

James C. Merritt

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Education

University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School

Philadelphia, PA

Bachelor of Science in Economics, Concentrations in Finance & Accounting

May 2024

- GPA: 3.92/4.00 | Dean's List (all semesters)
- Wharton Investment & Trading Group, Penn Undergraduate Consulting Club
- Relevant Coursework: Advanced Corporate Finance, Financial Modeling, Valuation, M&A, Fixed Income, Accounting

Professional Experience

Vertex Group

New York, NY

Investment Banking Summer Analyst, Mergers & Acquisitions Group

June 2023 – August 2023

- Executed a \$2.1B sell-side advisory for a cloud infrastructure company; built operating model with 60+ sensitivity scenarios, drafted marketing materials, and coordinated Q&A with 14 prospective buyers across three continents
- Modeled accretion/dilution and pro forma capitalization for a \$950M strategic acquisition in industrial technology; sensitivity analysis across 25%–40% cash/stock mixes directly shaped board presentation
- Staffed on two live mandates simultaneously during final two weeks without missing a deadline; received top-bucket analyst review from group head
- Developed proprietary precedent transaction database covering 80+ deals in enterprise software, reducing comps turnaround from 4 hours to 45 minutes

Meridian Capital

San Francisco, CA

Investment Banking Analyst, Technology Group

July 2024 – Present

- Led financial modeling for a \$1.4B Series D raise for an AI-native DevOps platform; built three-statement model, cohort-based revenue forecast, and scenario matrix that informed term sheet negotiations
- Closed a \$620M buy-side mandate for a PE-backed roll-up of cybersecurity MSSPs; managed due diligence workstreams across legal, financial, and commercial tracks
- Prepared weekly market updates and sector tear sheets distributed to 40+ institutional clients; coverage spans infrastructure software, DevOps, and cloud security
- Mentor two first-year analysts; built reusable LBO and merger model templates adopted firm-wide

Nimbus Capital

Boston, MA

Private Equity Summer Analyst, Industrials & Business Services

June 2022 – August 2022

- Sourced and evaluated 6 add-on acquisition targets for a \$340M portfolio company in specialty distribution; built LBO models and prepared investment committee memos
- Conducted 30+ expert calls and customer reference checks for a \$180M minority growth investment in logistics technology; diligence findings influenced deal structure and earn-out provisions
- Tracked and benchmarked 45+ middle-market PE transactions in industrials; analysis used for quarterly LP letter and fundraising materials

Selected Transactions

Client / Counterparty	Transaction	Value
Apex Cloud Systems (Sell-side)	Acquisition by Nexa Corp	\$2.1B
[Confidential] (Buy-side)	Strategic acquisition of Synapse AI	\$950M
[Confidential] (Growth equity)	Series D capital raise	\$1.4B
[Confidential] (Buy-side)	Roll-up of 4 MSSP platforms	\$620M
Meridian-backed portfolio co (Buy-side)	Add-on acquisitions (6 targets)	\$45–90M
[Confidential] (Growth equity)	Minority growth investment, logistics tech	\$180M

Additional Information

Technical Skills:	Financial modeling (DCF, LBO, Merger, Accretion/Dilution), three-statement operating models, precedent transactions, public comps, sum-of-the-parts. Bloomberg Terminal, FactSet, Capital IQ, PitchBook, advanced Excel/VBA.
Certifications:	FINRA Series 79 & 63 (in progress). Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC) certified.
Interests:	Marathon running (Boston 2025 qualifier), chess (USCF 1820), alpine skiing, modern architecture, single-origin espresso.