The New-York Historical Society is pleased to announce the acquisition of archival materials from social justice pioneer and sports icon Billie Jean King, whose groundbreaking career achievements and activism transformed the sport. Highlights from the archive will be featured in the new Center for Women’s History, which will launch as part of the New-York Historical Society’s transformed fourth floor, opening to the public in March 2017.

Image credit: Glenn Castellano, New-York Historical Society.

Billie Jean King and New-York Historical Society President and CEO Louise Mirrer examine objects donated by King to New-York Historical’s Center for Women’s History. The objects include the lace dress she wore at the 1971 US Open in Forest Hills, Queens and at Wimbledon in 1972.
Image credit: Glenn Castellano, New-York Historical Society.

Billie Jean King with the Philadelphia Freedoms dress she wore during the inaugural season in 1974 when she was a member of the team. King helped name the team, whose name inspired Elton John’s song of the same name.
Image credit: Glenn Castellano, New-York Historical Society.


Photo taken of Billie Jean King, April 1958