



John Perry Records (R0197)

Collection Number: R0197

Collection Title: John Perry Records

Dates: 1839-1840

Creator: Perry, John, Jr., 1787-1850

Abstract: The John Perry Records contain a microfilm copied daybook of a mercantile operation in Washington County, Missouri, attributed to John Perry, Jr. The trade included dry goods, groceries, hardware, lumber, and blacksmithing services. The Springfield Iron Furnace, Cedar Creek Forge, Samuel T. Dunklin & Company, and Rozier & Desloge were among the customers.

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.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *John Perry Records* (R0197); 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 Paul R. Richeson on July 17, 1984 (Accession No. RA0230).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the John Perry Records can be found in the following collections:

Springfield Iron Furnace, Potosi, Missouri Records (C1263)

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, September 7, 1984. Revised by Kathleen Seale, April 23, 2021.

Biographical Note:

John Perry, Jr., was a member of a prominent family in Washington County. His father, John Perry, Sr., moved into the area around 1806, buying the Basil Valle property on the north side of Jefferson Street in Mine à Breton (later Potosi). He entered the mercantile business, as his sons, John Jr. and Samuel, and a nephew, James Franklin Perry, did later. The elder Perry engaged in mining to some extent, as did many of his contemporary entrepreneurs in that early mining center. Perry mined his own lands and traded in minerals at his store in Potosi. He used receipts from the mineral trade to buy goods, which he then sold, investing the profits in additional goods and real property. John Perry, Jr., assumed this successful business upon the death of his father in 1825. The younger Perry likewise prospered, remaining in Potosi until his death in 1850.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

This daybook has been attributed to John Perry, Jr., but it cannot be identified with him for certain. There are no marks on the volume to indicate ownership or the place of business. The main entry in the name of the younger John Perry has been based upon the volume's provenance through a descendant of the Perry family, the time period covered by the volume, and the names of the establishment's patrons.

Entries in the volume begin on February 11, 1839, and continue through June 11, 1840. The transactions involved domestic goods, groceries, and a wide range of building supplies and hardware. Connections with Washington County's mining industry are evident in numerous entries involving bar-iron and castings from the "C. C. Forge" on Cedar Creek near Caledonia, Missouri, and pig metal from the "Furnace," probably the Springfield Iron Furnace south of Potosi. Other customers included Rozier & Desloge and Samuel T. Dunklin & Company in Potosi.

Container List:

Roll 1 v. 1 Daybook, 1839-1840

Index:

Index Term	Medium
Blacksmithing--Missouri	v. 1
Cedar Creek Forge (Washington County, Mo.)	v. 1
Desloge and Rozier	v. 1
Dunklin, Samuel T.	v. 1
General stores--Missouri	v. 1
Perry, John, Jr., 1787-1850	v. 1

Index Term	Medium
Potosi (Mo.)	v. 1
Samuel T. Dunklin and Company	v. 1
Springfield Iron Furnace (Washington County, Mo.)	v. 1
Washington County (Mo.)	v. 1