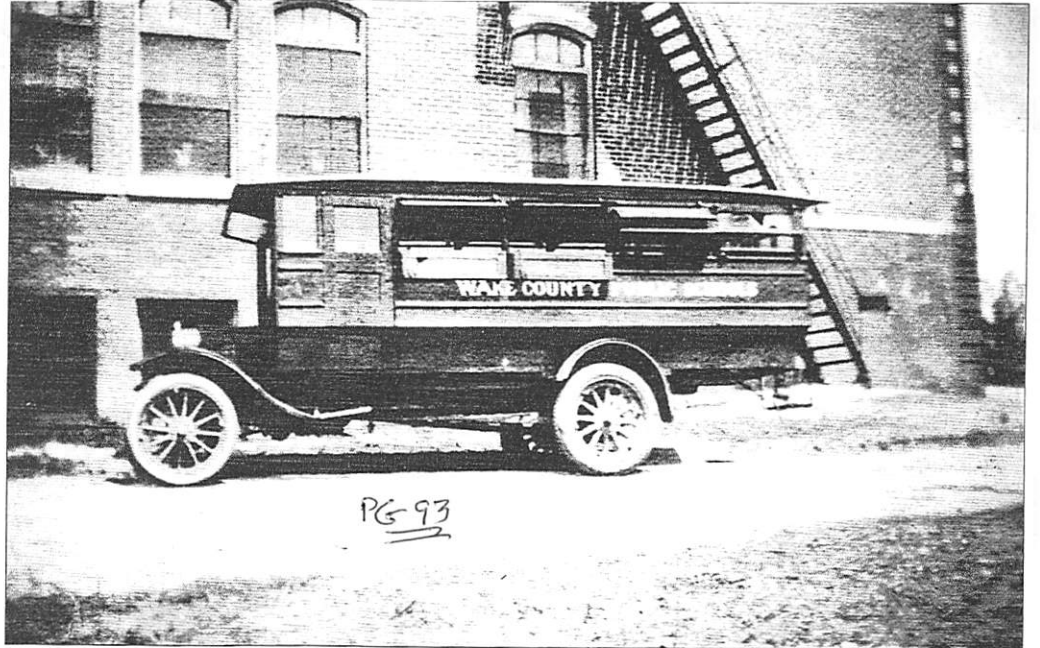


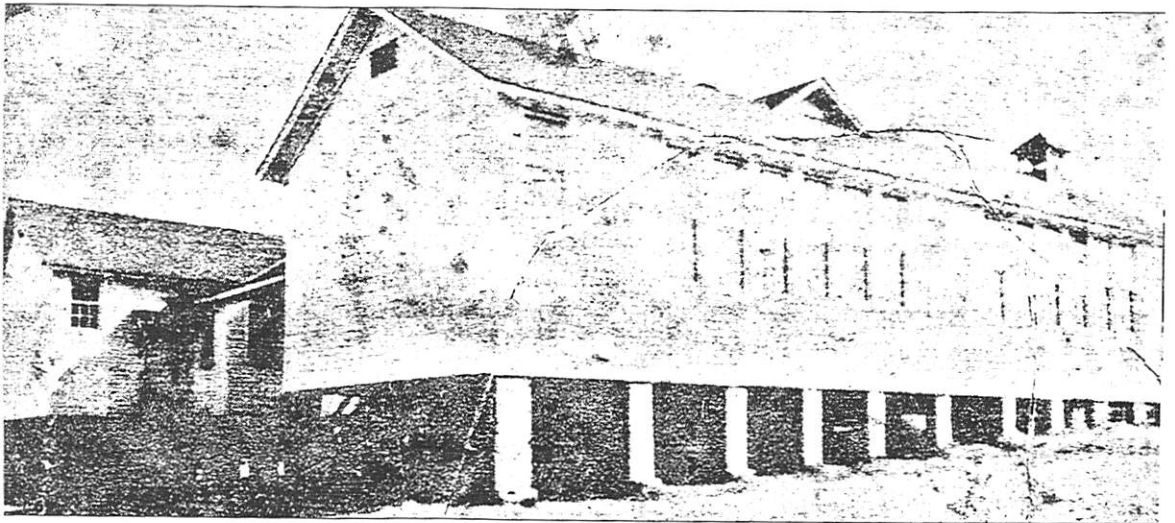
WAKE CO., NC SCHOOLS - HOLLY SPRINGS, NC

EXCERPT FROM BOOK "IMAGES OF AMERICA - HOLLY SPRINGS" 2008 - TOWN OF HOLLY SPRINGS, NC - BARBARA KOBLICH - TOWN HISTORIAN - ARCADIA PUBLISHING

## THE SCHOOL HOUSE

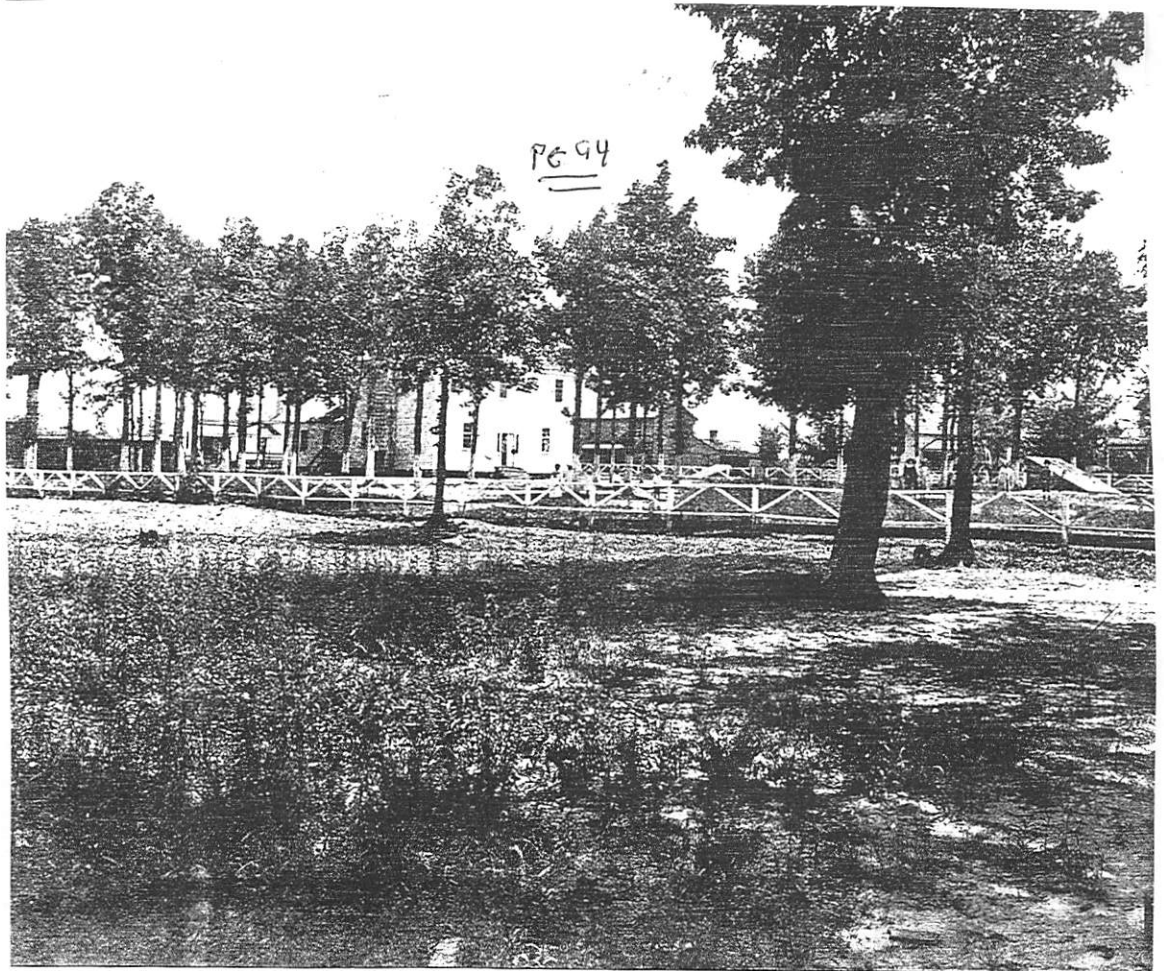


In this c. 1920 photograph, a Wake County Public School bus parked outside of the Holly Springs High School stands ready to deliver another load of students safely to their destination. (Mary Lee Johnson collection, courtesy of Lori Stokes.)

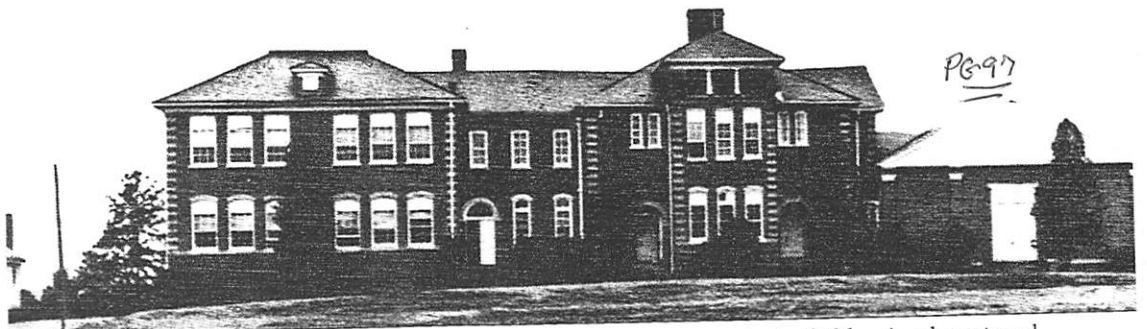


In 1908, a Rosenwald School was built on land purchased from the Earp family on the east side of what was then the old Fuquay Road. Known in the community as the "Plank School," it featured four classrooms and an auditorium that served as classrooms for the sixth and seventh grades. The school was heated by coal-burning heaters in each room, and students were sent to the woods to get light wood to start fires and were charged with filling coal scuttles to keep the fires burning. When it was torn down and rebuilt in 1923, classes were held in the Christian and Baptist churches during this renovation period. In 1951, at this same location, a modern brick structure was built, with additions in 1959. The building now serves as the town community center. The town named the center in honor of William E. Hunt, who served as a teacher at the school in 1943 and 1944 and as principal from 1945 until his death in 1959. Hunt, the beloved principal, who was known as a strict disciplinarian but also as a kind man, was ever interested in his school, his students, and the community. (Courtesy of Cora Lassiter.)

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By 1854, the first school in the community was established. The Holly Springs Academy was an all-male school used as a preparatory school for Wake Forest University. At the outbreak of the Civil War, like nearly all Southern schools, this school was left without students or fathers to pay the tuition. After the war, the academy was reestablished and flourished, this time as a coeducational school. (Courtesy of North Carolina Archives.)



In 1906–1907, efforts by members of the community to improve their children's educational facilities were initiated. Ten acres of land were purchased near the springs. Four acres were planted with cotton, which was cultivated and harvested by the Holly Springs Woman's Betterment Association. These efforts among other fund-raisers won the group first prize from the county association, which was canvassing the county in an effort to secure a location for a high school. In 1908, the bell rang for Holly Springs' first public school, offering grades 1 through 11 for white children only. By 1914, an enlargement was made to accommodate the students wishing to attend this highly ranked school. The last graduating class was in 1946, after which grades 9 through 12 were bussed into Apex or Fuquay Springs. There was a detached gymnasium on the school campus where the children of the community recall roller-skating on Saturday afternoons. Their parents enjoyed attending lively square dances in the evening. Closed because of consolidation in 1958, the building was razed in 1978. (Sylvian Brooks collection.)



Shown above in a 1916 photograph, the Collins Grove School was one of the institutes of learning established in the early 1900s in the rural areas known as Collins and Holleman's Crossroads. (Both, courtesy of North Carolina Archives.)



PE98

# Holly Springs High School



THIS CERTIFIES THAT

## Kathryn Baker

has satisfactorily completed the Course of Study prescribed by the Board of Education for the High School Department and is hereby entitled to this

### DIPLOMA

Given under our hands at Holly Springs  
on this the fourth day of May 1934

*Thomas O. Sford*  
PRESIDENT  
*R. L. Wilkins*  
SECRETARY

*John C. Lockhart*  
SUPERINTENDENT  
*R. A. Haddock*  
PRINCIPAL

This diploma from Holly Springs High School was presented to Kathryn Baker on May 4, 1934, for her successful completion in the "Course of Study presented by the Board of Education." (Vada Fiegler collection.)



The graduating class of 1940 at Holly Springs High School poses here; from left to right are (first row) Agnes Slade, Alma Lee Bell, Ruby White, Sue Haley, Reba Matthews, Emma-Jean Matthews, and Arlie Holt; (second row) Mary Hare, Lydia Ragan, Jack Adams, Matthew Olen, and James Tutor; (third row) Coley Wilson, Stanley Goodwin, Howard Johnson, Carlyle Dean, George Cullipher (principal), Roy Collins, and Charles Cross. (Mary Macon collection.)