

LEVITTOWN INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN COMMUNITIES, INC.

in eight states and territories and four countries abroad

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S. David Marable

Proprietor, Chairman & CEO

LEVITTOWN, N. Y., Nov. 7 -- A museum "celebrating Levitt homes world wide" will be opened here today with officials representing Levittown sites in eight U.S. states and territories and at least four nations abroad, according to S. David Marable, Chairman of Levittown Internationally Known Communities, Inc. (LIK Communities). The giant sequoia redwoods, used by Levitt *in all homes of New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania*, will be offered in the form of seedlings, at the event.

The showing will be hosted by Polly Dwyer, president of the Levittown Historical Society of New York, at 150 Abbey Lane, Levittown, N.Y.

"We are dedicated to the assembly of data, hands-on exhibits, actual first site construction materials, designs and background information proving that the founders of the Levitt concept actually incorporated (a) earliest British Garden City planning, (b) in-house partnering with Frank Lloyd Wright, and (c) community siting at American intersects of major railroads and Interstate Highways," Mr. Marable explained.

"Our exhibits feature, for example, sequoia redwood original home framing. That is, every Levitt house's inner large beam supports are of sequoia. --Little known among the thousands of home buyers. The Levitts built large-scale timber cutting, processing companies, special rail shipping yards in California and eastern states to assemble and distribute redwood and other types of lumber for their vast, multi-state operations," Mr. Marable noted. "Abraham Levitt, father of William and Alfred, founders of *Levitt & Sons, Incorporated*, initiated the original designs based on concepts of Frank Lloyd Wright, obtained by Alfred Levitt (at his father's insistence) in sustained contacts with the famed architect over extended periods of time. It is a little known fact that every Levitt house design was a derivative of the Levitt discussions with Mr. Wright," Mr. Marable said.

Abraham Levitt was a 1902 law graduate of New York University. He was admitted to the New York State Bar and a book he wrote was used as a text in the University's Real Estate Law department, Mr. Marable disclosed. The famous "Jubilee" Levitt house was designed and named by Alfred Levitt to celebrate his father's 25th anniversary as a lawyer. Son William Levitt, earned his doctorate at the same university in 1927.

M o r e

John Stuart Levitt, grandson of Abraham, son of Alfred, is a member of the Marable's board of directors at LIK Communities. Inc.

Mr. Marable has been assembling archives here and abroad and plans an exhibit in France where Levittown homes also were built.

Among Mr. Marable's collections, is a 35-foot trailer, walk-through exhibit with interiors arranged for study by students and others. His larger, gymnasium-filling exhibits have been on display at more than 30 sites since year 2001. Including one featured by the James A. Michener Museum at Doylestown, Pennsylvania. Three books by Mr. Marable are in various stages of preparation. One has been published – "Levittown Pennsylvania 1952-2002 – A Garden Community."

"Levittown communities were built FIRST in Norfolk, Va. and in suburbs of Washington DC. Some Levitt houses were built in New York as early as 1930 but not organized into community planning type settlements. In addition to the famously known Levittowns of New York and Pennsylvania, the Levitts built full sized Levittown communities at five sites in New Jersey and at least two in California. Outside the continental United States, we have records proving sites in France, Iran and Puerto Rico and of others reportedly existent in Italy and Spain," Mr. Marable said.

Homebuilding Secrets Unveiled --The giant sequoia a symbol

"There are special internal features in all the houses, utterly unknown even to owners who have lived in Levitt homes for more than half a century. For example, every Levittown home in Pennsylvania is stamped, hidden, up inside, every fireplace, with a plaque identifying its site. *Again, all joists, beams, supports are made of California redwood sequoias and each carries a stamp, 'WLCB William Levitt Construction BATTALION.'* World War II Lieutenant William Levitt never got over his service with the Seabees in the Pacific," Mr. Marable explained.

"Abraham Levitt never failed to admonish his sons to build not just for monetary return but always with historical reference and vision. For example, he insisted that the giant redwood, of 'California, China -- across the Bering Sea, into Japan, through Asia and Europe -- is a symbol for American visionaries to grasp. 'The tree, he said, 'symbolizes the history of America. It was first observed and recorded by an Asian in 458 A.D., rediscovered by a Spaniard in 1542, collected by a Scotsman and named by an Austrian to honor an American Indian who first developed a workable American Indian alphabet. – Now the mighty sequoia is the form and framing structure of every Levitt home in Pennsylvania, New York and Virginia," the archivist noted. "Abraham Levitt himself planted one giant sequoia in Levittown, Pa. -- I know where it stands but dare not tell anyone its location," Mr. Marable said. Seedlings of the giant sequoias can be obtained through LIK Communities, Mr. Marable added.