

## GUIDE TO THE ERNIE SIMON PAPERS

**Collection Abstract:** Ernie Simon (1890-1976) was the editor of the *Port Washington News* for over 30 years, with a special interest in local history. In addition to leaving his collection of “Port Remembered” articles and photos (which are part of the Port Washington Public Library’s reference collection), Simon’s family donated these personal papers. They include correspondence, writings, photographs and memorabilia.

**Collection Title:** THE ERNIE SIMON PAPERS

**Inclusive Dates:** ca. 1908-1976

**Size:** 1 Box (.25 l.f.)

**Source:** Gift of Simon family, 1976

**Prepared by:** Francesca Pitaro

**Repository:** Port Washington Public Library Local History Center

## ERNIE SIMON PAPERS

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Ernest Paul Simon (“Ernie”) was born in Astoria, Queens (NY) on March 17, 1890. His family moved to Port Washington in 1902, and Simon had his first job with the *Port Washington News* in 1906. Although he spent nearly 20 years as a cashier at the Bank of North Hempstead, Simon spent most of his working life as a journalist. When Charles Hyde, founder of the *Port Washington News*, died in 1928, Simon formed a corporation to purchase the paper. Although he sold the *News* in 1940, he worked there as editor and writer until his death in 1976. Ernie Simon was a local legend who was known as “Mr. Port Washington”. He was an active member of the Port Washington community, serving with the Flower Hill Hose Company and as secretary of the Port Washington Fire Board for six years. He was also a Deacon of the United Methodist Church, a member of the Port Washington Lions Club and the Masonic Lodge. In his column, “Port Remembered”, Simon chronicled the history of Port Washington, creating an invaluable resource for local residents and historians.

Ernie Simon was married to Agnes Wood (d.1971) in 1942. The Simons lived in Roslyn Estates.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

The papers contain correspondence, writings, biographical information, and memorabilia relating to the life of Ernie Simon. Of special interest are the letters that Simon received from Paul D. Schreiber, superintendent of Port Washington’s schools from 1920 to 1935, with reminiscences of Port’s schools and Schreiber’s early days in Port Washington. Also included are some of Simon’s writings, mostly obituaries. A file on St. Peter of Alcantara Roman Catholic Church includes a 1953 Souvenir book.

[This collection does not include Simon’s “Port Remembered” series, which is located in the Port Washington Public Library Reference Department. See note below.]

### **NOTE – “PORT REMEMBERED”:**

Ernie Simon’s “Port Remembered” series on the history of Port Washington was donated to the Port Washington Public Library in 1976 and is located in the Reference Room. A card catalog, prepared by retired librarian Priscilla Ciccariello, contains an index to the articles and photographs.

### **OTHER SUBJECTS:**

Port Washington Schools  
Schreiber, Paul D.  
St. Peter of Alcantara Church

**BOX LIST:**

**Box 1**

<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Articles by Ernie Simon, 1971-1976
2	Biographical Information
3	Clippings re: Ernie Simon (includes obituary), 1953-1978
4	Correspondence – General, 1970-1975
5	Correspondence – Paul D. Schreiber, 1962-1970
6	Correspondence – Paul D. Schreiber, 1971-1973
7	Memorabilia, ca. 1936-1963
8	Photographs (5 images)
9	<i>Port Washington News</i> – Illustrations, Copy, Misc., undated
10	St. Peter of Alcantara – ca. 1952-1975 (includes 1953 Souvenir Book)