



Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives  
Guide to the Arthur Colombo collection  
1935 – ca. 1970  
SC/6

Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives  
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Finding aid produced on: 2019-08-01  
Description is in English.

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## Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Arthur Colombo collection

**Creator:** Colombo, Arthur J. (1909-2006)

**Date(s):** 1935 – ca. 1970

**Quantity:** 3 boxes

**Language of Materials:** English

**Call Number:** SC/6

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## Administrative/Biographical History

Authur J. Colombo was born in 1909 in New Jersey. He worked at the Brooklyn Navy Yard as an electronics engineer, gradually moving up to a supervisory role in the Design Division of the Bureau of Yards and Docks' Planning Division. He worked on the communications and electronics systems of several ships during his career, including the USS Lake Champlain. In 1956, he was sent to France to review the systems of the Lake Champlain, a ship in which his son was serving at the time. Colombo participated in several Builders Trials - a series of tests to demonstrate the satisfactory operation of equipment prior to allowing the ship out to sea. Colombo survived the Yard's decommissioning in 1966, transitioning from the Bureau of Ships to the Naval Electronic Systems Command Activity, which operated out of the southeastern section of the Yard along Flushing Avenue. He continued to work in electronics engineering until he retired from the Yard in 1970. He died in 2006.

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## Scope and Content

This collection contains documents, photographs, and artifacts that represent Arthur Colombo's career at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Certificates and forms document his rise from engineer to division supervisor. Having worked on electric systems during ship construction, Colombo attended several builders trials, as well as ship launchings and commissionings, and several invitations, tickets, and programs are extant. Photographs of Colombo's colleagues, and artifacts such as his name plate, a ceremonial helmet, and pins complete the collection.

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## Related Materials

**Location of Copies:** Items in this collection may have been digitized and if so, are featured in [BNY Collections](#), the BNYDC Archives' digital library. Only those items that have digital reproductions contain an Object ID listed in the Container List below. Use the Object ID or title of the item when searching BNY Collections.

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## System of Arrangement

This collection contains 2 series: Professional papers; Publications.

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## Access Points

New York Naval Shipyard  
Engineers  
Maps  
Photographs  
Ships  
Ships--Launching  
Shipbuilding--United States  
Ships--Maintenance and repair  
Shipbuilding industry—Employees  
USS Independence  
USS Kearsarge  
USS Lake Champlain  
USS Missouri  
USS Saratoga  
War Bonds

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## Administrative Information

**Accession Number(s):** 2019.001

**Acquisition Notes:** Items in this collection were donated by Ken Colombo – grandson of Arthur – directly to the BNYDC Archives in May 2019. This collection has a collection documentation file.

**Processing Notes:** This collection was processed by Elizabeth Mc Gorty, Archivist & Records Manager, in July 2019.

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## Access and Use

**Access Restrictions:** This collection is open for research.

**Use Restrictions:** Material in this collection is made available for use in research, teaching, and private study, pursuant to U.S. Copyright law. The use must assume full responsibility for any use of the material, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced material. Please see the BNYDC Archives' Policy on Access and Use for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish. Any material used for academic research or otherwise should be credited using the citation below.

**Preferred Citation:** Published citations should take the following form: Identification of item, date (if known); Arthur Colombo collection; SC/6; Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation Archives, Brooklyn, NY.

**Related Material at the BNYDC Archives:** N/A

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## Container List

### Series 1: Professional Papers

*Scope and Contents Note:* Much of the documentation in the series reflects Colombo's career trajectory – including his certificates of training, inclusion in the National Register Scientists and Engineers in Federal Service, and his travel voucher for working in France aboard the USS Lake Champlain. Ephemera from various ship launchings, as well as objects such as pins, awards, nameplates, and a helmet, are included in this series.

| Box 1 (4-D-4-7) | Title               | Date      | Object ID |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Folder 1        | Professional papers | 1935-1966 |           |
| Folder 2        | Photographs         | 1945-1969 |           |
| Folder 3        | Ship Launchings     | 1942-1945 |           |
| Object 1        | The Compass         | 1954      |           |

| Box 2 (4-D-4-6) | Title                 | Date       | Object ID |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------|
| Object 1        | USS Saratoga ash tray | 1956-04-14 |           |
| Object 2        | NYNS ash tray         | 1951-04-18 |           |
| Object 3        | Farewell testimonial  | 1969       |           |
| Object 4        | Helmet                | ca. 1970   |           |
| Object 5        | Name plate (2)        | Undated    |           |

| Box 3 (4-D-4-1) | Title                        | Date    | Object ID |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Object 1        | Professional effects, framed | Undated |           |

### Series 1: Publications

*Scope and Contents Note:* This series contains publications, notably issues of the *Shipworker*.

| Box 1 (4-D-4-7) | Title                | Date      | Object ID |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Folder 4        | Publications (Other) | 1938-1964 |           |

| Box OS1 (3-B-2-5) | Title             | Date      | Object ID |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Folder 10         | Shipworker issues | 1945-1966 |           |

