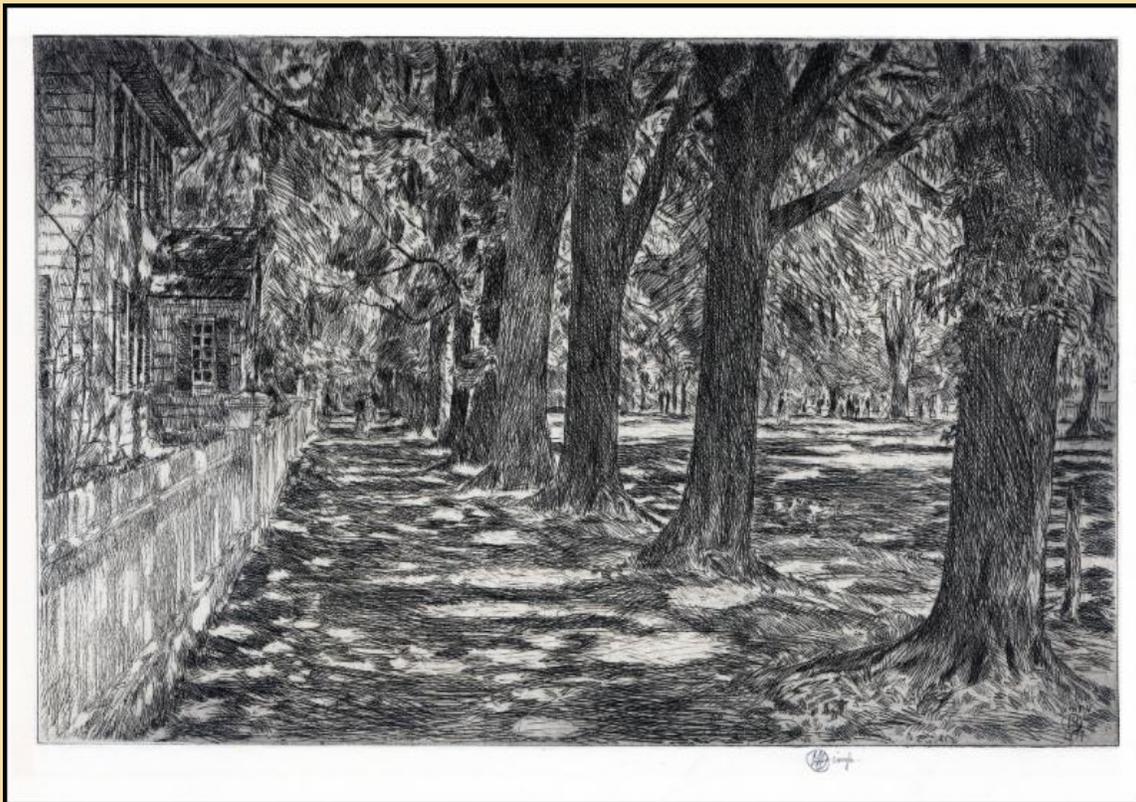




Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

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



Childe Hassam, East Hampton Sidewalk, 1917

In the December 14, 1917 edition of *The East Hampton Star*, there's a small column towards the bottom of page seven that partially reads, "Childe Hassam, of New York City, announces the completion of several handsome etchings and dry points of East Hampton scenery." Given that information, one wonders if the image presented above, *East Hampton Sidewalk* (dated 1917), was at one time on view at Hassam's studio at 4 East 39th Street in Manhattan.

Frederick Childe Hassam (1859-1935) was an American Impressionist painter most known for his depictions of coastal and urban scenes in a variety of mediums, ranging from oils and watercolors to etchings and lithographs. He was quite prolific and produced over 3,000 pieces of artwork during his lifetime. His most well known works come from his "Flag series." One of which, *The Avenue in the Rain*, is in the White House's permanent art collection and currently resides in the Oval Office.

An occasional visitor to East Hampton, Childe Hassam eventually purchased a

summer [home](#) (which he also used as a studio) on Egypt Lane in 1920 from Matilda Ackley Donoho, the widow of [Gaines Ruger Donoho](#) (1857-1916), a fellow American Impressionist painter. The house still exists today near the [East Hampton Village Nature Trail](#). Much like Thomas and Mary Nimmo Moran before him, Hassam depicted familiar scenes around town, including [Main Street](#), [Home Sweet Home](#), [Mulford Farm](#), and the Woodhouse family Japanese [water garden](#) (now part of the Nature Trail).

The above etching, East Hampton Sidewalk, was donated to the Long Island Collection in 1958 by Mrs. W.L. Lockwood. The view along Main Street evokes a summer stroll, with light filtering in through the treetops. Small figures can be seen walking across the street and ahead of the viewer, past what has been labeled [1770 House](#), though it has been suggested it could potentially be the Gardiner Brown house (current home of the [Ladies' Village Improvement Society](#)) before it was moved back from the street in 1925.

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 Gina Piastuck, Department Head, Long Island Collection.

Gina Piastuck joined the East Hampton Library in 2007 as a librarian and archivist and has served as the Head of the Long Island Collection since 2009. She's a graduate of LIU Post's Palmer School of Library and Information Science and holds both an M.L.I.S. degree and a Certificate in Archives and Records Management. Her responsibilities managing the Long Island Collection include providing reference and research assistance to patrons on and off site, as well as the acquisition, arrangement, description and conservation of rare and new materials pertaining to the history and people of Long Island.

gina@easthamptonlibrary.org | (631) 324-0222 ext. 4 | www.easthamptonlibrary.org

