



Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

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Maidstone Inn, East Hampton, L.I.

In a recent newsletter, I discussed the history behind Most Holy Trinity Church, which was known as St. Philomena's until the 1960s. To me, both names are interchangeable because regardless of which name a person uses, I know which church they're speaking of. The same principle, however, cannot be applied to the Maidstone Inn, as many people confuse it with the Maidstone Arms (which is currently known as the Maidstone Hotel, across from Town Pond).

Construction of the Maidstone Inn, built by the Maidstone Improvement Company, began in 1898 and was completed in 1901. It was designed by architect Isaac H. Green Jr. of Sayville, N.Y., who also designed the Maidstone Club's first two clubhouses (both of which burned down in 1901 and 1921), Dr. Everett Herrick's Pudding Hill house on Ocean Avenue, and Lorenzo G. Woodhouse's Greycroft on Hunting Lane. It was considered to be East Hampton's first hotel and the largest structure ever built in town at the time. Located on Maidstone Lane near the Maidstone Club's first clubhouse, it was perfectly situated for receiving summer visitors and club members.

The inn was originally managed by a Miss M.L. Mayo, who was also proprietor of the Essex Hotel in New York City. In 1920, she sold the inn to Irving Terry, President of the Hamptons Hotel Corporation (which also owned the Maidstone Arms), for \$100,000. Renovations were made and Ralph C. Frood was installed as manager the following summer. On the morning of January 4th, 1935, the Maidstone Inn burned down in a fire many suspected to have been deliberately set (fortunately, the building was closed for the season and unoccupied). The weather that day was bitterly cold and windy, which severely hampered the efforts of four fire departments from saving the building. All that could be done was watch it burn. Subsequently, the inn was never rebuilt.

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.

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