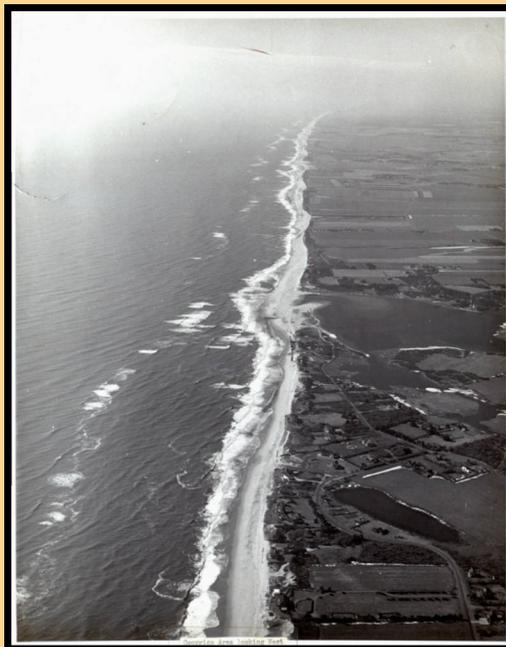
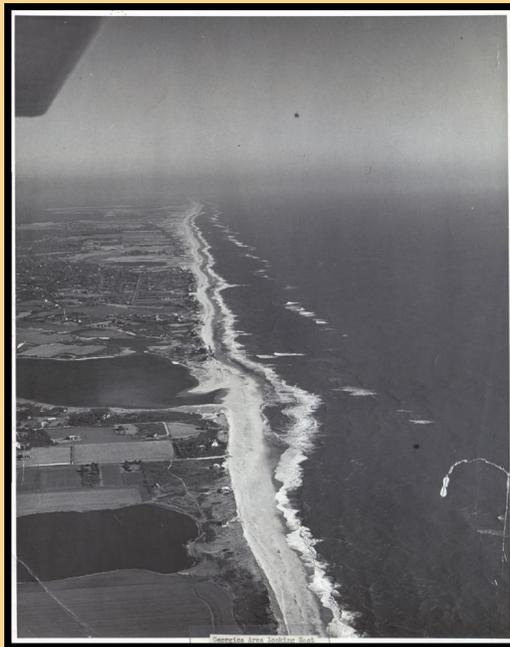




Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

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



Photographs of Coastline near Georgica Pond, East Hampton

These images were taken in 1964, before the days of Google Maps satellite imagery and drones. The photographer, James Reutershan, took the shots from a plane following the ocean coastline near Georgica Pond. Wainscott Pond is visible in the front of the east view (at top). James Reutershan was an East Hampton Town Trustee who championed local conservation and preservation and his interests coincided with those of Georgica homeowner Juan Terry Trippe.

Known as the founder of Pan American Airlines, Juan Trippe was one of the first to try to harness aviation for commercial passengers. In 1935, he bought a home in East Hampton and was there when the house filled with surging floodwaters during the Hurricane of 1938. Recalling these memories, Trippe advocated for plans to protect the shoreline near Georgica as part of the broader Army Corps of Engineers plans for coastal erosion in Suffolk County. Trippe's quiet outreach eventually resulted in a pair of short barrier walls called groins being installed near his property in 1965. These two photographs of the coastline were taken just before the addition of the groins. Trippe hoped to have a third groin built at Georgica Pond, along with a drainage pipe to allow the pond to be flushed.

While Trippe made calls trying to protect Georgica's coastline, Jame Reutershan publicly argued for environmental protections and conservation efforts throughout East Hampton. In addition to these photographs, Reutershan spent March of 1967 compiling a photographic chronicle of the erosion from the ground near Trippe's property on Georgica Pond. Those photographs of erosion near Georgica Pond are part of the [materials donated by Reutershan's family to the Long Island Collection](#) in 2001. Reutershan's environmental efforts were cut short with his early death in 1971. Over fifty years later, concerns with erosion along East Hampton's coastline remain current, with these photographs providing a different type of documentation for researchers.

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 Andrea Meyer, Librarian/Archivist, Long Island Collection.

Andrea Meyer began working in the Long Island Collection in January 2015. Her responsibilities include updating Digital Long Island, scanning, processing new collections, and assisting patrons with research. She earned her M.L.I.S. through Long Island University, and completed her M.A. in Archives and Public History at New York University through the dual-degree program. Andrea started working in archives in 2005. Prior to working for the East Hampton Library, Andrea worked at the New Jersey State Archives, at NYU Libraries, and as a private research consultant. Her clients included the New-York Historical Society. She is also involved with the Sag Harbor Historical Society.

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