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HISTORIC AND NATURAL DISTRICTS  
INVENTORY FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
UNIQUE SITE NO. <u>10305.006133</u>
QUAD. _____
SERIES _____
NEG. NO. _____

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

Form 1

YOUR NAME: B. Van Liew, Consultant/WHC DATE: 5/5/83

YOUR ADDRESS: Box 416, St. James, LI, NY TELEPHONE: 516-584-5600  
11780

ORGANIZATION (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

1. NAME OF DISTRICT: Central Islip State Hospital

2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Central Islip

3. DESCRIPTION:

*See attached*

4. SIGNIFICANCE:

*See attached*

5. MAP:

*See attached*

CENTRAL ISLIP PSYCHIATRIC CENTER

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HISTORIC AND NATURAL DISTRICTS 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. 103-05-0133
QUAD. Planning Dept.
SERIES
NEG. NO.

OCT 28 1975
DO3

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

\*\*\*\*\*

- 1. NAME OF DISTRICT: Central Islip State Hospital DISTRICT
2. COUNTY: Suffolk TOWN/CITY: Islip VILLAGE: Central Islip

3. DESCRIPTION:
The Central Islip State Hospital is situated on a one thousand acre wooded property located on the east and west sides of Carelton Avenue from Clayton Street to the North to the Southern State Parkway to the South. The hospital grounds contain buildings from various periods of the hospital's growth. These structures of many different architectural styles, ranging from Tudor Revival to Colonial Revival, are set among clusters of trees and rolling lawns. Many of the hospital's buildings today remain abandoned.

4. SIGNIFICANCE:
The Central Islip State Hospital was first constructed in 1887 as an experimental farm colony of the New York City Lunatic Asylum. The State of New York took ownership of the Hospital in 1896, and it has remained the largest State mental Institution. The first buildings were designed by famous architect Frederick Withers of New York in 1887. The following years saw many additions to the hospital grounds. Handsome brick building groups G, H, I, & K, known as the "String of Pearls" were constructed in 1901, Tudor Revival groups M & S were built in 1911 and 1913 respectively. The facility was virtually self-sufficient until 1945, supplying all of its own needs. The isolation of the syphilis spirochete;
5. MAP: an important medical contribution, was discovered at the lab of the Hospital. The Central Islip State Hospital is significant both historically and architecturally.

Map on back of page.

SOCIETY PRESERVATION  
L. I. ANTIQUITIES  
SETAUKET, L. I., N. Y. 11733

October 17, 1975

Mr. George A. Roberts, Director  
Land Management Bureau  
Department of Mental Hygiene  
44 Holland Avenue  
Albany, New York 12229

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of Wednesday, October fifteenth, we would be most grateful if you could send us information about the architects for the following buildings at Central Islip State Hospital.

Central Islip Recreation Center north of Clayton Street

Hoffman House, 1911, east side Carleton Avenue

"String of Pearls", 1901

Mat Shop, c 1911, originally Powell house

Unit D4 - C. K. Post Rehabilitation Center, east side Carleton Ave.

Building Group M & S

Photo Laboratory, original laboratory where breakthrough in mental medicine occurred, left fork beyond Maintenance Building

Headstart Building c. 1913, originally Staff House

Robbins Hall, 1931, east side Carleton Avenue

Firehouse, before 1898, now Security Headquarters

FORM 1

Mr. George A. Roberts - 2 - 10/17/75

Staff Cottages E & D

Staff Cottages A, B & C

Group of seven staff cottages, wood, Colonial style

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Harry R. Van Liew  
Consultant/Program Director

EVL: jr

FORM 1

November 5, 1975

Mr. John M. Brownrigg, Jr., AIA  
Project Chief  
Office of General Services  
Tower Building  
Empire State Plaza  
Albany, New York 12242

RE: Central Islip Psychiatric Center  
Architectural History  
Project No. S0467

Dear Mr. Brownrigg:

Thank you for the research summary sheet of historical structures at Central Islip Psychiatric Center your forwarded to us. I am sure this information will be valuable to the local historical society and the Town.

I believe the early photographs of certain buildings and building groups that you mentioned would be valuable. Therefore, please consider this a request for duplications of these items.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



George A. Roberts  
Director  
Land Management Bureau

CAR/gm

cc: Mr. Michael LoGrande, w/report  
Mrs. Harry Van Liew, w/report  
Mr. Herbert Simon  
Mr. George Gray, w/report

RECEIVED

NOV 3 1975



40210

FORM 1

SHEA  
LAND MANAGEMENT BUREAU  
DEPT. OF MENTAL HYGIENE  
ALBANY, N. Y.

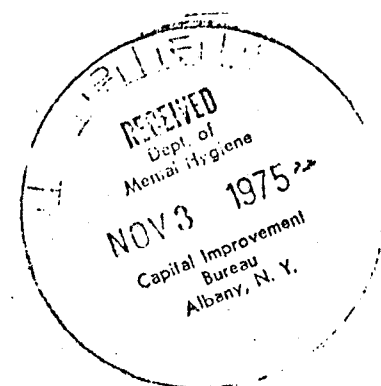
STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES  
TOWER BUILDING  
EMPIRE STATE PLAZA  
ALBANY, N.Y. 12242

Received by *g*

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION  
HARRY STEVENS, JR.  
DIRECTOR  
DIVISION OF DESIGN  
ALBERT C. BREVETTI  
DIRECTOR

October 31, 1975

Central Islip Psychiatric Center  
Architectural History  
Project No. S0467



Mr. Herbert Simon, Director  
Office of Facilities and Capital Services  
Department of Mental Hygiene  
44 Holland Avenue  
Albany, New York 12229

Dear Sir:

Kindly refer to D&C letter of October 24, 1975, subject as above.

A search has been made of our OGS Design and Construction records, and also, communication undertaken with our OGS Hauppauge Area Office, to locate any historical information concerning the buildings enumerated in your letter of October 16, 1975 directed to Mr. Albert C. Brevetti.

Attached hereto is a summary sheet prepared in chronological order touching upon each of the buildings enumerated. It provides all of the known historical information available in our records.

We did locate some early photographs and some postcard illustrations of certain of the buildings and building groups which may be of further assistance. These can be duplicated if so requested.

Very truly yours,  
Albert C. Brevetti, AIA

By *John N. Brownrigg*  
John N. Brownrigg, Jr. AIA  
Project Chief

JNB/sd  
Attch.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS PSYCHIATRIC CENTER  
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

July 31, 1975

BLDG. #	DESCRIPTION	BLDG. #	DESCRIPTION
1	L-1	96	Firehouse/Safety
2	L-2	100	Garage (By Cottage #71)
3	L-3	101	Powerhouse
4	L-4	102	Storehouse/Refrigeration
5	L-5	103	Laundry #63
6	L-6 (Research)	105	Storage (By Bldg. #15)
7	Patients	106	Rehabilitation Center
8	Cottage "A" (5 Families)	110	Transportation Garage
9	Cottage "B" (5 Families)	111	Transportation Shop
10	Home I (Student Nurses)	113	Storage
11	Home II (Student Nurses)	114	Vacant (By Bldg. #16)
12	Home III (10 Families)	115	Vacant (By Bldg. #18)
13	Patients	116	Grounds Dept./OGS Office
14	Cottage "C" (5 Families)	117	Vacant (Photo Shop)
17	Grandstand-Ball Field	118	Water Stand-Pipe (North)
18	Chapel	119	Cottage #1
19	Garage (Behind #44)	120	Cottage #2
22	Police Booth	121	Cottage #3
23	Storage (By Bldg. #5)	122	Cottage #4
24	Storage (By Bldg. #25)	123	Cottage #5
25	Patients	124	Cottage #6
26	Main Sewer Plant	125	Cottage #7
27	Garage (Main Sewer Plant)	126	Medical/Surgical
28	Tool House	127	Patients
29	Downstate Distribution Center	128	Patients
31	Sewer Pump Station (North)	129	Storage (By Bldg. #127)
32	Green House (By Bldg. #41)	131	Well House #7
41	<del>Green House</del>	132	Well House #8
42	Administration Building	133	Well House #10
44	Hoffman House (Garage)	134	Well House #10
45	Robbins Hall	135	Well House #11
46	Office Bldg. (Garage)	136	Sewer Pump Station (Laundry)
51	G-5	137	H-1
56	Staff Cottage	138	H-2
57	Storage (Old Laundry)	139	H-3
58	Staff Cottage	140	H Dining Room
63	Welding Shop	143	S-2
65	Wood Storage	144	S-3
66	"J" Building	145	S-4
67	Mechanical Stores	145	S-5
68	Staff (Hills Home)	147	S-6
69	Kitchen #5 (Dining Room)	148	Kitchen #4/Dining Room
70	Water Pump Station	149	Well House #1
71	Water Stand Pipe (South)	150	Well House #2
72	Sewer Pump Station (South)	151	Well House #3
73	Paint Storage	152	Well House #4
74	Storage (By Bldg. #75)	153	Well House #5
75	Kitchen #6 & Dining Room	158	H-1
76	A-6	159	H-2
77	B-6	160	H Center
78	A-5	161	H-3
79	B-5	162	H-4
80	A-4	163	I-1
81	B-4	164	I-2
82	A-3	165	I Center
83	B-3	167	I-3
84	A-2	168	I-4
85	B-2	169	K-4
86	A-1	170	K-2
87	B-1	171	K-3
88	Staff Building	173	K Center
89	Staff Cottage "D"	174	K-4
90	Staff Cottage "E"	175	K-5
91	Garage (By Bldg. #88)	176	K-6
92	Home 5	177	Golf Pro Shop
94	Maintenance Shops	178	Golf Club House
95	Patients	179	Golf Storage
96	Staff Cottage "F"	183	"D" Dining Room
97	Garage (By Cottage #6)	184	D-4
98	Garage (By Cottage #2)	185	D-5
		186	D-6

1975 LIST

MANY BLDGS.  
NOW ARE  
GONE.

RECEIVED MARCH 1983



BLDG. #	DATE	CONSTRUCTED USE	PRESENT USE	ARCHITECT SUPERVISION
7	1930	Patient Reception	Client Residence & Offices	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
10	1930	Student Nurse Res.	Payroll/Personnel Dept.	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
11	1930	Student Nurse Res.	Vacant	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
12	1930	Married Emp. Res.	Staff Residence	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
13	1930	Childrens Psych.	Community Preperation	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Cornelius J. White, State Architect Bertram D. Tallamy, Superintendent
25	1953	Infirmary	Client Residence & Offices	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Cornelius J. White, State Architect Bertram D. Tallamy, Superintendent
66 - case for info (1923)				
93	1939	Employee Res.	Employee Residence	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
95	1941	Infirmary	Client Residence	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
101	1953	Powerhouse	Powerhouse	Chapman and Evans Cornelius J. White, State Architect
102	1957	Storage/Bakery Cold Storage	Storage/Cold Storage Work Control/Shops	Chapman and Evans Carl W. Larson, Acting State Architect
106	1969	Rehab. Center	Rehab. Center	Armand Bartos and Associates
126	1967	Med/Surg.	GICU/Medical-Surgical	Kiff, Voss and Franklin Architects The Office of York and Sawyer J. Burch McMorren, Superintendent Charles S. Kawecki, State Architect
127/128	1954	Cont. Treatment	Client Residence	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Cornelius J. White, State Architect Bertram D. Tallamy, Superintendent
L-1	1930	Cont. Trt.-Female	Vacant	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
L-2	1930	Suffolk Psy.	Vacant	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
L-3	1930	Suffolk Psy.-Admin.	Business Office	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
L-4	1932	Suffolk Psy.	Vacant	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
L-5	1932	Cont. Trt.-Male	Vacant	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
L-6	1932	Cont. Trt.-Male	Vacant	D.P.W. Div. of Construction Wm. E. Haugaard, Commissioner of Architecture
43	1904	Administration	Administration	Unknown

RECEIVED MARCH 1983

FORM 1

RECEIVED MARCH 1983

**legals**

...man DeMott, ...  
**RESOLVED**, that the Central Islip Hospital Grounds as described above be rezoned to the Planned Development District to provide flexibility for renovations and redevelopment of the hospital grounds to permit the types of uses that New York Institute of Technology is contemplating.

Upon a vote being taken, the result was: Unanimously carried, 5-0.

This change of zone will become effective on and after January 30, 1983.

**TOWN BOARD, TOWN OF ISLIP**  
**BY: EILEEN KNECHT**  
**DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

Dated: January 11, 1983  
Islip, New York  
News 6145 1/20

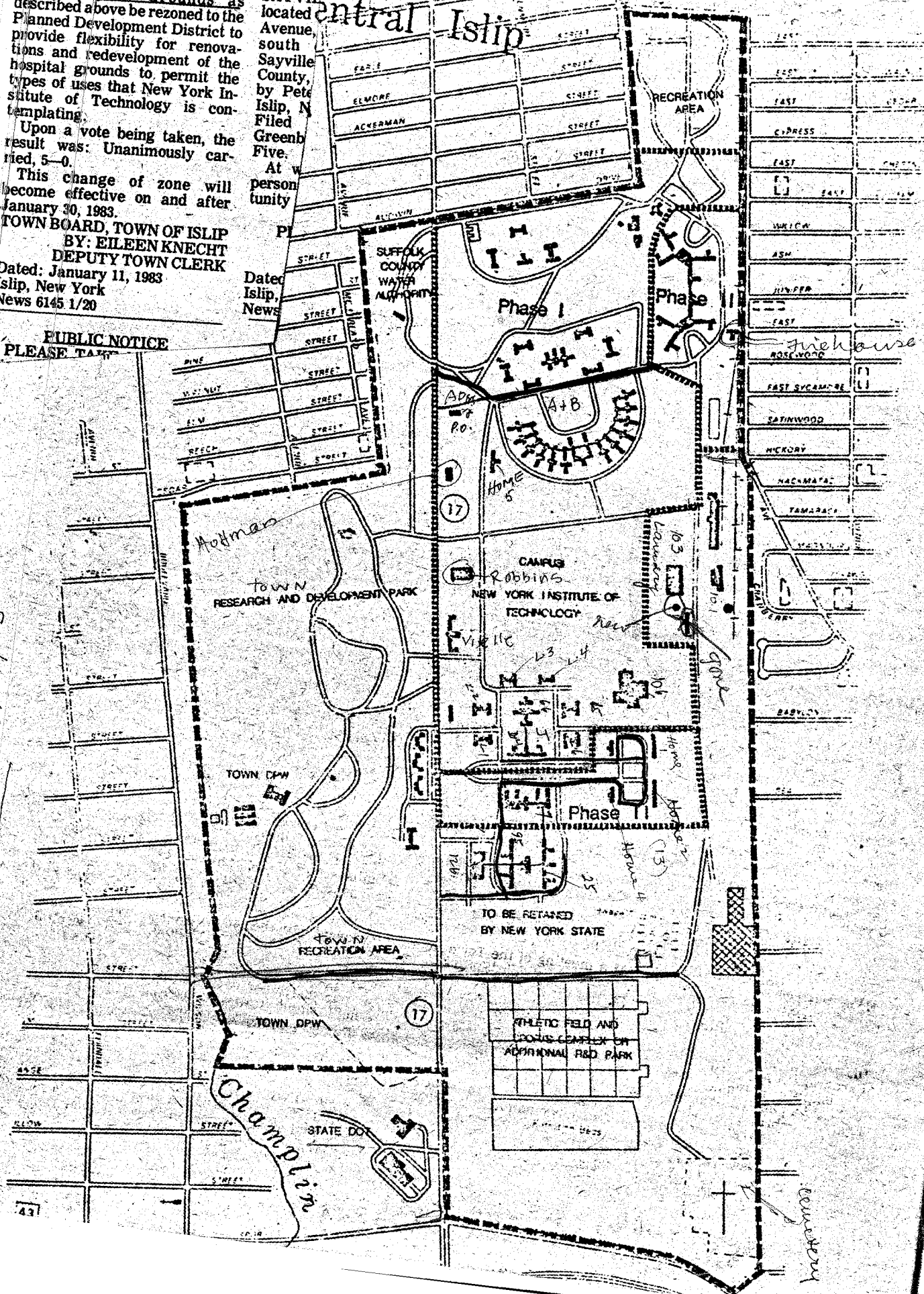
Dated  
Islip,  
News

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

ISLIP BULLETIN 1/11/83

1983

FORM 1



Central  
Slip

# NEW YORK

A GUIDE TO THE EMPIRE STATE

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*Compiled by workers of the Writers' Program  
of the Work Projects Administration  
in the State of New York*

1940

See page 176

AMERICAN GUIDE SERIES

ILLUSTRATED

SPONSORED BY NEW YORK STATE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS · NEW YORK

## CENTER ISLAND TOUR 705

agriculture, estate management, ornamental horticulture, poultry husbandry, and allied subjects. The two-story-and-attic red brick buildings, spaced around a broad expanse of shrub-studded lawn, are designed in the Georgian Colonial style.

At 29.7 m. is the junction with State 110.

Left on State 110 to WALT WHITMAN'S BIRTHPLACE, 5.7 m. (see *Jericho Turnpike Tour*).

The large group of buildings (L) at 30.1 m., houses the REPUBLIC AVIATION PLANT, backed by a vast expanse of level ground used as a testing field for planes.

East of Farmingdale, (State 24) parallels the Long Island Railroad through a monotony of scrub pine and scrub oak, and touches several villages that are little more than railroad stopping places.

At 35.9 m. is the junction with Commack Road.

Left on Commack Road 2.5 m. to PILGRIM STATE HOSPITAL (R), second largest State asylum for the insane, with some 7,000 patients. The brown, pressed brick buildings cover a large area in the pine barrens, only electric power lines and the heating plant stacks breaking the skyline.

BRENTWOOD, 39.8 m. (741 pop.), was in 1851 the scene of an experiment in communism led by Joseph Warren and others. Labor certificates passed for currency, as the group believed that all wealth was created by labor. Like similar experiments elsewhere, it soon failed, leaving in its place a typical Long Island settlement.

East of CENTRAL ISLIP, 42.2 m. (1,615 pop.), is (R) CENTRAL ISLIP STATE HOSPITAL (open) 46.6 m., with 8,000 patients, largest of the State institutions for the insane.

In RONKONKOMA, 47.4 m. (144 pop.), a mid-island hamlet, is the junction with Ronkonkoma Ave.

Left on Ronkonkoma Ave. to LAKE RONKONKOMA, 0.5 m. In recent years an increasing number of people have built summer cottages in the vicinity of the lake, and the dance halls and restaurants that they have attracted bring an ephemeral gaiety to the quiet waters and somber woodlands.

YAPHANK, 58.4 m. (350 pop.), furnished the title for Irving Berlin's war-time Broadway musical hit, *Yip, Yip, Yaphank*. The village was the railroad stop for Camp Upton, near-by military base during the World War (see *Jericho Turnpike Tour*).

The windings of the route eastward become more picturesque than comfortable as the roadbed grows poorer. At 63.3 m. the vegetation shows the ravage wrought by extensive forest fires in 1936. The surprisingly well-groomed bog at 68.2 m. is a commercial cranberry plantation.

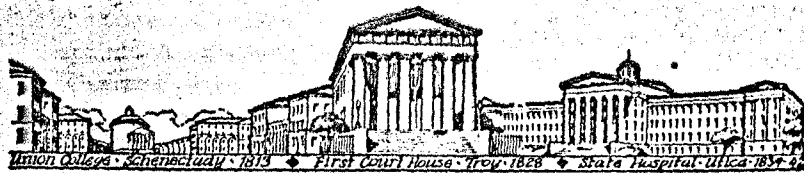
The route joins State 25 at 73 m. (see *North Shore Tour*), with which it runs in common to RIVERHEAD, 76.1 m. (5,400 pop.). From Riverhead the route continues southeast on State 24 to HAMPTON BAYS, 84.2 m. (1,127 pop.), which is at the junction with State 27 (see *South Shore Tour*).

pointed arches, wiry pinnacles, and crude tracery had been applied superficially to Anglican buildings which were fundamentally Georgian. An example of this 'Georgian Gothic' was the second Trinity Church, built in 1788 in New York City. St. Luke's (1824), Rochester, and St. Paul's (1827), Troy, represent more successful attempts to approximate medieval forms. In secular building, the 'castellated' style derived from English Tudor castles was preferred. Typical are Colonel James McKay's Castle (1837), Buffalo, the fine West Point Library (1841), and Lyndhurst, the Philip R. Paulding mansion, built in 1840 in Tarrytown by Alexander Jackson Davis, that prodigious peer of eclectic architects. Hyde Park's St. James Episcopal Church (1844), designed by the amateur, Augustus Thomas Cowman, shows further improvements.

It remained for the Englishman, Richard Upjohn, to introduce America to authentically designed and executed Gothic. In the third Trinity Church (1839-46) he achieved an effect of such dignity that Gothic soon replaced Greek as the popular style. New York State is particularly rich in Upjohn's work, outstanding examples being St. Paul's Cathedral (1850), Buffalo, and Albany's St. Peter's (1859). Especially worthy of note are Upjohn's charity jobs, the board-and-batten chapels sprinkled throughout the State; St. Paul's (1851), Kinderhook, is one of the most charming.

Since England was the fountainhead of New York State Gothic, it is not strange that John Ruskin's Victorian Gothic, based on the medieval buildings of northern Italy, quickly made its appearance here. Half Gothic, half Romanesque, the Nott Memorial Library of Union College, Schenectady, built in 1858-76 by Edward Tuckerman Potter, displays the salient features of the style in its polychrome masonry and polygonal, domed mass, inspired by the Baptistery at Pisa. Calvert Vaux and Frederick Withers, English architects who came to America to assist Andrew Jackson Downing, celebrated landscape architect of Newburgh, built in 1866-72 one of the most pretentious and costly Victorian Gothic monuments in New York, the Hudson River State Hospital, north of Poughkeepsie.

The pattern books of Downing and Vaux, which guided American house



1940

design in the forties a tectural styles. Takin Irving's Sunnyside in Italianate villas, Swis etted Style.' Of all the the most exotic exam; Norman hodgepodge villa which Frederick landscape painters, bui

In the 1850's New Y in the development of columns, and floor bear to secure greater fire re floor construction. The cast encouraged an untr

In New York State a rated an unprecedented a tremendous building t of Europe. The restless schools and churches. ever, the English Ren Napoleon III's Second by the reconstruction building of the Opera, r

New York enthusiast expression of its econo buildings in the State w College, Poughkeepsie, the Louvre, complete w accents. A surer applica Thomas Fuller and Aug State Capitol in Albany stylistic admixtures. In



1940

Tremendous economic energy brought New York tremendous building activity, and this, in turn, has made the State a leader in all architectural fields, especially apparent in the many examples of new, highly specialized building types, such as Buffalo's New York Central Railroad Station, the Central Islip State Hospital, the great pavilions at Jones Beach, the Attica State Prison, and an ever-expanding array of educational institutions. Not only did new building types appear, but older forms underwent progressive change. Mangin's graceful City Hall in old New York and modern Buffalo's gigantic municipal skyscraper symbolize a whole history of urban development. Between the stinking, windowless, 'railroad' tenements of 1850 and the sunlit low-rental housing at Brooklyn's Williamsburg and Buffalo's Kenfield lies almost a century of crusading against speculator and jerry-builder. New York has always led in the development of the single-family, middle-class suburban house, that integration of city and country which is one of America's most important and most typical contributions to modern architecture. In Forest Hills, Long Island, and Sunnyside, Astoria, New York architects made notable advances toward the creation of a homogeneous, protected, traffic-free 'neighborhood unit,' a concept used increasingly in the design of modern residential communities.

New structural systems, new building types, and new planning methods led inevitably to a new aesthetic approach. In contrast to the conservators of traditional values, a school of architects has appeared that seeks to use these new resources and standards as the very bases of a new architectural synthesis. In the formation of a new manner, the first step has always been to renounce the prevailing mode and state the problem in starkly realistic terms. Such efforts have been seen in New York before. The asceticism of the Shaker buildings in Mount Lebanon and the Crum Elbow Friend's Meeting House near East Park, the forthright utilitarianism of the superb Schoharie Aqueduct at Fort Hunter, and the self-conscious craftsmanship which the Roycrofters of East Aurora inherited from William Morris, all have a close kinship to the majestic geometry of the great Port of Albany grain elevator, the 'International Style' exhibited in Howe and Lescaze's Hessian Hills School at Croton, and the lithe, soaring harmony of the Bronx-Whitestone bridge.

Whether the motive for negation of the past be religious, economic, or intellectual in origin, it often results in clean, bold forms of startling 'constructivistic' beauty. Despite their long pronouncements, the extreme abstractionists have not so much abandoned their inheritance of baroque grammar as they have substituted a 'constructivist' vocabulary of glass,

steel beam, and Tomorrow, and Wright long ago d vivid imagination beauty that are ne can discover amo better days ahead. the better conten Modern Art (1939 WGY Broadcasti hou, aims to ac breadth, and com leave such aesthet the future his grea architecture, whic seventeenth-centu moditie, firmeness,



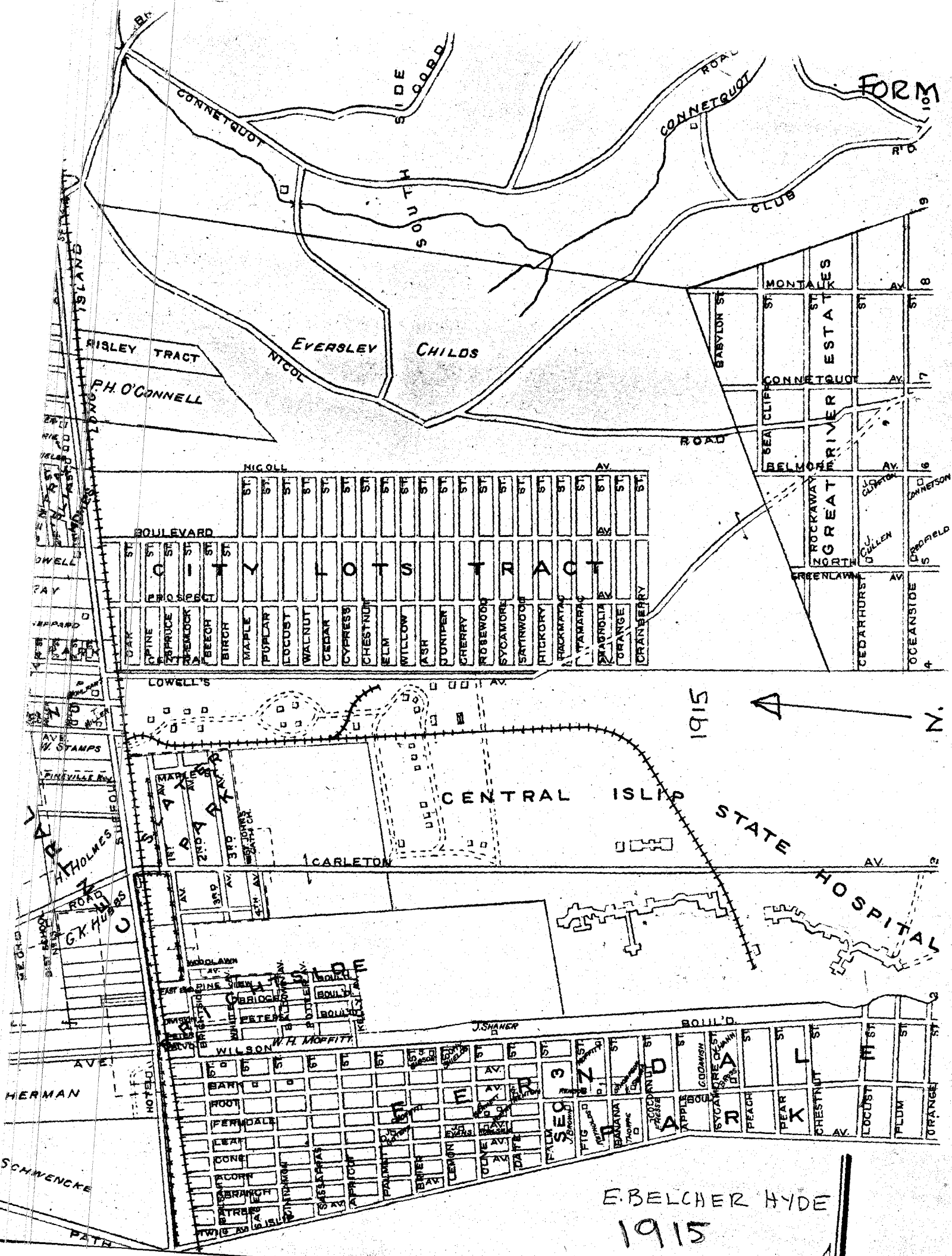
1940

Handwritten notes in the left margin, including 'also see' and 'see'.

Handwritten 'X' marks in the right margin, with an arrow pointing to the text 'the Attica State Prison'.



FORM 1



E. BELCHER HYDE  
1915



HOSPITALS & NURSING - CENTRAL ISLIP STATE HOSPITAL

# Preserving Artifacts of a Dark Past

By Bob Keeler

Central Islip—The massive wooden seat, with heavy leather straps and a wooden box-like hood where a sitting person's head would be, is almost the first thing you see as you walk through the door.

It looks like an electric chair, but it isn't. It is a tranquilizer chair, an artifact of the snake-pit era of psychiatric treatment. When a patient became too agitated or too violent to handle, he would be strapped for as long as necessary in the chair, complete with a bucket beneath the seat in case the patient had to relieve himself.

The chair was built in the wood shop at Central Islip Psychiatric Center for the Dave Garroway Today show years ago. It was never used on patients, but it is a faithful reproduction of those that were.

Next to the chair sits a small black box that bristles with dials and electrodes, an old-fashioned device for administering electroshock therapy. The small room in the basement of Robbins Hall at the Central Islip center also contains items such as a large metal box marked "Patients' Property," a huge coffee grinder once used in the central kitchen, a collection of elaborate wood carvings and other craft work done by patients and a bathtub on wheels that was formerly used to bathe patients in the wards.

The room has been open for about two years as a museum of Central Islip's psychiatric history. Next month it will be dedicated as the Dr. Francis J. O'Neill Psychiatric History Museum in honor of the man who served as Central Islip's director from 1951 to 1972.

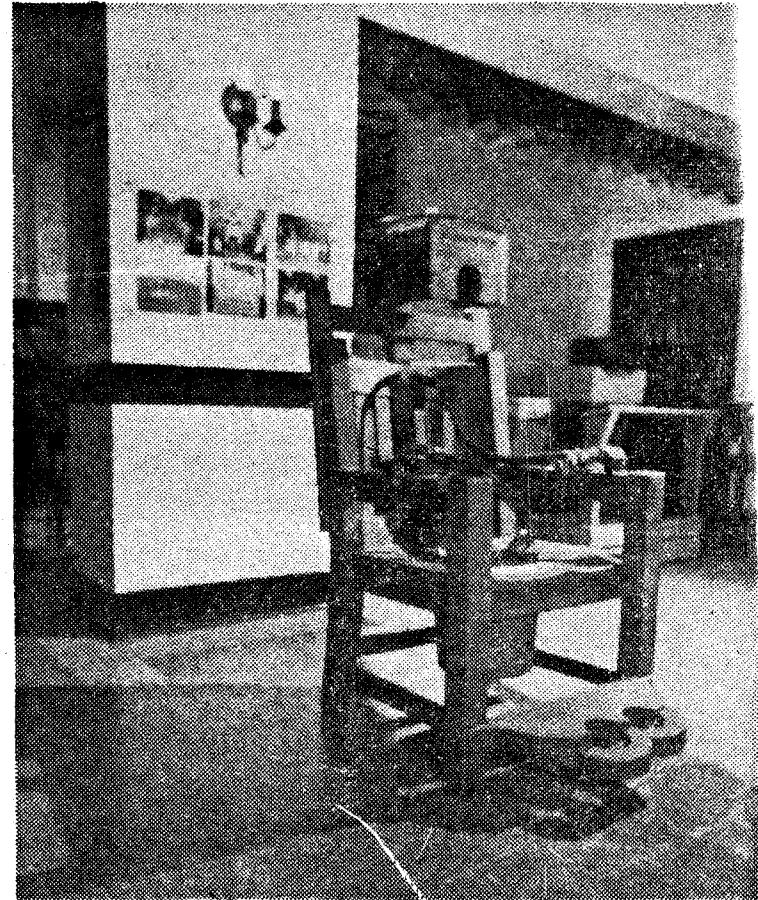
The idea for the museum came from employ-

ees. "We all were concerned because we were losing the mementos of the hospital because it was getting smaller and smaller," said Jesus Pena, deputy director of the center. A committee of employees and others was formed, with O'Neill as chairman, to gather the artifacts and set up the display. The museum is open by appointment to groups ranging from high school students to the elderly and also to patients. Rita Butler, the editor of the center's monthly newspaper, serves as a museum guide.

"We're hoping to expand, and we're getting donations of big display racks," Ms. Butler said. Carl Starace, the Islip Town historian, who served on the committee, has proposed that the museum be moved into the former hospital morgue. That building, located on hospital property being sold to Islip by the state, was declared a town landmark last year. Starace said it was there, in the 19th Century, that "the original experiments were done on the spirochetes [bacteria] for syphilis."

The museum at Central Islip is not the only one of its kind. There is one, for example, at the Utica Psychiatric Center, the oldest state hospital in New York. Perhaps the largest is at the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kan. That museum has 10 rooms filled with such items as the papers of Benjamin Rush, the first American psychiatrist, and the papers of Clifford Beers, the founder of the mental health advocacy movement.

"There are not many objects [on psychiatric history], so you have to deal mostly with papers," said John Redjinski, the Topeka museum's curator.



Newsday Photo by Dan Neville

Antique tranquilizer chair on display in museum

NEWS DAY, Mon Oct 31, 1972, p.17

FORM 1

ANALYSIS OF PSYCHIATRIC CENTER AND DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER  
 CONSTRUCTION DATES OF FACILITY BUILDINGS  
 FOR OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW

Facility No. 4 Facility Name Central Islip P C

<u>Building No.</u>	<u>Building Name</u>	<u>Building Date</u>
0		1938
1	Building L-1	1930
2	Building L-2	1930
3	Group L	1930
4	Building L-4	1932
5	Building L-5	1932
6	Building L-6	1932
7	Admission	1930
8		1932
9		1932
10		1930
11		1930
12		1930
13	Building 13	1930
14		1932
15		1902
16		1908
17		1935
19		1930
20		1904
25* (same as 95)	Hoppin Building	1950
26		1933
27		1930
28		1910
30		1930
31*		1950
32		1900
39		1890
41		1888
43		1904
44		1912
45		1933
46		1909
47		1906
48		1890
49		1900
51	Group G	1906
52		1902
56*		1968
57		1930
59*		1968
61	Group K	1902
62		1902
63		1908

\* 1945 to Present

. See page 9 .

ANALYSIS OF PSYCHIATRIC CENTER AND DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER  
 CONSTRUCTION DATES OF FACILITY BUILDINGS  
 FOR OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW

Facility No. 4 (Cont'd.) Facility Name Central Islip P.C.

<u>Building No.</u>	<u>Building Name</u>	<u>Building Date</u>
66	Group J	1923
67		1892
68		1927
69		1922
70		1933
72		1930
75		1940
76	Group A	1938
77	Group B	1940
78	Group A	1940
79	Group B	1940
80	Group A	1940
81	Group B	1940
82	Group A	1940
83		1940
84	Group A	1940
85	Group B	1940
86	Group A	1940
87	Group B	1940
88		1940
89		1940
90		1940
91		1940
93		1940
94		1940
95 (same as 25)	Hoppin Building	1941
96*		1960
97		1901
98		1915
99		1913
101*		1953
102*		1957
103*		1955
106*		1969
110		1892
111		1913
113*		1965
114		1897
116		1899
117		1925
119		1923
120		1923
121		1923
122		1925

\* 1945 to Present

ANALYSIS OF PSYCHIATRIC CENTER AND DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER  
 CONSTRUCTION DATES OF FACILITY BUILDINGS  
 FOR OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW

Facility No. 4 (Cont'd.) Facility Name Central Islip P.C.

<u>Building No.</u>	<u>Building Name</u>	<u>Building Date</u>
123		1925
124		1923
125		1925
126*	Medical-Surgical	1965
127*	Corcoran	1954
128*	Corcoran	1954
134		1930
135		1930
137	Group M	1912
138	Group M	1912
139	Group M	1912
140		1912
142	Group S	1912
143	Group S	1912
144	Group S	1912
145	Group S	1912
146	Group S	1912
147	Group S	1910
148		1911
158	Group H	1902
159	Group H	1902
160		1902
161	Group H	1902
162	Group H	1902
163	Group I	1902
164	Group I	1902
165		1902
167	Group I	1902
168	Group I	1902
169	Group K	1902
170	Group K	1902
171	Group K	1902
173		1902
174	Group K	1902
175	Group K	1902
176	Group K	1902
177*		1959
178*		1955
179*		1965
183		1894
184*	Group D	1898
185	Group D	1898
186	Group D	1898

\* 1945 to Present

ANALYSIS OF PSYCHIATRIC CENTER AND DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER  
CONSTRUCTION DATES OF FACILITY BUILDINGS  
FOR OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW

Facility No. 4 (Cont'd.) Facility Name Central Islip P.C.

<u>Building No.</u>	<u>Building Name</u>	<u>Building Date</u>
777*		1968
983		1970
984		1930
985		1930
986		1930
987		1930
988		1930
989		1930
990		1930
991		1930
992		1930
993		1930
994*		1945
995*		1950
996*		1964
997*		1971
998*		1950
999		1930

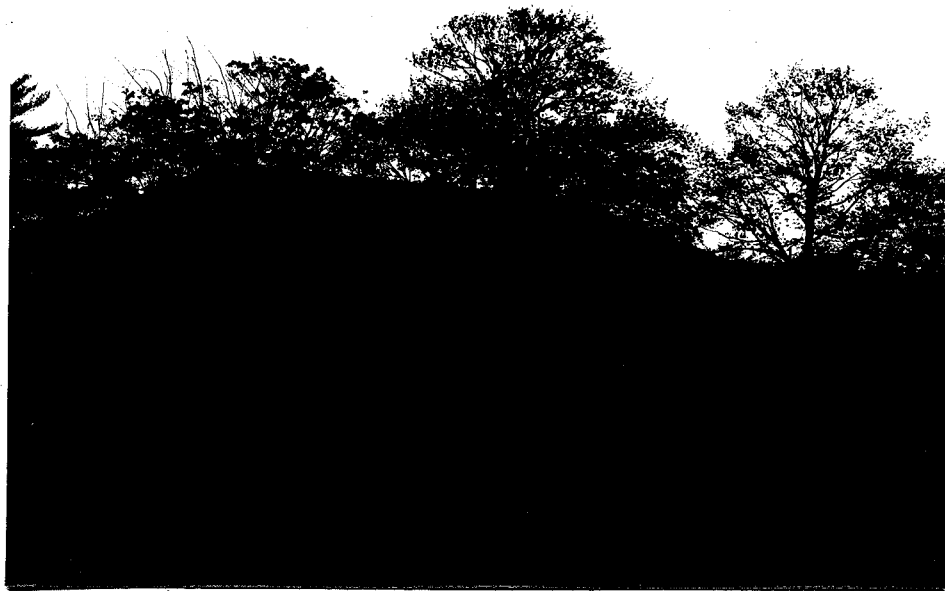
NOTE. THESE  
BUILDING NUMBERS  
ARE NOT KNOWN  
AT CENTRAL ISLIP.



BLDG. 17 Grandstand BRICK AND METAL  
Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,32 from SW  
BUILT 1935



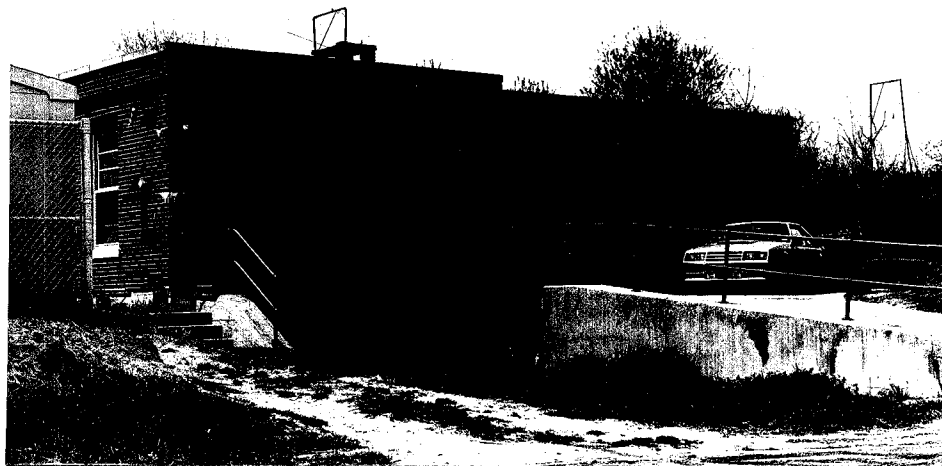
BLDG. 179 (2)  
Rustic wooden Gazebo  
Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,33 from SW  
DATE UNKNOWN



BLDG. 19 - BUILT 1930  
Concrete block garage in back of Hoffman  
Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,34 from SE



Walkway through allee of trees, ONCE THE RAILROAD SIDING CAME ALONG HERE.  
Photo:CI-WHC-r-2,12 from NE



Building <sup>26</sup>~~XX~~-Brick

Disposal Unit-Sewer Pump Station, built 1930

Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,12 from SE



K-Plant, Brick

BUILDING 72 - SEWER LIFT STATION

BUILT - 1928 - 1930, HAS BRICK WALLS 12" THICK.



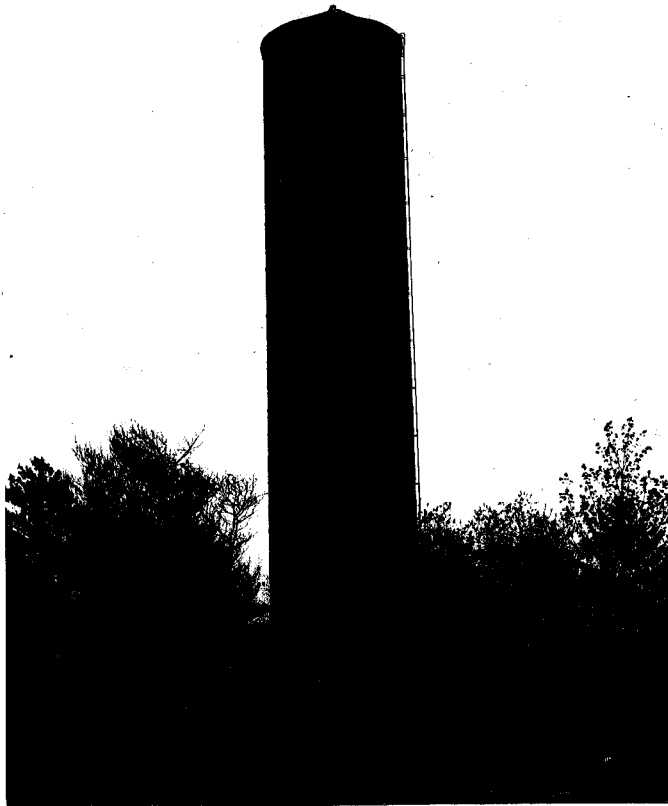


Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,5 from SW  
Building 71-Water Tower (SOUTH WATER TOWER)

This tower is 150 ft. tall, was built in 1934 and can hold up to ~~X million~~ 800,000 gallons of water.

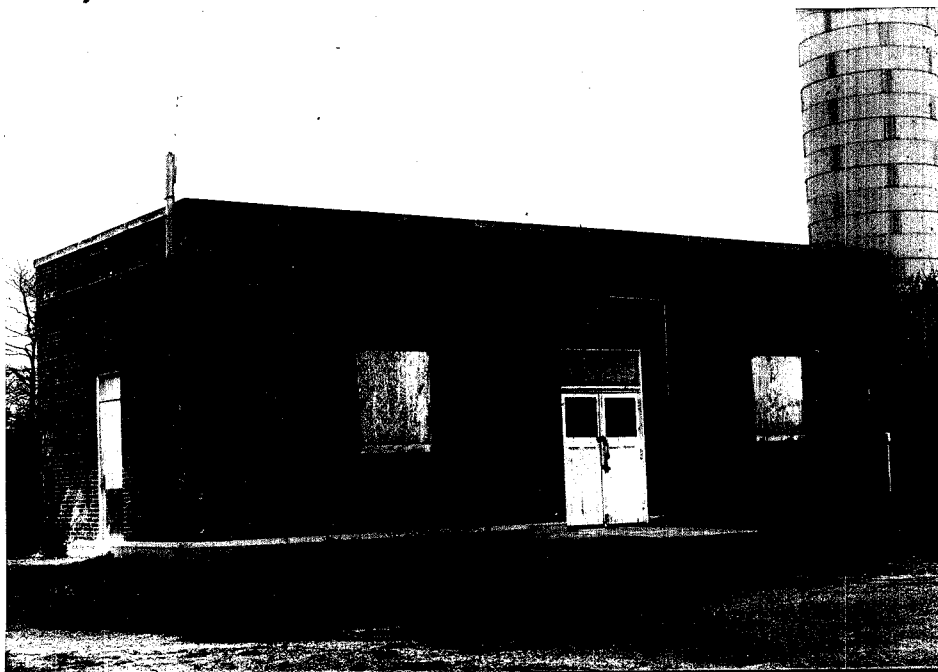
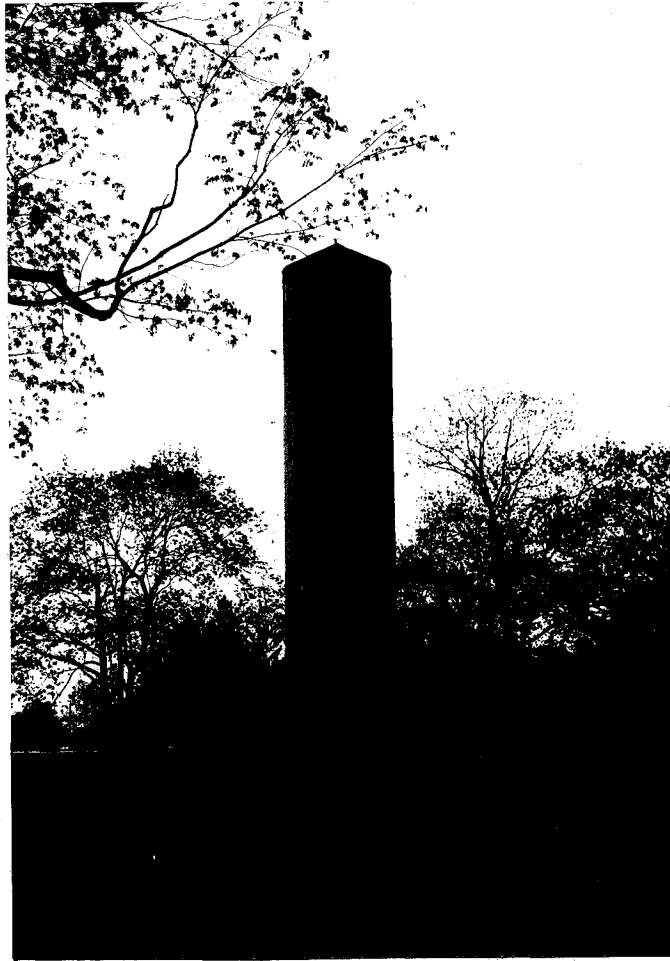


Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,6 from SW  
BUILDING 70 - PUMPING STATION  
BRICK - BUILT 1933



**NORTH** Water Tower OF METAL , BLDG. 118  
Photo:CI-WHC-r-2,13 from SE  
BUILT 1932 -34



BUILDING 153, BUILT 1914-1917 OF CONCRETE BLOCKS

Well # 5

Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,3 from SE  
(ABANDONED)



BUILT C 1940, BLDG. 131, RED BRICK

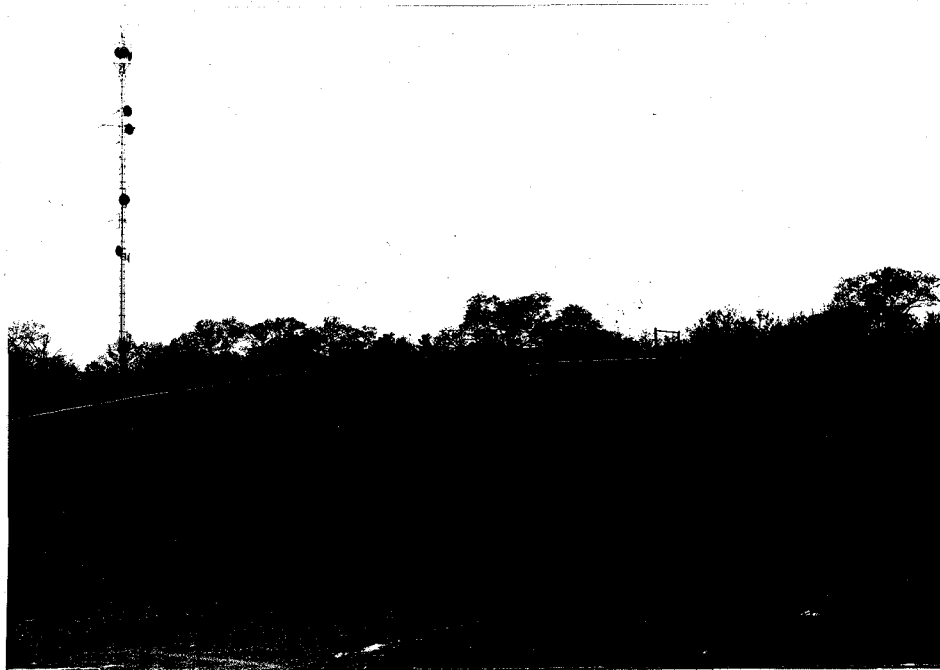
Well # 7

Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,10 from NE



BLDG. 132 Well #8 BUILT C. 1940 OF RED BRICK

Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,11 from SE



THE REMAINS OF A RAMP, ORIGINALLY A RAILWAY SIDING, SERVED THIS RAMP.

Elevated structure for the delivery of coal

Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,2 from NE



CONCRETE BLOCK - BUILT C. 1914-1917 (ABANDONED)

Well #1 (BUILDING 149)

Photo: CI-WHC-r-1,7 from SW



BUILDING 150, BUILT C. 1914-1917 of CONCRETE BLOCKS.

Well # 2

Photo: CI-WHC-r-1,4 from SW



Well # 3

Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,9 from NE  
BUILDING 151, BUILT 1914-1917 of concrete blocks



Well # 4

Photo:CI-WHC-r-1,8 from SE  
BUILDING 152, BUILT 1914-1917 of CONCRETE BLOCKS.

## CENTRAL ISLIP PSYCHIATRIC CENTER

The history of the Central Islip area began with the arrival of the workmen to build the railroad around 1841. It is described by Dr. Edgar Fenn Peck who "discovered" the area when he visited the workmen's camp at what later became Suffolk Station (North Islip). In Stiles History of Kings County, 1884, one may read Dr. Peck's account of the rich soil at Brentwood and Central Islip with its "fine substratum of clay that holds the moisture and prevents leaching, the rich yellow loam being almost entirely destitute of sand." The workmen had cut through the woods to grade the railroad, opening "a long and beautiful vista as far as the eye could see - tall and lofty trees as thick as they could stand, on each side of the road bed." Dr. Peck purchased 2000 acres of William Nicoll at five dollars an acre, and in 1845 started cultivating the lands at Suffolk Station (NorthIslip). Both Brentwood and Central Islip are on land brought into the market and sold by Dr. Peck.

Here, the Central Islip Psychiatric Center - which was formerly known as Central Islip State Hospital - was established in 1887 as an experimental farm colony of the New York City Lunatic Asylum. In the 1902 atlas it is identified as the Manhattan State Hospital. The grounds cover a large

acreage lying south of the L.I.R.R. tracks on a flat level plain of good soil that was originally part of the land of William Nicoll.

The nearby hamlet of Central Islip dated from about 1841 when railroad workers came there to construct the first section of the Long Island Railroad. Today the hospital is surrounded by a residential area of small houses.

Up until very recently, there were 186 buildings on the hospital grounds which originally encompassed 1000 acres. The property was (and still is) handsomely planted with magnificent trees. Double rows of these line Carleton Avenue which bisects the hospital grounds, and rows of trees also are found along the original narrow paths that were laid out in the 19th century.

At its height the hospital was divided into two areas - the north colony and the south colony. A railroad spur extended south along the eastern boundary of the grounds to bring coal to the powerhouse.

The architectural styles of the buildings at Central Islip Psychiatric Center vary considerably - having been built over a wide period of time. The first buildings were constructed in 1887 at the north end nearest the railroad. Two of these remarkably unaltered old structures are still standing and, now owned by the Town of Islip, are used for



a Senior Citizens Center and other recreation purposes. <sup>WITHERS</sup>  
It is reported that these were designed by Frederick ~~Writers~~,  
the noted New York architect.

Today the only other structures surviving from the first period are the first powerhouse, now a transportation building, the interesting half-timbered fire house, and the former photolab (now abandoned).

Handsome structures in Tudor half-timber style which were constructed in 1911 and in 1913 in the north colony are still standing but have been abandoned and are also owned by the Town of Islip.

Another of the interesting older buildings is Building 66 (1923), now used by C.W. Post. The steep parapet gables and <sup>banks</sup> ~~bands~~ of windows are outlined with red stone. This building is unique as it is the only one of this type that was found at Central Islip, Kings Park, or at Pilgrim.

The isolation of the Syphillis Spirochete, an important medical contribution, was achieved at the Central Islip laboratory in 1913. This small structure was built in 1907 as the mortuary. In 1913 it was the hospital lab, and more recently was used as the photo lab. The Town of Islip now owns this landmark and has proposed establishing a Central Islip State Hospital museum in the building. The museum was formerly housed at Robbins Hall but as that structure is now abandoned, the museum items are awaiting an appropriate new

location.

Today the hospital is being very much reduced in size and many buildings have been abandoned. It is planned to further reduce operations and to ultimately vacate more of the older structures. Various adaptive reuses for the property are currently under consideration.

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL

Sources for the Central Islip hamlet are the Chace map of Suffolk County, 1858, and Beers Comstock map of 1873. A fine description of the founding of the hamlet is found in Stiles History of Kings County, which in 1884 published a letter by Dr. Edgar Fenn Peck. Dr. Peck purchased 2000 acres from William Nicoll at five dollars an acre before 1845.

For the history of the Central Islip Psychiatric Center there is very little published material available that describes the construction of the buildings. E.B. Bellsmith's history of the hospital explains the discovery of the syphillis spirochete and general hospital activities.

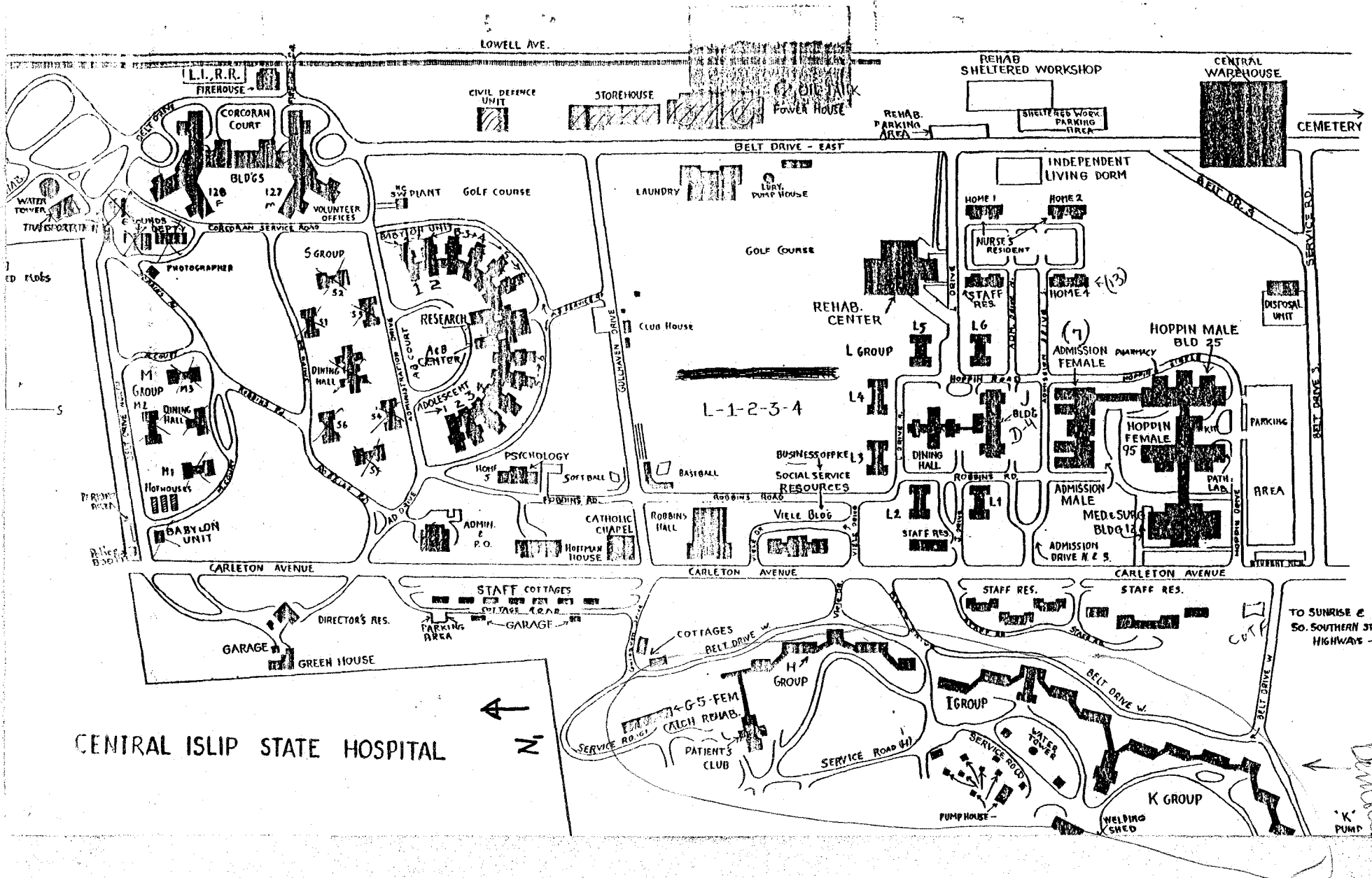
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CENTRAL ISLIP STATE HOSPITAL

RECEIVED MARCH 1983