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EXCLUSIVE: Posing with Zuma, upswept



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Soap star Nathaniel Marston 'will most



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Man f under

New York's Nazi town: For years it had streets named after Hitler and Goebbels and hedges trimmed into swastikas. Now you 'STILL have to be Aryan to live there'

Site Web

- Yaphank is just 60 miles from [New York City](#) but has a historic Nazi past
- It was the unlikely outpost of the Third Reich with street names named after Adolf Hitler and Goebels

By [TOM LEONARD IN YAPHANK, NEW YORK](#)

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There is no sign left of Adolf Hitler Street, nor Goebbels Street or Goering Street. The swastika-shaped garden hedge and swastika stonework above a residential front door have also gone.

Nothing remains to indicate to the casual visitor that this unremarkable-looking rural corner of New York's Long Island has an extraordinary history.

Where parades of black and brown-uniformed fascists dressed like the stormtroopers of Hitler's feared SS once marched behind the flags of the Nazi Party, now children play and men mow lawns.

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EXCLUSIVE: Posing with Zuma, platinum hair wrapped in a bandana, geeky glasses... the copycat Facebook pictures posted by Gwen Stefani's ex-nanny



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© The LIFE Picture Collection/Getty

+12

Nothing remains to indicate to the casual visitor that this unremarkable-looking rural corner of New York's Long Island has an extraordinary history with Nazism



© LIHJ

Although Yaphank, a hamlet of some 6,000 people, is just 60 miles from New York City, and not far from the millionaires' summer playground of The Hamptons, it was once the unlikely outpost of the Third Reich



'It's the strangest thing!' Angelina Jolie reveals what it is like to film sex scenes with husband Brad Pitt
Actress is known for giving her all to roles!

Dad on duty Kanye West takes North to ballet... while Kim Kardashian rests after revealing doctors have warned her over 52lb pregnancy weight gain



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Also one in Dallas



Soap star Nathaniel Marston, 40, 'will most likely live out his life as a quadriplegic' after car accident, his mother reveals
Broke neck last month



Caitlyn Jenner reveals the results of her breast augmentation surgery as she puts on a sideshow in LBD while leaving Victoria's Secret afterparty



'I like to graze!': Khloe Kardashian reveals her super organized fridge with pre-cut veggies, a



© CBS New York

Philip Kneer and Patricia Flynn-Kneer are suing the GASL after they learned about shocking restrictions on the sale of their home (above)

One local, Courtney Peters, a 22-year-old nurse, explains that her community's disturbing past is 'more of a joke round here than an embarrassment'. Yet a fascinating new court case has come to haunt them.

She's sitting outside her grandmother's home in Park Boulevard — once Adolf Hitler Street, but long since renamed. Miss Peters's family have lived here for four generations — German-Americans, like most of her neighbours. Has she ever asked her grandmother about the old days? She shakes her head.

Perhaps best not. Although Yaphank, a hamlet of some 6,000 people, is just 60 miles from New York City, and not far from the millionaires' summer playground of The Hamptons, it was once the unlikeliest outpost of the Third Reich.

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The neighbourhood of German Gardens was set up in the Thirties to house American Nazis, adults and children, who flocked in their hundreds to attend a summer camp, where they basked in the dubious delights of American-tinged National Socialism.

At the time, there was nothing too shocking about Camp Siegfried. German-Americans were by far the country's biggest single ethnic group, isolationism was rife and the U.S. seemed a long way from war with Germany.

After World War II broke out, the U.S. government seized the land, but its owner, a community organisation called the German-American Settlement League (GASL), later managed to wrestle back control of much of the site.

bacon holder and sparkling water for her nieces and nephews



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Classic film from 1971



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The Daily Mail's Claire Coleman gave it a try



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They partied at 10Oak



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Getting into the Aussie



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Although they have long since been changed, the town used to have street names dedicated to Hitler and Goebbels

Spirit! Kendall and Kylie Jenner enjoy shopping spree at UGG Australia ahead of their visit Down Under
Long-haul trip



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Miley Cyrus lookalike gets bombarded by fans in the street and even the singer's dad Billy Ray is amazed by her resemblance to his famous daughter



Back in her bathing suit! Giuliana Rancic, 41, shows off her toned legs while riding a lazy river at Disney World during vacation with husband and son



'I would never make it!': Christie Brinkley, 61, insists she's not thin enough to enter today's modeling world as she discusses 'fun' with John Mellencamp



Justin Bieber talks about falling in love 'too young' with Selena Gomez and how pals Kendall Jenner and Hailey Baldwin always have his back



'It really hurt his feelings': Seth Rogen reveals he has laid Justin Bieber feud to rest as pair hug it out on Ellen
Pair met backstage



'Green juices, steamed fish and vegetables': Lara Bingle reveals the diet that helped her regain her bikini body... after piling on 28



There is no sign left of Adolf Hitler Street, nor Goebbels Street or Goering Street. The swastika-shaped garden hedge and swastika stonework above a residential front door have also gone.



The neighbourhood of German Gardens was set up in the Thirties to house American Nazis, adults and children, who flocked in their hundreds to attend a summer camp, where they basked in the dubious delights of American-tinged National Socialism

The dystopian scenario of America's east coast being taken over by victorious Nazi Germans was famously imagined by Philip K. Dick in his 1962 novel *The Man In The High Castle*, which has now been turned into a TV series. For some Yaphank residents, the programme might feel a little too close to home.

Indeed, one local couple say the community's ugly history is far from dead and buried. Philip Kneer and Patricia Flynn-Kneer are suing the GASL, which re-named Camp Siegfried as Siegfried Park, and owns the land on which the Kneers' house and some 50 others are built.

pounds while pregnant



Brooks Ayers finally admits he's a FRAUD: Vicki Gunvalson's ex concedes he did fake chemo bills... but still insists he really does have cancer



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Now you can get THAT body too: Model Hannah Saul launches her HANxFIT workout app She is one of the world's hottest women...



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The actress filed for divorce from Olivier Martinez two weeks ago



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Kendall Jenner shops with Kylie after her stunning turn in the Victoria's Secret show... despite telling her little sister to 'stay away' from the audience



Kate Upton shows off her fabulous figure in teal leggings as she makes casual arrival to

The couple accuse the organisation of 'racially divisive housing policies', which stop them from selling their home to anyone who isn't white and of German extraction.

In court documents that seem astonishing to find in 21st-century America, the couple reveal that the GASL still cherishes the notorious 'sig' rune, a Nazi symbol used by both the SS and Hitler Youth.

Pictures submitted by the Kneers show the league logo — a single sig rune with a spade running through it — on the league's headed paper and decorating the top of a flagpole in the community clubhouse.



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The neighbourhood of German Gardens was set up in the Thirties to house American Nazis, adults and children, who flocked in their hundreds to attend a summer camp, where they basked in the dubious delights of American-tinged National Socialism

In their court submission, the Kneers emphasise their point by including pictures from the Thirties of

hotel with boyfriend Justin Verlander
Couple in Beverly Hills



'It's not fun to be sober': Brandi Glanville flaunts insensitive top in front of recovering addict Kim Richards and Yolanda Foster during RHOBH shoot

Allure magazine founder and editor-in-chief Linda Wells, 56, ousted after 25 years on the job as Condé Nast replaces her with former Nylon editor



Leonardo DiCaprio backs ethical diamond startup that says it can GROW gems in just two weeks
He starred in Blood Diamond in 2006



Jason Priestley suffers concussion after getting thrown from horse on set of new TV series
The 46-year-old 90210 star was rushed to the Emergency Room



'The morning after': Miranda Lambert reveals unicorn tattoo she got for her 32nd birthday... but it looks like a fake
First since marital split



Prince Harry calls a double-amputee a 'lunatic' for planning to row across the Atlantic a second time as he meets veterans for Armistice Day



Not missing being an Angel! Karlie Kloss looks happy during outing in NYC after skipping the Victoria's Secret Fashion Show for first time



'Most sensible business-minded people would have done it': Rebel Wilson says she lied about her birth date because of ageism and sexism in Hollywood



'I was glad that the

fascist Italian Blackshirts parading past a giant swastika flag at a Camp Siegfried rally, as well as a copy of the GASL constitution.

Its first listed objective is to 'introduce, cultivate and propagate in every direction true Germanic culture and to cultivate the German language, customs and ideals'.

Membership, says the constitution, is primarily open to adults of 'German extraction, and of good character and reputation'.

The Kneers bought their two-bed bungalow in Siegfried Park for the knockdown price of \$70,000 in 1999. There was but one significant proviso — they had to prove they were of German descent and join the GASL.



The Kneers say they repeatedly asked the league to change its restrictive rules, but were told that members wanted to keep Siegfried Park 'the way it is'

Keen to check on their racial claims, senior league members even visited Mrs Flynn-Kneer's Berlin-born mother and conducted part of the interview in German. The league's former president asked to meet the young couple.

'He wanted to see what I looked like,' says Mrs Flynn-Kneer, who — like her husband — is white.

character was still alive': Harrison Ford, 73, admits he was wrong to want Han Solo killed off in Return Of The Jedi Plays the iconic role



Bust-ing out! Curvy Kelly Brook shows off her VERY generous cleavage in a sexy low-cut dress as she steps out for restaurant launch party

Is this the moment Kendall became a supermodel? Jenner's 'dreams came true' by walking in VS show (but did she burn friendship along the way?)



Lana Del Rey and Italian photographer boyfriend Francesco Carrozzini 'split after year-long romance' Singer is inspired by extreme relationships



Keira Knightley goes makeup free for off-duty dash around New York in statement leather coat and lace-up boots The Brit actress is starring on Broadway



Still youthful! Hilary Swank, 41, shows off a fresh look with minimal makeup and a chic white leather jacket as she walks through LAX airport



It's a boy! Melissa George and Jean-David Blanc welcome second son Solal Samuel Glenn The Slap star welcomed her second child with the French entrepreneur



Happy feet! Danny DeVito tears up the dance floor with singer Thalia at The Latin Explosion after-party in New York Iconic actor is now 70



Matt Damon sports a huge head wound and fake blood all over his face as he gets stuck into filming dramatic scenes for fifth Bourne movie in London

Whether or not they were alarmed by such behaviour, the house was an absolute bargain and they bought it.

Though they were struck, they say, by the fact that the neighbourhood was entirely white and a neighbour's black boyfriend was not made welcome, the Kneers lived in the house until they had their second child and decided it was time to move to a bigger home.

They first tried to sell the house in 2006 but, under the strict rules drawn up by the league, they were not allowed to advertise it beyond the organisation's members' newsletter.

Any buyer, they said, had to be sponsored by a current member of the league and accepted by a majority vote. When the Kneers tried to take out a loan so they could extend their Siegfried Park home, banks refused to lend money on a house that sat on land owned by someone other than the couple.



After World War II broke out, the U.S. government seized the land, but its owner, a community organisation called the German-American Settlement League (GASL), later managed to wrestle back control of much of the site

The Kneers say they repeatedly asked the league to change its restrictive rules, but were told that members wanted to keep Siegfried Park 'the way it is'. The Kneers are being backed in their legal action, in which they are claiming undisclosed damages, by a Long Island housing advocacy group.

The Kneers say they felt imprisoned in a repressive community that was intent on staying white and German. 'You feel like a caged animal here,' said Mr Kneer, before moving his family out of their home last month.

'It's terrible for everyone — for the kids, for us and even for our dogs.'

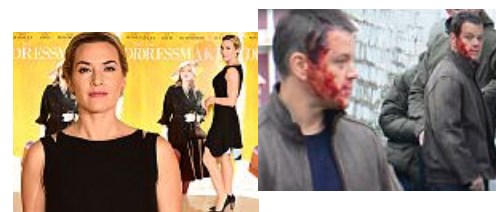
Senior members of the league admit their cosy hamlet is almost completely white, but insist they have parted ways with their Nazi past.

Robert Kessler, the settlement league's president, claimed the Kneers were simply 'bitter' because they hadn't got the price they wanted for their home. He admitted his organisation's rules were 'antiquated', but said members had voted against changing them.

Mr Kessler dismissed some of the more sinister-sounding behaviour of league members cited by the Kneers, such as scrutinising their ethnic background, as the behaviour of old guard members who were gradually being replaced by younger residents.

Other residents insist German-themed celebrations no longer extend beyond three annual parties in the Bavarian-style clubhouse, outside which a frayed national German flag still flutters below a Stars & Stripes on the flagpole.

But Mr Kessler's insistence that 'most people don't even know any of this happened here' is way off the mark. It has been a standing joke on Long Island for years that, for all the talk of old Nazis hiding out in South America, the biggest nest of them was right under America's nose.



Classic beauty Kate Winslet shows off her slim curves and toned legs in tiny LBD at screening for new film The Dressmaker
Actress was in London

'We broke the f*ing Internet!' Gwyneth Paltrow jokes about 'consciously uncoupling' backlash following divorce from Chris Martin**

Here come the new girls... and they sure are heavenly! Gigi and Kendall stretch their wings as they join the Angels for Victoria's Secret debut

Jessa Dugger underwent a blood transfusion and spent the night in hospital after excess blood loss during her 48-hour home birth

Downton Abbey actress Milly Thomas' hard-hitting abortion scene in a London play causes chaos after a man FAINTS in the audience

Don't rain on my parade: Kylie Jenner forgoes bra in mesh top on NYC shopping trip as sister Kendall makes spectacular Victoria's Secret catwalk debut

'Don't try to make it look as though I starve myself': Victoria's Secret model's scathing response to reporter's 'stupid' question about what she eats

Hail... Britannia? Aspiring First Lady Melania Trump' carries \$1,700 Union Jack purse at GOP debate alongside The Donald's two sons while Ivanka stays home

New Angel recruits Kendall and Gigi slip into VERY revealing dresses with cut-outs at





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As recently as 1995, local politicians in Long Island's Suffolk County voted to expunge the official records of any reference to Yaphank's Nazi past, an outrageous attempt to airbrush history. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the plan never got past state legislators

Camp Siegfried and its surrounding Nazi-themed residential streets were set up in 1935 by the league, which was an offshoot of the German-American Bund, a quasi-military nationwide organisation set up to promote Nazism. The Bund ran camps across the U.S. but, being so close to New York, Camp Siegfried had a special significance.

Membership was open to 'national-minded American citizens of Aryan blood'. Every summer, hundreds of Nazi sympathisers, adults and children would descend on the camp from across New York state, attracted by the promise that 'you will meet people who think like you do'.

Catching a special early morning Camp Siegfried train from Manhattan's Penn Station, they would be greeted at Yaphank Station by massed ranks of uniformed Bund members, giving the Nazi salute as the train pulled in.

Young members dressed in a uniform modelled on the Hitler Youth and were given training. When they weren't strutting around in their smart uniforms, adults would listen to lectures on Nazi ideology in areas such as eugenics and the wickedness of the Jews. While the Bund members were careful not to be seen carrying weapons openly, they would get rifle training as an affiliate of America's National Rifle Association.

They also drank heavily, shocking witnesses by the amount of beer they put away in the camp bar.

the chest and thigh-high splits at Victoria's Secret after party



Selena Gomez goes braless in a slinky black gown with revealing slit as she performs at Victoria's Secret Show. Ironically went without a bra at the lingerie show

'It hurts to even breath': Mary-Louise Parker writes about the moment Billy Crudup left her for Claire Danes while she was seven months pregnant



Tamar Braxton forced to drop out of Dancing With The Stars after discovering pneumonia was serious pulmonary embolism. Expressed her regret



War is over: Kris and Caitlyn Jenner put tension aside to support Kendall at Victoria's Secret show... and both wear racy little dresses revealing plenty of leg



Kim Zolciak posts bikini shot of herself with husband Kroy to celebrate wedding anniversary as daughter Brielle gets cozy with Chase Chrisley



Caitlyn Jenner looks leggy in a printed mini dress as she battles the elements ahead of reunion with ex Kris to witness Kendall's Victoria's Secret debut



Who needs lingerie? Ireland Baldwin attempts to upstage the Victoria's Secret models by forgoing bra in VERY plunging dress. Her dad is Alec Baldwin



Ellie Goulding flashes extreme sideboob and showcases her toned legs in pink plunging leopard-print dress at VS show. Performed at the show



Puppy love! Ab-flashing



Paris pictured in 1940 after it was seized by Nazi forces following a rapid attack from Germany

After so much Aryan merry-making, Siegfried Park has a lonely, forlorn feel today. The parade ground, where aspiring stormtroopers would march up and down past giant banners of the U.S. and Nazi Germany, still remains. The old clubhouse, once festooned in swastika flags, is gone.

A couple of street names still honour famous Germans — the poet philosopher Friedrich Schiller and the composer Johann Sebastian Bach.

As recently as 1995, local politicians in Long Island's Suffolk County voted to expunge the official records of any reference to Yaphank's Nazi past, an outrageous attempt to airbrush history. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the plan never got past state legislators.

Whatever happens in the Kneers' court case, there will be some who won't thank them for reminding Americans of a chapter in their history they would rather forget.

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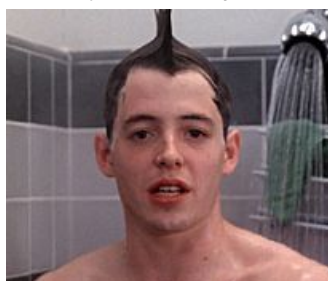
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Answers

Miley Cyrus sports eccentric cat ears and tight leggings as she hugs new pooch Milky after trip to the vet Has a unique style



Going hell for leather! Hilary Duff dons edgy thigh-high boots and studded mini skirt for panel on her TV Land series Younger Lizzie McGuire alum

Khloe Kardashian and boyfriend James Harden pictured holding hands as they enjoy first date night since Lamar was found unconscious in a brothel



Chance encounter? Amber Rose is dressed to the nines in a sheer black top and leggings while hitting same club as ex Wiz Khalifa They have a son together



Yolanda Foster reveals daughter Gigi Hadid was rejected TWICE by Victoria's Secret... as the proud mom attends event amid ongoing Lyme disease battle



Pictured: Moment Azealia Banks and her entourage 'assault security guard who kicked the rapper out of LA club' as police launch investigation into brawl



Now that's a killer heel! It's the craziest celebrity shoe trend ever - tottering on skyscraper stilettos made from steel just 2mm (0.08inches) thick



'Do the models come with the Spandex?': Curvy women parading in tight vests and small briefs on shopping channel QVC attracts thousands of admirers



Elizabeth Hurley shows off her ample cleavage in a plunging nude pencil dress... as she admits past flirtations landed her in hospital