Overview JRVHS Collections in the Local History Room

The Hanging Anchor, forged at Triphammer. 1910

The Jones River Village Historical Society (JRVHS) collection, located in the Kingston Public Library's Local History Room (LHR), is an astounding compilation of local history. Physically the largest of the manuscript collections in the LHR, the collection also includes some of the oldest and newest materials, and demonstrates in a powerful and unique way the long-term commitment to the area's heritage that has been the Club's primary focus over the last century.

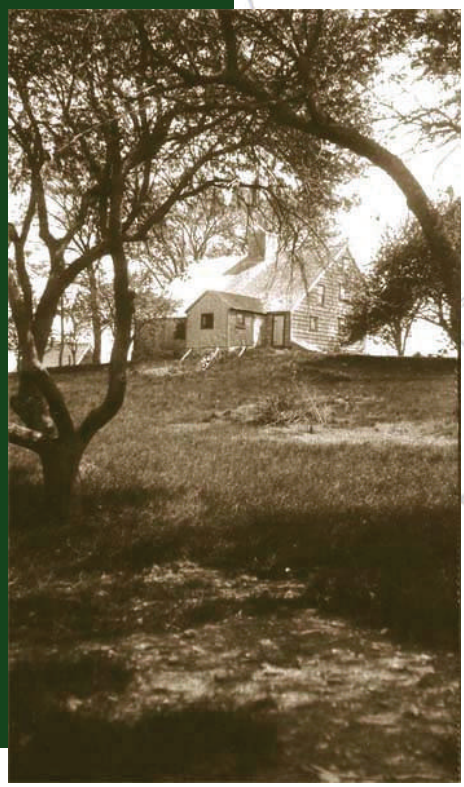
The collections include every imaginable kind of document – letters, reports, photographs, maps, sketches, ledgers, genealogies and more – along with artifacts (mostly textiles) that tell the tale of Kingston through the centuries. Housed in more than 80 boxes, the collection stretches from the 16th century to the 21st, documenting people and places, events and organizations, supplying a wealth of the tangible and ephemeral details that make up history.

SERIES

1. Early information
2. Bradford House Council
3. The Bradford House
4. Literature
5. Deeds & town records
6. Places & houses
7. People
8. Diaries
9. Ledgers
10. Images on paper
11. Books & pamphlets
12. Lantern slides
13. Barn
14. Society publications & ephemera

While the Society retains ownership, the LHR serves as steward, providing public access to the collection alongside other LHR holdings. To facilitate use and preservation, the JRVHS collection has been sorted into broad categories called series, re-housed in acid-free containers, and described in a detailed inventory known as a finding aid.

Through a closer look at the series that form a framework for the material, this presentation tells the story of the collections that tell the stories of the JRVHS and of Kingston.



The Bradford House, by Emily Drew