

ETHEL BROOMHALL HOLT COLLECTION

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library – The Folklife Center
Glens Falls, NY.
- Creator:** Ethel Broomhall Holt and others
- Title:** Ethel Broomhall Holt Collection (e-title: Holt, Ethel Broomhall Collection)
- Dates:** 1908 - 1984
- Abstract:** Scrapbooks and photographs from the family of Ethel Broomhall Holt.
- Quantity:** 2 cubic feet
- Identification:** Archives & Manuscripts: Personal and Family Collection

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Ethel E. Broomhall was born in Montreal, Canada, on May 9, 1889, and was baptized along with her sisters, Mable and Nellie, on Oct 25, 1891 at Grace Anglican Church in Montreal. They were daughters of Ruth and William Broomhall, both born in England. They probably moved to the United States about 1893, and in 1900 the family was living in Whitehall, Washington County, NY. Ruth was 45 and William 42, they had been married 25 years, and Ruth was the mother of 13 children of whom only 6 were still living. Five of them, ages 4 to 13, were living at home. William was a machinist on the railroad, and they lived in a neighborhood of railroad men.

Ethel married Joseph R. Holt on October 7, 1908 in Trinity Church (Protestant Episcopal) in Whitehall. Joseph was born November 25, 1885 in Whitehall. At the age of 14 he was living with his grandmother in Whitehall and working as a bobbin filler in a silk mill. In 1910 he was a laborer in a paint mill, in 1915 a machinist's helper in a (R.R.?) shop, and in 1920 a tinsmith's helper in a railroad shop. Meanwhile their family was growing: Harold 1909 – 1979, Walter 1913 – 1993, Arthur 1914 – 1994, Frederick G. 1916 – 1983, Ethel Ruth 1919 – 1994, Mary F. 1924 – 2014. Mary was born in February of 1924. Joseph, her father, died in April of 1925, leaving Ethel with six children ages 1 to 16.

On the 1925 census, which was taken just after Joseph died, Ethel and her children and her sister-in-law Irene Holt were living at 8 Fifth Avenue in Whitehall with Ethel's brother George F., 29, and his wife and son. This is the Broomhall's family home. Out of this household of ten, the following were employed: Harold Holt, 15, works in a silk mill; Irene Holt, 30, is a shirt operator, and George Broomhall is a laborer in a railroad shop.

Shortly thereafter, Ethel moved, with her children, to 18 McIntyre Street, Fort Edward. She first appears in the City Directory in 1927 which suggests she moved in 1926. In the 1930 census Ethel is working in a shirt factory and Harold is working for the D & H Railroad. Walter and daughters Ethel and Mary are living at home but not listed as working. However, the 1930 City Directory lists Walter as employed at Morrisania Dairy. Fred, 13, and Arthur, 15, were at that time enrolled in the Northern New York School for the Deaf in Malone, Franklin County.

In 1929 one hundred twenty nine pupils were enrolled – these children came from 23 different counties and all, except 2 private pupils and 4 county pupils, were maintained by the state.

(The Buildings of Malone: The School for the Deaf, online, seen 6/14/16)

In 1940, Ethel, working as a seamstress in a dress factory, has five of her six children plus three grandchildren living with her. Only her daughter Ethel is not at home. Ethel Holt married Adolphus La Rock in 1938 and in 1940 they were on a farm in Argyle, Washington County, with their son Adolphus J. (later known as Joseph LaPointe, the donor of this collection). In 1952 she married John “Jack” LaPointe. In 1940 both Harold and Walter are also married, but neither of them has a wife living in the household. In the household at 18 McIntyre, Harold is a color mixer in a wallpaper factory, Walter is a stationary fireman in a dairy products company, Arthur is a laborer for a construction company, and Fred is a laborer in a dairy products factory, and Mary (age 16) and the three grandchildren are not working. This is a very successful working class family, especially given that both Arthur and Fred were dealing with the difficulty of hearing loss.

Ethel and her family were very active in the community. The scrapbooks in this collection illustrate their involvement: the VFW, the Handicap Wizards Blind Bowling Team, Zion Episcopal Church, American Legion, Senior Citizens Club, parties given for members of the family, friends and family in the military, participants in strikes at local plants, and so on.

Ethel Broomhall Holt died in Glens Falls on September 15, 1982. She is buried in Greenmount Cemetery in Whitehall, NY, with her husband and her sons Arthur and Frederick.

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS

INDEX TERMS

Topics: Blind Bowling
World War II
Genealogy

Places: Fort Edward, Washington, NY
Northern New York School for the Deaf, Malone, NY
(aka Malone School for the Deaf)
Whitehall, Washington, NY

Important People: Holt, Ethel Broomhall 1889 – 1982

Broomhall family
 Holt family
 LaPointe Family
 LaRock Family

Form/Genre: Scrapbooks, photographs

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation: Ethel Broomhall Holt Collection
 The Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library
 Glens Falls, NY.

Accession Information: Donated, May 2016 by
 Joseph LaPointe
 Hudson Falls, NY 12839

Additional donation Aug. 31, 2016: 3 photographs

Joseph LaPointe is a grandson of Ethel Holt.

Processing Information: Arranged and described by Erica Wolfe Burke 2016

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS

Box 1: Series I: Scrapbooks

A World War II: Brown embossed cardboard cover 14 ½" x 12". Most of the pages of this album are filled with clippings (photo and short news item) of servicemen, most of them from Fort Edward. The clippings chronicle locations, moves, wounds and deaths of local servicemen. There are also some loose papers from the 1950s inside the front cover.

B World War II: Blue and gold paper cover with picture of "Springtime in the Rockies" 15" x 11". Clippings from 1942 and 1943, some local and some national.

C Local and family news: Red paper cover with cute dogs 15" X 11". Clippings from the late 1940s through the 1960s (most from 1950s) chronicle family reunions, organizations, churches, fires, etc. which were of interest to the compiler.

D Handicap Wizards Blind Bowling Team 1963 – 1975. Black covers 12" x 10 ½". According to Joseph LaPointe, two of Ethel Holt's sons became blind. One, Arthur, was a star of the Wizards team. The scrapbook contains clippings about the team and scores of many matches. The team met at B & C Recreation Lanes on Centre Street in Hudson Falls, and also traveled to play against other handicap teams.

E Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States treasurers account book 1972 – 1984. Ethel Holt was the treasurer.

F Plastic folder holding clippings and some whole papers, many relating to the fatal fire which killed 4 of Marian Holt Skellie's children.

G Photograph album used as scrapbook. Green cardboard cover 8" x 12 ½ ". Clippings, and loose papers: political cartoons, inspirational pieces and some local news.

Also in this box is the Marriage Certificate of Joseph Holt and Ethel Broomhall: Oct. 7, 1908 at Trinity Church in Whitehall.

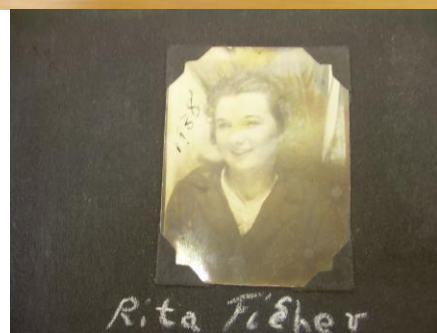
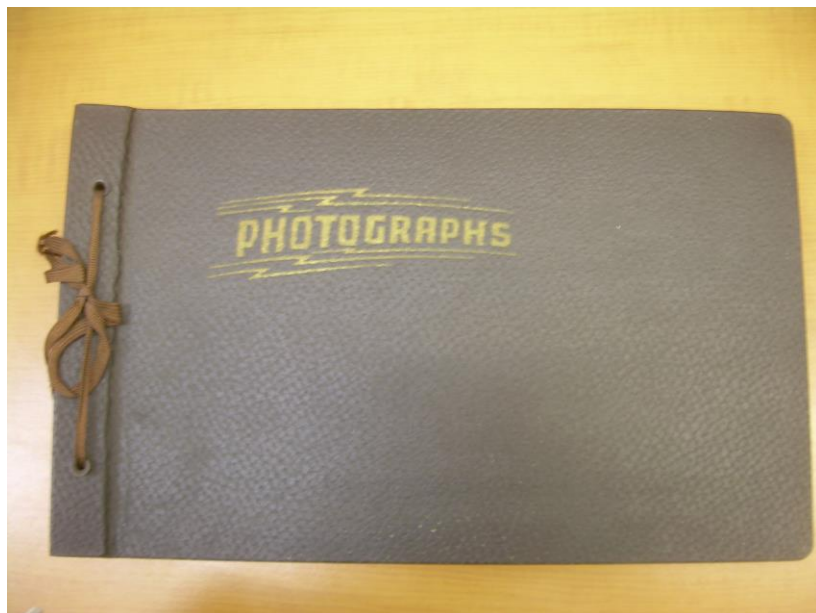
Series II: Photographs

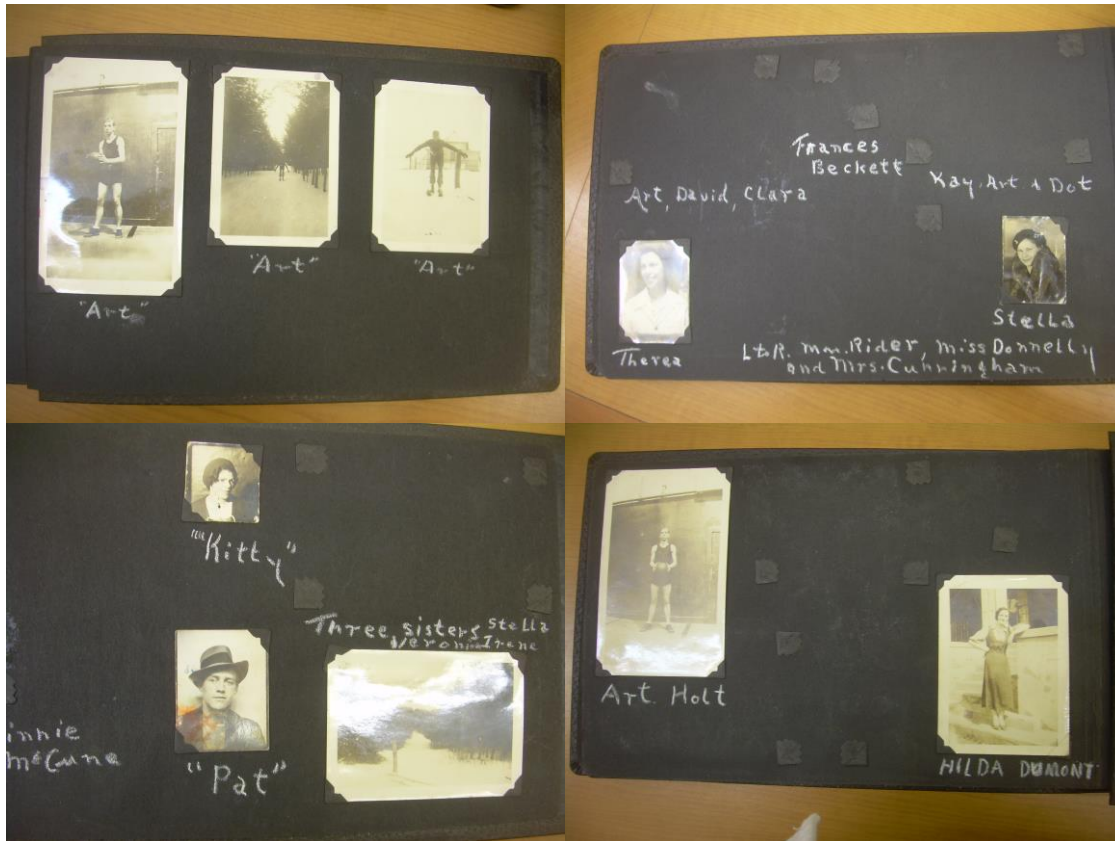
A Individual photographs (In Box 2). Removed from frames.

1. Ethel Elma Broomhall, age 18. 20" x 14" oval, convex, hand-colored.
2. Grandparents of Joseph Holt: Susan Watson Nichols and grandfather. 20" x 14" oval. Badly damaged.
3. Jennie Nichols Holt, as a young woman. 20" x 14" oval. Some damage.
4. Theresa. 7" x 5", hand colored.
5. Arthur Leroy Holt, 7" x 5", hand colored.
6. Group photo on church steps: Ethel Elma Holt and her sister Nellie Broomhall Elms at a wedding in Canada. In 10 ½" x 12 ½" mat.
7. Nathan and Jennie F. Nichols Holt, parents of Joseph R. Holt. 20" x 14" oval. Some damage.
8. William Alfred Broomhall and Ruth McAllister Broomhall, parents of Ethel Broomhall Holt. 16" x 20" some damage. Taken before 1918.
9. Ethel Broomhall Holt 3 ½ x 5 ½ real photo postcard. In uniform (VFW?)
10. Group photo of 5 students at Northern New York School for the Deaf. 8" x 10 ". Back right is Arthur Holt. Photo by Robideau Studio, Malone, NY (from cardboard frame, discarded).
11. Group photo of the basketball team at "MSD" (Malone School for the Deaf, formally the NNY School for the Deaf). 8" x 10". 8 men, Arthur Holt is the end player on the right.

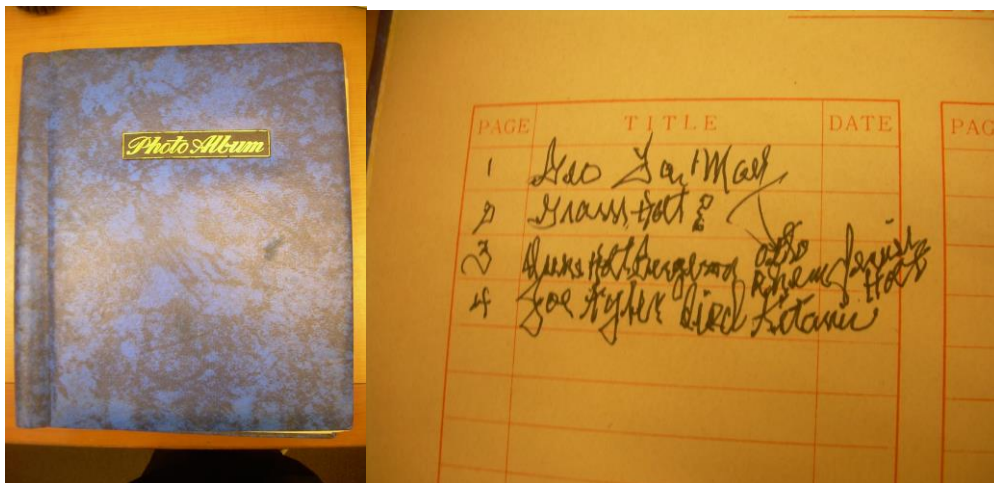
B Albums (In Box 1)

1. Black album 12 " h x 7 ½ wide. Most of the pages were empty. The cover and the pages which held photos have been photographed. The photos from the album have been removed and put in sleeves. Sleeves are headed "Holt – blk album", and those which had identifications in the album have been identified on the sleeve.





2. Blue Album – blue plastic cover 11½” x 10” with magnetic pages. Photos have been removed to the photo binder. Original pages were photographed before the pictures were removed.



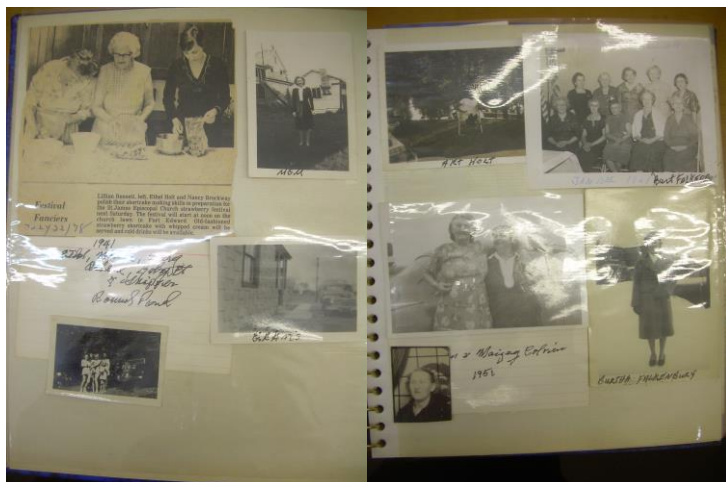


DATE OF APPLICATION	DATE OF ELECTION	DATE OF INITIATION
		June 4, 1906
APPLICANT'S NAME Mrs. Ethel Holt		
ADDRESS 18 McIntyre Fort Edward N.Y.		
RECOMMENDED BY Geneva B. Merrill		
<small>CAMPBELL MEDICAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY 1000 MARKET STREET NEW YORK</small>		
<small>UNITED STATES ARMY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ELECTION</small>		
Flora Dodge Edith Gordon Eva Fredericks <small>JOYCE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE</small>		

WRITE CLEARLY THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

1891

1758
 Found in Ruth's collection
 House of the
 New York State
 Library



Series III: Drawing, by Arthur LeRoy Holt, of Will Rogers. Selected from various works by Arthur Holt in the possession of Joseph LaPointe to demonstrate Arthur Holt's talent as an artist. In a folder, shelved with Box 2.

Series IV: Genealogy Collection

This genealogy book is on loan (May 21, 2016) from Joseph LaPointe to the Folklife Center. The Folklife Center has permission to copy the contents of this binder to add to our collection. When copying is complete it will be shelved at 929.2 Holt