



# Guide to the Edmund Jennings Lee II Papers, 1797-1877

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## Summary

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### Collection Title:

Edmund Jennings Lee II papers, 1746-1963

### Abstract:

Correspondence, legal papers, and financial records concerning Edmund Jennings Lee's law practice, estate settlements, and personal family matters. Subjects include Confederate refugees in Canada, the formation of West Virginia as a state, conditions of Virginia in 1865, and bridge and turnpike construction and management. Includes family writings and diary entries from Henrietta Bedinger Lee, Edmund Jennings Lee III, and Edwin Gray Lee. Also includes bills, receipts, and financial ledgers from Edmund Jennings Lee's law practice.

### Extent:

9 Linear Feet

### Language:

English

### Language:

Materials in English

### Collection ID:

RL.11483

### Permalink:

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/leedmundjennings/>

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Edmund Jennings Lee II Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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## Background

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### Scope and Content

The Edmund Jennings Lee II Papers have been divided into four series: Correspondence, Personal Files, Legal Papers, and Financial Records. The majority of materials concern Lee's legal practice and business interests in Shepherdstown, WV. Materials include letters between Lee and his brothers,

Charles Henry Lee, Richard Henry Lee, and Cassius Francis Lee; letters concerning family matters; legal briefs, documents, land surveys, bill, receipts, and financial ledgers from Lee's legal practice; and miscellaneous family papers and writings, including diaries from Henrietta Bedinger Lee, Edmund Jennings Lee III, and Edwin Gray Lee.

## **Biographical/Historical**

Edmund Jennings Lee II (1797-1877) was born in Alexandria, VA (then part of the District of Columbia). The eldest son of Edmund Jennings Lee and Sarah Lee, he graduated from Princeton College and studied law under his father. Lee was a first cousin of Robert E. Lee. His family was also related to the Rutherford, Lucas, Dandridge, Rust, Washington, Shepherd families. Lee practiced law first in Wheeling, WV and then in Shepherdstown, WV after marrying Henrietta Bedinger Lee. Despite prodding by his family, Lee declined on multiple occasions to enter a more public political life. He originally opposed Virginia's secession from Union, but supported the state when it later did so. Lee continued to live in Shepherdstown for the rest of his life.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Statement**

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Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library to use this collection.

### **Use Restrictions**

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

### **Acquisition Information**

The Edmund Jennings Lee II Papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library in 1959, 1960, 1967, 1968, 1969, and 1972.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Paul Sommerfeld, May 2017

Accessions described in this collection: 10-7-59, 12-13-60, 1-16-67, 2-2-67, 9-1-67, 1-2-68, 3-30-69, 12-1-72.

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## **Names and Subjects**

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- Virginia -- Genealogy
- West Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Probate law and practice -- Virginia

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## **Collection Inventory**

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### **Correspondence, 1797-1912 and undated**

#### **Scope and Contents**

Correspondence pertains mainly to Lee's legal practice. Correspondents include his brothers, Charles Henry Lee, Richard Henry Lee, and Cassius Francis Lee, as well as other family members, including Lee's son, Edwin Gray Lee. Other correspondents include Jubal A. Early and William Nelson Pendleton. Subjects include Confederate refugees in Canada, the formation of West Virginia as

a state, conditions of Virginia in 1865, and bridge and turnpike construction and management. Also includes a letter from Rezin D. Shepherd from 1841 regarding the clock tower for Trinity Episcopal Church in Shepherdstown, WV. Letters from Edwin Gray Lee describe his service in the Confederate army and allude to his later work in the Confederate secret service in Virginia and Canada. Arranged chronologically by year.

Correspondence, 1797-1868

Box 1

**Physical Description:** 28 folders

**Scope and Contents**

Correspondence among the brothers Edmund Jennings Lee II, Charles Henry Lee, Richard Henry Lee, and Cassius Francis Lee; primarily pertaining to Edmund Jennings Lee's legal practice. Also includes letters pertaining to family matters and service in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

Correspondence, 1869-1912 and undated

Box 2

**Physical Description:** 16 folders

**Scope and Contents**

Correspondence among the brothers Edmund Jennings Lee II, Charles Henry Lee, Richard Henry Lee, Cassius Francis Lee and Edmund Jennings Lee's children; primarily pertaining to Edmund Jennings Lee's legal practice. Also includes letters pertaining to family matters.

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**Personal Files, 1845-1963 and undated**

**Scope and Contents**

Personal Files includes miscellaneous writings from members of the Lee family; miscellaneous printed materials, including newspaper clippings and other ephemera; genealogy papers for the Parran and Lee families; and some photographs of buildings, landscapes, and individuals in Carlsbad, NM and Shepherdstown, WV. Also includes a volume with notes from a logic class taken by George Rust Bedinger at the University of Virginia in 1859. The volume includes some written correspondence from Shepherdstown, WV, poetry, and financial ledger sheets.

The family writings include diary entries from Henrietta Bedinger Lee, Edmund Jennings Lee III, and Edwin Gray Lee. Henrietta's diary focuses on religious themes based on several sermons. Her entries also include poems on her deceased children and a humorous dream about her husband's first wife. Edmund's diary entries are a few typescript copies of short entries of his daily activities in 1866. Edwin's diary details his time in the Confederate army in the

latter half of the Civil War, from 1864-1865. Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

The Bells of Bedford, by Alexandra Lee Levin,  
1850-1866

Box 2

**Scope and Contents**

Manuscript draft, correspondence; includes letter from 1796

Diary of Edmund Jennings Lee III, 1866

Box 2

**Scope and Contents**

Typescript copy

Diary of Edwin Gray Lee, 1865

Box 2

**Scope and Contents**

Includes diary and enlarged photocopy

Diary of Henrietta Bedinger Lee, 1874-1877

Box 2

**Scope and Contents**

Typescript copy

Genealogy papers for Parran family and Lee  
family, 1963 and undated

Box 2

Miscellaneous poetry and stories, 1867-1929

Box 2

**Scope and Contents**

Includes typescript copies

Miscellaneous printed materials, 1845-1959 and  
undated

Box 2

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

**Scope and Contents**

The Congressional Globe publications, business cards, flyers, pamphlets,  
legal forms

Newspaper clippings, 1875-1961 and undated

Box 2

**Scope and Contents**

The Register and New York Times; family events and legal matters in Shepherdstown, WV

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Photographs, 1904 and undated Box 2

**Scope and Contents**

Captioned photographs from Carlsbad, NM that includes photographs of buildings, landscapes, and a few local individuals. Also includes a few photographs from Shepherdstown, WV, including the view from Lee's home, Leeland, and a photograph of an elderly Henrietta Bedinger Lee

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"Story of the Establishment of the Robert E. Lee Memorial Foundation", 1963 Box 2

**Scope and Contents**

Speech by Mrs. Frank H. Griffin

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Book of notes and correspondence, 1859-1875 Box 6

**Scope and Contents**

Includes notes from a logic class taken by George Rust Bedinger at the University of Virginia in 1859. Also includes some written correspondence from Shepherdstown, WV, poetry, and financial ledger sheets

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**Legal Papers, 1746-1875 and undated**

**Scope and Contents**

Legal Papers includes legal briefs, documents, ledger sheets, and land surveys from Lee's legal practice, primarily in Shepherdstown, WV. Arranged alphabetically by name.

Bedinger family, 1770-1865 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

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Bradshaw Methodist Church, 1859-1860 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

Boteler, Alexander R. and Dr. Henry Boteler,  
1831-1854 and undated Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

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Briscoe, F. A. and L. J. vs. Quigley, 1837-1853 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

---

Buckles, Daniel and Isaac, 1851-1859 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, land survey

---

Burns family, 1837-1853 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

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Cameron, Samuel, 1857-1858 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

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Catlett, William G., 1852 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

---

Entler, Daniel and Joseph, 1843-1871 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

---

Fairfax Estate, 1752-1833 Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

---

George Mason, 1767 and undated Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal arbitration between Peter Smith and James Jennings

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Green, William, 1809 Sept., Nov. 20

Oversize-folder 1

**Scope and Contents**

Oversize legal papers dividing the land owned by Green in Berkely County amongst his family.

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Hamill, George and Giles C., undated

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

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Harper, Robert, and Fairfax Estate, 1782-1833  
and undated

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

---

Henkle family, 1844-1856

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, correspondence

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Hollidat, John, 1849-1860

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, land survey

---

Hessey family, 1853-1875

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, land survey

---

Hodgson, Caroline guardianship, 1799-1852

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

---

Johns Hopkins Bros. and Co., 1843-1846 and  
undated

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

---

Lane, Thomas C., 1833-1852

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets, indenture agreement

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Leech, S. V. and others vs. J. L. Towner,  
1853-1875

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

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McKewan, Michael, 1827 and undated

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

---

McVeigh brothers, 1853-1858

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

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Magowan, Abram, 1866 and undated

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

---

Mason, T. Washington, 1867-1875

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

---

Moore, James V., 1860-1872

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

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Morgan County, WV, 1845

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

History of French Tract

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Mutual Assurance Company, 1845-1868	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets	
<hr/>	
Orndorff, William, 1858-1873	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Legal briefs and documents	
<hr/>	
Peters Estate, 1843-1863	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets	
<hr/>	
Reynolds, Jacob W., 1853-1857	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets	
<hr/>	
Rutherford, Robert, 1773-1847	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets	
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Shepherd Family, 1834-1867	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Legal briefs and documents, land survey	
<hr/>	
Shepherdstown and Smithfield Turnpike Co., 1824	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Ledger sheet	
<hr/>	
Showalter, William and Elizabeth, 1845	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Legal briefs and documents, land survey	
<hr/>	
Skrigg, William, 1839-1857	Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

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Stephen, Adam, 1821-1839

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

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Strider, James guardianship, 1833-1862

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets, land surveys

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Swearingen, Elizabeth, 1850

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal document

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Tarner Family, 1842-1869

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

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Towner, James L., 1855-1860

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents

---

Trinity Episcopal Church, 1818-1864

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Shepherdstown, WV; legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

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Turberville case, 1746-1807

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, manuscript timeline

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Virginia and Maryland Bridge Co. / Smithfield  
and Shepherdstown Turnpike, 1857-1875

Box 3

**Scope and Contents**

Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets

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Washington, John Augustine, 1831-1873	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b> Legal briefs and documents	
Washington, George vs. Michael Creasap land case, 1771-1825	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b> Legal briefs and documents	
Wingerd, John, 1818-1831	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b> Legal briefs and documents	
Yates, Francis, 1857-1858	Box 3
<b>Scope and Contents</b> Legal briefs and documents	
Claims and pensions, 1871	Box 3
Legal papers, lists, collections, 1856-1859 and undated	Box 3
Lists, collections, dockets, 1851-1868	Box 3
Miscellaneous land plots and deeds, 1847 and undated	Box 3
Miscellaneous legal papers, 1801-1873 and undated	Box 3
<b>Physical Description:</b> 3 folders <b>Scope and Contents</b> Legal briefs and documents, ledger sheets	
Notebook, 1799-1830	Box 5
<b>Scope and Contents</b> Handwritten notes on legal terms and procedures	

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## **Financial Records, 1814-1879 and undated**

### **Scope and Contents**

Financial Records is comprised of bills, receipts, and financial ledgers from Lee's legal practice and business interests, primarily in Shepherdstown, WV. Also included are financial ledgers from the Virginia-Maryland Bridge Company and the Shepherdstown and Winchester Turnpike Company. Bills and receipts are arranged chronologically by year. Ledgers are listed individually.

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Bills and receipts, 1814-1879 and undated Box 4

**Physical Description:** 27 folders

### **Scope and Contents**

Primarily from Leeland, near Shepherdstown, WV

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Mutual Assurance Society of Richmond,  
1852-1859 Box 4

### **Scope and Contents**

Insurance documents

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Docket ledger, 1841-1848 Box 5

### **Scope and Contents**

Financial records, debts, and brief case notes

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Ledger, 1839-1858 Box 5

### **Scope and Contents**

Shepherdstown, WV; financial records arranged both chronologically by year and by name of individual

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Ledger, Virginia-Maryland Bridge Co.,  
1849-1851 Box 6

### **Scope and Contents**

Financial records arranged alphabetically by last name

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Ledger, Shepherdstown and Winchester  
Turnpike Road Co., 1818-1848 Box 6

**Scope and Contents**

Financial records arranged chronologically by year

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Ledger, 1835-1838

Box 5

**Scope and Contents**

Shepherdstown, WV; financial records arranged both chronologically by year and by name of individual

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Ledger, 1843-1853

Box 5

**Scope and Contents**

Shepherdstown, WV; financial records arranged both chronologically by year and by name of individual

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Daybook, 1848-1876

Box 8

**Scope and Contents**

"Leeland," near Shepherdstown, WV; financial records arranged both chronologically by year and by name of individual. Principally a toll book.

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Ledger, 1856-1875

Box 9

**Scope and Contents**

Shepherdstown, WV; financial records arranged both chronologically by year and by name of individual

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Ledger, 1841-1860

Box 6

**Scope and Contents**

Shepherdstown, WV; financial records arranged both chronologically by year and by name of individual

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