



Joplin Railroad Company Records (R0087)

Collection Number: R0087

Collection Title: Joplin Railroad Company Records

Dates: 1877

Creator: Joplin Railroad Company

Abstract: The Joplin Railroad Company Records contains a microfilm copy of a construction ledger for the Joplin Railroad Company.

Collection Size: (1 roll of microfilm)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Rights & Reproductions](#) on the Society's website for more information about reproductions and permission to publish.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Joplin Railroad Company Records* (R0087); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The records were loaned for microfilming to the University of Missouri by the Museum of the Ozarks, Inc. on July 29, 1981 (Accession No. RA0075).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Joplin Railroad Company Records can be found in the following collections:

Southwest Missouri Railroad Company Records (R0052)

St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company Records (R0362)

C.C. Roberts Railroad Collection (R4212)

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, March 3, 1982. Revised by Kathleen Seale, April 6, 2020.

Historical Note:

The Joplin Railroad was incorporated in 1875, by miners and businessmen in Jasper County, Missouri, after eastern investors declined the opportunity to build the line. Leonidas P. Cunningham, one of the earliest miners in the area, led the effort. Construction began in 1876, and the rails reached Girard, Kansas, via Pittsburg, in 1877. Although the completed line had only thirty-eight miles of track, it immediately became the object of attention of two much larger roads. The Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Gulf Railroad south the South Joplin Railroad as a link to Springfield, Missouri, and then to Memphis, Tennessee. The St. Louis and San Francisco Railway wanted the Joplin line's access into the mineral district of Missouri and Kansas, and also wanted to forestall any competition from the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Gulf. The St. Louis and San Francisco leased the line, and then purchased it in 1879 for \$300,000.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains a microfilm copy of a construction ledger for the Joplin Railroad Company. The ledger contains entries for purchases made by the company.

Container List:

Box 001 v. 1 Construction ledger, 1877

Index:

Index Term	Medium
Girard (Kan.)	v. 1
Jasper County (Mo.)	v. 1
Joplin (Mo.)	v. 1
Joplin Railroad Company	v. 1
Railroads--Kansas	v. 1
Railroads--Missouri	v. 1
St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company	v. 1