



Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

LONG ISLAND COLLECTION

DIGITAL LONG ISLAND

EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE



Grantland Rice Residence, East Hampton, L.I.

Whether or not you're familiar with Grantland Rice, it's safe to say you've heard the well-known phrase for which he's credited, "It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game." Born Henry Grantland Rice in Murfreesboro, Tennessee in 1880, Rice was an American sportswriter known for his refined writing style that elevated his subjects beyond the earthly world of sports. He worked for a number of publications before syndicating his column "The Spotlight" in 1913. By the late 1920's, the column appeared in over 250 newspapers and Rice became the first nationally famous sportswriter in the country. In addition to his writing, he supervised Sportlight Films, which produced sports reels for Paramount between the 1920's and 1950's. He also helped voice the first radio broadcast of the World Series held at the Polo Grounds in Manhattan in 1922, where the N.Y. Giants beat the N.Y. Yankees in the best of five games. Interestingly enough, he's even responsible for the first movie to feature a professional baseball player. The silent film *Somewhere in Georgia* (1917), starring Ty Cobb, was based upon one of Rice's short stories. In 1927, Grantland Rice and some of his friends purchased land in East Hampton with the intention of having summer homes built. As such, Rice purchased four acres from Paul Salembier and subsequently hired contractor Edward M. Gay to build him a 15-room home along West End Rd., adjacent to Grey Gardens. By 1928, the home was ready for the summer season (seen in the postcard image above, from the [Harvey Ginsberg Postcard Collection](#)), which Rice and his family used for nearly forty years. The house still stands today. In 1954, Grantland Rice suffered a heart attack while writing his column at his New York City office and died early the next morning. He was well remembered for his gentle disposition, his sense of humor, and his vast knowledge of sports. It seems fitting

he died doing what he loved.

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 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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