

# Guide to the James C. Hatch Papers

MS 2127



compiled by Michelle Peralta

July 2022

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 2127

**CREATOR:** Hatch, James C., 1967-

**TITLE:** James C. Hatch papers

**DATES:** 2005-2021

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** .02 linear feet (1 box and 5,686,685 bytes)

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** The collection primarily comprises writings that James C. Hatch posted to his personal online writing platform (Substack) in 2021. These writings include reflections on being a non-traditional Yale student, poetry, and insights on military service and life as a veteran. Also included are copies of notices for Hatch's military awards, certification of release from active military duty, and a certificate of completion from the Royal Dutch Police Dog Association (Koninklijke Nederlandse Politiehond Vereniging)'s training program for Spike, Hatch's first military dog.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.2127>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.2127>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of James C. Hatch, 2022.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Computer files are closed until processed. Original computer files may not be accessed due to their fragility. Researchers must consult access copies.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright is retained by James C. Hatch for materials he has authored or otherwise produced. After the lifetime of James C. Hatch or until January 1, 2075, whichever comes first, copyright passes to Yale University. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

James C. Hatch Papers (MS 2127). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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### Processing Information

Manuscripts and Archives staff arranged and described these materials according to national and local standards. Some of the materials in this collection have been redacted to protect personal identifiable information in accordance with federal regulations and Yale University policies. This born digital materials were imaged or captured by Manuscripts and Archives staff in 2022 for preservation and access. Additional information about actions taken may be available at the repository.

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## Biographical / Historical

James "Jimmy" Hatch was born on May 30, 1967. In 1985, he enlisted in the military and spent nearly 26 years in the United States Navy. He underwent U.S. Naval Sea, Air, and Land (SEAL) training twice, succeeding in his second attempt, and proceeded to serve the next 22 years as a member of the Naval Special Warfare Command. Over the course of his military career, Hatch was deployed in several missions to Iraq, Bosnia, Africa, and Afghanistan, and was a master parachutist and military dog trainer and handler. In 2009, Hatch was critically wounded in combat when a bullet shattered his femur, effectively ending his military career. He was discharged from active duty in 2011.

Hatch found it difficult adjusting to civilian life, struggling with alcoholism, depression, and mental illness. He sought help for his PTSD and began the process of healing. He founded Spike's K9 Fund, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping military dogs with support and protection. Additionally, Hatch speaks publicly about his experiences in the military and with mental health, and has published a memoir titled *Touching the Dragon: And Other Techniques for Surviving Life's Wars*.

In 2019, Hatch was admitted to Yale College Class of 2023 under the Eli Whitney Students Program.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection primarily comprises writings that James C. Hatch posted to his personal online writing platform (Substack) in 2021. These writings include reflections on being a non-traditional Yale student, poetry, and insights on military service and life as a veteran. Also included are copies of notices for Hatch's military awards, certification of release from active military duty, and a certificate of completion from the Royal Dutch Police Dog Association (Koninklijke Nederlandse Politiehond Vereniging)'s training program for Spike, Hatch's first military dog.

Dates for the born-digital materials in the collection were determined by the publication/post date on the Substack platform.

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## Arrangement

The material in the collection is arranged chronologically.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	Biographical materials	2005-2011
	My Semester with the Snowflakes	
b. 1, f. 1	2019 December 22	2019 December 22
	2021 October 13 <i>1 Computer File (939,641 bytes)</i> As a preservation measure, original materials may not be used. Digital access copies must be provided for use. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access.	2021 October 13
	"Blood will have Blood" - Macbeth <i>1 Computer File (84,664 bytes)</i> As a preservation measure, original materials may not be used. Digital access copies must be provided for use. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access.	2021 April 27
	With a smile <i>1 Computer File (59,806 bytes)</i> As a preservation measure, original materials may not be used. Digital access copies must be provided for use. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access.	2021 May 31
	Obligation <i>1 Computer File (273,933 bytes)</i> As a preservation measure, original materials may not be used. Digital access copies must be provided for use. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access.	2021 June 4
	Obligation <i>1 Computer File (4,328,641 bytes)</i> As a preservation measure, original materials may not be used. Digital access copies must be provided for use. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access.	2021 September 8

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Genres / Formats**

Born digital  
Computer files

### **Subjects**

Veterans -- United States  
Yale University -- Students

### **Names**

Hatch, James C., 1967-