

**Irene A. Beale (1920-2006) Collection**  
A Finding Aid



Irene Beale  
From Photograph Series,  
B20-F2-P8131

**Livingston County Historian's Office**  
5 Murray Hill Dr.  
Mt. Morris, NY 14510  
August 2016

Prepared by Holly C. Watson, Deputy Livingston County Historian

## I. Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	Irene A. Beale (1920-2006) Collection
<b>Collection No.</b>	C144
<b>Extent</b>	1 linear foot
<b>Date Range</b>	1980-1994
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>This collection comprises papers, notes, and research materials collected and created by Irene A. Beale of Geneseo, Livingston County, New York, for the purpose of writing several local history books, including <i>Genesee Valley Women</i>, <i>Genesee Valley People</i>, <i>Genesee Country Senecas</i>, and <i>Genesee Valley Events</i>. The papers include notes, brochures, pamphlets, receipts, bibliographies, correspondence, and some excerpts from published books.</p>
<b>Languages</b>	English.
<b>Access and Restrictions</b>	<p>Use of the records in this collection is for serious research and by request and permission of the Livingston County Historian. Any use of the material in publications must be cited as follows, "Courtesy of Livingston County Historian's Office, New York." Additionally, all items should be handled with care.</p> <p>To arrange to conduct research with the documents in the collection, contact the Livingston County Historian by mail at: 5 Murray Hill Drive, Mount Morris, NY, by phone at (585) 243-7955, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:Historian@livingstoncountyny.gov">Historian@livingstoncountyny.gov</a>.</p>
<b>Copyright</b>	<p>Some materials may be subject to copyright. Researchers are required to seek written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce and/or publish materials under copyright.</p>

## II. Biographical and Background Information

Irene A. Beale (1920-2006) was the author of a number of local history books during the 1980s and 1990s, including *Genesee Valley Women*, *Genesee Valley People*, *Genesee Country Senecas*, and *Genesee Valley Events*. The notes and materials held in this collection pertain to these titles and reflect some original correspondence with museums, libraries, historical agencies, and individuals connected with the people and events about which Mrs. Beale wrote. Ms. Beale founded and ran her own publishing house, Chestnut Hill Press; she died at age 85 in 2006.

The collection of papers is generally in good condition, and has been kept in the order in which it was received. File folders have retained their original titles and contents, though most photocopies of published books have been discarded unless extensive notes were made upon them by Mrs. Beale. Her bibliographies remain to indicate which published sources were utilized in her projects. File folders are kept in two acid-free archival-quality document cases in appropriate storage and have been loosely inventoried but not indexed. File 19 was titled "Elderhostel" by Mrs. Beale though no explanation is immediately evident. The file contains only two items, one of which is a Daniel Fink reprint of an 1875 photograph.

The collection was initially donated to the Livingston County Historical Society by Irene's husband, Richard Beale. After some time, it was given to the County Historian's Office in August 2016.

## III. Contents List

<b>Box 1 F1</b>	Genesee Valley Events: notes A-C
<b>Box 1 F2</b>	Genesee Valley Events: notes D-L
<b>Box 1 F3</b>	Genesee Valley Events: notes M-P
<b>Box 1 F4</b>	Genesee Valley Events: notes R
<b>Box 1 F5</b>	Genesee Valley Events: notes, Ra-Pid-Gro
<b>Box 1 F6</b>	Genesee Valley Events: notes S-W
<b>Box 1 F7</b>	Genesee Valley People: notes A-F
<b>Box 1 F8</b>	Genesee Valley People: notes G
<b>Box 1 F9</b>	Genesee Valley People: notes H-R
<b>Box 1 F10</b>	Genesee Valley People: notes S-Z
<b>Box 1 F11</b>	Miscellaneous notes, Western New York
<b>Box 2 F12</b>	Genesee Valley Women: notes A-B
<b>Box 2 F13</b>	Genesee Valley Women: notes C-F
<b>Box 2 F14</b>	Genesee Valley Women: notes G-H
<b>Box 2 F15</b>	Genesee Valley Women: notes J-L
<b>Box 2 F16</b>	Genesee Valley Women: notes M-R
<b>Box 2 F17</b>	Genesee Valley Women: notes S
<b>Box 2 F18</b>	Genesee Valley Women: notes T-Z
<b>Box 2 F19</b>	Elderhostel
<b>Box 2 F20</b>	Genesee Country Senecas: notes
<b>Box 2 F21</b>	Book projects: disks

#### IV. Related Materials

##### Livingston County Historian's Office

This office holds copies of Irene Beale's published books:

- *Genesee Country Senecas* (1992)
- *Genesee Valley Events, 1668 – 1986* (1986)
- *Genesee Valley Women, 1743 – 1985* (1985)
- *Genesee Valley People, 1743 – 1962* (1983)
- *William P. Letchworth, a Man for Others* (1982)