

BROOKLYN NAVY | YARD

Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives Guide to the Mary Jane Hayfield collection 1914 – 1915 MC/62

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

Finding aid produced on: March 9, 2026
Description is in English.

Title

Mary Jane Hayfield collection

Date

1914

Description

This collection was donated by Mary Jane Hayfield. It contains four mounted photographs and one postcard from the Brooklyn Naval Hospital from 1914-1915. Ms. Hayfield is the daughter of Mate Philip Williams, a pharmacist at the Naval Hospital, who appears in multiple photographs.

The photographs in this collection show a tuberculosis camp set up Mr. Williams at the hospital. There are photographs showing Mr. Williams and other staff, patients, and an operating room.

Admin Notes

This collection was donated by Mary Jane Hayfield in October 2017. It was processed by Chelsea Reil, Archives Assistant in 2018. This collection has a collection documentation file and a finding aid.

Creator

Hayfield, Mary Jane

1914 – 1915

Quantity

1 box

Language Of Materials

English.

Call Number

MC/62

Administrative/Biographical History

The Brooklyn Navy Yard, officially known as the New York Naval Shipyard, has its origins in the Federal government's purchase of the land adjacent to Wallabout Bay for \$40,000 in 1801, and the subsequent conversion of the land into an active U.S. Navy shipyard five years later in 1806.

In 1824, the Navy purchased an additional 25 acres near the Yard on which it established the Brooklyn Naval Hospital. The main hospital building was completed in 1838, and functioned until it was eventually closed in 1948. By 1850, the Hospital Annex was a self-contained parcel of land, walled-in, with a gatehouse, a laboratory, and a cemetery. In 1864, the Surgeon's Residence was constructed. When the shipyard expanded during World War II, it took over the land of the former Wallabout Market and the physical separation between the Yard and the Hospital was eliminated.

In 1966, the Navy decommissioned the Yard and closed its active shipbuilding presence in Brooklyn, but retained residual administrative support functions as part of Naval Station New York, which occupied the former Hospital Annex and some adjacent buildings until it too was closed in 1989. In 1967, the City of New York acquired the Brooklyn Navy Yard for private commercial use, and eventually also acquired the former Naval Station Annex in 1993.

The Naval Annex is now occupied by Yard tenant Steiner Studios, and is planned to be restored and redeveloped as their media campus.

Scope And Content

This collection contains four mounted photographs and one postcard from the Brooklyn Naval Hospital from 1914-1915. Ms. Hayfield is the daughter of Mate Philip Williams, a pharmacist at the Naval Hospital, who appears in multiple photographs. The photographs in this collection show a tuberculosis camp set up Mr. Williams at the hospital. There are photographs showing Mr. Williams and other staff, patients, and an operating room.

System Of Arrangement

This collection contains 1 series: Photographs.

Administrative Information

Related Lots: 2017.004

Access And Use

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Preferred Citation Published citations should take the following form: Identification of item, date (if known); Mary Jane Hayfield collection; MC/62; Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives, Brooklyn, NY.

Collection Contents

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