



# Levittown Construction Photographs Collection, c.1948-c.1970s

Special Collections Department/Long Island Studies Institute

Contact Information:  
Special Collections Department  
Axinn Library, Room 032  
123 Hofstra University  
Hempstead, NY 11549  
Phone: (516) 463-6411, or 463-6404  
Fax: (516) 463-6442  
E-mail: LISI@hofstra.edu

<http://www.hofstra.edu/Libraries/SpecialCollections>

Compiled by:	[M. O 'Connor]
Date Completed:	[ Aug. 28, 2008]

Levittown Construction Photographs Collection, c.1948-c.1970s  
0.25 cubic ft.

To meet the housing needs of returning World War II veterans, Levitt & Sons, led by developer William Levitt, mass-produced over 17,000 homes in Levittown, N.Y. and the surrounding areas between 1947 and 1951. Today, with a population of over 53,000, Levittown is one of the most widely known suburban communities in the United States.

Collection is composed largely of 8 x10 black and white photographs (and 4x6 duplicates) taken circa 1948. The photographs depict construction workers and craftsmen engaged in a variety of tasks, including street paving, painting, pouring concrete, and operating heavy machinery, in Levittown and the surrounding areas. Also included are photographs of construction supplies, vehicles, and equipment. In addition, a particularly noteworthy photograph shows individuals signing rental leases or homeowner's contracts.

**SUBJECTS:**

**Names:**

Levitt, William, 1907-1904.

**Subjects:**

Construction equipment.

Levittown (N.Y.)--History.

Long Island--History.

Suburbs--United States

Dwellings--United States--Design and construction.

Dwellings--New York (State)--Levittown--History.

**Places:**

Levittown (N.Y.).

Long Island (N.Y.).

**Form and Genre Terms:**

Photographs.

**Occupational Terms:**

Construction workers.

Craftsmen.

Levittown Construction Photographs Collection, c.1948-c.1975  
 0.25 cubic ft.

Box and folder listings

Black & White 8x10 prints

Box #1

TITLE	NOTES	DATE	BOX/ FOLDER
Man turning on compressor	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-1	c.1948	1-1
Man sawing door	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-2	c.1948	1-2
Man spray painting door	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-3	c.1948	1-3
Man drilling door	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-4	c.1948	1-4
Man hammering exterior siding	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-5	c.1948	1-5
Man measuring beam of wood	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-6	c.1948	1-6
Two men installing a pipe	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-7	c.1948	1-7
Two men working on a pipe	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-8	c.1948	1-8
Two men installing telephone wire	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-9	c.1948	1-9
Contract signing day	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-10	c.1948	1-10
Street paving crew, steam roller in foreground	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-11	c.1948	1-11
Truck with road sweeper attached	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-12	c.1948	1-12
Two men and cement mixer	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-13	c.1948	1-13
Man pouring cement from a cement mixer into a mold	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-14	c.1948	1-14
Cement mixer traveling on dirt road leading to construction site, c.1948	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-15	c.1948	1-15
Man operating grader on construction site	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-16	c.1948	1-16
Road crew members pouring and spreading cement	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-17	c.1948	1-17
Men pouring and spreading a concrete foundation	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-18	c.1948	1-18
Men pouring concrete	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-19	c.1948	1-19
Man flattening road with a steamroller	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-20	c.1948	1-20
Levittown street scene	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-21	c.1948	1-21
Crane removing earth from a hole at construction site	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-22	c.1948	1-22
Freight car on overpass, truck beneath in underpass	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-23	c.1948	1-23
Cement truck loading at cement mixing facility	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-24	c.1948	1-24

TITLE	NOTES	DATE	BOX/ FOLDER
Crane placing a tank on top of a tower	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-25	c.1948	1-25
Conveyor belt and walkway	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-26	c.1948	1-26
Crane and bulldozer working to remove earth from construction site	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-27	c.1948	1-27
Bulldozer plowing at construction site, crane scoop in foreground	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-28	c.1948	1-28
Crane removing earth from construction site	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-29	c.1948	1-29
Crawler tractor and bulldozer clearing dirt with a scraper?	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-30	c.1948	1-30
Crawler tractor clearing dirt with a scraper?	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-31	c.1948	1-31
Dump truck being loaded with dirt	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-32	c.1948	1-32
Crews working on lawns of Levitt houses	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-33	c.1948	1-33
Crew working on lawn of a Levitt house	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-34	c.1948	1-34
Crews digging near telephone poles behind Levitt houses	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-35	c.1948	1-35
Man operating a bulldozer, a Levitt house in the background	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-36	c.1947	1-36
Man plowing dirt with a loader as another man with a shovel watches nearby	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-37	c.1948	1-37
View of street with unfinished Levitt houses, flatbed truck loaded with wood at left and two men working on a house at right	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-38	c.1948	1-38
Two roofers applying shingles to a roof (Levittown, PA)	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-39	c.1970s	1-39
Roofer applying shingles to a roof (Levittown, PA)	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-40	c.1950s	1-40
Man in freight car unloading construction supplies to two men in a pickup truck	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-41	c.1948	1-41
Loader emptying dirt into a dump truck	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-42	c.1948	1-42
Man sanding wood as another man watches nearby	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-43	c.1948	1-43
Two men in workshop cutting a pipe	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-44	c.1948	1-44
Truck loaded with cylindrical tanks, workers standing near truck	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-45	c.1948	1-45
Row of pipes lined up against a fence	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-46	c.1948	1-46
Man cutting wood in workshop	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-47	c.1948	1-47
Two men working on pipes in a workshop	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-48	c.1948	1-48

TITLE	NOTES	DATE	BOX/ FOLDER
Supply of pipes in a workshop	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-49	c.1948	1-49
Men working on pipes in a workshop	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-50	c.1948	1-50
Men working on pipes in a workshop	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-51	c.1948	1-51
Man operating a lathe in a workshop	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-52	c.1948	1-52
Men unloading wood and other supplies from a freight train	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-53	c.1948	1-53
Man using forklift to load wood onto a truck	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-54	c.1948	1-54
Supply of pipes in a workshop (2 copies)	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-55	c.1948	1-55
Crawler tractor and bulldozer clearing dirt with a scraper?	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-56	c.1948	1-56
Crawler tractor hauling scraper? loaded with dirt	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-57 4x5 negative in 2-61	c.1948	1-57
Crawler tractor hauling scraper? loaded with dirt, bulldozer at right (2 copies)	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-58 4x5 negative in 2-62	c.1948	1-58
Trucks loaded with wood, stacks of wood in background	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-59 4x5 negative in 2-63	c.1951	1-59
Man operating forklift carrying wood		c.1948	1-60
Man operating concrete mixing machine		c.1948	1-61
Two men in a workshop		c.1948	1-62
Concrete mixing facility, cement mixer underneath		c.1948	1-63
Scraper? and front end of bulldozer	Duplicate 4x6 in 2-60	c.1948	1-64
Crew working on a pipe in a ditch		c.1948	1-65

Black & White 4x6 prints

Box #2

TITLE	NOTES	DATE	BOX/ FOLDER
Man turning on compressor		c.1948	2-1
Man sawing door		c.1948	2-2
Man spray painting door		c.1948	2-3
Man drilling door		c.1948	2-4
Man hammering exterior siding		c.1948	2-5
Man measuring beam of wood		c.1948	2-6
Two men installing a pipe		c.1948	2-7
Two men working on a pipe		c.1948	2-8
Two men installing telephone wire		c.1948	2-9
Contract signing day		c.1949	2-10

TITLE	NOTES	DATE	BOX/ FOLDER
Street paving crew (steam roller in foreground)		c.1948	2-11
Truck with road sweeper attached		c.1948	2-12
Two men and cement mixer		c.1948	2-13
Man pouring cement from cement mixer into mold		c.1948	2-14
Cement mixer traveling on dirt road leading to construction site, c.1948		c.1948	2-15
Man clearing dirt with a grader		c.1948	2-16
Road crew members pouring and spreading cement		c.1948	2-17
Men pouring and spreading a concrete foundation		c.1948	2-18
Men pouring concrete		c.1948	2-19
Man flattening road with a steamroller		c.1948	2-20
Levittown street scene		c.1948	2-21
Crane removing earth from a hole at construction site		c.1948	2-22
Freight car on overpass, truck beneath in underpass		c.1948	2-23
Cement truck loading at cement mixing facility		c.1948	2-24
Crane placing a tank on top of a tower		c.1948	2-25
Conveyor belt and walkway		c.1948	2-26
Crane and bulldozer working to remove earth from construction site		c.1948	2-27
Bulldozer plowing at construction site, crane scoop in foreground		c.1948	2-28
Crane removing earth from construction site		c.1948	2-29
Crawler tractor and bulldozer clearing dirt with a scraper?		c.1948	2-30
Crawler tractor clearing dirt with a scraper?		c.1948	2-31
Dump truck being loaded with dirt		c.1948	2-32
Crews working on lawns of Levitt houses		c.1948	2-33
Crew working on lawn of a Levitt house		c.1948	2-34
Crews digging near telephone poles behind Levitt houses		c.1948	2-35

TITLE	NOTES	DATE	BOX/ FOLDER
Man operating a bulldozer, a Levitt house in the background		c.1947	2-36
Man plowing dirt with a loader as another man with a shovel watches nearby		c.1948	2-37
View of street with unfinished Levitt houses, flatbed truck loaded with wood at left and two men working on a house at right		c.1948	2-38
Two roofers applying shingles to a roof (Levittown, PA)		c.1970s	2-39
Roofer applying shingles to a roof (Levittown, PA)		c.1950s	2-40
Man in freight car unloading construction supplies to two men in a pickup truck		c.1948	2-41
Loader emptying dirt into a dump truck		c.1948	2-42
Man sanding wood as another man watches nearby		c.1948	2-43
Two men in workshop cutting a pipe		c.1948	2-44
Truck loaded with cylindrical tanks, workers standing near truck		c.1948	2-45
Row of pipes lined up against a fence		c.1948	2-46
Man cutting wood in workshop		c.1948	2-47
Two men working on pipes in a workshop		c.1948	2-48
Supply of pipes in a workshop (2 copies)		c.1948	2-49
Men working on pipes in a workshop		c.1948	2-50
Men working on pipes in a workshop		c.1948	2-51
Man operating a lathe in a workshop		c.1948	2-52
Men unloading wood and other supplies from a freight train		c.1948	2-53
Man using forklift to load wood onto a truck		c.1948	2-54
Supply of pipes in a workshop		c.1948	2-55
Crawler tractor and bulldozer clearing dirt with a scraper?		c.1948	2-56
Crawler tractor hauling scraper? loaded with dirt	4 x 5 negative in 2-61	c.1948	2-57

TITLE	NOTES	DATE	BOX/ FOLDER
Crawler tractor hauling scraper? loaded with dirt, bulldozer at right	4 x 5 negative in 2-62	c.1948	2-58
Trucks loaded with wood, stacks of wood in background	4 x 5 negative in 2-63	c.1951	2-59
Scraper? and front end of bulldozer		c.1948	2-60

Black & white 4x5 negatives

Box 2

TITLE	NOTES	DATE	BOX/ FOLDER
Crawler tractor hauling scraper? loaded with dirt	See 1-57 & 2-57 for prints	c.1948	2-61
Crawler tractor hauling scraper? loaded with dirt, bulldozer at right	See 1-58 & 2-58 for prints	c.1948	2-62
Trucks loaded with wood, stacks of wood in background	See 1-59 & 2-59 for prints	c.1951	2-63

Strip negatives

1-36, Box 2, Folder 64  
37-61, Box 2, Folder 65