

GUIDE TO THE DOROTHEA HAHN PHOTOGRAPHS

Collection Abstract: Photographs, negatives, and contact sheets of West Shore Road and the sand mines in Port Washington, New York.

Collection Title: THE DOROTHEA HAHN PHOTOGRAPHS

Inclusive Dates: 1979;1983

Size: 1 binder (.25 l.f.)

Source: Gift of Dorothea Hahn, 2002

Prepared by: Francesca Pitaro, 2005

Repository: Port Washington Public Library Local History Center

DOROTHEA HAHN PHOTOGRAPHS

INTRODUCTION:

Sand mining was an important local industry in Port Washington from the 1870's through the 1980's. During the first half of the 20th century millions of tons of sand and gravel left Hempstead Harbor for New York City. Port Washington sand was used in the sidewalks, subways and skyscrapers of New York.

The collection is made up of 82 black and white images, photographed by Dorothea Hahn in 1979 and 1983. Ms. Hahn, a Port Washington photographer, prepared this photo essay to document the environment around the sandbanks in 1979, as part of a class project at Hofstra University.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

These 82 images of the sand mines on West Shore Road on the Port Washington – Roslyn border document some of the men who worked in the sandbanks, the surrounding environment and a 1983 labor dispute. The collection also includes contact sheets and negatives for 76 of the pictures.

In 1979 Hahn captured Albert Marino, a 42-year veteran of the sandmines, and some of his colleagues as they went about their daily work. The photos also show the landscape of the area, the machinery used, and years worth of abandoned equipment.

In 1983 Hahn went back to the sand mines to photograph members of Local 15 of the International Union of Operating Engineers who were striking against McCormack Sand Company. Lester Clark, Michael Contino, Dominic Kline, William J. Novinsky, Walter O'Brisky, James Pecan, Nicholas Polizzo, and Al Salerno are among the workers in the photographs

ORGANIZATION:

The collection is arranged by numbers which correspond to the numbered contact sheets.

RELATED COLLECTIONS/MATERIALS

- Oral History Collection (Sandmining interviews)
- Particles of the Past*, by Elly Shodell
- Sand and City (Port Washington Public Library website)
- Sandmining - Photographs

OTHER SUBJECTS:

Labor disputes

McCormack Sand

Sandmining