

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>103-05-0176</u>	<u>004</u>
QUAD _____	
SERIES _____	
NEG. NO. _____	

B-23

YOUR NAME: Town of Islip DATE: 8/15/75

YOUR ADDRESS: Town Hall 655 Main St. Islip, L.I., N.Y. 11751 TELEPHONE: 516-581-2000

ORGANIZATION (if any) Dept. of Planning, Housing, & Development

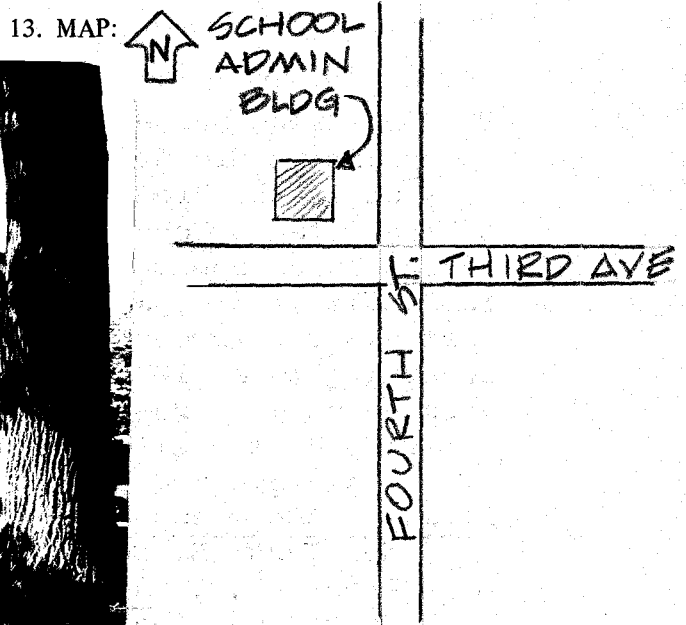
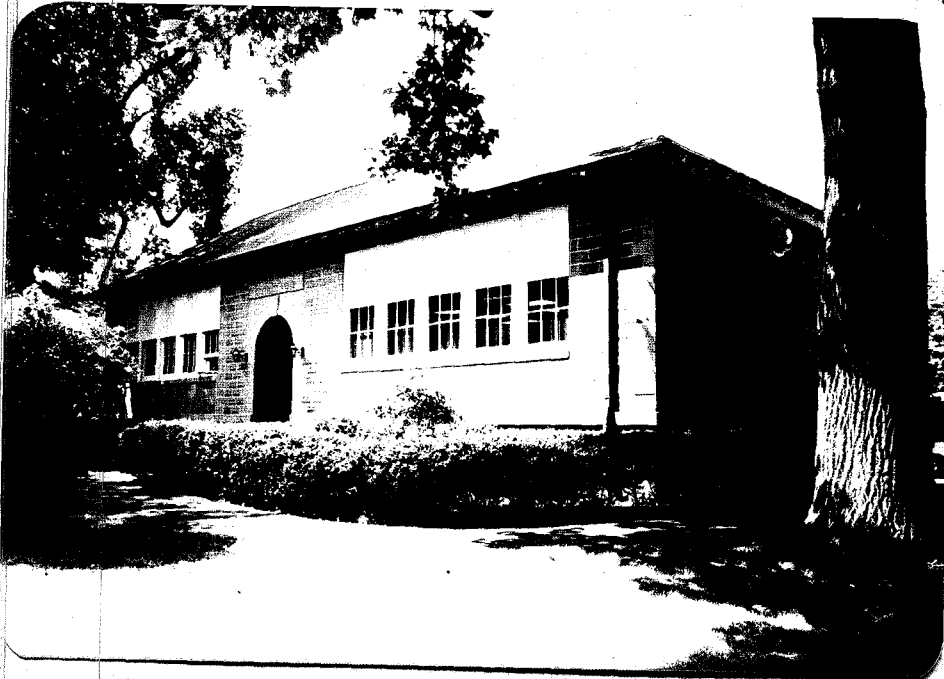
IDENTIFICATION

- BUILDING NAME(S): Brentwood School Administration Building
- COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Brentwood
- STREET LOCATION: Fourth St, west side; at Third Ave; north side
- OWNERSHIP: a. public b. private
- PRESENT OWNER: _____ ADDRESS: _____
- USE: Original: School Present: Administration Building
- 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: Rusticated concrete block.
- 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):
New addition to West facade.

12. PHOTO: Negative No. C-10A



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: _____
 j. other: _____
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: _____

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:
 (Indicate if building or structure is in an historic district)

The Brentwood School Administration Building is set back from the corner on a cleared lot surrounded by a chain link fence.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE (including interior features if known):
 Rusticated concrete block facade. Tile roof. Dentils under cornice. Original windows. Formal center arched entrance. Arch over entrance is keyed. Stone course at water table.

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: _____

ARCHITECT: _____

BUILDER: _____

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

The Brentwood School Administration Building served for most of its years as Brentwood's School. The school was first housed in what is the Brentwood News Building today. It then moved to the Octagon School house during the reign of the Utopian Modern Times community in the 1850's. The present building was built in two parts as the cornerstone suggests. The earlier part was constructed in 1906 and the later part in 1932. According to an 1873 Atlas of Brentwood ^a school was then located at its present site. There was an even earlier school building on the site. Architecturally the School building is

21. SOURCES: handsome and locally significant.

Atlas of the Ocean Shore of Suffolk County (Westerly Section)
 New York: E. Belcher Hyde, 1915, Plate 17.

22. THEME: Beers, F.W. Atlas of Long Island, New York. New York:
 Beers, Comstock and Cline, 1873, Plate 155.

Zwerling, Nancy. Conversation with Nancy Zwerling on 7/15/175.
 Research by the Society for the Preservation of L.I. Antiquities

Brentwood, In-The-Pines

THE VILLAGE of Brentwood (sometimes called Brentwood-in-the-Pines) has an interesting story behind it. It is however, a short story compared to those of many other communities on the island. Little over a century ago, this village in the northerly part of Islip town was an unidentified section of the scruboak belt. It wasn't until 1842, with the main line of the LIRR completed that far out from Jamaica, that a station was erected, not at the site of Brentwood, but some distance to the west. Called Thompson's Station, it served such nearby communities as Smithtown, Hauppauge, Central Islip and several south side villages. It was also the nearest rail stop for city sportsmen who patronized Liff Snedecor's hunting and fishing lodge at Great River and Liff ran his own stage to and from the station over the sandy, and sometimes snowy roads between. The same service was continued, with Liff's son Obie doing the driving, after Liff sold the lodge and its 1100 acres of woodland to the newly organized South Side Club.

A little settlement naturally sprang up around Thompson's Station and in 1849 a

Paul Bailey

U.S. post office was established there. The following year Josiah Warren and Stephen Pearl Andrews purchased several hundred acres in what was some day to become Brentwood, and within the next few years founded a community of families whose adult members subscribed to the political and social doctrines which Messrs. Warren and Andrews preached. They called the place Modern Times. Warren was the sparkplug of the movement which, far from the teachings of Karl Marx as some writers have reported, emphasized "the sovereignty of the individual."

Warren built an octagonal structure as the center of activities. Here was located the seat of local government which was Warren himself. Also housed in the building were Warren's general store, Warren's printing plant, his community weekly, and a school, of which Warren was the sole instructor. Using the printing plant to good advantage, he circularized the living advantages of Modern Times throughout state and nation and the place grew by leaps and bounds.

Meanwhile, the tract was

subdivided and zoned and a highway system laid out with the main thoroughfares converging upon Warren's eight-sided building. In 1856 when the town established a school district to include the area, a primary school was established with Miss Eleanor Blacker as teacher.

During the early years of the community, homeowners had difficulty in obtaining water. The only available supply had to be toted in buckets from the farm of Dr. Edgar F. Peck which lay outside the area. Warren finally called a public meeting to solve this problem and as a result a community well was sunk conveniently close to most homes. This led to some householders acquiring horses and cows. Thereafter a community manure pile was started and this in turn led to a boom in gardening. Among the inhabitants of the place before 1860 was Charles A. Codman, an experienced farmer. Brothers William and John Metcalf joined in building a home and with them lived two sisters and a Mrs. Hayward. One Henry Edgar turned his home into a meeting place for the Positivist Society which he founded.

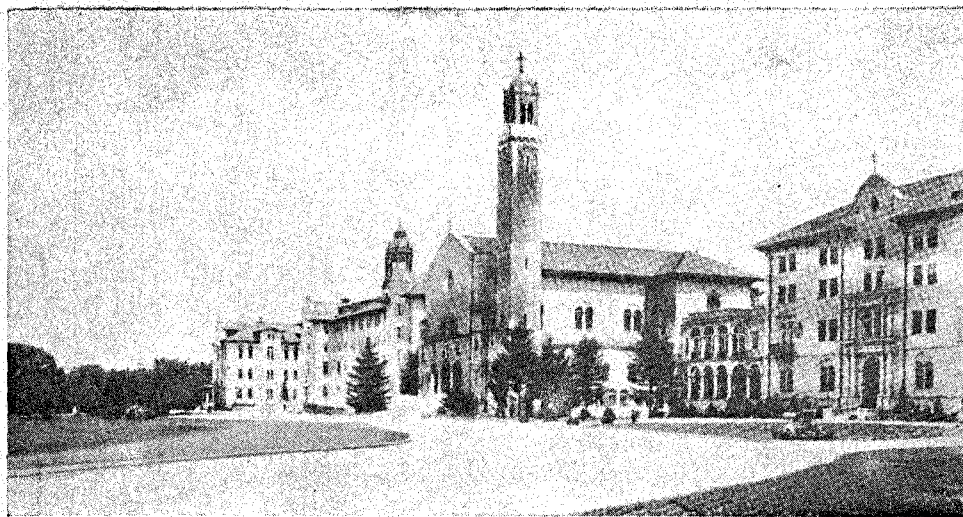
(Continued on page 141)

See 1873 Atlas

See Stills

see 1873 Atlas

gone was SW corner third + third



The Academy of St. Joseph at Brentwood.