GUIDE TO ROSLYN SCHOOLS COLLECTION

Repository: The Bryant Library Local History Collection

Collection Title: Roslyn Schools Collection

Inclusive Dates: Size: 1 Box

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ABSTRACT

A compilation of documents and ephemera pertaining to the Roslyn Public Schools, including programs for graduations, concerts, and theatrical presentations as well as documents pertaining to school district events.

ROSLYN SCHOOLS COLLECTION

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Roslyn Public School District was first established in 1813 as Hempstead Harbor District #3. It was one of the six districts formed by the Town of North Hempstead under New York State's 1812 Common School Law. In 1864, Roslyn Public Schools reorganized as a Union Free School District under the State's 1853 Union Free School Act. The first school building was constructed in 1863 and was known simply as the Public School. Enlarged over the years, this building was destroyed by fire in 1897. The new building constructed on the site was also destroyed by a fire in 1927. The brick building that replaced it on Remsen Street was torn down in the 1970s.

In 1868 the district established a separate annex for Black children. Known as the "Colored School," the segregated annex remained in operation through the end of the 1916-17 school year.

To accommodate children who lived outside of the village proper, additional schools were built in the early 1900s. The Highlands School, a small one-room schoolhouse, was built on Warner Avenue in 1906 to serve the children who lived in the Heights area. It was closed when the Roslyn Heights School on Willow Street opened in 1914. The North Roslyn School was built to serve children in the Greenvale area in 1912.

A high school department was added in 1904, and Roslyn High School was accredited by New York State in 1906. Recognizing the increased need for secondary education, the Roslyn Junior-Senior High School building was erected on Roslyn Road in 1925 on an eight-acre hilltop site donated by Mr. Clarence H. Mackay.

Roslyn School District #3 experienced a population surge in the years following World War II. The Roslyn Highlands Neighborhood School, for children in Kindergarten through grade four, opened in 1950 in Roslyn Heights. The East Hills School opened in 1951, followed by Flower Hill School in 1952. The Roslyn Junior High School opened for seventh and eighth graders in 1957, relieving overcrowding in the high school building. Sixth grade classes were added to the building in 1988 and the school was rededicated as Roslyn Middle School. The last elementary school built was the Harbor Hill School in 1962.

Roslyn's school population peaked in 1967 but soon began to decline, resulting in the closure of four schools between 1970 and 1980. The Highlands School closed in 1972, followed by the North Roslyn School in 1975 and the Village School in 1976. The Flower Hill School was the last to close in 1980. Today, the educational needs of Roslyn students are met by the remaining three elementary schools (East Hills, Harbor Hill and Heights), Roslyn Middle School and Roslyn High School.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This is an artificial collection of items pertaining to the Roslyn Public Schools that were accessioned by the Bryant Library at various times. The collection includes programs for graduations, theatrical and musical events, as well as documents and publications related to school district programs and activities.

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged into five series: Roslyn High School, Village School, Heights School, Roslyn Junior High School, and School District Ephemera.

INDEX TERMS

Roslyn Public Schools Roslyn High School Village School Heights School Roslyn Junior High School

RELATED MATERIAL

Roslyn High School Yearbooks (Harbor Light) Roslyn Middle School Yearbooks SCOPE (Newsletter)

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