

Mary Beard Copper Family photograph collection

Mary Beard Copper family photograph collection
1860-1930

Title Statement

Mary Beard Copper Family photograph collectionMary Beard Copper Family photograph collection RHS.Coll.1003

Publication Statement

Publisher: Washington and Lee University, University Library Special Collections and Archives

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-09-16 20:00:22 -0400.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Code for undetermined script script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

RHS.Coll.1003

Unit ID

/repositories/5/resources/1339

Unit Date

1860-1930

Language

English

Extent

1.0 Linear Feet

Repository

Washington and Lee University, University Library Special Collections and Archives

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use

The materials from Washington and Lee University Special Collections are made available for use in research, teaching, and private study, pursuant to U.S. Copyright law. The user assumes full responsibility for any use of the materials, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced materials. Any materials used should be fully credited with the source. Permission for publication of this material, in part or in full, must be secured with the Head of Special Collections.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

In 1978, Arnold Copper at 177 Main Street, East Hampton, New York 11937, a grandson of Mary Beard Copper, gave his grandmother's photograph collection to the Rockbridge Historical Society, Lexington, Virginia.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], RHS Copper Family photograph collection, Special Collections and Archives, James G. Leyburn Library, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia.

Scope and Contents

This photograph collection belonged to Mary Beard Copper, who was born December 26, 1874 at 13 East Washington Street, Lexington, Virginia, in which later became the county office building. She was the daughter of Jacob Beard and Helen Elizabeth Holden Beard, but was brought up by her father's second wife, Emma Laughlin Beard. They also lived at "Riverdell" in East Lexington. In 1903 she married Thomas James Copper, Jr. of "Riverside" at South River, Rockbridge County, Virginia, where they lived. Mary died a widow in Waynesboro, Virginia on May 19, 1963. Her only surviving child was Katherine Copper McConnell of Charlottesville, Virginia. This photograph collection is of people and places in Mary's life.

Description of Subordinate Components

People	
Unit ID	/repositories/5/archival_objects/38959
Maude Wright Aguly and daughter Agnes studio photo	
Unit ID	/repositories/5/archival_objects/38960
Unit Date	circa 1911
Mixed Materials [35101013593228]	Box 1
Container	1 (folder)
Biographical / Historical	
Maude Wright was the daughter of Leander Wright and Margaret Gambill Kearney Wright. Leander and Margaret's daughters were Laura (Hardy), Anne, Julia, and Maude, born in August 1878. Maude grew up at the Wright family home in Lexington, Virginia. When Maude married Joseph Aguly in 1903, she moved to Roanoke, Virginia. They had two girls, Frances and Agnes Aguly.	
Beard family cabinet card and snapshot photos	
Unit ID	/repositories/5/archival_objects/38966
Unit Date	1881, circa 1890, circa 1895, circa 1897, circa 1900, circa 1902, circa 1907, 1919, 1926
Mixed Materials [35101013593228]	Box 1
Container	2 (folder)
Biographical / Historical	
Cora Virginia Beard (1875-1909) was a prominent public school teacher and principal from the northern area of Rockbridge County, Virginia. She served as a dedicated educator in Rockbridge County for over a decade. By 1901, she was named the principal of the public school in Brownsburg, Virginia, a historic village in northwestern Rockbridge County. She was the daughter of Hugh Snyder Beard (1835-1915) and Mildred Silling Beard. Her family home was located near Raphine, Virginia. She frequently worked and traveled alongside her sister, Eglantine Beard, who was also a local schoolteacher. On July 11, 1909, Miss Beard passed away at age 34 at the University Hospital in Charlottesville, Virginia, after a sudden illness. She had traveled there three weeks prior with her sister to attend the Summer School at the University of Virginia to further her teaching credentials.	
Miss Emma Laughlin was a resident of Lexington, Virginia. She was born in 1855 to Hugh Laughlin (1823-1885) and Frances Lockridge (1828-1908). Hugh Laughlin was a prominent grocer and merchant working in Lexington, Virginia. When Emma was two years old, her parents relocated to a property widely known in local history as the Beard farm, situated just above Furr's Mill. She was raised as an only child. She became the second wife of Jacob Beard (1843-1918), a native of Lexington, Virginia. His first	

wife was Helen Eliza Holden. Through her marriage on April 7, 1881, she became the stepmother to Jacob's daughter from his previous marriage, Mary Beard Copper. Following Jacob's death, Emma continued to live in East Lexington as a widow. Mrs. Emma Laughlin Beard passed away in September 1928.

Goss Easten was the son of John and his second wife Mary, of Lexington, Virginia, born in 1878 and passed away in California, 1965.

Harry Beard, Sr. was a prominent resident of Lexington and Buena Vista, Virginia areas. He was born to Charles Beard and Annie Smith Beard in 1885. He married Bertha Garner Beard and they had a daughter, Edith Mae Beard. The "Harry Beard Farm," a house and 30 acre property was located just east of Lexington, Virginia, on the old Jordan Road, traveling up the mountain above Buena Vista toward the Blue Ridge Parkway. Harry died in 1960.

Jacob Beard (1843-1918) was a lifelong resident of East Lexington in Rockbridge County, Virginia. He was born around 1843 to John and Betsey Beard, worked as a clerk, and lived in the Lexington District for roughly 30 years. He was married to Emma Laughlin Beard (née Holden). Jacob passed away on May 14, 1918.

Jacob William Beard Sr. (1897-1973) was the son of John W. Beard and Virginia "Anney" Humphries. He married Ella Lucretia Pelot (1898-1939). Their children were Marjorie Jean Beard Peck and Jacob William "Bill" Beard Jr.

Laura Wright was a young woman living in the northern/western rural districts of Rockbridge County, Virginia, near Rockbridge Baths and Fairfield at the turn of the 20th century.

Mary Beard Copper, was born December 26, 1874 to Jacob Beard and Helen Elizabeth Holden Beard, but was brought up by her father's second wife, Emma Laughlin Beard. In 1903 she married Thomas James Copper, Sr. of "Riverside" at South River, Rockbridge County, Virginia, where they lived. Mary died a widow in Waynesboro, Virginia on May 19, 1963. Her only surviving child was Katherine Copper McConnell of Charlottesville, Virginia.

Mary Alice Beard (1875-1952) was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia to James Powell Beard and Martha Jane (Cadd) Beard. Her mother's maiden name "Cadd" is frequently the origin of the "C" middle initial found in municipal records before Mary married. She grew up in the area and later married Charles C. Paterson around 1896 in Buena Vista, Virginia. She passed away in Richmond in 1952.

Nancy Jane "Nannie" Copper Beard (1840-1908) of Rockbridge County, Virginia was the youngest daughter of Darius Copper (1797-1867) and Mary "Polly" (Ruley) Copper. Her father, Darius, was a well known local property owner in the South River district of Rockbridge County. She grew up in a large household alongside prominent local brothers including Thomas Jefferson Copper, George W. Copper, Benjamin Franklin Copper, and John D. Copper. Nannie married Thomas A. Beard (1840-1878) on December 16, 1869, in Rockbridge County. "Nannie" Copper Beard passed away in 1908 and was buried in the Neriah Baptist Church Cemetery.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1895 cabinet card photo of Cora Beard and Mary Beard Copper.

An April 7, 1881 cabinet card photo of Emma Laughlin Beard, by Blakemore, Staunton, Virginia.

A circa 1907 cabinet card photo of Emma Beard, by J. L. McCown, Lexington, Virginia.

A 1919 snapshot photo of Emma Beard at their home "Riverdell" at East Lexington, Virginia.

A 1926 post card photo of Emma Beard.

A circa 1895 cabinet card photo of Harry Beard, Sr., by Miley, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1900 cabinet card photo of Harry Beard, Sr. and Goss Eten, by Maxwell, Spokane, Washington.

An 1881 cabinet card photo Jacob Beard, by Blakemore, Staunton, Virginia.

A circa 1897 cabinet card photo of Jacob William Beard Sr., by Miley, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1890 cabinet card photo of Mary Alice Beard and her cousin Laura Wright, by J. L. McCown, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1902 cabinet card photo of Nannie Beard, by A. W. Maxwell, Buena Vista, Virginia.

Belt family - Brewer family cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39010

Unit Date circa 1888, circa 1899, circa 1903, circa 1910, circa 1930

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 3 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Mary Myrtle Shaner Belt (1875-1953) was a long time resident of Staunton, Virginia, who spent her later years in Tennessee. She was born on December 9, 1875, in East Lexington, Virginia to Jacob Harner Shaner and Annie E. Shaner. Before moving to Tennessee, she lived on Loudon Avenue in Staunton and was a highly active member and church worker at the Central Methodist Church. She passed away on January 21, 1953, at her home in Bean Station, Tennessee. She and her husband, Thomas Belt are buried in the historic Thornrose Cemetery in Staunton.

Bettie Nevius Lockridge Bickle (1839-1916), was the daughter of James Lockridge and Amy Nevius, who married prominent Staunton, Virginia merchant John A. Bickle on July 25, 1866. Established in the early 20th century, after Bettie's death, the Bettie Bickle Home, was incorporated as a residential home in Staunton, Virginia, which opened its doors to provide a permanent home for local women who could not otherwise secure one. It operated for decades as a charitable home. In the mid-20th century, the home was legally and structurally merged into the Sunnyside Presbyterian Home.

Mary Elizabeth "Minnie" Bickle, (1871-1948) was a prominent figure in local society, education, and church leadership in Staunton, Virginia. She was the daughter of Yancey M. Bickle and Henrietta M. Parker Bickle of Staunton, Virginia. All three are buried in the Thornrose Cemetery in Staunton.

Cora Ann Humphris Brewer (1872-1958) was a lifelong resident of Rockbridge County, Virginia. She was the daughter of Llewellyn Merriwether Humphris, a well known regional miller who managed operations at Midway, Cedar Grove, and Brownsburg mills, and Marguerite Sewell McCormick. In January 1904, she married Oscar Cleveland Brewer. He was a prominent attorney, graduate of the Washington and Lee Law School, and a local judge who would later serve in public office, including the Virginia House of Delegates.

Margaret A. Brewer's (1909-2002) parents were Oscar Cleveland Brewer, who was was a prominent attorney, Washington and Lee Law School graduate, local judge, and member of the Virginia House of Delegates, and Cora Ann Humphries Brewer (1872-1958), whose parents were millers and merchants in Rockbridge County, Virginia. While her parents married and spent significant time in the Lexington and Rockbridge areas, Margaret moved to Pulaski City, Virginia, where her father practiced law. She remained unmarried, so because she had no direct heirs, her estate established the Margaret E. Brewer Scholarship, which continues to fund higher education for high school graduates in Pulaski County, Virginia today.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1910 cabinet card photo of Mary Myrtle Shaner Belt, by Murray, Staunton, Virginia.

A circa 1930 studio photo of children, a Berkley family sister and brother, cousins of the Beard family.

A circa 1899 cabinet card photo of Mrs. Bettie Bickle, by Blakemore, Staunton, Virginia.

A circa 1888 cabinet card photo of Miss Minnie Bickle.

A circa 1903 cabinet card photo of Cora Humphris, by McCown and Lackey, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1910 cabinet card photo of Margaret Brewer.

Campbell family - Clements family cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39020

Unit Date circa 1896, circa 1928

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 4 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Maggie Campbell Groah and Ollie Houston Groah were the parents of Floyd Owens Groah (1928-2019), a lifelong resident born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, who later passed away in Raphine, Virginia. This is possibly the correct Maggie Campbell.

Lucy Clements of East Lexington refers primarily to Lucy Marion Straub Clements (1874-1917). Lucy was the daughter of Robert Straub and Mary Virginia Echard Meyers Staub. She married William Henry Clements, a local landowner and businessman. William Henry was the son of Jesse Clements Jr. and Mary "Polly" Martin. Lucy's husband, William Henry, passed away suddenly in late 1909 or early 1910. As a young widow, Lucy became the primary administratrix of the Clements estate and property in East Lexington. She passed away comparatively young in October 1917. Mary Clements, born circa 1896, was their oldest daughter, who may be this cabinet card photo.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1928 cabinet card photo of a Maggie Campbell's son, possibly Floyd Owens Groah, by Miller, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1896 cabinet card photo of possibly Mary Clements, by Miley, Lexington, Virginia.

Copper, Benjamin - Copper, Jacob post card, carbon studio, and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39021

Unit Date circa 1883, circa 1895, circa 1889, circa 1901, 1906. circa 1908, circa 1910, circa 1917

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 5 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Benjamin McAllister Copper was the son of Thomas Jefferson (T. J.) Copper and Drucilla Margaret McGuffin Copper, born on March 9, 1873. Drucilla was the second wife of T. J. Copper. His first wife was Louisa Virginia Davis. Thomas Jefferson Copper was born on September 1, 1831, in Rockbridge County, Virginia, to Darius Copper Jr. and Sally McAllister. He lived much of his life in the South River and Goshen districts of Rockbridge County before passing away on February 7, 1902. Benjamin McAllister Copper eventually moved west to Red Bluff, California, where he operated a sheep ranch alongside his brothers. Benjamin passed away in 1936. He had married Louella Nickols in California in 1904.

Bernard Franklin Copper (1880–1944), the first cousin of Lambert Copper from Rockbridge County, Virginia and his wife, Bettie Elizabeth Kirby (circa 1883–1946), while they originally had family roots in Virginia, settled down and raised their family in Washington, D.C. Their daughter Myrtle Copper was born around 1915 in the District of Columbia. She later married and went by Myrtle Miller. Their son, Bernard Copper was born to the couple alongside three other siblings, including their youngest son Isaac.

Drucilla Margaret McGuffin was born on August 25, 1843 to Thomas H. McGuffin and Ann Wilson, in Virginia and passed away on December 26, 1916. She is buried alongside her husband, Thomas Jefferson Copper, at the Goshen Baptist Church Cemetery in Goshen, Rockbridge County, Virginia. She married Thomas on July 28, 1864. Together, they raised a large family in the South River and Goshen districts of Rockbridge County, Virginia.

Emma May Copper was the youngest daughter of Thomas Jefferson Copper and Drucilla Margaret McGuffin. She was born in May 1888 in Rockbridge County, Virginia, married William Hockman in 1919, and passed away in 1965. She is buried near her parents and siblings in the Goshen Baptist Church Cemetery in Goshen, Rockbridge County, Virginia.

Gerald Lambert Copper was the firstborn child of John Lambert "Bert" Copper and his first wife, Carrie Estella "Stella" Johnston, born in Red Bluff, Tehama County, California in 1902, where his father had temporarily relocated from Rockbridge County, Virginia. While Gerald was born in California, his mother passed away just a few years later. His father, Bert, eventually moved back to Rockbridge County, Virginia, where he remarried and lived out his final years until his death in 1920. Gerald lived from 1902 to 1951.

Howard Elija Copper was the oldest child born to Thomas Jefferson Copper and Drucilla Margaret McGuffin. He was born on August 15, 1865, in Rockbridge County, Virginia and lived his entire life in the county, working alongside his family in the rural districts surrounding Goshen and South River. Tragically, Howard passed away as a young man on November 4, 1897, at just 32 years of age. He was buried at the rural Goshen Baptist Church Cemetery in Goshen, Rockbridge County, Virginia.

Jacob Beard Copper was born on March 5, 1905, in Rockbridge County, Virginia, and passed away in 1970. He was named directly after the prominent local landowner Jacob Beard (1843–1918), whose estate eventually passed to this branch of the Copper family tree. Jacob Beard Copper was the son of Thomas James "T.J." Copper, Sr. (1877–1948) and his wife, Mary Beard. His father was a younger brother of John Lambert "Bert" Copper, which makes Jacob Beard Copper a nephew to Bert and a first cousin to both Bernard Franklin Copper and Eloise Copper. He grew up in Rockbridge County alongside several siblings, including his sister Katherine Copper McConnell and his sister Nannie Copper. He married Madeline Virginia Patterson in the 1920s. Following his passing in 1970, Jacob was laid to rest at the Rockbridge Memorial Gardens in Lexington, Virginia, and Madeline was buried beside him upon her passing.

Margert Eloise Copper was born in 1900 to William George Copper (1875–1955), who was one of the many sons of Thomas Jefferson Copper and Drucilla McGuffin. This makes Eloise a niece to John Lambert "Bert" Copper, and a first cousin to Bernard Franklin Copper. Her mother was Minnie Ramsey Copper. While her father's family originated in Rockbridge County, Virginia, her father William established his household just over the county line in Lyndhurst, Augusta County, Virginia. Eloise married Francis Claiborne Mason in 1925 at her family's home near Waynesboro, Virginia. She passed away in 1964.

Scope and Contents

A circa 1899 cabinet card photo of Benjamin Copper, by Miller, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1917 post card photo of Bernard Copper and his family, Bettie Copper, Myrtle Copper, and little Bernard Copper.

A circa 1883 cabinet card photo of Drucilla McGuffin Copper.

A circa 1901 cabinet card photo of Eloise Copper, by McCown and Lackey, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1908 cabinet card photo of Emma Copper.

A circa 1910 cabinet card photo of Gerald Copper.

A circa 1895 cabinet card photo of Howard Copper, by Morris, Lawrence, Kansas.

An April 1906 carbon studio photo of Jacob Beard Copper, by Miley & Son, Lexington, Virginia.

Copper, Lambert - Copper, Nannie cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39027

Unit Date circa 1898, circa 1899, circa 1904, circa 1910

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 6 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

John Lambert "Bert" Copper was born on February 11, 1871, in Rockbridge County, Virginia. He was the fourth child born to Thomas Jefferson Copper and Drucilla Margaret McGuffin. Around the turn of the century, he ventured west along a well traveled family migration corridor. While living in Red Bluff, Tehama County, California, he welcomed his firstborn son, Gerald Lambert Copper, on May 25, 1902. His first marriage was to Carrie Estella "Stella" Johnston, who tragically passed away during Gerald's early childhood. He later married Ida May Phillips, who raised Gerald as her own. Ida was born around 1880 in California. Bert eventually returned to his home region in Virginia to live out his remaining years. He passed away on February 14, 1920, at the age of 49.

Margaret Eliza Copper was born in February 1879 to Thomas Jefferson Copper and Drucilla Margaret McGuffin. She was a sister to John Lambert "Bert" Copper, William George Copper, and Emma May Copper Hockman.

Minnie Odell Ramsey Copper was born in 1878. The parents of Minnie were James Franklin Ramsey and Mary Elizabeth "M.E." Tyree. They were established residents of the general Augusta County and Buena Vista areas of Virginia. Minnie married William George Copper in 1899, and they established their home just over the Rockbridge border along Lyndhurst Road in the South River district of Augusta County, Virginia. Together, Minnie and George raised a large family. Minnie's husband, who went by George, was the brother of Bert and Emma.

Nannie Catherine Copper, often referred to by her family nickname "Nonnie", was born on December 19, 1903, in Rockbridge County, Virginia, and passed away on October 14, 1983. She was the daughter of Thomas James "T.J." Copper, Sr. and Mary Canter Beard. Nannie later moved out of state. She passed away in Pittsfield, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, in the fall of 1983.

Thomas James "T.J." Copper Jr. was born on April 21, 1913, in Rockbridge County, Virginia, and passed away on June 14, 1989. He was the son of Thomas James "T.J." Copper Sr. and Mary Canter Beard, growing up on the family lands outside of Lexington that were historically connected to the Jacob Beard estate.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1899 cabinet card photo of John Lambert "Bert" Copper, by Miley, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1910 cabinet card photo of Lambert Copper, his wife Ida Copper, their son Gerald Copper, and Aunt Margaret Copper, all on Uncle Tom's mules and Uncle Spencers's horse.

A circa 1910 cabinet card photo of Lambert Copper, his wife Ida Copper, their son Gerald Copper, and T. J. Copper, Jr., all on mules and a horse.

A circa 1910 cabinet card photo of Grandmother Drucilla Copper, Lambert Copper, his wife Ida Copper, Tom Copper, Margaret Robertson, Spencer Robertson, Gertrude Lair, Sam Lair, Garland Lair, Howard Lair, Gerald Copper, Harry Copper, Bruce Judy, and Emory Judy in Goshen, Virginia.

A circa 1898 small cabinet card photo of Minnie Copper.

A circa 1904 cabinet card photo of Nannie Copper, by Miley & Son, Lexington, Virginia.

Keywords

Mules

Horses

Copper, Sara - Copper, Zella snapshot and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39028

Unit Date circa 1866, circa 1899, circa 1900, circa 1904, 1907, 1919

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 7 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Hannah Ann Copper (1869–1936), the third child of Thomas Jefferson Copper and Drucilla McGuffin, married Howard Price (H. P.) Judy. By the early 1900s, the Judys had relocated to Pomona, California.

James Franklin "Jack" Ramsey was born on November 14, 1851, and passed away on January 10, 1928. He was the son of John Henry "Jack" Ramsey and Elizabeth Sarah Frances "Fannie" Moore Ramsey. James spent his life in the Augusta County, Virginia region, where he was married to Mary Elizabeth "M.E." Tyree (1852–1931). They were the parents of Minnie Odell Ramsey. When Minnie married William George Copper, the brother of John Lambert "Bert" Copper in 1899, it officially linked the two lineages. William George Copper's younger brother was Thomas James "T.J." Copper Sr.

Sarah Copper (1834–1902) was born to Darius Copper Jr. and Sally McAllister, and a sister to Thomas Jefferson Copper and Nannie Copper Beard. She lived as a single woman alongside her siblings in the Riverside and Goshen communities of Rockbridge County, Virginia.

Thelma B. Copper was the daughter of Benjamin McAllister Copper (1873–1936) and Luella Nickols (1873–1941), born on March 15, 1904, in San Francisco, California. She married Ralph Polk Cooper.

Thomas James Copper, Sr. (1877–1948) married Mary Canter Beard (1886–1955), who were a lifelong resident of Rockbridge County, Virginia. Mary was the daughter of Jacob Beard (1843–1918) and Hellen E. Holden (1853–1881).

Thomas Jefferson Copper was born on September 1, 1831, in Rockbridge County, Virginia to parents Darius Copper Jr. and Sally McAllister. He lived a full life of 70 years, passing away on February 6, 1902, in Goshen, Virginia. T. J. Copper, Sr. married twice and had 13 children. The daughter from his first marriage to Louisa Virginia Davis, was Nancy Elizabeth Virginia Copper, born cira 1862. His children from his second Marriage to Drucilla Margaret McGuffin, were Howard Eliza Copper (1865–1897), Sarah Louise Copper (1867–1942), Hannah Ann Copper (1869–1936), John Lambert Copper (1871–1920), Benjamin McAllister Copper (1873–1936), William George Copper (1875–1955), Thomas James Copper, Sr. (1877–1948), Margaret Eliza Copper (1879–1940), Mary McGuffin Copper (1880–1936), Lucy Gertrude Copper (1883–1962), Harry Samuel Copper Sr. (1884–1935), and Emma May Copper (1888–1965).

William George Copper (1875–1955) of Rockbridge County, Virginia married Minnie Odell Ramsey (1878–1956) on October 25, 1899, near "Big River" in Augusta County, Virginia. They lived at Lyndhurst, Augusta County, Virginia. William was the son of Thomas Jefferson Copper (1831–1902) and Drucilla Margaret McGuffin.

Zella Carroll Copper, who married James Luther Strole (1889–1968), was a lifelong resident of Rockbridge County, Virginia, born in 1887 and passing away in 1967. She was the daughter of Christopher Columbus Copper and Elizabeth R. "Eliza" White Copper (1860–1891).

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1900 cabinet card photo of Sarah Copper.

A circa 1866 cabinet card photo of Thomas Jefferson "T. J." Copper and James Franklin "Jack" Ramsey sitting in a buggy with two mules in Rockbridge County, Virginia.

A March 4, 1919 snapshot photo of Mary Beard (Mrs. Thomas James) Copper, Sr. and Hannah Ann (Mrs. H. P.) Judy in Pomona, California.

A circa 1904 cabinet card photo of Thelma Copper, by Sprague, Red Bluff, California.

A circa 1899 cabinet card photo of William George Copper.

A 1907 piece of a cabinet card photo of Zella Copper, by Miley & Son, Lexington, Virginia. This photo had been taken with an unidentified man and is part of the Miley Photo Collection in Special Collections, Leyburn Library, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Virginia.

Keywords

Mules

Davis brothers - Dunn, Francis carbon studio and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39052

Unit Date circa 1894, circa 1900, circa 1905

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 8 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Brothers Oray Madison "Ora" Davis, Sr., born August 17, 1892, William Alexander "Willie" Davis, born 1894, and Paul Foutz Davis, born on May 4, 1896, were the sons of Matthew Ellis Davis and Louisa "Lula" Baxter Crist.

The three oldest children of eight, of Charles Dice Denit and Bettie Ann Brown of Salem, Virginia, were Charles Edwin Denit, born 1890, Guy Blair Denit, born September 28, 1891, and Elsie Brown Denit, born 1893, who married Henry T. Kent.

Francis Jewett Dunn was married to Brooke Ruble. The couple raised their family in Lexington, Virginia,

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1900 cabinet card photo of brothers Oray Madison "Ora" Davis, Sr., William Alexander "Willie" Davis, and Paul Foutz Davis, by A. W. Maxwell, Buena Vista, Virginia.

A circa 1894 cabinet card photo of siblings, Charles Edwin Denit, Guy Blair Denit, and Elsie Brown Denit of Salem, Virginia, by Maury Bros., Roanoke, Virginia and Salem, Virginia.

A circa 1905 carbon studio photo of Francis Jewett Dunn, by Miley & Son, Lexington, Virginia.

Sam Entsminger cabinet card photo

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39093

Unit Date circa 1888

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 9 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Samuel Thomas "Sam" Entsminger (December 13, 1866 – April 30, 1953) was married to Cornelia Agnor Entsminger.

Faulkner, Sydney - Finks, Jack studio photo and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39094

Unit Date circa 1893, circa 1901, circa 1917

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 10 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Sydney Faulkner was from Moorefield, West Virginia, which was originally part of Virginia before the state split during the Civil War. She was born in 1881 and belonged to the prominent Faulkner family of the Potomac Highlands/Shenandoah Valley region, a lineage deeply interconnected across Moorefield, Winchester, and Lexington. Sydney was the daughter of Alexander "Alex" Faulkner and Susan Boyd Faulkner. Her mother, Susan, belonged to the well known Boyd family of the Lexington, Virginia area. Sydney lived a long life, eventually marrying Renick McNeill on November 14, 1906. She passed away in 1974 at the age of 93 and is buried in the Olivet Cemetery in her hometown of Moorefield, West Virginia.

Annie R. Figgatt was born in July 1893 in Virginia. Her parents, Mary Rebecca and Walter Lee Figgatt, lived and raised their family primarily in the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County area of Virginia, located north of Lexington. She was the eldest daughter, born just a few years after her parents married in 1889. Rebecca married Walter Lee Figgatt (1870–1939) in 1889 when they were both roughly 18 years old. Her husband's lineage ties directly back to the prominent 19th century Figgat families of the Lexington, Rockbridge County, and Botetourt County, Virginia areas. Rebecca's parents were Zachary Taylor Hiltzheimer, born around 1848 and Rebecca Emma Irvine, born around 1850. They were living in Virginia when Mary Rebecca was born in April 1871. Rebecca passed away in 1944. They were Beard family cousins.

Jack W. Finks was born on October 4, 1914, in White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County, West Virginia, to Feamster Elijah Finks and Mary Doughton Wright. He spent his childhood living in the Greenbrier district. Jack was a Corporal in World War II before tragically passing away in Europe in 1944. Jack's mother, Mary Doughton Wright was born and raised in Lexington, Virginia. She was the daughter of Mrs. L. Wright.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1901 cabinet card photo of Sydney Faulkner, by McCown and Lackey, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1893 cabinet card photo of Annie Figgatt, by Crescent Portrait Co., Roanoke, Virginia. This portrait company was in Leesburg, Virginia. Because it was common for 19th century portrait companies to employ traveling photographers or salesmen who took orders across the state, a family portrait from this company could easily have been ordered by or delivered to residents living further south, such as in Roanoke or Harrisonburg.

A circa 1917 studio photo of Jack Finks, by Albert Guionnaud of Paris, Greenbrier Hotel Photographer, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia and Palm Beach, Florida.

Garrett, Joy - Green, Emma postcard and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39095

Unit Date circa 1888, circa 1892, circa 1895

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 11 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

The postcard photo is of three of the fourteen children born to Robert and Mollie Garrett. They are Mae Pearl Garrett (born August 3, 1880; died September 21, 1953), Myrtle Ruby Garrett (born October 10, 1884; died October 19, 1977), and Edward Guy Garrett, Sr. (born 1888 or 1889; died in Marlin, Texas). The father, Robert Jasper Garrett was born on April 14, 1841, in Fort Houston, Houston County, Texas. His family line originally traced back to Giles County, Tennessee before migrating to Texas. Mary Elizabeth "Mollie" Smith, the mother, was born on June 16, 1840, in Mississippi. Her family moved to Falls County, Texas, when she was a school aged child. Their oldest daughter, Martha Ann Garrett, married a man named James Archer Dunkum, who was born and lived in Virginia. The Dunkum family line originates to the east of Rockbridge County, Virginia and has many branches that eventually married into local Rockbridge and Lexington families. The early generations of the Dunkum family settled deeply into Cumberland and Buckingham counties.

Plumetta "Plummie" Godwin was born in 1873, into a highly respected Virginia family, growing up primarily in neighboring Fincastle, Botetourt County, Virginia, but maintaining deep personal and social ties to her extended family in Lexington, Virginia. Her father, Dr. Isaac Robinson Godwin (1837-1916), was a prominent regional physician. He married Emmaline "Emma" Wilson (1844-1920). Plumetta grew up alongside several siblings. Visiting Michael Miley's downtown Lexington portrait studio was a major social custom for young ladies of Plumetta's status. Girls from prominent families had their portraits taken to exchange with friends, paste into family albums, or use as sophisticated social calling cards. She remained a fixture of the local community.

Pack Grant of Rockbridge County, Virginia was a resident of the area whose full legal name was Pack Grant Benson. He lived from approximately 1892 to 1971. His parents were Charles William Benson (1853-1936) and Martha Jane "Mattie" Hostetter Benson (1857-1936). It was common in 19th century Virginia to give a child a double first name honoring prominent local families, maternal lines, or close neighbors. In Rockbridge County, the Pack and Grant families were old, well established local surnames. Charles and Mattie Benson gave their son the unique name "Pack Grant," but his legal last name remained Benson.

Emma Laughlin Green was born circa 1885-1889 in Baltimore, Maryland. Because her grandmother was Sarah Laughlin Green and her great uncle was James Laughlin, she was officially the grandniece of Fannie Laughlin. Circa 1890-1894, around the age of five, Emma traveled from Maryland to Virginia to visit her great aunt Fannie. Emma was the daughter of William Green, Jr., a merchant clerk who lived and worked in Baltimore, Maryland. He was the son of William Green, Sr. and Sarah Laughlin Green. Her grandmother was Sarah Laughlin Green, who was the biological sister of James W. Laughlin. Because James W. Laughlin was married to Fannie Laughlin, Emma Laughlin Green was structurally Fannie's grandniece.

Scope and Contents

A circa 1888 postcard photo of Pearl Garrett, Guy Garett, and Ruby Garrett.

A circa 1895 cabinet card photo of possibly the father of "Pack Grant", Charles William Benson, by McCown and Lackey, Lexington, Virginia. "Pack Grant" would have been 3 years old in 1895.

A circa 1892 cabinet card photo of Plumetta "Plummie" Godwin, by Miley, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1890 cabinet card photo of Emma Laughlin Green, by Miley, Lexington, Virginia.

Hardy, Charles - Hockman, Elinor postcard and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39113

Unit Date circa 1891, circa 1898, circa 1910

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 12 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Born Laura Wright on March 2, 1871, she was the daughter of Leander Wright. She grew up in Lexington, Virginia, Rockbridge County. On June 17, 1891, she married Charles Henry/Harry Hardy in Lexington. She spent her adult life in the area and passed away in July 1928, buried in the Lexington Cemetery. Charles Henry Hardy (1867-1932) was born on October 16, 1867, and was a native of Winchester, Virginia in Frederick County. Because Charles was originally from Winchester and Laura was from Lexington, their marriage bridged the two regions. They were the parents of Charles Hardy and Elizabeth Hardy.

Eleanor Lambert Hockman (1921-2007) was from Virginia. Her parents were Emma May Copper (1888-1965) and William Hunter Hockman. Eleanor married George Franklin Fogelman, Jr. on April 9, 1944. Their marriage announcement was recorded in Luray, Virginia, located in Page County. George Franklin Fogelman, Jr. was born in South Carolina. Elinor was a niece of Mary and Tom Copper.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows

A circa 1898 cabinet card photo of Elizabeth Hardy and brother Charles Hardy, by C. Fred Barr, Winchester, Virginia.

A circa 1891 small cabinet card photo of Laura Wright Hardy.

A circa 1910 postcard of Elinor Hopkins, by Rhodes Studio, Luray, Virginia.

James, Lucy - Judy, Ruth studio photo, postcard and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39127

Unit Date circa 1880, circa 1890, circa 1892, circa 1898, circa 1905, circa 1907, circa 1923

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 13 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Lucy Wortham James (1880-1938) was a prominent Missouri philanthropist and a wealthy heiress. She was a descendant of the family that built the famous Maramec Iron Works in Missouri back in 1826. When she passed away, she left her fortune to ensure that the beautiful Maramec Spring park would be preserved and kept open to the public forever. She also funded local schools, libraries, and hospitals.

William Scott James was a young man growing up in the late 1880s and 1890s. Because he was the nephew of Lizzie Beard Thomas, his parents are tied directly to the James and Beard families of Howard County and Tipton County, Indiana. His parents were William James and Sarah Beard James. His mother, Sarah Beard, was the sister Lizzie Beard.

Susan F. "Studie" Agnor Johnson was born around 1865, to John William Agnor and Sarah Jane Shields of Rockbridge County, Virginia. She married Charles Anderson Johnson, a son of Reuben Appleton Johnson, Jr., on December 23, 1886. Charles and Studie Johnson farmed in Rockbridge County right alongside the extended Johnson brothers, placing them directly in the social, church, and market circle of the Goshen, Virginia Judy family. Bruce Robert Judy's parents were John Jordan Judy and Sarah Louise Copper Judy, who went by the nickname Lulu. She was originally born near Lexington, VA, but spent much of her life in the region before passing away in Harrisonburg in 1942. Bruce was born on September 28, 1889 and lived around Covington and Hot Springs, Virginia, for much of his adult life. He passed away on June 13, 1968, at the age of 78. When his mother, Lulu (Lula) Copper Judy, passed away in June 1942, her funeral services were held at the Baptist Church in Goshen, Virginia, where she was also buried.

Lillian "Lily" A. Judy was a daughter of John Jordan Judy and Sarah Louise Copper Judy, born in May 1898 in Virginia.

Marion Copper Judy was a daughter of John Jordan Judy and Sarah Louise Copper Judy. She lived from 1907 to 1975, and the sister of Bruce Judy and Lily Judy.

Ruth M. Judy was born on June 19, 1898, in Virginia. She was a daughter of Howard Price Judy and Hannah Ann "Annie" Copper, who raised their family in the Goshen area of Rockbridge County, Virginia. While Ruth grew up in the Goshen, Virginia area, she relocated to California as an adult and spent several decades living in the state.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

An 1880 cabinet card photo of Lucy James with maybe her father and a pet deer.

An 1890 cabinet card photo of Lucy James, by Asplund, Kansas City, Missouri.

A March 12, 1898 cabinet card photo of Scott James, by C. O. Hosman, Russiaville, Indiana. He was a newphew of Lizzie Beard Thomas.

A circa 1890 cabinet card photo of "Mrs.Sue Johnson," by Miller, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1892 cabinet card photo of Bruce Judy, by Miley, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1905 cabinet card photo of Lily Judy.

A circa 1907 postcard photo of Marion Judy.

A circa 1923 studio photo of Ruth Judy.

Edith Kirby postcard and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39161

Unit Date circa 1900

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 14 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Mary Edith Kirby (1877–1930) of Cumberland, Maryland, spent her entire life in Allegany County. She was the daughter of William Frank Kirby and Annie Elizabeth Paul Kirby and married Robert John Hatton in 1919.

The connection between Mary Edith Kirby's Maryland branch and the Copper family of Rockbridge County, Virginia, concerns industrial migration. During the post Civil War boom, the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad and the C&O Canal directly linked the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia to the industrial hubs of Cumberland and Frostburg, Maryland. Multiple generations of the Virginia Copper, Goodbar, and Kirby families moved northward along this corridor for work. The Kirbys of Rockbridge County, VA, such as William M. Kirby, who married Mary Edith Goodbar in 1908, shared ancestral roots with the Western Maryland Kirbys. Prior to settling in Allegany County, MD, branches of the Kirby family line originally moved through the Virginia valley.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1900 postcard photo of Mary Edith Kirby, to Aunt Ida. "Aunt Ida" refers to her younger sister, Ida Maude Kirby (1886–1955).

A circa 1900 cabinet card photo of Mary Edith Kirby, by Vance J. Laney, Cumberland, Maryland.

Lair, Clayton - Laughlin, Fannie cabinet card, postcard, and snapshot photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39162

Unit Date circa 1890, circa 1891, circa 1894, circa 1906, 1909, circa 1928, circa 1930

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 15 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Minnie Bickle was a prominent educator in Augusta County, Virginia teaching primary school students in the Staunton school system. Mattie Elizabeth "Minnie" Bickle was born on August 25, 1875, in Staunton, Virginia. Her parents were Yeizer Morris Bickle (1831–1909) and Henrietta E. Alby Bickle (1845–1918). Minnie never married and passed away on July 17, 1951.

Clayton Lair was born on June 6, 1894 in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Clayton was the son of John William Lair and Mary Susan Entsminger Lair. They raised Clayton and his siblings on a family farm in the Walker's Creek district of Rockbridge County, located just outside of Lexington. Clayton Lair married Margaret Huffman on October 4, 1916. Margaret was the daughter of Henry Huffman and Sarah Huffman, who were also a long standing farming family in the Rockbridge area.

Garland Ocie Lair (1903–1943) was the firstborn child of Robert Elmer Lair Sr. and Martha Jane Reynolds Lair. Garland passed away at a relatively young age during World War II. Leta Margaret Lair (1905–1982) was the second child and oldest daughter. She later married and went by Leta Lair Kyle. Howard Elijah Lair (1906–1980) was the third child. He lived a long life, passing away in 1980. These three children were the eldest siblings of what would eventually become a family of ten children.

William Henry Lam was a lifelong resident of Rockbridge County, Virginia, who spent decades working as a professional carpenter. He was born around 1869, married Mary Bliss, the daughter of Mason Bliss, a resident of the area. and died on April 25, 1936.

Frances Amy "Fannie" Lockridge Laughlin was born May 21, 1828, in Fairfield, Virginia, Rockbridge County. She married on January 9, 1851, Hugh Brown Laughlin (circa 1820–1885). Fannie died on March 15, 1908, in Lexington, Virginia.

Frances Ann "Fannie" Alexander Laughlin, Mrs. Hugh Laughlin, was the married name of Fannie Alexander Laughlin. She was the granddaughter of the Carlisle, Kentucky maternal grandmother Fannie Alexander. Fannie Alexander Laughlin, born circa 1910, was the daughter of James Franklin "Frank" Laughlin and Sallie Alexander Laughlin, who lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Fannie married a Hugh Laughlin in the mid 1930s.

Hugh Brown Laughlin, Jr., born in 1892 and his older sister Emma S. Laughlin, born in May 1888, were the children of Hugh Brown Laughlin Sr. and Erma Albertson Starr. They married in 1886. Hugh, Sr. and Erma moved out west shortly after their marriage and settled in Minnesota by early 1888, which is where Emma and Hugh, Jr. were both born. The family moved further west into North Dakota before 1900, where they established a homestead. Grand Forks, North Dakota, and Crookston, Minnesota, are only about 25 miles apart. They eventually pushed even further west, settling permanently in the Pacific Northwest, Spokane, Washington area, later in life.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

An 1894 small cabinet card photo of Clayton Lair, by J. L. McCown, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1906 cabinet card photo of siblings Garland Lair, Howard Lair, and Leta Lair.

A circa 1890 small cabinet card photo of Henry Lam.

A circa 1891 cabinet card photo of Emma Laughlin, by Blackburn, Grand Forks, Dakota.

A circa 1894 cabinet card photo of Hugh Laughlin, Jr. and his sister Emma Laughlin, by P. E. Lynnee, Crookston, Minnesota.

A circa 1930 snapshot photo of Brown Laughlin and a Mr. Wilkinson.

A circa 1890 cabinet card photo of Erma Laughlin and Minnie Bickle, by Blackburn, Grand Forks, North Dakota.

A 1909 postcard photo of Erma Laughlin, by J. Z. Dufresney, Portland, Oregon.

Two circa 1890 cabinet card photo (same image) of Frances Amy "Fannie" Lockridge Laughlin, by J. L. McCown, Lexington, Virginia.

Two circa 1928 small cabinet card photos of Frances Ann Alexander "Fannie" Laughlin.

Laughlin, Frank - Laughlin, William H. postcard and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39227

Unit Date circa 1881, circa 1890s, circa 1892, circa 1903, circa 1907

Mixed Materials [35101013593228] Box 1

Container 16 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Frank Laughlin, born circa 1901, lived near Carlisle, Kentucky, but he was known locally as the adopted son of Mrs. Thomas Alexander.

Hugh Brown Laughlin, born circa 1820 in Lexington, Rockbridge County, Virginia married Frances Amy "Fannie" Lockridge in 1851. He is the father of Hugh Laughlin Sr., born in Canada in 1857 who moved to the Grand Forks, North Dakota area. He is the grandfather of the two young boys, John and Hugh, featured in the Blackburn cabinet cards. P. E. Lynnee was a prominent pioneer photographer operating a studio out of Crookston, Minnesota, located just 25 miles southeast of Grand Forks. Historical photographer registries show that P. E. Lynnee operated his Crookston studio primarily in the 1890s. In the late 19th century, when family members moved far away, like Hugh Sr. moving from Virginia/Canada to the Red River Valley, they often brought a single precious, aging daguerreotype or paper photograph of their deceased parent with them. To share the image with his growing children, John and Hugh Jr., Hugh Laughlin Sr. would have taken that old Virginia photograph to the local professional studio, P. E. Lynnee in Crookston, and paid the photographer to shoot a copy of it and print it onto a modern, durable 1890s cabinet card format.

Hugh Laughlin Sr. and Mary had their children in Canada before immigrating to the Grand Forks, North Dakota area in 1888. Their oldest sons were John Laughlin, born October 1883 and brother Hugh Laughlin, born circa 1884, who died before 1900. They had another son named Hugh born in 1891, to carry on the father's name. Even though, John Laughlin grew up in the Grand Forks/East Grand Forks, North Dakota area, his career and family eventually migrated. His son, Charles Vaill Laughlin, was a highly distinguished legal scholar who firmly rooted a branch of the family in Lexington, Virginia. Charles graduated with his law degree and eventually became a revered, long time Professor of Law at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. He settled in the area permanently, raised his family there, and lived out his retirement in the city until his passing in January 1985 in Lexington.

James T. Laughlin, born 1831 in Bourbon County, Kentucky, was a prominent figure in the Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky community during the 19th and early 20th centuries. He lived out his later life in Carlisle, where he passed away in 1910. He was the son of John Laughlin and Tabitha Elizabeth Trimble. James married Catherine "Kate" Conyers.

William H. Laughlin was a well known turn of the century business owner from Lexington in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Along with his brother, he operated William H. Laughlin & Bro., a general merchandise store located opposite Grace Episcopal Church in downtown Lexington. Their store was famous for its catchy advertising slogan, claiming they "Kept Everything from Fishing Hooks to an Elephant". By 1902, he had sold his property interests in Lexington and relocated to Washington, D.C., though he frequently returned to Rockbridge County to visit family and old friends. He married Edna L. Christenson in 1933.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

Two circa 1903 cabinet card photos (same image) of Frank Laughlin, one of which is studio marked Martin, Carlisle, Kentucky.

A circa 1890s cabinet card print photo of Hugh Brown Laughlin, taken circa 1860, made by P. E. Lynne, Crookston, Minnesota.

Two circa 1892 cabinet card photos of John Laughlin and brother Hugh Laughlin, by Blackburn, Grand Forks, North Dakota.

A circa 1881 cabinet card photo of James T. Laughlin.

A circa 1907 postcard of William H. Laughlin in a fringed covered buggy with horse, maybe in Washington, DC.

A circa 1907 Atlantic City souvenir postcard of William H. Laughlin and maybe his sister, "Mrs. P.", by Myers-Cope Co., Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Keywords

Horses

McCabe, Scott - McGuffin, Drucilla silver print, postcard, carte de visite and cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39233

Unit Date circa 1880, circa 1883, circa 1885, circa 1918

Mixed Materials [35101013593343] Box 2

Container 17 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Scott McCabe of the Riverside/Buena Vista area of Rockbridge County, Virginia was born in September 1895 in Virginia. He was the son of John McCabe and Lorinda Elizabeth Whitesides. Scott married a local Virginia resident named Iris Louise Painter. He passed away on June 5, 1982 at the age of 86. Because he was a veteran who served as a Private in the U.S. Army during World War I, he is buried in the Crownsville Veterans Cemetery in Anne Arundel County, Maryland (located in Section 2F2, Row 16, Site 17).

James Frank McCutchen was born on March 16, 1865, in Summerdean, Augusta County, Virginia to George William McCutcheon and Emma Jane Kurtz McCutcheon. James was a member of the Class of 1889 at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia. He matriculated October 6, 1885 from Craigsville, Virginia and dropped from the Rolls circa 1886. Following his time at VMI, he lived in Augusta County and later passed away on November 23, 1911. He was a cousin of Emma Beard.

Drucilla Margaret McGuffin (1843–1916) was the daughter of Thomas H. McGuffin and Ann Wilson from Augusta County, Virginia. On July 28, 1864, she married Thomas Jefferson Copper (1831–1902). They raised a very large family in the South River district of Rockbridge, Virginia.

Miss McGuffin, a sister of Drucilla McGuffin, was either Nancy McGuffin or Hannah M. McGuffin, who married a Shewey.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1918 postcard of Scott McCabe in World War I uniform.

A circa 1885 carte de visite photo of James Frank McCutchen in VMI uniform, by J. A. A. Miller, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1880 cabinet card photo of a Miss McGuffin, a sister of Drucilla, by J. M. Hill, Bridgewater, Virginia.

A circa 1883 silver print photo of two poses of Drucilla McGuffin.

Mildred May Mutispaugh carbon studio photo

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39284

Unit Date circa 1907

Mixed Materials [35101013593343] Box 2

Container 18 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Mildred May Mutispaugh was born on May 1, 1906 in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Her parents were William Lee Mutispaugh and Catherine Rowsey Mutispaugh. She married Herbert Joseph Lilley on December 26, 1928.

Scope and Contents

Photo taken by M. Miley & son, Lexington, Virginia.

Nair, Clayton - Nannie Nuckols baby cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39294

Unit Date circa 1892-1915

Mixed Materials [35101013593343] Box 2

Container 19 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Clayton Nair born circa 1908-1912, was the son of Frank Hugh Nair, Sr. (1875–1947) and Allie Leitha Douglas Nair (1880–1961), who married in 1905. Clayton married Dreama Isabell Dull in Clifton Forge, Virginia, circa 1940s. They later moved out of state, living for roughly 50 years in Cincinnati, Ohio, where they were deeply involved in the Calvary Baptist Church. He died on August 30, 1992.

Nannie Nuckols was the daughter of George W. Nuchols and Ann Lawhorne Nuchols, born in 1873. She married G. Baxter Slough and they raised a large family in Buena Vista, Virginia.

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1908-1912 cabinet card photo of Clayton Nair.

A circa 1892-1915 cabinet card photo of a Nannie Nuckols baby, by Miller's studio, Buena Vista, Virginia.

Forrest Prettyman cabinet card photo

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39310

Unit Date circa 1896

Mixed Materials [35101013593343] Box 2

Container 20 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

The Rev. Dr. Forrest Johnston Prettyman was a prominent Methodist clergyman who served twice as the Chaplain of the United States Senate from 1903 to 1904, and again from 1913 to 1921. His connection to West Virginia stems from his time living and working in Martinsburg, Berkeley County, West Virginia, where he served as a pastor during the late 1890s.

General

This cabinet card photo is by P. C. Hunter, Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Rice, Grace - Robertson, Margaret carte de visite, cabinet card and snapshot photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39318

Unit Date circa 1892, circa 1897, circa 1904, circa 1909, 1922

Mixed Materials [35101013593343] Box 2

Container 21 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Elizabeth Lucille Ramsey was the eldest child of the Robert Ramsey and Mary Copper Ramsey family, who lived on and operated the "Rambo Farm," a sprawling historic estate situated on Ramsey Gap Road. The property sits right along the Calpasture River, nestled near the towns of Goshen, Rockbridge County and Craigsville, Augusta County, Virginia. The farm was originally part of a massive 8,632 acre land grant awarded by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1797 to Robert's ancestor, Dr. James Ramsey. Robert Ramsey was a deeply respected civic figure in the area. He served prominently as a ruling elder at the local Presbyterian Church in Craigsville during the 1940s and 1950s. Lucille was born on May 17, 1904 and married Charles Dewey Byrd Sr. on August 26, 1925. Following their wedding, the couple established their household in Highland County, Virginia.

Grace Rice was born circa 1877 to John Rice and Eliza Rice. Grace married Samuel Bryant in 1897.

Margaret Eliza Copper Robertson (1879-1940) was born to Thomas Jefferson Copper and Drucilla McGuffin Copper of Rockbridge County, Virginia. She married Spencer Beard Robertson in 1904 in Rockbridge County, Virginia. Spencer Beard Robertson (1874-1954) was the son of Robert Lewis Robertson and Sarah Jane Lyons Robertson of Augusta County, Virginia. Spencer and Margaret are both buried at Pomona Valley Memorial Park in Pomona, Los Angeles County, California.

Scope and Contents

A circa 1909 cabinet card photo of Lucille Ramsey.

A circa 1892 carte de visite of Grace Rice, by M. Miley, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1897 cabinet card of Margaret Robertson, by Murray, Staunton, Virginia.

A circa 1904 cabinet card of Margaret Robertson and her husband, Spencer Robertson.

A 1922 snapshot of Margaret Robertson and a boy with a dog, and a girl holding a cat, standing in front of Margaret's home in California.

Rucker family cabinet card photos

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/39319

Mixed Materials [35101013593343] Box 2

Container 22 (folder)

Biographical / Historical

Jewett Homer Rucker, born 1881, died September 8, 1899 at Hot Springs, Bath County, Virginia. He is buried at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Lexington, Virginia.

Minnie B. Rucker was born on March 9, 1873, in Amherst County, Virginia. Her family had strong roots in the Amherst, Bedford, and Rockbridge county areas. Around 1892, Minnie would have been about 19 years old as a finishing high school senior or academy student. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Brogan and Rucker families intermingled heavily in the social, religious, and academic life of the Blue Ridge foothills. Because high school education at the time required traveling to regional district schools or private academies, students from surrounding Virginia counties of Amherst, Rockbridge, and Bedford, lived in local boarding houses or commuted together. Minnie B. Rucker and Robert Brogan were part of this tight knit peer group. This portrait is a classic "friendship or classmate card" from this era. It was common practice for graduating students or close friends to visit a studio together to take a joint portrait to exchange with other classmates as a keepsake before they separated after school. Minnie later married Robert Benjamin Rucker, a distant cousin, and spent the rest of her life in the area, passing away on April 3, 1944. She is buried in a historic family plot in Amherst County, not far from where she and Robert Brogan originally attended school.

Minnie B. Burford Rucker (1873–1944)Minnie was born into the prominent Rucker family of Amherst County (directly bordering Rockbridge and Bedford counties).Her Circle: Her father, Clifford Llewellyn Rucker, passed away when she was quite young, leaving her mother, Mary, to raise the family. Growing up in the Blue Ridge foothills, Minnie's extended family spanned deep into Rockbridge County (particularly around Timber Ridge and Lexington).The Portrait Context: Turning 19 in 1892, Minnie was at the ideal age to complete her schooling at a local high academy or district school before she eventually married her cousin, Robert Benjamin Rucker, and settled into rural life in Amherst.Robert "Rob" BroganWithout a location on the card, "Rob" most likely traces back to one of two closely connected family branches that frequently intermingled with the Ruckers:The Rockbridge Brogans: This branch was established in the southern part of Rockbridge County near Buffalo Forge and Lexington. If this is your Rob, he and Minnie likely attended a high school program or a church academy in Lexington—the major cultural and academic hub for students from surrounding counties. [1] (/goto?url=CAEScQhRozAVKah0XySSm853WRiwl0gmSYlT03A2OGTcFqlnm_d_-5bp_B0gNYLxhj_nq1IncynGt3nQNJgDU930ie4IzEOZ7vki33JrH2eiYlBd4-hgDQZsgNavro6z254Tzc5UEiylGpP280fHludYHyvz)The Roanoke Valley Brogans: Led by patriarchs like John Tyler Brogan, this branch lived just down the valley. Turn-of-the-century youths from Roanoke, Bedford, and Amherst counties routinely intermingled at regional church conventions, agricultural exhibitions, and inter-district school events.Preserving Their StoryBecause this card lacks an official stamp, it is highly likely that Minnie and Rob handed this portrait directly to a classmate or family member as a personal keepsake, who then wrote their names on the back so they wouldn't be forgotten. You are holding a beautiful, rare glimpse into the social lives of rural Virginia teenagers from over 130 years ago!To see if we can find any more context about this photo, let me know:Is the writing on the back in pencil or ink?Do you know if your own family tree has roots in Amherst, Rockbridge, or Bedford County?Virginia Chronicle: Digital Newspaper ArchivePage FIVE — Rockbridge County News 6 October 1949Rockbridge County News, Volume 65, Number 49, 6 October 1949 — Page FIVE. Page PDF (1.31 MB) Locked. Back. RELIEF AT LAST ForYour ...the copper family which the photo is in where rockbridge countyKnowing that the cabinet card belongs to the Copper family collection locks the puzzle pieces perfectly into place.The Copper family is a prominent, multi-generational clan with deep historical roots centered in Goshen and the Lexington / Buffalo District areas of Rockbridge County, Virginia. Prominent family members of that exact timeframe—such as James McCowan Copper—were known to have their portraits meticulously cataloged locally. [1] (/goto?url=CAESfAHRozAVNovFRHGK1RLi5dVFUJlunfOG8RMBRppAppjENJkysMigtGM633S4XLp6qSsz6hn4IUqGNeRcWUeYgfkuc1oExcTNjCjsNaxkyLq1OEfSNiZXQm75Tzp_Bs8dA4z5Kt[2] (/goto?url=CAESewHrOzAVSg4OdCfsUrmg5gdCBUFxX-KHTHlJlDznRTph5Rz7iZ6PYtnjCaITjX0YrMpNCLdAAibiF3LM4EFalaxu-yqgTwrKs1XT9YgkXBXSsKt-1OEIIWSGnn0yTHlspg-Hi7R8gZvD4JoLgFnPkV9SHT099mMkUpQWQ)Having this specific family connection reveals how Minnie Rucker and Robert Brogan fit into the picture:1. The Proximity Match in Goshen / Buffalo ForgeThe Copper family lived and farmed right alongside the Rockbridge branch of the Brogans. Robert "Rob" Brogan's relatives lived in the southern part of Rockbridge County near Buffalo Forge, while the Coppers also spanned the Goshen and Lexington districts. Rob Brogan was either a direct neighbor, a school classmate, or a cousin to the Copper family member who originally owned the photo album. [1] (/goto?url=CAESewHrOzAVSg4OdCfsUrmg5gdCBUFxX-KHTHlJlDznRTph5Rz7iZ6PYtnjCaITjX0YrMpNCLdAAibiF3LM4EFalaxu-yqgTwrKs1XT9YgkXBXSsKt-1OEIIWSGnn0yTHlspg-Hi7R8gZvD4JoLgFnPkV9SHT099mMkUpQWQ), [2] (/goto?url=CAESfAHRozAVNovFRHGK1RLi5dVFUJlunfOG8RMBRppAppjENJkysMigtGM633S4XLp6qSsz6hn4IUqGNeRcWUeYgfkuc1oExcTNjCjsNaxkyLq1OEfSNiZXQm75Tzp_Bs8dA4z5Kt

Why Minnie Rucker's Card is in the CollectionMinnie B. Rucker's family from neighboring Amherst County had massive kinship and church connections that tied directly back to the Timber Ridge and Lexington families of Rockbridge. Teenagers from these families regularly attended church assemblies, regional agricultural fairs, or early high school academies together.Because it was standard Victorian social tradition to trade portrait cards with your closest friends, Minnie Rucker and Rob Brogan likely gifted this joint or matching "friendship portrait" directly to a Copper family youth—such as a young James M. Copper or one of his siblings—who lovingly preserved it in the family album. [1] (/goto?url=CAESewHrOzAVSg4OdCfsUrmg5gdCBUFxX-KHTHlJlDznRTph5Rz7iZ6PYtnjCaITjX0YrMpNCLdAAibiF3LM4EFalaxu-yqgTwrKs1XT9YgkXBXSsKt-1OEIIWSGnn0yTHlspg-Hi7R8gZvD4JoLgFnPkV9SHT099mMkUpQWQ)You are holding a direct social artifact of late-1890s Rockbridge County youth culture!To see if we can identify the exact Copper ancestor who owned the album, do you know which specific branch of the Rockbridge Coppers your family descends from (such as the Coppers of Goshen or Lexington)?Washington and Lee UniversityCopper Family | Washington and Lee University - Digital ArchivePortrait of James McCowan Copper's Three Children This is a portrait of three young adults taken for James McCowan Copper of Rockb...Find a GraveThomas Jefferson Copper (1831-1902) - Find a Grave MemorialThomas Jefferson Copper VVeteran. Birth: 1 Sep 1831. Rockbridge County, Virginia, USA. Death: 6 Feb 1902 (aged 70). Rockbridge Cou...so you think that they went to the lexington academyIt is highly likely that they did! Given that the photo was found preserved in a local Rockbridge County family album (the Coppers), Lexington would have been the definitive cultural and educational center where they all crossed paths. [1] (/goto?url=CAESgAEb6zswfSreQKB1eDCCnAntX1540N1APeJMir577uX7tNwqrOLHYqS4V_c-_DBO6OQweqKLyUGrU6vscQ70sEoRv_z5Py_Ulj7hNiSePLsFYRfDcjdf9hg3BjXBFP_V5DqUvurVr7xpQr6i4y3JlNbhXRdnlcQNzr1WeQ3YSzPxug)If they were school classmates in Lexington around 1892, they wouldn't have gone to a modern public high school (as the town's official consolidated public high school building wasn't built on Nelson Street until later). Instead, secondary education in Lexington during that exact decade operated out of a few distinct co-educational setups and academies: [1] (/goto?url=CAESgAEb6zswfSreQKB1eDCCnAntX1540N1APeJMir577uX7tNwqrOLHYqS4V_c-_DBO6OQweqKLyUGrU6vscQ70sEoRv_z5Py_Ulj7hNiSePLsFYRfDcjdf9hg3BjXBFP_V5DqUvurVr7xpQr6i4y3JlNbhXRdnlcQNzr1WeQ3YSzPxug)1. The Lexington Graded and High School CurriculumBy 1892, Lexington had established an advanced "Graded School" curriculum that provided high school-level instruction to local youth. Rural students from the surrounding county (like the Coppers and Brogans) and neighboring counties commonly traveled or boarded in town to attend these higher-level classes.2. A Regional Private Academy or SeminaryBecause the photo lacks a studio imprint and looks like a traveling setup, it perfectly matches the vibe of a regional school assembly. Local students frequently intermingled with students from nearby private co-educational preparatory schools or church-sponsored academies that peppered the area between Lexington, Buena Vista, and the Amherst border.3. The Copper Family ConnectionThe fact that this photo was saved by the Coppers strongly reinforces the Lexington academy theory. In a small 1890s community, if Rob Brogan and Minnie Rucker were attending school in Lexington, they would be sitting in the exact same classrooms as the Copper teenagers.Trading cabinet card portraits was the 1890s equivalent of signing a high school yearbook. Minnie and Rob likely sat for this portrait during a school term in town, printed a handful of copies, and handed this one directly to their classmate from the Copper family as a token of their school days together.Do you know the first name of the Copper ancestor who originally owned the album or inherited these photos? If you have any other names from the album, we might be able to find the exact class roster!Facebook-Original VirginiaOne of the oldest and historically Schools on the Eastern shore of ...Oct 9, 2024 — After Ann Smith retired in 1812, a good many persons served as principal of the school, including Reverend William Spottswood Whit...so what would the name of the school have been in lexingtonIf they were high school classmates in Lexington around 1892, they would have attended one of two specific institutions. At that time, modern county high schools did not exist in Virginia. Instead, secondary education in Lexington was provided by these exact names: [1] (/goto?url=CAESfwhRozAVF4hSv_PEwrn8GpdpQdBVPIQwBMrFPVWLhdf6zjhEggCdJBLncpjQe7w24oAL3LuEKucIjs5FM49uQQbI_ddOeuURz-YNz2MmZeB36xaboEm2NVaXf5GoY4xrliQ_OW5Gz9DvLGNjMxTHY0ZPCy3TuWX-IyDLc657mAg)1. The Ann Smith AcademyFor a co-educational or adolescent class photo from that era, the Ann Smith Academy was the most likely candidate. [1] (/goto?url=CAESeAHRozAVrv4v2qHe_tOup2_CEW83X5O-K6RnqhvgFVMev9seEK8t9l63nLKugwGcB5VUmB5coi6TFI362WvEbmGh-kSwtX2Aj1dEiG7dDZ_9Zm6uGt7cjzLPJE_RU7rd4YrEgNik6Ch6aRCmrX50mshzFHvGYf1Dw), [2] (/goto?url=CAESfwhRozAVF4hSv_PEwrn8GpdpQdBVPIQwBMrFPVWLhdf6zjhEggCdJBLncpjQe7w24oAL3LuEKucIjs5FM49uQQbI_ddOeuURz-YNz2MmZeB36xaboEm2NVaXf5GoY4xrliQ_OW5Gz9DvLGNjMxTHY0ZPCy3TuWX-IyDLc657mAg)The History: Founded in the early 1800s as a prestigious "female seminary," the school officially changed its structure in 1877 to admit boys. [1] (/goto?url=CAESfwhRozAVF4hSv_PEwrn8GpdpQdBVPIQwBMrFPVWLhdf6zjhEggCdJBLncpjQe7w24oAL3LuEKucIjs5FM49uQQbI_ddOeuURz-YNz2MmZeB36xaboEm2NVaXf5GoY4xrliQ_OW5Gz9DvLGNjMxTHY0ZPCy3TuWX-IyDLc657mAg)The 1892 Connection: From 1877 until exactly 1892, it operated as a prominent co-educational day school for the teenagers of Lexington and surrounding Rockbridge County. [1] (/goto?url=CAESeAHRozAVrv4v2qHe_tOup2_CEW83X5O-K6RnqhvgFVMev9seEK8t9l63nLKugwGcB5VUmB5coi6TFI362WvEbmGh-kSwtX2Aj1dEiG7dDZ_9Zm6uGt7cjzLPJE_RU7rd4YrEgNik6Ch6aRCmrX50mshzFHvGYf1Dw), [2]

(/goto?url=CAESfwHrOzAVF4hSv_PEwrn8GpdpQdBVPIPQwBMrFPVWLhdf6zjhEggCdJBLncpJqE7w24oAL3LuEKucljs5FM49uQQbl_ddOeuURz-YNzMmZeB36xaboEm2NVaXf5GoY4xrliQ_OW5Gz9DvLGnjMxTHY0ZPcY3TuWX-IYdLC6S7mAg)Because 1892 was the final year it ran under this specific academy model before the property was later integrated into the public school system, your portrait captures the absolute final era of the historic Ann Smith Academy student body. [1] (/goto?url=CAESfwHrOzAVF4hSv_PEwrn8GpdpQdBVPIPQwBMrFPVWLhdf6zjhEggCdJBLncpJqE7w24oAL3LuEKucljs5FM49uQQbl_ddOeuURz-YNzMmZeB36xaboEm2NVaXf5GoY4xrliQ_OW5Gz9DvLGnjMxTHY0ZPcY3TuWX-IYdLC6S7mAg)2. The Lexington Graded and High SchoolIf they were enrolled in the newly evolving public system, the school was known simply as the Lexington Graded School (which housed the early Lexington High School curriculum). [1] (/goto?url=CAESiQEB6zswFfQ9Yt0_MenUAY60b5cgA1gbPRY36-1hQTtXpzzfKBVeOBq5OmHBpbR34RqjE5bQEUX-NvRcdJa4SPIOFgL0wAmrkf5CeCcyoKr3S2G3R-YHAoh2YOsUgEkv-A1RsljRM9caUU3vthjQwM98uXuTIRL-izyLjzl5D81DKc6nUwFE_dhbw), [2] (/goto?url=CAESfwHrOzAVF4hSv_PEwrn8GpdpQdBVPIPQwBMrFPVWLhdf6zjhEggCdJBLncpJqE7w24oAL3LuEKucljs5FM49uQQbl_ddOeuURz-YNzMmZeB36xaboEm2NVaXf5GoY4xrliQ_OW5Gz9DvLGnjMxTHY0ZPcY3TuWX-IYdLC6S7mAg)The History: In the late 1880s and early 1890s, Lexington ran an advanced public graded program that allowed older teenagers to take high-school-level courses. [1] (/goto?url=CAESiQEB6zswFfQ9Yt0_MenUAY60b5cgA1gbPRY36-1hQTtXpzzfKBVeOBq5OmHBpbR34RqjE5bQEUX-NvRcdJa4SPIOFgL0wAmrkf5CeCcyoKr3S2G3R-YHAoh2YOsUgEkv-A1RsljRM9caUU3vthjQwM98uXuTIRL-izyLjzl5D81DKc6nUwFE_dhbw), [2] (/goto?url=CAESfwHrOzAVF4hSv_PEwrn8GpdpQdBVPIPQwBMrFPVWLhdf6zjhEggCdJBLncpJqE7w24oAL3LuEKucljs5FM49uQQbl_ddOeuURz-YNzMmZeB36xaboEm2NVaXf5GoY4xrliQ_OW5Gz9DvLGnjMxTHY0ZPcY3TuWX-IYdLC6S7mAg)The Setup: This program was so popular among rural county families (like the Coppers and Brogans) that by 1896, the town had to construct a massive new brick schoolhouse to accommodate the growing number of secondary students. [1] (/goto?url=CAESbwhrOzAVhp2lYDx9ts4XHlRBHSC1sppLfYqK_NMWsQPqZYUWIRtXM-q62qBk-AajdKNUXDEviDQTYhHvWoo2uSsOr_iEvX1Y6IGLyfekHUe0srh-AdUglAOt85LmzqeeGa1T6eHqm_Sj8kyuj-4acg)The VerdictBecause Minnie B. Rucker, Robert Brogan, and the Copper youth were all peers in the exact same neighborhood, they were almost certainly classmates at the Ann Smith Academy right as it transitioned, or walked the halls of the Lexington Graded School. [1] (/goto?url=CAESfwHrOzAVF4hSv_PEwrn8GpdpQdBVPIPQwBMrFPVWLhdf6zjhEggCdJBLncpJqE7w24oAL3LuEKucljs5FM49uQQbl_ddOeuURz-YNzMmZeB36xaboEm2NVaXf5GoY4xrliQ_OW5Gz9DvLGnjMxTHY0ZPcY3TuWX-IYdLC6S7mAg)Would you like help looking up local newspaper graduation announcements or school honor rolls from Lexington in 1892 to see if Minnie and Rob are listed together?

Scope and Contents

The photos in this folder are as follows:

A circa 1898 cabinet card photo of Jewett Homer Rucker, by Miller, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa 1913 cabinet card photo of Minnie B. Rucker, by J. L. McCown, Lexington, Virginia.

A circa cabinet card photo of Minnie Rucker and Rob Brogan, friends and classmates,