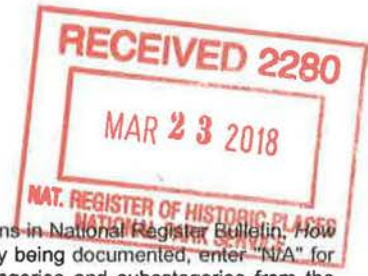


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Hempstead Town Hall  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_  
name of related multiple property listing N/A

### Location

street & number 1 Washington Street  not for publication  
city or town Hempstead  vicinity  
state New York code NY county Nassau code 059 zip code 11550

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this  nomination \_\_\_ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property  meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Roy Daniel Mackay 3.19.2018  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

DSKPV  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] 5/7/18  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only **one** box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public – Local
- public – State
- public – Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
1		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

GOVERNMENT / Town Hall

GOVERNMENT / Town Hall

GOVERNMENT OFFICE / Municipal Building

GOVERNMENT OFFICE / Municipal Building

LANDSCAPE / Plaza

LANDSCAPE / Plaza

7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS /

foundation: Stone, Concrete

Colonial Revival

walls: Brick, Stone, Concrete

MODERN MOVEMENT

roof: Rubber / Asphalt

other: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

**Summary Paragraph**

Hempstead Town Hall is a municipal complex located at 350 Front Street /1 Washington Street in the Village of Hempstead in Nassau County. The Town Hall complex lies near the geographic center of the current Town of Hempstead, which today extends from the City of New York (borough of Queens) on the west to the Oyster Bay town line on the east, and generally from Jericho Turnpike-Old Country Road in the north to the Atlantic Ocean in the south; it encompasses a total of 191.3 square miles. The town's population of 759,757 (2010 census) makes it the largest township by population in the United States. If Hempstead were a city, it would be the second-largest city in New York State.

The town hall is located in the heart of one of the oldest villages in New York State. Several other historic structures are immediately adjacent. To the north, across Front Street, is St. George's Episcopal Church (NR Listed 1973) and St. George's Episcopal Church Rectory (1793; NR Listed 1988) is south of the complex, across Peninsula Boulevard. The Hempstead United Methodist Church (Town Landmark, 1999), constructed in 1855, is northeast, across Washington Street.

The town hall campus occupies a large, rectangular, landscaped block bounded by Front Street on the north, Washington Street on the east, Peninsula Boulevard on the south, and Greenwich Street on the west. The complex includes three interconnected buildings, a plaza, and a parking lot that together form a unified governmental complex. Old Town Hall, originally constructed in 1918 and expanded in 1929 and 1950, is a three-story, three-part, twenty-three-bay long Colonial Revival style building that occupies the entire north side of the site along Front Street. New Town Hall, a five-story forty-five-bay addition constructed 1966-68, fills in the east side of the rectangle on Washington Street. A lower-level connection via a parking garage constructed at the same time linked the new section to Old Town Hall. Another smaller component constructed at the same time, the twelve-sided one-story Town Meeting Pavilion, sits in the plaza itself, balanced opposite a rectangular pool within a landscaped courtyard; above-ground connectors link it to New Town Hall and the parking garage. Both Old Town Hall and New Town Hall have entrances facing outward, toward the city streets, and inward, toward the plaza. There is a pedestrian entrance to the plaza on the south side that steps down from Peninsula Boulevard and another from the parking lot. The large parking lot serving the complex extends from the buildings west to Liberty and Greenwich Streets. The Town began leasing the "glebe land" between Liberty and Greenwich Streets from St. George's Church for a parking lot as part of the 1968 expansion of the municipal complex. The plaza took its current form in 1968 and the nominated parcel is the lot associated with the town hall complex since that date.

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**Narrative Description**

Hempstead Town Hall's governmental campus includes three primary components: Old Town Hall, New Town Hall, and the Meeting Pavilion. Due to their aboveground and underground interconnections, they are

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considered as one contributing building for the purposes of this National Register nomination; this is referred to as the “municipal complex” in the descriptions that follow. These interconnections were designed to facilitate movement between the different parts of the complex, each of which serves different functions for the municipal government. The designed plaza surrounding the buildings is counted as 1 contributing site.

### **Plaza, 1966-68 (1 contributing site)**

The plaza features a concrete platform primarily made up of multicolored squares made of smaller square panels; the border of each square is in light gray with dark gray corners and filled with pink concrete squares. Set slightly below street grade on Peninsula Avenue, the plaza provided a flat gathering space, facilitated the interconnection of the municipal complex, and covered the location of Horse Brook. The plaza features simple benches, a central, rectangular pool surrounded by a rectangular planting bed, square, hexagonal, and triangular patches of grass, and mature trees. Lightposts are distributed in a grid pattern across the plaza. The roof of the parking garage, which is accessible via the first floor of New Town Hall, is an extension of the plaza. It features patches of grass and a flagstone patio.

### **Old Town Hall, 1918, 1929, 1950 (contributing, part of municipal complex)**

Old Town Hall is a two-story, flat-roofed Georgian Revival brick building on a raised stone basement made up of three symmetrical sections: the central, 1918 eleven-bay by three-bay building; an eastern, 1929, five-bay by nine-bay building with a one-bay connector, and, on the west, a 1950, roughly L-shaped five-bay by nine-bay addition with an inset bay mimicking a connector. The original building has a central, five-bay section with two flanking three-bay sections. The 1918 section has a front façade length of one hundred twenty-five feet, with a maximum depth of ninety-three feet.<sup>1</sup> The brick walls feature continuous horizontal banding just below the second floor sills and quoins at the corners of each of the three wings. All of the windows are contemporary replacements which emulate the design and configuration of the original windows. A central, three-bay-wide brick and concrete porch with stairs at opposite ends and metal railings provides access to the main entrance in the central section. A small entry portico supported by four Doric columns marks the entrance; a leaded glass transom surmounts the double wood and glass door entrance. On the first floor, each eight-over-twelve window has a stone jack arch and is surmounted by an decorative brick archway with a limestone keystone and stone impost blocks. The second floor features eight-over-eight windows, each with an eight-pane transom, surrounded by a brick soldier course. A denticulated limestone cornice runs under the parapet roofline. A two-stage wooden clock tower surmounted by a gold dome and a spire on a brick and stone base extends from the roofline.

The flanking sections generally repeat the fenestration and decorative pattern of the central block, except that the second floor windows are only eight-over-eight. The connector (east) and inset bay (west) attaching the original building to the additions each feature identical entrances with double sets of stairs rising to wood panel doors flanked by narrow half-sidelights and surmounted by narrow transoms. Each door enframing is crowned with a large semi-circular wooden blind-arch within a decorative brick arch with limestone keystone

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<sup>1</sup> Steward Wagner, “Plan for Hempstead Town Hall,” Blueprints, 1918. Town of Hempstead Archives.

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and impost blocks. Both additions are carefully modeled after the design of the original building and use identical materials and design elements.

On the interior, Old Town Hall is divided into two primary floors and a basement level. At the basement level, the parking garage connects Old Town Hall to New Town Hall. In plan, the building features larger gathering spaces at the center of the building, flanked by double loaded corridors on each floor to the east and west. The interior of Old Town Hall carries through the Georgian Revival vocabulary of the exterior. In general, the public spaces of the 1918 wing feature a restrained and refined neoclassical scheme. Upon entering Old Town Hall, one enters a spacious public lobby of approximately twenty-five feet in width and fifteen feet in depth. At the center of the lobby, a colored mosaic of the town seal is installed at the center of the floor. The lobby features carved crown moldings, fluted pilasters, a chair rail, and stone floor moldings. A set of double doors, framed by sidelights, Corinthian columns, and an arched transom embellished with a clock and urns led to the office for the receiver of taxes, for in the early twentieth century payment of taxes was the most frequent reason for a visit to town hall. As originally built, these double doors would have led the visitor to a series of teller's windows used for the receipt of tax payments. This arrangement, however, has been modified and the area is presently dedicated to office space. The decorative entrance to this area is largely intact.

As one enters the Old Town Hall lobby, the stairway to the second floor is at right. At the ninth step there is a landing, requiring one to turn right to complete the ascent to the second floor. Upon reaching the second floor, there are two sets of double doors, each paneled and surmounted by broken pediments embellished with acorn ornaments. One set of doors led to the space reserved for the town board; the other served as entryway into the court room. The court room, which has also been used for public town board meetings and various ceremonies over the past century, is the most decorative public space in Old Town Hall. The ceiling of the court room rises to a height of nearly sixteen feet. The room is ornamented with ornate fluted columns surmounted by flower-ornamented capitals and American eagles with wings spread intertwined with victory wreaths. The court room has recently been restored and repainted with hues reflecting the 1918 color scheme.

### **New Town Hall, 1966-68 (contributing, part of municipal complex)**

New Town Hall is a five-story, forty-five-bay flat-roofed Modern concrete addition to the municipal complex. A penthouse rises from its roof. Part of the ground level is built into the sloping site and forms an underground parking garage which connects to Old Town Hall. New Town Hall has primary entrances on its west (plaza-facing) and east (road-facing) elevations. On the west, the main entrance is incorporated into an over-scale two-story, three-bay center section divided by wide marble piers. Entrance is through five glass doors sheltered by a flat cantilevered roof in the central bay. The entrance is flanked by large glass windows, while a metal screen covers the upper halves of the windows in all three bays. The state seal is centered on the screen over the entrance. On the east, two sets of double doors are inset into the façade and surrounded by marble panels. All elevations of New Town Hall are characterized by rows of tall, narrow windows divided by narrow concrete piers that extend from the second through fourth floors. A square patch of dark brown textured concrete is located under each window, dividing the building horizontally. The fifth floor has one square column per bay with banks of five aluminum windows in between.

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New Town Hall was constructed with a poured-concrete foundation and a steel superstructure. The walls are sheathed in concrete, marble, and brick. Upon entering the main building from the west, or plaza, entrance, the visitor enters a wide, two-story lobby and atrium with terrazzo floors and marble walls. The exterior glass walls admit a generous amount of light, creating a luminous effect even on cloudy days. The atrium is a public space, large enough to host displays and exhibitions. At the rear of the atrium are banks of elevators. One may, however, ascend to the first floor by way of twin staircases to a balcony-like mezzanine corridor overlooking the atrium. The first floor was designed to house more public spaces, including the offices of the town clerk, which was always envisioned as an important destination for the general public. The second, third, and fourth floors have a “figure 8” plan, with a central elevator core and hallway connecting the offices on each floor. The most widely used offices are generally located on the lower floors, while the more private executive suites are situated on the top floor of the building. At the ground level, New Town Hall is connected to the parking garage, which joins the New Town Hall addition to Old Town Hall and the Meeting Pavilion.

**Town Meeting Pavilion, 1966-68 (contributing, part of municipal complex)**

The Town Meeting Pavilion is a one-and-a-half story, brick Modern addition to the municipal complex. This component has nineteen sides: an inner hexagonal core framed by an outer corridor on one end. The lower story is brick, while the half-story is glass, and the complex roof is multi-gabled over the two-story core and flat over one story extensions. A concrete pier is located at each corner of the two-story section and extends to the base of each of the outer ends of the gable. There is a large central glass window flanked by two inset, double door entrances. Two one-story, flat-roofed hyphens with glass walls connect the pavilion to New Town Hall. The building’s interior is divided into a semi-hexagonal hallway, central viewing rooms and bathrooms, and two angled hallways leading to the large meeting room and gathering space. The meeting room features three-quarter walls with a brick “basket weave” pattern surmounted by triangular windows providing ample natural light, and shallow vaulted ceiling.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Government

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1918-1968

**Significant Dates**

1918, 1928, 1947, 1950, 1966-68

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Old Town Hall: Steward Wagner (1918), Louis J.

Day, Jagow and Heidelberg (1929, 1950)

New Town Hall Complex: Richard J. Heidelberg

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the construction of Old Town Hall in 1918, and ends with the completion of the New Town Hall, Town Meeting Hall and Plaza Complex in 1968.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Hempstead Town Hall complex is locally significant under Criterion A in the areas of government for its association with the development and explosive growth of the Town of Hempstead during the first half of the twentieth century. Hempstead Town Hall is additionally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an example of an interconnected complex of Colonial Revival and Modern buildings and landscapes reflecting changes in fashion for civic buildings as well as the town's perception of itself over time. The Town of Hempstead established its first town hall on this site, near Horse Brook, in 1879. However, the Victorian, wood-frame building quickly became insufficient for the town, which grew rapidly during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century as a result of the creation of Nassau County in 1898 and increasing suburbanization. After issuing an invitation for plans, the town hired architect Steward Wagner to design and build a brick Colonial Revival Town Hall in 1918. By applying this style to its new seat of government, the town reflected its pride in its own Colonial history as a foundation to lead it into the future. Wagner's design intentionally left room for additions at the insistence of the Town Board, and they were soon needed. The 1929 and 1950 additions, designed by Louis J. Day and Jagow and Heidelberger, respectively, matched the original stylistically and provided much needed office and storage space for the growing town.

Hempstead was at the forefront of Nassau County's suburban development during the twentieth century. In 1920, Hempstead had a population of 70,790. Only twenty years later, it had increased to 259,318 and continued to grow. In 1947, Hempstead Town Hall was the site of an important conflict in the history of post-war suburbanization on Long Island. That year, Abraham Levitt proposed a large development of mass-produced homes to be built in Island Trees, in the eastern part of town. After the town board rejected Levitt's proposal at the height of the postwar housing shortage, veterans from across the region staged large-scale demonstrations at the town hall complex in support of Levitt's plan. Town board meetings discussing the issue were swamped by supporters, who lined up outside the building when they couldn't get in. In the face of this support, the town board reversed its decision, allowing for the creation of Levittown and increasing the fever pitch of suburban construction in Nassau County. By 1960, the town's population had reached 740,738, a tenfold increase in only forty years. Old Town Hall, even with its additions, was bursting at the seams and the building's traditional, backward-looking style perhaps felt inappropriate to a town that was heading into the future at an unprecedented speed. In 1964, the town hired Richard J. Heidelberger to create a design that would incorporate the Old Town Hall into a new civic complex. His design, which incorporated the former Harper Park, included a large new Town Hall, Town Meeting Pavilion, a plaza tying the different components together and a parking lot. Built between 1966-68, these additions designed in Modern styles looked very consciously toward the future. Heidelberger's design for the multi-story New Town Hall balanced the Modern style's emphasis on progress, innovation, and abstraction with a more human-scale, expressionistic design for the single-story Town Meeting Pavilion. The completed complex encompassed a vision for the future of New York's largest town by population that both built upon its past and looked to its future.



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## Historical and Geographical Setting of the Site

In 1643, the Town of Hempstead was settled by a group of families from New England, and in the following year a town government was set up within the Dutch province of New Netherland. The municipal government set up in 1644 continues to function, making the Town of Hempstead one of the oldest civil jurisdictions in the United States. When the Town of Hempstead was established, it was decided that the current Village of Hempstead would be the “townspot,” or administrative center of the township, which then extended from Long Island Sound to the Atlantic Ocean (today’s Town of Hempstead, North Hempstead, and the Rockaway Peninsula together). The eventual site of Old Town Hall was traditionally an open area at the center of the village which the Horse Brook (now diverted underground) meandered through. This central, public land was occasionally used as a marketplace and had become a town park, Harper’s Park, by the early twentieth century. To the west of Old Town Hall was an area once known as the “glebe land.” Now used as a parking area, the glebe land was set aside for the support of the Anglican [Church of England] clergy assigned to St. George’s Church, for in colonial days the Church of England was the established church of Hempstead Town.

In the early years of the town, town meetings were held in various places, and there was no formal “town hall.” The records and books of the town were generally kept in the home of the town clerk or other elected officials, so the seat of government would move periodically. This arrangement was acceptable as long as the Town of Hempstead was a simple rural entity of a few thousand persons. By the late 1800s, however, the town’s population and economy had begun to grow rapidly: in 1830 the town’s population was 6,215; by 1860 it had risen to 12,376 and in 1880 it stood at 18,164. These increases constituted a double-digit increase in each decade of this period. To serve this growing community, a permanent, wood-frame town hall (no longer extant) was built in 1879 on Front Street, just west of the location of the current town hall buildings.

In the early 1900s, the town once again witnessed sustained and rapid growth. New York City, located just west of the township, cast an ever-larger shadow on the community, and in 1898 Greater New York was formed. At the same time, the three eastern towns of Queens County were united into a new county, Nassau. In the first years of the twentieth century the Town of Hempstead witnessed the beginnings of substantial suburban growth, a process which was to transform the township in the next fifty years. As a consequence, the functions of town government became more complex, and established practices such as tax collection quickly grew in volume. By 1914, the need for a new town hall was apparent, as the old building increasingly lacked functional meeting space and had no proper record storage for the town’s documents. A proposal the following year to build a new town hall was defeated at the polls, but the effort was ultimately successful.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Edward J. Smits, *Nassau: Suburbia U.S.A.* (Garden City, New York, 1974), 55; “New Town Hall,” *The Hempstead Sentinel*, April 16, 1914; “Lack of Room Shows Need of New Town Hall,” *The Hempstead Sentinel*, June 29, 1916.

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On December 4, 1917, the Hempstead Town Board issued an open invitation for “Presentation of Plans for the Erection of a Town House by the Town of Hempstead.” The offering stipulated that the structure was to be built “on the property now owned by the Town of Hempstead, located on Front Street, Village of Hempstead, N.Y., more particularly known as Harper Park. Location of building to be made part of these plans.”<sup>3</sup> The Town Board stated that drawings and estimates for the proposed building would be received until January 29, 1918. The board’s invitation specified that no more than \$70,000 could be expended for construction and all associated fees and costs. The town board was also specific in its spatial requirements: each government department was to be given a certain number of square feet. The marriage bureau, for example, was to be allotted 135 square feet while the court room was to be 1,500 square feet. Each office and facility was listed in the invitation, down to detention cells and toilets. The layout, construction materials, and architectural style of the building were left to the architect. The town, of course, reserved the right to choose the architect and mandated that any prospective architect agree to the town’s terms of offering in advance.<sup>4</sup>

### **The Architecture of Old Town Hall**

In 1918 the Hempstead Town Board reviewed the various designs submitted for a town hall and ultimately chose one of two plans by the architect Steward Wagner (1886-1958). Steward Wagner had been enrolled in design classes at Columbia University in 1907-1909. Thereafter he was an associate at Van Buren Magonigle (1910-1912) and Tracy & Swarthout (1912-1914). It appears that he was an independent architect at the time he designed Old Town Hall in 1917-1918, though he may have served as a consultant for various firms. In 1923, Wagner joined Alfred T. Fellheimer in the firm Fellheimer and Wagner, a partnership which endured through the 1950s. Fellheimer had served as head of the partnership of architects that designed Grand Central Terminal in Manhattan, and Fellheimer and Wagner designed a number of monumental railway stations in various parts of the United States. Wagner’s experience with a public building such as Hempstead Town Hall was thus useful as he entered into a significant collaboration with Fellheimer.<sup>5</sup> Fellheimer and Wagner “were Beaux-Arts eclectics, who strove to create contemporary architectural symbols by blending selected historical motifs and modern structural techniques; they wanted to explain a building’s purpose” through its design.<sup>6</sup>

Steward Wagner actually submitted two different plans for the Hempstead Town Hall competition. The first plan, which was chosen by the board, envisioned a building sheathed primarily in red brick, embellished with limestone and concrete architectural details. There were to be eleven bays in all, a clock tower, and a small rectangular front portico. The alternate plan, which was rejected, envisioned a building sheathed in irregularly shaped stone blocks, as had been suggested by the town board in its December 1917 competition. This second

<sup>3</sup> Hempstead Town Board, “Invitation to Present Plans, December 1917,” Town of Hempstead Archives.

<sup>4</sup> Town Board, “Invitation to Present Plans, December 1917.”

<sup>5</sup> Linda Oliphant Stanford, “Railway Designs by Fellheimer and Wagner, New York to Cincinnati,” *Queen City Heritage* (1985), 8. Available at <<http://library.cincymuseum.org/topics/u/files/unionterminal/rai-003.pdf>>.

<sup>6</sup> Stanford, “Railway Designs,” 3.

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plan featured a broad, six-columned portico and triangular pediment. Like the first plan, there were to be eleven bays in all on the front elevation, and the clock tower on both plans was identical.<sup>7</sup>

For Hempstead, Steward Wagner had designed a monumental public building which conveyed the importance and dignity of local government while using an entirely American architectural style. Executed in the Georgian Revival style (often referred to as the “Colonial Revival” style, especially in the early twentieth century), the architectural idiom was a significant one. The Colonial Revival style, which had emerged as a popular national style during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century amid centenary celebrations of the nation’s history, was praised by architects, designers, and architectural writers as the only distinctively American style. By the early twentieth century, it had become commonly used for residential, institutional, commercial, and civic buildings. In contrast to earlier ornate Victorian buildings, such as Hempstead’s first town hall, the Colonial Revival offered a refreshing simplicity and refinement of design. Especially in the years surrounding World War I, the use of the style instead of “imported” European styles became associated with nationalism and patriotism.<sup>8</sup>

In Hempstead, the use of this style for the new town hall may have seemed especially appropriate. First of all, many local citizens were proud of Hempstead’s colonial past. For example, the Nassau County Historical Society had just been founded in 1915 to preserve the region’s “early American” history. Secondly, the architect was aware of the placement of his town hall building between two existing early buildings, St. George’s Episcopal Church (1823) and its Rectory (1793), so the choice of design was appropriate and harmonious. The overall effect of the 1918 design is strongly reminiscent, and no doubt influenced by, buildings such as Independence Hall in Philadelphia. And, of course, the planning and execution of this design during World War I certainly added to the significance of executing the town’s central building in a recognizably American civic idiom.

Wagner’s 1918 design, which was brought to completion by general contractor Thomas Dunn of Saratoga Springs, envisioned a symmetrical building with three useable levels, including a basement, located in a landscaped park setting. The main entrance on Front Street was approached via a wide staircase, as the first floor was raised a half-story above street level. The double entrance doors were framed by a rectangular portico flanked by double columns on each side. Wagner’s use of “pronounced symmetry, modillioned cornices, quoins, and other classically inspired details reveal Wagner’s stylistic knowledge” of Colonial Revival architecture and its eighteenth-century antecedents and his ability to confidently carry them out in a new design.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Wagner, “Plan for Hempstead Town Hall.”

<sup>8</sup> William B. Rhoads, “The Colonial Revival and American Nationalism,” *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 35 (1976): 247-8; Kenneth L. Ames, “Introduction,” in *The Colonial Revival in America*, ed. Alan Axelrod (New York: W.W. Norton and Co., 1985), 10.

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## The Expansion of Hempstead and Old Town Hall

In addition to its architectural significance, Old Town Hall is significant for its association with suburban development in the town of Hempstead. The need for a new and larger building was predicated on the rapid suburban growth of Hempstead in the early twentieth century. The repeated structural additions within a relatively short span of time mirror the ongoing population growth of the town, so that by the 1960s the building was the seat of government for a municipality of 800,000 people, making it the largest town (by population) in the United States.

When the town board announced the specifications for a new town hall in 1917, it was confident that the Town of Hempstead would continue to grow. For in those specifications to prospective architects, the town stipulated that “provision shall also be made for future addition to building.”<sup>10</sup> Simply stated, the board suspected that town government would continue to grow in terms of complexity and functions and that a larger town hall would eventually be needed. Those suspicions were correct, and not long after the original building was completed the town found the facility inadequate. In only a decade, therefore, it was necessary to substantially enlarge the 1918 structure. The placement of the building on its site and the foresight of architect and town board had made such an addition possible.

In the 1920s, the Town of Hempstead experienced a true building boom. Thousands of homes were constructed in the western area of the town, and thousands of acres of agricultural land were subdivided for future development. The south shore of the town was optimistically described as the “Sunrise Homeland.”<sup>11</sup> By the end of the decade Southern State and Wantagh State Parkways traversed the town, offering access to a groundbreaking series of state parks, including Jones Beach, and, not incidentally, to new suburban developments. This tremendous increase in population and economic activity affected building permits, public works, taxation, and indeed every aspect of town government. The population of the town increased from 23,756 in 1890 to 70,720 in 1920 and to 186,735 in 1930. A direct result was the need for additional municipal office space.

In 1929, Louis J. Day designed the first addition to Old Town Hall. Day followed Wagner’s Georgian Revival scheme in virtually all of its details to the extent that, from a visual standpoint, the addition is seamless. The windows, brick and stone work, and embellishments were an exact match. Day’s addition consisted of a large wing on the west side of the original building, fifty-seven feet long and eighty-one feet deep, not including a 10’ x 20’ connecting hallway.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Stanford, “Railway Designs,” 8; “Commence Work Today on New Town Hall,” *The Hempstead Sentinel*, June 13, 1918; “Hempstead Town Hall Plans,” *Real Estate Record and Builders’ Guide* 101 (1918): 273.

<sup>10</sup> Town Board, “Invitation to Present Plans, December 1917.”

<sup>11</sup> Smits, *Nassau: Suburbia U.S.A.*, 151.

<sup>12</sup> Louis J. Day, “Addition to Hempstead Town Hall,” blueprint, 1929. Town of Hempstead Archives.

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When World War II ended in 1945, the Town of Hempstead once again entered a period of explosive growth. During the war, civilian construction had come to a standstill, and as millions of veterans returned from the war, the need for housing across the country was critical. Demand was most acute in the suburbs, now promoted, even by the government, as offering the most desirable lifestyle for new families. New development in Nassau County, within commuting distance of New York City, was especially rapid. In one of the most well-known experiments in building mass housing, the construction firm of Levitt and Sons, anticipating the market for affordable housing, had purchased or secured options on hundreds of acres of land east of the village of Hempstead in an unincorporated rural area long known as Island Trees. In 1947, Abraham Levitt proposed constructing a large development of 2,000 mass-produced, low-cost homes on this land. To keep prices low and facilitate rapid occupancy, Levitt planned to build the homes on concrete slabs with radiant heating instead of basements and have the parts delivered to the individual sites; buildings would be assembled in a streamlined, assembly-line inspired way. After *Newsday* promoted the development on May 7, lines of applicants formed outside the Levitt office; by the end of the month, over 6,500 applications had been filed by veterans for the new homes.<sup>13</sup> Debate about Levittown naturally moved to the town hall, where a series of meetings was held to decide whether to approve the massive development. The building inspector initially rejected the plans based on the lack of basements not meeting building codes, but the Levitts solicited veterans to attend a public meeting and, thanks to a few newspaper articles, the turnout was massive.

In addition to the omission of basements violating the town building code, the town board also had a real fear that this relatively inexpensive housing would rapidly deteriorate. However, the town's decision came at the height of the housing shortage, which especially affected recently discharged veterans and their families. When word spread that the Levitt development might be in jeopardy, many World War II veterans, who desperately needed housing, were outraged. On May 27, 1947, hundreds of veterans from throughout the New York area crowded into Old Town Hall to persuade the town board to change the existing building code and approve the Levitt plan. The building was swamped with people who demanded that the housing be constructed without delay; the second floor court room was filled, and lines of people extended down the stairs and out onto Front Street. The board, moved by the very real plight of the veterans and their families and/or perhaps shocked by the intensity of their response, set aside the relevant clauses of the building code and allowed Levitt and Sons to proceed.<sup>14</sup> Between 1947 and 1952, over 17,000 homes were constructed in the community which was promptly named Levittown.

One consequence of the Levitt developments and other large-scale building projects across the town was that town government outgrew Old Town Hall once again. In 1950, an additional wing, similar in form and materials to the 1929 addition, was constructed on the east end of the building. Designed by Jagow and Heidelberger, the

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<sup>13</sup> Smits, *Nassau: Suburbia U.S.A.*, 189.

<sup>14</sup> Lynn Matarrese, *The History of Levittown, New York* (Levittown, New York, 1997), 40; Smits, *Nassau: Suburbia U.S.A.*, 188-89.

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1950 addition served to preserve the architectural symmetry of the original plan and, like the 1929 addition, the 1950 enlargement carefully followed Steward Wagner's design. Overall, the 1950 addition was larger than the 1929 wing, in that it was deeper in the rear, and connected seamlessly with the east wall of the 1918 structure. At its largest, the 1950 extension measured eighty-eight feet deep with a width of one hundred-thirteen feet. In addition, the 1950 extension included a thirty-five-by-forty-foot space at the southwest corner of the 1918 structure.<sup>15</sup>

In 1956, Front Street, which had become a busy thoroughfare, was widened. The project necessitated the alteration of the front entrance stairway to Old Town Hall. The existing steps were removed and the stairway reconfigured so that two identical stairways descend from either side of the front door parallel to, and up against the façade of the building, turning outward to the sidewalk as they reach ground level.

### **Construction of New Town Hall**

In the 1950s and 1960s, suburban growth on Long Island, which had begun in the early twentieth century, continued unabated. By 1970, over 800,000 people resided in the town, and much of the town was confronted with social needs and issues reminiscent of an urban area. As part of this transformation, local government grew in both size and scope. The town established a network of parks, development and housing agencies, senior citizen services and complexes, a communications department, code enforcement officers, sanitation and water services, an enlarged building department to monitor construction, safety and alterations of existing structures, and additional administrative machinery. This growth in municipal government was by design. On January 1, 1966, Ralph G. Caso was installed as town presiding supervisor. In his remarks on that date, Caso stated that "I want to raise the sights of Town government to new horizons so as to provide the best in all services for our total constituency."<sup>16</sup> And so, yet again, the expanded town hall proved utterly inadequate for the town government.

After discussing the issue internally, the town board decided it was time to start over with a new town hall. On April 7, 1964, the town board adopted a resolution stating that "Whereas the rapid growth of the Town of Hempstead and necessary expansion of governmental functions, facilities, and agencies have caused to become grossly inadequate the existing Town Hall...the Town Board deems it in the public interest that the proposed expansion of Town Hall facilities be considered..."<sup>17</sup> The same day, the town board hired Richard J. Heidelberger of Hempstead as the architect for the proposed expansion of the town hall complex. Clyde M. Alston served as the consulting engineer. Heidelberger was well acquainted with the spatial issues and the site, as he had served as architect for the previous expansion of town hall a decade earlier. Heidelberger, a partner in

<sup>15</sup> Jagow and Heidelberger, "Additions and Alterations to Hempstead Town Hall," blueprints, 1950. Town of Hempstead Archives.

<sup>16</sup> The Town of Hempstead, *A History of the Town of Hempstead 1644-1969* (Hempstead, New York, 1969), 118; Smits, *Nassau: Suburbia U.S.A.*, 234.

<sup>17</sup> Hempstead Town Board, Resolution 690-1964, April 7, 1964. Town of Hempstead Archives.

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the firm of Jagow and Heidelberger of Hempstead, “specialized in school, hospital, and other institutional work.”<sup>18</sup> He had been named to the State Board of Architectural Examiners in 1955, served as president of the Long Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and was named a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 1961.<sup>19</sup>

Mr. Heidelberger understood that the 1966-1968 addition to the town hall complex was to be a departure from the previous expansion efforts, which had gradually added to the 1918 structure. Since the town needed every possible square foot of office space, Old Town Hall would be preserved. In fact, it was integrated into the new campus physically through passageways, and its architectural integrity was largely respected. The design of New Town Hall, however, was a decided departure from the 1918 Georgian Revival statement of Steward Wagner. This new expansion envisioned an entirely new building, considerably larger than the existing town hall, but connected to it and integrated with it, on an expanded civic campus. In a sense, New Town Hall’s civic campus with its clean, landscaped plaza is very much a product of its time. During the 1960s, new and “modern” urban spaces, and particularly civic spaces, were conceived as a replacement for run-down downtown districts. The focus was often on monumental buildings surrounded by pedestrian spaces removed from traditional sidewalks and street life. Superblocks with plazas sometimes replaced nineteenth-century street grids, though typically on a much larger scale. While in some cities, older residential neighborhoods were lost, in Hempstead, no historic grid was sacrificed for the new town hall plaza. Instead, the plaza was created in what had been a public park.

The site selected for New Town Hall was the remaining section of the old Harper Park, located directly south of Old Town Hall. The site was centered upon the northwest corner of Washington Street and Peninsula Boulevard. The construction of New Town Hall was complicated by the fact that the Horse Brook ran directly through the site. It was decided that the brook would be redirected through an underground culvert, and the new building constructed on the resulting reclaimed land. On May 4, 1965 the town board adopted a resolution directing that “Horsebrook Drain be relocated as an underground storm drain in cooperation with Nassau County.”<sup>20</sup> Thus the Horse Brook, whose waters were one of the initial inducements for the settlement of the Village of Hempstead in 1643, permanently disappeared from view in downtown Hempstead. In April 1964, another obstacle to the expansion of the Town Hall complex was overcome when the town entered into a lease with St. George’s Church for a portion of the old colonial “glebe land” south of Front Street and west of Liberty Street. This lease enabled the town to construct the necessary parking areas for town hall, while Liberty Street became a driveway through the parking area.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>18</sup> *The Patchogue Advance*, January 13, 1955, Section 2, page 1.

<sup>19</sup> American Institute of Architects, *College of Fellows, History and Directory* (American Institute of Architects, published online, 2017), 300. Available at <[https://issuu.com/aiacollegeoffellows/docs/faia\\_20directory](https://issuu.com/aiacollegeoffellows/docs/faia_20directory)>.

<sup>20</sup> Hempstead Town Board, Resolution 1077-1965, May 4, 1965. Town of Hempstead Archives.

<sup>21</sup> Hempstead Town Board Resolution 689-1964, April 7, 1964. Town of Hempstead Archives.

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## Architecture of New Town Hall

The New Town Hall designed by Heidelberger and Associates in the mid-1960s is very different in spirit from Old Town Hall designed a half-century earlier. The 1918 structure, with its Georgian Revival architecture, looked back respectfully at a cherished past. In contrast, the 1966-1968 building looked boldly and confidently toward a future of technological and governmental progress. Heidelberger and Associates chose the box-like, postwar Modernist style which was then remaking the silhouette of American cities. The spirit of this architecture constituted a deliberate break with the historicism of the past. In the postwar era, the Modern style was adopted for use on a wide variety of governmental buildings, from schools to city halls to federal buildings in Washington, D.C. Often described as Civic Modernism or Federal Modernism, governmental interpretations of the style reflected the architectural innovation of the period but emphasized basic functionality and cost-effectiveness. Heidelberger also chose to knit the new buildings together with a civic plaza typical of the period. The primarily concrete plaza provided an additional, low-maintenance space for people to gather, included well-managed plantings, and created an orderly atmosphere.

New Town Hall was presented as a rectangular composition, following a north-south axis along Washington Street. There were to be five levels: four above ground on the east, or Washington Street side, and a fifth accessed through a sunken plaza and garden on the west side. The facades were largely glass, with a total of forty-five window bays. Much of the remainder of the structure was made of pre-cast concrete, a cost-effective, efficient, and simple material which was commonly used for modern civic buildings. Heidelberger's design was praised for its clean, contemporary lines. Typical of the style, his design largely eschewed ornamentation, allowing the rhythm of the windows on the façade to provide visual interest. The building's primary entrance from the plaza and lobby, which features a brass screen and fixtures and marble veneers on the walls, columns, and mezzanine staircase, offers a contrasting richness; the use of these materials was common in the work of other contemporary modern architects.

At the northwest corner of New Town Hall, adjacent to the rear of Old Town Hall, Heidelberger Associates designed a Town Meeting Pavilion. The idea of constructing a separate building specifically for meetings was included in the design as early as 1964.<sup>22</sup> This polygonal pavilion, which largely incorporates an auditorium, was devised specifically for town board meetings, ceremonies, and hearings. In this capacity, the pavilion replaced the court room in Old Town Hall and provided greatly expanded seating capacity and modern acoustics. It features a vaulted, domed ceiling with triangular clerestory windows, a massive wooden dais for the town board, and sloped, arena-style seating for the public. The Town Meeting Pavilion lacks interior obstructions and features excellent sight lines, which metaphorically convey governmental transparency and civic participation.

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<sup>22</sup> "Farrington, Burns Examine Plans for Proposed New Town Hall," *Long Island News and The Owl*, September 25, 1964.



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On May 19, 1968, Hempstead dedicated its New Town Hall with speeches and much fanfare. The expanded and reimagined Town Hall complex received acclaim for its design. The Long Island Chapter of the American Institute of Architects honored Hempstead Town Hall and Heidelberger Associates with its Archi Award in 1969. The Consulting Engineers Council of New York State also honored the building with an award for its air conditioning, plumbing, and water systems in 1970.<sup>23</sup>

## **Conclusion**

Taken as a whole, the Town of Hempstead's Town Hall Complex vividly illustrates in brick, stone, concrete and glass the evolution of an American municipality during its years of explosive suburban growth in the twentieth century. Town Hall was the site of innovation, as a rural town adapted to increasing suburban growth and witnessed important events in the nation's history, such as the birth of Levittown with its far-reaching social implications. The complex also documents changing tastes in the architecture of public buildings, with starkly juxtaposed historic and modern styles that reflect an interest in preserving its own history while always looking forward. Old Town Hall retains its architectural integrity, Georgian Revival detail, and human scale next to the more massive and modern New Town Hall. Both structures exhibit an essential symmetry in their designs and are carefully woven together to form a unified whole and to fulfill their basic purpose as the municipal center of America's largest township.

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<sup>23</sup> American Institute of Architects, *AIA Architectural Guide to Nassau and Suffolk Counties, Long Island* (New York: Dover, 1993), 191-2; "Engineering Awards Competition," *The Geneva Times*, March 18, 1970.

Hempstead Town Hall  
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County and State

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*The Patchogue Advance*, January 13, 1955, Section 2, page 1.

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Wagner, Steward. “Plan for Hempstead Town Hall.” Blueprints, 1918. Town of Hempstead Archives.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hempstead Town Hall  
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### 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property** 5.04 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>616446</u> Easting	<u>4507047</u> Northing	3	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing
2	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing	4	<u>                    </u> Zone	<u>                    </u> Easting	<u>                    </u> Northing

#### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

#### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

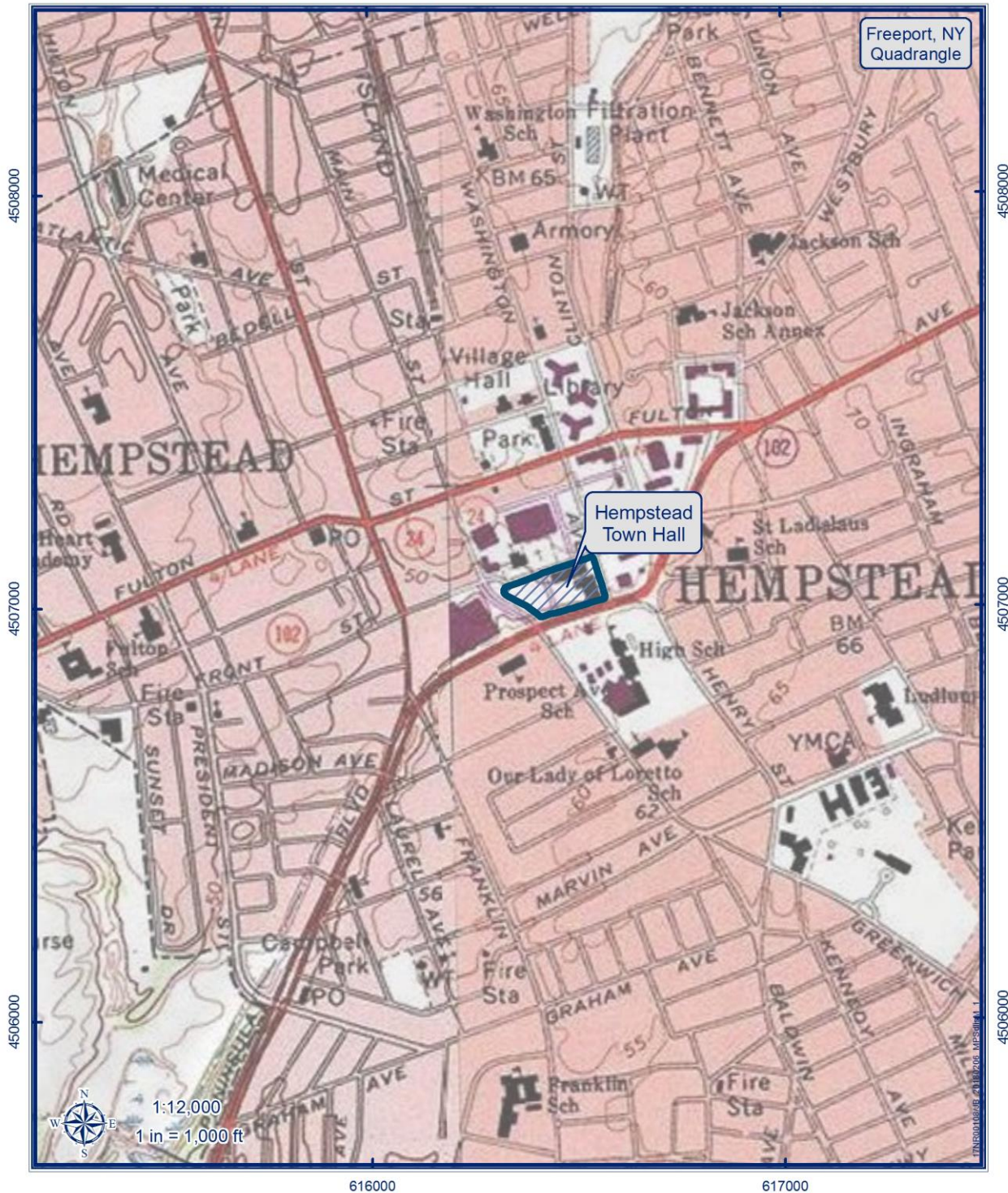
The boundary for Hempstead Town Hall includes the land east of Liberty Street that is historically associated with Town Hall, as well as the "glebe land" the Town began leasing from St. George's Church in 1964 to establish a larger parking lot for the expanded complex.

Hempstead Town Hall  
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Hempstead Town Hall  
Town of Hempstead, Nassau Co., NY

1 Washington Street  
Hempstead, NY 11550



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



Hempstead Town Hall  
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Nassau County, NY  
County and State

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1 Washington Street  
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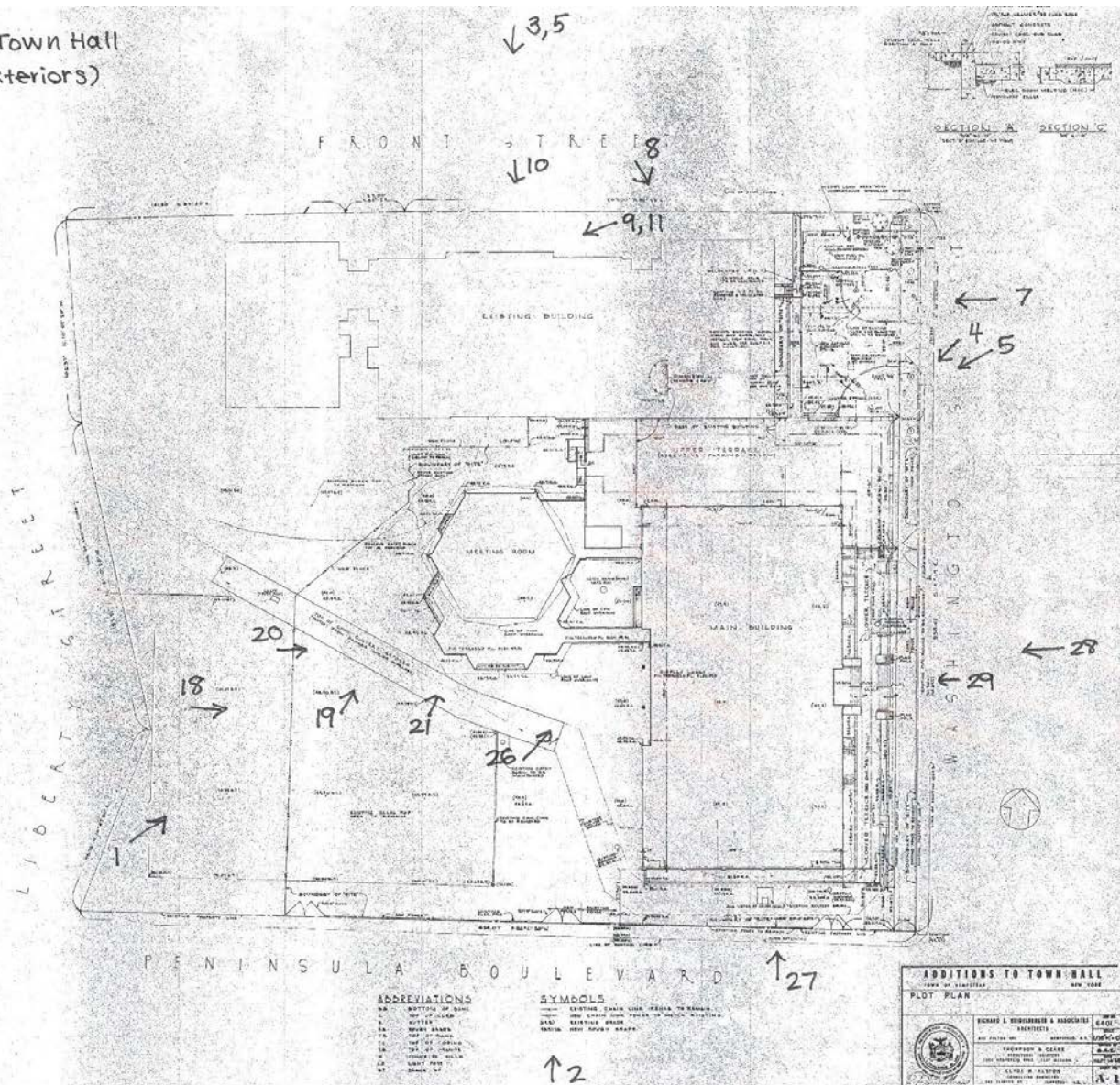
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



Hempstead Town Hall  
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Hempstead Town Hall  
 Photo Key (exteriors)



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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Van Wie (edited by Jennifer Betsworth, NY SHPO)  
organization Commissioner of Landmarks, Town of Hempstead date February 2018  
street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Hempstead Town Hall  
City or Vicinity: Hempstead  
County: Nassau State: NY

Photographer: Tom Saltzman, Town Historian

Date Photographed: November & December 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0001  
Hempstead Town Hall, facing northeast

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0002  
Hempstead Town Hall, overhead

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0003  
Hempstead Town Hall, facing southeast



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NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0004  
Hempstead Town Hall, facing south

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0005  
Old Town Hall, façade, facing southeast

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0006  
New Town Hall and Old Town Hall, east elevations, facing southwest

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0007  
Old Town Hall, east elevation, facing northwest

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0008  
Old Town Hall, façade, detail of 1950 addition, facing southeast

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0009  
Old Town Hall, façade, entrance stairs, facing southwest

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0010  
Old Town Hall, façade, entrance portico, facing south

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0011  
Old Town Hall, façade, entrance portico, facing west

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0012  
Old Town Hall, interior, first floor lobby, facing southwest

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0013  
Old Town Hall, interior, first floor staircase, facing west

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0014  
Old Town Hall, interior, first floor hallway, facing east

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0015  
Old Town Hall, interior, first floor hallway, facing west

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0016  
Old Town Hall, interior, staircase landing and second floor, facing east

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0017  
Old Town Hall, interior, second floor hallway, facing west

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0018  
Town Hall Plaza, facing northeast

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0019  
Town Hall Plaza, facing north

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0020  
Town Meeting Pavilion and Plaza, facing northeast

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0021  
Town Meeting Pavilion, facing northeast

Hempstead Town Hall

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NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0022  
Town Meeting Pavilion, interior, facing northwest

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0023  
Town Meeting Pavilion, interior, facing southeast

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0024  
Connector leading to Pavilion, facing west

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0025  
Connector leading to New Town Hall, facing east

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0026  
New Town Hall, west elevation, facing northeast

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0027  
New Town Hall, south elevation, facing northwest

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0028  
New Town Hall, east elevation, facing southwest

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0029  
New Town Hall, east elevation, entrance detail, facing southwest

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0030  
New Town Hall, interior, lobby, facing south

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0031  
New Town Hall, interior, lobby from mezzanine, facing north

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0032  
New Town Hall, interior, first floor elevator lobby, facing east

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0033  
New Town Hall, interior, first floor hallway, facing north

NY\_Nassau Co\_Hempstead Town Hall\_0034  
New Town Hall, interior, first floor hallway, facing south

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Hempstead Town Hall  
Name of Property

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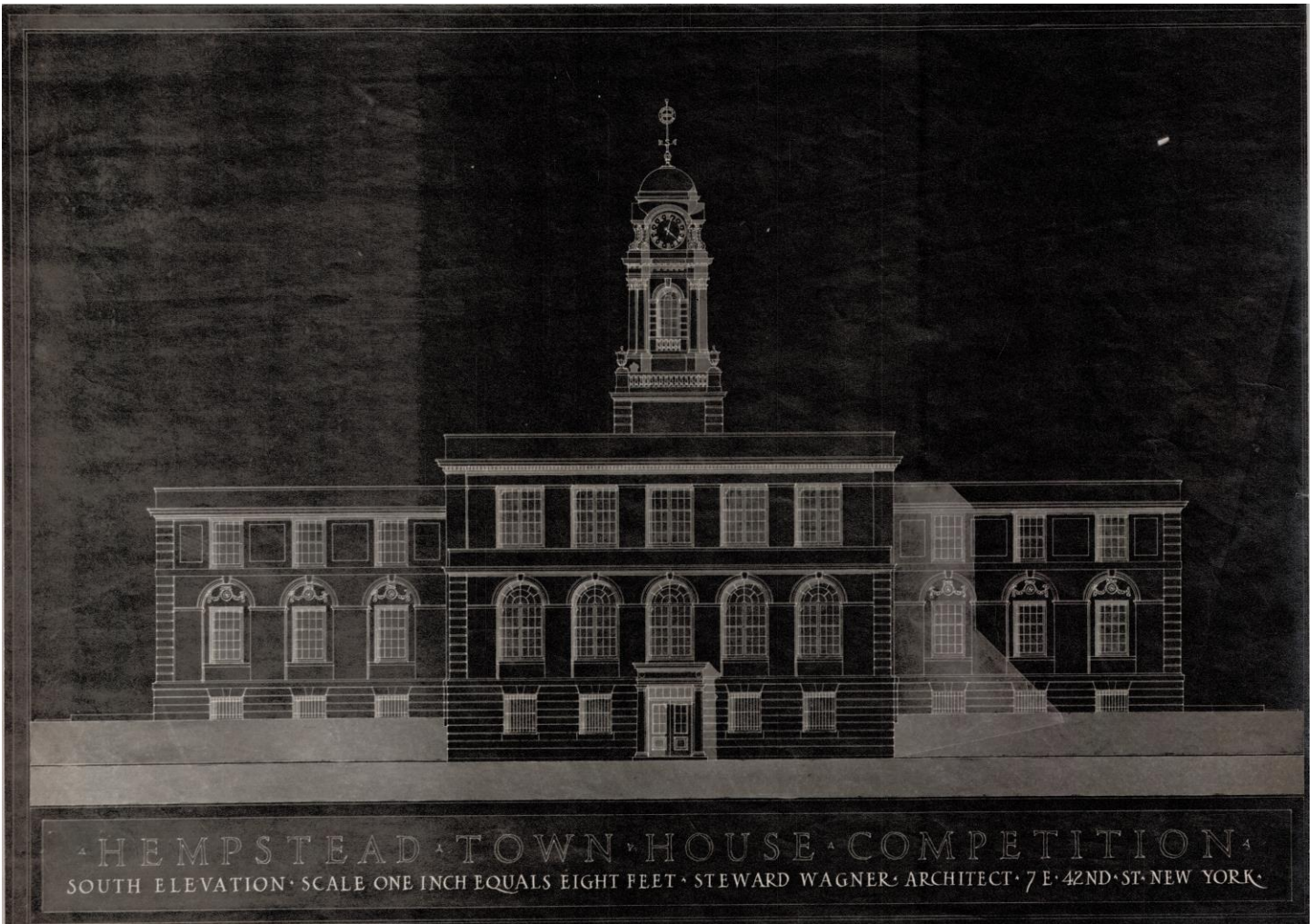


Figure 1. Steward Wagner's submission to the Hempstead Town Hall design competition, 1918

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Figure 2. New Town Hall, Heidelberg & Associates, ca. 1966

“Architectural rendering of Hempstead Town Hall Project,” *Hofstra University Library Special Collections: Digital Collections*, accessed February 27, 2018, <https://omeka.hofstra.edu/items/show/649>.

Hempstead Town Hall  
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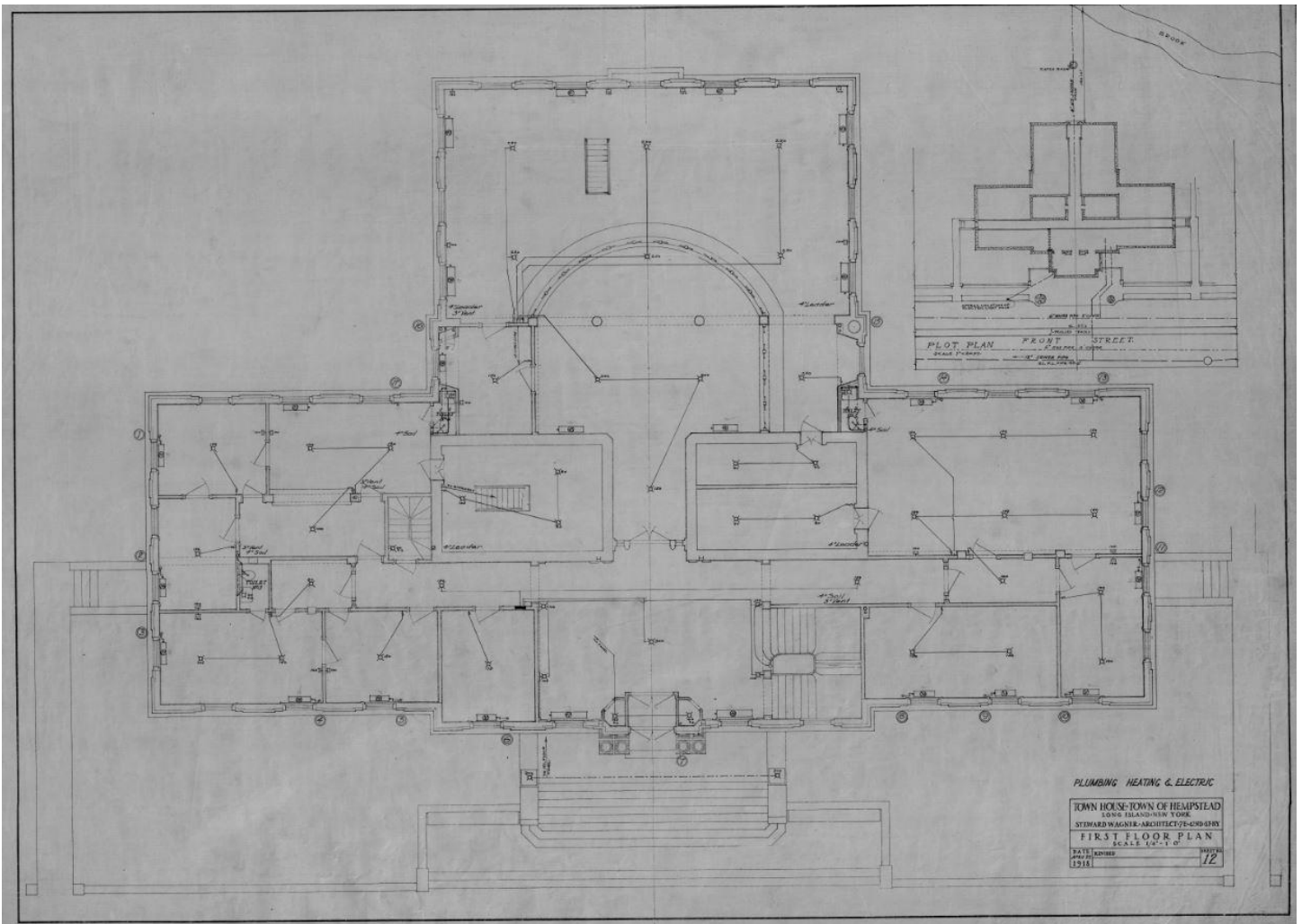


Figure 3. Old Town Hall, First Floor Plan, Steward Wagner, 1918

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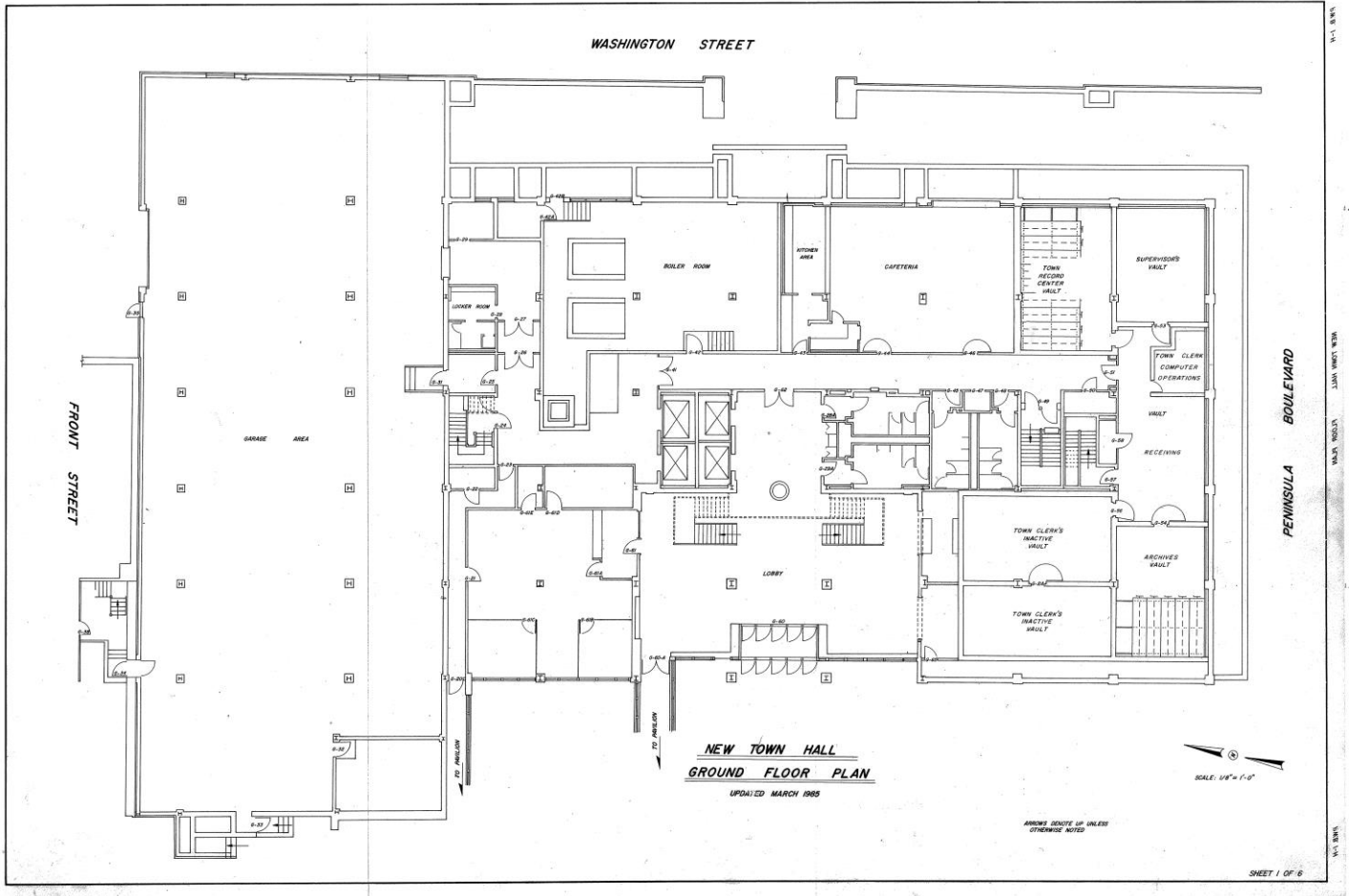


Figure 4. New Town Hall, Ground Floor Plan

Hempstead Town Hall  
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Nassau County, NY  
County and State

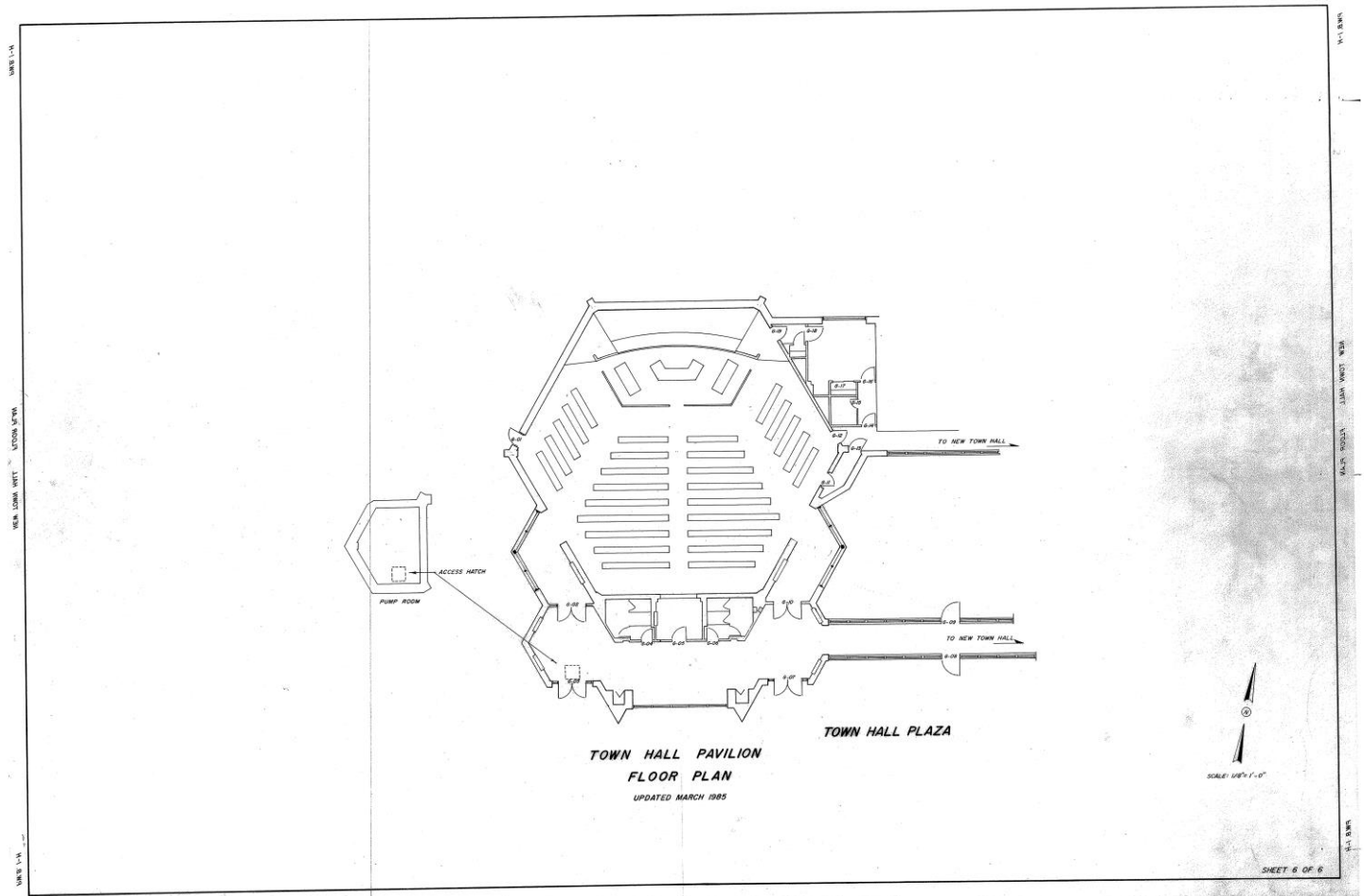


Figure 5. Town Hall Pavilion, Floor Plan















HEMPSTEAD TOWN HALL









1918

TOWN OFFICE





1644 TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD 1918

350

Hempstead  
Town of Hempstead  
New York



1644 TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD 1918

350





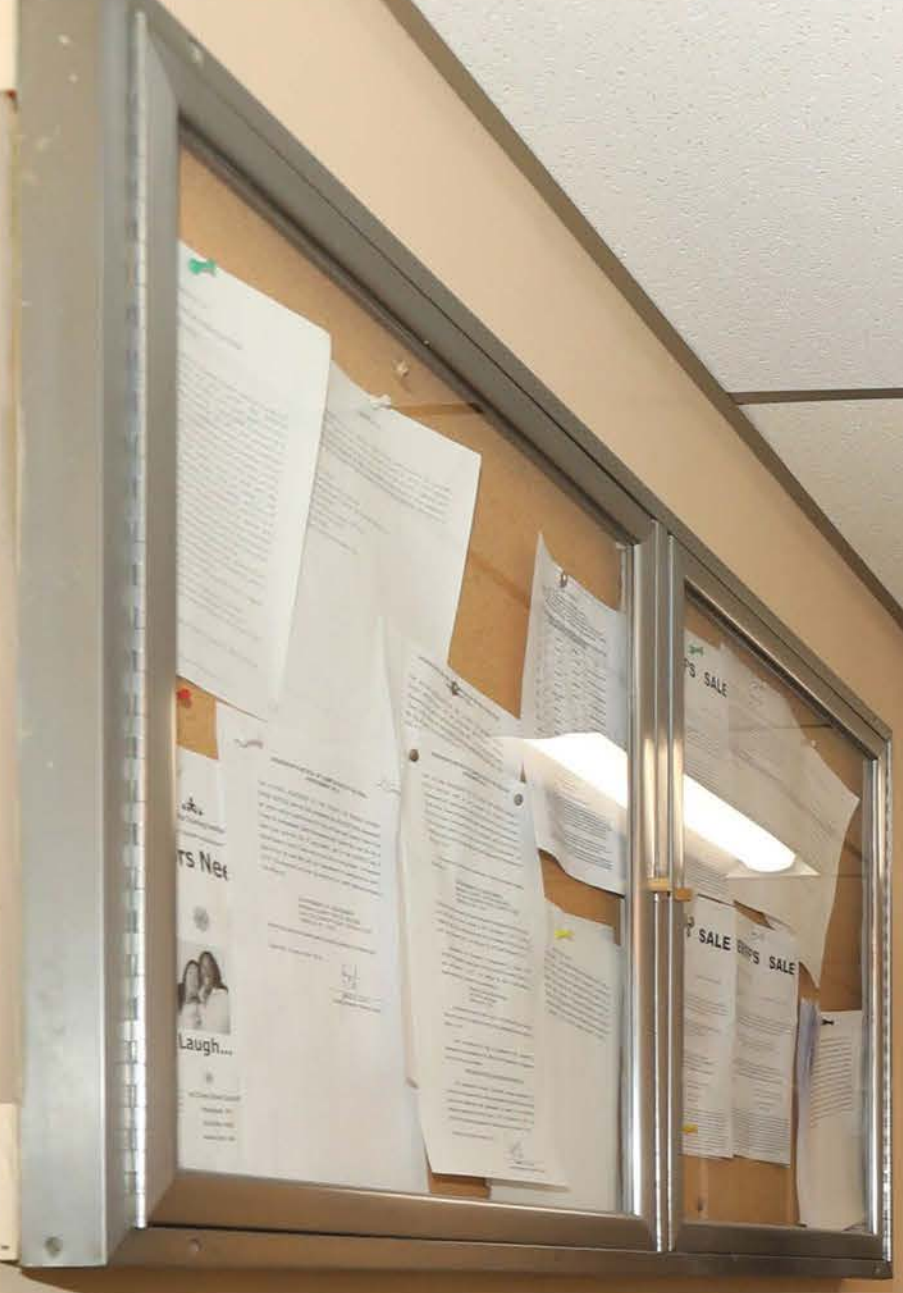
NO SMOKING



WEST WING







CREDIT UNION

job safety and health protection

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

8th DECEMBER

CSEA LOCAL 800

**HOLIDAY BASH**

THE CORAL HOUSE

FOOD DRINKS DANCING

\$25 FOR MEMBERS \$75 FOR NON-MEMBERS

\* TONS OF GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES!

FOR TICKETS CALL 576-888-0888

DEFENSIVE DRIVER COURSE

WVSP

Holiday

November 22nd through December 23rd









NATHAN L. B. BENNETT PAVILION

HEMPSTEAD TOWN HALL  
REPORTER ANTHONY J. SANTORO



MICHAEL L. H. BENNETT



# HEMPSTEAD TOWN HALL



**SUPERVISOR ANTHONY J. SANTINO**

Old Building		New Building	
Dept. of General Services	2	Supervisor	4
Engineering	2	Town Board	4
Highway	2	Information & Technology	3
Credit Union	2	Town Attorney	3
TOH IDA	2	Communications & Pub. Aff.	2
Comptroller	1	Real Estate	2
Civil Service Commission	1	Building Department	2
Human Resources	1	Dept. of Tourism	1
Purchasing	1	Town Clerk	1
Engineering Design & Drafting	1	Registrar of Vital Statistics	1
Reproduction	GR	Zoning Appeals	GR
Photo Lab	GR	Cafeteria	GR
Building & Grounds	GR		
Mail Room	GR		

**NATHAN L. H. BENNETT PAVILION**





NATHAN L. H. BENNETT PAVILION

NATHAN L. H. BENNETT PAVILION

NO  
SMOKING  
HERE





RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED RESERVED



AED

NO SMOKING

ALL VISITORS  
TO TOWN BOARD  
MEETING  
MUST SIGN IN



VISITOR ENTRANCE

EXIT

EMPLOYEE ENTRANCE





NATHAN L. H. BENNETT PAVILION



TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD  
ASTORIA & SUTTON  
TOWN BOARD  
MAYOR: JAMES J. ...  
TOWN CLERK: ...  
TOWN ENGINEER: ...  
TOWN ATTORNEY: ...





HEMPSTEAD TOWN HALL

ambulnz

STAND  
PIPE

# HEMPSTEAD TOWN HALL

ONE

ONE





I WANT TO RAISE THE SIGHTS OF TOWN GOVERNMENT TO  
NEW HORIZONS SO AS TO PROVIDE MORE FULLY THE BEST  
IN ALL SERVICES FOR OUR TOTAL CONSTITUENCY



RALPH W. DAVIS  
PRESIDENT, TOWN OF...  
IN HIS MESSAGE TO THE TOWN MEETING, 1968



STOP  
No smoking  
in this area

CAPITOLA



TOWN MEETING  
PAVILION

SOLICITORS  
NOT PERMITTED  
ON  
THIS PROPERTY

FREEDOM  
SHRINE

BOARD OF

PAPER ONLY  
Only Your  
Personalized Town  
Meeting



ELEVATOR

ELEVATOR

MARRIAGE LICENSES

PASSPORT SERVICES

BIRTH AND DEATH RECORDS

ANTHONY J. SANTINO, SUPERVISOR  
NASRIN G. AHMAD, TOWN CLERK

EXIT

EXIT

NO SMOKING

HAND SANITIZER

PLEASE SIGN IN AND YOU WILL BE CALLED BY THE NEXT PASSPORT AGENT

STOP ALL VISITORS MUST PRODUCE A VALID I.D. AND GET VISITORS

40th ANNIVERSARY

**MARRIAGE AND LICENSING SERVICES**

Welcome to the  
Hempstead  
Town Clerk's  
Office  
NASRIN G. AHMAD  
TOWN CLERK  
MARRIAGE  
LICENSES





REST ROOMS ♿

EXIT

MARRIAGE AND LICENSING SERVICES



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 3/23/2018      Date of Pending List: 4/12/2018      Date of 16th Day: 4/27/2018      Date of 45th Day: 5/7/2018      Date of Weekly List: 5/11/2018

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- |                                       |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal       | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL            | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape       | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver       | <input type="checkbox"/> National        | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other        | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP             | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
|                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG             |   |

Accept       Return       Reject      5/7/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary  
Comments:

Recommendation/  
Criteria

Reviewer Alexis Abernathy      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2236      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : **Yes**

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

ROSE HARVEY  
Commissioner



20 March 2018

Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places

Mail Stop 7228

1849 C Street NW  
Washington DC 20240

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to submit the following eight nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

The Wilbraham, New York County  
Pilgrim Furniture Company, Ulster County  
Wading River Radio Station, Suffolk County  
Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, Brentwood, Suffolk County  
Hempstead Town Hall, Nassau County  
Mitchel Air Base and Flight Line, Nassau County  
Daniel Webster Jenkins House, Schoharie County  
Gooley Club, Essex and Hamilton Counties

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank  
National Register Coordinator  
New York State Historic Preservation Office

APR 11 2018

Alexis Abernathy  
4/9/18

H32(2280)

The Honorable Kathleen M. Rice  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510-0546

Dear Representative Rice:

Thank you for your letter of April 4 2018,, supporting the nomination of the Mitchel Air Base and Flight Line and Hempstead Town Hall in New York, to the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Park Service, which administers the National Register of Historic Places, received the nominations for the the Mitchel Air Base and Flight Line, and on Hempstead Town Hall March 23, 2018. Our regulations require that an action on the eligibility of a property for listing in the National Register must be taken within 45 days of receipt of a complete and fully documented nomination.

If we can provide further information or assistance, please feel free to contact Alexis Abernathy of the National Register staff at 202-354-2236 or alexis\_abernathy@nps.gov. We appreciate your interest in the historic preservation programs of the National Park Service.

Sincerely,

**J. Paul Loether**

J. Paul Loether, Chief  
National Register/ National Historic Landmarks, and  
Keeper of the National Register

cc: New York SHPO

bcc: 7228 Loether

Basic File Retained In 7228

S:NR/Alexis/Letters/Mitchel and Hempstead Rep Rice Letter