

# Lucas, Daniel Bedinger, Papers

Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers

1812-1924, n.d.



## Title Statement

Lucas, Daniel Bedinger, Papers Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers, 1812-1924, n.d. Ms.1995.012

## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-05-09 07:03:03 -0400.

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Revision Description

**2020-09-24** Finding aid notes updated to new department standards. juliags

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.1995.012

### Unit Date

1812-1924, n.d.

### Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

### Abstract

The Daniel Bedinger Lucas papers consist of scrapbooks, correspondence, poems and essays, newspapers, and other materials collected and created by Lucas, including several items created by his sister, Virginia Lucas, also a poet.

### Creator

Lucas, Daniel Bedinger, 1836-1909

### Creator

Lucas, Virginia (Virginia Bedinger), 1838-1865

**Extent**

1.8 Cubic Feet 4 boxes

**Repository**

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

## Administrative Information

**Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open to research.

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**Source of Acquisition**

The Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers were donated to Special Collections in May 1995. Additional materials were donated in September 1995. An additional letter was purchased in 2014.

**Processing Information**

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers, commenced and was completed in July 1995. Additional materials were processed in October 1997. The 2014 addition was processed in 2017.

**Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers, Ms1995-012, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

## Biographical Note

Daniel Bedinger Lucas, lawyer and poet, was born March 16, 1836, at "Rion Hall" in Charleston, Virginia (now West Virginia). He attended the University of Virginia, and then studied law under Judge John W. Brockenbrough of Lexington, Virginia. In 1859 he began practicing law at Charleston but moved the next year to Richmond. At the beginning of the Civil War in 1861 he joined the staff of General Henry A. Wise and took part in the Kanawha Valley campaign, but his physical disability from a childhood spine injury kept him from active service in the last years of the war. Toward the end of the war he ran the blockade to defend his friend John Yates Beall, accused of being a Confederate spy, but was unable to defend him against the charges. Beall was executed on Governors Island, New York.

In 1869, Lucas married Lena Tucker Brooke, of Richmond. Their only child, Virginia, was born in 1873. Barred from the practice of law until 1871, due to restrictions on the service of ex-Confederates, Lucas turned to literature and became co-editor of the Baltimore *Southern Metropolis*. Many of his poems were published in this magazine. He reentered the practice of law in 1871 and took a prominent role in the Democratic party politics of West Virginia, acting as Democratic elector in the elections of 1872 and 1876, to the legislature in 1884 and 1886, and as a member of the supreme court of appeals from 1889 to 1893.

Lucas's volumes of poetry include *The Wreath of Eglantine* (1869), with poems of his sister, Virginia, and *Ballads and Madrigals* (1884). He wrote three plays about the Civil War. His books include *The Memoir of John Yates Beall* (1865) and *Nicaragua, War of the Filibusters* (1896). He was known as the "poet of the Shenandoah Valley." He died at Rion Hall on June 24, 1909.

## Scope and Contents

The Daniel Bedinger Lucas papers consist of scrapbooks, correspondence, poems and essays, newspapers, and other materials collected and created by Lucas, including several items created by his sister, Virginia Lucas, also a poet. Topics include Lucas's defense of John Yates Beall, the exploits of adventurer William Walker, the origin of General Robert E. Lee's horse Traveler; and West Virginia politics. There are examples of Lucas's poetry scattered throughout the papers. The 1860 scrapbook includes several interesting pressed flower designs.

## Related Archival Materials

Virgina Lucas Letter, 1861 (Ms2018-021). [Finding aid](#) for this collection is available online.

## Keywords

Civil War  
Local/Regional History and Appalachian South  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

## Alternate Form Available

One of the scrapbooks in this collection has been digitized and is [available online](#).

## Rights Statement for Archival Description

The guide to the Daniel Bedinger Lucas Papers by Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, is licensed under a CC0 (<https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/public-domain/cc0/>).

## Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically. Undated materials are at located in boxes 3 and 4.

## Description of Subordinate Components

### **Issue of the National Intelligencer of Washington City (Washington, D.C.)**

**Unit Date** 1812  
**box-folder** 1 (box)  
**Container** 1 (folder)

### **Manuscript copy (made in 1880) of "The Cossack Celebration at Shephardstown, Jefferson County, Virginia" (now West Virginia)**

**Unit Date** 1814  
**box-folder** 1 (box)  
**Container** 2 (folder)

### **"A Study of the Literature of West Virginia" written by Mary Meek Atkeson, Ph.D.**

**Unit Date** 1822-1922  
**box-folder** 1 (box)  
**Container** 3 (folder)

### **Article, "A Blister Plaster, for the Cure of Cacoethes Scribendi" by John S. Gallaher**

**Unit Date** 1828  
**box-folder** 1 (box)  
**Container** 4 (folder)

### **One page of The Register, of Shephardstown, West Virginia. Article written by Dr. Harry T. McDonald about the Armory and Arsenal at Harper's Ferry**

**Unit Date** 1828  
**box-folder** 1 (box)  
**Container** 5 (folder)

**Issue of The Hagerstown Mail of Hagerstown, Maryland**

**Unit Date** 1829

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Appendix to the Congressional Globe, February 1844, pp. 337-352**

**Unit Date** 1844

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Two letters to William Lucas in Charleston, Virginia, (now West Virginia)**

**Unit Date** 1844

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Issue of Spirit of Jefferson, newspaper of Charleston, Virginia (now West Virginia)**

**Unit Date** 1850

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

**Article from Charleston, Virginia (now West Virginia) newspaper, written by Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1856

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**Poem written to Lucas, author is an unidentified sibling of Lucas (probably his sister Virginia)**

**Unit Date** 1859

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**Scrapbook of poetry, newspaper clippings, and pressed flowers (likely by his sister, Virginia)**

**Unit Date** 1860

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 12 (folder)

**Manuscript copy of an article from the New York Herald about the September 1860 court martial and execution of William Walker, whose military and political expeditions in Central America gained him the reputation as the "greatest American filibuster"**

**Unit Date** 1860

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 13 (folder)

**Letter from Daniel B. Lucas, writing from the Quarter Master General's Office in Richmond, Virginia, to his brother**

**Unit Date** 1861

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 14 (folder)

**One page from the Daily Enquirer of Richmond, Virginia**

**Unit Date** 1862

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 15 (folder)

**Photographs of General Turner Ashby and Daniel Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1862

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 16 (folder)

**Issue of American and Commercial Advertising of Baltimore, Maryland**

**Unit Date** 1863

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 17 (folder)

**Letter to "John" (John Yates Beall)**

**Unit Date** 1864

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 52 (folder)

**Scope and Contents**

Letter to John [Yates Beall], dated July 30, 1864 from Richmond. Lucas talks about recent personal and military events. Lucas defended Beall when was tried as a Confederate guerrilla and spy, but Beall was executed on February 4, 1865.

**Letter from Daniel B. Lucas in Canada, to his cousin Virginia. Mentions death of John Yates Beall**

**Unit Date** 1865

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 18 (folder)

**Receipt from Gibb Company, Merchants Tailors, in Montreal to Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1865

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 19 (folder)

**One page from the Winchester Times, with an article about the dedication of the Stonewall Cemetery**

**Unit Date** 1866

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 20 (folder)

**Two issues of the National Intelligencer**

**Unit Date** 1867

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 21 (folder)

**Letters from R. N. Engle at Elston Bank to Lucas about the tract of land he received**

**Unit Date** 1869

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 22 (folder)

**A statement of Daniel Lucas' account after the addition of Edward Lucas' estate**

**Unit Date** 1868

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 23 (folder)

**Scrapbook of newspaper clippings. Topics include the death of John Yates Beall, politics, the Civil War, and speaking engagements of Daniel Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1869-1876

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 24 (folder)

**Issue of The Saturday Review of Politics, Literature, Science, and Art**

**Unit Date** 1869

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 25 (folder)

**Check written by Lucas to Charles J. Faulkner for \$200.00**

**Unit Date** 1869

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 26 (folder)

**One page from the Winchester Times, in which Lucas wrote an article**

**Unit Date** 1869

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 27 (folder)

**Issue of Virginia Free Press-The Old Family Journal**

**Unit Date** 1871

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 28 (folder)

**January issue of the Westminster Review**

**Unit Date** 1872

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 29 (folder)

**Letter and statement of account from P. H. Kennedy to Daniel Lucas about Edward Lucas' estate**

**Unit Date** 1872

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 30 (folder)

**Essay (or speech) in praise of the Democratic Party**

**Unit Date** 1876

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 31 (folder)

**Scrapbook with newspaper clippings about William Lucas, Daniel Lucas, politics, and the Civil War**

**Unit Date** 1876-1893.

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 32 (folder)

**Robert Lucas' Survivor's Pension from the U.S. Department of Interior for serving in the Virginia Militia**

**Unit Date** 1878

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 33 (folder)

**Issue of The Morgan Mercury, from Berkley Springs, West Virginia**

**Unit Date** 1878

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 34 (folder)

**Issue of the Weekly New Mexican**

**Unit Date** 1880

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 35 (folder)

**Letter from A.W. Kerchival to Daniel Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1882

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 36 (folder)

**"Ballads and Madrigals," a book of poems written by Daniel Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1884

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 37 (folder)

**Scrapbook of newspaper clippings of poetry, songs, witticisms, essays, etc., compiled by Virginia Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1888

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 38 (folder)

**Issue of Spirit of Jefferson, a Charleston, West Virginia, newspaper**

**Unit Date** 1888

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 39 (folder)

**Ribbon from a Memorial Day celebration and Confederate reunion in Norfolk, Virginia**

**Unit Date** 1889

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 40 (folder)

**Letter from Okey Johnson to Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1889

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 41 (folder)

**Letter from Marcus Wright, War of Records Office, War Department of Washington, to Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1893

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 42 (folder)

**Notebook of household accounts and poetry in manuscript by Lena Lucas from Rion Hall**

**Unit Date** 1894

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 43 (folder)

**"Walker in Nicaragua," a typescript essay by Daniel B. Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1895

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 44 (folder)

**Letters between Joseph M. Broun and J. Johnston about how General Robert E. Lee obtained his horse Traveler**

**Unit Date** 1895-1899

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 45 (folder)

**Issue of The Winchester Times**

**Unit Date** 1897

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 46 (folder)

**"The Last Confederate Pay-roll" by Joseph M. Broun of Charleston, Kanawha County, West Virginia. Manuscript essay**

**Unit Date** 1897

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 47 (folder)

**"The Last Confederate Pay-roll" by Joseph M. Broun. Typescript copy of essay**

**Unit Date** 1897

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 48 (folder)

**Letter from Marcus J. Wright to Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1898

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 49 (folder)

**Program of the Eleventh Annual Reunion of the Charlestown Society, song written by Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1900

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 50 (folder)

**"Dramatic Works of Daniel Bedinger Lucas," a book of plays by Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1913

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 51 (folder)

**"The Land Where We Were Dreaming," a book of poems by Daniel Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1913

**box-folder** 2 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Issue of The Washington Post**

**Unit Date** 1921

**box-folder** 2 (box)

**Container 2** (folder)

**Pages from a scrapbook with topics about forestry and trees; includes miscellaneous poetry.**

**Compiled by Virginia Lucas**

**Unit Date** 1923-1930

**box-folder 2** (box)

**Container 3** (folder)

**Life of John Brown, by Michael Gold**

**Unit Date** 1924

**box-folder 2** (box)

**Container 4** (folder)

**Newspaper account of the 1865 death of John Wilkes Booth**

**box-folder 2** (box)

**Container 5** (folder)

**Drawing of the Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina colonies (1745-56) with a line showing Washington's journey in 1751**

**box-folder 2** (box)

**Container 6** (folder)

**Notebook of manuscript poems written by Daniel B. Lucas, with an index to the poems**

**box-folder 2** (box)

**Container 7** (folder)

**Argument as to why Jefferson County, West Virginia, should have been considered part of the Union under the act of July 4th, 1864. Author unknown, though probably Daniel B. Lucas**

**box-folder 2** (box)

**Container 8** (folder)

**Account in an unidentified newspaper about the "Last Days of the War" (Confederate view)**

**box-folder 2** (box)

**Container 9** (folder)

**Miscellaneous papers**

**box-folder 3** (box)

**Container 1** (folder)

**Miscellaneous correspondence**

**box-folder 3** (box)

**Container 2** (folder)

**Miscellaneous poetry**

**box-folder 3** (box)

**Container 3** (folder)

**Notebook of miscellaneous poetry**

**box-folder 3** (box)

**Container 4** (folder)

**Miscellaneous papers about John Yates Beall**

**box-folder** 3 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Framed photograph of Daniel Lucas**

**box-folder** 3 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Notebook of manuscript notes, presumably written by Lucas**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Newspaper article about General Robert E. Lee's description of Traveller, his horse, newspaper unknown**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**"List of Relics Contributed to the World's Fair Exposition" by Daniel Lucas**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**A notebook of poems written in manuscript by an unidentified person**

**box-folder** 4 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)