



Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

LONG ISLAND COLLECTION

DIGITAL LONG ISLAND

EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE



St. Philomena Catholic Church and Rectory, East Hampton, Long Island, N.Y.

Not being a local of East Hampton, I had much to learn when I first came to work at the Library some years ago. The name "St. Philomena" was easy enough for me to remember because I found it unusual. However, it's been known as Most Holy Trinity Church since 1962. During the mid-1800s, a number of Catholic families started making East Hampton their permanent home. As there were no Catholic churches in East Hampton, many attended services in Sag Harbor at St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Church, which was built in 1838. Beginning in 1859, Sag Harbor's first resident pastor, Father Joseph Brunemann, hosted Mass a few times a year (most likely during the summer) in one of the homes of East Hampton's five or six Catholic families. In the August 12, 1869 edition of the *Sag Harbor Express*, it was noted that Clinton Academy had "been hired to the Catholics for services for a few weeks." Services were conducted in this fashion through the 1880s. In August 1890, *The East Hampton Star* made its first mention of a Catholic fundraiser with "entertainment in Clinton Hall...which included a genuinely good supper" to help raise money for a new church in the village. By the summer of 1892, enough money was raised to buy the plot of land on Buell Lane belonging to John Loughlin, the First Bishop of Brooklyn. The building of the church was overseen by the Rev. Lawrence J. Guerin of St. Andrew's R.C. Church. On April 14, 1894, he made a contract with builder George E. Halsey of Water Mill to build the church for \$4,700. On September 16, 1894, St. Philomena's Church was dedicated by the Second Bishop of Brooklyn, the Most Rev. Charles E. McDonnell. The church was originally intended to be named St. Bartholomew's, but Rev. Guerin chose St. Philomena in honor of his sister, who was named for the saint and died as a young girl.

Image: *The East Hampton Library, Long Island Collection, The Harvey Ginsberg Post Card Collection*

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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 6,500+ item collection by collection name, year, title, or keyword search.

The Local Artist Research Archive is a collection of over 10,000 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. Our public hours are Mon.-Tues. and Thurs.-Sat. 1:00-4:30 p.m.

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