



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

William James papers

Archives of American Art  
750 9th Street, NW  
Victor Building, Suite 2200  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
<https://www.aaa.si.edu/services/questions>  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	William James papers
<b>Date:</b>	1883-1957
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.jamewill
<b>Creator:</b>	James, William, 1882-1961
<b>Extent:</b>	0.3 Linear feet ((on 2 partial microfilm reels))
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Donated 1986 and 1987 by William James III, the son of William James, except for the photograph on reel 3828, which was lent for microfilming.

### Location of Originals

Reel 3828: Original returned to the lender, William James III, after microfilming.

### Available Formats

35mm microfilm reels 3828 and 4392 available for use at Archives of American Art offices and through interlibrary loan.

### Restrictions

Use of original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C., Research Center. Microfilmed materials must be consulted on microfilm. Contact Reference Services for more information.

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## Biographical / Historical

Portrait painter, instructor; Cambridge, Mass. Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Son of psychologist William James (1842-1910), brother of portrait painter Alexander Robertson James, and nephew of novelist Henry James. Pupil of Benson and Tarbell and teacher at Boston Museum of Fine Arts School, 1913-1926.

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## Scope and Contents

Letters, 1887-1935, a scrapbook, 1925-1951, clippings, art works, and photographs, 1883-1957.

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## Scope and Contents

REEL 3828: A photograph by Dr. Charles Putnam of James sitting on his father's (psychologist William James) lap, ca. 1886.

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## Scope and Contents

REEL 4392: Twelve letters, from James to his brother Henry and his parents, 1887-1935, and a letter from Abbott Handerson Thayer regarding a pair of boots James ordered, 1904; a scrapbook containing clippings, 1925-1951, an exhibition catalog, 1929, and photographs of James, his brother Alec (Alexander Robertson), and his works of art; 4 clippings, undated and 1950; 2 self-portrait sketches, a portrait sketch of a woman, and a drawing of James by Jane deGlehn; photographs of James, his family, including one of an obscured pose by his uncle Henry James, his friends, including Langdon Warner, 1883-1957, and Elizabeth Boott Duveneck; photographs of portrait paintings of James' ancestors, including Catherine Barber James, Marcia Ames James, William James of Albany, and Reverend William James; and 23 photographs of James' works of art.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

Painting, American -- Massachusetts

### Types of Materials:

Scrapbooks

### Names:

De Glehn, Jane Erin Emmet, 1873-1961  
Duveneck, Elizabeth Boott, 1846-1888  
James, Alexander, 1890-1946  
James, Catherine Barber, 1782-1859  
James, Henry, 1843-1916  
James, Marcia Ames, 1797-1886  
James, William, 1771-1837  
James, William, 1797-1868  
James, William, 1842-1910  
Thayer, Abbott Handerson, 1849-1921  
Warner, Langdon (1881-1955)

### Occupations:

Art teachers -- Massachusetts  
Portrait painters -- Massachusetts