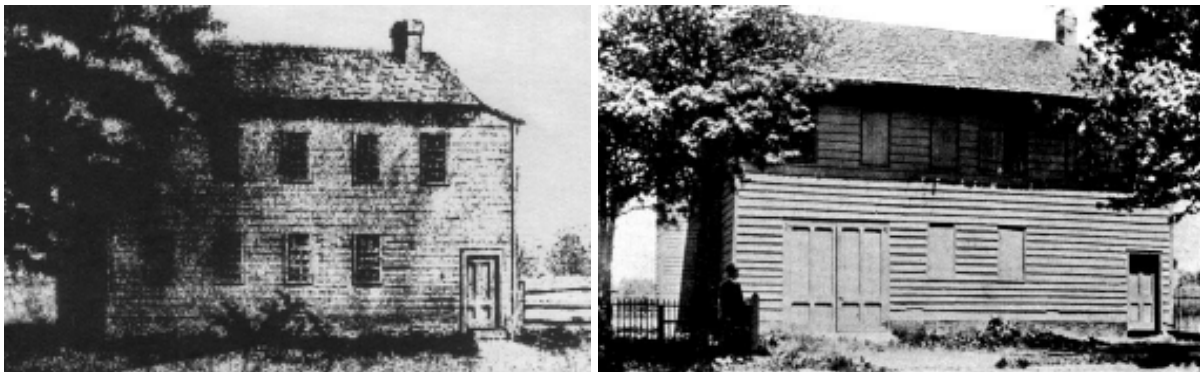


## Chapter 3 – Schools, Old and New

Right behind the churches came the schools. Almost every church had a Sunday school, but others built separate school buildings. Many of the first public schools came from church origins as well. The earliest of these were located in Orange, starting in 1729 with a school built by Samuel Harrison. In 1757, Rev. Caleb Smith opened a grammar and classical school near the First Presbyterian Church at Main and Day Streets. The first public school was called Orange Academy, and was built in 1786. A second Lower Academy was built for the “east enders” in 1811 at present day Main and Washington Streets.

Franklin School had its beginning in 1825, when a group of Doddtown residents put up a two story wood frame school house on Dodd Street near Girard Avenue, shown in the drawing below on the left.



With a little modification such as the adding of garage doors, the school was turned into the Franklin Hose Co. No. 2 in June of 1884 shown on the right, above. It had its own hose carriage and horse. Ten years earlier, in 1874, the students had moved into the stone building shown in the insert below.



Today's Franklin School (in the background) is now renamed as Whitney Houston Academy.



The original Ashland School was built in 1860 on Prospect Street, directly behind the Brick Church. In 1870, it was sold to the Second Presbyterian Church and the school seen in the black and white insert above was erected on North Clinton Street. In 1906, another Ashland School was built on Park Avenue and the present building was then purchased by Our Lady Help of Christian's Church and still is used today by the Church as a parochial school.



The Park Avenue building burned down



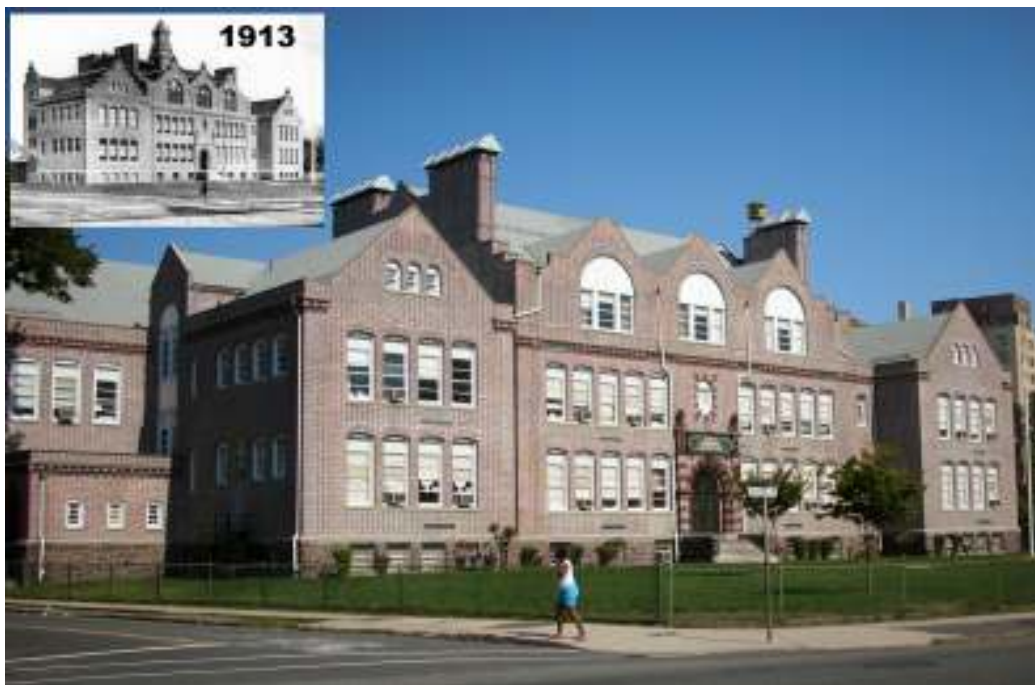
1887 Elmwood School-Langston Hughes School. Elmwood School was started as a church school by the Elmwood Presbyterian Church in 1882. It was taken over by the city of East Orange in 1887 under the name South Ashland Primary School. The building shown in the inset below was completed in 1902. The present building was renovated and expanded in 1955 with classrooms in what was then a revolutionary hexagonal design.



1892 Columbian School - George Washington Carver. In 1892, on the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Columbus' voyage of discovery, Columbian School was named in his honor and built on pasture land in the midst of dairy farms on the corner of Grove Street and Springdale Avenue. Today's library used to be the 1892 building's auditorium. Other construction in 1902 expanded the building to its present size.



1899 Nassau School (2/20/1899) -Ecole Toussaint Louverture. Nassau School, named after William of Orange, the Count of Nassau (1533-1584), opened in 1899. Other additions were made, such as the two wings shown in the inset, built in 1909. The library was a 1934 addition built by the Works Projects Administration (WPA).



1905 Stockton School (2/13/1905) - Gordon Parks Academy. Stockton School was built to relieve crowded conditions at Eastern High School and Columbian School. It was named for Richard Stockton, one of the New Jersey signers of the Declaration of Independence.



1909 Lincoln School (2/12/1909) – Dionne Warwick. On February 12, 1909, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's birth, Lincoln School was dedicated and named. In 1960, when Eastern High School was torn down to make room for the Garden State Parkway, 18 additional rooms to house those students were attached to Lincoln School.



1912 Washington School - Washington Academy of Music. Washington School, named for the first president, George Washington, was built to relieve crowding at Nassau and Elmwood schools in 1912. Eight more rooms were added to it in 1920.





1922 Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament School - Imani Baptist Church & Pride Academy Charter School. Once run by The Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth, Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament School was constructed in 1922. In 1970, the Sisters of Charity were replaced by lay faculty, although a sister of St. Dominic was still principal.



1927 Holy Name School -Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. Academy. Holy Name School in 1910 was a combination former grocery store and butcher shop in Doddtown. The brick building on Midland Avenue was built behind the church in 1927, staffed by the Sisters of Charity.



1928 Our Lady of All Souls School - Fourth Avenue School. The parishioners of Our Lady of All Souls Church on Fourth Avenue built the original school in 1928. It was staffed by the Sisters of Charity. In 1960 nine more classrooms and a library was added.



1930 Vernon L. Davey Junior High School - Cicely Tyson School of Performing and Fine Arts



It was the brain-child of Superintendent Clifford J. Scott, who was first to establish junior high schools in East Orange.

St. Joseph's Church and School began in a carpenter shop on the corner of Tremont Avenue and Telford Street in 1918, which suggested naming it for St. Joseph, the carpenter. The stone church and separate school were built in 1931. Although started as a nursery school, it eventually expanded to become a grammar school and graduated its first class of eighth graders in 1959.



Schools to be added:

1957 Kentopp School -Mildred Barry Garvin School

19?? Garfield Jackson Academy

19?? Upsala College Science Building -Wahlstrom Early Childhood Center

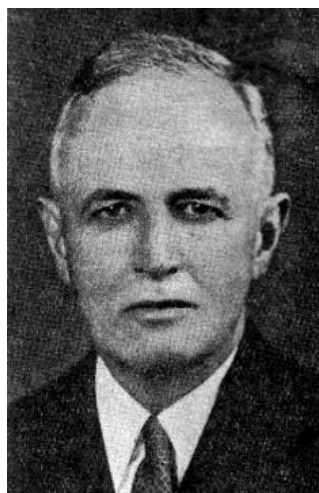
19?? Althea Gibson Early Childhood Academy

Hart Middle School Complex



## High Schools

1937 Clifford J. Scott High School (10/15/1937) - East Orange Campus 9



Dr. Clifford J. Scott (1880- 1936) started construction of this school, but died before it was completed. Following the success of his Junior High School program at Vernon L. Davey, Scott envisioned it as a combined junior and senior high school.

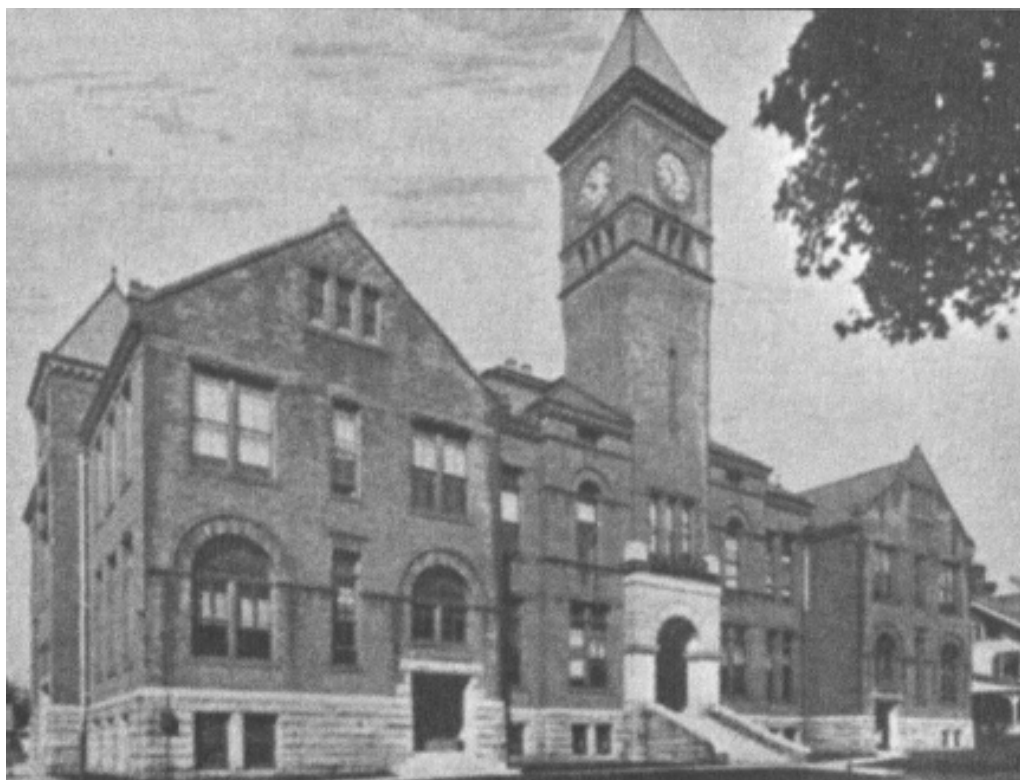
Dr. Henry E. Kentopp, succeeding Dr. Scott upon his death, reorganized the school as a senior high school and it was named Clifford J. Scott High School in 1937.

1871 Eastern High School (9/4/1871) - Gone



This was the first high school built in East Orange. It was torn down when the Garden State Parkway was built.

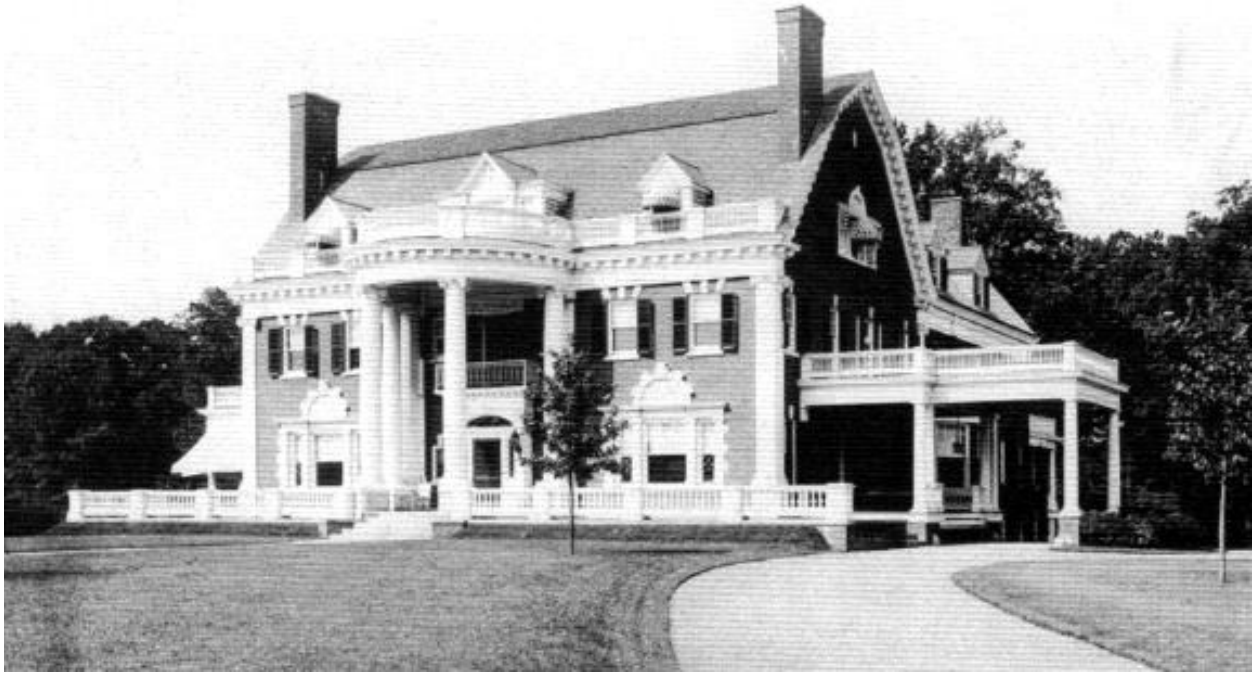
1891 East Orange High School – Gone. The entrance shown was on Winans Street.



The 1911 East Orange High School was built to incorporate much of the older building, but it faced in the opposite direction, with its entrance on Walnut Street. Both buildings are now gone.



1924 Upsala College - East Orange Campus High School



1958 East Orange Catholic High School (9/12/1958) -East Orange Glenwood Campus



1925 Panzer College of Physical Education and Hygiene – Today, this building is part of the East Orange Glenwood Campus. The Panzer College programs moved to Montclair State College in 1958.

