

# Lyman, Virginia Scott Cocke papers

Virginia Scott Cocke Lyman papers  
1898-2025

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## Title Statement

Lyman, Virginia Scott Cocke papersVirginia Scott Cocke Lyman papers MSS 16921

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-03-05 17:47:09 +0000.

**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

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

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

MSS 16921

### Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

### Unit ID

/repositories/3/resources/1824

### Unit Date

1898-2025

### Unit Date

1899-1905

### Language

English

### Extent

1.4 Cubic Feet 3 document boxes (letter), 1 half document box (letter)

### Extent

0.0063 Gigabytes 1 pdf (paper copy in collection) 1 thumbdrive (restricted)

### Repository

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

## Administrative Information

## Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection was a gift to the Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia Library on 22 May 2025.

## Preferred Citation

MSS 16921, Virginia Scott Cocke Lyman papers, Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia Library.

# Biographical / Historical

Virginia Scott Cocke was the great-granddaughter of John Hartwell Cocke II (1780-1866) of Bremo in Fluvanna, Virginia. He was an American military officer, planter and businessman. During the War of 1812, Cocke served in the Virginia militia. After his military service, he invested in the James River and Kanawha Canal and helped Thomas Jefferson establish the University of Virginia.

# Content Description

This collection contains 268 letters Virginia Scott Cocke wrote to David Russell Lyman, whom she would marry in 1905. The letters date from 1898 to 1905 and document their courtship. Also included are photographs, a postcard, a bookplate, an album, marriage certificates, transcripts of the letter, and a thumb drive.

Virginia Scott Cocke lived at 'Lower Bremo' in Fluvanna County, Virginia, and met her future husband when he was a senior at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. The bulk of the collection is the letters written from Virginia to David.

These letters illuminate the life of a privileged if somewhat impoverished, Southern gentlewoman. Throughout these letters, she writes of life in Virginia, visits to family and friends in Alexandria, VA, Baltimore, New York City, Wilmington, NC, Richmond, New Orleans, Mississippi, and a trip to Honduras on a United Fruit Company ship.

Dr. David Russell Lyman, during this time, did his medical internship at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Dr. Trudeau's tuberculosis sanatorium at Saranac Lake, New York, where he was both a patient and a physician. He was then hired to establish a tuberculosis sanatorium in Wallingford, Connecticut, now Gaylord Specialty Healthcare.

Virginia Jenkins, the granddaughter of Virginia and David, prepared a transcript of the letters, which is included in the collection in print and as a PDF.

In addition to the letters are photographs of Virginia, David, Jane, their daughter, some images of Bremo, several UVA football players, and a photograph of a Black woman and possibly her two children identified as "Mammy" who worked at Lower Bremo. Virginia refers to her once in the correspondence, from a letter dated April 15, 1902. It mentions the passing of a man named Phil, who appears to be Mammy's partner, and Mammy's grief.

Along with the photos are a postcard of University of Virginia's East Colonade from Jane Lyman to her father, David R. Lyman, from 1925, an album with a poem and accompanying photographs, certificates of marriage, and Virginia's bookplate of Lower Bremo.

# Related Materials

This collection is related to other Cocke family papers MSS 640 John Hartwell Cocke papers and MSS 2433 Papers of Philip St. George.

# Keywords

University of Virginia  
Charlottesville (Va.) -- History -- 20th century  
photographs  
Love letters

# Description of Subordinate Components

## Letters and transcript

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289465

### Transcript "A Love Story" Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289466

Unit Date 1898-1903

Mixed Materials [X031779620] 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Language English

### Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289467

Unit Date 1898 September-October

Mixed Materials [X031779620] 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Language English

### Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289468

Unit Date 1899 February-September

Mixed Materials [X031779620] 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Language English

### Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289469

Unit Date 1899 November-December

Mixed Materials [X031779620] 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Language English

### Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289470

Unit Date 1900 January

Mixed Materials [X031779620] 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Language English

### Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289476

Unit Date 1900 February

Mixed Materials [X031779620] 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Language English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289477

**Unit Date** 1900 March

**Mixed Materials [X031779620]** 1 (box)

**Container** 7 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289478

**Unit Date** 1900 April

**Mixed Materials [X031779620]** 1 (box)

**Container** 8 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289479

**Unit Date** 1900 May

**Mixed Materials [X031779620]** 1 (box)

**Container** 9 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289480

**Unit Date** 1900 June

**Mixed Materials [X031779620]** 1 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289481

**Unit Date** 1900 July

**Mixed Materials [X031779620]** 1 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289482

**Unit Date** 1900 August

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 1 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289483

**Unit Date** 1900 September

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289484

**Unit Date** 1900 October

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289485

**Unit Date** 1900 November

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289486

**Unit Date** 1900 December

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 5 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289487

**Unit Date** 1901 January

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 6 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289488

**Unit Date** 1901 August-September

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289489

**Unit Date** 1902 January-September

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 8 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289490

**Unit Date** 1902 November-December

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289491

**Unit Date** 1903 January-February

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289492

**Unit Date** 1903 March-April

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 11 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289493

**Unit Date** 1903 May-July

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 12 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289494

**Unit Date** 1903 September-December

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 13 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289495

**Unit Date** 1904 January

**Mixed Materials [X031779621]** 2 (box)

**Container** 14 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289496

**Unit Date** 1904 February-March

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289497

**Unit Date** 1904 April-May

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 2 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289498

**Unit Date** 1904 July-August

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 3 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289499

**Unit Date** 1904 September-October

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289500

**Unit Date** 1904 November-December

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289501

**Unit Date** 1905 January

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289502

**Unit Date** 1905 February-March

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 7 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman and their wedding invitation**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289503

**Unit Date** 1905 July-August

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289504

**Unit Date** 1905 September 1-16

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 9 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Letters from Virginia Scott Cocke to David Russell Lyman and one letter from David Lyman to Virginia**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289507

**Unit Date** 1905 September 21-30

**Mixed Materials [X031779622]** 3 (box)

**Container** 10 (Folder)

**Language** English

## **Virginia Scott Cocke photograph**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289508

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 1 (Folder)



## **Lower Bremono photographs and bookplate**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289509

**Unit Date** 1900

**Unit Date** 1991

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 2 (Folder)

## **Photograph of an African American woman titled "Mammy" with two children**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289510

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 3 (Folder)

## **David Lyman photograph and postcard of East Colonnade, University of Virginia to Jane Lyman**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289511

**Unit Date** 1925

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

## **Photographs of friends at the University of Virginia including [Bob Tunstall]**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289512

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 5 (Folder)

## **Virginia Scott Cocke and David Russell Lyman marriage certificate**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289513

**Unit Date** 1905 October 12-13

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 6 (Folder)

## **Photo album with poetic narrative**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289514

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 7 (Folder)

## **David Lyman photograph with his sisters, Lillian and May in Charlottesville, Virginia**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289515

**Unit Date** 1890

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 8 (Folder)

## **University of Virginia football players**

**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)

**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival\_objects/289516

**Mixed Materials [X01779623]** 4 (box)

**Container** 9-10 (Folder)