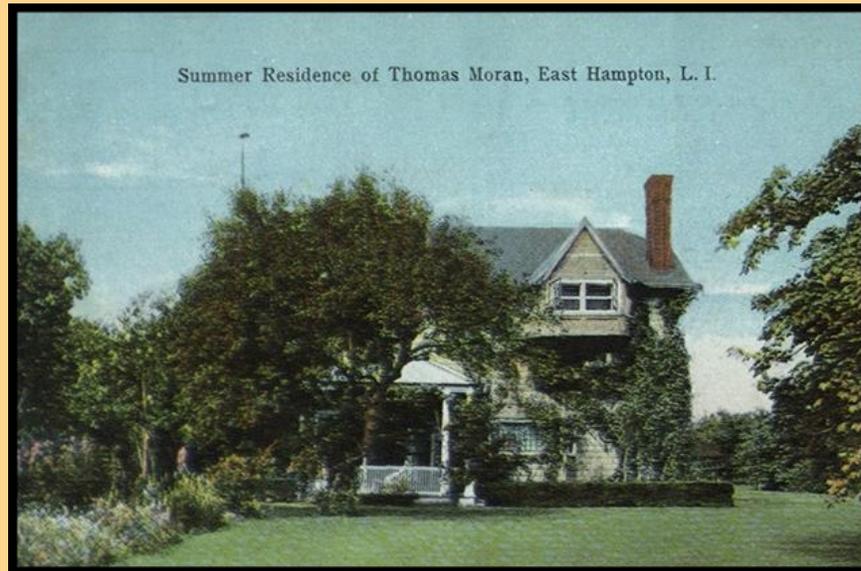




Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

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



Thomas Moran Residence, East Hampton, L.I.

The house in the image above is somewhat of an enigma. In fact, you can barely see the structure at all, making it an odd subject for a picture postcard. It almost seems to peer at the viewer from behind the trees and ivy creeping up the façade. The dormer window, with its raised eyebrow, almost asks, "What are you looking at?" Not a traditional summer cottage by any stretch of the imagination, this home does not sit on the ocean (though it does front Town Pond), nor does it possess a grand title like "The Dunes," "Grey Gardens," or "The Lanterns." However, there is much to admire and examine at [229 Main Street in East Hampton](#), known today as the Thomas & Mary Nimmo Moran Studio.

For those unfamiliar, Thomas Moran was an American painter and printmaker of the Hudson River School; known for his paintings of the American West. His wife, Mary Nimmo Moran, was known for her landscape etchings and was highly regarded in her time. Coming to Long Island by way of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the Morans began summering in East Hampton in the 1870s, before having the combination home and studio constructed in 1884. Considered to be the first artist's studio built in East Hampton, Thomas Moran designed the house himself, utilizing local builder Stafford Tillinghast (who lived around the corner at [13 Woods Lane](#)) to help with its construction.

Upon walking inside the Queen Anne-style home, one encounters Moran's open two-story painting room, with large windows (which were salvaged from a New York City storefront) facing north, allowing natural light to enter. The room is certainly a centerpiece around which the house was built and it's very easy to imagine the artist

sitting in this room for hours, painting. After a five-year long restoration project, the house will be [opening its doors to the public on Friday, July 6th](#). Don't miss it!

Sketches and etchings by the Morans, as well as personal correspondence, artifacts, photographs, and more, can be viewed in the Long Island Collection, as well as the online [Digital Long Island Collection](#), under the [Thomas Moran Biographical Art Collection](#).

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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