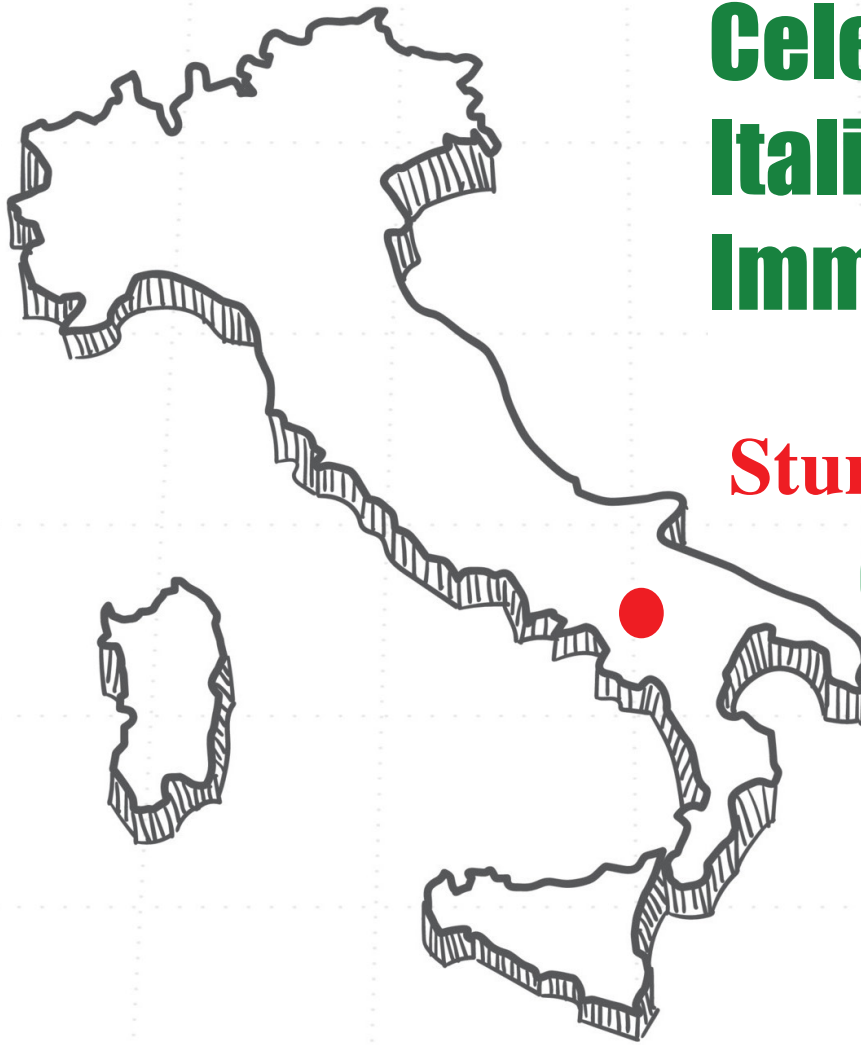


2024 - 2025 JOURNAL



Celebrating Italian Immigration

Sturmo

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October, 2024

Dear Members, Supporters, Volunteers & Friends,

As I reflect over the last 20 years of my involvement with the museum I realize how fortunate I was to be chosen to serve as a Trustee. With a very ambitious mission to restore the 1907 Justice Court Building and a very dedicated group of fellow trustees we embarked on a 15 year journey. We are funded through a NYS grant to complete the façade and raise the eagle which will be completed in the next few months.

The vision was to open a museum in the Justice Court Building to provide the public with educational programs that reflect the history of the North Shore of Long Island. Opening day was on January 19th 2013. Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow is well on its way to being accomplished through our collections, revolving exhibits and tours of the Justice Court building.

In the non-profit world, great ideas are always followed by fundraising. From lectures, musical presentations and fun events, Mock Trial programs for Scouts and seniors and memberships fees we maintain our source of income along with donations and our annual fund raiser. All funding is used for operating expenses and for the maintenance of the building.

We would like to thank all our members, supporters, volunteers, friends and museum visitors. Without your help, this would not be possible. We appreciate you very much, and look forward to seeing you in the museum.

Sincerely,

Georgie Connett

President

**Congratulations to the Board of Trustees
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**Your commitment, dedication and expertise
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- Georgina Connett



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Celebrating Italian Immigration

Oct 6, 2024 - Feb 15, 2025

About the Exhibition

Between 1890 and 1920, about 25 million immigrants came to the United States. Most stayed near their ports of arrival - New York (including Glen Cove), Boston, and Philadelphia, with some moving to the Midwest and father west.

Whereas immigrants in the 19th century had chiefly been Irish, German, and Chinese, in the 1840s and 1850s, the “new immigrants” came mainly from eastern and southern Europe, including Italy. According to the 1910 census, the population of Glen Cove was about 10,000, with about 20% of those of Italian backgrounds. It was determined that by then, immigrants and their children made up about half of the U.S. population.

Many Italians came over from the towns of Sturno and Frigento starting in the late 1890s and settled in Glen Cove. These immigrants formed a strong community and became an important part of the fabric of Glen Cove. This exhibition celebrates these families and their contributions to the local community.

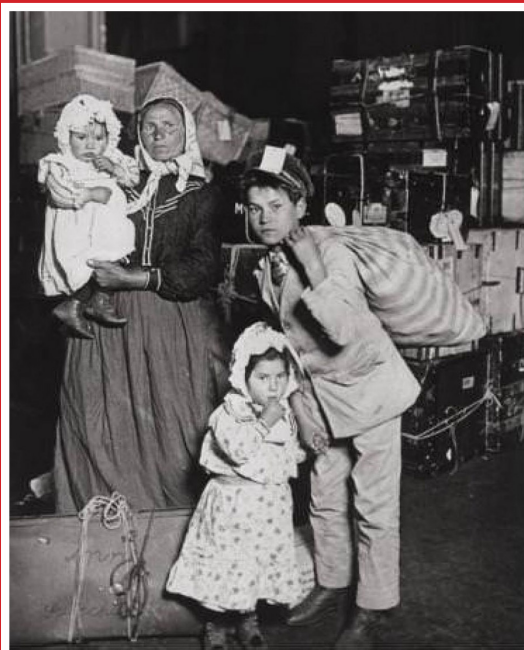
Learn about the Orchard!

The earliest Italians to settle in Glen cove settled in an area called the Orchard which is the wedge shaped neighborhood bounded by Cedar Swamp Road, Sea Cliff Avenue, the LIRR tracks and Route 107 (Glen Cove Road). The area was originally an apple orchard from which its’ name derives. It is a small area made up of a few streets, two now named for the Glen Cove Italians who lost their lives in WWI: Aniello Stanco and Luigi Capobianco).

A key part of the Orchard was The Orchard house which was generously funded by Mrs. Florence Gibb Pratt of the Glen Cove Pratt family. This community center was built to aid the needs of the Italian community in Glen Cove with a library, a hall for sports and classrooms offering citizenship classes. It also housed celebrations and Sunday masses led by Italian Speaking Priests in a wooden chapel named La Capella. As many prospered, they built homes across Cedar Swamp Road on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and Wolfe Streets, a section that became known as the upper Orchard.

A Celebration of the Italian Community of Glen Cove

AN EXHIBITION AT THE NORTH SHORE HISTORICAL MUSEUM
OPENING OCTOBER 5, 2024



...FROM THE PAST TO THE PRESENT...

The movement that brought Italian immigrants to America ca. 1890-1920 was part of a "new migration" that Italians referred to as "The Great Arrival." In that 30-year period, approximately 4 million Italian immigrants came to the U.S., about half between 1900 and 1910. For them, America represented a "land of opportunity," a chance for new freedom and a fresh start.

The major question became how this country would greet them. On the one hand, the Statue of Liberty symbolically welcomed them with open arms. On the other hand, many were reluctant to accept them as "Americans": they were generally poor, illiterate, and Catholic.

Those citizens who had realized success were not always ready to encourage or enhance the immigrants' chances to realize the same success. Finding life in America less promising than expected and missing family and friends, within 5 years, 40% to 50% of the Italian immigrants returned to Italy.

However, those who stayed established themselves and their cultural customs and values and have made significant contributions to American society.

This exhibit focuses on the Italian population of Glen Cove which, for over 100 years, has been a rich and essential part of the city's history.



NORTH SHORE HISTORICAL MUSEUM
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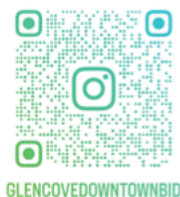
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Beach Named for First Italian-American Mayor

Friday, 25 September 2009 00:00

Mayor Ralph V. Suozzi hosted a beach-naming ceremony in honor of Luke Anthony Mercadante, the first Italian-American mayor of Glen Cove. With the assistance of Brian Mercadante, nephew of Luke, Mayor Suozzi arranged for this formal ceremony to rename the beach at Garvies Point "Mercadante Beach."

City of Glen Cove councilmembers and Tara Butler of Assemblyman Lavine's office were pleased to join Luke's siblings, Rosemary Tripp and Dr. James Mercadante, as well as many generations of the Mercadante family in attendance for a heartfelt tribute to this former Mayor.



Luke Mercadante was born in Glen Cove, the son of Italian immigrants from Sturno, Italy. He graduated from Glen Cove High School, Auburn University and the University of Georgia Law School, and went on to serve as a Major in WWII, as well as a military governor in Luxembourg during reconstruction.

Mr. Mercadante was mayor of Glen Cove and Nassau County supervisor from 1948 – 1951. During his second term as mayor, he negotiated the gift of the 700-foot frontage of a new beach and more than 5 acres of land which would include a new playground at Landing School, from Developer Realty Associates Inc. He later served as city attorney and became the first Glen Cove Rotarian to become district governor of Rotary District 7250.

Mayor Suozzi stated, "It is important for the history of our community and also to the Mercadante family to note the important contribution this beach frontage represents. This acquisition took place at a time when land was more readily available and our waterfront in this area was used for industrial purposes. The natural beauty of this particular location on Hempstead Harbor is something that future generations can enjoy because of Mayor Mercadante's foresight. I am pleased that we have taken the time to dedicate this frontage in this man's honor so that future visitors to this spot can come to appreciate the contributions of those who came before them. I am also very happy that Luke's brother James and sister Rosemary and the greater family could be here with us today to provide this moment with the additional significance and honor it deserves."

SALUTE!

Brian Mercadante President Emeritus

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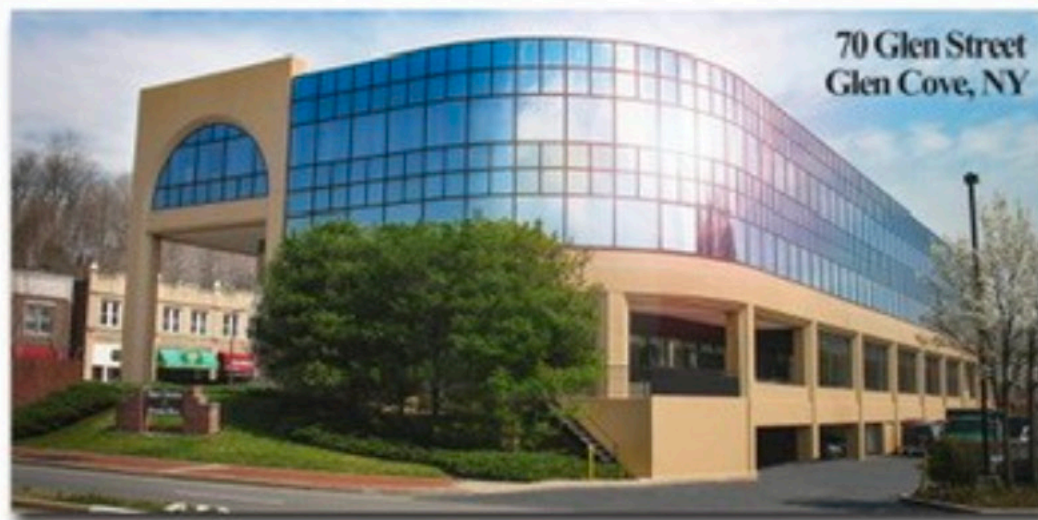
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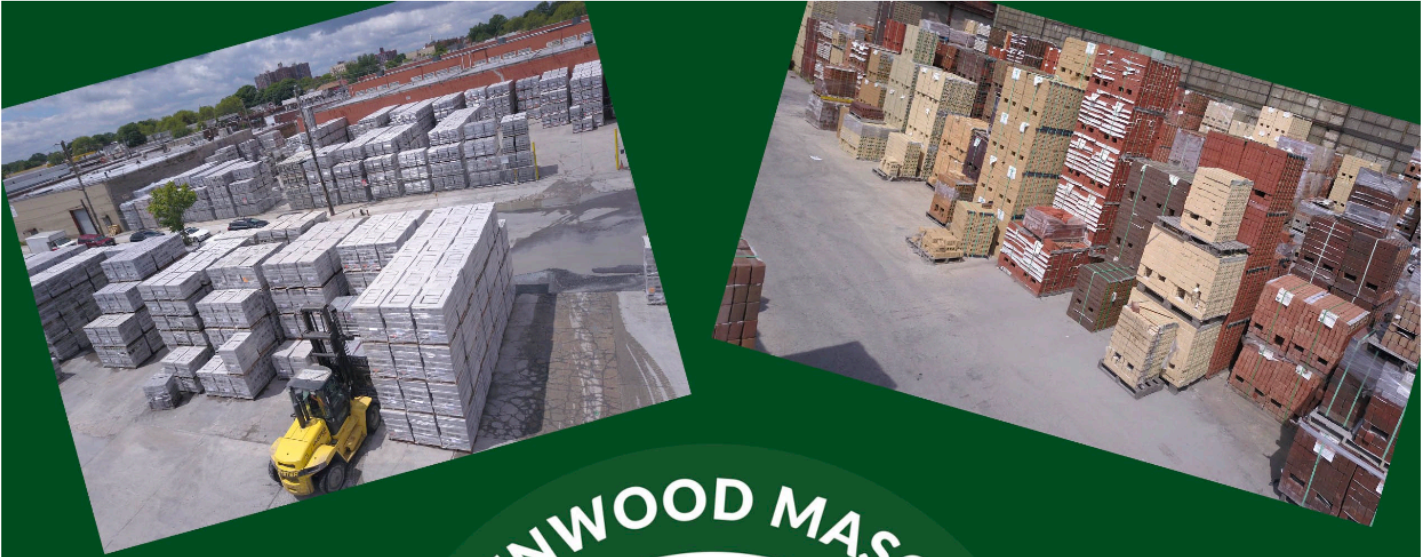
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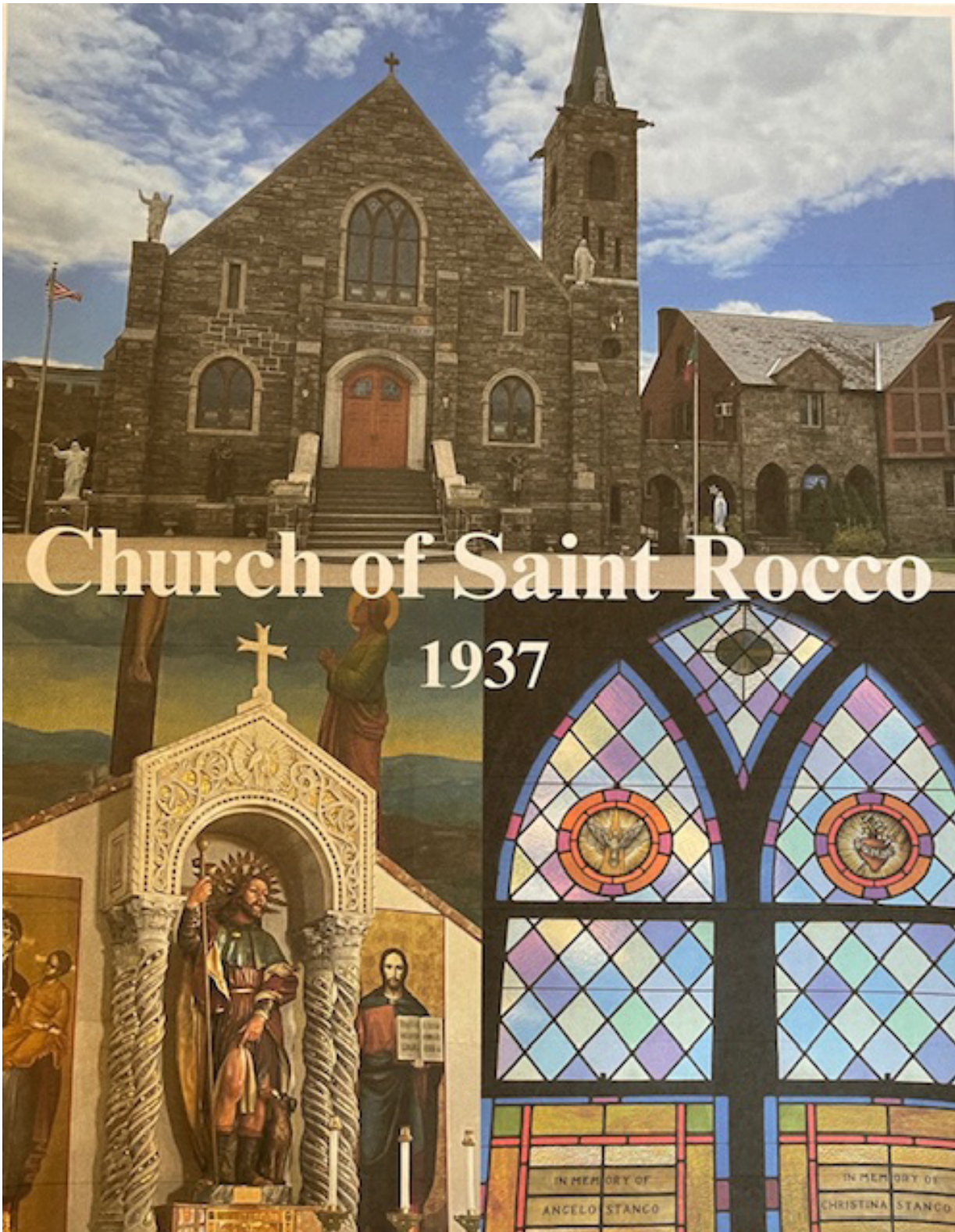
God Bless America



Eve Califano

North Shore Historical Museum



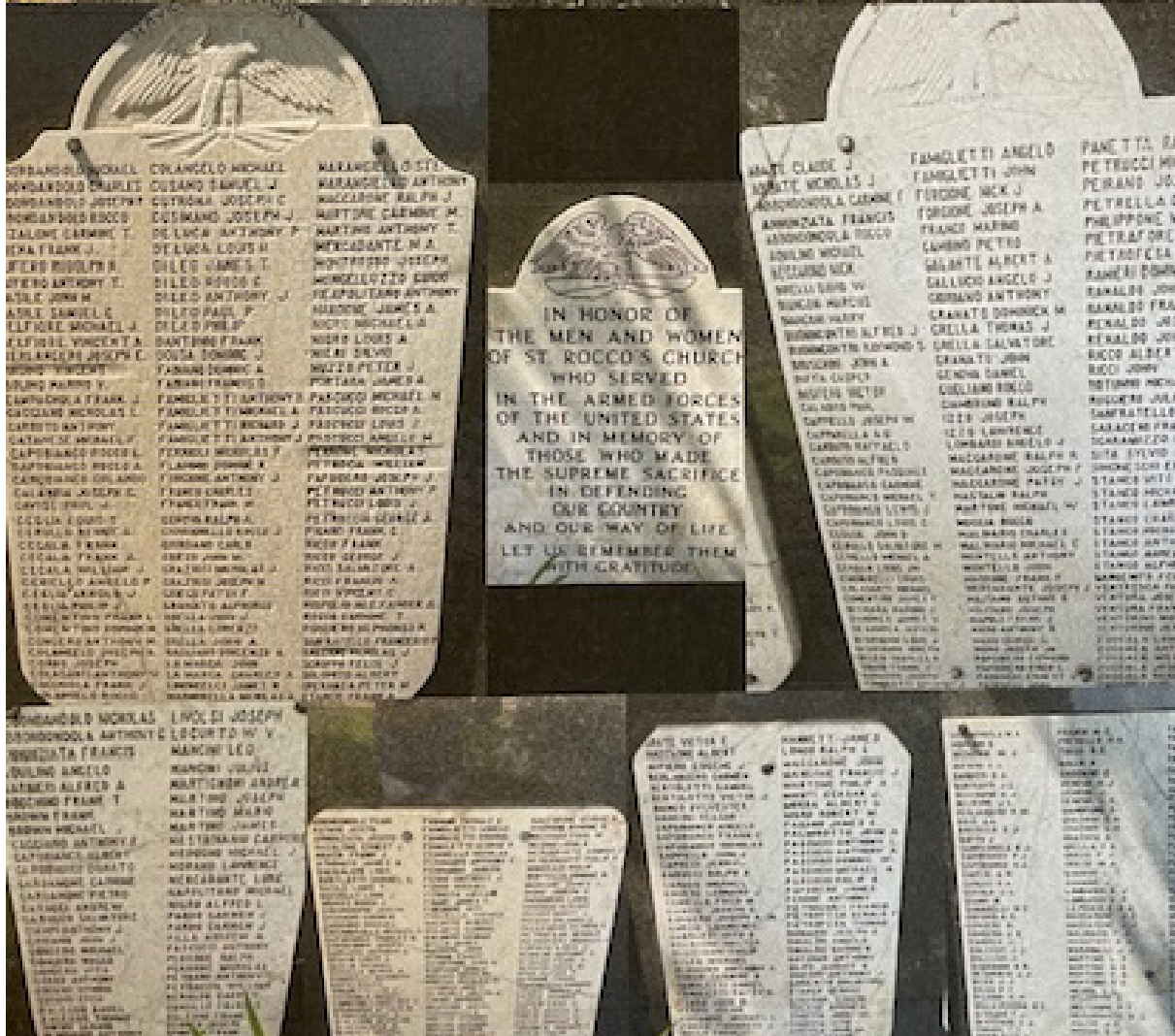


The Italian community originally worshipped at the Irish Catholic Church of St. Patrick. Eventually, they wished to have their own church and received permission from the Brooklyn diocese to construct a new church. Every year, they celebrated the Feast of Saint Rocco, a tradition which continues today as the “The Best Feast in the East.”



The stained glass windows were donated by parish families and included their names.

Church of Saint Rocco Service Roll



During World War II, they kept records of parishioners who served their country in the Armed Forces and built a monument called the “Service Roll” in their honor.

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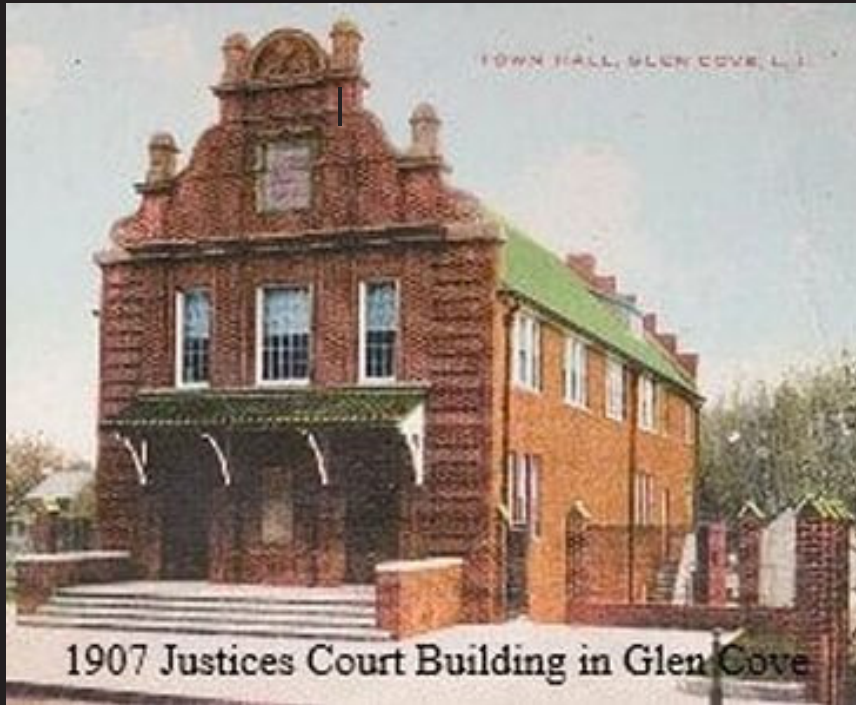
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