



## Ashtray Collection, 1940's – 1980's

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## **Ashtray Collection, 1940's-1980's**

0.9 cubic feet

Smoking cigarettes, cigars, and pipes, along with other forms of tobacco use was once consider the norm in American society. In the 1960s, more than 43 percent of Americans smoked and businesses such as hotels, bars, and restaurants, not to mention such surprising institutions as hospitals, all accommodated those with a smoking habit. Matchbooks and ashtrays were provided for the clientele of these establishments and also served as a convenient form of advertising. Customized ashtrays and matchbooks bearing the names, logos, addressees, and contact information for the businesses providing them were promotional items.

As the harmful effects of tobacco use became better known, however, and efforts to alert smokers of the health risks associated with both smoking and secondhand smoke increased, smoking rates began to decline in America. By 2018, the number of adults who smoked decreased 68% and more stringent legislation outlawed smoking indoors in New York State. A more health-conscious population combined with this legislation lead to a diminishing number of businesses allocating a portion of their budgets for the production of customized smoking paraphernalia. It is now rare to encounter an ashtray bearing a businesses' name for advertising purposes and the items in this collection are truly artifacts from a less enlightened period of American history, at least as far as maintaining a healthy lifestyle is concerned.

This collections contains glass, ceramic, and metal ashtrays produced by business and organizations for advertising purposes and for the use of their clientele. The businesses responsible for these objects include hotels, bars, restaurants, political parties, supermarkets, auto mechanics, fire departments, public utilities, real estate agents, and more.

### **SUBJECTS**

#### **Subjects:**

Marketing.

Smoking--New York (State)--New York--1960-1970.

Smoking--New York (State)--New York--1970-1980.  
Smoking Paraphernalia

**Places:**

Bay Shore (N.Y.)  
Bethpage (N.Y.)  
East Meadow (N.Y.)  
Elmont (N.Y.)  
Greenvale (N.Y.)  
Hauppauge (N.Y.)  
Hempstead (N.Y.)  
Manhasset (N.Y.)  
Montauk (N.Y.)  
Oyster Bay (N.Y.)  
Southampton (N.Y.)

**Form and Genre Terms:**

Ephemera.

**Ashtray Collection Box and Folder Listings**

<b><u>Box 1</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Inclusive Date</u></b>
<b><u>Item #</u></b>		
1	Candlelight Restaurant	n.d.
2	Cherry Valley Club	c. 1960s
3	The Empress	n.d.
4	Fisher Insurance Real Estate	n.d.
5	Gil Clark's	c. 1970s
6	Greenvale Diner Ashtray	n.d.
7	Hauppauge Fire Department	<u>n.d.</u>
8	Hotel Beau Sejour	c. 1970s

<b><u>Box 2</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Inclusive Date</u></b>
<b><u>Item #</u></b>		
1	J & G Food Shoppe	c. 1950s
2	John Duck Jr.	c. 1970s
3	Libby Diner & Bar	c. 1940s
4	LILCO	c. 1960s
5	Luna Continental Cuisine	c. 1950s
6	Nash Oldsmobile	c. 1950s
7	Oyster Bay Hospital	c. 1950s
8	The Palm at Hutting Inn	n.d.
9	Republican \$100 Dinner	1963
10	Sands Motel	c. 1970s
11	Sperry Marine Systems	c. 1980s