

# York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC)

## Finding Aid - Harry Pollock fonds (F0381)

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# Harry Pollock fonds

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## Summary information

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**Repository:** York University Archives & Special Collections (CTASC)

**Title:** Harry Pollock fonds

**ID:** F0381

**Date:** 1852-1991, predominant 1950-1990 (date of creation)

**Physical description:** 7.3 m of textual records  
164 audio tape reels (164 hrs.) : 19 cm/sec and 9.75 cm/sec  
ca. 615 slides : col and b&w ; 5 x 5 cm

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

Harry J. Pollock (1920- ) is an advertising executive, writer and teacher. He developed an interest in the work of James Joyce and established the James Joyce Society in Toronto in 1964. Pollock has written and staged several plays that were adaptations of Joyce's works, including 'Yes, I will yes,' 'Night boat from Dublin,' and 'Giacomo de Trieste,.' Pollock has delivered talks at Joyce symposia in Canada, Ireland and Italy, as well as co-editing proceedings from some of these Joyce conferences. He has also written a novel ('Gabriel,') and some poetry. In addition, Pollock has written and produced several television programmes and radio documentaries. In 1969 Pollock became a Fellow of Stong College, York University and offered college tutorials on Joyce and creative writing there until 1995. He received an honorary D.Litt in 1995 from York University. He also served as the curator of the Anglo-Irish collection at McMaster University in Hamilton, 1970-1972.

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## Scope and content

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The fonds consists of records of Harry J. Pollock pertaining to his interest and involvement in theatre and to his research on James Joyce. The fonds includes correspondence and clippings, manuscripts, audio tapes, photographic materials, video cassettes, graphic and cartographic materials.

## Notes

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### Title notes

### Immediate source of acquisition

Donated by Harry Pollock in 1991, 1992, and 1999.

### Restrictions on access

No restrictions on access.

### Finding aids

File lists for each accession available as PDF documents.

### Accruals

The fonds comprises the following accessions: 1991-015, 1991-032, 1992-027, and 1999-035. Further accruals are expected.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Level of detail:** Full
- **Status description:** Final

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## Access points

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- Textual record (documentary form)
- Sound recording (documentary form)
- Graphic material (documentary form)

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## Collection holdings

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### Series: S00909 - Subject files

Title: Subject files

ID: S00909

Date: 1950-1991 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of correspondence and clippings concerning various theatres and theatre companies in Canada and in other countries (Abbey Theatre-Dublin, Royal Shakespeare Company), and with playwrights and authors (Samuel Beckett, Brendan Behan, Anthony Burgess, Ezra Pound). There is also correspondence, official records and some clippings relating to the James Joyce Society of Canada (including accounts, lists and financial material), and with organizers of James Joyce Symposia (York University, Trieste, Dublin, Paris). There is material relating to productions of Pollock's works ('Giacomo de Trieste', 'Night boat from Dublin', 'Ulysses in Nighttown'). There is also some correspondence and related material concerning Temple Sinai (Toronto) and Pollack's travels (Soviet Union, Italy, Japan, Cuba). In addition, there are theatre programs from several theatres in Canada (Hart House Theatre, O'Keefe Centre, Royal Alexandra Theatre, Stratford).

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- 

**Series: S00910 - Manuscripts**

Title: Manuscripts

ID: S00910

Scope and content:

Series consists of handwritten drafts, typescripts, editorial comments and correspondence, photocopies, promotional material and research notes, for several of Pollock's works including 'After the funeral,' 'Gabriel,' 'Yes, I will yes', 'Up from the pedestal' and unpublished works including his Soviet journal.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- 

**Series: S00911 - Audio tapes**

Title: Audio tapes

ID: S00911

Date: 1961-1979 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series contains audio tape reels of interviews Pollock conducted with members of Joyce's family and associates, interviews with members of the Abbey Theatre and with Irish critics and writers, recordings of the proceedings of the James Joyce Symposium at York University (1970), and copies of Canadian Broadcasting Corporation programmes concerning James Joyce ('Tuesday Night', a Joyce Documentary, and others). There are recordings used in Pollock's productions including 'Giacomo de Trieste,' 'Ulysses in Nighttown,' (music, sound effects, etc).

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Sound recording (documentary form)
- 

**Series: S00912 - Slides**

Title: Slides

ID: S00912

Scope and content:

contain slides that were used in Pollock's productions and include stills of street scenes in Ireland, Italy, Paris, that have relevance for Joyce's works. Also included are portraits of personalities of the early twentieth century, intertitles, drawings and prints (the Seven Deadly Sins, religious images, Joycean characters), posters of World War One, and similar material. As well, there are hundreds of slides that were used in Pollock's productions which are primarily identified by the names of the plays, 'Night boat from Dublin,' and 'Giacomo de Trieste'.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
- 

**Series: S00913 - Videos**

Title: Videos

ID: S00913

Date: 1985 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Two videocassettes pertain to a trip to Japan by Pollock and the third pertains to a production, 'Portrait of the artist - is there one who understands me?'

Physical description: 3 videocassettes : Beta

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Moving images (documentary form)
- 

### **Series: S00914 - Photographs**

Title: Photographs

ID: S00914

Scope and content:

Series consists of photographs of actors and scenes from Pollock's productions, 'Yes, I will yes', 'Ulysses in Nighttown,' as well as photographs of Pollock and members of the Joyce family in Trieste, Toronto and Dublin. As well there are newspaper clippings (photographs) that accompany articles on Pollock from Toronto newspapers, and a poster from the Canadian premiere of 'Ulysses in Nighttown'.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Graphic material (documentary form)
  - Textual record (documentary form)
- 

### **Series: S00915 - Posters, paintings, and scrapbooks**

Title: Posters, paintings, and scrapbooks

ID: S00915

Scope and content:

Series contains fifteen watercolours from the play 'Night boat to Dublin,' collectively titled 'Cat and devil' by Jane Golden; posters advertising Joyce symposia at York University, Dublin, Trieste and other sites, and related Joycean celebrations; and posters advertising Pollock's productions. In

addition, there are four scrapbooks of press clippings on the theatre that include notices of Pollock's productions, as well as other material.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
  - Graphic material (documentary form)
- 

**Series: S00916 - Cartographic documents**

Title: Cartographic documents

ID: S00916

Scope and content:

Series contains maps of Dublin from the Ordnance survey as well as maps of Dublin from the General Post Office Directory. As well, there are copies of the 'Dublin almanac and general register of Ireland', (1847), and several copies of 'Thom's official directory,' for the period (1852-1950).

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Cartographic material (documentary form)
- 

**Accession: 1991-015 - 1991-015**

Title: 1991-015

ID: 1991-015

Date: 1950-1990 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The accession consists of 19 boxes of records. 8 series were established: Subject Files: Correspondence & Clippings, Manuscripts, Audio Tapes, Slides, Videos, Photographs and Framed Material, Posters-Paintings-Scrapbooks, Cartographic Materials.

The first two series, Subject Files and Manuscripts were arranged in file folders entitled by Prof. Pollock. The original order was kept and the documents were put into acid neutral file folders and titles were transcribed verbatim. Manuscripts include Pollock's novel Gabriel, plays, poems and the unpublished After the funeral and Soviet journal.



Audio tapes of interviews conducted by Prof. Pollock were not in any particular order. An effort was made to put the related ones together and the titles assigned by Harry J. Pollock were maintained.

There are also audio tapes of music for his plays

Slides consist of those that Prof. Pollock used in the plays *Night Boat from Dublin* and *Giacomo de Trieste*, these were removed from the boxes and slide carousels and placed in archival slide sheaths.

They are listed by play title in the original sequence in which they were shown. Duplicate and additional slides are listed according to subject. Titles given by Harry J. Pollock were kept.

The three videocassettes include one entitled *Portrait of the artist-is there one who understands me?* and two of Japan.

Physical description: 5.8 m of textual records, slides, videocassettes and oversize material.

Note [generalNote]:

Framed material was removed from their frames where they had been stored under glass. On dismantling the frames, and removing the photographs from them, other items were discovered behind the photographs. Previously displayed prints and newspaper clippings had been concealed by more recent photographs.

No further processing was performed due to shortage of time. The staples and duplicates will be removed from the collection at a later date.

Restrictions on access:

No restrictions on access.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
  - Graphic material (documentary form)
  - Moving images (documentary form)
  - Sound recording (documentary form)
- 

### **Accession: 1991-032 - 1991-032**

Title: 1991-032

ID: 1991-032

Date: 1954-1983 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Pollock's interests including, James Joyce and Temple Sinai. Most of the file titles in this series were simply transferred from their original folders. The rest of the material in this series came from one file which had no detectable order. This file was sorted by subject, the subject headings were used as file titles.

Two photographs included in this accession make up series 2. One of the photographs was removed from its frame, it is included with its frame backing.

Physical description: 6 cm of textual records  
2 photographs

Restrictions on access:

No restrictions on access.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
- 

### **Accession: 1992-027 - 1992-027**

Title: 1992-027

ID: 1992-027

Date: 1852-1991 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The series of correspondence and clippings relate to Pollock's many interests, particularly in Temple Sinai, the James Joyce Society, and travel. The manuscripts are of plays that he wrote and directed, including multiple copies annotated for different purposes. Published material consists of 9 volumes of Thom's Directory (1852-1950) and one volume of The Dublin Almanac and General Register of Ireland (1847). The 15 watercolour paintings are by Jane Golden.

Physical description: 1.83 m of textual records and published materials  
6 watercolours

Note [generalNote]:

Duplicates of pamphlets, programs, flyers etc. were discarded. Metal paper clips were replaced with plastic ones but metal staples were not removed. This should also be done at a later date. Series 3 contains a poster for The Coach with the Six Insides. This poster was removed from its frame which in which it had been housed under glass. The frame was discarded.

Restrictions on access:

No restrictions on access.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Textual record (documentary form)
  - Graphic material (documentary form)
- 

**Accession: 1999-035 - 1999-035**

Title: 1999-035

ID: 1999-035

Date: 1975-1997 (date of creation)

Physical description: ca. 0.5 m of textual records

Publication status:

Published

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