

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



75TH

**Anniversary of
Village Hall & Fire House**

25TH

**Anniversary of
Village Pops**

**Sunday, July 8th
2:00 - 7:00 pm**

Village Hall

The Village of Farmingdale was formed in 1904 from the Town of Oyster Bay. The Town in the late 1800s established local offices in the larger hamlets so that residents did not have to make the long trip to Oyster Bay for all Town matters. Farmingdale had such a satellite office located where our village hall stands today. In this small wooden structure, taxes and fines were collected, and minor judicial cases were heard by a justice of the peace. Incidentally, the Gregory Museum, a small natural science facility in Hicksville, is housed in their 1895 "courthouse" which still stands.



The new Village of Farmingdale arranged to rent the old Town of Oyster Bay office following incorporation in 1904. In 1923 the Village purchased the building. It was razed once the decision was reached to build a brick Village Hall/Firehouse on the site several years later.

The decision to build it back in 1930 was not an easy one. For one thing, the nation was beginning the second year of a profound economic slump which we now know as the Great Depression. The village numbered only 3373 residents in the 1930 census, barely 40% of our current figure. The first proposition to build a village hall/firehouse for \$140,000 failed in December 1930 by a 2-1 margin.

On March 17, 1931 a second vote with the bond debt scaled back to \$74,000 was held. This passed easily, again by a 2-1 margin. Bids were sought on construction, which were opened on July 3. The contractors selected began work early that summer, and had the new facility ready for occupancy just after New Years Day 1932. Dedication was held in January and the first regular meeting of the Village Board met on January 11 in the new building. Frank Scholl, who had been elected mayor the previous March, presided at both events.

The new building enabled the two fire services, the Hook and Ladder Company and the Water Witch Engine Company, to unite under one roof for the first time as the Farmingdale Fire Department since their founding in the 1880s.

In 1979 on the occasion of the Village's 75th anniversary, an addition was constructed, including a new entrance, lobby, and meeting chamber, among other improvements (picture below).

In recent months the current administration has conducted an infrastructure modernization, upgrading and updating operation systems at Village Hall to make services as cost efficient as possible.



During this three-quarters of a century Village Hall has become an iconic landmark of our village, along with our historic railroad station and houses of worship, giving our village an identity and "sense of place" often lacking in many communities. We are indebted to our elected Village officials and residents of the early 1930s who struggled during the difficult economic times of that era to give us our own Village Hall/Firehouse.

The birth of a village

The story of the Village Green begins in 1967 when Mayor Joseph Zureck and the Village Board formerly moved to take advantage of an "open space" grant from the federal government. Two properties immediately south of Village Hall were acquired, and sufficient Village funds were appropriated in order to meet the terms of the grant. Walkways, lighting, and other improvements were made to the site, which was ready for dedication in October 1968.

In 1970, the Village requested assistance from the community to erect a fountain near the Main Street side of the Green. The Women's Club of Farmingdale agreed to help finance the project and established a Memorial Fountain Fund. Willis B. Carman Jr. and Norman Krasnow, village trustees, were appointed in 1971 by Mayor Zureck to work with the Women's Club on implementing the fountain.

In May 1971 a check was presented to the Village representing contributions made by local residents, particularly members of the Women's Club. Construction of the fountain took place that year. The formal dedication was held on the morning of Memorial Day 1972 (Monday, May 29). The ceremony was held at 9:30 am prior to the start of the Memorial Day Parade so as not to interfere with ceremonies honoring the community's veterans which traditionally take place after the parade each year. Flowers had been planted around the new fountain by the Women's Club Community Improvement Committee with assistance from the Village Department of Public Works. *(continued on page 10)*

PINELAWN DAIRY STORE, Main Street



Mr. Franke waited on customers.
Arthur Jordon was proprietor, ca. 1945

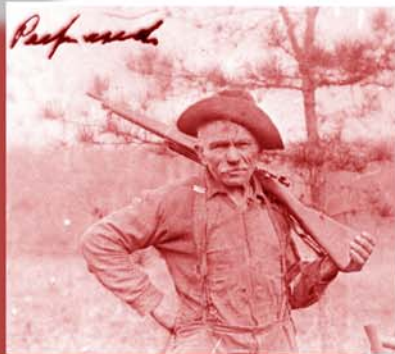


BAUSCH PICTURE FRAME CO., ca 1880
Original building on corner of Rose and
Richard Streets.



NAZARETH TRADE SCHOOL

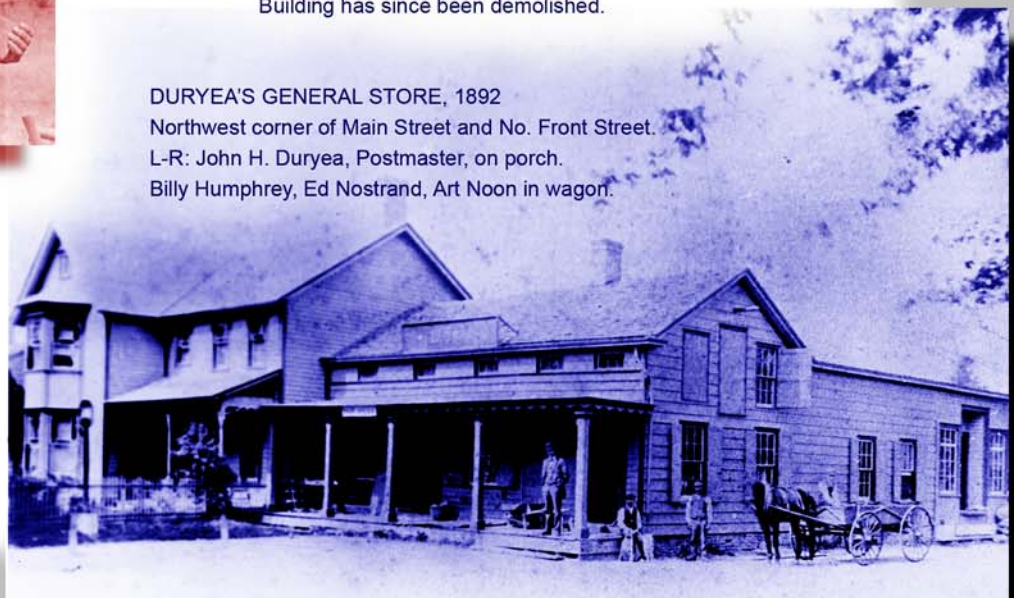
South side of Conklin Street near present Catholic Church, was built in 1900 by the Dominican Sisters. School was used as a home for orphan, underprivileged or wayward boys. At one time 500 boys were present. School closed in 1940. During World War II building was used as Air Force Training Center. In 1946 was used by L.I. Agricultural and Technical Institute. Building has since been demolished.



CHARLES BEVELL,
Justice of the Peace

DURYEY'S GENERAL STORE, 1892

Northwest corner of Main Street and No. Front Street.
L-R: John H. Duryea, Postmaster, on porch.
Billy Humphrey, Ed Nostrand, Art Noon in wagon.



... in Service to the Village of Farmingdale



MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
1945 - Main Street just south
of Conklin Street

Farmingdale was a small hamlet surrounded by farmlands in the 1880s. It encompassed all of the present Farmingdale school district as well as contemporary Melville, Pinelawn, Plainview and Old Bethpage. The population in 1880 of this large area was just 524. Two historic fire companies were organized during that decade to serve the widely spread community.

Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 was organized on January 14, 1886. Its fire hall was located at the northeast corner of Conklin and Washington Streets for over forty years. In 1915, the company's name was changed to Hook, Ladder and Hose Company No. 1. The following year it acquired its first motorized apparatus.

On April 19, 1889 the Water Witch Engine Company No. 1 was formed. A fire house was erected on Rose Street later that year. Some years later the Water Witch Company moved to a larger building on Main Street, a short distance south of the present Village Hall/Firehouse. In 1893 the company purchased a used hand-pumper built in 1858. This historic piece of apparatus is still kept in excellent condition, and the company proudly bears its name, "Water Witch". The company's first motorized apparatus, a hose truck, was purchased in 1916.

Although they would not be housed in one building until forty years later, the two companies formally merged as the Farmingdale Fire Department in 1892, with one chief to direct joint operations. The need for an adequate and dependable water service was a major reason for the incorporation of the Village of Farmingdale in 1904. A private company had initiated water service in 1900, but the fire companies quickly found the water supply limited in area as well as inadequate in quantity. In a major sense, the fire companies took the lead in championing the formation of the Village in July 1904, whose population was then 1047. Their effort was rewarded with the completion of a village owned water system by 1909.



JOHN H. KUNZ, Fire Chief
1932



MEMORIAL DAY, 1946

Memories that changed our lives

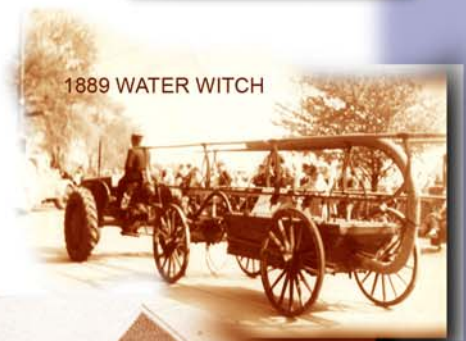
In the late 1920s the Village government had outgrown the small frame structure which has served as the municipal office since the Town of Oyster Bay era. A handsome new building would be constructed on the same site which would serve as Village Hall and also the headquarters for both Farmingdale fire companies. On January 1, 1932 the two companies joined to form the Farmingdale Fire Department, and took possession of the new quarters, the first time under one roof. The Hook and Ladder Company brought four pieces of equipment, and the Water Witch Company, three. The occasion made for a memorable and historic New Years Day in Farmingdale!

In 1940, with the Village population reaching 3524, the Farmingdale Fire Department formed a First Aid Squad which was to respond to medical emergencies. A 1932 Buick served as the first vehicle. In 1952 a Cadillac ambulance was purchased, and the unit became known as the Rescue Squad. Over the years the training of the Emergency Medical Technicians staffing the squad has advanced dramatically, as has the level of complexity of their equipment. Today requests for Rescue Squad service significantly outnumber "fire calls".

Generations of Farmingdale residents have served faithfully and valiantly as volunteers to save lives and protect property for almost 125 years as members of the Farmingdale Fire Department, but their service goes far beyond firefighting and emergency medical service. The members of our fire department take great pride in their village, its quality of life, and its heritage. Significant community traditions such as the Memorial Day Parade and Columbus Day Weekend Fair are chiefly the work of the Farmingdale Fire Department. Its role forms a major strand in the fabric of Farmingdale community life, as it has since the 1880s.



WATER WITCH ENGINE CO.
located on Main Street now the
McCourt & Trudden Funeral Home



1889 WATER WITCH

1931 VILLAGE BOARD

Frank Scholl, Mayor

Trustees

Alfred C. Scherer

Stephen Jaisle

Emil R. Hoepfner

Fred G. Murray

ORIGINAL ENTRANCE TO
VILLAGE HALL



STEPHEN JAISLE
PLACING CORNER
STONE - 1931



Marvin Hamlisch Showcase

THEY'RE PLAYING MY SONG • NOBODY DOES IT BETTER • ONE IF YOU REMEMBER ME • THE ENTERTAINER • WHAT I DID FOR LOVE
 Arranged by WARREN BARKER

ALEGRIA

FOR BAND

ROBERT H. PEARSON

- Star Spangled Banner (*1983) arr. Bill Moffit
- Raiders Of The Lost Ark (*1983) arr. Jack Bullock
- Ode For Trumpet Alfred Reed
 Karen Lisk, trumpet.
Celebrating 25 years as principal trumpet and soloist with the Village Pops.
- Alegria (*1983) Robert Pearson
- The Battle Hymn Of The Republic (*1983) arr. Peter Wilhousky
 Farmingdale Festival Chorus
 Gene McCoy, Director
- Concert Intermission - Proclamation Presentations
- Colonel Bogey March (*1983) Kenneth J. Alford
- Marvin Hamlisch Showcase (*1983) arr. Warren Barker
- The Syncopated Clock (*1983) Leroy Anderson
- Armed Forces Salute (1991) arr. Bob Lowden
 Farmingdale Festival Chorus
- Patriotic Sing Along (1988) arr. James Ployhar
 Farmingdale Festival Chorus
 Audience Participation
- New York, New York (*1983) arr. Frank Cofield

* Performed on the debut concert July 6, 1983



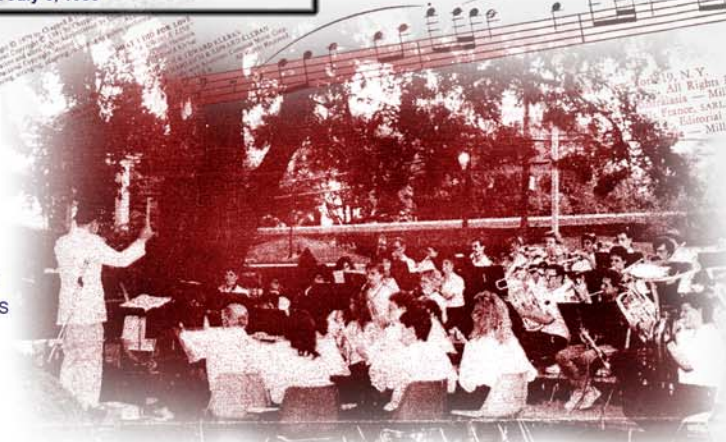
VILLAGE POPS, WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 1992
 Brad DeMilo, Directing

PICCOLO

Bright

A Celebration of Music

THE FARMINGDALE POPS HAS ENTERTAINED LOCAL RESIDENTS SINCE 1983



History that began with Music

The history of the Village Pops first appeared in the July 8, 2005 issue of the Farmingdale Observer. Written by Erica Conte, it is reproduced here with permission of the Observer.

Sounds of music were welcomed back to the Village of Farmingdale...when the Village Pops concert series kicked off its 23rd summer on the green. Also for the 23rd summer Brad DeMilo, former Farmingdale High School band director, can again be found conducting the show. The concert series was DeMilo's idea some 23 summers ago and has since grown into a Farmingdale tradition residents look forward to each summer.

DeMilo began the band after asking himself the question, "What happens to all the Farmingdale high school band students after they have graduated?"

He proposed his plan to have an adult community band that performed a concert series of four shows to the Farmingdale Mayor (John T. Hallahan). Once accepted, the location of the Village Green was decided on and the plan to find band members began. To find those former students and bring music back into their lives, he sent out invitations. The band borrowed music that belonged to the Farmingdale Public Schools and in the summer of 1983 began the Village Pops concerts.

With the help of the Mayor, the Village of Farmingdale, and the Board of Education, he was able to deliver these summers of music for over two decades. The concert series has grown to seven shows each summer, with the addition of special concerts such as the much anticipated children's concert. The Village Pops now has a 600-title library of songs that the band rotates each year. Some of the music is not used anymore to keep the music fresh and up to date. The band, that was once a nucleus of 25 people, has grown to as large as 65 volunteers each year. DeMilo continues to send out invitations and is still amazed at how many volunteer.

"The fact that they are all volunteers is a credit to what we're doing," said DeMilo.

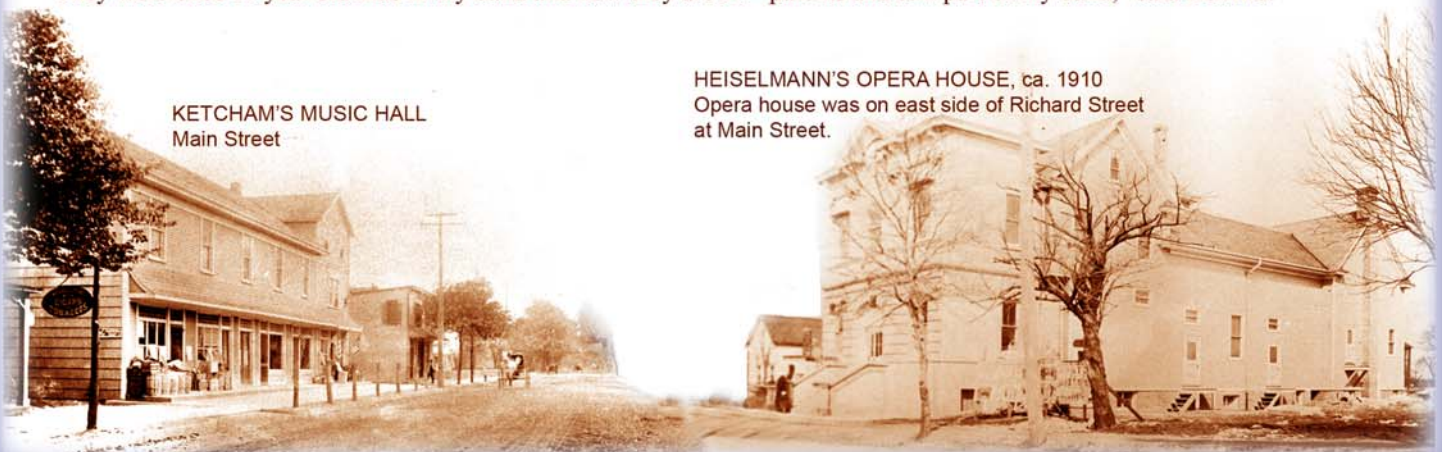
The community is a very important part of the Wednesday night Village Pops. Not only do they entertain with music, but for the past 17 years, during intermission, a minute of history is given to the crowd. Each year, Village Historian William Johnston organizes a group of town leaders and those active in the community to speak about certain phases of community associations.

There are also many other special parts to the show. Ice cream is donated each year to both the band and audience by Bollinger's Restaurant, The Board of Education, The Farmingdale-Bethpage Historical Society, VFW Post 516, McCourt and Trudden Funeral Home, former mayor Bill Carman, and others. Audience members are chosen each week to conduct some of the band's songs and therefore they all feel involved with the show. Johnston says the event is a "real Norman Rockwell experience" and looks forward to it, as do many Farmingdale residents.

"The Pops is a well established Farmingdale tradition that the people of the community look forward to," said Johnston. "Brad is a charismatic leader who keeps the people coming back week after week."

DeMilo says his roots are in Farmingdale and this role he commands with the Pops gives him "that warm fuzzy feeling." He has always enjoyed doing it and loves to see his former students and second generations in the band together.

"They were once 15 year old kids in my band and now they are 50 - parents and still part of my band," said DeMilo.



KETCHAM'S MUSIC HALL
Main Street

HEISELMANN'S OPERA HOUSE, ca. 1910
Opera house was on east side of Richard Street
at Main Street.

*A taste
of the
past*

NOTICE

At a meeting of the Village Board of Trustees held on Feb. 24, 1909, the following budget was voted to be raised by taxes

For Road Purposes	\$350.00
" Incidentals	300.00
" Sidewalks	250.00
" Clerk Hire	60.00
	<u>\$960.00</u>

Treasurer's Report

April 3, 1908	Received from G. H. Fuechsel ex-treasurer	\$413.84
"	G. E. Lawrence Collector	630.91
"	Other Sources	41.08
	Total	<u>\$1,085.83</u>

Disbursements

May 6, 1908	Farmingdale Business printing	13.25
"	Dr. J. F. Michel Health Officer	28.15
"	Joseph Winkler Road Work	2.50
"	Farmingdale Times printing	6.75
"	Samuel Smith Election Expenses	2.00
"	Williamson Law Book Co.	6.00
"	Charles F. Delano printing	25.50
"	Nazareth Trade School	2.40
"	Frank McQueen Copying Court	3.00
June 18	Williamson Law Book Co.	2.50
June 11	H. G. G. Ksman Disinfectant	1.50
"	Nazareth Trade School	7.00
"	Thomas King painting	7.88
" 29	Dominico Posilico Concrete Walks	48.96
Aug. 20	P. W. Ketcham Fixing Roads	47.25
22	Dominico Posilico work on side-walks	31.00
Sept. 8	Chas. E. Houghtaling Stationery	1.00
2	Farmingdale Business printing	2.50
16	P. W. Ketcham trimming trees etc.	64.05
15	Jarvis W. Lattin Road Commissioner	237.72
"	Farmingdale Business printing	45.25
22	Williamson Law Book Co.	.63
24	W. P. Roe Reg. Vital Statistics	8.75
15	Chas. A. Post Village Officer	6.80
18	Clarence C. Doud, Clerk Hire	60.00
Oct. 13	Board of Inspectors and Assessors	35.00
28	Nazareth Trade School	1.75
"	W. H. C. Pynchon Surveyor	60.00
"	Williamson Law Book Co.	1.00
Oct. 24	Farmingdale Business Printing	5.50
	Balance on hand	<u>\$765.59</u>
		\$320.24

G. P. Sullivan
Treasurer

MAIN STREET, Brown's Hotel on left Northwest corner of Main and Conklin Streets, looking north. Bank of Farmingdale on corner.



HAFKE'S POND
Hafke farmhouse is in the background

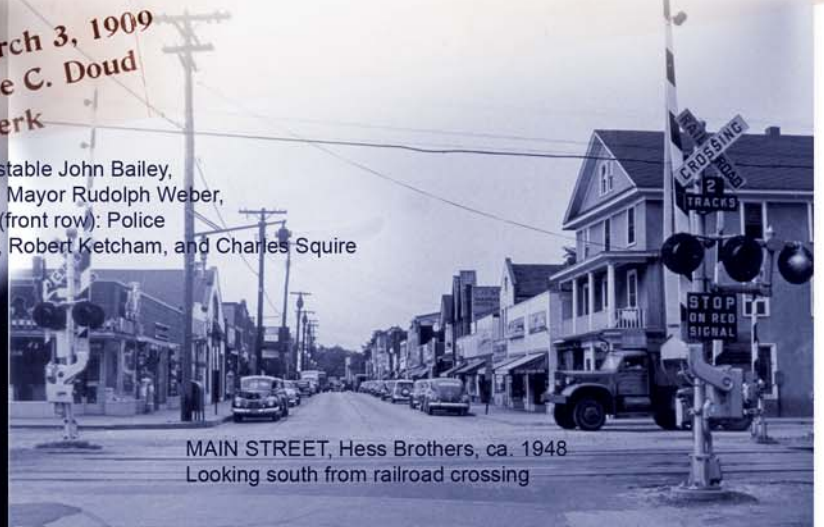
Pond is present day Broad Spring at the junction of Merritt Road, Quaker Meeting House Road and Central Avenue. Mrs. Joseph Baldwin (Louise Wagner) is sitting on grass.

Dated March 3, 1909
Clarence C. Doud
Clerk

L-R: (back row) Constable John Bailey, Sgt. Alex Mayehofer, Mayor Rudolph Weber, Chief Arthur Powell; (front row): Police Officers Alonzo Platt, Robert Ketcham, and Charles Squire



Farmingdale Village Police 1935



MAIN STREET, Hess Brothers, ca. 1948
Looking south from railroad crossing



CHARLES MURPHY, 1899
"Mile-a-Minute" train and view of Murphy
on bicycle.



The Village Green became an ideal location to bring together the community's three war memorials. The memorials for veterans of World Wars I and II, originally located on the lawn of Main Street School, were relocated to the Green in the early 1980s before the school district sold that property. The Korea/Vietnam memorial was also moved from the grounds of the Farmingdale Post Office.

The Village Pops, founded in 1983, have used the Green for their summer concert series throughout their 25 year history. An attractive Gazebo/Bandstand, financed partially by community donations and completed in 2005, is now the site of the Pops concerts.

The Village Tricentennial Tree was planted on the Green to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of settlement celebrated in 1987. It forms the centerpiece of the Holiday Lighting program which heralds the winter holiday season in the village.

The Village Green has recently undergone extensive restorations and improvement, including installation of an enhanced fountain. The Village Green is more than ever a welcoming place of natural beauty in the heart of our bustling village.

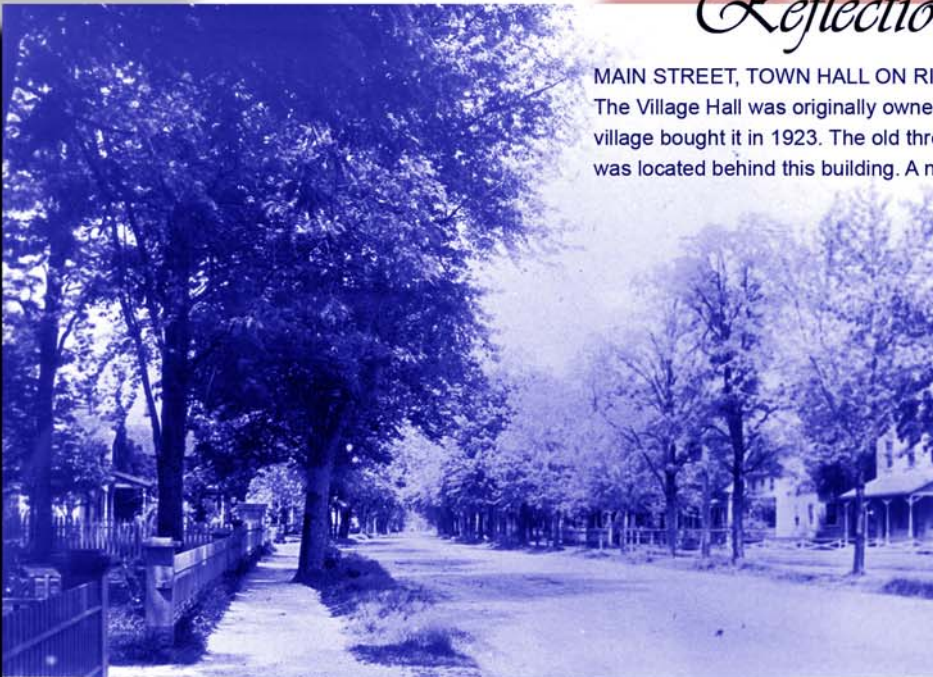


Washington Noon and
Mrs. John H. Duryea (nee Amanda Noon)
ca. 1925



NOON HOTEL, 1870
John Noon in center on left of pillar and
other members of Noon family.
L-R: ?, ?, Abbie Noon, mother;
Mary Ann Noon, ?, Washington Noon,
Benjamin F. Noon, John H. Noon, ?, ?,
James Kennedy (house carpenter),
?, ?, ?, grandfather Nicholas Van Pelt

Reflections of our past



MAIN STREET, TOWN HALL ON RIGHT, LOOKING NORTH
The Village Hall was originally owned by the Town of Oyster Bay. The village bought it in 1923. The old three cell jailhouse, built in 1915 of brick was located behind this building. A new Village Hall was built on this site in 1931.

*A place to worship, educate, and work in the
Village of Farmingdale*

ST. KILIAN'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1910



ST. ROSE'S TRADE SCHOOL, 1910
School was located on south side of Ruland Road,
east of Route 110.



EASTERN PARKWAY, 1910
In far distance on left side is the Bausch Picture Frame and Moulding
Co's factory. These buildings were opposite the railroad station.
View is looking east, building is located on south side of road.



BAUSCH PICTURE FRAME AND MOULDING COMPANY FACTORY
Factory was located at 361 Eastern Parkway on the north side of the street.
This building was built ca. 1910. The business had been established in 1884
and was originally located in a frame building on Rose and Richard Streets.



FARMINGDALE
PUBLIC SCHOOL
The school was
removed from this
site in 1912 and turned
into four houses which
are on Nelson Street.

