



December 13, 2023

Dear Olga Murray and Members of the Islip Town Board,

As the regional advocate for historic preservation on Long Island, Preservation Long Island (PLI) asks you to deny the request to modify the current covenants and restrictions associated with TC4752, which would permit the demolition of the Shutt House at 1785 and 1779 Brentwood Road. We believe this property is worthy of preservation as it is significant to the early founding of Brentwood. Demolition will irreversibly diminish the richness of Brentwood's surviving historic resources.

The Shutt House is one of few remaining buildings associated with Modern Times (1851-1864), Long Island's Utopian community. It is listed on our biennial Endangered Historic Places list which was released this past Monday. The list is designed to identify, highlight, and address the imminent threats faced by significant historical sites and structures across Long Island.

There are substantial funding sources that could be available to make the rehabilitation of this structure financially viable for the current owner. These could include historic state and federal tax credits, revitalization funds, and grants. A denial in the request to demolish the building would provide the time to explore these other options. The result would be a building that not only showcases Brentwood's idealistic beginnings but is also a centerpiece of its future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Tara Cubie  
Preservation Director  
Preservation Long Island