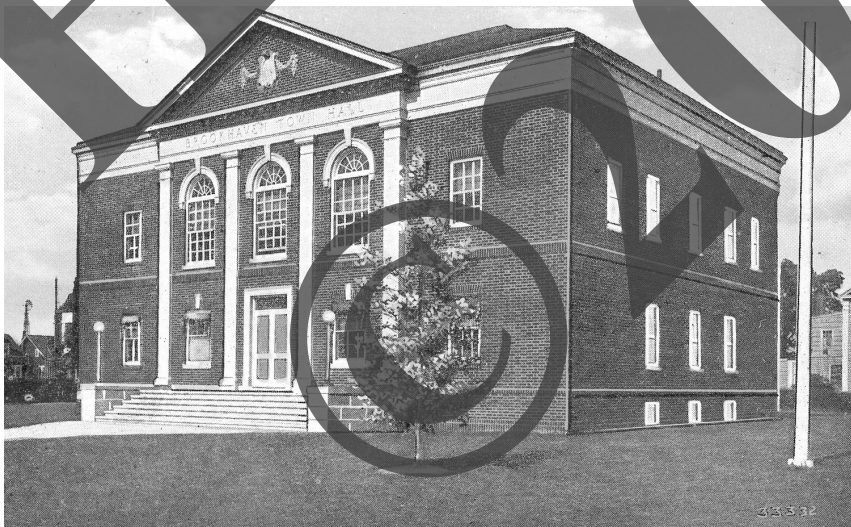In the late 1800's Patchogue's security was provided by night watchman Henry Miller, who served in this position for over 25 years. As Patchogue grew, so did the police force, which by 1958 employed 20 police officers. In 1958, by public vote of 1057 for and 926 against, the citizens of Patchogue elected to have the police force join the Suffolk County Police. The Fifth Precinct was established in Patchogue and the chief of Patchogue

Police, Dominick Chiuchiolo became the first Fifth Precinct commander. The first Fifth Precinct headquarters in 1960 was located on the south side of Roe Boulevard, just off Medford Avenue. The new Fifth Precinct Headquarters opened on Waverly Avenue August 3, 1964. A large modernization and expansion of the precinct was completed in June 1999.

The first Patchogue jail was located on the east side of Havens Avenue at the beginning of the century. No great comforts here, just a plain old lock-up. Children were naturally curious and full of mischief and most likely harassed the inmates a bit at times. It is said that their vocabulary was quite a bit expanded by replies from the interior of the lock-up.

As the population grew, so did the need for jail cells. A 1920's picture of the enlarged jail, which stood behind the old fire house on Lake Street. After the Town Hall on South Ocean Avenue was completed in 1926, cells became available in the basement of the building

The new Brookhaven Town Hall was built in 1926 on the northeast corner of Ocean Avenue and Baker Street. The dedication took place on June 5, 1926. The cost of the building was $47,000. The little tree in front of the Town Hall is now a large, beautiful tree.