



Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

LONG ISLAND COLLECTION | DIGITAL LONG ISLAND | EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE



Gardiner's Mill, East Hampton, L.I.

The three windmills currently standing in East Hampton can get a little confusing if you're not careful, especially since they were all built by the Dominy family. The windmill in this postcard from the East Hampton Library's [Harvey Ginsburg Postcard Collection](#) is known as the Gardiner Windmill, which was constructed on the east side of Town Pond. It has remained in this location and can be seen on James Lane near the intersection of Maidstone Lane, overlooking Town Pond.

There was a prior windmill, constructed in 1769, that existed near this same spot,

but by 1804 technology had advanced and the mill was ready for replacement. As such, Nathaniel Dominy V built a new windmill based on a design he used for two other windmills on Gardiner's Island. This windmill followed a smock mill design, which called for an octagonal shape and covered sails. The design allowed two gristmills to run at the same time.

The mill's name speaks to the legacy of the Gardiner family as prominent citizens shaping the Town of East Hampton. John Lyon Gardiner, a proprietor of Gardiner's Island, was part of a group of shareholders who hired Dominy. He was a meticulous record keeper and noted that the mill cost 528 pounds, 6 shillings, and 11 pence. To construct the mill, Dominy used wood from Gardiner's Island, brought over by barge.

The mill took about three months to build, constructed between June 11, 1804 and September 28, 1804. The shareholder group ownership model ran the mill until the second half of the 19th century when Jonathan T. Gardiner purchased the mill, which would continue to operate until around 1900. During the Hurricane of 1938, the mill lost its sails. In 1994, the Village Preservation Society raised over \$150,000 to fund the windmill's restoration.

If you're interested in the Gardiners, the East Hampton Library's Tom Twomey Lecture in Local History will focus on two local residences tied to the Gardiner Family this Saturday, October 13th at 6 p.m. For more information on this event, and to RSVP online, click here: tomtwomeyseries.org

EXPLORE MORE

The Digital Long Island Collection is part of New York Heritage Digital Collections. Included are searchable scans of deeds, drawings, etchings, inventories, letters, maps, paintings, pardons, patents, photographs, plans, postcards, prints, sculptures, sketches, textiles, tiles, yearbooks and more to come.

The East Hampton Star Archive is a fully searchable, online digital archive of our local weekly newspaper, that features each complete issue of the paper from 1918-1968, exactly as it appeared in print. Visit the archive online, for a tour of our Town's history that will fascinate both the amateur and professional historian!

The Karl Grossman Research Archive is an extensive collection of materials digitized from the personal archive of Karl Grossman, an investigative reporter, columnist, author, and current professor of journalism at SUNY Old Westbury. The archive brings together a decades long career in reporting and journalism with topics ranging from the economy and pollution to fishing and East Hampton Town. Patrons are capable of searching this 9,500+ item collection by collection name, year, title, or keyword search.

The Local Artist Research Archive is a collection of over 19,000 items digitized from Guild Hall, containing materials including personal letters, photographs, news clippings, and art catalogs concerning artists of the East End. Patrons are capable of searching this archive by collection, title, or keyword search.

Welcome to the Long Island Collection's "Item of the Week."

We are an archive dedicated to the history and people of Long Island, with a special interest in all things East Hampton and East End. Unlike some small local history rooms in other public libraries, we have over 100,000 items including, but not limited to, rare books, maps, photographs, deeds, postcards, letters, newspapers, and whaling logs. We also have a dedicated and hardworking staff ready to help you with any questions you may have. Unable to make it to the library? No problem! We upload images from the



collection to Digital Long Island on a weekly basis, so there's always something new and interesting to behold.

Please visit us at the Library, make use of our extensive online digital resources, or contact us for assistance. Public hours are: Mon. - Tues. and Thurs. - Sat., 1:00-4:30 p.m.

Researched and written by Andrea Meyer, Librarian/Archivist, Long Island Collection.

Andrea Meyer began working in the Long Island Collection in January 2015. Her responsibilities include updating Digital Long Island, scanning, processing new collections, and assisting patrons with research. She earned her M.L.I.S. through Long Island University, and completed her M.A. in Archives and Public History at New York University through the dual-degree program. Andrea started working in archives in 2005. Prior to working for the East Hampton Library, Andrea worked at the New Jersey State Archives, at NYU Libraries, and as a private research consultant. Her clients included the New-York Historical Society. She is also involved with the Sag Harbor Historical Society.

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