

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
UNIQUE SITE NO. <u>103-05-0145</u>	C1-46-47 003
QUAD _____	
SERIES _____	
NEG. NO. _____	

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip DATE: 8/25/75
Town Hall 655 Main St.
 YOUR ADDRESS: Islip, L.I., N.Y. 11751 TELEPHONE: 516-581-2000
 ORGANIZATION (if any): Dept. of Planning, Housing, & Development

IDENTIFICATION

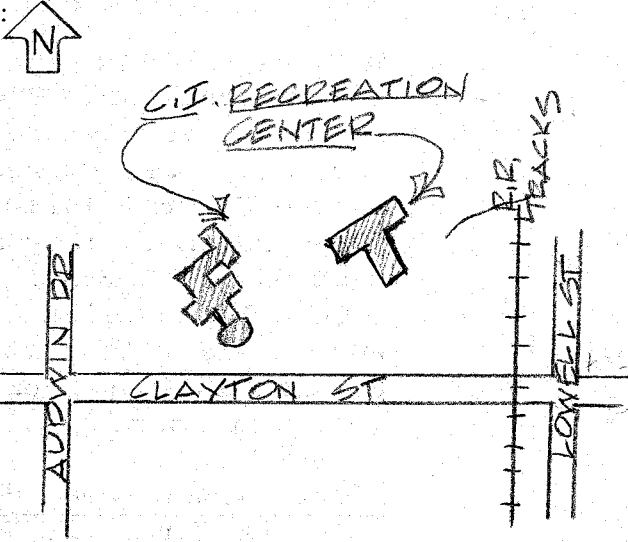
- BUILDING NAME(S): Central Islip Recreation Center
- COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Central Islip
- STREET LOCATION: Clayton St; North Side; East of Audwin Dr. & Lowell Ave.
- OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- PRESENT OWNER: _____ ADDRESS: _____
- USE: Original: Hospital Buildings Present: Recreation Center
- ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes No
Interior accessible: Explain _____

DESCRIPTION

- BUILDING MATERIAL: a. clapboard b. stone c. brick d. board and batten
e. cobblestone f. shingles g. stucco other: _____
- STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: (if known) a. wood frame with interlocking joints
b. wood frame with light members
c. masonry load bearing walls
d. metal (explain) _____
e. other _____
- CONDITION: a. excellent b. good c. fair d. deteriorated
- INTEGRITY: a. original site b. moved if so, when? _____
c. list major alterations and dates (if known): _____

12. PHOTO: Negative No. D-12

13. MAP:



14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known b. zoning c. roads
 d. developers e. deterioration
 f. other: _____
15. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:
 a. barn b. carriage house c. garage
 d. privy e. shed f. greenhouse
 g. shop h. gardens
 i. landscape features: Playground equipment, tennis courts.
 j. other: School
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (check more than one if necessary):
 a. open land b. woodland
 c. scattered buildings
 d. densely built-up e. commercial
 f. industrial g. residential
 h. other: School

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
 (Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)
The Central Islip Recreation Center Buildings are set on a rolling lawn among a cluster of trees. There are tennis courts to the east, a school to the North, and playground and recreation equipment scattered amidst the property.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):
Half timbered facade. Saw tooth siding on gables. Stick work in gables. Exposed carved rafters under eaves. Some original windows. Small stick dormers in roof. Fine brickwork. Porticoed walkway with stick style supports. Octagonal wing. Segemental arch window heads. Some buttressed walls. Tile roofs.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: 1887?
- ARCHITECT: Withers? & Dickson
- BUILDER: (See yellow district form)

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:
The Central Islip Recreation Center is a twenty-five acre complex of land given by New York State to the Town of Islip. There were originally three buildings on the land that were a part of the Central Islip State Hospital. Today only two of the three remain. They are late nineteenth century buildings that have interesting details. The tile roofs, sheltered porches, and brick buttressing are some of the important design elements that form the handsome buildings. The

CI-46-47

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UNIQUE SITE NO. 10305 000148
QUAD _____
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~~ST-AG-97~~

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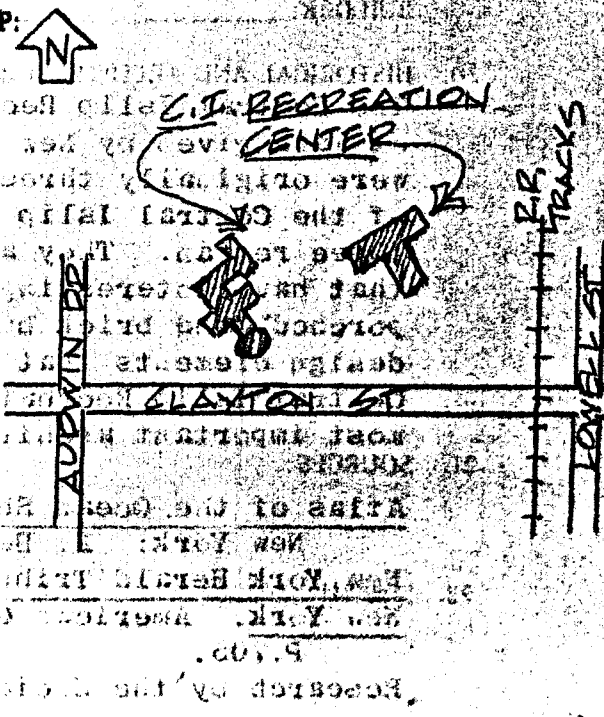
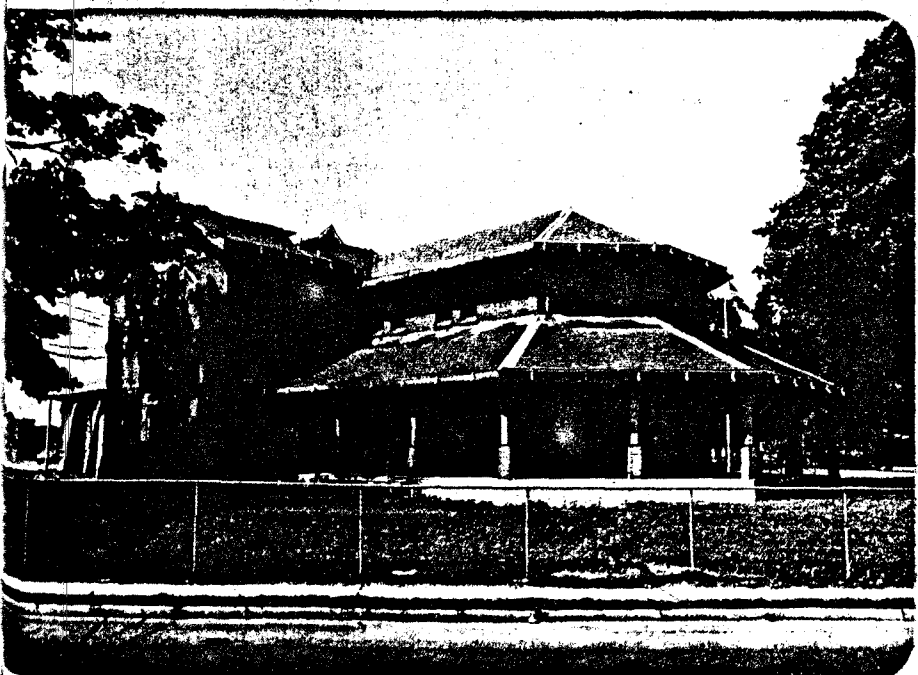
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SIGNIFICANCE
19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: ~~1888~~ 1888

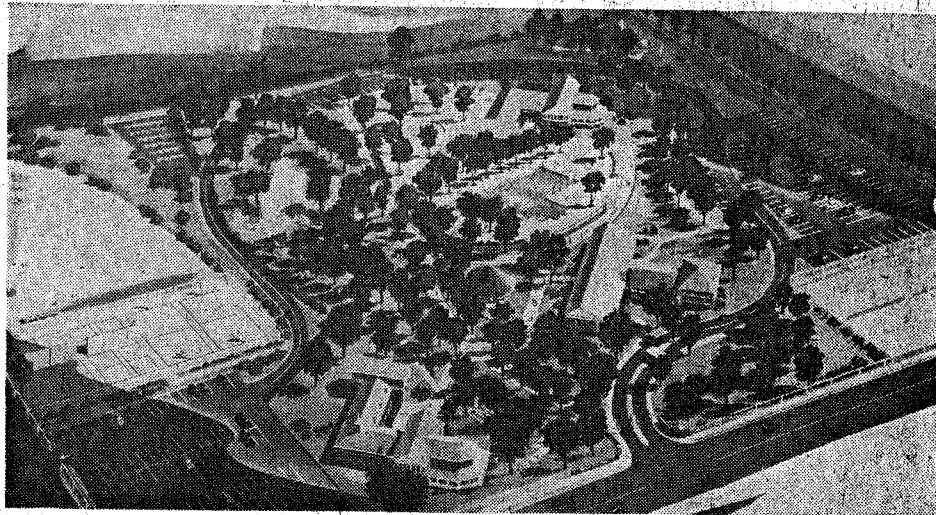
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21. SOURCES:
Atlas of the Ocean Shore of Suffolk County (Westerly Section)
New York: E. Belcher Hyde, 1915, Pl. 85.
New York Herald Tribune, October 24, 1965, P. 3.
New York. American Guide Series. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, P. 705.

22. Research by the Society for the Preservation of L.I. Antiquities
letter dated 10/31/75 from John N. Brown 199,
N.Y. State Office of General Services.
EFW
1975

Islip Dedicating Its Recreation Village This Afternoon



NEW CONCEPT—Architect's rendering of Recreation Village in Central Islip.

By Charles De Mangin
Of The Herald Tribune Staff

CENTRAL ISLIP.

Recreation Village, a 15-acre complex in the heart of this community, will be officially dedicated this afternoon. The project, two years in the planning and reconstruction stage, is on land given to the township by New York State.

Today's ceremony will start at 2 p. m. with music by the Central Islip High School band, seated on a circular bandstand that is the only new structure on the grounds. The other

three buildings date back more than 90 years.

"You can say the Recreation Village offers a new concept in recreation," said Islip Supervisor George W. Raven. He pointed out that it has facilities for folks of all ages, from tiny tots to senior citizens. Situated in one of the most populous sections of the South Shore township, Recreation Village is estimated by Mr. Raven to be within one-mile walking distance of 20,000 persons.

The tree-studded terrain is surrounded by a newly-installed chain link fence. The three buildings on it once were used by Central Islip State Hospital, but

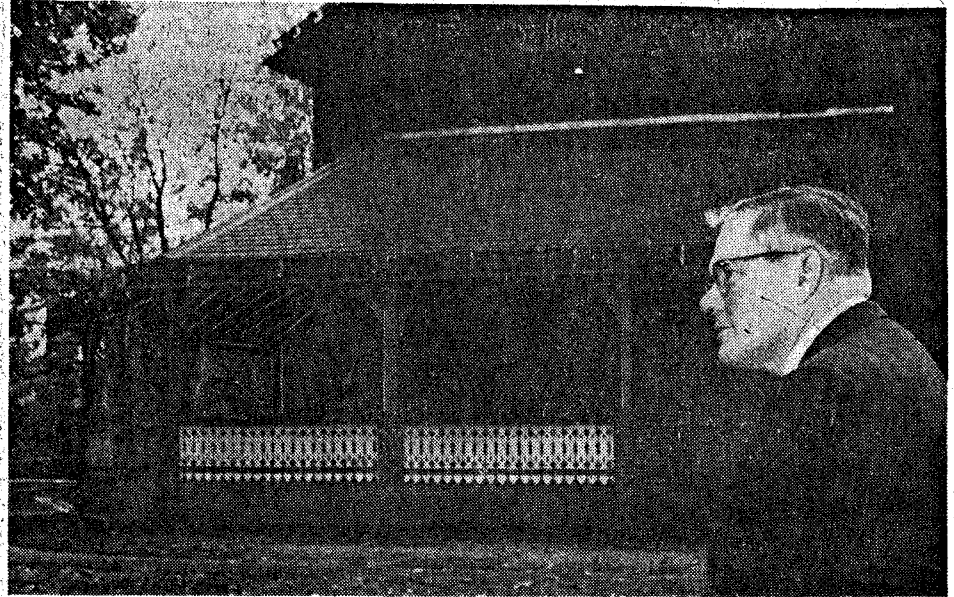
have been out of service for about 15 years. Three years ago they were declared surplus and the state gave the buildings and 15 acres of land to the Town of Islip. Another 15 acres of unneeded hospital land went to the Central Islip School District.

Two of the three buildings in Recreation Village have been renovated in such a way that their exteriors retain their 19th century appearance. Preserved were the tile roofs, the brick-buttressed exterior walls, sheltered porches and huge indoor brick fireplaces, with fancy filigrees, and reaching some 35 feet to the high ceilings.

Michael Swanton, a member of the firm of

Dobiecki, Beattie and Colyer, which supervised creation of Recreation Village, said vandals had created considerable havoc in the buildings after they were no longer used by the state hospital. He said the firm's workmen found remnants of chains once used to shackle mental patients to their beds in dormitories and in solitary confinement cubicles. He said this practice apparently dated back to the latter part of the previous century when New York City operated the institution.

However, all this grim evidence of the past has been removed and the interiors of the two buildings offer a much more cheerful atmosphere. New flooring



INSPECTION—Islip Town Supervisor George Raven looks over the new Senior Citizen building. Originally constructed in the 1870s, structure was refurbished by the town.

has been installed, the walls have been refinished and painted, and the high ceiling beams provide a sort of hunting lodge setting.

One of the two renovated buildings will be devoted to youth activities, and the second to recreation for adults and senior citizens. The third building, when renovation is completed, will serve as the town's recreation headquarters, with offices and storage space for playground equipment.

The building for adults and senior citizens contains a 200-seat theater, along with dressing rooms. There are also eight rooms for meetings. The senior citizens' lounge has a fireplace, a coffee shop, and game facilities.

The youth activities building includes a multi-purpose room, arts and crafts classrooms, and facilities for gymnastics and dancing. It also has a dark room for photography fans, and a number of game rooms. And there is a teen-

age lounge with fireplace and food facilities, and two outside terraces.

The renovation project cost \$420,000, according to Supervisor Raven. He said experts had told him that in today's construction market the buildings and facilities could not be duplicated for less than several million dollars.

Recreation Village also includes tennis courts which can be converted into ice-skating rinks in the winter, handball and basketball courts, picnic groves,

nature paths and baseball diamonds. Three parking fields presently can accommodate 250 cars, and are capable of expansion to 500-car capacity.

Future plans call for development of a nine-hole chip and putt golf course and a swimming pool.

Councilman Joseph Giordano who, along with Councilman Caesar Trunzo, was a leading proponent of Recreation Village, will welcome the people of Islip at today's dedication ceremony.

note
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FORM 1A