



Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

LONG ISLAND COLLECTION

DIGITAL LONG ISLAND

EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE



A bit of the Woodhouse Garden, East Hampton, L.I.

On June 23rd, I attended the opening of *Caught on Canvas: Eastern Long Island Landscapes from the Wallace Collection, 1850-1935*, which was hosted by the East Hampton Historical Society at Clinton Academy (open until July 23rd). There were many beautiful paintings on display, but one that caught my eye was *The Woodhouse Japanese Water Garden, E.H., L.I., 1918* by Arthur Turnbull Hill, an American landscape painter. The painting depicted the garden at what must have been the height of the season, with colorful blooms and trees surrounding a small half moon footbridge. It's a lush scene I've seen many times before in [photographs](#) here in the [Long Island Collection](#) (not to mention postcards, as seen above, from our extensive collection of nearly 700 [postcards](#), dating primarily from the late 1800s-1940s). The garden itself came to be part of the Hunting Lane property of Lorenzo G. Woodhouse, who had a summer home built there in 1894 known as "Greycroft." Lorenzo's wife Emma later transformed about 4 acres of marshy land on their property into a Japanese water garden composed of flowers, pavilions, bridges, and lily ponds. She accomplished this through the building of raised dikes, creating dry footpaths between what became multiple artificial channels. The footpaths were flanked by varieties of Japanese irises rarely seen in this country before, which were pruned every morning by gardeners. The channels were spanned by bridges and there were two tea houses one could access to relax and enjoy the garden. Mrs. Woodhouse even had a small boat named the "Swamp Angel" that would navigate the waterways. Such a private garden of this type was one of the earliest adaptations of Japanese water gardens seen in the United States during this time period. The garden is now part of the East Hampton Nature Trail, which was given to the Village of East Hampton in 1951 by Mary

Woodhouse, the wife of Lorenzo E. Woodhouse, who was Lorenzo G. Woodhouse's nephew.

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 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 wedding 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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