



## Item of the Week *from the Long Island Collection*

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



### **Rowe's Pharmacy, East Hampton, L.I., N.Y.**

At the corner of Newtown Lane and Main Street, across the way from Elie Tahari, is a brick building that lazily curls itself around the bend of a very busy intersection. The brick has been painted over and currently houses Halstead Property, but for many years was known as Rowe's Pharmacy. In 1922, Everett J. Edwards sold his drugstore (now the East Hampton Star office at 153 Main St., East Hampton, NY) of 21 years to Casper C. Rowe, a pharmacist from Lynbrook, N.Y. Two and half years later, Rowe relocated the pharmacy further north to Main Street's business section, just a few doors down from where White's Apothecary is at 81 Main St., East Hampton, NY.

In 1927, Rowe bought the property on the corner of Newtown Lane and Main Street and had a pharmacy built there, which was financed by Nelson C. Osborne and the Osborne Trust Company. The building itself included two live-in apartments upstairs, a manufacturing laboratory in the cellar, and a prescription area behind the pharmacy. Needing a pharmacist for the summer, Rowe hired William P. Bain Sr., a third-generation pharmacist whose father operated a pharmacy in Bay Shore. He was eventually hired full-time and moved into one of the apartments above the pharmacy with his wife.

During the 1930s, Rowe was unable to make his mortgage payments and Nelson C. Osborne gained control of the building, but allowed Rowe to lease it from him. In 1940, Casper C. Rowe died suddenly at the age of 60. Bain purchased the pharmacy the following year, having managed the building in Rowe's absence, and retained the original name. In 1968, William P. Bain Sr. died and the business passed to his son, William P. Bain Jr., who graduated from Columbia University in 1950 with a degree in Pharmacy. He worked there a total of 43 years before selling the pharmacy building in 1989 and retiring.

**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](https://www.digitallongisland.org) 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.*

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