

# CAPE ANN Museum

## Library & Archives

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### JAMES POOLE COLLECTION

<b>Creator:</b>	James Poole; various
<b>Dates:</b>	1819-1977 (bulk 1916-1919 and 1940-1957)
<b>Quantity:</b>	1 box
<b>Acquisition:</b>	Accession #: 2019.008 ; Donated by: Lynne Routhier
<b>Identification:</b>	A92 ; Archive Collection #92
<b>Citation:</b>	[Document Title]. The James Poole Collection, [Box #, Folder #, Item #], Cape Ann Museum Library & Archives, Gloucester, MA.
<b>Copyright:</b>	Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Librarian/Archivist.
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Finding Aid:</b>	Processed 2019 by Amber Wingerson, Curatorial Assistant. Updated by Karla Kaneb, June 2020.

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### Biographical Note

James Edward Poole was born in Hamilton, Massachusetts, on June 24, 1897, to Alfred and Minnie Poole. Poole and his family lived in Hamilton through 1910 and later moved to West Lynn, Massachusetts. Poole enlisted in the army prior to his 18th birthday and served in the Mexican conflict as well as the European theatre of World War I. During World War I, Poole served 20 months overseas and was part of Battery D of the 101st Field Artillery. Poole experienced chemical warfare in the European theatre and suffered from its effects throughout his life.

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Following World War I, Poole married Nellie B. Webster and returned to Massachusetts. The couple moved to the homestead of the late Thomas Poole on Holly Street, Annisquam, at the beginning of their married life. James and Nellie had two daughters and later moved to Saugus, Massachusetts. Poole worked as an electrician until his health started to fail and the family moved in with his brother-in-law's family. In 1941, James Poole passed away at the age of 44 at the United States Veterans hospital in Rutland, Vermont, where he had been a patient for a year and a half.

Following James's death, Nellie and his daughters received veterans' benefits from the United States government, including a stipend and educational benefits. The family also received certificates of appreciation and remembrance for James's military service years after his passing.

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## Acquisition Note

Gift of Lynne Routhier, the granddaughter of James Poole.

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## Scope and Content of the Collection

This is a manuscript and object collection of James Edward Poole regarding his military career in World War I, private life, and information about his family following his death in 1941. The collection includes paper, photographs, small bibles and a dictionary, and military objects that include military patches and pins, a candies bucket distributed to support the troops, military cap, and buckle. The paper contents range from correspondence to legal documents to official certificates. The collection dates from 1819-1977 with bulk dates of 1916-1919 and 1940-1957.

The largest series, Series 1: Correspondence, ranges from correspondence with his family, mainly addressed to his father and his wife, to postcards to government correspondence following his war injuries and death. There is also a section of correspondence detailing benefits that his family were due to receive in light of his military service after his death in 1941.

Series 2 contains World War I souvenirs, certificates, and publications that date between 1916 and 1963. This includes postcards that were made from personal photographs, certificates of recognition from the state and federal government, and a poem by an unknown soldier.

Series 3 is a collection of certificates from academic institutions and society memberships.

Series 4 contains legal and financial documents, including a marriage certificate, will, casket warranty certificate, and financial documents pertaining to James Poole's death. Series 5 is secondary genealogical materials. The materials range from newspaper articles to handwritten family trees.

Series 6 includes municipal documents from Eastern Underwriters, Hamilton Police Department, and a document addressed to James Poole outlining Massachusetts Fish and game Laws of 1920.

The photographs of Series 7 include World War I era photographs as well as undated family photographs.

Series 8 consists of James Poole's Webster dictionary and two small bibles.

Series 9 comprises of several objects, including many objects related to World War I. These objects include a candy bucket that was sold to support the troops, pins, patches, ring, and accessories worn by the troops. A card set with a leather case is also part of this series.

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## Series Description

- I. Correspondence (1819-1977)
- II. World War I souvenirs, certificates, and publications (1916-1963)
- III. Certificates for academics and memberships (1911-1944)
- IV. Legal and financial documents (1941-1959, undated)
- V. Secondary genealogical materials (undated)
- VI. Municipal documents (1916-1920, undated)
- VII. Photographs (undated)
- VIII. Books (1894, undated)
- IX. Objects

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## Container List

### Box 1

- I. Series I: Correspondence (1819-1977)
  - I. Early 19th century correspondence, 1819, 1833, 1834
  - II. Postcards; from James Poole, 1907, 1916-1917
  - III. James Poole correspondence to his father, Alfred Poole, 1916-1917
  - IV. Telegraphs, 1917
  - V. Government correspondence; about James Poole World War I injuries, 1918-1919
  - VI. Correspondence; from James Poole to Nellie Poole, 1940-1941
  - VII. Cards; from James Poole to Nellie Poole, 1940
  - VIII. Correspondence; regarding James Poole's death, 1941
  - IX. Poole Family Correspondence, undated 1942, 1977

- X. Correspondence about benefits for families of deceased veterans, 1945-1957, undated
- XI. Government correspondence, marriage application, undated
  
- II. Series II: World War I souvenirs, certificates, and publications (1916-1963)
  - I. Postcards; not sent; military scenes and photographs, 1916-1919
  - II. World War I publications, 1917-1919
  - III. Honorable discharge documents; James Poole, 1920
  - IV. Presidential certificate commemorating military service; James Poole, 1963
  - V. Poem by a soldier; J.E.S.; undated
  - VI. Souvenir postcards and photographs, undated
  
- III. Series III: Certificates for academics and memberships (1911-1944)
  - I. James Poole, academic certificates, 1911, 1912
  - II. James Poole, American Legion, charter membership certificate, undated
  - III. Commencement; Boston University, 1944
  
- IV. Series IV: Legal and financial documents (1941-1959, undated)
  - I. Marriage certificate; James Poole and Nellie Poole
  - II. Financial documents; pertaining to James Poole's death, 1941
  - III. Will; Nellie Poole, 1959
  - IV. Batesville Casket Warranty certificate, 1974
  
- V. Series V: Secondary genealogical materials (undated)
  - I. Handwritten secondary genealogical material, undated
  - II. Newspaper articles, James Poole, undated
  - III. Family newspaper articles, undated
  
- VI. Series VI: Municipal documents (1916-1920, undated)
  - I. Hamilton, Mass. Police Department; 1916, undated
  - II. Massachusetts Fish and Game Laws, 1920
  - III. Eastern Underwriters Inspection card, undated
  
- VII. Series VII: Photographs (undated)
  - I. World War I era photographs
  - II. Family photographs, undated
  
- VIII. Series VIII: Books (1894, undated)
  - I. Webster dictionary, James Poole, 1894
  - II. Bibles, prayer card, undated

**EmbARK location: Storage, Main Complex, Lower Level, Storage Room 2, C03 R**

- IX. Series IX: Objects (undated)

- I. Candies bucket, “Remember the Boys” Victory brand candies
- II. Card game with leather case
- III. Official Candy Salesgirl, Camp Fire Girls pin
- IV. Military patch, unknown
- V. Small ring with blue bird in profile
- VI. Yellow bird pin
- VII. Airborne patch
- VIII. Small, handheld compass
- IX. Military cap
- X. Belt buckle, “GOTT MIT UNS”
- XI. Two military patches, two military pins, attached on a piece of black velvet

**LOCATION**

- I. Oversized (1919)
  - I. Series II: Massachusetts government certificate commemorating military service, 1919