



## New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Division for Historic Preservation  
Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189  
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Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Rose Harvey  
Commissioner

July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Alexandra Wolfe  
Preservation Services Director  
Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities  
161 Main Street  
PO Box 148  
Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724

Re: St. Ignatius Jesuit Retreat House at Inisfada/Brady Estate  
251 Seasingtown Road, Manhasset, NY 11030

Ms Wolfe:

Our office has received your submission for a request for National Register of Historic Places eligibility for the St. Ignatius Retreat House at Inisfada in Manhasset, Nassau County. I want to thank you for your thoroughly prepared historic overview of the site and inform you that the New York State Division for Historic Presentation has determined that the Retreat House is eligible for the National Register program.

Constructed between 1916 and 1920, the site was once the country estate of Nicholas and Genevieve Brady, leading Catholic lay people of the era. The building and its grounds were donated to the Jesuit order in 1937, who have since acted as the building's stewards for over seventy-five years. Today the property maintains much of its early-twentieth century estate setting, with thirty-three of the original one hundred and twenty two acres intact, reflecting the landscape tastes of both significant owners.

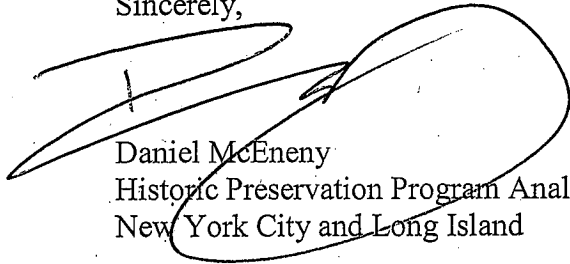
The property is significant under National Register Criteria C in the area of architecture as an outstanding example of early-twentieth century high style Tudor Revival construction designed by Philadelphia based architect John Torrey Windram. The Retreat House stands today as the prominent architect's only known work in New York State. Additionally, the property is significant

under landscape architecture, incorporating extant designs from the country estate era including walking paths, water features and built elements attributed to both significant owners in the form of sculptural elements, gates, and a Tudor Revival pavilion. Under National Register Criterion A, the property is significant in the area of social history for its association with the Brady family and the Jesuits' New York Province. This eligibility includes the lands and built features associated with the property's 1916 to 1963 period of significance. The National Register level of significance has been set at the State level for its association and history with the Jesuit order in New York State during the twentieth century.

Eligibility and/or listing on the National Register offers a measure of protection under federal and New York State historic preservation laws. It does not prohibit a property owner from making changes, selling, or even demolishing a property with private funds. The Division for Historic Preservation provides consultation when public money or permitting is associated with a historic site. The purposes of the Register program is to document sites of cultural significance in communities and to qualify properties for potential grant programming and tax credit incentives for rehabilitation.

If there are any questions about this determination of National Register of Historic Places eligibility, please contact the Division staff to discuss further.  
518.237.8643 x3257 [daniel.mceneny@parks.ny.gov](mailto:daniel.mceneny@parks.ny.gov)

Sincerely,



Daniel McEneny  
Historic Preservation Program Analyst  
New York City and Long Island

cc: Don Holden, Executive Director