



Photo by Van Dyke

*THE ISAAC PALMER BEACH HOUSE stood at the corner of South Main and Eades Street. It was moved in 1928 to make way for the new high school now known as Sliney School. 1921 photo courtesy of Blackstone Memorial Library.*

Pictures of the Past

## Two houses relocated to make way for school

### New School On Eades Street

In 1928 the need for a larger Branford High School facility was realized because of increasing population and state demands for proper building codes. There was considerable debate as to location, some preferred the site at the corner of Montowese and Main streets but there were traffic concerns. The Board of Education approved a site at the corner of South Main and Eades streets for the new school.

Two houses located on the Eades Street site had to be removed. One was a colonial structure built about 1712 and known as the Martin Page or Samuel Pond House but owned by the Beach family for many years. Isaac P. Beach sold the land to the town for the new school and sold his house to Sam Griswold. Griswold paid \$37 to Oscar Kelsey of Stony Creek to move the house down the street and had the dwelling converted into a funeral home. Today this building is the Curtis Funeral Home at 69 South Main St.

The other house was a Greek Revival structure owned by David Baldwin who had sold his farm on Route 139 in 1912 and moved uptown. This house was purchased by William R. Foote, a local real estate agent and he proceeded to move the house to a lot on Wilford Avenue. Apparently Foote had not finalized the purchase of the Wilford Avenue lot and the house remained half way onto the street for several days blocking the sidewalk. Unable to make the Wilford Avenue agreement William Foote moved the house to a lot he owned on Eades Street. Today this house still remains at 20 Eades Street opposite the school. The rear portion of the Baldwin House was removed to the corner of Hopson Avenue and Prospect Street and converted into a single family dwelling.

Branford's third high school was dedicated Aug. 24, 1929 on the Eades Street site and today is known as Sliney School.

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