

Seven Quarts Tavern

Established 2015

Site Of Indian Settlements

This lovely fresh water lake, “The Cove”, now the location of the new Long Island Lighting Company installation, was a favorite Indian camping grounds for many centuries.

In 1656 Chief Asharoken and eight braves of the Matinnecock tribe of Indians sold the land which is now Northport, then called Great Cow Harbor, to three English settlers from Huntington for “2 coats, fore shirties, seven quarts of licker and aleben ounces of powther.” The Indians were to have the “Liberty to plante and hunte within thees a fore sayd bounds.” Jonas Wood, William Rogers and Thomas Wilkes were the representatibes in this transaction for the small band of English colonists who had founded Huntington in 1653, just three years before. This agreement was kept and the Indians on the whole were friendly.

It has been suggested that the fact that the colonists in the case of the founding of both the Huntington and the Great Cow Harbor settlements did their buying of the land from the Indians first and then taking possession of it, instead of first seizinigit and then dickering for it, had much to do with getting both settlements off to a good start with the Indians.