

# Merchant, Robert P. Collection

Robert P. Merchant Collection

1938-1944



## Title Statement

Merchant, Robert P. Collection Robert P. Merchant Collection, 1938-1944 Ms.2023.091

**Author:** Sterling Bryant, Student Assistant

## Publication Statement

**Publisher:** Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries (0434)  
560 Drillfield Drive  
Newman Library, Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061  
Business Number: 540-231-6308  
specref@vt.edu  
URL: <http://spec.lib.vt.edu>



2023 (CC0 1.0)

## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2023-09-20 11:04:22 -0400.

**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.2023.091

### Unit Date

1938-1944

### Language

The material in this collection is in English.

### Abstract

This collection contains Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) memorabilia and ephemera.

### Creator

Merchant, Robert P., Lt. Col. (USA Ret.)

### Extent

0.8 Cubic Feet 1 box

### Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

## Administrative Information

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open for research.

### **Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

The copyright status of this collection is unknown. Copyright restrictions may apply. Contact Special Collections and University Archives for assistance in determining the use of these materials.

Reproduction or digitization of materials for personal or research use can be requested using our reproduction/digitization form: <http://bit.ly/scuareproduction>.

Reproduction or digitization of materials for publication or exhibit use can be requested using our publication/exhibition form: <http://bit.ly/scuapublication>. Please contact Special Collections and University Archives ([specref@vt.edu](mailto:specref@vt.edu) or 540-231-6308) if you need assistance with forms or to submit a completed form.

### **Source of Acquisition**

The Robert P. Merchant Collection was donated to Special Collections and University Archives prior to 2015.

### **Processing Information**

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Robert P. Merchant Collection was completed in August 2023.

### **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Robert P. Merchant Collection, 1938-1944, Ms2023-091, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

## **Biographical Note**

Lt. Col. Robert Prescott (1919-2009), was an alumnus of Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) and served in Egypt, England, and France in World War II. After his twenty-two year military career, he used his mechanical engineering degree from VPI to teach automotive mechanics at the Community College of Northern Virginia. After moving to Lynchburg in 1974, He began teaching at Central Virginia Community College. He coordinated the curricula for automotive, engineering design, industrial electricity, and electronic technology in Lynchburg in 1986 and 1987.

External source:

"LTC Robert Prescott "Peck" Merchant", [findagrave.com](https://www.findagrave.com),  
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/39008784/robert-prescott-merchant>, accessed on August 16, 2023.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection contains Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) memorabilia and ephemera. Some items included are a 1938 Cadet Corps belt with VPI buckle; VPI buttons, pins and spoon; programs for plays; Techgram memorabilia; and a photo album with identification notes.

## **Keywords**

University History  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Corps of Cadets (1944-1970)  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1944-1970)

## **Rights Statement for Archival Description**

The guide to the Robert P. Merchant Collection by Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, is licensed under a CC0 (<https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/public-domain/cc0/>).

## **Arrangement**

This collection is arranged by material type.

## **Description of Subordinate Components**

### **Items**

**Robert P. Merchant Photo Album**

**Unit Date** 1938-1944

**item** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (item)

**Robert P. Merchant VPI Belt**

**Unit Date** c. 1938

**item** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (item)

**Robert P. Merchant VPI Spoon**

**Unit Date** c. 1938

**item** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (item)

**Robert P. Merchant VPI Buttons and Pins**

**Unit Date** c. 1938

**item** 1 (box)

**Container** 4 (item)

**Ephemera**

**Robert P. Merchant Maroon Mask Playbills**

**Unit Date** Undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**German Club Dance and Chisel Sharpeners' Bawl Programs**

**Unit Date** 1938-1941

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**VPI Stamps**

**Unit Date** Undated

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**The Techgram**

**Unit Date** c. 1944

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)