

# Guide to the Armistead L. Boothe collection, 1920-1983

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## Title Statement

Guide to the Armistead L. Boothe collection, 1920-1983

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## Profile Description

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## Revision Description

**2019-02-13**          Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

## Descriptive Summary

### Collection Number

c0168

### Date

1920-1983

### Mixed materials

1 (Box)

### Mixed materials

2 (Box)

### Language

English

### Abstract

This collection documents the life and career of Armistead Boothe, an Alexandria, Virginia, lawyer, state legislator, and trustee of Colonial Williamsburg.

### Creator

Boothe, Armistead L.

### Physical Characteristics

1.0 linear feet 2 boxes

### Repository

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

## Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions.

## Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions on personal use. Permission to publish material from the Armistead L. Boothe collection must be obtained from Special Collections and Archives, George Mason University Libraries.

## Acquisition Information

Donated to George Mason University Libraries before 2008.

## Processing Information

Processed by Special Collections and Archives staff. Processing completed by Elizabeth Beckman in June 2015. EAD markup completed by Elizabeth Beckman in June 2015.

## Preferred Citation

Armistead L. Boothe collection, #c0168, Special Collections and Archives, George Mason University Libraries.

# Biographical Information

Armistead Lloyd Boothe (1907-1990) was a lawyer and state legislator from Alexandria, Virginia. Boothe attended Episcopal High School, the University of Virginia, and Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. He and his wife, Elizabeth Peele Boothe, were married in 1934. Boothe served as a Democratic Virginia state legislator from 1948-1963. He was a prominent member of a group of legislators known as the "Young Turks" who opposed the entrenched establishment politicians of Virginia government. As noted in a 1970 news release, "he became perhaps best known for his consistent political fight, from 1954 on, to keep the public schools of the State open" after Virginia threatened to eliminate the mandate for public schools in order to oppose the Supreme Court's *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision requiring school integration. Boothe also served as a trustee of Colonial Williamsburg. A lifelong Episcopalian, he left politics and the law in 1970 to serve as the Director of Development at Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria. Boothe died in 1990.

# Scope and Contents note

The collection documents the life and political career of Armistead L. Boothe from his school days in Alexandria, Virginia, in the early 1920s to his role as Director of Development at Virginia Theological Seminary in the 1970s and his retirement in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Included are certificates, a few photos, and a letter from Boothe's time as a student at Episcopal High School and the University of Virginia, travel and bank documents from his time in England in the 1920s and 1930s, and newspaper articles, speeches and writings, press releases, campaign materials, and correspondence from his days as a lawyer, politician, and director of development at Virginia Theological Seminary. Of particular interest is a letter from 1969 to the parents of Mary Jo Kopechne, who was killed in the accident at Chappaquiddick in Ted Kennedy's car. Also included in the collection are Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia briefs dating from the 1940s to the 1960s, as well as correspondence, agendas, news articles, etc, from Boothe's role as a trustee of Colonial Williamsburg.

# Index Terms

## Persons:

Boothe, Armistead L.

Boothe, Armistead L.

## Geographical Names:

Virginia--Politics and government--20th century.

# Bibliography

Smith, Douglas. " 'When Reason Collides with Prejudice': Armistead Lloyd Boothe and the Politics of Desegregation in Northern Virginia, 1948-1963." *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 102:1. Jan, 1994, 5-46. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/4249409>.

# Related Material

The University of Virginia's Special Collections holds additional [Armistead L. Boothe papers](#).

## Arrangement

The collection is arranged in the order in which it was received. Photos and travel/school documents were grouped together by the processing archivist.

## Contents List

### **Colonial Williamsburg correspondence, news articles etc.,**

**Unit Date** 1952-1972

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 1 (Folder)

### **Speeches,**

**Unit Date** 1973-1980

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 2 (Folder)

### **Virginia Theological Seminary job correspondence, speeches,**

**Unit Date** 1970-1973

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 3 (Folder)

### **Virginia Theological Seminary correspondence, press releases, news coverage,**

**Unit Date** 1969-1970

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 4 (Folder)

### **Newspaper Articles,**

**Unit Date** 1964-1976

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 5 (Folder)

### **Articles, speeches, correspondence,**

**Unit Date** 1953-1983

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 6 (Folder)

### **Correspondence, articles, Virginia plan 6, public schools,**

**Unit Date** 1954-1976

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 7 (Folder)

### **8th District Prince William presidential delegates, articles, button,**

**Unit Date** 1976

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 8 (Folder)

## **Articles, notes, speeches,**

**Unit Date** 1955-1983

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 9 (Folder)

## **News articles, writings, etc. on public school funding desegregation,**

**Unit Date** 1954-1955

**Container** 1 (Box)

**Container** 10 (Folder)

## **News articles, political campaign, "Civil Rights in Virginia" correspondence,**

**Unit Date** 1949-1973

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 1 (Folder)

## **Episcopal High School of Virginia certificates, school-era letter,**

**Unit Date** 1922-1924

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 2 (Folder)

## **Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia briefs, "The Adequacy of the Virginia Constitution of 1902",**

**Unit Date** 1930s-1968

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 3 (Folder)

## **Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia briefs,**

**Unit Date** 1930s-1950s

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 4 (Folder)

## **Photographs,**

**Unit Date** c1910s-1950s

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 5 (Folder)

## **Travel documents: passports, tickets, invoices from UK, etc.,**

**Unit Date** 1920s-1930s

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 6 (Folder)

## **Government/Virginia related documents (onionskin),**

**Unit Date** c1990s

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 7 (Folder)

## **School Certificates and memorabilia, Gardiner Boothe documents,**

**Unit Date** 1926-1950s

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 8 (Folder)

## **Bank documents,**

**Unit Date** 1929-1931

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 9 (Folder)

## **Questionnaire to Virginia General Assembly,**

**Unit Date** 1954

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 10 (Folder)

## **Agenda and seating for Queen Mother's visit to Williamsburg,**

**Unit Date** c1950s-1960s

**Container** 2 (Box)

**Container** 11 (Folder)