

## ***Family Keepsakes***

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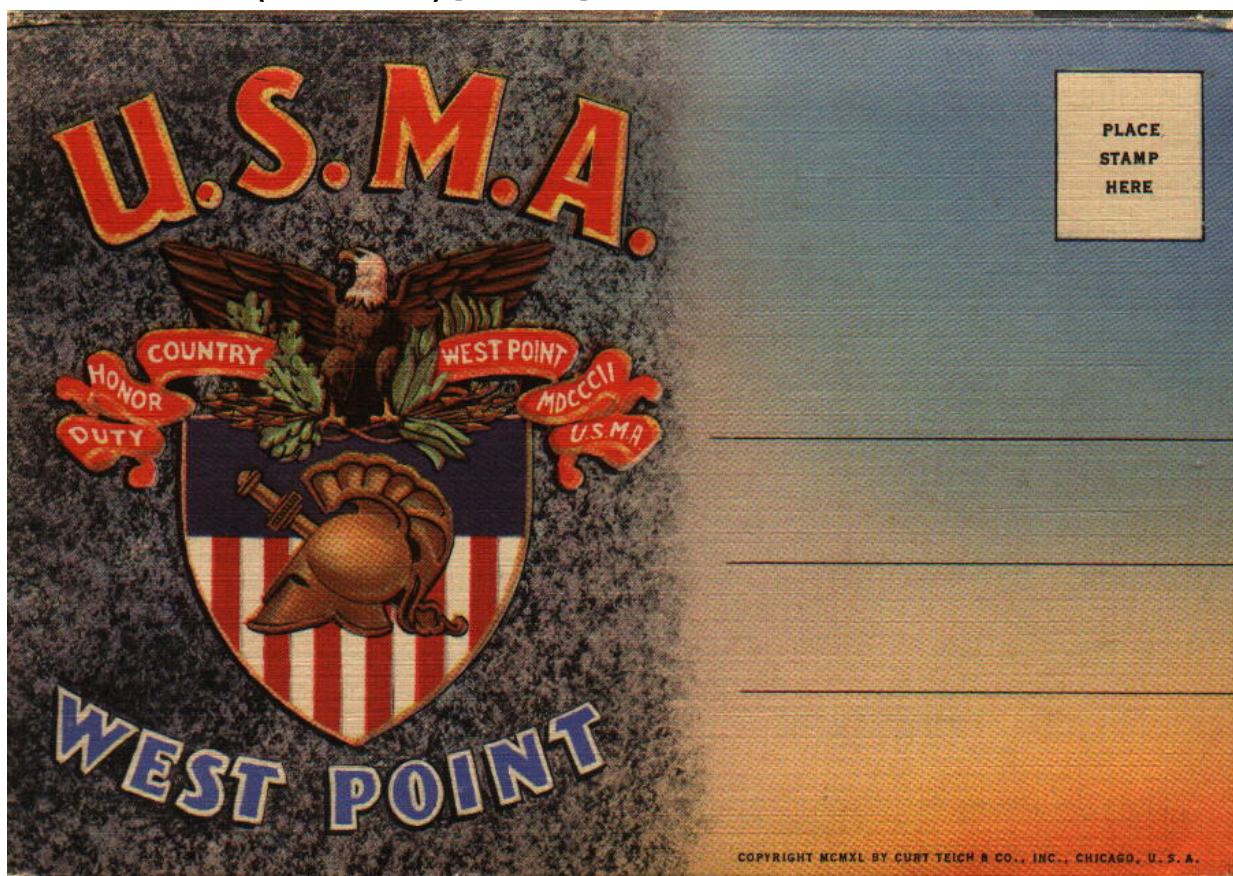
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Family Keepsakes

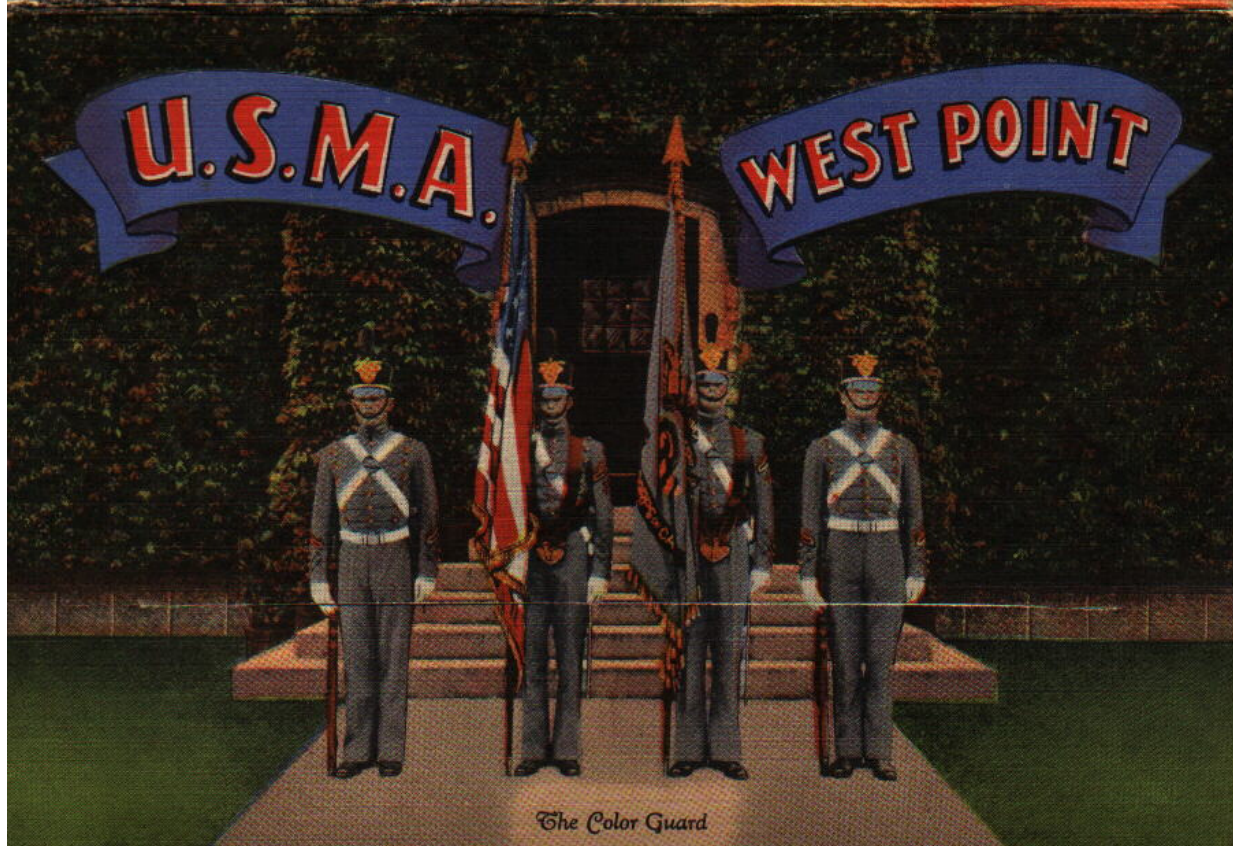
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[Sorted by Record #]

West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-1]



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## West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-2]

## *U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N. Y.*

Although the United States Military Academy was not created until an Act of Congress on March 16, 1802, West Point, because of its strategic military position at the narrowest bend of the Hudson River, was in use as a fortification even before the Revolutionary War. West Point is, in fact, the oldest continuously garrisoned Army post in the country. It was from West Point to Constitution Island, a quarter of a mile across the Hudson, that the great chain was strung during the War of Independence to prevent British men-of-war from proceeding further up the river. It was here too that Benedict Arnold attempted the most notorious act of treason in United States history. Arnold, for a goodly sum of money and a high-ranking officership in the British forces, had made arrangements while in command at West Point to deliver the Post to the British. The plot was foiled, however, and West Point continued to serve to good advantage the military purposes of the Colonies.

George Washington, as commander-in-chief of the American forces, paid many official visits to West Point during the course of the war. It was he who envisioned the gripping need for a national military academy, and it was he who suggested, almost insisted, that such an academy be located at West Point. General Washington never lived to see his dream come true, but other statesmen of the period took up the crusade, which ended a quarter of a century later in Congressional approval of the establishment of the United States Military Academy.

The first days of West Point, the Military Academy and not the place, were trying ones, and there were several occasions when it seemed as if the new academy might lose its fight for survival. The necessary discipline among students was lacking. No physical or mental examinations were required of entering Cadets. Facilities and equipment were inadequate. The Military Academy went along in this fashion until 1817, when Sylvanus Thayer, one of the earliest graduates of West Point, assumed the Superintendency. He instituted many of the reforms still in effect at West Point, notably small classroom sections so that each Cadet might receive the maximum amount of individual attention, and the system that requires each Cadet to recite each day on each subject. Sylvanus Thayer is truly "The Father of the Military Academy."

In the near century and a half of its existence, the United States Military Academy has compiled an enviable record in peace, as well as war. Not only great military leaders alone have gone forth from West Point, but also statesmen, engineers, railroad builders, explorers, aviation pioneers and business executives.

While several of the Military Academy's earliest graduates distinguished themselves and West Point in the War of 1812, the part that the Military Academy was to play in a United States at war was not first felt conclusively until the Mexican Campaign of 1848. General Winfield Scott has given it as his opinion that but for the West Pointers engaged in the conflict, the war between the United

States and Mexico might have lasted "some four or five years . . . whereas, in less than two campaigns, we conquered a great country without the loss of a single battle or skirmish."

One of the proudest boasts of the Military Academy is that it has never failed to have leaders ready when an emergency presented itself. The opposing generals of the Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee, were both West Pointers. John J. Pershing, commander of the A. E. F. in World War I, was also a graduate. To World War II, West Point gave Douglas MacArthur, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Mark W. Clark, George S. Patton, Jonathan M. Wainwright, Thomas J. H. Trapnell, Colin P. Kelly and Alexander Nininger, to mention but a few.

The course of study at West Point is an exacting and rigorous one. The Cadet's day begins before 6 a. m., and is not over until taps at 10 p. m. There are no elective studies in the West Point curriculum, which has served as the model for scores of other institutions of higher learning. In the classroom, Cadets study, among other subjects, English, foreign languages, mathematics and history. In the laboratory, Diesel engines and turbines and mechanical parts of all descriptions are explored and explained.

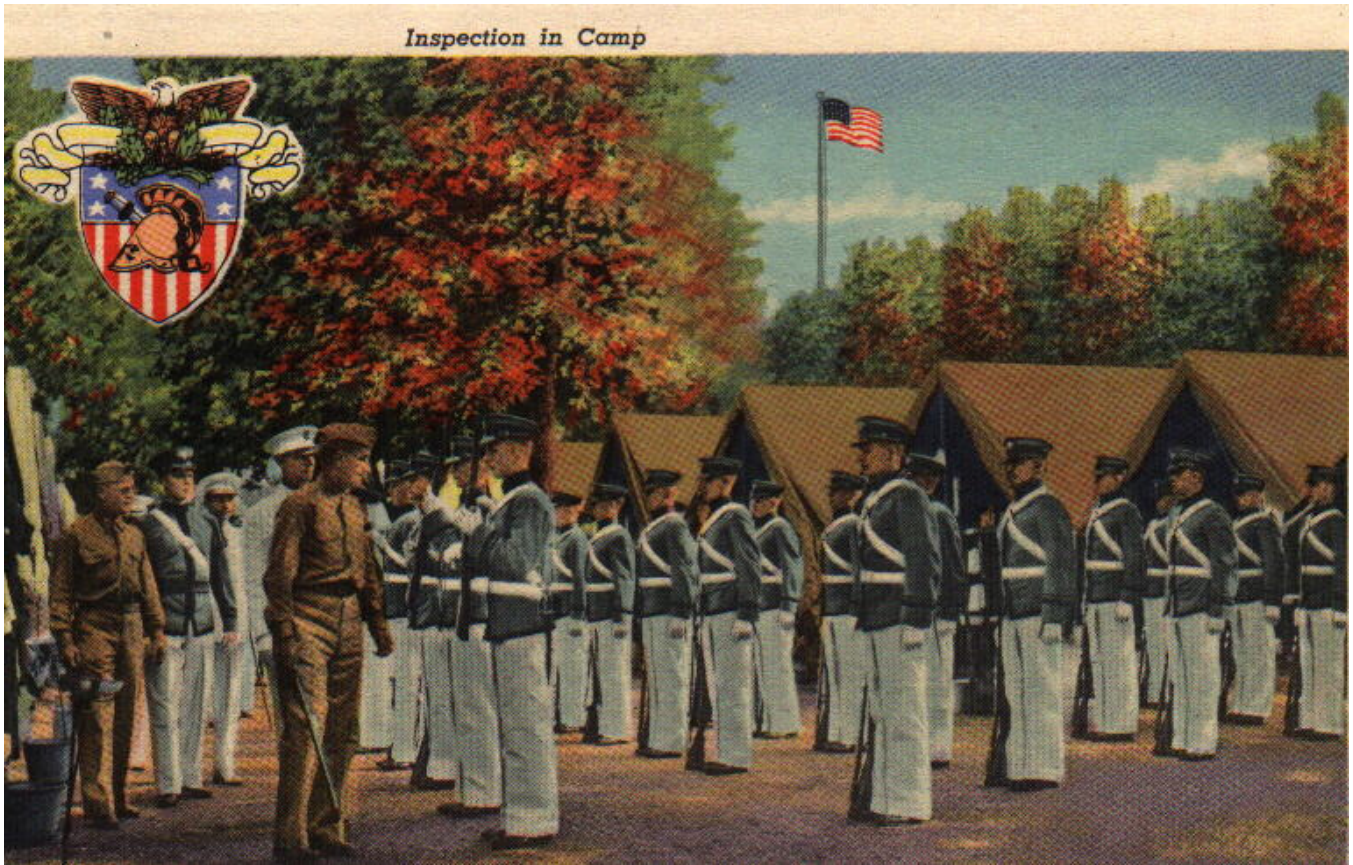
The tactical course at West Point is designed to furnish each Cadet a working knowledge of all branches of the Army and a particular knowledge of his own chosen branch of service. The new Plebe, during his first Summer at West Point, undergoes the same training that a selectee receives at an Infantry Replacement Training Center. Throughout the rest of his career at West Point he is given complete instruction in all machines and techniques of war. He maneuvers tanks, he fires the latest type hand and field weapons, he executes practice Commando and Ranger raids, he lives the life of a paratrooper, and he pilots Army fighter and bomber planes.

The Air Corps training at West Point is the newest addition to the tactical curriculum. Beginning with the class that graduated in January, 1943, each class of Cadets sends a large proportion of its membership—usually more than half—into the Air Corps complete with "wings," earned while still Cadets at the Military Academy. Previous to the introduction of Air Corps training at West Point, Cadets spent from nine months to a year at flying schools after graduation to become pilots. For the most part, Cadets receive their Air Corps training at Stewart Field, "The Wings of West Point."

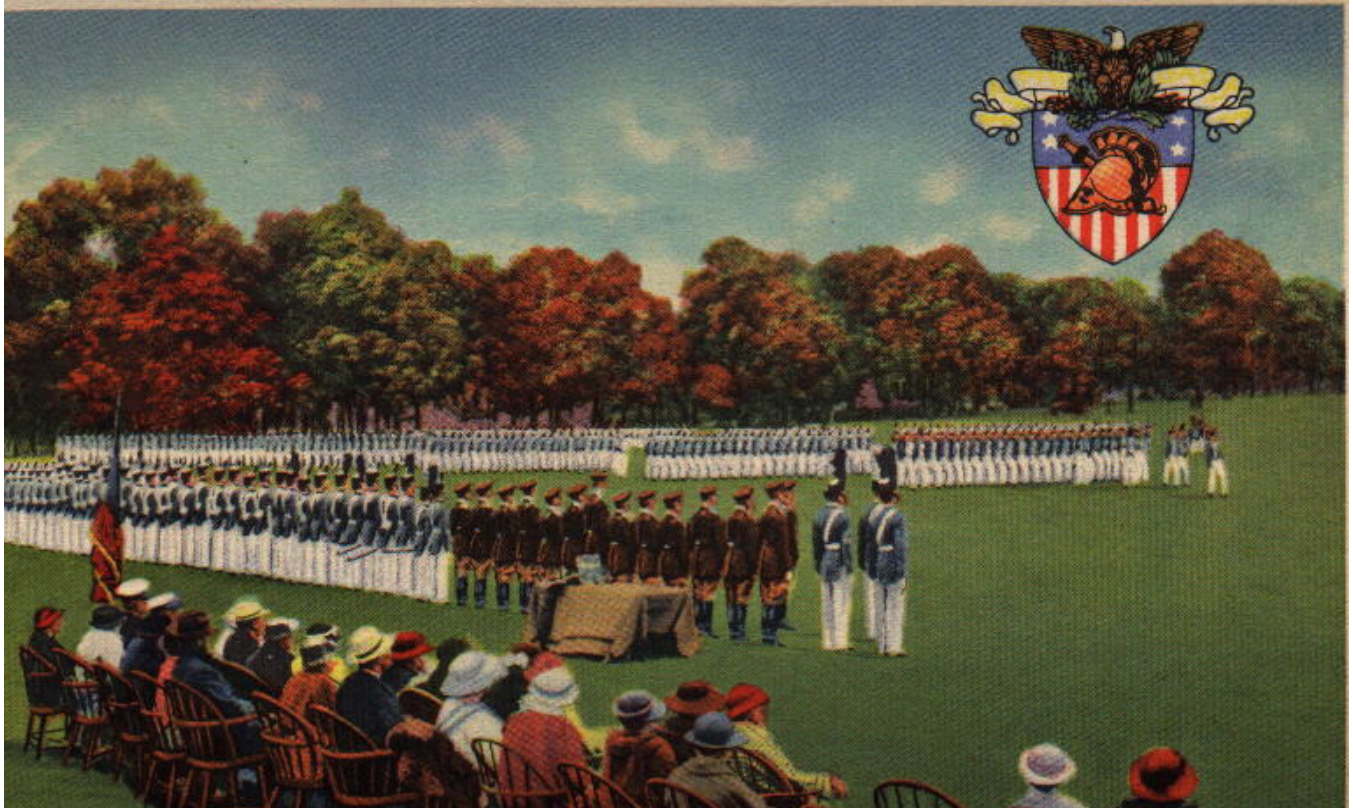
Perhaps the most democratic of all institutions of higher learning, West Point receives into Cadetship all qualified young men, regardless of creed or race, regardless of family circumstances and wealth, regardless of previous scholastic and athletic records. No Cadet is above the other at West Point.

That democratic status, plus the fact that its mission is to produce a high type of qualified young officer to carry on the ideals of West Point and the Army into his command, has remained constant, despite changing methods and improvements in war machines. This is the reason that the United States Military Academy ranks as the leading institution of its kind in the world.

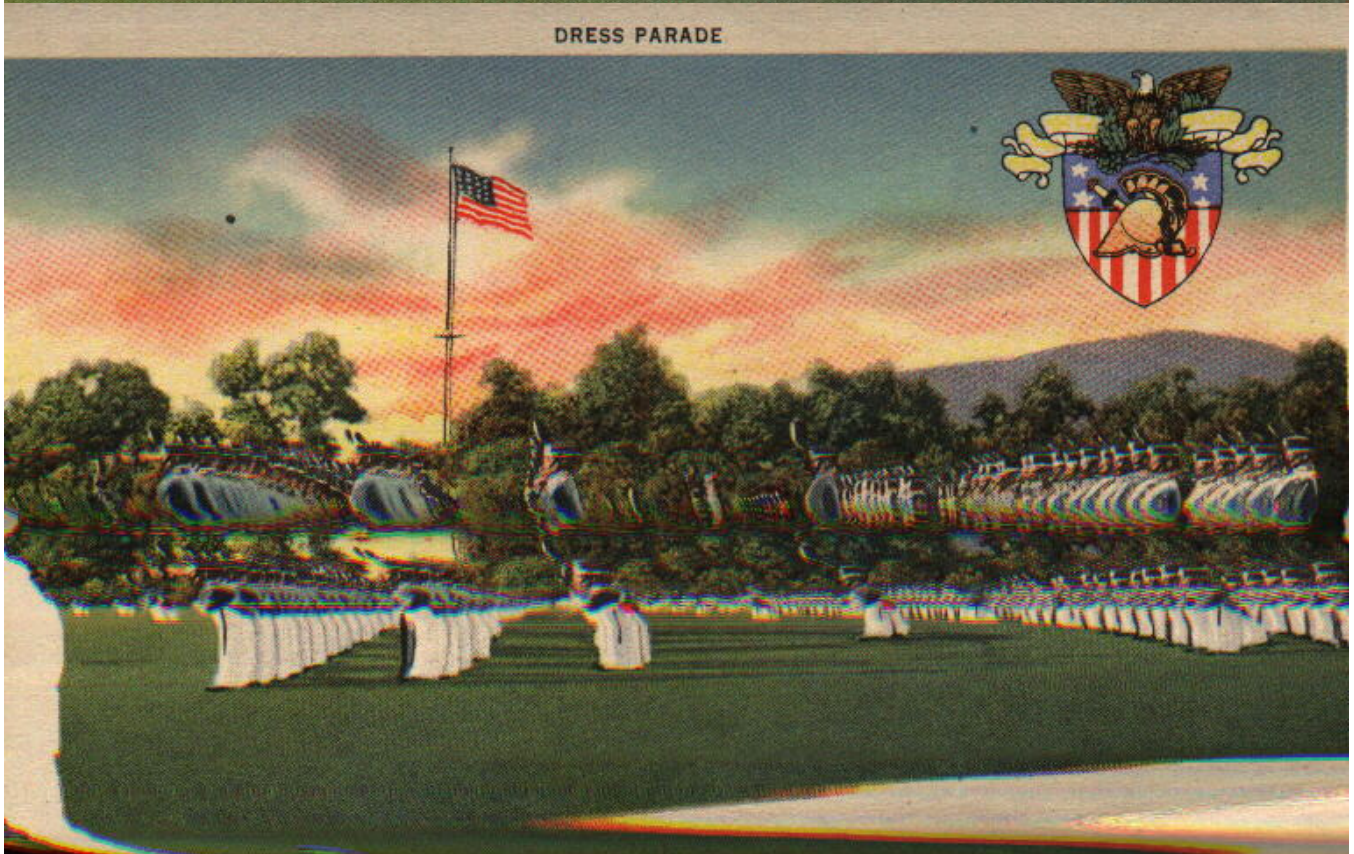
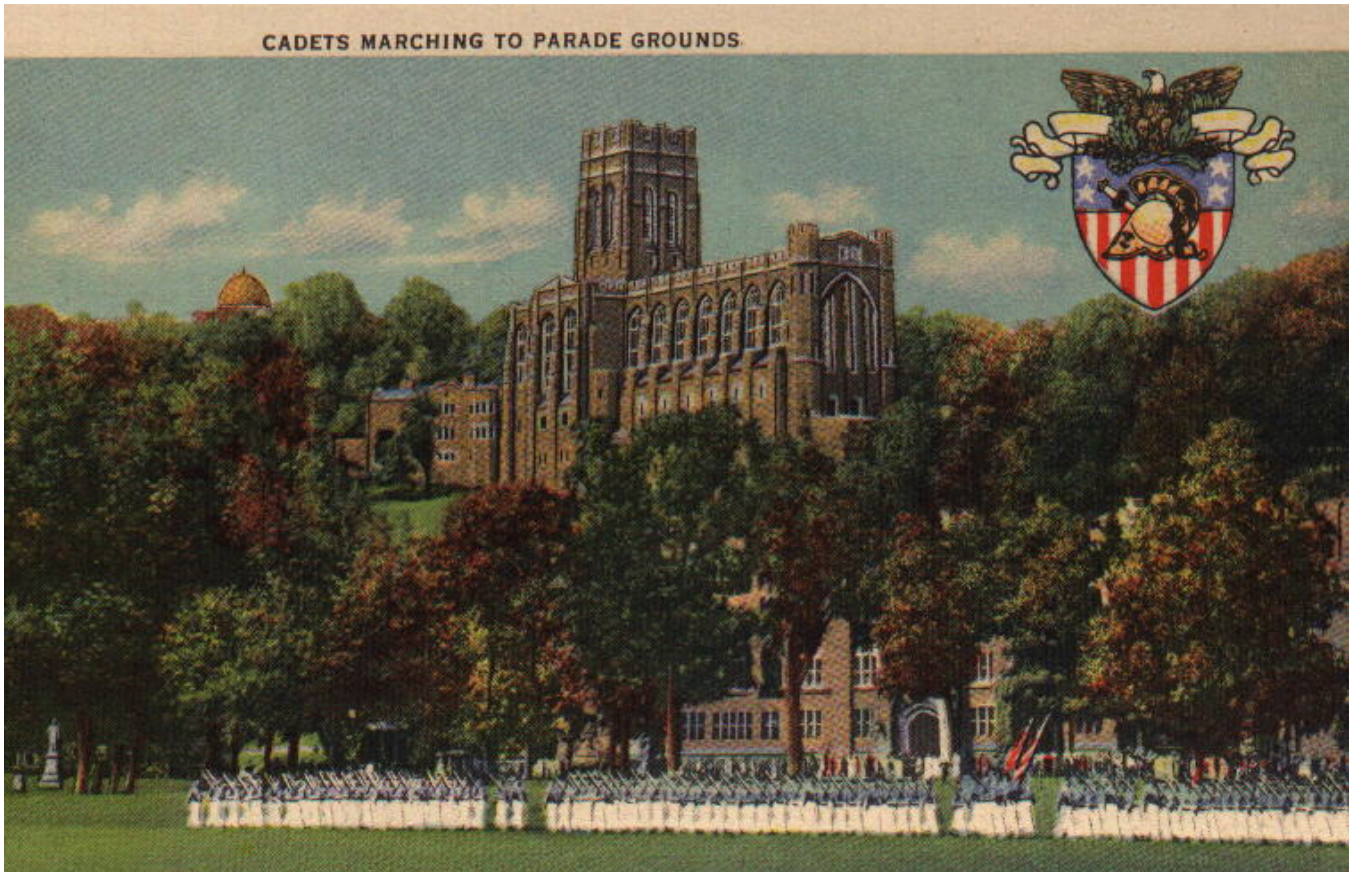
West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-3,-4]



VISITORS REVIEWING DRESS PARADE.

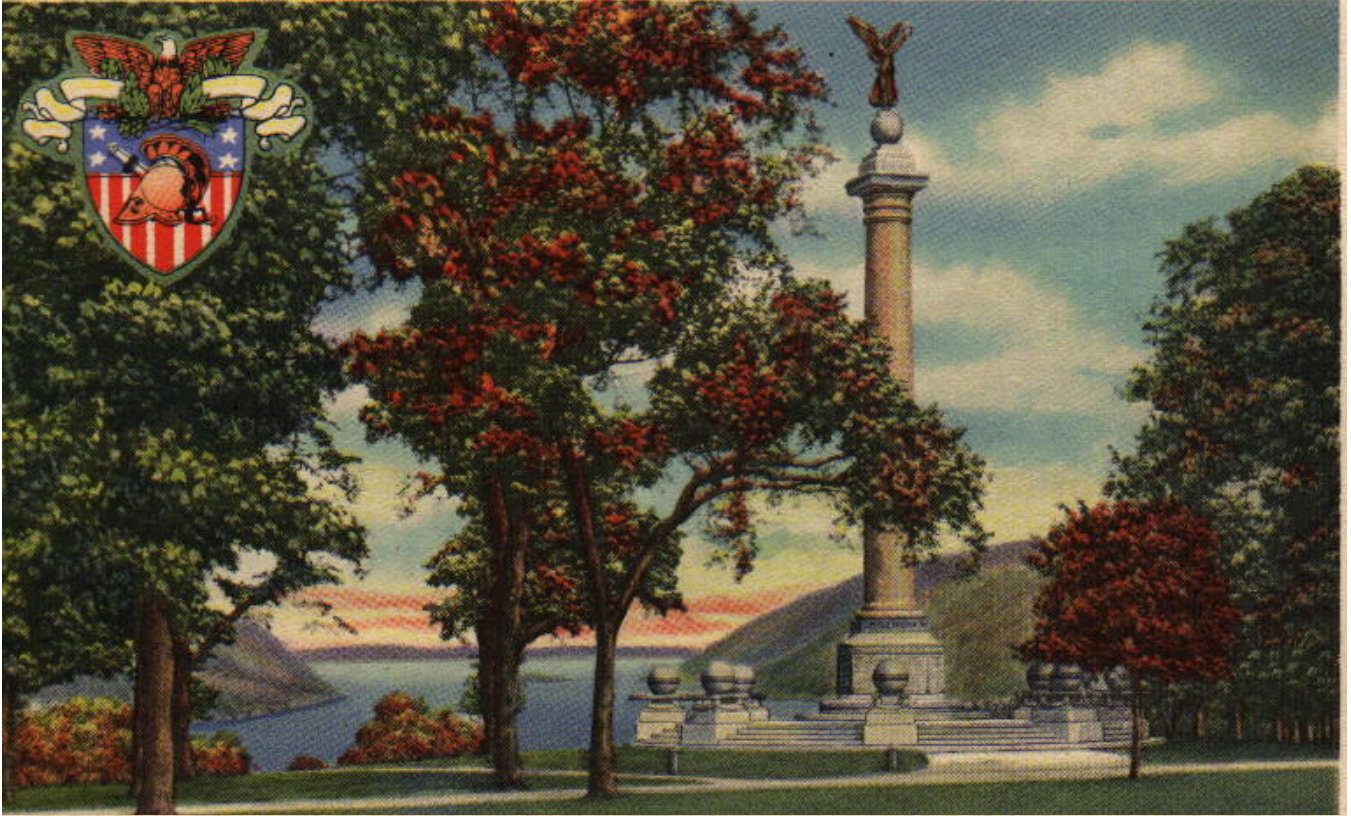


West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-5,-6]

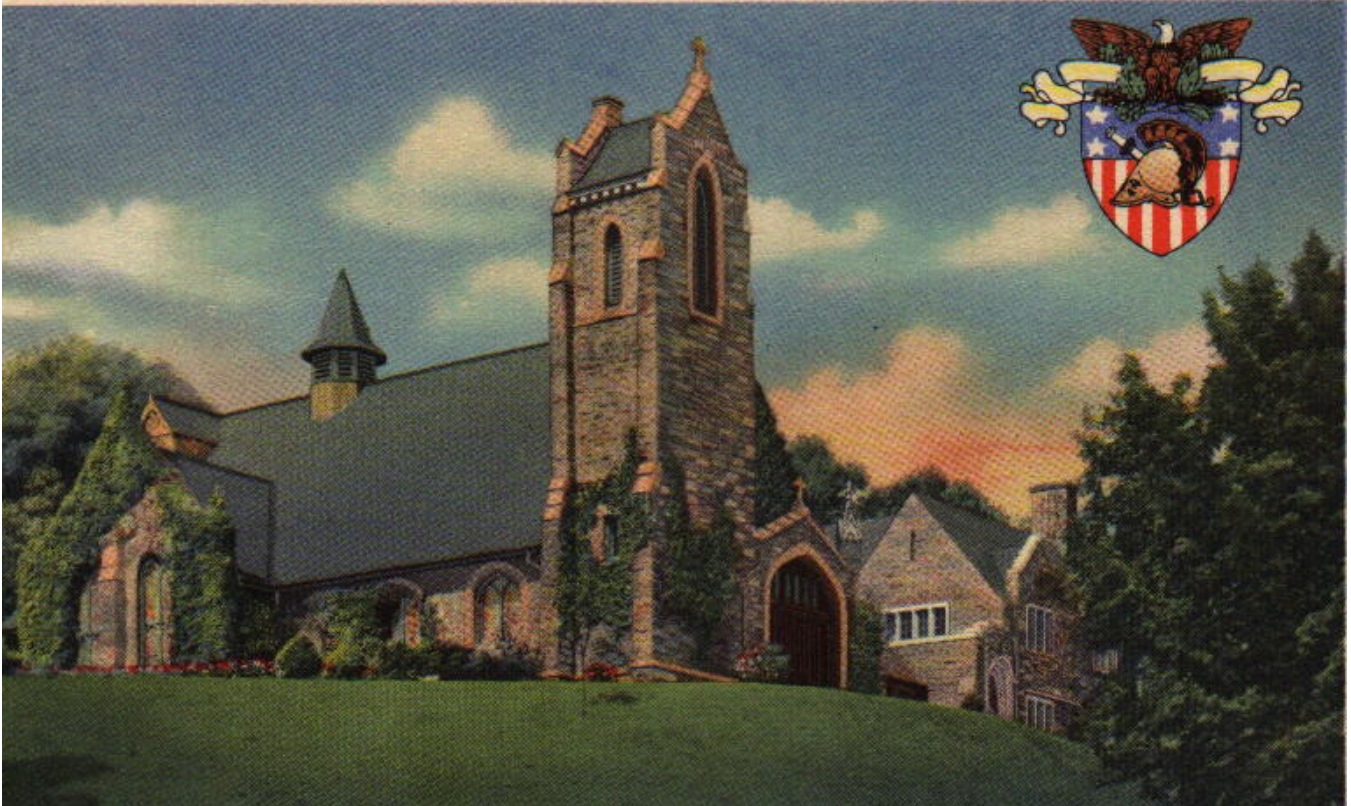


West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-7,-8]

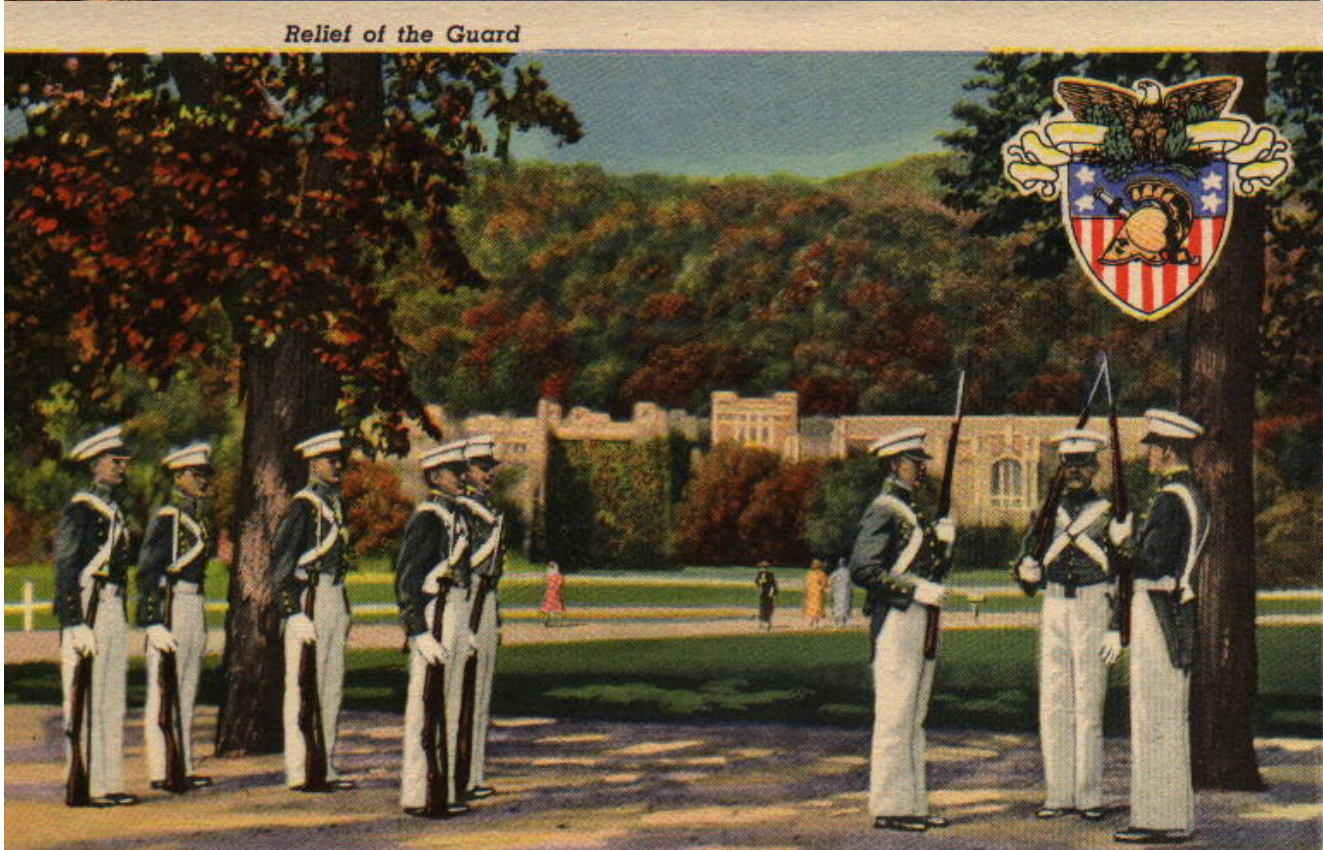
*Battle Monument*



*Catholic Chapel*



West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-9,-10]



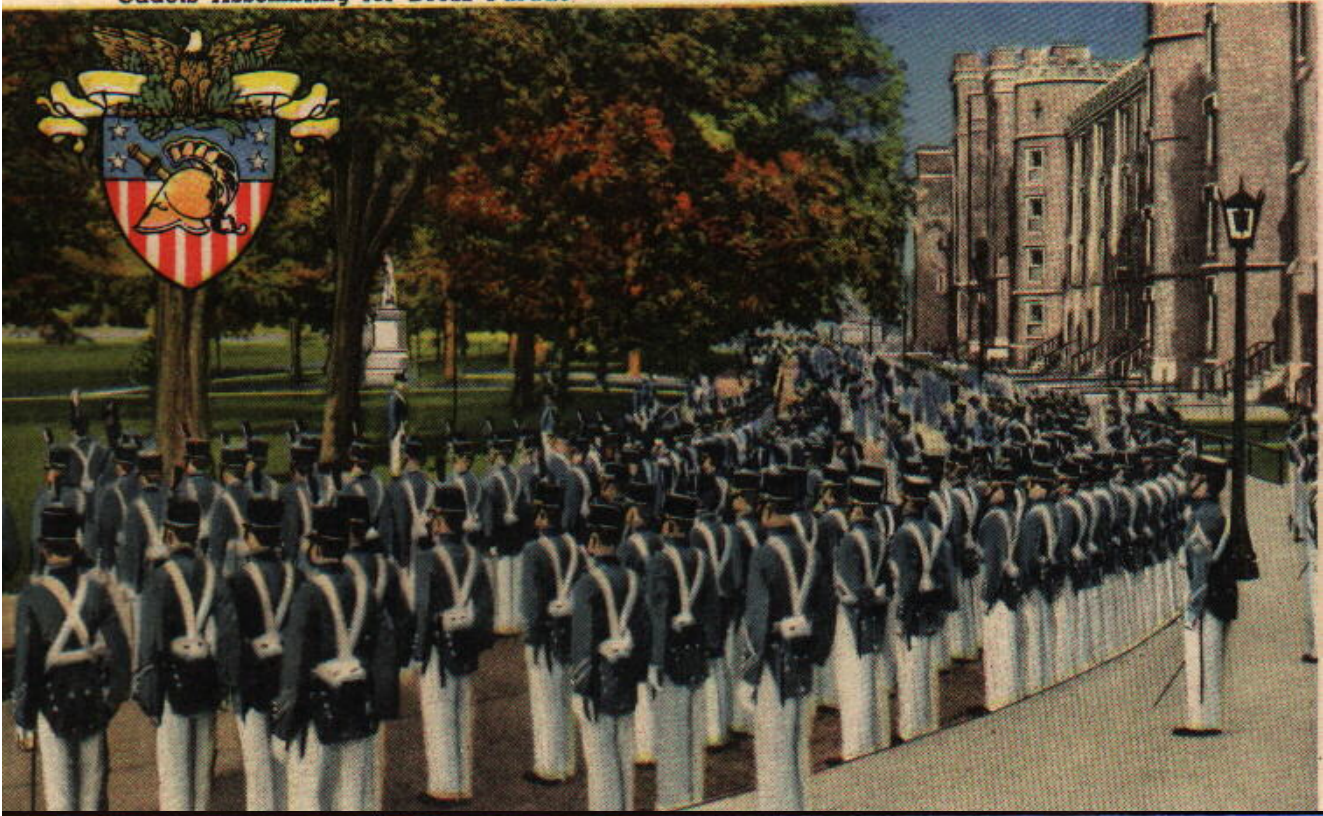


West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-11,-12]



West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-13,-14]

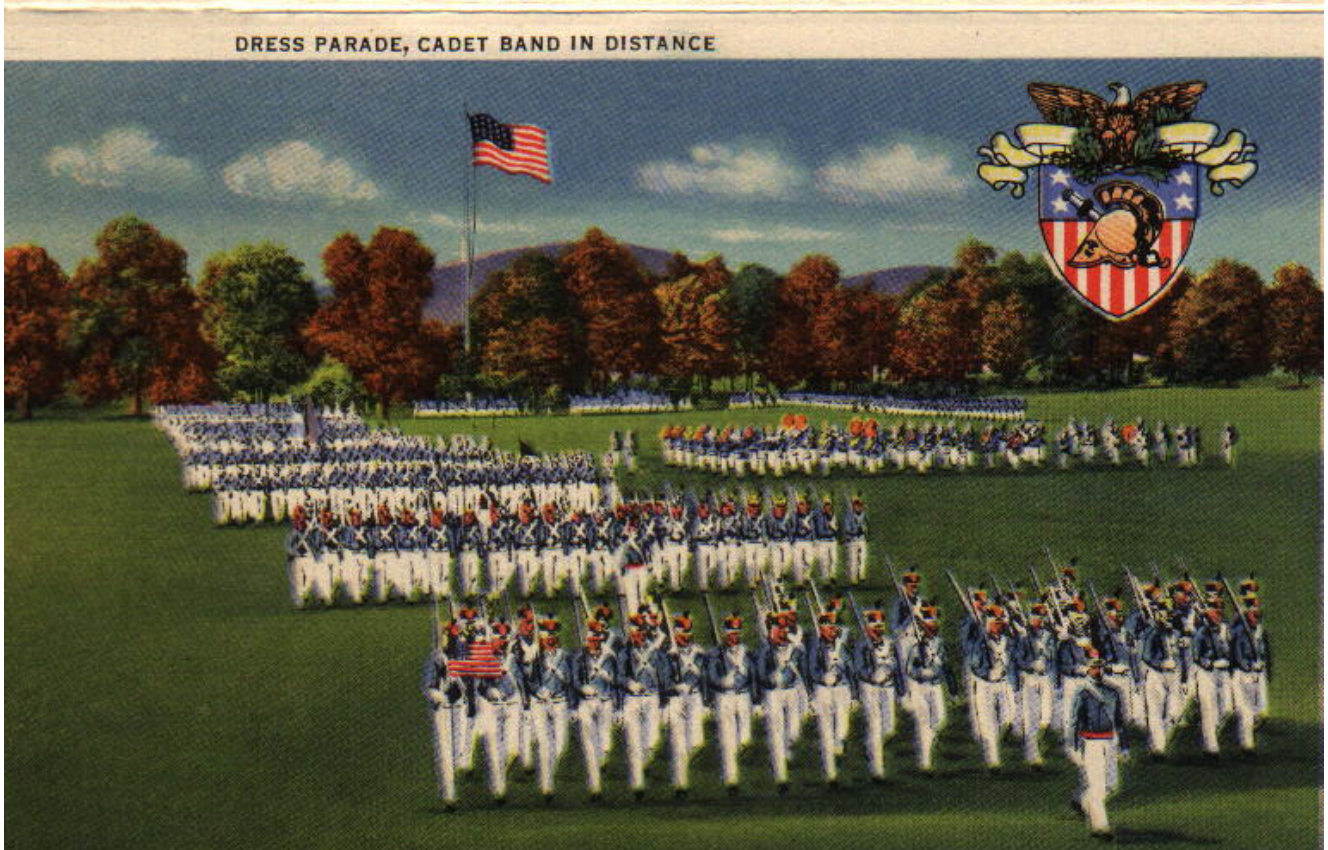
*Cadets Assembling for Dress Parade*



U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY, ON THE HUDSON RIVER



West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-15,-16]



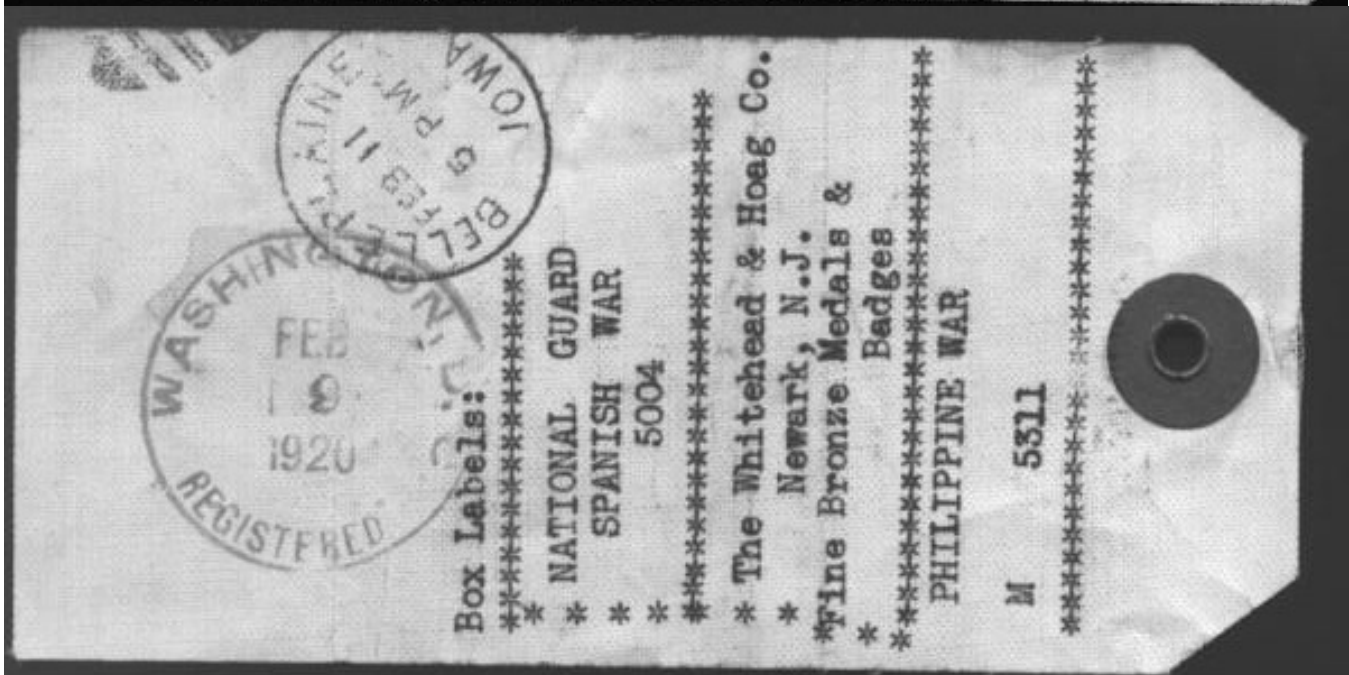
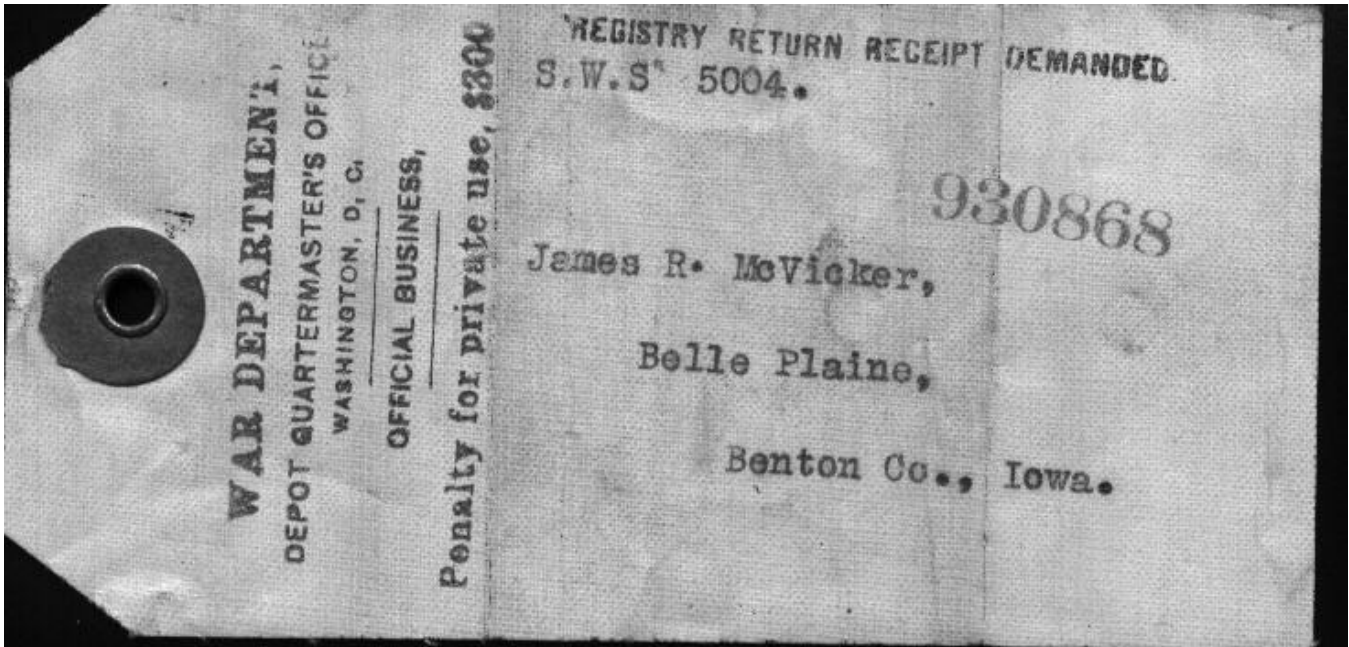
West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-17,-18]



West Point NY (Postcards) [A00629-19,-20]



War Dept Tag – Ribbons [A00630]



**Cadet uniform buttons [A00631]**



Pin - Outagamie County Council of Defense, Committeeman [A00632]





Pin - ?? [A00633]



Pin – Iowa [A00634]



**Pin – Moose [A00635]**



Pin – ?? [A00636]



**Pin - U.S. Veteran of Foreign Wars [A00637]**



**Pin – US [A00638]**



**Pin - United States Veterans of Foreign Wars [A00639]**



Pin – ?? [A00640]





**Pin - 1917-Four Minutemen-1918, Committee On Public Information [A00641]**



Pin - Colonel W.S.S. [A00642]



**Pin - Spanish War Veteran [A00643]**



**Pin - 4 Minute Men [A00644]**



Ribbon - ? [A00645]



Ribbon - ? [A00646]



Ribbon - ? (1802-1935) [A00647]



Ribbon - ? (1802-1930) [A00648]





**Ribbon - For Service in the Spanish War [A00649]**



**Ribbon - For Service in the Spanish War [A00650]**



**Ribbon - Philippine Insurrection [A00651]**



Ribbon - Republica de Cuba [A00652]



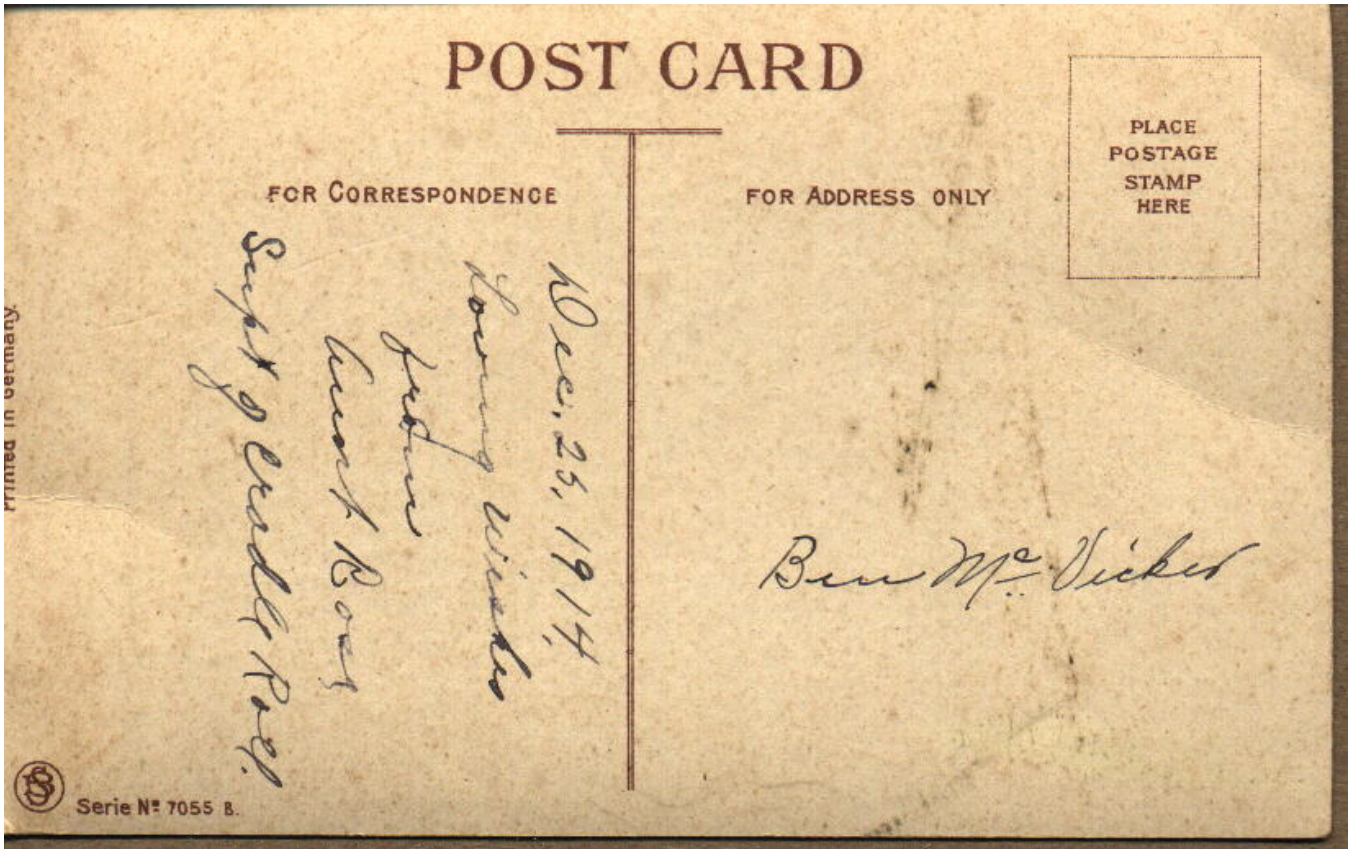
Ribbon - Spanish War Veteran (A5151) [A00653]



**West Point Cadet arm band [A00654]**



Post card to Ben from Aunt Rosa [A00658-1]



Post card to Ben from Aunt Rosa [A00658-2]





**Postcard - Mattaponi Indian Reservation [A00699]**

"Tribute paid to Gov. Thos. B. Stanley November 23, 1955, by Chief Custalow with his son, Little Chief Blue Wing, also son of Princess White Feather Newton Custalow, a direct descendant of Japazaw and Sir Isaac Newton"



**MATTAPONI INDIAN RESERVATION  
CHIEF O. T. CUSTALOW**

P. O. WEST POINT, VA. (R. F. D. No. 1)

Such a Thanksgiving tribute is paid annually to Virginia's Governor by the Mattaponi Indians in keeping with an old treaty made with the King of England in 1646 when the new government in Virginia was founded.

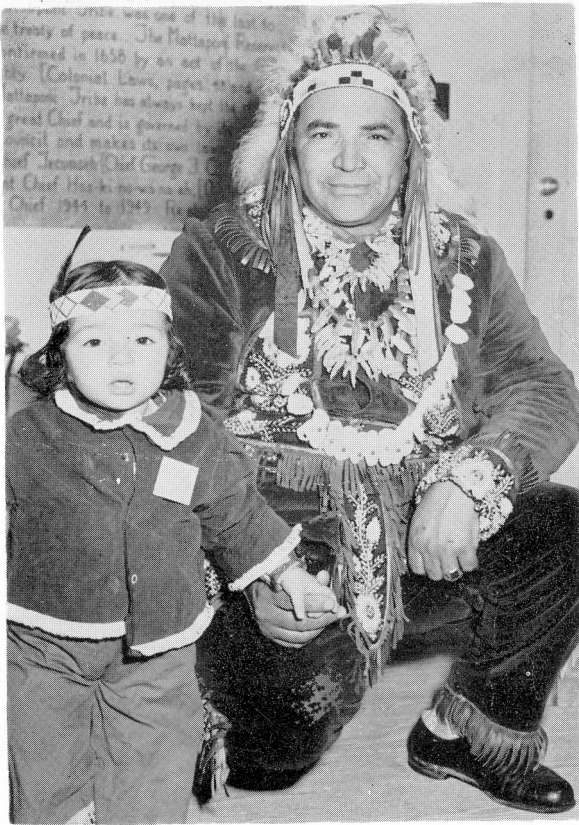
8-56

Southern Post Card Co., Richmond 14, Va.

**POSTCARD**



**Postcard - Mattaponi Indian Reservation [A00700-1]**



"Father and Son—5 Generations of Powhatans"

**Postcard - Mattaponi Indian Reservation [A00700-2]**

Father and son, the fifth generation of the family of the Great Nation of the Algonquin of the Powhatan family.

Little Chief Blue Wing, an old family name, goes back of Powhatan's son, Baby Blue Wing, a descendant of Chief Jabbazaw, who was chief of the Potomac Tribe and ruled during the 16th century, and was also a descendant of Sir Isaac Newton. His father was a direct descendant of King Powhatan known to the tribe as the Great Wah-Hon-Oon-Cock, who was a great friend to the white settlers, making it possible for Virginia to have the honor of the first permanent settlement in America here at Jamestown in the heart of the Great Kingdom of the Powhatans.

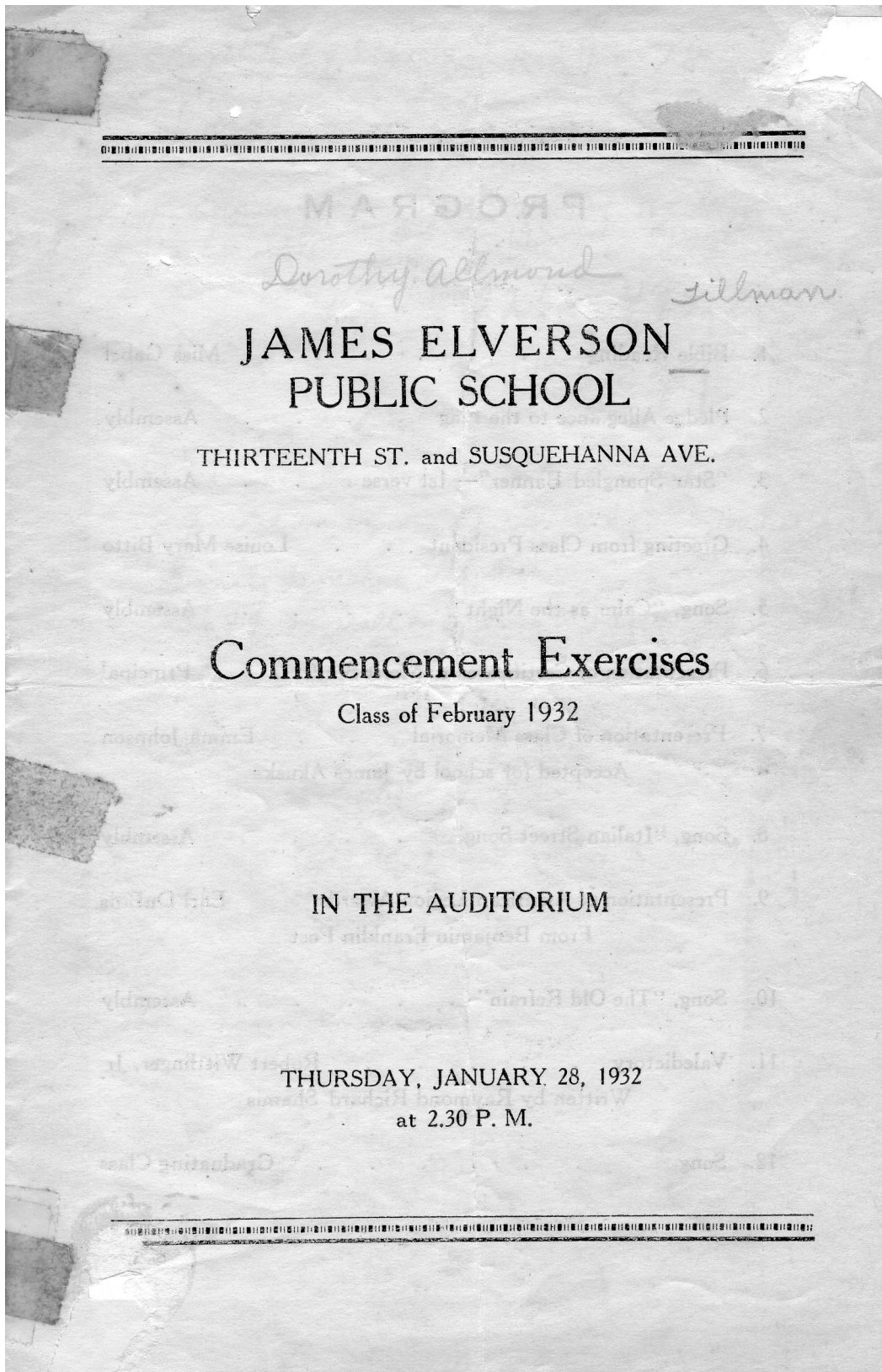
See Indian Museum—Stone Age  
Mattaponi Indian Reservation, King William Co.  
West Point, R.F.D. No. 1, Virginia  
Welcome—Chief O. T. Custalow

Southern Post Card Co., Richmond 14, Va. 5-61

**POSTCARD**

*Etch*  
**STONE**

**James Elverson Public School - Commencement Exercises [A00703-1]**



**James Elverson Public School - Commencement Exercises [A00703-2]**

**PROGRAM**

1. Bible Reading . . . . . Miss Gabel
2. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag . . . . . Assembly
3. "Star Spangled Banner"— 1st verse . . . . . Assembly
4. Greeting from Class President . . . . . Louise Mary Bitto
5. Song, "Calm as the Night" . . . . . Assembly
6. Presentation of Certificates to Merit Students . . . . . Principal
7. Presentation of Class Memorial . . . . . Emma Johnson  
Accepted for school by James Akuska
8. Song, "Italian Street Song" . . . . . Assembly
9. Presentation of American Legion Awards . . . . . Earl DuBois  
From Benjamin Franklin Post
10. Song, "The Old Refrain" . . . . . Assembly
11. Valedictory . . . . . Robert Wittlinger, Jr.  
Written by Raymond Richard Shamis
12. Song, . . . . . Graduating Class

James Elverson Public School - Commencement Exercises [A00703-3]

PROGRAM

- 13. Presentation of Diplomas . . . . . Principal
- 14. Advancement of 8A Class to 8B
- 15. Song, "Auld Lang Syne" . . . . . Assembly

*Loll*  
*Opening of School*  
*at 8:00 AM*

\*\*\*\*\*

After the exercises the Graduating Class will pass to the  
Gymnasium where they will receive friends and relatives

\*\*\*\*\*

MERIT PUPILS

- Frederick Odell Carlton      Robert Wittlinger
- Russell H. Smith              Louise Mary Bitto
- Elva Flannigan

\*\*\*\*\*

American Legion Award Winners

- Louise Mary Bitto              Robert Henry

James Elverson Public School - Commencement Exercises [A00703-4]

CLASS OFFICERS

Louise Mary Bitto, President

Adriano Acea, Jr., Secretary

Dale Heverling, Treasurer

\*\*\*\*

MEMBERS OF GRADUATING CLASS

Adriano Acea, Jr. c	Lillian Deitch
Alfred C. Brown c	Carrie B. Dillard c
Robert E. Brown c	Emily Donahue
Frederick Odell Carlton c	Jessie Mae Fields c
Ernest Douglass Chapman	Elva M. Flannagan
Robert Earle Divver	Alice Leoni Fuller c
Gerald F. Gentel J	Elizabeth Fuller c
Robert M. Henry	Eloise Grove c
Dale M. Heverling	Elizabeth R. Hofer
Leonard J. Krimm	Emma B. Johnson c
Stanley Macelis	Thelma Katz J
Samuel D. Martin c	Dorothy M. Kussa
Francis McCauley	Miriam Levin J
John Nicholls	Emma Evelyn Lloyd c
William John Porter	Hilda Clerene Martindale c
Woodrow W. Rice c	Helen R. McKeever
Raymond Richard Shamis	Valerie Mestres
Russell H. Smith	Gertrude Moskowitz
Paul Morris Spatz	Leona K. Pickford
John N. Williams	Emilia K. Pizzi
Robert J. Wittlinger, Jr.	Freda Leona Singer
Dorothy Allmond	Elizabeth Smith c
Louisa P. Battle c	Louise Smith c
Louise Mary Bitto	Elizabeth White c
Ida Louisa Camper c	Gladys Williams

25

25

total 50

19-c

**Compiled by James B. McVicker**

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mcvicker/>