

KINGSLAND HOMESTEAD, 40-25 155th Street, Flushing, Borough of Queens. 1774, architect unknown.

Landmark Site: Borough of Queens, Tax Map Block 5270, Lot 14.

On September 21, 1965, the Landmarks Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the proposed designation of the Kingsland Homestead as a Landmark and the proposed designation of the related Landmark Site. (Calendar No. 5). The hearing had been duly advertised in accordance with the provisions of law. Ten witnesses testified in favor of designation of the building. Speakers included Councilman Seymour Boyers and Councilman Edward Sadowsky. There were no speakers in opposition to designation.

DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

The Kingsland Homestead is a wooden two-story building with a basement and an attic. This is Flushing's second oldest house, pre-dated only by the historic Bowne House. It was built on a tract of land purchased in 1744 by Charles Doughty. It received the name "Kingsland" from the builder's son-in-law, Captain Joseph King, an English seaman who settled in Flushing.

In its present condition the house represents the main mass of the original structure in its original form; the house has had some minor interior alterations and a modern addition replacing the original service wing. The house represents our Dutch Colonial Style of architecture and is a rare example of a type of house that was once common in western Long Island. In the Kingsland Homestead there is an amalgam of Dutch and English architecture. The ascendant English and Colonial styles are reflected in the central chimney and the gambrel roof with round-headed and quadrant windows in the gable. The divided front door and the general boldness of proportion point to the Dutch inheritance.

The Kingsland Homestead has special significance today as an example of a middle-sized house of the Revolutionary period which was typical of its locality then and which is now unique in that community.

FINDINGS AND DESIGNATIONS

On the basis of a careful consideration of the history, the architecture and other features of the house, the Landmarks Preservation Commission finds that the Kingsland Homestead has a special character, special historical and aesthetic interest and value as part of the development, heritage and cultural characteristics of New York City.

The Commission further finds that, among its important qualities, the Kingsland Homestead is a typical house of the Revolutionary War period and that today it is the second oldest house in Flushing and its only remaining 18th Century dwelling.

Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 8-A of the Charter of the City of New York and Chapter 8-A of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, the Landmarks Preservation Commission designates as a Landmark the Kingsland Homestead, 40-25 155th Street, Flushing, Borough of Queens, and designates Tax Map Block 5270, Lot 14, Borough of Queens, as its Landmark Site.