

Douglaston/Little Neck Historical Society
Douglaston Club Collection
Finding Aid

Descriptive Summary

Title: Douglaston Club Collection

Collection Number: 2006.1

Extent: 2 boxes

Repository: Bayside Historical Society for Douglaston/Little Neck Historical Society

Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open to the public. Photocopying permitted for personal use only.

Publication Rights

For permission to publish, contact the Archivist, Bayside Historical Society

Preferred Citation

Douglaston Club Collection, Douglaston/Little Neck Historical Society

Historical Note

Founded in 1906, The Douglaston Club was originally known as the Douglaston Country Club. The property was purchased from William Douglas, the son of George Douglas, who inherited it from his father upon his death in 1862. It was established by the members of the Douglas Manor Association who designated the 1735 farmhouse built by Cornelius Van Wyck as the site for their new clubhouse which was located at West Drive and Alston Place. The current address of this property is now number 126 West Drive.

In 1921 the Club moved to its current location at 600 West Drive. This property, called the Manor House, was originally built by Wyant Van Zandt in 1819 to accommodate his large family of 15 children. The Douglaston Club, which at that time had 144 members, purchased the Manor House for \$61,000 from the Douglas Manor Company. It was the Douglas Manor Company that had originally bought the estate in 1906 at the same time the Douglaston Country Club was established. According to the *Douglaston Club Directory* of 1987 "The Douglas Manor Association held its first meeting on June 22, 1906. At that meeting it was decided that the old Van Wyck house at 126 West Drive would become the Douglaston Country Club and the Manor House at 600 West Drive would become the Douglas Manor Inn". It is now a New York City Designated Landmark.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of photographs, documents, news clippings, memorabilia, publications and membership directories from the Douglaston Club. The collection documents the activities of the club and its membership.

(I) Photographs: This series contains photographs of activities and events from the Douglaston Club and its members including the men's and women's bowling and tennis teams, youth tennis and swim teams, holiday functions and special events, Yacht Squadron participants as well as parties, dances and other activities at the Club. Some of the photographs in the collection have been used in the newsletters published by the Douglaston Club, entitled *Between Ourselves*.

(II) Yacht Squadron: The Douglaston Yacht Squadron is an organization within the Douglaston Club. According to their constitution, "the object of this association shall be to encourage the sport of yachting, to promote the science and seamanship and navigation, and to provide and maintain a suitable anchorage and facilities for the recreation and use of its members." Contained within this collection are materials pertaining to the Squadron including news clippings, race results and information, a copy of the metal plaque from the mainmast of the Schooner *Sappho*, a copy of chapter six from *The America's Cup Races* by Herbert L. Stone as well as the obituary of William P. Douglas from the New York Herald, 1919.

(III) Entertainment Material: This series contains memorabilia from the Club including the 67th Annual Commissioning Party program, playbills from musicals held at the Club by its members including *Baby Mine*, a production by the *Douglastonians*, as well as *Fifty-Fifty* from 1926. Also included is an original menu program from the Club on Venezuela Independence Day, July 5, 1950.

(IV) Directories: The annual directories list a roster of membership. Except for the earliest directories, addresses and telephone numbers of members are included. Also included for each year's directory are the listings of Officers, Directors and Committee Chairmen, as well as the Yacht Squadron Officers and Directors. Photographs of the Club have been included in some of the directories and each annual published the Certificate of Incorporation and the By-Laws of the Douglaston Club.

(V) Publications: *Between Ourselves* is the name of the monthly newsletter published for the Club's members and contains articles and notices pertaining to its history, activities and membership. Also featured in *Between Ourselves* were reports and notices regarding social events such as dances, bridge tournaments, special dinners, clam bakes, luncheons as well as sporting news including activities of the Yacht Squadron, tennis tournaments, and committee meetings. The articles are supplemented with photographs and an occasional insertion of a cartoon. *Between Ourselves* was published monthly and while D/LN H S has most of the issues from the years 1921 through 1959, researchers should consult folders by year to verify availability of a particular month.

Organization

Series (I): Photographs

Series (II): Douglaston Yacht Squadron

Series (III): Entertainment Material

Series (IV): Directories

Series (V): Publications

Series Descriptions and Container Listing

Series I: Photographs

2006.1.1

Box 1

Files: 7

Swim Team	2006.1.1.1
Tennis Team	2006.1.1.2
Yachting	2006.1.1.3
Women's Bowling	2006.1.1.4
Men's Bowling	2006.1.1.5
People	2006.1.1.6
Events	2006.1.1.7
x-mas	2006.1.1.7.1
pool	2006.1.1.7.2
weddings	2006.1.1.7.3
fairs	2006.1.1.7.4
shuffleboard	2006.1.1.7.5
misc.	2006.1.1.7.6

Series II: Yacht Squadron

2006.1.2

Box 1

Files: 1

Series III: Entertainment

2006.1.3

Box 1

Files: 1

Series IV: Directories

2006.1.4

Box 1

Folders: 44

Arrangement: Chronological

Series V: Publications

2006.1.5

Box 2

Folders: 29

Arrangement: Chronological

2006.1.5.1921 through 2006.1.5.1959

Note: The last four digits represent the year of publication. Researchers seeking specific months should request folders by year. Publications begin with the year 1921 and continue through 1959 with the exception of the following:

1922, 1940, 1942, 1943, 1945, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951