



Newport Historical Society

Guide to the Berkeley House collection , circa 1881 – 1895

Newport Historical Society
82 Touro Street
Newport, Rhode Island 02840
(401) 846-0813
www.newporthistory.org

Descriptive Summary

<i>Collection Identifier</i>	MS.099
<i>Title</i>	Berkeley House collection
<i>Creator</i>	King, LeRoy, 1857-1895
<i>Date</i>	circa 1881 – 1895 (bulk 1884 – 1895)
<i>Extent</i>	This collection contains 4 boxes and 4 over-sized items. There are 4 architectural drawings and specifications, personal artwork, and household receipts related to LeRoy King and his residence, Berkeley House.
<i>Abstract</i>	This collection contains 4 architectural drawings and specifications, personal artwork, and household receipts related to LeRoy King and his residence, Berkeley House.

Historical Note

Berkeley House is located at 1 Berkeley Avenue in Newport, RI. It is a brick, Queen Anne cottage built in 1884-1885 for LeRoy King of Newport and New York. It was designed by the firm of McKim, Mead and White. It replaced a smaller wood structure that stood on the corner site of Berkeley and Bellevue Avenues.

LeRoy King (1857-1895) was the son of Edward King and a member of the extended King family that amassed a fortune in the China Trade. Other Kings include Dr. David King (Muenchinger-King building), Edward King (King Senior Center), David King Jr. (Kingscote), George Gordon King (Edgehill) and the artist Charles Bird King. At one time the Kings were the largest land owners, ever, in Newport. LeRoy King also built the King block of shops adjacent to the Newport Casino.

The house remained in one family for one hundred years. It passed from LeRoy King to his wife Ethel Rhinelander King, then to their children including Ethel King Russell, then to her son John Stephen Howland Russell. It is presently a three family dwelling.

CHRONOLOGY OF BERKELEY HOUSE, 1 BERKELEY AVENUE, 262 BELLEVUE AVENUE, PLAT 33, LOT 26

1876: Atlas shows a corner lot with a wood house owned by Eliza T. Goffe, widow of John Goffe, adjacent to larger lot owned by Edward King.

1878 August 2: Deed transferred from Eliza T. Goffe to Mary King, David King, Jr. and LeRoy King, trustees under the will of Edward King, for \$10,500, Land and improvements(LE 49:460).

1883: Atlas shows owner as LeRoy King, 50,673 sq. ft. wood house on corner, larger lot.

1884: Wood house moved to south end of lot or demolished. November 22 1885 The Newport Mercury reports that plans have been drawn for a new brick villa and the foundation has been poured.

1884-1885: House erected. Plans by McKim, Mead, and White. William Underwood, contractor.

1893: Atlas shows owner as LeRoy King, 50,673 sq. ft. Brick house on corner, wood house to south.

1895: LeRoy King dies.

1907: Atlas shows owner as Ethel R. King, 53, 877 square feet, same.

1921: Atlas shows owner as Ethel R. King, same.

1925: Ethel R. King dies. House is passed to heirs.

1971: Ethel King Russell dies. House is willed to son, John Howland Russell.

1984: House sold to Josiah and Diana Bunting.

Sources:

Lippincott, Bert. (2006 February 23). Berkeley House. (Institutional House History). Newport Historical Society, Newport, RI.

Scope and Content

This collection contains 4 architectural drawings and specifications, personal artwork, and household receipts related to LeRoy King and his residence, Berkeley House. The receipts, which make up a bulk of the collection, are a comprehensive view into the work and life of running a household and being a part of Newport Society at the turn of the 20th century. The business of everyday life is cataloged and recorded with local and national vendors, purveyors and service providers, including Western Union Telegraph Co., Caswell Massey and Co., McKim, Mead, and White, the Old Colony Steamboat Co., and the Newport Daily News. Also represented are memberships to social, intellectual and religious institutions including Trinity Church, Redwood Library, the Newport Business Men's Association, and The Newport Natural History Society. Receipts of administrative business are present including taxes and fees to the City, utility bills, servant wages, house maintenance, and horse care. Also included are two notes of received payment from Edward R. Wharton, husband of Edith Wharton.

Organization

The Berkeley House collection is organized into two series:

1. Berkeley House records, 1881-1895, undated
2. Artwork, undated

All sections arranged chronologically with undated material at the end of folder.

Subject Access

<i>People</i>	Covell, William King (1833-1919)
	Gay, Bradford
	King, LeRoy, 1857-1895
	Martin, Thomas
	Murray, Hiram
	Newport Gas Light Company
	Peckham, Jesse E.
	Quinn, Martin
	Wharton, Edward

Organizations Caswell Massey And Company
McKim, Mead & White

Subjects Architecture
Home economics
Wages--Accounting
Wages--Household employees

Form/Genre architectural documents
drawings (visual works)
receipts (financial records)

Access and Use

Physical Access This collection is housed on site at the Newport Historical Society.
Researchers can be seen by appointment during operating hours.

Reproduction & Use NHS allows monitored personal photography of manuscript and artifact collections for research use only, with some limitations and restrictions. Fees apply. See our Personal Photography Policy and Agreement for more details.

NHS also offers digital scans of collections material for educational, commercial or personal use. Fees apply.

Personal photography or purchase of digital prints and scans does not imply permission to reproduce or publish these materials. Images from the NHS collections may be reproduced only with written consent of the Newport Historical Society. Permission is granted for one time, non-exclusive use only. All subsequent and additional use requests must be made in writing.

We reserve the right to restrict photography of copyrighted, culturally sensitive or physically endangered materials.

<i>Citation</i>	Berkeley House collection , MS.099, Newport Historical Society, Newport, Rhode Island
-----------------	---

Administrative Information

<i>Processor</i>	Processed by Stacie Parillo, August 19 2012.
<i>Descriptive Rules</i>	Finding aid based on <i>Describing Archives: A Content Standard</i> (DACS)
<i>Accession Info</i>	Gift of David Chase, 2012.
	Accession Number: 2012.33

Inventory

Series 01: Berkeley House records , circa 1881 – 1895

Within this series household receipts account for the majority of material. They provide a comprehensive view into the work and life of running a household and being a part of Newport Society at the turn of the 20th century. Business with local and national vendors, purveyors, and services providers are cataloged and recorded. Highlights include receipts from Western Union Telegraph Co., Caswell Massey and Co., McKim, Mead, and White, the Old Colony Steamboat Co., and the Newport Daily News. Utility bills, servant wages, house maintenance and horse care expenses are also documented. Other material includes memberships to institutions such as Trinity Church, Redwood Library, the Newport Business Men's Association, and The Newport Natural History Society.

It is arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.001: Architectural specifications , 1885

Document describes the materials that will be used in the construction of the Newport home for LeRoy King according to the drawings and specification prepared by McKim, Mead & White Architects. Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.002: Household receipts , 1881 – 1883

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.003: Household receipts , 1884

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.004: Household receipts , 1885

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.005: Household receipts , 1886

Arranged chronologically by date with the undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.006: Household receipts , 1887

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.007: Household receipts , 1888

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.008: Household receipts , 1889

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.009: Household receipts , 1890

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.010: Household receipts , 1891

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.011: Household receipts , 1892

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.012: Household receipts , 1893

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.013: Household receipts , 1894

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.014: Household receipts , 1895

Arranged chronologically by date with undated material at the end of the folder.

File 01.015: Household receipts

Arranged alphabetically followed by notepaper.

File 01.016: Architectural drawings , February 24 1892

Series 02: Artwork

File 02.001: Artwork

1 watercolor painting of a steamship, 1 pencil drawing of a sailboat, 1 pen drawing of a train cart, one watercolor painting of a vase.