families. The first residents included a number of teachers as well as mechanics, salesmen and police officers.

James Crampton's son Joseph, also a contractor, was president of the family business and a realtor. He was instrumental in achieving the incorporation of the Village of Great Neck.

The Crampton Avenue development consisted of 21 houses of the same architectural style but with a slightly different stucco design on the exterior siding. Each simple one-story wood-frame bungalow of 1100 square feet had two bedrooms, one bath, a living room with fireplace, an attic, basement and garage. Southern pine and Vermont slate were used for the floors and roof respectively. Most of the properties had a shared driveway.

Eighteen of these Crampton Avenue bungalows remain today. Some of them have had major alterations such as the addition of a second story.

11 Crampton Avenue is largely unchanged. It still rests on the original footprint, with all of the original building materials and no alteration to the early exterior design. The home's first residents, in 1929, were William, a mechanic, and Minnie Hung. A year later, the 1930 census lists a young married couple living at that address. John, age 25, was a police officer whose parents were born in Lithuania. Alma, age 26, was a stenographer; her parents were born in New York. The couple paid rent of \$60 per month.

