



Item of the Week *from the* Long Island Collection

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

THE EAST HAMPTON STAR, EAST HAMPTON, N. Y., AUGUST 21, 1969

Showing at His Studio



WAYNE SEESE will show recent paintings Saturday from 4 to 7 p.m. inside and outside of his studio near the Town Lane-Abraham's Path intersection in Amagansett. The show, "A Winter's Work," represents his impressions of today's world. If it rains, the exhibition will be held on Sunday.
John Reed-Lighthouse Photo

Wayne Seese

If you're a frequent visitor to the [East Hampton Library website](http://EastHamptonLibrary.org), you'll notice that the Long Island Collection has created, and continues to build, multiple digital collections for the public to access all in one place. Some of these include the

[Springs Historical Society Archive](#), the [Home Sweet Home Museum Archive](#), and even the [Item of the Week Archive](#). These resources can be valuable when researching local history as they're a great time saver and spare the physical handling of materials. While writing this, for example, I relied on the contents of the [East Hampton Star Archive](#) and the [Local Artist Research Archive](#) for today's topic, Wayne Seese.

Born James Wayne Seese on October 15, 1916 in Livingston, Montana, Seese grew up in Florida before pursuing a career in art. He studied in Norway (his mother's birthplace), and then at the Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida, which was founded in 1931 as a branch of Florida Southern College. Seese also travelled with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus for two years before America's entrance into World War II, gathering material for paintings that would later influence his work. During the war, Seese was employed as a combat artist with the 1st Marine Division of the U.S. Marine Corps, which served in the South Pacific. [An example of his work](#) from this time can be seen in the Clements C. Frye Collection of Medical Prints and Drawings at the Yale School of Medicine. After the war, Seese attended the American Artists School in New York and he proceeded to teach at a number of art schools throughout Florida.

By 1958, Seese arrived in Amagansett, whereby he began conducting painting classes through Guild Hall at East Hampton High School, and later his studio in Amagansett. Sessions ranged between 10 and 24 weeks and beginners, as well as more experienced artists, were welcomed. Students were taught landscape, portrait, and still life painting using oil, watercolor, and casein paint techniques. After the workshop was completed, the students' artwork was featured in an exhibition at Guild Hall. Classes continued throughout the '60s while Seese exhibited his own work at the Parrish Art Museum, the Elaine Benson Gallery, and Guild Hall. Seese eventually moved to Quebec in 1973 (where he died in 1980), but not before teaching and inspiring a generation of artists.

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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