**The University of Virginia in 100 Objects**

Featuring artifacts from the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library, other University entities, and private collections, *The University of Virginia in 100 Objects* commemorates UVA’s Bicentennial. The one hundred artifacts included represent moments from two centuries of UVA history in an exhibition that ranges across space as well as time--you can find seventy-nine objects in the galleries of the Harrison Institute/Small Special Collections Library, and twenty-one more may be found at sixteen satellite sites around Grounds.

What are these objects and why were they chosen? They range in size from a pin to a building. Some are symbols of the University’s history or the products of intellectual inquiry. They document institutional crises, everyday life, and UVA’s place in the Charlottesville community and beyond. From slavery to secret societies, from academics to athletics, from Homer to Hemings to Holsinger, these objects shed light on the people, events, and traditions that shaped the University as we know it today.

Inevitably, the story these object tell is incomplete: we encourage visitors to tell us what we left out: submit your choice for the 101st object on the exhibition website or in the Main Gallery of Harrison/Small.  http://100objects.lib.virginia.edu

This exhibition is based on the book *Mr. Jefferson’s Telescope* (UVA Press, 2017), which visitors are encouraged to consult for deeper discussions of each object.

*The* *University of Virginia in 100 Objects* is produced by the University of Virginia Library with support from the University of Virginia Bicentennial and funding provided by the Alumni Board of Trustees.

**1**

**Jefferson's Telescope**

Historians believe that Thomas Jefferson may have used this mahogany and silver telescope to spy on British raiders from the north terrace of Monticello. Perhaps he also used it to watch the construction of the University of Virginia. The school was the last great project in a life full of great projects and marked its founder—yes, the metaphor is obvious—as a master visionary. But gazing through this spyglass back in 1817, could he possibly have foreseen the triumphs and tragedies of the next two hundred years? Who knows, but this image of Jefferson peering down from his “little mountain” perfectly captures how his legacy looms over the University even today.

*Courtesy of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello*

**2**

**Whalebone and Ivory Walking Stick**

Joseph C. Cabell presented this whalebone and ivory walking stick to Thomas Jefferson at Christmas in 1809 in celebration of the president's recent retirement. Cabell, a longtime friend, was elected the following year to the Senate of Virginia and became what Jefferson called the “main pillar of support” for an ambitious education plan. The idea was to create a three-tiered public education system, but all that survived of Cabell's original bill was a yearly state appropriation for a university. The state chartered the University of Virginia on January 25, 1819, and Cabell immediately joined the Board of Visitors and later served as rector. Cabell Hall is named in his honor.

*Courtesy of the Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello*

**3**

**Plans for the Academical Village**

Long before the University of Virginia was chartered, Thomas Jefferson was working out his ideas for a school. This 1814 architectural plan envisions what was then called Albemarle Academy. The outlines of the Academical Village can be already be seen in a large, empty Lawn surrounded on three sides by nine pavilions, with the fourth side meant to remain open. What drove Jefferson's thinking early on, more perhaps than classical design, was simply spreading out. He grumbled that his alma mater, the College of William and Mary, was miserable, crowded, and too prone to fire and outbreaks of disease. His plan would offer something more beautiful, yes, but also more practical.

“Plan and Elevation of Albemarle Academy,” 1814. (MSS 171: N-309). Facsimile reproduction.

*Thomas Jefferson Architectural Drawings for the University of Virginia*

**4**

**Early Tools [Item at satellite site]**

The divider belonged to James Dinsmore, a trusted builder employed by Thomas Jefferson who helped turn the designs for the Academical Village into a reality. It was discovered in 2010 in the attic of student rooms near Hotel F.  The saw bears the Brockenbrough stamp, suggesting it was owned by the University's first proctor, Arthur S. Brockenbrough, perhaps purchased from his family-owned hardware store in Richmond.

Much of the labor for actually erecting the University of Virginia, meanwhile, was enslaved. These men cleared and leveled ground, hauled timber, and made bricks. Carpenter Sam did tinwork and helped construct two pavilions and three hotels. Elijah quarried stone and William Green did iron work. As much as Dinsmore and Brockenbrough, they were responsible for the construction of the University.

**5**

**South Elevation of the Rotunda**

This sketch of the Rotunda in Thomas Jefferson's hand serves as the model for the University of Virginia's logo. Ironically, this defining feature of Jefferson's design for the school was not in his original plan. In fact, it wasn't even his idea. From the very beginning he sought advice, in particular from William Thornton, who designed the United States Capitol, and Benjamin Henry Latrobe, who largely built it. It was Latrobe who first suggested the Rotunda, and on this drawing, Jefferson actually credited the architect before crossing his name out. Apparently, Latrobe and Jefferson's friend, President James Monroe, had fallen out and Jefferson did not want to anger an important politician. It worked so well that Latrobe's input has largely been forgotten.

“South Elevation of the Rotunda,” 1819. (MSS 171: N-328). Facsimile reproduction.

*Thomas Jefferson Architectural Drawings for the University of Virginia*

**6**

**Pavilion VII [satellite location]**

In July 1817 two enslaved laborers helped Thomas Jefferson mark the perimeter of the Lawn, which had once been a cornfield belonging to James Monroe. Ten more slavesbegan turning over the soil. A few months later, on October 6, the cornerstone was laid for what is now Pavilion VII. Jefferson, James Madison, and James Monroe were all present for the ceremony, which included full Masonic rites. Following the design of William Thornton, an eccentric physician turned amateur architect, the pavilion housed the University's library until the Rotunda was completed in 1826, and for a decade was home to the Proctor. In 1907 it became home to the Colonnade Club, open to faculty and alumni.

**7**

**First Minutes of the Board of Visitors**

After the state chartered the University of Virginia in January 1819, a Board of Visitors convened on March 29. The group included such luminaries as Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Joseph C. Cabell, and John Hartwell Cocke. Their first order of business was to elect Jefferson rector. The visitors also set tuition and professors' salaries and approved the hiring of Dr. Thomas Cooper, a professor of chemistry and law. So controversial was this last action that Cooper was forced to resign a year later. An accomplished scientist and “one of the ablest men in America,” according to Jefferson, Cooper had also advocated for Unitarianism. This was too much for Virginia's conservative clergy, who probably considered it bad enough that Jefferson had established a university without a minister to teach religion.

Minute Book of the Board of Visitors, 1817–1828. (RG-1/1/1.381). Accompanied by facsimile reproduction.

*University of Virginia Archives*

**8**

**Bust of Lafayette [Item at satellite site]**

This Sèvres porcelain bust of the Marquis de Lafayette, a copy of the original created by the famed French sculptor Jean-Antoine Houdon, was a gift from France to the University of Virginia in 1904. It commemorates Lafayette's friendship with Thomas Jefferson, which went back to the Revolutionary War and Jefferson's diplomatic stay in Paris. The bust's location in the Rotunda makes sense: in November 1824, while on a triumphant reunion tour of the United States, Lafayette dined with Jefferson in the still-unfinished building. The Frenchman later wrote that he found his old friend "bearing marvelously well under his eighty one years of age."

**9**

**Dunglison Chalice**

Thomas Jefferson presented this chalice to Dr. Robley Dunglison, the University of Virginia's first professor of medicine, shortly before the founder's death in 1826. While Jefferson was circumspect of doctors—he was quoted by Dunglison as saying, “It is not to physic that I object, so much as physicians”—the doctor earned enough of Jefferson's trust to become his personal physician not long after arriving on Grounds in March 1825. Dunglison stayed until 1833, and eventually attained the unusual distinction of attending the final illnesses of three former presidents: Jefferson in 1826, James Monroe in 1831, and James Madison in 1836.

*Courtesy of Historical Collections & Services, Claude Moore Health Sciences Library*

**10**

**Jefferson's Hair**

This lock of hair was posthumously clipped from Thomas Jefferson's head by his private secretary, Nicholas Philip Trist, husband of Jefferson's granddaughter, Virginia Randolph. Such *memento mori* were typical of the nineteenth century, with this one coming to the University as part of a collection of Jefferson family documents.

Jefferson lived less than a year and a half beyond the first class meetings in March, 1825. Philip Alexander Bruce, a graduate of the University and its centennial historian, pictures the aged Jefferson on his final visit to Grounds, “looking out through a window on the Lawn to watch the workingmen as they raised a capital to the top of the column at the southwest corner of the portico. So oblivious was he of all besides that he had unconsciously remained standing until [the University librarian] silently brought him a chair.”

Lock of Thomas Jefferson’s hair, July 4, 1826. (MSS 5291)

*Jefferson-Kirk Manuscripts relating to Thomas Jefferson and the Jefferson and Randolph Families*

**11**

**Poe's Library Fine**

This ledger shows Edgar Allan Poe as owing 58 cents for an overdue book he had checked out four months after matriculating on February 14, 1826. Poe stayed at the University of Virginia until December 15 that year, when he left due to money troubles. He never did pay his fine, although the ledger shows that the librarian Harry Clemons settled the account more than a century later. Poe, who had served as secretary of the Jefferson Literary and Debating Society, went on, of course, to become the author of such classics as “The Raven” and “The Tell-Tale Heart.”

“List of Library Fines Imposed Since the 16th Day of June 1826”(MSS 11911).

*University of Virginia Archives*

**12**

***A Voyage to the Moon***

The author of *A Voyage to the Moon*, published in 1827, is said to be one Joseph Atterley, who promises his readers an “account of the manners and customs, science and philosophy” of moon men and lunar ladies. The novel's actual author was George Tucker, a founding member of the University of Virginia's faculty. Thomas Jefferson had noticed Tucker because of  his service in Congress and his political essays, and in this early science-fiction novel the professor finds occasion to tweak nationalism, race, and American politics, and expound on a variety of more esoteric matters, from the definition of beauty to the arts in Egypt. Tucker retired in 1845, wrote a four-volume history of the United States that assured its readers that civil war was not imminent, and then died in 1861, just as the war was beginning.

Joseph Atterley [George Tucker], *A Voyage to the Moon*: *With Some Account of the Manners and Customs, Science and Philosophy, of the People of Morosofia, and Other Lunarians*

(New York: E. Bliss, 1827). (Taylor 1827 .T83 V6)

*Taylor Collection of American Best-Sellers*

**13**

**The Crackerbox [Satellite site]**

This boxy building looks like little else on Grounds. Built between 1826 and 1840, it probably served as a kitchen and cook's quarters for the East Range hotels, although someone told *The Cavalier Daily* in 1974 that Jefferson had established a bordello here in order to keep students out of trouble. In fact, structures like this were thrown up and torn down regularly depending on the needs of the school's enslaved laborers.

UVA’s first students were prohibited from bringing slaves onto Grounds, but professors could, and many did. The University itself only ever owned a single slave, but it rented a minimum of five to eight a year. Others belonged to hotelkeepers, contractors who used enslaved labor to tend to the students’ every need. In buildings like this they worked and slept, and it's possible to still see where a twelve-by-twelve addition was added to the building, and probably used as slaves' quarters.

**14**

**Photograph of Sally Cottrell Cole**

This is one of just a few images of enslaved laborers at the University. Sally Cottrell was born around 1800 at Monticello and hired out to the English-born University of Virginia professor Thomas Hewitt Key and his pregnant wife, Sarah. Unhappy in Virginia, the Keys prepared to return home in 1827, but first negotiated to purchase and free Cottrell. Virginia law required that if she were freed, Cottrell would also have to leave the state, so she apparently remained technically enslaved. She earned money washing clothes and married a free black man named Reuben Cole in 1846. After the Civil War she continued to live and work in Albemarle County and died there in 1875.

Carte-de-visite photograph of “‘Mammy’ Sally Cole,” undated. (MSS 10100-d). Facsimile reproduction.

*Minor, Southall and Venable Family Photographs*

**15**

**Sidereal Clock [Item at satellite site]**

Beginning in 1827, this Parkinson and Frodsham sidereal clock sat in the Rotunda. Purchased in London for the University of Virginia, it was used to measure time based on the Earth's rate of rotation relative to fixed stars, helping astronomers know where to point their telescopes to view the night sky. Students who were outside using their telescopes could peer through a Rotunda window to read the clock. It was moved to the newly constructed McCormick Observatory in 1885 and has been in nearly continuous operation since then. It was returned to the Rotunda following the building’s recent restoration.

**16**

**Bookcase in Pavilion VII [item at satellite location]**

The refined nineteenth-century Virginia breakfront in Pavilion VII holds English china, though pieces like it were frequently used to hold books in elite federal-era homes. While not original to this building, its presence evokes the front room’s early function as the University’s first library. Until the Rotunda was completed in 1827-1828, books for student use were shelved here. Thomas Jefferson famously sold his own collection to the Library of Congress several years before the establishment of the University and, with his colleagues and the original Board of Visitors, created a list of books to be purchased anew for the University, insisting the library include "nothing of mere amusement." Those first books—6,860 serious scholarly volumes—comprised the nucleus of the University's catalog. Soon they moved to the Rotunda, where they numbered 56,733 by 1895. That year a fire destroyed about 35,000 books. In 1938, the library moved to Alderman and today includes twelve separate facilities and more than five million volumes.

**17**

**Rotunda Chemical Hearth**

In April 2013, a historic preservation firm working here in the Rotunda uncovered this chemical hearth. John Patten Emmet, the University of Virginia's first chemistry professor, had complained that the apparatus would make his house "oppressively hot," and Thomas Jefferson allowed him to move his laboratory to this spot. The hearth was apparently bricked over in 1845 and survived both the 1895 fire and 1970s renovation of the Rotunda. When it was found, the hearth contained crucibles, stacks of small glass plates, and glass tubes that had been heated and twisted in experiments.

**18**

**The Student**

The illustrator David Hunter Strother (penname Porte Crayon) sketched this University of Virginia student on a visit to Grounds in 1853. “Indeed,” Strother wrote in his travel narrative *Virginia Illustrated*, published in 1871, “it gives me great pleasure to say that, although the vivacity of these blooded colts at our Virginia colleges frequently leads them to all sorts of deviltries and excesses, they have almost invariably the manners of gentlemen.” He may have been understating the case, at least where deviltries were concerned. The students had become notorious for their riots, duels, and abuse of animals and faculty alike, at least in the University's first two decades. Only a murder would finally turn the tide toward peace on Grounds.  
  
Porte Crayon [David Hunter Strother], *Virginia Illustrated* (New York: Harper, 1871). (F247 .R2 S9 1871)

*Gift of Bernard W. McCray Jr.*

**19**

**Letter from Robert Lewis Dabney to His Brother**

In this letter of November 13, 1840, the student Robert Lewis Dabney recounts the extraordinary events of the previous day. Students had been rioting in their annual commemoration of an 1836 student uprising against a faculty administrative decision. By evening all but a few of the troublemakers had wandered home when word spread that the faculty chairman, John A. G. Davis, was about. Two masked men who had been firing blanks reloaded, this time with actual balls. A few minutes later gunshots rang outside Pavilion X. “Some of the students heard groans,” Dabney writes, “and, going out, found Mr. Davis down and unable to rise." The young professor died two days later. According to Dabney, "the sight of Mrs. Davis and her suffering was painful beyond conception.” Two years later—whether as a direct or indirect consequence of the murder remains unclear—the Honor System was established.

Robert Lewis Dabney, Letter to His Brother Charles W. Dabney, November 13, 1840. (MSS 38-219)

*Papers of the Dabney Family, 1719–1936*

**20**

**William Barton Rogers's Cabinet**

William Barton Rogers taught geology in the Rotunda and, according to family history, used this cabinet to store mineral specimens. It may be the only original piece of furniture from the Rotunda to still exist. Rogers was noted as an unusually eloquent lecturer who, with Professor Charles Bonnycastle, founded a school of engineering in 1836. It was the first in the South and the first at a comprehensive university. He also served as the state geologist. Mount Rogers, located in Grayson and Smyth counties and Virginia's highest peak, is named for him. He left the University in 1853 to found the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

*On loan from the Office of the Architect for the University*

**21**

**Washington Society Medal**

In 1889 the Washington Society awarded this medal for debating to its vice president, J. E. Barclay, of Kentucky. Debating clubs at the University of Virginia dated back to 1825, when a group of students founded the short-lived Patrick Henry Literary Society, mischievously named after one of Thomas Jefferson's political rivals. When its meetings got too rowdy, the Jefferson Society formed as a quieter alternative. The Washington Literary Society and Debating Union had organized by 1835, and the two groups staged elaborate balls on Jefferson's and Washington's birthdays, rewarding accomplishments in speaking and writing. One University historian fondly recalled the rowdy, beer-fueled “caucuses” convened each year to choose medal winners.

University of Virginia Washington Society, Best Debater Gold Medal, 1889. (RG-23/7/4.861)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**22**

**Student Sketch of Maximilian Schele De Vere**

This student sketch of Professor Maximilian Schele De Vere is rare in that it depicts “Our German Professor” before he sprouted his trademark mustache and sideburns. Swedish born and Prussian educated, he taught European languages, politics, and history. De Vere arrived on Grounds in 1844 with a recommendation from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and resigned his position fifty-one years later after sending two ill-advised letters to colleagues (a bad back had led to his becoming addicted to morphine). In 1878, Schele De Vere published the invaluable *Students of the University of Virginia*, a resource that includes the names of every visitor, rector, faculty member, and student from the University's first five decades.

Unidentified artist, “Our German Professor,” undated. (RG-30/1/10.011)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**23**

**Varsity Hall [Satellite site]**

The Retreat for the Sick Students, or what is now known as Varsity Hall, opened in 1858, a year after typhoid killed fourteen students and two enslaved laborers at the University of Virginia. Its Italianate design is the work of William A. Pratt, an English-born architect and engineer who had run a photography studio in Richmond before becoming the University's first superintendent of buildings and grounds. He constructed the infirmary with an innovative ventilation and heating system designed to provide patients with fresh air.

Historical preservationists believe this to have been the nation's first infirmary built for a college campus. In 2005, in preparation for an expansion of Rouss Hall, engineers moved the 600-ton building 185 feet to its current location.

**24**

**Bohn's Album**

This gold-leaf autograph book was published in 1859 by Casimir Bohn, a German-born lithographer based in Washington, D.C. It features likenesses of faculty members in addition to a well-known lithograph of Grounds that depicts the Rotunda as disproportionately large for its surroundings—perhaps an acknowledgment of how symbolically important the building had become for the University.

Most of the album’s pages are left blank, intended for signatures and messages. Launcelot Minor Blackford and Alexander Swift Pendleton signed each other's 1859 albums in Greek. Both joined the Rockbridge Artillery two years later but only Blackford survived the Civil War. His friend was killed in battle in 1864.

*From the Collection of Paul M. Mott, Charlottesville, VA*

**25**

**Civil War Trepanning Kit**

This kit, dating to the Civil War era, was used to control swelling of the brain from head wounds sustained in battle. The tools here with the black handles would have been screwed into the head of a patient to remove a piece of skull. During the war, the University of Virginia's professor of medicine, Dr. J. L. Cabell, superintended military hospitals in both Charlottesville and Danville. Beginning in 1861, wounded Confederate soldiers arrived on Grounds and were tended to at the infirmary and housed in student rooms and, on a few desperate occasions, in the Rotunda itself.

*Courtesy of Historical Collections & Services, Claude Moore Health Sciences Library*

**26**

**John B. Minor's Diary**

This diary, kept by the law professor John B. Minor, includes an account of the Union occupation of the University of Virginia in 1865. “Rumors thicken as to the enemy's approach,” he writes on March 1. George A. Custer and his Union cavalry, fighting through the mud of near-biblical rains, finally arrived on March 3, and Minor was among those who asked that the University be spared. Custer agreed, although when he and his men left on March 6 they were followed by a long line of newly freed African Americans, including one who had labored at the University.

John B. Minor, Journal, 1843–1873. (MSS 3114)

*Papers of John B. Minor*

**27**

**Samuel Miller's Chair**

This chair belonged to Samuel Miller, who was born into poverty in Albemarle County in 1792. In true rags-to-riches fashion, he went on to become a wealthy merchant and tobacco trader. Shortly before his death in 1869, he created a $100,000 trust to launch the University of Virginia's agricultural program, which was quickly converted into the School of Biology—the University didn't actually want an agricultural program, apparently. Miller left the majority of his estate to the establishment of what is now called Miller School of Albemarle, one of the nation's oldest coeducational boarding schools.

**28**

**The University Memorial**

Of the University of Virginia's approximately 8,500 students and living alumni in 1861, about 3,000 served the Confederacy during the Civil War. And to those who died in the fighting John Lipscomb Johnson dedicated *The University Memorial*, published in 1871. It contains biographical sketches of men such as John Y. Beall, Class of 1855, who was hanged as a Confederate spy in 1865. The book's purplish prose, inflected with the romance of the Lost Cause, imagines his death: “As the martyr sets his face towards Jerusalem, so this hero, dying for the faith of his fathers, turns his face upon the South.”  
  
Rev. John Lipscomb Johnson, *The University Memorial: Biographical Sketches of Alumni of the University of Virginia Who Fell in the Confederate War* (Baltimore: Turnbull Brothers, 1871). (LD5675.43 .J6 1871)

**29**

**Brooks Hall Mammoth [Item at satellite site]**

This wooly mammoth, constructed of cardboard and paint by a group of UVA students in 2012, is a replica of a plaster mammoth that once towered over the interior of Brooks Hall. The idea of the so-called Cardboard Company, led by artist-in-residence Tom Burckhardt, was to recreate whimsically the natural history museum that had made its home in Brooks Hall beginning in 1878. Christened the Lewis Brooks Hall of Natural Science, the building was crammed with tens of thousands of specimens and artifacts, including a great Siberian mammoth built of plaster and fake hair. The towering creature, who stood an imposing sixteen-and-a-half feet tall and more than forty-nine feet around, presided over the collection until the museum was decommissioned in the 1940s.

**30**

**McGuffey's Fourth Eclectic Reader**

This edition of *McGuffey's Fourth Eclectic Reade*r, published in 1879 and originally owned by the poet Vachel Lindsay, represents one in a series of six public-school textbooks widely used in nineteenth- and twentieth-century America. Its author, William Holmes McGuffey, was an educational reformer who taught at the University of Virginia from 1845 until his death in 1873. A native Midwesterner, McGuffey promoted an up-by-the-bootstraps mentality that was less common in the more elite circles of Virginia. A poem in his *Reader*, meanwhile, imagines two soldiers—one Confederate, one Union—dying side by side on the battlefield and remembering their families. Unlike *The University Memorial (*object 28), it has broken free from the Civil War's ideologies.  
  
William Holmes McGuffey, *McGuffey’s Eclectic Reader* (Cincinnati and New York: Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., 1879.) (PS3523.I58 Z99.M395 M34 1879)

*From the Library of Vachel Lindsay*

**31**

**First Edition of *Corks and Curls***

This inaugural edition of the yearbook *Corks and Curls* appeared in 1888 and was the work of the student J. H. C. Bagby, who compiled a staff consisting of one representative each from the University's fourteen fraternities. A contest to name the publication was won by Ernest M. Stires, a member of Phi Kappa Psi and the future Episcopal bishop of Long Island. An entire (probably satirical) essay was required to explain the title, which refers to unprepared students (dubbed corks) and their better-performing counterparts (curls). *Corks and Curls* endured until 2008, when debts forced it to shut down. It was revived in 2015 with funds from yearbook alumni.

*Corks and Curls* (Charlottesville, Va.: University of Virginia, 1888). (LD 5687 .C7)

**32**

**Silk Handkerchief**

In 1888, students gathered on Grounds to address a problem with the school colors. At the time they were silver gray and cardinal red, intended to represent the gray of the Confederacy steeped in blood. The problem was that they didn't stand out on muddy football fields. According to a contemporary report by the student newspaper *College Topics*, Allen Potts, fresh from football practice, showed up at the meeting wearing this silk handkerchief of striped navy blue and orange. “How will these colors do?” he proclaimed. The crowd approved, and in this way orange and blue became the University's athletic colors.

*On loan from The Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia*

**33**

**Graduation Invitation**

This bulky invitation to “the exercises of commencement week” for 1892 suggests that graduation was just as important an occasion then as now, perhaps even more so. Just a few years earlier, in 1888, President Grover Cleveland became the first sitting president to address students at the University of Virginia, and the festivities lasted for days. They began with a small ceremony on Sunday, continued Monday with dances and speeches from members of the Jefferson and Washington societies, featured a political speech on Tuesday, and concluded on Wednesday with the president's appearance and a final ball in the Rotunda.

*From the Collection of Paul M. Mott, Charlottesville, VA*

**34 Pass Certificate of Caroline Preston Davis**

This “pass certificate” was awarded to Caroline Preston Davis on June 14, 1893, in recognition of completing her mathematics exam with distinction. The granddaughter of the murdered law professor John A. G. Davis, she had petitioned the University for admission. The faculty agreed only to provide private instruction to white women of “good character” and “adequate preparation” who would pay the same fees as men but not receive a diploma. In 1894, the professors changed their minds, publicly worrying about new research that suggested higher education might “physically unsex” women.

Altered University of Virginia Diploma presented to Caroline Preston Davis, June 14, 1893. (MSS 4951)

*Davis-Preston-Saunders Papers, 1840–1930*

**35**

**Key to the Rotunda**

In June 1895, Henry Martin presented this original key to the Rotunda to Louis S. Greene as a graduation present. In 1949, Greene's son gave the key and this note telling its history to President Colgate W. Darden. Martin had carried the key for thirty years when he gave it to Greene. Born enslaved at Monticello, he labored on and off at the University in various capacities starting in 1947. In an interview in 1914, he recalled caring for Confederate wounded in the Rotunda during the Civil War. He was the head janitor and bell-ringer at the University from at least 1868 until his retirement in 1909. Upon his death in 1915, the student newspaper reported that “He was known personally to more alumni than any living man,” and “is said to have known by name...every student who resided here during his long service as bell ringer.”

Martin’s legacy on Grounds is fraught: he was both widely loved and treated with the condescension of a “faithful servant” in the Lost Cause tradition. In 2012 the University laid a plaque in his honor near the chapel.

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Alumni Association*

**36**

**Bust of John B. Minor [Item at satellite site]**

This marble bust of John B. Minor was presented on June 12, 1895, in honor of the professor’s fifty years of teaching at the University of Virginia. According to one history, the bust was "placed in a conspicuous position in the Library," which was then located in the Rotunda. Although a small ceremony included "suitable addresses," Minor's poor health prevented his attendance. He died just a few weeks later, on July 29. The bust was saved from the Rotunda fire that October.

**37**

**Holsinger Photograph of the Rotunda Fire**

In this photograph, taken on October 27, 1895, the Rotunda appears to be spurting flame. In fact, by the time photographer Rufus W. Holsinger was able to transport his equipment from his West Main Street studio, the fire had already done its worst. Not a problem for Holsinger. He just doctored the negative with a few artful scratches, leaving the impression of flames and smoke. Despite or perhaps because of this fiction, the photograph has become almost as iconic as the event itself.

Holsinger’s Studio, “The ‘Great Fire’ of 1895,” 1895. (RG-30/1/3.951). Enlarged facsimile reproduction.

*Holsinger’s Studio Collection*

**38**

**Fragment of Original Capital of the Rotunda (Item at satellite site]**

This souvenir of the Great Fire of October 27, 1895, is a fragment of one of the Rotunda’s original capitals. Made of Carrara marble, this and other remnants from the blaze were used as models for new Italian-carved capitals that are part of the Rotunda renovation completed in 2016. Nearby is a cast-iron capital that also survived the fire. It is one of few surviving remnants of the Rotunda Annex, an adjacent 1853 structure that was not reconstructed.

The fire, caused by an electrical short, destroyed the Annex and more than 60 percent of the library. In an effort to save the Rotunda, Professor William H. Echols actually launched 50 pounds of dynamite into the fire in an effort to destroy the portico that connected the building to the Annex. It didn't work. The Rotunda burned anyway.

**39**

**Original Piece of Tin Roof with Painting**

*Memento ignis*. Remember the fire. That's what an artist known only as Miss Shuey was doing when she painted this image of the Rotunda's ruins following the Great Fire of 1895. This piece of tin was collected by Shuey from those very ruins, transformed into a canvas, and sold as a souvenir. Even without that bit of historical gimmickry, though, it's a lovely painting, suffused with hints of daybreak and therefore hopeful in a way that Rufus W. Holsinger's more famous—but also more funereal—black-and-white photographs are not.

Miss Shuey, [Ruins of UVA], undated.(MSS 14359)

*Rotunda Souvenirs, circa 1890–1920*

**40**

**Cast Plaster Rosette from Stanford White Renovation**

This cast plaster rosette from the Rotunda dates to the renovation that began just three months after the Great Fire of 1895, when the University hired the New York firm of McKim, Mead & White to draw up plans for the new Rotunda and a series of additional buildings. Led by the noted architect Stanford White, the team replicated the Rotunda's south façade facing the Lawn, removed any trace of the Annex, and (to grumbling from the faculty) reimagined the north side with a portico in the Beaux-Arts style for which White was renowned.  
  
Cast Plaster Rosette from Rotunda Renovation, ca. 1895. (MSS 12716-c)

*The Papers of Joseph L. Vaughan, 1931–1999*

**41**

**Rouss Hall Floor Joist, Bracket, and Nails**

Made from some of America's earliest cuttings, this heartwood pine joist is one example of the original framing floor joists that created the structure for Rouss Hall. The bracket from the wood roof truss system was cast for the original construction in 1896 by P. Duvinage and Co., while the three nails provide examples of the era's penny-type cut nails. Rouss Hall was designed after the Great Fire by Stanford White in a neo-classical style and positioned on the south end of the Lawn, where it opened in 1898.

*On loan from the McIntire School of Commerce, University of Virginia*

**42**

**Wooden Doll**

This wooden doll, a gift to the School of Medicine by a grateful patient and former employee, likely was used late in the nineteenth century to teach medical students where the body's nerves are located. The maddeningly small writing that covers the doll's front and back was hand-painted.

The University's first clinic opened in 1886 on the first floor of the Anatomical Theatre. Five years later the medical school required its students to perform a full year of clinical work at Piedmont Hospital in Charlottesville in order to earn a degree.

*Courtesy of Historical Collections & Services, Claude Moore Health Sciences Library*

**43**

**Rotunda Cigar Box**

This box, which probably dates to late in the nineteenth century, represents a distinctly commercial exploitation of the Rotunda. Lithographs like the one appearing on this box were often displayed in cigar shop windows and sold or given away with purchases of tobacco. Designed to appeal to white men, they were frequently supplemented by alluring depictions of semi-clothed “exotic” women. In this instance, the Rotunda appeals to more stolid instincts: an educated man of business and leisure, the sort to have once studied in Jefferson's library.

*From the Collection of Paul M. Mott, Charlottesville, VA*

**44**

**Consent Form from Walter Reed's Yellow Fever Experiment**

These are believed to be the first-ever medical consent forms, prepared by Walter Reed in 1900 as part of his investigation into the causes of yellow fever. Reed was born in 1851 and received his medical degree from the University of Virginia when he was not yet seventeen. Working with American scientists in Cuba, he exposed participants to various hazards and helped prove that mosquitoes, in fact, spread the deadly disease. Soon yellow fever all but disappeared and Reed received much of the credit, including his name on a hospital in Washington, D.C. He died suddenly in 1902 when his appendix burst.

*Courtesy of Historical Collections & Services, Claude Moore Health Sciences Library*

**45**

**Cast of John Powell's Hand**

An acclaimed pianist and composer, John Powell graduated from the University of Virginia in 1901 and, upon his death in 1963, was declared “one of the genuinely great Virginians of modern times.” That judgment has been challenged in recent years by historians who cite his fervent support for eugenics and scientific racism. In 1923 he published a newspaper essay bemoaning miscegenation and the next year successfully lobbied for the prohibition of interracial marriage in Virginia. Such views were distressingly common, of course. For example, the University's own centennial historian, writing in 1921, worried that if admitting women to the school caused them to be infertile, as a fashionable book claimed, that could present problems of “race preservation.”

Cast of the Hand of the Pianist John Powell, undated. (MSS 7345-a)

*Gift of Christel Kerry*

**46**

**Knife of “The Honor Men” Poet**

This English-made knife belonged to James Hay Jr., who may have purchased it on a post-graduation sojourn across Europe. In 1903, as a fourth-year and editor of *Corks and Curls*, Hay wrote a short poem he called “The Honor Men,” a purply-versed challenge to live up to the ideals of the University of Virginia. Today the poem is distributed at convocation to all first-years as a reminder of the Honor Code, which obliges students not to cheat or lie and encourages them to report anyone who does. Hay went on to work for the *Washington Post* and found the National Press Club.

*From the Collection of Paul M. Mott, Charlottesville, VA*

**47**

**Garrett Hall Ceiling [Item at satellite site]**

This ornate ceiling—made of plaster of Paris on a burlap backing and suspended from the rafters by burlap straps—dates to the construction of Garrett Hall. Dedicated in 1908 and called the Commons, this space served as a dining hall designed to create camaraderie among students. The University also hoped it might be cheaper than having hotelkeepers feed the students. In 1958, the dining hall was moved to Newcomb and in the years since, the building has served first as home to the bursar's office—it is named for Alexander Garrett, the University's first bursar—and now to the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy.

**48**

**Loving Cup**

This sterling silver cup from Tiffany and Company was presented by the faculty in 1910 to the University's first president, Edwin Anderson Alderman, in recognition of his service. From about 1915 through the 1960s, the graduating class sipped mint juleps from the cup, passing it around in front of the Jefferson statue on the north side of the Rotunda on Class Day, just before what became known as Valediction Exercises. Alderman, a reformer and prolific fundraiser, was president from 1904 until his death in 1931. The library was named in his honor in 1938.

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Alumni Association*

**49**

**Track Medal**

This track medal, awarded by the student-run General Athletic Association at a meet against Johns Hopkins in 1910, features a phoenix in its center. A staple of Greek mythology, the bird died in a burst of flame and rose to new life from its own ashes—not unlike the University of Virginia, then just fifteen years removed from the Rotunda fire. Athletics were becoming more and more important to student life, and in January 1906 the University of Virginia faculty issued a report worrying that the pressures of competition might undermine the honor of gentlemen. Still, in 1910 the track team outperformed Johns Hopkins athletically and the student body as a whole academically.

*From the Collection of Paul M. Mott, Charlottesville, VA*

**50**

**Hot Foot Crown**

This crown, made from a wide tin ring and decorated with seven feet, was likely fitted in 1911 for Charles Edward Moran, King C-Ski II of the Hot Foot Society. The student group was founded about 1902 and became known for its grand—and drunken—crowning ceremonies and practical jokes. On one occasion, Moran and his friends removed preserved animals from the Cabell Hall basement and placed them around Grounds. Administrators promptly banned the group, declaring it “detrimental to the University's welfare.” Moran then founded the I.M.P. Society, encouraging its new members to remember always that “Incarnate Memories Prevail.”

University of Virginia Hot Foot Society, Crown of the King, ca. 1911. (RG-23/46/2.821)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**51**

**Cartoon from the First Class Reunion**

The first reunion weekend took place June 14–18, 1913, and was organized by the Class of 1908 and its hugely enthusiastic class secretary, Lewis Dabney Crenshaw, who edited and published an entire 140-page history of the event. It begins *and* ends with James Hay Jr.'s poem on honor and is illuminated throughout with humorous pen-and-ink drawings like this one. The artist, Carl Zeisberg, Class of '13, went on to edit the Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* and cofound the U.S. Table Tennis Association.

Each class arriving in Charlottesville that weekend was assigned its own costume. Members of the Class of 1903 were dressed, for example, as Mexicans, '07 as Zouaves, '08 as sailors, '09 as Alpine climbers, and '13 as farmers.

Carl Zeisberg cartoon in *A History of the Quinquennial Reunion of the Class of 1908, University of Virginia, June 14 to 18, 1913* (Roanoke, Va., Printed for the class of 1908 by the Stone Printing and Manufacturing Co., [1913]). (LD 5688 .V56 no. 5 1913)

**52**

**Buck Mayer on the Cover of *Sporting Life***

The University's star halfback, Eugene Noble “Buck” Mayer, was featured on the cover of the popular weekly newspaper *Sporting Life* on November 13, 1915. The football team boasted a 7–1 record at the time and Mayer, a law student and Norfolk native, had led the way. In subsequent seasons he set records for the number of points scored in a single game (36), the most touchdowns in a season (21 in 1914), the most touchdowns in a career (48), and the most points scored in a career (312). He was the first player from the South to be chosen an All-American (1915), and in 1980 was elected to the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. Shortly after enlisting in 1918, he caught the flu and died. Only twenty-six years old, he left behind a wife and daughter.

Facsimile reproduction.

**53**

**Strip from James R. McConnell's Crashed Plane**

James Rogers McConnell, a former law student and king of the Hot Feet, was thirty years old in March 1917, when he was shot out of the sky by two German aircraft. This is a jagged strip from his crashed plane. A member of the famed Lafayette Escadrille—a group of American pilots who fought for France—McConnell published a memoir, *Flying for France*, just months before his death. “I know of no sound more horrible than that made by an airplane crashing to earth,” he wrote. “Breathless one has watched the uncontrolled apparatus tumble through the air. The agony felt by the pilot and passenger seems to transmit itself to you.” He was the last American pilot to die under French colors before the United States entered the war. *The Aviator* sculpture on Grounds was dedicated in his honor in 1919.

Strip of cloth from the fuselage of James R. McConnell’s airplane, 1917. (MSS 957-h)

*Papers Pertaining to University of Virginia Alumni in World War I, 1913–1920*

**54**

***History of the University of Virginia***

Here sit all five volumes of Philip Alexander Bruce's *History of the University of Virginia, 1819–1919: The Lengthened Shadow of One Man*, published from 1920 to 1922. No history of the University has been as exhaustive, as celebratory, or, in places, as troubling as Bruce's. As the subtitle suggests, the author's focus is on Thomas Jefferson, “the absolute correctness of his foresight,” and the ways in which he and the other Founders upheld “the general principles of our race.”

“During the last one hundred years,” Bruce writes at the end of the fifth volume, “the majestic shade of that founder has seemed to brood above his beautiful academic village ever solicitous to warn, to guide, and to inspire.” The next hundred years would be marked by fierce challenges to Jefferson's vision and to his “absolute correctness,” especially where women and African Americans were concerned.

Philip Alexander Bruce, *History of the University of Virginia, 1819–1919* (New York: Macmillan, 1920-1922). (LD 5678 .B7 1920 v.1-5)

**55**

**Raven Society Bid Card**

This bid card, delivered to Richard D. Gilliam Jr. in 1923, is for membership in the Raven Society. Established in April 1904 and named for Edgar Allan Poe's most famous poem, the group showed little interest in the secret rites or burlesque coronations enjoyed by other clubs. Instead, its founder, William McCully James, proposed an honor society based on scholarly merit, and a grateful faculty made it happen in less than ten days. In 1907, President Edwin Anderson Alderman entrusted to the Raven Society upkeep of the Poe room at 13 West Range, which the University worked to restore in 1924 and then again in the 1950s.

*On loan from Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., University of Virginia*

**56**

**Model of Grounds [Item at satellite location]**

This scale model was commissioned by the people of Charlottesville for the 1926 Sesquicentennial Exposition in Philadelphia, a world's fair celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Although formally invited, the University of Virginia did not actually exhibit at the event after President Edwin Anderson Alderman's appeal for funding was denied by the governor. But Alderman managed to find space for it at the Exposition in “Jefferson’s House,” a reproduction of the room Jefferson had rented while staying in Philadelphia in 1776.

The model was created by architect William T. Partridge, who had supervised the construction of two intricate models of the National Mall a quarter century earlier, working under Charles McKim. It was restored in 2010.

**57**

**Pavilion VI Frescoes [item at satellite location]**

On the second floor of this Pavilion is a room that is itself a work of art. The walls and ceiling of this second-floor room are covered with frescoes, the work of artists Jean-Robert and Martha La Montagne Saint Hubert, which were unveiled in 1929 as part of a ceremony dedicating the pavilion’s newly christened Lafayette Room. The scenes explore the friendship of Thomas Jefferson and the Marquis de Lafayette, whom President Edwin Anderson Alderman imagined “wandering arm in arm over the green lawn and through the pillars of this seminary of learning.”

The commission for the frescoes was paid for with a $10,000 gift from Ormond G. Smith, a publisher and president of the French Institute of America. Although Smith was picture-shy, Jean-Robert Saint Hubert painted his portrait anyway, hiding it behind a false door.

**58**

**Merton Spire**

Pavilion VI was once home to the Romance Languages department and, on its second floor, boasts elaborate Franco-American frescoes and a secret portrait hidden behind a false door. Tucked into the back garden is more of the unexpected: a sixteen-foot-tall, three-ton, sandstone spire that once sat atop the chapel at Merton College, Oxford. How it made its way to the University is not entirely clear. Board of Visitors minutes, dated April 22, 1937, list various gifts to the University, including the spire, but offer no explanation for the gesture. Some have speculated that Oxford may have wished to honor Thomas Jefferson. Whatever the reason, Merton College was founded in 1264 and its main chapel finished in 1425. A tower was added in 1451, which makes this particular spire more than 560 years old.

**59**

**The Eleusis of Chi Omega**

*The Eleusis of Chi Omega* was the national magazine of the sorority Chi Omega. The Lambda Gamma chapter at the University was organized in 1927 and became the first nationally affiliated sorority on Grounds. Too small for a house, its membership met regularly for lunch on the East Range.

Women had only been attending the University for a few years at that point. In 1919 the General Assembly had passed a bill forcing the University to admit women to its graduate and professional schools beginning in 1920–1921, and according to one historian they arrived "over the strong objections of professors, students, and alumni.” In fact, the entrance of women “into classes was signalized at the time by loud stamping of feet,” and in at least one case a female student was summarily ordered out of the room.

Chi Omega Fraternity, *The Eleusis of Chi Omega* 31.3(September 1929). (LJ75 .C18 v.31 no.3 Sept.1929)

**60**

**Mountain Lake Herbarium Collection**

These botanical specimens are three of nearly 7,000 that for decades have been stored in cabinets at the University’s Mountain Lake Biological Station in Giles County, Virginia. Established in 1930 atop Salt Pond Mountain, the University outpost originally made its home inside the Mountain Lake Hotel. There, graduate students from across the South took courses in botany and zoology. In 1934, a laboratory, a dining hall, and residential cottages were built near the hotel at Mountain Lake, and two years after that a library. The station's second director, Ivey Foreman Lewis, named the cottages for important botanists, and today one of those cottages, along with the main laboratory, is named for him.

*On loan from Mountain Lake Biological Station, University of Virginia*

**61**

**Letter from Alice Jackson to Board of Visitors**

In 1935, Alice Jackson applied to the University's graduate school. On September 19, the Board of Visitors reiterated its policy against admitting black students and noted that “for this and for other good and sufficient reasons,” Jackson's application was rejected. Nine days later, she responded with this open letter, addressing the board directly: “I herewith respectfully call you to specify the ‘other good and sufficient reasons’ why you rejected my application. The ‘other good and sufficient reasons’ may be such that I can remove them by additional information.” The board declined to respond, and Jackson attended school elsewhere. After her death in 2001, her family donated her papers to Alderman Library. Her son, a judge in Massachusetts, said the decision had a “certain poetic justice” in the way that “it enables her to achieve in death that which she sought but was denied in life.”

Alice Jackson, Letter to the Board of Visitors, September 28, 1935, with response, October 3, 1935. (RG-2/1/2.491)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**62**

**John Lloyd Newcomb's Tea Service**

This tea service belonged to John Lloyd Newcomb and may have been used during an April 1939 visit from President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Newcomb became the University's second president in 1933 and was considered a conservative choice for the job. Ever the quiet engineer, Newcomb was the opposite of his predecessor, the outgoing reformer Edwin Anderson Alderman. And yet his able, un-flashy leadership managed the University through the Great Depression and World War II, when money was short and enrollment shrank significantly. On his watch, Scott Stadium (1931) and the Bayly Art Museum (1935) were constructed and Alderman Library opened (1938). Newcomb died in 1954, at which time he was revealed to have been a member of the secretive Seven Society. The group gave the university $17,777.77 to establish a loan fund in his honor. Newcomb Hall was named for the former president in 1958.

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Alumni Association*

**63**

**Nursing Cape**

This wool cape was worn by Juanita Easley when she was a student nurse at the University of Virginia Hospital. Nursing students wore such capes when crossing the street from the hospital to the nurses' dorm in McKim Hall. Easley, whose initials are on the cape's collar, served as a 2nd lieutenant in the Army Nursing Corps during World War II before going on to work in the University Hospital as the head nurse in the maternity ward. The hospital opened in April 1901, and the School of Nursing accepted its first four students that autumn. By 1924 it had ninety students and a new superintendent, Josephine McLeod, who was responsible for the addition of capes to the uniform. During World War II, the Army designated the University a Cadet Nurse Corps school, whose graduates—including Easley—served in either the military or under-served communities.

*On loan fromThe Eleanor Crowder Bjoring Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry, University of Virginia School of Nursing*

**64**

***Alumni News* article on the "Hand That Held the Dagger" Speech**

On June 10, 1940, Franklin D. Roosevelt became the second sitting president to speak at Final Exercises, and his speech drew attention well beyond this *Alumni News* cover story. With German Panzers on the outskirts of Paris, Italy had declared war on France and Great Britain that day. On the train to Charlottesville, Roosevelt worked over his speech, adding five typewritten pages and scribbling between the lines words that soon would race across the globe: “On this this tenth day of June, 1940, the hand that held the dagger has struck it into the back of its neighbor.”

Speaking inside Memorial Gymnasium because of rain, Roosevelt effectively ended American neutrality with his speech. The *New York Times* reported that the otherwise “grim-faced” audience “broke into the wildest applause, cheering and rebel yells.”

“President Roosevelt Delivers Momentous Address at Finals Before Largest Graduating Class in University History” in *University of Virginia Alumni News* 28.1 (1939–1940). (LH1 .V6 A5, C.4)

**65**

**Photograph of Caroyl Beddow Gooch**

Although for much of the twentieth century women were admitted to the University on only a very limited basis, they *could* serve as computers. Or at least that's what the astronomers at McCormick Observatory called a small group of women who worked out, by hand, often exceedingly complex mathematical calculations. Caroyl Beddow Gooch, pictured here, was one such computer. She arrived on Observatory Mountain in 1942, “at the ripe old age of eighteen,” as she told the *University of Virginia Magazine* in 2015. “I was always interested in figures,” she noted. She spent four years helping to measure the distance between Earth and the stars before going on to become an accountant.

*Courtesy of Caroyl Beddow Gooch*

**66**

**“The Gift Outright” by Robert Frost**

This manuscript of the Robert Frost poem “The Gift Outright” arrived in the mail at the *Virginia Quarterly Review* in 1942 along with two others, “Time Out” and “To a Moth Seen in Winter.” “You may of course put them in any order you please,” Frost told the editor, Archibald B. Shepperson, explaining that he had publicly read all three the year before in Williamsburg. According to Frost, “The Gift Outright” showed the poet “meditating my country.” In that respect, it was a good fit for *VQR*, which was founded in 1925 as a “national journal of discussion.” At the end of his career, Frost found use for the old poem again when he stood in the sunny glare of John F. Kennedy's inauguration. Rather than struggle through the new poem he had composed for the occasion, he instead famously recited “The Gift Outright” from memory.

Robert Frost, “The Gift Outright,” annotated typescript, undated. (MSS 6261). Enlarged facsimile reproduction.

*Clifton Waller Barrett Library of American Literature*

**67**

**Parachute Wedding Dress**

During World War II, the U.S. government created medical units from teams of doctors and nurses working in hospitals. The University's contribution to the effort was designated the 8th Evacuation Hospital and stationed in North Africa and Italy. On May 26, 1945—the same month the war ended in Europe—a nurse in that unit, 1st Lieutenant Hilda “Frankie” Franklin, married Captain Richard P. Bell Jr., with whom she served. Her dress was made from a silk parachute. While it is not known whose idea it was or who sewed it, it seems likely the bride wore layers underneath; the silk is quite sheer. After returning home the Bells settled in Staunton, where they raised four sons. Richard died in 1969, Frankie in 1994.

**68**

**John Cook Wyllie's Japanese Radio Set**

John Cook Wyllie, the University librarian, was nearsighted. Having been snubbed by all branches of the U.S. military in 1941, he instead joined the American Field Service, a youth exchange program that operated a wartime ambulance service. He eventually earned a field commission from the British in North Africa before finding a spot as a communications officer with the U.S. air corps in Burma. There, he earned the Legion of Merit, the citation for which refers to his “great courage and resourcefulness” in setting up observation posts near enemy lines and calling in close air support. At war's end, he returned home with this bullet-riddled Japanese radio as a souvenir. In 1956, he became the University's twelfth librarian. A book lover who, according to a friend, was “rugged in countenance, sensitive in spirit and sometimes angry in mind,” Wyllie died in 1968.

Japanese Field Radio Set, ca. 1940s. (MSS 8901)

*John Cook Wyllie Obituaries and War Souvenirs, 1944–1968*

**69**

**Edward Stettinius Gas Mask**

This gas mask belonged to Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., whose brief stint as Secretary of State, from December 1944 to June 1945, came at a time when such an accessory was considered necessary. The son of a successful businessman, Stettinius had attended the University but left without a degree. Using family connections, he hired on at General Motors and by 1931 had risen to vice president. Over the next decade-plus, he worked in the Roosevelt administration on various New Deal projects while also becoming chairman of the board of U.S. Steel. At the end of World War II he became the first American ambassador to the United Nations and then, in retirement, served as University Rector. In 2015, the University established the Edward R. Stettinius Jr. Prize for Global Leadership. Its inaugural recipient was Madeleine Albright, the first female Secretary of State.

Gas Mask, ca. 1940s. (MSS 2723)

*Papers of Edward R. Stettinius, Jr.*

**70**

**Ed Roseberry's Ciro-flex Camera**

Ed Roseberry purchased this twin-lens, synchronized-shutter Model F Ciro-flex in 1946 for $123 at a camera shop on East Main Street in Charlottesville. This was shortly after he had returned home from military duty and resumed his studies at the University. The Ciro-flex, with its synchronized flash, boasted cutting-edge technology, and soon Roseberry was documenting student life for the yearbook *Corks and Curls* and for his own amusement.

A profile in the *University of Virginia Magazine* noted that Roseberry, nicknamed "Flash" by his friends, cultivated a "ubiquitous" presence along Rugby Road on the weekends, moving from one fraternity party to another. “On Sundays, he posted for sale his weekend's pictures in the windows of Eljo's,” a men’s clothing store on University Avenue. “It wasn't uncommon for the gathered crowd of appreciative onlookers to snarl traffic in front of the store.”

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Alumni Foundation*

**71**

**Pavilion Gardens [Satellite site]**

In 1948 the Garden Club of Virginia embarked on its thirteenth major restoration project, the University's gardens. In his plans for the University, Thomas Jefferson had intended these spaces between the pavilions and the range to serve largely as work spaces for enslaved laborers. The serpentine walls—just one brick thick but taking strength and stability from their curves—divided one garden from another. By 1948 they were “crumpling,” according to the Garden Club, and its members resolved to restore the bricks and plant the gardens.

Alden Hopkins, an expert in Colonial Revival landscape architecture, completed work on the West Range in 1952. The East Range was completed four years after his death, in 1964. The gardens were planted only with flora known to Jefferson and six were divided in half by new serpentine walls, creating a formal Pavilion Garden and a utilitarian Hotel Garden.

**72**

**Bowie Kuhn's Student ID Card**

Bowie Kuhn graduated from the University's law school in 1950 and went on to become the fifth commissioner of Major League Baseball (1969–1984). During his tenure, teams played at night for the first time and television revenues skyrocketed. The league expanded into Canada and split into divisions, and players won the right to free agency. They also went on strike for the first time. Kuhn's relationship with the players' union leader, Marvin Miller, was difficult at best. “There was about Miller a wariness one would find in an abused animal,” Kuhn later wrote in his memoir. Kuhn himself was notoriously pompous and self-righteous. Charles O. Finley, owner of the Oakland Athletics, called him “the village idiot,” while another colleague more generously described him as “ever the do-gooder,” obsessed with the "integrity of the game."

Displayed with facsimile reproduction of reverse side.

*From the Collection of Paul M. Mott, Charlottesville, VA*

**73**

**Walter Ridley Scrapbook**

These pages, reproduced from a scrapbook made to document the experiences of Walter N. Ridley, contains a photo of Ridley walking the Lawn in 1953, as well as international newspaper clippings about Ridley's graduation, with high honors, from the Curry School of Education. The event drew such notice because Ridley, the grandson of slaves, was the first African American to earn a degree from the University and the first to receive a doctorate from a southern state university.

A few years earlier Gregory Swanson had won admittance to the Law School, becoming the first African American to *attend* the University, but racism from the larger University community led him to quit. In 1987, the Alumni Association named a merit-based scholarship program for black students in Walter Ridley's honor. The next year, after a career that included service as president of the National Education Association, Ridley received the Distinguished Curry School Alumnus Award.

Waddell Avery (compiler), Pages from scrapbook on Walter Ridley, undated. (RG-22/2/65.781). Facsimile reproductions.

*Papers of Walter Nathaniel Ridley, 1942–1978*

**74**

**Everard Meade's Cannon [Item at satellite site]**

In 1955, as the first-ever cohort of business students sat listening to opening-day remarks, they were jolted by a blast from a second-floor window of Monroe Hall. Professor Everard Meade had shot off this two-foot cannon from his office window. A former writer and producer for the radio shows of Jack Benny and George Burns, Meade hadn't informed anyone of his plans, but he meant the blast to symbolize the new program's rigor and dynamism.

The business school was the idea of the economics professor Tipton R. Snavely and won funding from, and was later named for, President Colgate W. Darden. Its first dean, Charles Cortez Abbott, arrived from Harvard in September 1954 and asked Darden how to proceed. “Well, why don't you do what you damn well please,” Abbott recalled the president telling him; “everybody does here, anyway.”

**75**

**Cross burned on Sarah Patton Boyle’s Lawn**

*Text forthcoming.*

**76**

**Carroll's Tea Room Menu**

This menu belonged to one of the University's notorious drinking establishments, Carroll's Tea Room. Located where the Bank of America at Barracks Road now stands, the place began as an Amoco station that switched from gas to barbecue in 1939. Carroll Walton bought it during World War II, and when soldiers began returning home the tiny Tea Room became famous both for its rowdiness and congestion.

Walton nearly lost his liquor license in 1951 for serving intoxicated customers, convincing him to sell the place to two just-graduated football players, Harrison “Chief” Nesbit and the All-American Joe Palumbo. In just six months they sold more than 3,000 kegs of beer. In 1956, Coleman Graham bought the Tea Room and transported it via flatbed truck up Route 29 in order to make room for the Barracks Road shopping center, but the state refused him a liquor license. It never reopened.

Displayed with facsimile reproduction of reverse side.

*Courtesy of Fred Shields and the University of Virginia Alumni Association*

**77**

**Faulkner's Typewriter**

William Faulkner arrived on Grounds in 1957 playing the role of mischievous truth-teller. He was issued this typewriter by the University for his use as Writer in Residence. At a press conference, someone asked the Nobel Prize–winning novelist why he had accepted UVA’s invitation. “It was because I like your country,” he said. “I like Virginia, and I like Virginians. Because Virginians are all snobs, and I like snobs. A snob has to spend so much time being a snob that he has little left to meddle with you, and so it's very pleasant here.” Faulkner later claimed to have been kidding, but about a year later he scolded members of the Raven and Jefferson societies for the state's and the University's treatment of African Americans and their resistance to integration. Virginia should lead, he said, and the rest of the South will follow.

Remington Typewriter with University of Virginia property stamp, mid-twentieth century. (MSS 8418)

**78**

**Coffee Carafe [Item at satellite site]**

The first dean of the Darden School of Business, Charles Cortez Abbott, was a larger-than-life figure. Kansas born and Harvard educated, he had a “keen wit,” according to one historian and, according to another, ready access to Beechnut chewing tobacco at all times. Abbott was also a fan of coffee. In 1955, he initiated what was, for its time, the unconventional idea of a coffee break after the day's first class. It was an opportunity for students and faculty to come together to socialize and talk shop. The Class of 1958 presented this carafe to the school in honor of the event that came to be known as “first coffee,” a tradition that continues to the present day.

**79**

**Mama Rotunda's Outfit**

Mary Hall Betts, popularly known as “Mama Rotunda,” served as the University's official hostess for nearly twenty-five years, starting in 1958. On various occasions at the Rotunda she wore this hand-painted muslin dress with the south elevation of the Rotunda on one side and the north-side Jefferson statue on the other. A derby hat, altered to resemble the Rotunda, completed the outfit.

Betts, whose husband was a biology professor, had a passion for the University's history. In 1961 she created a booklet designed for tours of Grounds and in 1965, on the seventieth anniversary of the Great Fire, she baked a cake shaped like the Rotunda and annex. After covering it in lemon extract, she lit a fire that blazed so high and bright that the event's participants had trouble extinguishing it.

Mama Rotunda Dress and Hat, undated. (RG-30/19/1.961)

University of Virginia Archives

**80**

**Bice Device**

This strange-looking contraption is an electronic pseudophone, which demonstrates how the brain localizes sound by altering the spot from which a given noise seems to originate. “It's what would happen if you place your right ear on the left side of your head,” its inventor, Raymond C. Bice Jr., once explained.

A self-described tinkerer, Bice updated an earlier creation by Paul T. Young and used it in his psychology class at the University—or what students called “Bice Psych.” The hundreds of demonstration aids their professor invented became “Bice Devices.” In addition to teaching, Bice served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (1958–1969), assistant to the president (1969–1990), secretary to the Rector and Board of Visitors (1969–1990), and the University's history officer (1991–1998). He died in 2011.

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Alumni Association*

**81**

**Control Panel from the University's First Computer [Item at satellite site]**

The University's first computer was a Burroughs 205, purchased in 1960 and installed in the Physics Building's basement. “This marvelous little machine filled an entire room, and required a full-time engineer from Burroughs to maintain it,” recalled Joel Rose, who worked as a programmer in the summers of 1962 and 1963. "It had a gazillion vacuum tubes"—1,800, to be precise—“so I imagine a lot of the maintenance involved just replacing burned-out tubes.” In 1964, the University purchased a Burroughs 5000. Bill Wulf, who received the University's first PhD in computer science in 1968, told the alumni magazine about the end of the Burroughs 205: “My dissertation adviser, Alan Batson, declared we would have a ‘bring your own screwdriver’ party. We took the machine apart.” Wulf ended up with the computer's control panel, and it has been in his possession for nearly fifty years.

**82**

**University Mace**

This mace, a symbol of the University's power and authority, was presented by the Seven Society on April 13, 1961. Crafted by the Swiss watchmaking company Patek Philippe, it features pictures of the Rotunda, serpentine walls, *The Aviator*, and other University-specific emblems, and comes out from under lock and key only for important functions such as convocation and Final Exercises. The first to carry the mace was Robert K. “Bobbie” Gooch, a political science professor who in 1961 served as the University's grand marshal. A native of Roanoke, Gooch quarterbacked the University football team in 1914–1915 and then attended Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. According to one historian, Gooch was an Anglophile who so appreciated the pomp and circumstance of Oxford that he affected a British accent for the rest of his life. Gooch served as grand marshal until his retirement in 1964. He died in 1982.

Mace, 1961 (RG-30/6/1.991)

**83**

**Edgar Shannon's Blue and Orange Phone**

The telephone manufacturer Stromberg-Carlson presented Virginia's two-millionth telephone to President Edgar F. Shannon Jr. in 1967. He used the phone in his office during his tenure as the University's fourth president. A Lexington native, Shannon served in the Pacific during World War II and earned a Bronze Star and ten battle stars. In 1956 he joined the University as an English professor and became president just three years later. As the Rector presented him to the faculty, one professor reportedly whispered, “This is all very fine, but who the hell is he?”

Shannon was a president who, like Colgate Darden before him, sought to make the University available to a wider swath of Virginians that ever before, tripling enrollment and (under the threat of a lawsuit) enrolling women as undergraduates for the first time. He also restructured the administration, emphasized research, and grew the University physically.

Stromberg-Carlson, Commemorative Blue and Orange Telephone, 1967. (RG-30/19/2.771)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**84**

**The *Sally Hemings* Underground Newsletter**

On Monday, May 4, 1970, National Guardsmen killed four unarmed college students at Kent State University, who were protesting the U.S. invasion of Cambodia. The next day, about a thousand UVA students rallied at the Rotunda before marching to Carr's Hill. As protests continued throughout the week, the Strike Committee distributed copies of an underground newspaper they called *The Sally Hemings*. The title, of course, was a dig at Thomas Jefferson. It provided context for one of the students' principal demands: that the University increase its admission of African Americans.

So many students were arrested on Friday the police used Mayflower moving vans to hold them all. Then on Monday, May 11, President Edgar Shannon dramatically addressed the student body from the steps of the Rotunda. He asked for calm and received it in part by criticizing the Vietnam War and leaders in Washington.

Issues of *The Sally Hemings,* 1970-1972. (LH1 .V6 S24, c. 7). Facsimile reproductions.

**85**

**Coeducation Lawsuit**

Thomas Jefferson had believed that women were too emotional and obsessed with novels for higher education, and as such the University had minimized its opportunities for them. For a while the faculty argued that white women who went to college would be “physically unsexed.” And as late as the 1960s they worried that public-school kids, African Americans, and women would ruin the traditional character of “Mr. Jefferson's University.”

This lawsuit helped to finally change things. Filed by four women who previously had been denied admittance—Jo Anne Kirstein, Virginia Anne Scott, Nancy L. Anderson, and Nancy Jaffe—it initiated a battle that was resolved on September 30, 1969, when a federal court ruled in their favor. In September 1970, 450 undergraduate women arrived on Grounds. “After 150 years of a traditional past,” *Corks and Curls* wrote, "this has truly been the Year One of a different place.”

*Lawsuit concerning Mrs. Jo Anne Kirstein, et al. vs. Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia, et al*., 1969. (RG-34/1/1.701)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**86**

**First Women's NCAA Championship**

In 1977, the University awarded an athletic scholarship to a woman for the first time. Just four years later, at the inaugural NCAA women's cross country championships in Park City, Kansas, the Cavaliers took home this trophy. It marked the first national title for a women's team at the University of Virginia. Number two came just a year later at the women's cross country championships in Bloomington, Indiana. Jill Haworth Jones ran for both of the championship teams and said the 1982 win was the sweeter of the two. “The second year, two of our best athletes, Lisa Welch and Aileen O'Connor, couldn't compete due to injury,” she told the alumni magazine, “and the coach at Stanford was quoted in a newspaper as saying that we should mail him the trophy. But we won.” And handily so, 48 to 91.

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Athletics*

**87**

**Homer Statue [Satellite site]**

This statue of the Greek poet Homer came to the University in 1907 as a gift from John W. Simpson, of New York City, at the request of the sculptor, Sir Moses Ezekiel. A native of Richmond, Ezekiel had attended the Virginia Military Institute (he was VMI's first Jewish student) and fought with his fellow cadets at the Battle of New Market during the Civil War.

Ezekiel went on to study sculpture in Berlin and Rome. His Homer statue, meanwhile, went on to become central to a popular tradition on Grounds: streaking. It began as early as 1974, when a student dressed only in a Batman cape was witnessed racing across the Lawn. Similar instances resulted in arrests, but some essential need had been stirred and a challenge identified—to run naked from the steps of the Rotunda down the Lawn, kiss the statue of Homer, and return.

**88**

**The Last Easters T-Shirt**

Easters began about 1898 as a series of formal dances and athletic contests held the week following Easter Sunday. Students pledged not to drink alcohol, and as late as 1950 the event was “notable for its decorum and general good behavior,” according to the *Alumni News*. By the 1970s, however, Easters had changed, devolving into a huge drunken party held in the Madison Bowl, a playing field flanked by several fraternity houses. *Playboy* magazine called it the “Best Party in the Country,” and by 1975 crowds reached 15,000 or more. And of course there were T-shirts. This was the last edition—the event was banned in 1982.

University of Virginia University Union, T-shirt for Easters,1982. (RG-23/17/3.881)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**89**

**Peach Bowl Coke Bottle**

This Coke bottle commemorates the University football team's first-ever appearance in a postseason bowl game, in 1984. After coming back from a 10-point halftime deficit, the Cavaliers, under third-year head coach George Welsh, defeated Purdue 27–24 to finish the season 8–2–2. During Welsh's nineteen years at Virginia, he became the winningest coach in school history, leading the team to twelve bowl games and a pair of ACC championships. Before his arrival, Virginia had enjoyed only two winning seasons in the previous twenty-nine years and had come close to cutting the football team altogether.

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Alumni Association*

**90**

**International Center Egyptian Plate**

Mohamed Arafa, a global media consultant who received a Ph.D. from the Department of Anthropology in 1986, gave this commemorative plate to the University's International Center in 1988, when he and his wife returned to Grounds and stayed at the Center as guests. Arafa, a native of Egypt, had this plate specially made, and it continues to hang in the foyer.

The International Center was founded in 1972 and quickly became an important educational, cultural, and social center for international students and visitors. The center is now named for Lorna Sundberg, who worked as its program coordinator for decades.

*On Loan from the Lorna Sundberg International Center, University of Virginia*

**91**

**Steve Keene Paintings for WTJU**

This placard by Steve Keene, a spoof on Norman Rockwell's famous *Freedom of Speech* (1943), was painted sometime in the early 1990s for a WTJU Rock Marathon. Once a DJ for the station, Keene found artistic success first in Charlottesville, then in Brooklyn, mastering what one critic has called an outsider, “slightly manic” style that emphasizes quick and cheap production. He is an “Assembly-Line Picasso,” according to a slightly skeptical *Time* magazine writer, but one who nevertheless has composed album covers for bands such as Silver Jews, The Apples in Stereo, Soul Coughing, Pavement, and Yo La Tengo. Those last two bands have members who also were DJs at WTJU. The station was founded in 1955 and did not play rock music until 1971.

*Courtesy of WTJU-FM, University of Virginia*

**92**

**Bernard Mayes's March on Washington Flag**

This rainbow flag, a symbol of the gay rights movement dating back to the 1970s, belonged to Bernard Mayes. A professor of rhetoric and media studies at the University from 1984 to 1999, he picked it up at the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation and kept it the rest of his life. According to Mayes’s friend and former student Matt Chayt, “It was very, very important to him to literally ‘show the flag’ wherever he went.” A London native and former Anglican priest, Mayes came to Grounds in 1984 and helped found the first group for gay and lesbian faculty and staff members as well as the alumni group that came to be known as the Serpentine Society (“The walls aren't straight and neither are we!”). He died in 2014.

*On loan from Matthew Chayt, San Francisco, California*

**93**

**Abercrombie & Fitch Catalog**

In the spring of 1997, renowned fashion photographer Bruce Weber auditioned and shot photos of University of Virginia students around Grounds for Abercrombie & Fitch's inaugural quarterly catalog. The company had been around since the 1890s but had gone bankrupt in 1977. Fifteen years later it rose again, this time under the leadership of CEO Mike Jeffries, an eccentric, zealous businessman whom *Salon* magazine once described as “the Willie Wonka of the fashion industry.”

His business plan, Jeffries explained, was to market to the coolest kids, which included students here on Grounds. Weber's hallmark style of semi-nudity and overt sexuality, however, caused an uproar when the catalog mailed in the autumn of 1997. Southern Baptist organizations labeled it pornography and by 2001 the governor of Illinois called for a boycott of the publication, which ended its run in 2003.

*Abercrombie & Fitch Quarterly* (Fall 1997). (HD9940 .U6 A24 1997–1998)

*Gift of Thorny Staples and Wayne Terwilliger*

**94**

**University of Virginia Barbie**

In 1997 the toy company Mattel released University Barbie, one in a line of “action” dolls that included Dentist Barbie, Gymnast Barbie, and Astronaut Barbie. It was the company's first attempt at marketing directly to colleges, and according to press reports the lucky schools were chosen according to their enrollment and stadium size, the rankings of their football and basketball teams, and their official colors. For much of its history, the University has resisted the associations—with big-time athletics and the broad reach of state universities—that this Barbie makes explicit, instead seeing itself as elitist and exclusive. The presidencies of Colgate W. Darden (1947–1959) and Edgar F. Shannon Jr. (1959–1974) helped change that by working to democratize the University and spread its influence more widely across the state. Of course, a few successful football and basketball teams didn't hurt either.

University Barbie (Mattel, Inc., 1997). (RG-30/19/5.971)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**95**

**Kitty Foster Memorial [Satellite site]**

In 1833 Catherine “Kitty” Foster, a free African American, purchased a little more than two acres of land just south of UVA’s Grounds, in a community the inhabitants  referred to as Canada. There she raised her children, supporting her family by washing clothes for students and faculty. Her daughter Ann worked in the nearby infirmary (later Varsity Hall) and may have tended to wounded Confederate soldiers during the Civil War. Kitty Foster died in 1863, but Canada persevered after her, becoming home to many of the University's former slaves.

In 1993, archaeologists discovered about a dozen graves in the area, and in 2005 they found twenty more. In 2011, President Teresa A. Sullivan dedicated this small park and memorial to Foster and her fellow Canadians. A "shadow catcher" outlines the footprint of Foster's house and a stone wall wraps around the unmarked graves. The site was added to the Virginia Landmarks Register in 2016.

**96**

**Shoe from Sullivan Controversy**

On June 8, 2012, Rector Helen E. Dragas and two other members of the Board of Visitors walked unannounced into the office of President Teresa A. Sullivan and demanded her resignation. “Sullivan,” the *Washington Post* reported, “was speechless.” A wave of protests followed and the board backed down, voting to reinstate Sullivan on June 26. A few days later, amidst a flood of supportive letters, the president received congratulations in the unlikely form of this red shoe. It came from the Reverends Mary and Milton Cole, of Des Moines, Iowa, who had placed postage on the insole and mailed it without any packaging on July 2. Their note, written in black permanent marker, reads: “Dear Dr. Sullivan**—** if only we could click our Red Ruby slippers together and make our way to Charlottesville we would!!! We would congratulate you on your continued tenure @ UVA. You are a class act! One we wish we knew! Peace.”

Mary and Milton Cole, Red Shoe decorated with Supportive Message, July 2, 2012. (RG-2/1/8.122)

*Gifts Sent to President Teresa Sullivan, 2012*

**97**

***The Student's Progress* [Item at satellite location]**

In 1996, the University commissioned the painter Lincoln Perry to create a mural for this lobby’s walls. Perry's first eleven panels, which he titled *The Student's Progress*, follow the misadventures of Shannon, a red-haired, violin-playing undergraduate who attends classes and parties, pursues her music, and finally gets her degree. At one point she turns her ankle and drops her violin. “The idea,” according to the artist, “is that somehow or other she’s not waltzing down the Lawn in majesty. She's fighting.” After completing his work in 2000, Perry started up again in 2005, this time depicting Shannon's post-graduation life, as she becomes a professor, raises a family, and sees her daughter attend the University. The new panels were completed in 2012.

**98**

**ACC Basketball Tournament Net**

After winning the 2013–2014 regular-season men's basketball ACC title, Virginia won its first ACC Tournament Championship since 1976. Led by Coach Tony Bennett and tournament MVP Joe Harris, the Cavaliers cut down this net in the Greensboro Coliseum on March 16, 2014. The season had been an up-and-down one for Virginia. The team suffered early losses at home and then, on December 30, in Knoxville, were blown out by Tennessee.

What happened next has become part of the team's lore: Harris visited Bennett's house on New Year's Eve and the two hashed out what had gone wrong and how best to fix it. “I realized I wasn't being a good enough leader,” Harris later told ESPN. The Cavaliers won twenty-one of their next twenty-three games, including that ACC Tournament title. The run finally ended with a crushing two-point loss to Michigan State in the NCAA Tournament's Sweet Sixteen.

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Athletics*

**99**

**Post-it Notes from *Rolling Stone* Controversy**

These Post-it notes were affixed by students to Peabody Hall in response to “A Rape on Campus,” published in the November 19, 2014, issue of *Rolling Stone* magazine. Their expressions of fear and solidarity, especially among women, refer to claims made in the article by a student, identified only as Jackie, that she had been gang-raped at a fraternity party. The writer criticized the University's response to Jackie's initial accusations and argued that “rape culture” on Grounds contributed to the likelihood of more such attacks.

Additional reporting by newspapers demonstrated that Jackie likely was not telling the truth, and *Rolling Stone* retracted the article. On Grounds students hotly debated how accusations of rape should be handled and whether the fraternities had been treated fairly. In the meantime many worried that the message of these Post-it notes—preserved by the University's Special Collections librarians—was being lost.

Notes posted by students on the front doors of Peabody Hall, November 21–December 9, 2014 (RG-50/1/141)

*University of Virginia Archives*

**100**

**Cav Man**

A Virginia edition of the *Washington Post*, from October 28, 1933, featured a cartoon of a Cavalier humorously challenging the honor of a scowling cadet from the Virginia Military Institute. The Cavalier mascot was relatively new at the time, dating back just ten years to a student contest held for the best alma mater and fight songs (“The Good Old Song,” which had originated about 1900, was apparently not as beloved then as it is today). As it happens, the two winners—”Virginia, Hail All Hail” and “The Cavalier Song,” respectively—did not catch on, although, as the historian Virginius Dabney points out, the contest “did have one immediate result: It caused Virginia teams to be called the Cavaliers. Before 1923 that term was not in use, but by 1924 it was an oft-heard expression and has so remained.” This recent Cav Man head will be familiar to UVA sports fans. In 2016, the first ever female Cav Man performer was added to the (anonymous) roster.

*Courtesy of the University of Virginia Athletics*