



J. M. White & Company Records (R0378)

Collection Number: R0378

Collection Title: J. M. White & Company Records

Dates: 1835

Creator: J. M. White & Company

Abstract: The J. M. White & Company Records contain a photocopy of a receipt for 3,094 pounds of lead received by the J. M. White & Company, commission and forwarding agents at the “Cliffs of Selma” on the Mississippi River in Jefferson County, Missouri. The lead was credited to the account of John Parkinson.

Collection Size: 0.01 cubic foot
(1 folder)

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] *J. M. White & Company Records* (R0378); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the University of Missouri by Mine au Breton Historical Society on July 20, 1988 (Accession No. RA0416).

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, November 1, 1989. Revised by Donovan Mefford, June 17, 2021.

Historical Note:

James M. White was born in 1798 to James White and Mary Lawson. He moved to Jefferson County, Missouri in the 1820s to supply miners and merchants in the region. He overed and operated several steamboats along the Mississippi River. He married Ann Walker (Smith T) Deaderick in 1823. His business connections in Washington County would have been based in part on White's marriage to the daughter of John Smith T (Smith added a T to the end of his name to differentiate himself), the notorious resident of Potosi and one-time candidate for governor of Missouri. After his death at Memphis in 1835, Smith's body was buried at Selma. White died in 1846.

The Cliffs of Selma are located on the west bank of the Mississippi River, in the southeastern corner of Jefferson County. The cliffs are a navigational point for boatmen marking the mid-way point between St. Louis and Ste. Genevieve. During the first half of the nineteenth century, the settlement at Selma was an important river port for the shipment of lead mined in the interior of Missouri. It was rivaled only by Herculaneum, also in Jefferson County. A considerable amount of the business at Selma involved the storage and forwarding of metal from mines in Jefferson and Washington counties.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The receipt issued by J. M. White & Company illustrates the volume of business at Selma by 1835. In the transaction for John Parkinson alone, over a ton and a half of metal was involved.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Receipt, 1835

Index:

Index Term	Folder
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J. M. White & Company	1
Jefferson County (Mo.)	1
Lead industry and trade--Missouri	1
Parkinson, John	1
Selma (Mo.)	1
White, James M., 1798-1846	1