

# Guide to the Cornelius Boyle Papers

WA MSS S-4396



Sarah Lerner

April 2021, updated October 2021

P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

---

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	4
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	4
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Processing Information .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	5
Collection Contents .....	6
Selected Search Terms .....	7

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** WA MSS S-4396

**CREATOR:** Boyle, Cornelius, 1817-1878 , author

**TITLE:** Cornelius Boyle papers

**DATES:** 1840-1878

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.05 linear feet (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, photographs, personal papers, printed material, and other papers by or relating to Cornelius Boyle, circa 1866-1878. Included are 15 letters from Cornelius Boyle to wife Fannie Greene Boyle, relatives, and business associates concerning his travels and efforts in Mexico; 9 letters between Boyle and collaborators in the promotion and colonization of Barronville in Jalisco; a manuscript plat map of Barronville; a topographical sketch of a nearby hacienda called San Lorenzo; and manuscript agreements and reports exchanged between Boyle and Eustace Barron concerning San Lorenzo (located in the municipality of Ejutla). Also present are Boyle's manuscript passport, immigration form, 4 manuscript diaries, and medical diploma. Materials pertaining to Fannie Boyle and the Boyle family include 14 letters from Fannie Boyle to children and relatives (sent from Virginia and California), 2 photograph albums, 13 loose photographs, and papers relating to family genealogy. Included are photocopies of materials chiefly from the Virginia Historical Society relating to Cornelius Boyle's time in the Confederate Army during the American Civil War.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.cboyle>

---

## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.cboyle>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Michael Vinson on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2019.

---

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

---

### Conditions Governing Use

The Cornelius Boyle Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

---

### Preferred Citation

Cornelius Boyle Papers. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

---

### Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Dr. Cornelius Boyle (1817-1878) of Washington, D.C., joined the Confederate Army following the Battle of Fort Sumter in 1861 April, and served until 1865 May 19. Owing to his reputation as a Confederate spy, Boyle was barred from returning to Washington--he instead left for Mexico, during which time he met Mexican businessman Eustace Barron ( -1867). In 1866, Boyle mapped Barron's lands in Nayarit and Jalisco. He later laid out Barronville--a town intended for 200 families--near Tuxpan and San Lorenzo. These plans were scrapped upon the deposal of Emperor Maximillian in 1867, causing Boyle to leave for the United States. He soon reopened the Fauquier White Sulphur Springs at Warrenton, Virginia, but eventually returned to his medical practice in Washington, D.C. He married Fannie Greene Boyle ( -1869) in 1852; the couple had 7 children. He married Cherry Bethune Boyle circa 1875.

---

## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, photographs, personal papers, printed material, and other papers by or relating to Cornelius Boyle, circa 1866-1878. Included are 15 letters from Cornelius Boyle to wife Fannie Greene Boyle, relatives, and business associates concerning his travels and efforts in Mexico; 9 letters between Boyle and collaborators in the promotion and colonization of Barronville in Jalisco; a manuscript plat map of

Barronville; a topographical sketch of a nearby hacienda called San Lorenzo; and manuscript agreements and reports exchanged between Boyle and Eustace Barron concerning San Lorenzo (located in the municipality of Ejutla).

Also present are Boyle's manuscript passport, immigration form, 4 manuscript diaries, and medical diploma.

Materials pertaining to Fannie Boyle and the Boyle family include 14 letters from Fannie Boyle to children and relatives (sent from Virginia and California), 2 photograph albums, 13 loose photographs, and papers relating to family genealogy.

Included are photocopies of materials chiefly from the Virginia Historical Society relating to Cornelius Boyle's time in the Confederate Army during the American Civil War.

---

## **Arrangement**

Arranged alphabetically by format.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	Cameo	undated
b. 1, f. 2-6	Correspondence (Cornelius Boyle) (5 folders)	1866 February-1867 October
b. 1, f. 7-9	Correspondence (Fannie Greene Boyle) (3 folders)	1866 January-1868 June
b. 1, f. 10-13	Diaries (4 folders)	1868-1874
b. 2	Diploma	1840
b. 1, f. 14	Genealogical notes	undated
b. 1, f. 15	Immigration form and passport	1866
b. 1, f. 16	Maps	1866
b. 1, f. 17	Papers concerning Hacienda San Lorenzo	1866
b. 1, f. 18	Papers relating to Cornelius Boyle's death	1878
b. 1, f. 19-20	Miscellaneous papers (2 folders)	1866-1871, undated
b. 1, f. 21	Photocopies relating to Cornelius Boyle's military service	undated
b. 1, f. 22	Photocopies of miscellaneous related historical documents	undated
b. 1, f. 23-25	Photographs (3 folders)	circa 1860s-1870s
b. 1, f. 26	Prayer book	1874

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Genres / Formats**

Manuscript maps  
Photograph albums  
Photographs

### **Subjects**

Americans -- Mexico  
Land settlement -- Mexico  
Real property -- Mexico -- Jalisco  
Women -- Virginia

### **Geographic Names**

Ejutla (Jalisco, Mexico)  
Jalisco (Mexico) -- Maps  
Mexico -- Description and travel  
Mexico -- Maps  
Tuxpan (Jalisco, Mexico)

### **Names**

Barron, Eustace, -1867  
Boyle, Fannie Greene, -1869

### **Acquired From**

Michael Vinson, bookseller