

# BROOKLYN NAVY | YARD

## Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives Guide to the William J. Yager Papers 1947 – 1980 MC/47

---

Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives  
Building 77, 141 Flushing Avenue, Suite 801, Brooklyn, NY 11205

Finding aid produced on: March 7, 2026  
Description is in English.

---

### Title

William J. Yager Papers

### Date

1947 – 1980

### Description

William J. Yager was born on November 29, 1925 and resided in Queens, NY. During World War II he served in the US Army as a Private from February 4, 1944 to November 22, 1945, when he was honorably discharged. He was first hired at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on July 11, 1947 as a Welder Apprentice and later promoted to Welder Combination. During his 30-plus years of employment he received several promotions to Shop Analyst and Scheduler (Welder Combination), Shop Analyst and Scheduler (Welder), and Shop Planner (Welder). In 1963, Yager received a promotion to Industrial Engineering Technician in the Production Department, a position he held until the Yard's closure. In this capacity he was responsible for establishing methods and standards of doing various shipbuilding jobs. In 1965, as part of the Brooklyn Navy Yard's reduction in force, Yager transferred to the Puget Sound shipyard for the remainder of his career. During this time he lived in Bremerton, Washington.

### Admin Notes

The materials in this collection document William J. Yager's employment at the Brooklyn and Puget Sound shipbuilding yards, including significant changes in his career within the Production Department. As part of these employment records, there are General Wage Schedules for Federal employees for 1977-1980. There is also a black and white photograph of the "Beneficial Suggestion Award Winners for 29 July 1951", which includes Yager, and two issues of The Shipworker from June 17, 1960 and June 24, 1966. Furthermore, there are three sets of printed photos from 1963 which were taken as part of an initiative to modernize the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Yager was assigned to accompany the Yard's official photographer in touring the piers, cranes and structural shops. The first set of nine photos depict the interiors of various structural shops, while the other two are spiral bound volumes on the waterfront cranes by the piers and dry docks as well as on the Structural Trades Group regarding Shops 11, 17, 26, and 41. Photo captions include general details such as dimensions of work space or piers and the capacity of cranes. Some photos also have handwritten annotations indicating additional details such as ships under construction. The collection also includes an apprentice graduate pin from 1953 for Welder Combination, Shop 26.

### Creator

Yager, William J.

1947 – 1980

### Quantity

4 folders

### Language Of Materials

English.

### Call Number

MC/47

## Administrative/Biographical History

William J. Yager was born on November 29, 1925 and resided in Queens, NY. During World War II he served in the US Army as a Private from February 4, 1944 to November 22, 1945, when he was honorably discharged. He was first hired at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on July 11, 1947 as a Welder Apprentice and later promoted to Welder Combination. During his 30-plus years of employment he received several promotions to Shop Analyst and Scheduler (Welder Combination), Shop Analyst and Scheduler (Welder), and Shop Planner (Welder). In 1963, Yager received a promotion to Industrial Engineering Technician in the Production Department, a position he held until the Yard's closure. In this capacity he was responsible for establishing methods and standards of doing various shipbuilding jobs. In 1965, as part of the Brooklyn Navy Yard's reduction in force, Yager transferred to the Puget Sound shipyard for the remainder of his career. During this time he lived in Bremerton, Washington.

## Scope And Content

The materials in this collection document William J. Yager's employment at the Brooklyn and Puget Sound shipbuilding yards, including significant changes in his career within the Production Department. As part of these employment records, there are General Wage Schedules for Federal employees for 1977-1980. There is also a black and white photograph of the "Beneficial Suggestion Award Winners for 29 July 1951", which includes Yager, and two issues of the Shipworker from June 17, 1960 and June 24, 1966. Furthermore, there are three sets of printed photos from 1963 which were taken as part of an initiative to modernize the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Yager was assigned to accompany the Yard's official photographer in touring the piers, cranes and structural shops. The first set of nine photos depict the interiors of various structural shops, while the other two are spiral bound volumes depicting the waterfront cranes by the piers and dry docks, as well as on the Structural Trades Group regarding Shops 11, 17, 26, and 41. Photo captions include general details such as dimensions of work space or piers and the capacity of cranes. Some photos also have handwritten annotations indicating additional details such as ships under construction. The collection also includes an apprentice graduate pin from 1953 for Welder Combination, Shop 26.

## System Of Arrangement

The collection is arranged by type of material and then chronologically.

## Access And Use

**Conditions Governing Access** This collection is open for research.

**Conditions Governing Reproduction** Material in this collection is made available for use in research, teaching, and private study, pursuant to U.S. Copyright law. The use must assume full responsibility for any use of the material, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced material. Please see the BNYDC Archives' Policy on Access and Use for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish. Any material used for academic research or otherwise should be credited using the citation below.

**Preferred Citation** Published citations should take the following form: Identification of item, date (if known); William Yager papers; MC/47; Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives, Brooklyn, NY.

---

## Collection Contents

**Collection: William J. Yager Papers , MC/47**(1 record)  
Welder Apprentice Pin, 14291