

Massie Family, Papers

Papers of the Massie Family of Virginia
1850-1905

Title Statement

Massie Family, PapersPapers of the Massie Family of Virginia MSS 11485

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Revision Description

2026-06 Collection-level metadata transferred from library catalog to ArchivesSpace and item level inventory created by Anastasia Scholze-Wang.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MSS 11485

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

/repositories/3/resources/1920

Unit Date

1850-1905

Mixed Materials [X032701188]

BW 11485 (box)

Language

English

Extent

31 items 1 folder housed within 1 document box

Repository

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Accession #11485, purchased 21 March 1999, C. Venable Minor Endowment Fund, 1998/1999.

Processing Information

Preferred Citation

MSS 11485, Papers of the Massie Family of Virginia, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia Library.

Biographical / Historical

The Massie Family was a Virginia family. The family was established in Nelson County, Virginia by Revolutionary War officer, plantation owner, and enslaver Thomas Massie (1747-1834).

Scope and Contents

The Massie family papers contain letters, 1858-1859, from E.B. Massie at the Brookland School, Greenwood Depot, Albemarle County, Va., to his mother, Mrs. E. F. Massie. He requests items; and mentions examinations, the acceptance of Christianity by boys at the school, a visit by Launcelot Blackford, and his election as president of the Piedmont Literary Society; and sends news of classmates and principal William Dinwiddie.

John Livingston Massie, a student at the University of Virginia, writes to Mrs. E. F. Massie about exams, the marriage of John Barbee Minor and the death of C.C. Lewis from typhoid fever. With these is a grade report signed by Socrates Maupin.

The papers also contain a letter, 1859, from Charles M. Massie describing attempts to establish a business in New Orleans; and a letter, September 9, 1862, N.H. Massie to his sister on the death of her husband at Manassas, and several cases of scarlet fever among white and colored children in Charlottesville, Va.

A letter, 1857, from the Western Lunatic Asylum in Waynesboro, reports on the imminent death of a patient.

Other letters convey family news; explain how to can tomatoes; and discuss religion and salvation. A 1905 form letter from Fishburne and Son, Waynesboro, describes varieties of seed for sale.

Keywords

Massey family

Brookland School (Greenwood Depot, VA.)

Piedmont Literary Society

University of Virginia--Students

Western State Hospital (Va.)

African Americans -- Virginia

Scarlatina

Private schools--Virginia

Religious awakening--Christianity

Religious awakening -- Christianity -- United States -- History -- 19th century

Scarlatina -- Virginia -- Charlottesville

Teenagers -- Religious life -- Personal narratives

Tomatoes -- Preservation -- History -- 19th century

Canning and preserving--History--19th century

Albemarle County (Va.) -- History -- 19th Century

Charlottesville (Va.) -- History -- 19th Century

Louisiana -- New Orleans

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives, Confederate

Waynesboro (Va.) -- History

Description of Subordinate Components

Empty envelope with most information ripped off

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294075

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Empty envelope with most information ripped off, undated

Letter Contents

Most of the front of the envelope is ripped off; the writing that can still be seen is the end of a name reading "...sie Esq." and the location can be deduced as Lynchburg, Virginia

Empty envelope addressed to Mrs. E.F. Massie, Politeness of Mr. Richerson

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294076

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Empty envelope addressed to Mrs. E.F. Massie, Politeness of Mr. Richerson, undated

Empty yellow envelope addressed to Mrs. E.F. Massie in [Waynesborough] Virginia

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294077

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Empty yellow envelope addressed to Mrs. E.F. Massie in [Waynesborough] Virginia, undated

Letter Contents

Short list written in pencil on back of envelope

Empty envelope addressed to Miss Nanie Massie in Waynesboro Va

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294078

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Empty envelope addressed to Miss Nanie Massie in Waynesboro Va, undated

Letter Contents

Likely sent from Lexington, VA; stamp on front is partially able to be seen.

Letter to Nanie from Isabella C Estell

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294079

Unit Date March 12, 1855

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Nanie from Isabella C Estell, March 12, 1855

Letter Contents

Sent from Lexington, VA. Letter asking what the recipient is doing recently; writer details how she reads story books most of the time and tells how school is going; mentions "Presbytery will soon be here and there is going to be something done at every church."; mentions that Cousin Sarah may come visit and how she wishes "some of you all would come with her."

Letter to Mr. Henry Massie from Harriett

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294080

Unit Date November 20, 1850

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mr. Henry Massie from Harriett, November 20, 1850

Letter Contents

Sent to Waynesboro, August from Richmond, VA. Letter from Harriett to her little cousin Henry; Harriett writes that she loves her little cousin as much as the larger ones, and that the next time Henry's "Ma" comes to visit her in Richmond, he must ask if he can come to visit as well. Writes an update on Henry's little (baby) cousin Mary Lizzie.

Letter to "My dear Aunty" from [M.L.] Cochran

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294081

Unit Date 1855

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to "My dear Aunty" from [M.L.] Cochran, 1855

Letter Contents

Details price of cans and settling costs between the two for owed money; process of how to can tomatoes; tells of how the baby has a bad cold, speaks of Nannie's visit.

Letter to a Mr. Massie (addressed as "My Dear Sir") from a physician

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294082

Unit Date June 30, 1857

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to a Mr. Massie (addressed as "My Dear Sir") from a physician, June 30, 1857

Letter Contents

Sent from the Western Lunatic Asylum. Physician writes to recipient that his brother is near death with a stomach illness.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Mother") from Bob

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294083

Unit Date June 28, 1858

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Mother") from Bob, June 28, 1858

Letter Contents

Sent to Waynesboro, VA from the University of Virginia. Reports that pants Mrs. Massie made Liv fit very well, and a request that she make him (Bob) a light linen sack coat like Liv's as the weather in Charlottesville is getting much warmer - a note from Charley on the back of the letter asking Mrs. Massie to send ginger cake for them to munch on at school.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from J.L. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294084

Unit Date January 27, 1859

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from J.L. Massie, January 27, 1859

Letter Contents

Letter to his mother telling that examinations are coming up and sending love to the family, also reports on Mr. Minor's upcoming wedding.

Letter to Bob from C.M. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294085

Unit Date February 17, 1859

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Bob from C.M. Massie, February 17, 1859

Letter Contents

Sent from New Orleans. Letter describing business in Richmond and New Orleans, as well as travel to New Orleans. Wishes the family well and asks Bob to share the letter with them in Waynesboro.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from J.L. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294086

Unit Date March 7, 1859

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from J.L. Massie, March 7, 1859

Letter Contents

Sent from the University of Virginia. Updates on school from JL Massie to his mother, as well as brief discussion of book that he plans to send her. Details that C.C. Lewis of Clark County, Virginia has died of typhoid fever.

Letter to father of John L. Massie (addressed as "Sir") from Socrates Maupin

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294087

Unit Date June 30, 1859

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to father of John L. Massie (addressed as "Sir") from Socrates Maupin, June 30, 1859

Letter Contents

Sent from the University of Virginia. Examination report for John L. Massie.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Mother") from C.M. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294088

Unit Date July 5, 1859

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Mother") from C.M. Massie, July 5, 1859

Letter Contents

Sent from Lynchburg, VA. Talks of his travel and mentions hearing from his mother of his father's accident and the death of a Sarah Fishburne.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294089

Unit Date June 10, 1858

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie, June 10, 1858

Letter Contents

Sent to Waynesboro, VA from Greenwood. Reports on how school is going and what examinations he has upcoming, also compliments the clothes she has made and sent to him.

Empty envelope addressed to Mrs. E.F. Massie in Waynesboro, VA

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294090

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Empty envelope addressed to Mrs. E.F. Massie in Waynesboro, VA, undated

Letter Contents

Also on envelope: stamp in upper left corner "From Brookland School..." ; writing on bottom left corner "Care of Albert [Tyree]"

Empty envelope addressed to Mrs. E.F. Massie in Waynesboro, VA

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294091

Unit Date March 21, 1859

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Empty envelope addressed to Mrs. E.F. Massie in Waynesboro, VA, March 21, 1859

Letter Contents

Also on envelope: stamp in upper left corner "From Brookland School..." ; writing on bottom left corner "Care of [Capt. Finks]"

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294092

Unit Date January 9 [no year]

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie, January 9 [no year]

Letter Contents

Sent from Greenwood. Updates on school, asking for items to be mended and sent. Others mentioned in the letter include William Dinwiddie (referenced as Mr. Dinwiddie).

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294093

Unit Date January 10 [no year]

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie, January 10 [no year]

Letter Contents

Sent from Greenwood. Updates on school, specifically Greek class; mentions that a Rev. Sam Watkins arrived and describes his wife. Others mentioned in the letter include Rev. Sam Watkins (and wife), Mrs. S.H. Nelson, classmates Harman, [Hamner]

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294094

Unit Date June 14 [no year]

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie, June 14 [no year]

Letter Contents

Sent from Greenwood. Updates on school, asks for summer shoes to be sent. Others mentioned in the letter include Mr. Dinwiddie.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294095

Unit Date November 23 [no year]

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie, November 23 [no year]

Letter Contents

Sent from Greenwood. Updates on school, on the cold he is sick with, on how Mr. Watkins and Miss Horsely will "certainly be married." Others mentioned in the letter include Charley, Maj. J.M. McCue, Mr. Watkins, Miss Horsely of Nelson, Mrs. [W'e's], Rev. B.M. Wailes.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294096

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie (addressed as "Ma") from E.B. Massie, undated

Letter Contents

Tells his mother of how him and the other boys at school have accepted Christianity and how it has had a great impact on their lives ("...truly has the spirit of God been poured out here...". Describes how he leads boy's prayer meeting in his room every few nights that attracted as many as 20 boys and how this acceptance of Christianity has made him feel a way he has never felt before. Also describes how he has been elected President of the Piedmont Society and expects to be elected as "Worthy Patriarch in the Division." Others mentioned in the letter include Watkins, Hamner, [Moyler], Meade, McPhail, [Rader], Mr. Richardson, Marye, Mr. Dinwiddie, Mr. Dudley, Conway, Hall, Ms (or Mrs.) Walker, [Wyche] Walker, Mr. Wayland, Mr. [Rich], Mr. Strother, Launcelot Blackford, Alex deClouet, Bryant, Robert, Mr. Dubose.

Letter to Charles M. Massie from a Mr. [Freret]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294097

Unit Date June 25, 1862

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Charles M. Massie from a Mr. [Freret], June 25, 1862

Letter Contents

Sent to Lynchburg, VA from Union Bank of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA. Requests Charles Massie to write telling of the particulars of his travel - because the writer had not heard if Massie had arrived at his destination. Letter was sent through associates, Col. Spence and Daniel C. Sampson. Letter writer's name is incredibly hard to read and distinguish.

Letter to Charles M. Massie from C.W. [Price]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294098

Unit Date July 16, 1862

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Charles M. Massie from C.W. [Price], July 16, 1862

Letter Contents

Sent to Lynchburg, VA, likely from Louisiana given context of letter. Apologizes for mistake of opening letter addressed to him (Charles M. Massie) thinking it for a Charles H. Massie. Other mentioned in the letter include Cashier (Cash.) Freret.

Letter to "My dear sister" from N.H. Massie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294099

Unit Date September 9, 1862

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to "My dear sister" from N.H. Massie, September 9, 1862

Letter Contents

Sent from Charlottesville. N.H. offers condolences and spiritual comfort to his sister, who's husband William died at the Battle of Manassas; also updates his sister on scarlet fever that has hit his home in both his children and the enslaved children. He states that the cases are not severe. Others mentioned in the letter include William (deceased husband of the addressed sister), Lucy (daughter of N.H.), Eliza (wife of N.H.).

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie from [indecipherable]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294100

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie from [indecipherable], undated

Letter Contents

Sent to Waynesboro, VA. Updates on daily life and family news; meetings with cousins and others passing through, mentions that they are waiting and hoping for Maria to get better. Others mentioned in the letter include Aunt Lizzie (addressee Mrs. E.F. Massie), Sue, Maria, Aunt Milly, Aunt [Cordelia], Frank Montgomery, sister Martha, Mary Walter, Mr. Bell, Alex and Lizzie, cousins June, Julia, and Kate. Paper is torn and covered by pieces of wax stamp in some places.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie from S.M.B.

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294101

Unit Date September 3 [no year]

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie from S.M.B., September 3 [no year]

Letter Contents

Sent to Waynesboro, VA. Family news and health reports on those who are sick; signed as "your affectionate niece, S.M.B." Others mentioned in the letter include Aunt N, Uncle N, Uncle C, Nannie, Abram. Paper torn at top left corner.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie from Annie

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294102

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie from Annie, undated

Letter Contents

Sent to Waynesboro, VA. Signed as "your affectionate niece, Annie;" talks of gloves she made for Miss Lizzie that she sends with, her religious feelings and dilemma, and Uncle Massie's visit. Others mentioned in the letter include Lizzie, Willie, Mrs. James [Waddell], Uncle Massie, Mr. Young, Col. Baldwin.

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie from [A.E. or A.R.] Cochran

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294103

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to Mrs. E.F. Massie from [A.E. or A.R.] Cochran, undated

Letter Contents

Sent to Waynesboro, VA. Signed as "your affectionate niece," asks for Miss Lizzie's hat to be sent up to Martha Waddell to be altered for Miss Lizzie to wear to a farewell sermon from a preacher at "Zion," also includes general chatting and asks Mrs. Massie to write and visit; note on front by address signed by [C.L.C.]. Others mentioned in letter include Miss Lizzie, Martha Waddell, Bob.

Form letter from Fishburne and Son

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294104

Unit Date 1905

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Form letter from Fishburne and Son, 1905

Letter Contents

Sent from Waynesboro, VA. Marketing/sales form letter describing bulk garden seeds available for spring planting.

Letter to "sister Lizzie" from Daniel Fishburne

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/294105

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [X032701188] BW 11485 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Digital Archival Object

Letter to "sister Lizzie" from Daniel Fishburne, undated

Letter Contents

Writes how he has gotten some skeleton skirts for different people. Others mentioned in the letter include M.C., J.