

Woods Hole Historical Museum Archives
P.O. Box 185
Woods Hole, MA 02543

REGISTER
Yale Family Collection
Yale Shop
Yale Etching and Artwork Collection
1802 - 2009

3 boxes

Leroy Milton Yale, Jr.

BIOGRAPHY

(February 12, 1841 – September 12, 1906)

Leroy Milton Yale, Jr. was born in Holmes Hole (Vineyard Haven) on Martha's Vineyard on February 12, 1841, the child of Dr. Leroy Milton Yale and Maria Allen Luce. After the death of his father, who was the Island doctor, his mother took the family to Brooklyn, New York. Leroy M. Yale, Jr. graduated from Columbia College in 1862 and from Bellevue Medical School in 1866. He was the top student in that class.

He worked as a doctor first on New York's Blackwell's Island. The complex of buildings on the island included a charity hospital, a work house, penitentiary, female alms house and a lunatic asylum. During his first summer there he struggled with a cholera epidemic. He was admired for his handling of this situation.

He then began a medical practice in New York City, became a surgeon at Bellevue and a lecturer on obstetrics. But his main focus as a physician was as a specialist in pediatrics.

His personal hobbies are what made him of interest to artists and friends and form the basis of our collection. He was a superb etcher, photographer and artist in pastels. Dr. Yale, Robert Swain Gifford and James David Smillie formed the New York Etching Club. Gifford was born on Naushon Island (near Martha's Vineyard) and was a painter and etcher of landscapes. Yale was the Club's first president. His etchings were held in a special collection at the New York Public Library.

In 1881 Dr. Yale married Julia M. Stetson of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Her father, a native of New Bedford, was a lawyer and the family lived on Madison Avenue in New York City.

His sisters' marriages brought him to Quissett on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. His sister Sarah Smith Boardman Yale married Stephen W. Carey, also originally from the Vineyard, and another sister, Albina Daggett Yale, married Thomas Dunham Fish of Quissett, who owned a shipping firm in New York. Earlier, Thomas Dunham Fish had worked in the shipping business for Stephen Carey in New York. Connections through their wives brought Stephen and Sarah Carey to Quissett Harbor where they stayed in the Quissett Harbor House during the 1870s and 1880s. In 1890 the Careys built a large house near the Harbor House hotel and across Quissett Harbor from the Thomas Dunham Fish homestead. Carey later sold a large piece of land behind his own house to Dr. Yale. Yale's home was built in 1892. It overlooked the vast scene of Buzzards Bay, often an inspiration for his art and photography. The house was called the "Barnacle."

Besides pursuing art in his leisure time, Dr. Yale wrote. He authored two books on pediatrics and many articles for medical journals. He was editor of a periodical called *Babyhood*.

Another hobby was fly fishing. He tied his own flies and made his own fishing rods. He often traveled to eastern Canada for salmon fishing.

Dr. Yale was a true American "Renaissance" man.

Yale retired to the “Barnacle” in Quissett in 1906 and died suddenly on September 12th of that year. In that era the cause of death was listed as “apoplexy” but it would now be described as a stroke.

His workshop for doing etching, pastels, photography and making fishing equipment was built in 1893 as a small shed to the north of his house. It remained full of his equipment and tools during the ownership of his daughter Julia Merriam Yale. When the house was sold in 1979 it was bought by Dr. Charles McGowan and his wife Laurie Marie. Dr. McGowan was a retired dental surgeon. The house was in such poor condition that it was eventually demolished and replaced by a contemporary home in 1985. However Dr. McGowan preserved and restored the workshop and everything in it, with great love and attention to detail. In 1995 he donated the workshop and its contents to the WHHC which, along with the addition to the campus of a barn for displaying local watercraft, became the WHHM. The boat barn (small boat museum) and the Yale Workshop are essential parts of the Museum campus. The etchings and pastels which came along with the workshop have been preserved and worked on by conservationists; they are mostly digitized as well.

SCOPE

The Yale Family Collection comprises material on Dr. Leroy Milton Yale, Senior (1802-1849) and Dr. Leroy Milton Yale, Junior (1841-1906), their families and genealogies, as well as family photos, etchings, pastels, art photography, artifacts and material on Dr. Yale’s etchings.

Also included is material on the donation of the Workshop itself and items in the Shop, part of the campus at the WHHM.

Photographic material on Dr. Yale and his family and Stephen W. Carey and family may be found in the Molly Willett Collection (Digital images 429-481).

YALE FAMILY COLLECTION BOX 1

Material on Dr. Leroy Milton Yale (Sr.) (1802-1849) and his family

- 1-1. "The Biography of Leroy Milton Yale, Sr. As Written By His Son, Dr. Leroy Milton Yale, Jr." Internet print from www.vineyard.net/history/leroy.htm. (two copies) and one copy of a transcription of same.
- 1-2. Information on Dr. Leroy M. Yale, Sr.
 - Medical school
 - Island Journal
- 1-3. "The Island Doctor" by Julia M. (Yale) Cornwell
- 1-4. Handwritten letter. Letter to Mrs. Leroy M. Yale from Ellen R. Yale, April 20, 1843.

Material on Dr. Leroy Milton Yale (Jr.) (1841-1906)

- 1-5. Newsclippings about Dr. Leroy Milton Yale, Jr.
- 1-6. Pamphlet. Order of Exercises for the Senior Exhibition, Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, N.H., May 5, 1858. Xerox copy of cover and last page.
- 1-7. Periodical. *Scribner's Monthly Illustrated Magazine For The People*. Conducted by J. G. Holland. Scribner & Co. New York. September 1880, Vol. XX, No. 5.
- 1-8. Handwritten letter. Letter to Dr. George T. Hough from Dr. Leroy M. Yale, Jr. 1891. Accession Number 98-1.

Material on Various Members of the Yale Family

- 1-9. Material on various members of the Yale family sent to Charles McGowan and Susan F. Witzell by Elizabeth Brady (Amerton Yale descendant)
- 1-10. David Tilton ("Uncle David") by Dr. Leroy M. Yale, Jr.
- 1-11. Certificate. Death certificate of "Leroy M. Yale, Jr.," July 30, 1903. Xerox copy. *Death certificate of Leroy M. Yale III (not Jr.), known as "Roy."* (1886-1903)

Material on Yale Family Investment in Wharfs and Shipping Companies

- 1-12. Account book pages. Holmes Hole Union Wharf Company. Xerox copies.
 a. Account Book 1 (Stockholders): 1833/34 – 1898.
 b. Account Book 2 (Accounts): 1856-1863.
 c. Account Book 3 (Vineyard Haven Wharf Company): 1926-1944.
 d. Account Book 4 (Vineyard Haven Wharf Company): January 1, 1926 – December 31, 1932.
Originals given to WHHM anonymously, transferred to Martha's Vineyard Historical Society, 2005.
- 1-13. Carey, Yale & Lambert, Ship Brokers, New York, NY. *Summary descriptions and family genealogies.*

Photos

- 1-14. Yale family photos (originals, copy prints and xerox copies)
- 1-15. Julia M. Yale's photo album 1905-1907 (xerox copy; original in collection of Dr. Charles M. McGowan)
- 1-16. Images of the Yale house ("The Barnacle"), Quissett Harbor

**YALE FAMILY COLLECTION
BOX 2**

THE YALE WORKSHOP

2-1. Material assembled by Dr. Charles McGowan , Jennifer S. Gaines, Paul F. Smith and others about the Yale Workshop.

- a. Deed. Deed from Stephen W. Carey and Sarah S.B. Carey to Leroy M. Yale for property, May 12, 1892. Xerox copy backed with copy of newsclipping: "Leroy Milton Yale – Among The Best Of The Etchers." Xerox copy.
- b. Photographs and copies of material.
 1. Photographs of Yale Shop as originally located next to Yale house in Quissett, 1992. Xerox copies.
 2. Diagram. Diagram by Dr. Yale found in home "The Barnacle." Floor plan sketch and location of the Shop. Xerox copy with red-pink markings.
 3. Dr. Yale with his son Roy in the Shop. Color copy print and xerox copy.
 4. Town of Falmouth. Death certificate for Leroy M. Yale, Sept. 12, 1906.
 5. Typewritten letter. April 14, 1992. Letter from Laurie & Charles McGowan to Lew Francis, President Carey Lane Association about preserving the Yale Shop.
- c. Typed letter. December 26, 1983 (1993). Letter from Laurie & Charles McGowan to Katharine Woodwell, President, Woods Hole Historical Collection. Letter offering the Yale Workshop to the Collection. *Date is obviously incorrect.*
- d. Typed letter. December 29, 1993. Letter from Anne Sawyer to Dewitt C. Jones III (Dick) about the donation of the Yale Shop and how it might affect the financial stability of the library; she suggests separation. Xerox copy.
 - Attached: memo from Paul Ferris Smith to Dewitt C. Jones III (Dick) about the acquisition of the Swift Barn and leasing of land from WHOI.
- e. Typed letter. January 4, 1994. Letter from Dewitt C. Jones III to Jennifer (S. Gaines) expressing reservations about the financial and other aspects of the new buildings and leased land.
- f. Accession form. Accession form 94-26.1 for the Yale Shop. Xerox copy.
- g. Typed letter. WHHC letterhead, April 12, 1994. Letter from Paul Ferris Smith to Dr. Robert Gagorian, Director, WHOI with discussion of proposed plans for Relocating the two buildings (Swift Barn and Yale Shop) and leasing land.
- h. Typed letters. Xerox copies, attached to one another.
 1. Woods Hole Public Library letterhead. June 15, 1994. Letter from DeWitt C. Jones, III, President, Board of Trustees, addressed to Whom It May Concern, about vote taken to accept the gift of the Yale Shop.
 2. WHOI letterhead. June 15, 1994. Letter from William E. McKeon, Facilities Manager, WHOI, to Eladio Gore, Falmouth Building Official, about the plan to store the Yale Shop at the WHOI Storage yard, Quissett.
 3. WHHC letterhead. July 25, 1994. Letter from Bobbi Clark, WHHC President,

- to Charles McGowan, thanking him for the donation of the Shop.
4. WHHC Accession form 93-15.2. Accession of 108 items from the Leroy M. Yale, Jr. M.D. Collection: artifacts, books, etchings (see attached). *No attachment.*
 5. WHHC letterhead. December 23, 1993. Letter to Dr. Charles E. McGowan from Jennifer S. Gaines, thanking him for the Yale items in Acc. No. 93-15.2.
 - i. Miscellaneous handwritten notes on small paper and cards about siting the Yale Shop and permission from town.
 - j. Application form. Historical District Commission Town of Falmouth Application for Certificate of Appropriateness, Jan 11, 1995. Xerox copy.
 - k. Typed manuscript. 19TH CENTURY WORKSHOP GIVEN TO THE MUSEUM. Xerox copy and printed copy (2 different formats).
 - l. Booklet (large format). A Valuation of The Workshop of Dr. Leroy Milton Yale, Jr. Woods Hole, Massachusetts, March 1, 1995. The Preservation Partnership, 36 North Water Street, New Bedford, MA. 02740.
 - m. Typed manuscript. The Yale Workshop, Woods Hole Historical Collection Museum Campus by Charles E. and Marie L. McGowan, June 1996. Xerox copy.
 - n. Newsclipping. "Antique Workshop Is On Exhibit At Historical Museum." *Falmouth Enterprise*, July 23, 1996. Xerox copy.
 - x. Handwritten manuscript. Comments to go (with) Yale Shop, WHHC. Sept. 2, '97. 9 listed changes and corrections for labels in Shop.
 - o. Handwritten notes. Paul F. Smith's notes on observing items in the Yale Shop and images from the shop attached (xerox copies).
 - p. Catalog pages. Eastman Kodak cameras, various models (date unknown). Xerox copies.
 - q. Pamphlet. Blue covered paper pamphlet: "The Yale Workshop" by Charles E. and Marie L. McGowan, WHHC, 1998. *The official WHHM guide.*
- 2-2. Notes of Jennifer S. Gaines about a controversy about fishing rods meant for the Yale Workshop collection, 2006.
- 2-3. Yale Workshop – miscellaneous information assembled by Paul Ferris Smith
- 2-4. Typeset pages. Pages 570-574, *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 9th edition, 1878, belonging to Dr. and Mrs. Leroy M. Yale, Jr. Entries on Lifeboats through Lifts. *Probably intended for display in the Yale Shop. Labeled incorrectly "Encyclopedia Brittanica."*
- 2-5. Book. Autograph Book of Leroy M. Yale. Autographs and notes of classmates at Kimball Union Academy, 1856-1858.
- 2-6. Miscellaneous pamphlets and material intended for the Yale Shop (originals)
 - a. Pamphlet. Annual Catalogue of the Officers and Students of Kimball Union Academy, for 1857-8.
 - b. Pamphlet. Order of Exercises for the Senior Exhibition of Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, N.H., May 5, 1858.
 - c. Booklet. *The Old Farmer's Almanac*, 1892.
 - d. Advertising page from Boston, n.d.

- 2-7. Miscellaneous xerox copies of material from Charles McGowan intended for the Yale Shop.
- 2-8. Images of Dr. Leroy M. Yale, Jr. intended for the Yale Shop
- 2-9. Periodical: *The American Fly Fisher* (Journal of the American Museum of Fly Fishing):
Spring 2002, Summer 2002, Fall 2002, Winter 2003.

**YALE FAMILY COLLECTION
BOX 3**

**YALE ETCHINGS
And Artwork**

- 3-1. Information on Yale etchings in WHHM collection
- a. Accession form (unnumbered), May 23, 2002 for 16 mounted etchings of Leroy M. Yale, Jr. given by Charles E. and Marie L. McGowan.
 - b. Typewritten ms. Statement of Leroy Milton Yale, Jr.'s involvement with etching and the WHHM's collection (probably written by Charles E. McGowan). 2 copies
 - c. Handwritten list. List of items to be digitized of Yale etchings, artwork (pastel and pencil), photos as well as books and articles. Xerox copy.
 - d. Images of Yale etchings as hung on Workshop walls. 1 color photo print and 3 xerox copies.
 - e. Typed invoice. Invoice from Babbis Fine Art Restoration LLC, April 17, 2003 for restoration of 16 etchings.
 - f. Typed invoice. Invoice from Cape Gallery Framer for restoration of etchings and an engraving ("Old Bridge Near Newburyport"), August 5, 2013.
 - g. Internet print-out. Roma Schneider Fine Prints: offering for sale another copy of "Old Bridge Near Newburyport", 2005. 2 copies.
- 3-2. Typewritten list. List of values of Yale etchings from Roma Schneider, December 10, 2002, sent to Charles E. McGowan.
- 3-3. Typewritten list. List of Six framed Yale etchings donated to WHHM by Maryanne Pendergast, March 9, 2005. Accession No. 05-5. 2 copies.
- 3-4. Book excerpt. *Fine-Arts Etchings of James David Smillie 1833-1909*, pp. 18-61, pp.120-121, pp. 126-127, pp. 190-191. Xerox copy.
- 3-5. Notebook with xerox copies. Copies of microfilm (?) of "List of Etchings by Leroy Milton Yale 1906" in the collection of the Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations, New York Public Library, 1906. Original is a handwritten list.
- 3-6. Book, paperback. *The New York Etching Club Minutes November 12, 1877 through December 8, 1893* by Stephen A. Fredericks. Rice University Press, Houston, 2009. Accession No. 09-9.