

ArMs 1978.125  
Box A0332-A0340  
(Nine manuscript boxes, 4.25 linear feet)  
4C- 6.2.D

Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay  
and Brooklyn (New York) Civic Council Records, 1922-1975  
Bulk dates: 1922-1960  
Joseph B. Milgram, Compiler

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March, 2006

## **Introduction**

The Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay and the Brooklyn Civic Council Records Collection includes records, clippings, reports, brochures and letters about the history of Sheepshead Bay and Marine Park, Brooklyn, New York. The materials were donated by Joseph B. Milgram, who was an officer of the Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay and the Brooklyn Civic Council. Documents date from 1922 to 1975, with some undated materials.

## **Historical Note**

Sheepshead Bay is a chiefly residential community located on a bay of the same name that borders the Rockaway Inlet from the Atlantic Ocean on the eastern shore of Brooklyn, which is the southern end of Long Island, eight miles from Brooklyn's Borough Hall and about ten miles from New York City Hall in lower Manhattan. The Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay was founded in 1922, twenty-five years after Brooklyn's consolidation into New York City. The association members were male, over the age of twenty-one, and residents or property owners in Sheepshead Bay, named in the colonial period for the abundance of the local fish. The association's objectives focused on suggesting and securing community improvements and promoting community spirit. Community boundaries were declared from the East side of Ocean Avenue to Plum Beach Creek, and from the South side of Neck Road to the waterfront of Sheepshead Bay.<sup>1</sup>

The Brooklyn Civic Council addressed civic issues for the whole of Brooklyn, and the Sheepshead Bay association was one of seventy civic groups in this period who participated in the larger council.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection is made up of four series; Series I, "Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay – Minutes and Records," dates from 1925 to 1948. The minutes of the association's bi-monthly meetings detail issues for discussion and action. 1948 was a busy year, and materials from that year have been divided into two folders. The minutes and correspondence were found interfiled together and it is assumed that they reflect one another. Folder 8 contains photographs of street signs from the City of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Series 2: "Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay – Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings" contains correspondence and newspaper clippings from 1927 to 1972. The bulk of the correspondence is addressed to or from Joseph B. Milgram, the secretary of the association. The correspondence and newspaper clippings also were interfiled together and it is assumed that they reflect one another. Included in this series are correspondence and clippings on the Brooklyn Gas Company, Marine Park, the Citizens' Transit Committee, housing, miscellaneous maps and pamphlets on Brooklyn, and the Gateway National Recreation Area (1970's).

Series 3: "Scrapbooks" contains scrapbooks of newspaper clippings from 1926 to 1936. The bulk of the scrapbooks are titled and numbered on each page. Each scrapbook has a central theme that the articles support. The beginning of the Marine Park Scrapbook is paginated from 1 to 26, but the pagination does not continue for the rest of the scrapbook. Topics include numerous civic and political organizations, the Gas Consumers' League, the Utility Consumers' League, and Marine Park.

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<sup>1</sup> Constitution of the Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay, Inc., 1925.

Series 4: “Brooklyn Civic Council Records” contains the minutes and correspondence of the Brooklyn Civic Council from 1936 to 1975. The bulk of the correspondence is either addressed to or from Joseph B. Milgram, a member of the Executive Committee.

### Processing Note

Pratt Institute intern Eden Marie Picazo processed the collection. She reorganized items, added new folders, grouped items in series and then placed them in chronological order within their groups, photocopied brittle records onto acid-free paper, and created the finding aid. News clippings were placed in separate folders to protect other records from acidic newsprint. The clippings need to be photocopied. (Dr. Pettit edited this inventory, May, 2006.)

### Related Material

Visual materials relating to the proposed Marine Parkway Extension are located in the Image Collection.

### Container List

#### Series 1: Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay – Minutes and Records

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	1	Constitution of the Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay	1925
	2	Membership card	undated
	3	Minutes Journal	1922 - 1923
2	4	Minutes Journal	1929 - 1932
	5	Minutes Journal	1932 - 1937
	6	Minutes and Correspondence	1927, 1941 – 1943
	7	Minutes and Correspondence	1944
	8	Minutes and Correspondence	1945
	9	Minutes and Correspondence	1946
	10	Minutes and Correspondence	1947
	11	Minutes and Correspondence (1/2)	1948
3	12	Minutes and Correspondence (2/2)	1948

#### Series 2: Independent Civic Association of Sheepshead Bay – Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings

1	Newspaper Clippings	1932 – 1936
2	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings (1/2)	1935 - 1943
3	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings (2/2)	1935 - 1943

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>
3	4	Newspaper Clippings	1940 – 1943
4	5	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	October 1958 – March 1959
	6	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	April – May 1959
	7	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	July – September 1959
	8	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	October 1959
	9	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	November 1959
	10	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	December 1959
	11	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	January – February 1960
	12	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	March 1960
	13	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	April 1960
	14	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	June – July 1960
	15	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	August – September 1960
	16	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	October 1960
	17	Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	November 1960
	18	Brooklyn Borough Gas Company	1927
5	19	Marine Park – Preliminary Sketches, Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	1931 – 1948
	20	Miscellaneous Maps and Pamphlets	1936 – 1941
	21	Citizens' Transit Committee	1944
	22	Housing – New York City Housing Authority, 10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Report	1944
	23	Housing – Construction Cost Analysis Booklet and Correspondence	1945 – 1946
	24	Housing – Record State by State Booklet and Correspondence	1946
	25	Public Housing Clippings, Basis for Housing Referendum Booklet	1946 – 1947
	26	Housing – Low-Rent Apartments – Correspondence and Newspaper Clippings	1946 – 1948
	27	Gateway National Recreation Area	1972

### **Series 3: Scrapbooks**

6	1	Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings, p. 1 – 151	1926 – 1929
	2	Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings, no page numbers	1930 – 1932
	3	Gas Consumers' League, p. 1 – 96	1927 – 1929
	4	Utility Consumers' League Scrapbook, p. 1 – 152	1928

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>
7	5	Utility Consumers' League Scrapbook, p. 153 – 292	1929
	6	Utility Consumers' League Scrapbook, p. 293 – 506	1930
	7	Utility Consumers' League Scrapbook, p 507 – 652	1930
	8	Utility Consumers' League Scrapbook, p. 653 – 735	1930
8	9	Utility Consumers' League Scrapbook, p. 736 – 747	1930
	10	Marine Park Scrapbook	1930 – 1936

**Series 4: Brooklyn Civic Council Records**

	1	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1936 – 1938
	2	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1939
	3	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1940
	4	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1941
9	5	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1942
	6	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1943
	7	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1944
	8	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1945 – 1948
	9	Brooklyn Civic Council Minutes and Correspondence	1959 – 1960, 1973 - 1975
	10	Brooklyn Civic Council - Education Committee	1942 – 1943