



LONG ISLAND STUDIES INSTITUTE COLLECTIONS

The Long Island Studies Institute, a cooperative endeavor of Hofstra University and Nassau County, is a major center for the study of Long Island local and regional history. The Institute's research facility—which is open to scholars, teachers, students, and the general public—includes:

- Archival Collections
- Books
- Photographs
- Newspapers
- Maps
- Census Records
- Genealogies
- Government Documents
- Manuscripts
- Audiovisual Materials

The various collections within the Institute include the Nassau County Museum's Reference Collection, Hofstra University's James N. MacLean American Legion Memorial Collection, as well as other collections donated by individual Long Island families and businesses. These resources constitute a rich repository for local history research.



Map of Long Island

THE HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY LONG ISLAND STUDIES INSTITUTE COLLECTION

The Hofstra University Long Island Studies Institute Collection consists of the following manuscript collections: the Carman Family Collection, the Pearsall Collection, and assorted community records and papers; and the following microfilm collections: the Brooklyn Eagle from 1841 to 1951, Federal and New York State Census records for geographic Long Island, and street directories of Brooklyn and western Queens.



The Stars and Stripes Newspaper

THE JAMES N. MACLEAN AMERICAN LEGION MEMORIAL COLLECTION

The James N. MacLean Collection was established at Hofstra University in 1951 to pay tribute to deceased members of the Nassau County American Legion. The Legionnaires continue to support the collection through generous donations. These donations fund the purchase of books and other resources, which are then dedicated in honor or in memory of their fallen comrades. The MacLean Collection contains materials documenting the history of New York State with a primary focus on Long Island. It includes not only social and genealogical history, but also the culture, economics, and natural history of New York and Long Island. The collection has a particular emphasis on Nassau and Suffolk Counties. In addition to books and pamphlets, the collection includes newspapers on microfilm, maps, family papers containing manuscripts, journals, and ephemera relating to individuals and families from the region.



Nassau County Seal

THE NASSAU COUNTY MUSEUM REFERENCE LIBRARY COLLECTION

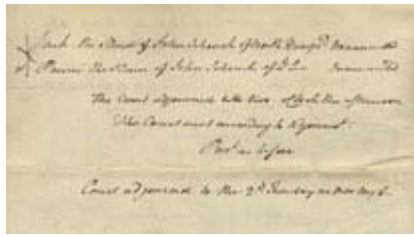
The Nassau County Museum Collection, named in honor of former Nassau County Historian Jesse Merritt, was originally housed in the Nassau County Museum in Eisenhower Park. Included among its holdings are the collections of the Nassau County Historical Society and the Agricultural Society of Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk Counties.

The reference collections include books, pamphlets, newspapers, maps and atlases of the changing Long Island topography, vertical files of clippings and ephemera, published town and municipal records, census records, genealogies, manuscripts, and audiovisual material that constitute a rich repository for researching Long Island's history, genealogy, and heritage.



Newspapers Available on Microfilm

Additional Collections support themes, formats, or specific types of materials. These include but are not limited to the following materials:



Excerpt from Minutes of Court Proceedings Concerning the Manumitting of Two Slaves, 1797

African Americans on Long Island Collection, 1779-0.8 c.f.

The collection contains documents related to the history of African-American slaves and free men and women on Long Island in the 18th and 19th centuries. Included are court documents (including certificates of acquittal, certificates of conviction, petitions, and warrants); examinations and adjudgments from pauper hearings; servant and slave indentures (bills of sale); manumissions (formal emancipations from slavery); minutes of court proceedings, many of which concern manumissions; slave receipts; and correspondence.



Letter to Ada N. Bedell, 1884

Ada N. Bedell Papers, 1864-1915 0.20 cubic ft.

Ada N. Bedell resided in Hempstead, N.Y. She was the daughter of Coles Bedell, and the sister of Hattie N. Burchard.

The Ada N. Bedell Papers, which span the years 1864-1915, include compositions, news clippings, notes, personal and collected poetry, word puzzles, and letters to and from Ada N. Bedell. Correspondents include Ada's sister, Hattie N. Burchard; a cousin, Helen A. Loper; and a friend, Johnnie. Topics discussed in the letters include social news, religion, church activities, and Hattie's honeymoon trip.



Jacqueline Binnian, c.1950s

Jacqueline Binnian Collection, 1923-2004 (bulk dates: 1988-2000) 29.7 cubic ft.

Jacqueline Binnian dedicated over 40 years of her life to the preservation of the environment of the North Shore of Long Island. She founded and/or was a member of numerous groups, including Concerned Citizens for 25A, Alliance for the Preservation of Coindre Hall Park, and ACTION. Her greatest passion, however, was the preservation of trustee lands in the Town of Huntington, a cause she remained dedicated to until her death in 2005.

Collection includes correspondence, news clippings, newsletters, minutes of meetings, photographs, maps, resolutions, land indentures, books, periodicals and other published materials, reports, agendas, public notices, drafts, notes, audio and video recordings, blueprints and plans, by-laws, articles of incorporation, government documents, address lists, contact information, budget reports, town code, proposals, federal and state legislation, promotional materials, public statements, press releases and ephemera.





Old movie theatre photo of the Theatre Collections'

Calderone Theatres Collection

The Calderone Theatre Collection contains information about the Calderone Theatre, Hempstead Theatre, Rivoli Theatre, Mineola Theatre, Valley Stream Theatre, Cove Theatre, Lynbrook Theatre, and Westbury Theatre, which were owned by Dr. Frank Calderone. In the collection, there are clippings and photographs related to all of the Calderone theatres. Programs from the theatres show the various trends in entertainment from the 1920s to the 1980s.



Collection Finding Aid



George Caracost and Fellow Servicemen in a Jeep, 1944

Caracost Family Wartime Letters, 1941-1946 2.3 cubic ft.

Macke G. "George" Caracost was a U.S. Naval serviceman from Island Park, L.I., N.Y. During World War II, he trained at the United States Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Illinois, and was later permanently stationed at Pearl Harbor, HI, where he served as an aviation machinist's mate.

The bulk of the collection consists of wartime correspondence (letters, V-mails, postal and greeting cards) to and from Caracost; his sister, Mary; and their parents, Basil and Matilda Caracost, from 1944 through 1945. Correspondents include family members, friends, and fellow servicemen. The collection includes photographs, news clippings, and general papers.



Collection Finding Aid



Graphic from "Al Dia!" Newsletter Cover, 1987

CARECEN Collection, c. 1980s- 0.70 cubic ft.

Central American Refuge Center (CARECEN-NY) works to protect the civil rights of immigrants, increase understanding between the native born and newcomer communities, and raise awareness of the interaction of human rights disasters and immigration.

Included in the collection are newsletters, flyers and brochures (some in Spanish), periodicals, and fact sheets produced by CARECEN.



Collection Finding Aid



Detail from Valentine's Day Card, c.1870s

Carman Family Collection, 1679-1942 12.7 cubic ft.

The collection is comprised largely of the papers of William G. Carman's Birdsall and Garner family ancestors, many of whom were farmers and merchants in Jerusalem (present-day Wantagh), N.Y. Ancestors from other notable Long Island families—including the Jacksons, Langdons, Powells, Seamans, and Smiths—are also represented in the collection.

Included in the collection, which spans the years 1679-1942, are business records, personal and business correspondence, estate papers, indentures, land surveys, legal documents, military papers, photographs, print materials, school papers, teaching papers, artifacts, ephemera, and news clippings.

Noteworthy items include a small number of slave indentures and other documents that make reference to slaves.



Collection Finding Aid



Detail from Awards Program Cover, 2007

Fair Media Council FOLIO Awards Collection, 2003-2012 2.4 cubic ft.

The Fair Media Council, formerly known as the Long Island Coalition for Fair Broadcasting, is a Long Island based, not-for-profit organization that advocates for quality local news coverage. The annual FOLIO Awards (FOLIO stands for Focus on Long Island) are awarded by the Fair Media Council for excellence in local news coverage in print, radio and television. The awards program is adjudicated by community leaders to choose news stories that are relevant to the community, well told and impeccably crafted. The awards ceremony regularly attracts 800 community, media and government leaders from the greater New York region.

The collection contains winning entries as well as material from the FOLIO Awards presentations beginning in 2003. Included are print articles, audio cassettes and CDs, video VHS and Beta tapes, CD ROMs, sample programs, pamphlets and flyers.



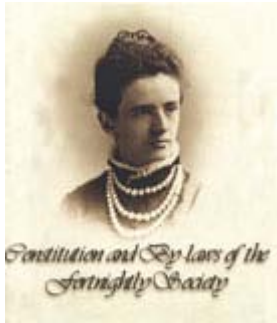
American Fashion Magazine

Fashion Collection

The Fashion Collection captures the spirit of various eras with artifacts and illustrations showing how people dressed for various social events. The collection also supports fashion research with a run of *American Fabrics Magazine*, a trade publication that served the garment industry in the 1940s and 1950s.



Collection Finding Aid



Cover of *Constitution and By-laws of the Fortnightly Society*, 1898-1940. Facsimile copy 2007.

Fortnightly Club of Rockville Centre Collection, 1898-1940. Facsimile copy, 2007 0.20 cubic ft.

The Fortnightly Club of Rockville Centre (originally known as the “Fortnightly Society”) is a women’s organization founded by Mary B. Haight in Rockville Centre, New York, in 1898. Its goal is “to associate its members and to promote the cultural development of such members.”

Collection includes a spiral-bound book titled *Constitution and By-laws of the Fortnightly Society*. The book consists of facsimile copies of the Club’s original handwritten constitution, by-laws, and meeting minutes taken from April 1898 through June 1900. Collection also includes copies of newspaper articles written by Mary B. Haight in 1940. The articles describe people and events of Long Island’s south shore in the year 1900.



Collection Finding Aid



Judge Elizabeth Bass Golding

Judge Elizabeth Bass Golding Collection

Judge Elizabeth Bass Golding (1900-2001) was one of the first women to graduate New York University School of Law. She graduated second in her class in 1921, beaten out of first place by a fellow law student named Samuel Golding. She started a private law practice upon graduation, but events would soon move her into a more public forum. Prior to World War II, Elizabeth Bass Golding was an active member of the National Council of Jewish Women, the Nassau County Women's Bar Association, and served as a committee woman on the National Committee on Social Legislation. During the Second World War, Golding was appointed as vice chairperson for the Nassau County U.S.O., which operated out of Hempstead, near Mitchell Field.



Collection Finding Aid



Four U.S. Navy Grumman F11F-1 Tiger Jet Fighters Flying in Formation, c.1959

Grumman Aerospace Photographs Collection, c.1959-c.1970s 0.50 cubic ft.

Grumman Aerospace Corporation was head-quartered in Bethpage, N.Y. Included among the products they designed/manufactured were military and civilian aircraft, and lunar modules for the Apollo space program. In 1994, Grumman merged with Northrop Corporation to form Northrop Grumman.

The collection spans c.1959-1970s, with the bulk of the photographs having been taken during the 1970s. Included are color and black and white 8 x 10 photographs of U.S. military aircraft and Apollo space missions.



Collection Finding Aid



Painting, *Air Corps, U.S. Army*, 1941

Salvatore J. Indiviglia Collection of World War II and Vietnam Material, c.1922-2008 7.0 cubic ft.

Long Island artist Salvatore J. Indiviglia served in World War II as a soldier and an artist. He later served in the Vietnam War as an official U.S. Navy Combat Artist.

The collection includes paintings and sketches done during World War II and the Vietnam War in a variety of mediums, including pencil, charcoal, tempera, and watercolor. Particularly notable are two paintings that toured the United States as part of war bonds and recruitment promotions during World War II. Also included in the collection are photographs, publications, news clippings, and a cassette tape containing an oral history interview conducted with Indiviglia by Hofstra University student Kevin Mulcahy.



Collection Finding Aid



Telegram from Rose Gioffre to her husband, Vincenzo, 1942

Internment Camp Correspondence Collection, 1942 0.25 c.f.

The collection includes correspondence (letters, postcards, and a telegram) written in October 1942 through December of 1942 from Rose Gioffre of Brooklyn, N.Y., to her husband, Vincenzo, who was held in alien internment camps at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, and Fort McAlester, Oklahoma. Rose wrote to her husband and kept in touch with his lawyer on an almost daily basis.



Collection Finding Aid



Shofar, Dec. 1958

Israel Community Center of Levittown Collection, 1948-2005

The collection contains materials relating to the Israel Community Center of Levittown from its founding in 1948 through April 2005. Included are newsletters, news clippings, booklets, manuscripts, and letters. Issues of the Center's newsletter, *Shofar*, and later, *The Shofar*, make up the bulk of the materials in this collection and run from May 1958 through April 2005 (with gaps).



Collection Finding Aid



Charles F. Kingsley, Jr., 1914

Kingsley Family Papers, 1890-1970. 5.0 cubic ft.

The Charles F. Kingsley, Jr., Family Papers consist of the personal family papers of New York State Legislator Charles F. Kingsley, Jr.; his wife, Margaret Chapin Kingsley; their daughter, Barbara Joan Kingsley; and other family members.

The collection includes photographs, scrapbooks, diaries, correspondence and a family genealogy.



Collection Finding Aid



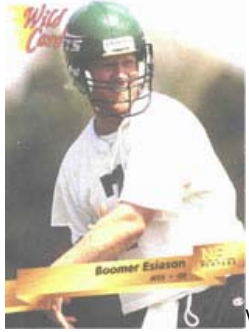
Loader emptying dirt into a dump truck, c.1948

Levittown Construction Photographs Collection, c.1948-c.1975 0.25 cubic ft.

Collection is composed largely of 8 x10 black and white construction photographs taken circa 1948 in Levittown, N.Y. and the surrounding areas. The photographs depict construction workers and craftsmen engaged in a variety of tasks, including street paving, painting, pouring concrete, and operating heavy machinery. Also included are photographs of construction supplies, vehicles, and equipment. In addition, a particularly noteworthy photograph depicts individuals signing rental leases and homeowner's contracts.



Collection Finding Aid



Boomer Esiason of the New York Jets

Long Island History of Sports Collection

This collection contains documents, publications, clippings, photographs, ephemera, and artifacts related to the history of both professional and recreational sports on Long Island from 1850 to the present.



Daniel Thomas Moran,
Suffolk County Poet Laureate

Long Island Poets Collection, 1928-

The collection contains materials by and about Long Island poets and their works. Included are letters, newspapers, photos, poems, books, flyers, newsletters, and an index of Long Island poets.

Information on this topic can also be found in Hofstra University's catalogued collection.



Collection Finding Aid



Information Bulletin Cover, 1931

Long Island Rail Road Collection, 1880- 0.90 cubic ft

The collection contains materials related to the history of the Long Island Rail Road. Included are legal documents, ephemera, memorabilia, a correspondence register, and an accident log. The legal documents contain inventories of the entire Long Island Rail Road as of December 1880.



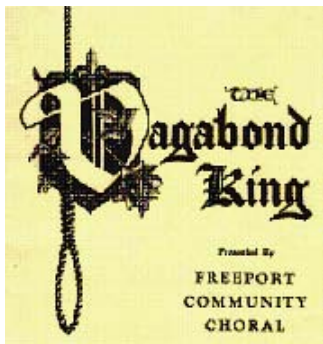
Collection Finding Aid



Real estate brochure, c. 1952

Long Island Real Estate Collection, 1881-

The collection includes brochures, auction sale notices, books, maps, news clippings, newspapers, promotional mailings, certificates, and reports of proceedings. The bulk of the collection is comprised of real estate brochures (many with price quotes attached) from 1952 and 1953. The brochures are largely from real estate developments in western Nassau and eastern Queens Counties.

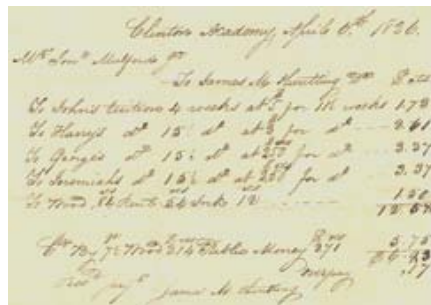


Program cover from 1952 Freeport Community Choral production of "The Vagabond King"

Long Island Theatres & Entertainment Collection, 1897-2005

The collection spans the years 1900 through 2005 and includes programs, playbills, booklets, broadsides, movie guides, news clippings, promotional items and newsletters. The bulk of the collection is comprised of theatre programs from 1950 through 1969. The types of theatres represented in the collection include everything from playhouses to stadiums, and the productions run the gamut from lectures to musical extravaganzas.

Notable venues include Westbury Music Fair, Mineola Playhouse and Marine Stadium at Jones Beach.



Clinton Academy Tuition Receipt, 1826

Jonathan Mulford (1770-1840) Papers, 1799-1843 (bulk dates, 1799-1833). 0.15 cubic ft.

Collection consists of receipts from the estate of Major David Mulford; tuition receipts from Clinton Academy, Easthampton, N.Y., for Jonathan Mulford's children; and business receipts and notes of both Jonathan and Major David Mulford.

The Mulfords were descendants of the original settlers of East Hampton, N.Y.



William Lewis, Nassau County Commander 1939-1940

Nassau County American Legion Scrapbook, 1919-1961

The scrapbook contains materials concerning the history of the Nassau County American Legion from 1919 through 1961. The materials include the following: historical notes about the "formation period" of the organization; a list of membership totals by year; information about, and images of, past County Commanders; yearly summaries of meetings and activities; ephemera; and news clippings.

The scrapbook was compiled c. 1961.





Thomas Nast Cartoon
Harper's Weekly, 1872

Newspaper Collection

The bulk of this collection is comprised of clippings of illustrations (largely political cartoons and reportorial sketches) that appeared in *Harper's Weekly* from March 1860 through August 1913. Many of these illustrations were done by Thomas Nast, who worked for the newspaper from 1862 until late 1886. Nast's political cartoons were extremely influential and one of them was even said to have re-elected Abraham Lincoln in 1864. He is often referred to as the "Father of American Caricature."

Also included in the collection are newspapers, news clippings, magazines, and illustrated journal covers and advertisements. Many of the aforementioned are from local Long Island source materials.



Eight Men in a Hoisted Hull, c. 1930s

Pearsall Collection

This collection contains documents, photographs and diaries of Louis Pearsall. The focus of the collection is local life on Long Island in the early-to mid-20th century, when Pearsall worked as a carpenter, shipbuilder, and bay man. The documents in the collection cover many topics relevant to life on Long Island's South Shore.



Logo of PSR Nassau County

Physicians for Social Responsibility (Nassau County Chapter)

The Nassau County Chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR-NC) was an organization which protested nuclear war in the '80s and '90s. The group gave lectures, held fundraisers, led protests, as well as other events, in order to educate the general population on the topic of nuclear war and to promote world peace.



House of Worship

Places of Worship

Places of Worship is a photographic collection. Robert Harrison photographed churches, mosques, and synagogues on Long Island in the early 21st century.



Collection Finding Aid



Booklet cover, *New York State Parks Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Report, 1924-1949*

Planning Documents Collection

This is a collection of documents, pamphlets, plans, and maps focusing on suburban planning on Long Island. Some topics represented are erosion, land use, parks, population, transportation, and water.



Mary Post (1806-1892)

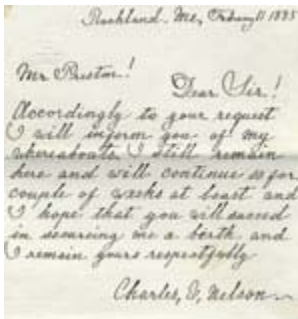
Post Family Collection, 1796-1935

The bulk of this collection is comprised of letters written to Long Island Quaker abolitionists Joseph and Mary Post between 1838 and 1888. Notable correspondents include the following: Lucretia Mott, abolitionist and women's rights leader; Isaac Post (Joseph's brother), abolitionist and spiritualist; Rev. George Truman; and Cyrus Peirce. Topics discussed are slavery, the Civil War, Christianity, Friends' Meetings, theological matters, and general everyday life. Also included in the collection are artifacts, engravings, genealogy documents, general print materials, indentures, Monthly Meeting testimonies, pamphlets, photographic prints, poems, receipts, silhouette prints, sketches, song lyrics, survey diagrams, and a family photo album.

Particularly noteworthy items include the following: a photographic print of abolitionist Mary H. (Post) Hallowell (daughter of Isaac Post), whose home in Rochester, NY, was a stop on the Underground Railroad; a framed silhouette print of the famous Quaker preacher, Elias Hicks; a framed engraving of Lucretia Mott; and indentures related to the sale of land in Merrick as well as other locations. Also notable are photographic prints of Joseph Post, Mary Post, Esther Robbins, Willet S. Robbins, Mary Willis, Henry Willis, and Isaac Post.



Collection Finding Aid



Letter to Captain Preston from Charles E. Nelson, 1885

Captain Samuel Truman Preston Papers, 1881-1898 0.20 c.f.

Samuel Truman Preston (1840-1912), a sea captain from Boston, MA, settled in Greenport, N.Y., in the latter part of the 19th century. Preston founded S.T. Preston & Son Ship's Chandlery, which supplied nautical gear to local shipyards. Among other types of vessels, these shipyards serviced the yachts of the Vanderbilt family. Preston also served as the harbor master of Greenport and was an agent for the sale of various types of vessels.

The collection is composed largely of letters written to Preston between 1881 and 1898 from men looking for work on fishing boats, etc.




Collection Finding Aid

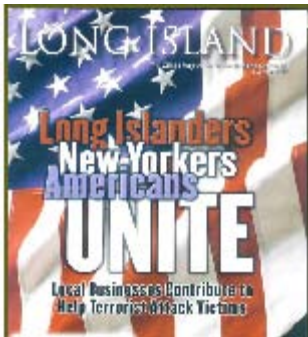


Photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Nelson Raynor, Homosassa Springs, Florida, 1960's

[Raynor Family Collection](#)

The Raynor family settled on Long Island in the 1640s in the Hempstead area. They later established themselves in a place that came to be named after them, Raynortown, which is present-day Freeport.



 [Collection Finding Aid](#)



Patriotic Magazine Cover

[September 11 Project Collection](#)

The September 11 Project Collection, which is composed of material created by Long Island residents and businesses, consists mainly of records of September 2001 and the following months. Strong areas of the collection include e-mail documents, photographs and artifacts produced by or related to the events of September 11 and the recovery effort.


 [Collection Promotional Video](#)
 [Collection Finding Aid](#)



Long Island Rail Road Company Receipt, 1886

[George Tindall Business Receipts, 1869-1928](#) 0.15 cubic ft.

Collection is composed of business receipts of Sag Harbor, New York, businessman George Tindall. The receipts, which span the years 1869-1928, are mostly for the shipment of goods and supplies to Tindall via The Long Island Rail Road Company. Also included are a small number of receipts from various merchants.


 [Collection Finding Aid](#)



Curtiss "Tanager" c. late 1920s

[Vintage Aircraft Photo Album, c. 1935](#)

The photo album contains twenty black and white photographs of vintage commercial and military aircraft made during the 1920s through approximately the mid-1930s. Included among these aircraft are the Fairchild 71, the Curtiss "Tanager" and the German-built Dornier DO-X, which was powered by 12 engines and which had a takeoff weight of 55 tons.

 [Collection Finding Aid](#)



George Wallace,
Suffolk County's First Poet Laureate

George Wallace Collection, 1999-

The George Wallace Collection is comprised of typescript poetry journals and a typescript novel published in October 2001. The poetry journals, which contain works on a variety of subjects, are arranged chronologically. David Amram, author and composer, described the novel in the collection, *Down Dream Road*, as a "great personal adventure story and a picture of life's journey."



Collection Finding Aid



Ruth Weisberg, c. 1942

Weisberg Family Collection, 1928-1972

1.3 cubic ft.

The collection is composed of photographs, correspondence, ephemera, newspaper clippings, postcards and scrapbooks of Ruth "Shorty" Weisberg and her sister May Weisberg of Floral Park, New York, and their brother Leonard "Len" Weisberg and his wife Mildred Gordon Weisberg of Huntington Station dating from 1928 until 1972. The bulk of the collection dates from the 1940s and 1950s giving a glimpse of what life was like during those years in the Long Island and Metro New York area.

Particularly noteworthy is the World War II era material on the American Women's Volunteer Service and the American Theater Wing War Service, whose World War II era Chairman, Antoinette Perry, was the person for whom the Tony Award was named. Also of note is the memorabilia collected by the Weisbergs while vacationing in Europe through the 1950s and 1960s.



Collection Finding Aid



Incoming President Gruen with Judge Dawson
at the 1960 Installation Ceremony

Woman's Forum of Nassau County Scrapbook Collection, 1957-1995

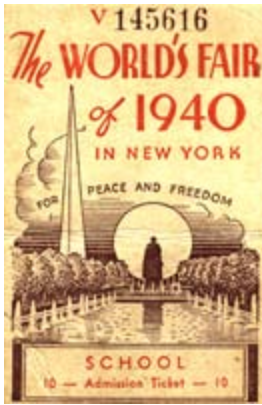
13 binders

The Woman's Forum of Nassau County was founded in 1944 by Elizabeth Bass Golding. Organized to discuss problems of common concern, the Forum hosted conferences, panel discussions, programs, meetings, etc., that dealt with topics such as alcoholism, aging, housing on Long Island, high school trade schools, town government, and the morality of Off Track Betting. The organization grew rapidly and eventually united more than 500 groups of different races, creeds, nationalities, and interests.

The thirteen scrapbooks that make up this collection document the activities of the organization from 1957-1995. They were compiled by Bernice F. Weshler, who was the publicity director and a past president of the Woman's Forum.



Collection Finding Aid



School Admission Ticket Booklet
for the World's Fair of 1940

World's Fairs Collection

This collection contains materials related to the World's Fairs held in Chicago in 1893 and 1933-1934, and in New York in 1939-1940 and 1964-1965. Included are booklets, broadsides, postcards, ephemera, flyers, bulletins, news clippings, maps of the layouts of the 1939-1940 and 1964-1965 World's Fairs, official guidebooks from 1934 and 1965, and memorabilia from the New York World's Fairs.



Collection Finding Aid