

DEERFIELD ACADEMY
ARCHIVES



DEERFIELD ACADEMY

**Charles E. Merrill Papers, 1926 - 1973:
Finding Aid**

Summary Information

Location: Deerfield Academy Archives, Deerfield, MA.

Creator: Merrill, Charles E., 1885-1956

Title: Papers of Charles E. Merrill, 1926-1973

ID No.: MSS003

Quantity: 3 boxes, 1.5 linear ft.

Abstract: The Papers of Charles E. Merrill consist of correspondence, manuscripts, legal documents & newspaper articles. They document Charles Merrill's financial support of the Deerfield Academy through the establishment of the Charles E. Merrill Scholarship Fund and the Charles E. Merrill Trust, as well as his friendship with Frank L. Boyden.

Administrative Information

Processing Information: Processed by Jeffrey Monseau, 2006.

Acquisition: The Charles E. Merrill Papers were transferred to the Academy Archives in various stages over the years from the administration of the Deerfield Academy.

Access: Access to these papers is governed by the rules and regulations of the Deerfield Academy Archives. The collection is open to research without restrictions.

Preferred citation: [Identification of item], [Box #, folder #], in Charles E. Merrill Papers, 1926-1973, Deerfield Academy Archives, Deerfield, MA.

Use Restrictions: Deerfield Academy holds copyright on some, but not all, of the material in our collections. Researchers are responsible for identifying and contacting the persons or organizations who hold copyright. Deerfield Academy cannot provide permission to publish or distribute materials when it is not the copyright holder.

Scope and Content

The Charles E. Merrill Papers consist of correspondence, newspaper articles, pamphlets, and legal documents. The correspondence between Frank L. Boyden and Charles E. Merrill document a thirty-year relationship of friendship and financial support of Deerfield Academy. Contains legal and lobbying correspondence created in the establishment of the Merrill Trust and the passage of HR 8268 to amend section 512 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 called “Unrelated Business Taxable Income of Certain Testamentary Charitable Trusts”. Bill was passed and signed into law as Public Law 85-367 on April 7, 1958.

All documents were originally arranged chronologically in two boxes marked “Special Collection/Charles E. Merrill”. No discernable division of materials was evident. Some processing did occur after transfer from administration. Documents have hand written reference notes that do not list Charles E. Merrill as file name, and may represent original order of documents. Files might have been gathered and arranged in 1973 for the publication of the Summer 1973 issue of *Deerfield*, the Deerfield Academy alumni magazine. A cross-reference sheet listing related files and a copy of the magazine were placed in the front of the collection.

Series Description

The papers are arranged, chronologically, in three series:

- **SERIES I. Biographical Materials, 1946 – 1973**
2 folders. Contains summer 1973 *Deerfield* Magazine entitled “A Remarkable Friendship”, the 1955 Merrill Lynch publication produced for Charles E. Merrill’s 75th birthday celebration describing Charles E. Merrill’s early life, and newspaper articles documenting events in Charles E. Merrill’s life.
- **SERIES II. Correspondence, 1926 – 1957**
11 folders. Consists of correspondence between Frank L. Boyden and Charles E. Merrill. Included within is correspondence between Frank L. Boyden and individuals connected with Charles Merrill and topics discussed.

Sub-series a: 6 folders. Correspondence between Charles E. Merrill and Frank L. Boyden, 1926-1956.

Mostly correspondence between Charles E. Merrill and Frank L. Boyden that document a thirty-year relationship of friendship and financial support of Deerfield Academy through the Charles E. Merrill Scholarship, the Deerfield Fund and The Charles E. Merrill Trust. An early version of “Miss Georgina Tinker” by James Merrill is attached to a November 11, 1940 letter from Charles Merrill. In addition, letters discuss theories of education, family, baseball, and updates on recipients of scholarships. There is some correspondence from other individuals that are tied to the discussions. These include: Kinta Des Mares Merrill, Stanley King, Winthrop Smith, Robert A. Magawan, Doris Magawan, Esther King, Samuel Levine, D.A. Thomas, and Terrance Keenan.

- **SERIES II. Correspondence, 1926 – 1957 cont'd**

Sub-series b: 5 folders. Correspondence between Frank L. Boyden and others, 1940–1958.

Correspondence deals primarily with the death of Charles Merrill, biographical information, and financial support given to Deerfield Academy.

- **SERIES III. Charles Merrill Trust, 1952–1964**

20 folders. Contains the lobbying and legal documentation of the passage of HR 8268 into law 85-367 for the establishment of the Charles E. Merrill Trust. Also contained are documents concerning the incorporation of Merrill Lynch and administration of the Charles E. Merrill Trust.

Sub-series a: 1 folder. Presidential Pen and Documentation, April/May 1958

Contains the pen used by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to sign public law 85-367 and the documentation regarding the pen.

Sub-series b: 6 folders. Documentary Information, 1952–1960

Contains copies of HR-8268, congressional letters, memorandum outlining lobbying and legal efforts, congressional planning lists created for lobbying effort, newspaper articles and example of Merrill Trust application.

Sub-series c: 3 folders. Legal Documents, 1955–1960

Contains copies of the will of Charles E. Merrill, signed and unsigned probate documents regarding the establishment of the Charles E. Merrill Trust and evidentiary documents used during the Incorporation of Merrill Lynch.

Sub-series d: 9 folders. Correspondence, 1955–1964

Correspondence regarding the lobbying efforts connected with the passage of HR-8268 into public law 85-367, the incorporation of Merrill Lynch and basic administration of the Charles E. Merrill Trust. Correspondence includes letters and telegrams from Senator John McCormick, Judge Edward Rowe, Congressman Bruce Barton, Lyndon B Johnson, Eustace Seligman, Henry Happel, D.A. Thomas, Charles Cole and others.

Collection Note: Correspondence is divided by subject and arranged chronologically within the subjects. Some letters have been removed and placed in Famous Signature Folder. Notes with location have been left in their place.

Historical/Biographical Information

Charles Edward Merrill was born October 19, 1885 in Green Cove Springs, Florida, the son of Charles Morton Merrill, a physician and drugstore proprietor, and Octavia Wilson. He was the youngest of three children. Though his father was a doctor, the Merrill family did not have much money; the financing of his education was most difficult. He was only able to attend Worcester Academy in Massachusetts under an athletic scholarship, and while attending Amherst College from 1904 to 1906 he sold clothing and waited on tables. The financial hardships that he experienced while furthering his education strongly influenced his philanthropic interests later in life.

Charles Merrill left Amherst College without graduating in 1906 and worked at the, *Tropical Sun* in West Palm Beach, Florida, as a reporter, editor, and occasional typesetter. During the summer of 1907 he played baseball for a minor league team in Mississippi. In 1909 he worked for the Wall Street Firm of George H. Burr and Company. During his work there he developed his philosophy that major firms relied on relatively small groups of investors for their business and had adopted an elitist attitude toward securities investment. Charles Merrill sought to change this, and by 1914 he had established his own securities firm, Charles E. Merrill & Company. Edmund Lynch joined him in 1915 forming Merrill Lynch. The firm built a reputation for conservative investment advice to middle-income clients, and helped to establish Merrill Lynch as one of the largest securities companies on Wall Street and the model for companies during the 1950s. When he died on October 6, 1956 his estate was valued at 25 million, most of which went to establish the Charles E. Merrill Trust for educational, medical, and religious purposes.

Charles Merrill's relationship with Frank L. Boyden and Deerfield Academy began on Sept. 3, 1926 with his first check for 500 dollars to help disadvantaged boys attend the Academy. Over the years, through personal donations and the establishment of Deerfield Academy as one of the primary beneficiaries of the Charles E. Merrill Trust, Charles Merrill gave over 4 million dollars to the support of Deerfield Academy. These included scholarships, building projects such as the hockey rink in 1955, and the endowment of the Helen Childs Boyden Chair of Science and Mathematics in 1955. He also developed close personal ties with Deerfield Academy and Frank Boyden, sending his son Charles E. Merrill Jr. to the academy in the 1930's and receiving an honorary degree in 1955.

Additional Index Terms

The following entries represent persons, organizations, and topics documented in this collection.
THIS IS NOT AN INDEX.

People

Merrill, Charles E., 1885-1956

Merrill, James, 1926-1995

Subjects

Merrill Lynch

Deerfield Fund

Charles E. Merrill Trust

Charles E. Merrill Scholarship

Related Materials

James Merrill Digital Archive
Department of Special Collections,
Washington University Libraries
St. Louis, Mo 63130
<http://digital.wustl.edu/jamesmerrillarchive/>

James Merrill Papers (MSS083), 1926-2003
Department of Special Collections,
Washington University Libraries
St. Louis, Mo 63130
<http://archon.wulib.wustl.edu/index.php?p=collections/controlcard&id=506&q=Merrill>

Container List

SERIES I. Biographical Materials, 1946 –1973

BOX-FOLDER	Contents	
1-1	Pamphlets/Magazine	1955-1973
1-2	Newspaper Articles	ca. 1946-1956

SERIES II. Correspondence, 1926 – 1957

Sub-series a: Correspondence between Charles E. Merrill and Frank L. Boyden, 1926-1956

1-3	Correspondence - Charles Merrill	1926-1945
1-4	Correspondence - Charles Merrill	1946-1949
1-5	Correspondence - Charles Merrill	1950
1-6	Correspondence - Charles Merrill	1951-1952
1-7	Correspondence - Charles Merrill	1952-1955
1-8	Correspondence - Charles Merrill	1955-1957

Sub-series b: Correspondence between Frank L. Boyden and others, 1940-1958

1-9	Correspondence - Charles Merrill's Death	Oct. 1956-Jan. 1957
1-10	Correspondence - James Merrill	Aug. 1943-March 1955
1-11	Correspondence - Terrence Keenan	Aug.-Nov. 1955
1-12	Correspondence - D.A. Thomas	Aug. 1954
1-13	Correspondence - Merrill Lynch	July 1940-Jan. 1958

SERIES III. Charles Merrill Trust, 1952 – 1964

Sub-series a: Presidential Pen and Documentation, April/May 1958

2-1	Presidential Pen & Documentation	April-May 1958
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Sub-series b: Documentary Information, 1952–1960

2-2	Bill and Congressional literature	March-April 1958
2-3	Brief in support of HR 6268 N.D.	
2-4	Memorandums	Apr. 1952-July 1958
2-5	Newspaper Articles	Apr. 1958-Sept. 1964
2-7	Application for Merrill Trust	Feb. 1960

Sub-series c: Legal Documents, 1955–1960

2-8	Charles Merrill Will	March 1955
2-9	Probate and Merrill Trust Petitions	Oct. 1956-Feb. 1960
2-10	Evidentiary Court Documents	n.d.

SERIES III. Charles Merrill Trust, 1952 – 1964 cont'd
Sub-series d: Correspondence, 1955–1964

BOX-FOLDER

Contents

2-11	Correspondence – HR8268 Lobbying	July 1955-Oct. 1957
2-12	Correspondence – HR8268 Lobbying	Nov. 1957-Dec. 1957

BOX 3

3-1	Correspondence – HR8268 Lobbying	January 1958
3-2	Correspondence – HR8268 Lobbying	February 1958
3-3	Correspondence – HR8268 Lobbying	March 1-15, 1958
3-4	Correspondence – HR8268 Lobbying	March 16-31, 1958
3-5	Correspondence – HR8268 Lobbying	April- May, 1958
3-6	Correspondence – Merrill Lynch Incorporation	Sept.- Dec., 1958
3-7	Correspondence – Merrill Trust	Aug. 1958- Oct. 1959
3-8	Correspondence – Merrill Trust	Nov. 1959- Oct. 1964