HISTORIC BRIGHTON NEWS
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Celebrating our town's history and educating our community about Brighton's past.
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION
The Wallace-Schilling House
Brighton's First Designated Landmark

April 29th, 2012  2:30pm
Brighton Town Hall Auditorium
2300 Elmwood Avenue 14618

MAKING HISTORY: SANDRA FRANKEL
Brighton Town Supervisor 1992-2012

PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACE AND PARKLANDS

Corbett's Glen

Persimmon Park

Buckland Park

Brighton Town Park

Meridian CentrePark
The Buckland Homestead, 1341 Westfall Road

"This (house) is difficult to evaluate because it doesn't look like upstate New York design...more like what you'd see in Pennsylvania, with that hipped roof. It's an odd house, which is at once both a virtue and a problem. In that it's an anomaly. It's a rare survivor of a rural house.........The main value is that it doesn't follow any of the local stylistic traditions...It doesn't have much embellishment, but that's part of the house's charm - its austerity. Let's make this a 'GREEN PLUS' - if it could survive as a complex of buildings, that would enhance its value." (Paul Malo - Professor Emeritus of Architecture at Syracuse University while rating Brighton architecture during the 1998 Historic Structures Survey).

The old farmhouse, with its two front doors, embodies features of just about every architectural style that was popular from 1830 to 1950. Based on structural evidence, the earliest part of the house was built c.1830s. It has log beams in the basement and a lot of spiders! The house was a story and a half one-room brick building at first, but shortly after, an addition of similar size was added to the west side. The larger brick Greek Revival west wing came next, c.1840. The frame construction east wing was added in the late nineteenth century and the second story around 1915. The latter is easy to see because gray cement brick was added to the red brick lower part for the second floor. Sometime in the mid-twentieth century the gabled roof was replaced with the hipped roof we see today. The present house features simple vernacular details: symmetrically placed windows, narrow brick lintels, and a late nineteenth/early twentieth century front porch. The one and a half-story west wing retains a Greek Revival style with its wood cornice and gable end returns. It has been proposed that the main two and a half-story structure may have also had a wide Greek Revival cornice before the roof was raised.

Although the house first appears on the 1852 county map, it appears to be of much earlier construction. The basement's random fieldstone foundation and joists of bark-covered logs, as well as the first-floor hearth/baking oven/fireplace with iron crane (swinging arm), indicate an early nineteenth century construction date - probably in the 1830s. The presence of the cast iron crane in the first floor fireplace is of particular significance. The crane appears to be original, and it is rare to find a nineteenth century fireplace crane still intact on its original site. The only other known fireplace crane at its original site in Brighton is at the Stone-Tolan House Museum at 2370 East Avenue. To the right of the fireplace opening is a plastered-over wall. This appears to be the possible location of an early nineteenth century "bee-hive" baking oven. The Stone-Tolan House has a similar fireplace with an asymmetrical opening which leads us to believe that the Buckland Farmstead fireplace is located in what was once the family kitchen.

The first floor presently includes a living room with the early fireplace, a dining room, two bedrooms, a kitchen and pantry, and an attached shed off the kitchen. A typically narrow nineteenth-century enclosed staircase leads to the second floor of the house where there are a large hall, four bedrooms, and a bathroom. Three of the upper bedrooms have distinctive plaster ceilings and plaster crown molding. The hall features wide-plank wood flooring.

The Buckland Farmstead is a house that best represents the growth of a town from the settlement period to the modern age. It began as a very small house and grew as the size and the needs of its
families increased. It was never a Federal (as was the Buckland house at 1037 Winton Road South, or Greek Revival (like the Buckland house at 1551 Winton Road South) - it was always a simple vernacular structure that reflected the lifestyle of its owners. In its later years, the house and the farmland surrounding it provided food and vocational experiences for the children at the Rochester Orphan Asylum, which later became the Hillside Children's Center. It is also important historically because of its association with the Buckland family whose story was explored in Bricks of Brighton, Parts VI and VII.

This house is one of three surviving brick residences in the town built and occupied by members of the Buckland family. The other two Buckland homes are at #1037 and #1551 Winton Road South. A fourth, no longer standing, was located across from the house at #1341 Westfall Road. It was occupied by Warren Buckland. Nothing is known about the style or construction of this house.

In 1911, the house and the 92-acre farm was purchased by the Rochester Orphan Asylum. It was about 1915 when the second story of concrete brick was added to accommodate the residence of five orphans. Hillside Children's Center sold the property to Roy McGregor in 1939 and in 1948, Max Gonsenhauser acquired the farm and raised beef cattle and dairy cows.

In 1997, the Town of Brighton purchased the house and thirty-two acres of the farm now known as the Buckland Farmstead. The house underwent rehabilitation and now serves as a community center, with a small collection of historic artifacts on display. This project was funded by the Town of Brighton, Brighton Rotary and the State of New York and was completed in 2006. The Allyn's Creek Garden Club funded the landscape design and its members maintain the gardens.

This article was written by Arlene Wright Vanderlinde as part of a Historic Brighton series published in the Brighton-Pittsford Post. Sources used for this article were:
* Town of Brighton Cultural Resources Survey
* Mary Jo Lanphear, Brighton Historian

Kenneth Barnard Keating (1900-1975) —From Brighton Town Attorney to the Congress of the United States and Beyond

Kenneth Barnard Keating was born in Lima, Livingston County, the son of Thomas Mosgrove Keating, a popular local grocer. He was home-schooled from the age of three by his mother, Louise Barnard Keating. He entered the Lima public school at age seven, as a sixth grader, and graduated from high school at the age of thirteen. After graduating at age fifteen from Genesee Wesleyan Seminary in Lima, he won a state college scholarship (the youngest person to do so) and entered the University of Rochester, graduating in 1919 as class valedictorian, a Phi Beta Kappa, and a sergeant in the Student Army Training Corps.

Keating taught Latin and Greek at East High School, but left after one year when he enrolled in Harvard Law School, graduating in 1923. Admitted to the Bar that same year, Keating commenced his law practice in Rochester, joining the firm of Remington and Remington. It was at this time that he entered politics, serving as the Brighton Town Attorney.

In 1928 he married Louise DuPuy of Rochester, a graduate of East High School, Walnut Hill Academy, and Vassar College. In 1929, the young couple moved to 868 Clover Street, Brighton, where they lived until 1938 when they moved to their large brick home at 3500 Elmwood Avenue (now a designated Brighton landmark). Their daughter, Judy, was born in 1937.
Mrs. Keating died in 1968 after a twenty-year illness. A year later, Keating donated his home to the University of Rochester. The University later sold the house. A historic marker that was placed on the lawn was eventually removed and is now stored at the Brighton Town Hall.

Until World War II, Keating led a relatively quiet life, although his perseverance and skills earned him a good reputation within the legal profession. He had become a partner in his law firm and then moved on to the firm of Harris, Beach, Folger, Remington, Bacon and Keating. In 1941 he volunteered for service in the war and worked mainly in allied lend-lease matters in the China-Burma-India Theater at the headquarters of Lord Louis Mountbatten. He entered the service as a major but was soon promoted to lieutenant-colonel. He ultimately achieved the rank of Brigadier General (1948).

He returned to Rochester in 1946 and resumed his law practice. That same year he was tapped by the Republican party to run for Congress. He proved to be an excellent vote-getter and was elected to the Eightieth Congress and re-elected to the five succeeding Congresses (1947-59).

During his twelve years in the House of Representatives Keating established a "progressive Republican" voting record. His ever-increasing margins of victory at the polls convinced state party leaders and the Eisenhower administration that he should run for the Senate in 1958. This was a risky move, but Keating easily defeated the Democratic candidate, Frank Hogan, and then distinguished himself as a freshman Senator. He played a major role in the 1964 Civil Rights Act, sponsored legislation to the adoption of the 23rd Amendment, enfranchising the District of Columbia, and helped expose the presence of Soviet missiles in Cuba.

Keating was one of the Kennedy Administration's most persistent critics, charging that the Administration was purposefully over-estimating the extent of Soviet withdrawal from Cuba and downplaying the Soviet presence still in Cuba.

Keating was well-known in Washington circles as a master of the well-turned satire. One Keating quip was: "Roosevelt proved a man could be president for life; Truman proved anyone could be president; Eisenhower proved you don't need to have a President." His satirical wit is represented on the LP record album called: *Chet Huntley Presents: Best of Washington Humor*. Also included are excerpts from actual speeches of JFK, Barry Goldwater and Adlai Stevenson. Keating's photo appears on the cover of the album.

After losing the 1964 election to Robert F. Kennedy, Keating practiced law for a year in New York City where he was associated with the future Secretary of State, William P. Rogers. In 1965, Keating was elected to New York State's highest court, the Court of Appeals. He served as an associate justice until resigning the position before mandatory retirement at age 69. That same year he accepted President Richard Nixon's appointment as the Ambassador to India, serving until 1972. In 1973 Keating accepted appointment to his final post as Ambassador to Israel.

In 1974, Keating married Mary Pitcairn Davis, the widow of a classmate at Harvard Law School. Keating died in New York City on May 5, 1975 and is buried in Section 5 of Arlington National Cemetery, not far from the Kennedy brothers' gravesites.
Sol Myron Linowitz - 1913-2005
Lawyer, Corporate Leader, Statesman, Brighton Resident

Sol Linowitz was the kind of person who brings the words grace and integrity to mind. He was a counselor and confidant of Presidents and had an extraordinary career which encompassed the law, business, and public service. More than fifteen years of his exceptional life was spent as a resident of Brighton; first at 147 Westland Avenue in Home Acres (1951-1954); next at 135 Monterey Road (1954-1958); and finally, at 2563 East Avenue (1958-1966). His East Avenue home is now a designated Brighton Town Landmark. It was in Brighton that he raised his four daughters, all educated in Brighton Schools. In 1966, he moved to Washington, D.C. after his appointment by President Lyndon Johnson to the post of U.S. Ambassador to the Organization of American States, thus beginning a life of public service that would last all of his 91 years.

Born in Trenton, New Jersey on December 7, 1913, he was the eldest son of Joseph and Rose Oglensky Linowitz, Jewish immigrants from Russian-occupied Poland. He grew up in Trenton, in a multicultural neighborhood, where his father was a successful fruit importer. The family’s life was comfortable until the Depression destroyed the family business. Mr. Linowitz graduated from high school in 1931 with an academic record strong enough to earn him a $250 scholarship to Hamilton College. As part of his scholarship agreement, he worked various jobs: waited on tables in the Commons; sold newspapers; gave violin lessons (He played in the Utica Symphony Orchestra and with a dance band during his summers); tutored other students, and read to one of Hamilton’s most distinguished alumni, Elihu Root. Root had served as Secretary of State under Theodore Roosevelt and had come back to spend time on campus in the last years of his life. Students were assigned to read to him daily after he lost his eyesight.

Mr. Linowitz recalled in an interview for Bar Report (August-September 1995), "One afternoon he (Root) stopped me and asked what I was going to do after graduation. I said that I couldn't decide between being a lawyer and being a rabbi. He said, 'Be a lawyer. A lawyer needs twice as much religion as a minister or a rabbi.' The point he was making was that if you really believe in your principles, you ought to put them to use in the real world....I thought that was a profound truth." Sol Linowitz lived that truth.

Described in the Hamilton College newspaper as an "extraordinary combination of musician, scholar, and actor," Sol Linowitz graduated Phi Beta Kappa and with honors in public speaking, political science, and German. Salutatorian of the Class of 1935, he delivered the commencement address in Latin."
After Hamilton, Mr. Linowitz graduated from Cornell Law School, where he served as editor-in-chief of the Law Quarterly and earned his L.L.B in 1938, graduating first in his class. There he met his future wife, Evelyn "Toni" Zimmerman. After their marriage in 1939, the couple moved to Rochester, where Linowitz joined the small family law firm of Sutherland and Sutherland. "What I learned at Sutherland and Sutherland is the law is a human profession. If you are going to get satisfaction, and personal fulfillment as a lawyer, you've got to do things that are helpful to people. You can't do things impersonally."

A soccer injury while at Hamilton College kept him out of the military at the beginning of World War II, so Mr. Linowitz found a job in Washington at the Office of Price Administration where he was in charge of appellate cases in the rent control program. He worked with another young lawyer named Richard Nixon. In 1944, he received a naval commission, as did Nixon, and served until 1946, when he again located in Rochester. They had friends here and felt it was a good place to raise a family. He came back to Sutherland and Sutherland, but the firm had changed and was in serious financial trouble. Sol and a colleague worked hard to salvage the firm. Eventually, he joined the Harris Beach law firm where he practiced law until he moved to Washington.

In 1948, a close friend of Linowitz, Joseph C. Wilson, president of a small company called Haloid that sold silver paper for photographic purposes, was looking into something called electrophotography which had been recently invented by a man named Chester Carlson. Wilson was interested in acquiring option rights under the patents and needed a lawyer. He called upon Mr. Linowitz to draw up an agreement by which Haloid would acquire a short-term license, with renewal options. In an interview, with Bar Report, Linowitz recalled, "Joe understood the potential implications a lot more quickly than I did.......This may surprise you, but had Joe and I been more scientifically trained - had we had a better sense of what was required to tame this process of electrophotography so it could be put into a useful machine - I don't think we would have persevered. The scientists at Haloid were all skeptical. Joe and I both had liberal arts educations, and we didn't have enough knowledge to get in the way of our blind confidence that this technology had the potential to make a fine product."

The process was in development for eleven years and they faced a lot of uncertainty. In 1959, the company produced the first copy machine made available and it was an unimaginable success. In a very short time Haloid-Xerox became a major international corporation with annual revenue in the hundreds of millions of dollars. Mr. Linowitz had become vice-president in 1953 after Joe Wilson suffered a heart attack, but was still practicing law through Harris Beach. He soon became chairman of the board and remained so until his appointment to the OAS. He was quoted as saying, "Xerox was a case where invention was the mother of necessity - until it was invented, people didn't realize how much they needed it."

During his years as head of Xerox, Mr. Linowitz was a regular invitee to the Johnson White House to discuss education and foreign policy. President Johnson first appointed Linowitz to a commission to study foreign aid, then offered him many positions in his administration, including Secretary of Commerce and head of the Peace Corps. All were turned down because he thought he could make a greater contribution elsewhere. He shocked President Johnson when he accepted the ambassadorship to the OAS in 1966.

Mr. Linowitz thought Johnson to be a good man who aspired to be a great president, but was very insecure about himself and could be "irascible and irritating" as well as very kind. His autobiography, The Making of a Public Man - A Memoir, (Little Brown, 1985), recounted several anecdotes of President Johnson at his best and worst. He recalled when Johnson criticized him in front of several cabinet members early in his administration he sought a private conversation in which he told the president that he would resign if that happened again. Johnson thought Linowitz had over-reacted but generally treated him well following that incident, except for one occasion when Linowitz told him that he thought the Vietnam war was going badly and Johnson snapped, "I don't want you to talk to me about that subject."

When Richard Nixon became president, Mr. Linowitz had already become dismayed at the changes he saw in his old friend once he began his political career. When Nixon ran for the Senate in 1950, he conducted a smear campaign against his opponent. Linowitz had no desire to be part of his administration. He stayed with the OAS only until a
replacement could be found. Following that, he became a senior partner in the international law firm of Coudert Brothers LLP - 1969-1983. He was senior counsel until 1994. He continued to be involved with subsequent administrations, both Republican and Democratic, as a roving ambassador, troubleshooter, or member of commissions including the National Urban Coalition, the Federal City Council, and the Commission on United States-Latin American Relations.

Mr. Linowitz became chief negotiator of the Panama Canal treaties during Carter's presidency, having already chaired a commission that reported that this issue could become the greatest problem the United States would face in the years ahead. The 1903 treaty, which gave the U.S. sovereign power over the Canal Zone, was a source of shame to Panama and civil unrest was escalating. Carter asked Linowitz and Ellsworth Bunker to negotiate a treaty that was "generous, fair and appropriate."

Linowitz considered this to be the greatest challenge of his life. The greatest part of the challenge was the domestic battle to ratify the treaty. He found that to be frightening. "The far right crazies" threatened him and his family.

Ronald Reagan, then governor of California, led the responsible opposition, based on the facts that the US had built and paid for the Canal and, therefore, should continue to own it. Ultimately, the treaties were ratified in 1979, but by the narrowest of margins. Linowitz believed that if the treaties hadn't been ratified, guerrilla groups would have blown up the locks and it would have taken 100,000 men to protect the canal. In 1979, President Carter named Sol Linowitz as his special representative in the Middle East, charged with the task of mediating between Egypt and Israel over Palestinian autonomy. His negotiating efforts ended in 1981 with the Reagan presidency. He felt that the foundations that were so carefully laid for peace in this region were ignored by the Reagan administration and opportunities were lost.

Throughout his career, Sol Linowitz devoted much time and energy to active involvement in worthy causes such as the National Urban League, which he served as chairman. He was founder and co-chairman of Inter-American Dialogue, as well as chairman of a 1978 Presidential Commission on World Hunger. He was also a member of numerous boards of trustees, including those of the University of Rochester, Cornell University, the Johns Hopkins University, and Hamilton College. He received many honors for his work, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, conferred upon him by President Clinton in 1998. At the awards ceremony, Clinton said, "Receiving advice from Sol Linowitz on international diplomacy is like getting trumpet lessons from the angel Gabriel."

In spite of the honors and recognition, Sol Linowitz remained a modest man, gifted with a sense of humor, and always a gentleman. A man of great integrity who publicly deplored the materialism and moral decline within his beloved legal profession, he wrote The Betrayed Profession: Lawyering at the End of the Twentieth Century (1994) where he called for more ethics courses in law school, as well as more attention to the philosophical, social, and literary structure of the western legal system. He had faith that lawyers could restore ethical values to the profession and regain its dignity. Sol Myron Linowitz died on March 18, 2005, at his home in Washington. He was 91.

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This article was written by Arlene Wright Vanderlinde as part of a Historic Brighton series published in the Brighton-Pittsford Post. Sources used for this article were:
* DC Bar Report - Legends of the Law, September 1995
* Cornell University News Service, March 21, 2003
* The Johns Hopkins Gazette - April 4, 2005
* Sol Linowitz Dies......Obituary by Joe Holley, Washington Post - March 19, 2005
* Hamilton College Alumni Review - Fall 2005
Save these Dates!

Fri. June 15th  11:30AM to 2PM
Historic Brighton celebrates: The Sisters of Mercy Campus and Annual History Luncheon
Historical focus: Sisters of Mercy Convent, Our Lady of Mercy High School and
Architect J. Foster Warner
Speakers: Sister Jeanne Reichart — Rochester Archivist, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, and
Terry Quinn, Principal — Our Lady of Mercy High School
Location: Gatherings at the Daisy Flour Mill — 1880 Blossom Road

Sat. June 16th  (Time to be announced)
Tours of the Sisters of Mercy Campus — 1437 Blossom Road
Please mark your calendars and consult our website and newsletters for more details.
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