



Jennings Historical Society Collection (S0081)

Collection Number: S0081

Collection Title: Jennings Historical Society Collection

Dates: 1843-1994

Creator: Jennings Historical Society (Mo.)

Abstract: The Jennings Historical Society Collection contains photocopies of newspaper clippings, a deed of property, photographs, and the contents of a scrapbook collected by Jennings Historical Society regarding the history of Jennings, Missouri, a north St. Louis County suburb.

Collection Size: 0.15 cubic foot
(4 folders, 31 photographs)

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-St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@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] *Jennings Historical Society Collection* (S0081); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Barbara Bagot on November 20, 1981 (Accession No. SA2435). An addition was made on May 17, 1994 by Linda Schmerber (Accession No. SA3149).

Processed by: Processed by Western Historical Manuscript Collection staff, November 1981. Revised by Zack Palitzsch, October 2020.

Historical Note:

Jennings, Missouri, was incorporated in 1947 and named after James Jennings, a Virginia-born farmer and merchant. Jennings moved from Virginia to St. Louis in 1839 with his wife Anne Montague, their seven children, 40 slaves, and \$50,000 in gold. He bought 2,500 acres of land between Florissant Road and Halls Ferry Road. Jennings died in 1855 as the North Missouri Railroad was constructing a railway through his property. The land was sold off by his children shortly after. Benjamin Blewitt purchased Jennings' house and opened the St. Louis Seminary for Young Ladies. Miles A. Seed bought some of the land in 1883, relocating his M. A. Seed Dry Plate Company, a photographic equipment manufacturing company, which employed 110 workers. Together, the M. A. Seed Dry Plate Company, the Seminary, and easy access to the railroad attracted settlers, thereby creating the Jennings community. The Jennings Historical Society was founded in 1980 to preserve the history of Jennings, Missouri, and educate its residents to understand and appreciate the city's history.

Arrangement:

The first three folders are arranged chronologically followed by photographs.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains a brief history of Jennings, Missouri, a transcript of a deed of property, brochures, photographs, and pamphlets documenting the history of Jennings. Also included are photocopies of newspaper clippings, the contents of a scrapbook, Historic Inventories of houses located in Jennings, and a photograph of school children. The original records were collected by the Jennings Historical Society. The materials in this collection date from 1843 to 1994 and are arranged chronologically.

Container List:

- f. 1 Newspaper clippings, deed of property, and a brief history, 1843-1981
- f. 2 Photocopies of *Society News* scrapbook, 1907-1915
- f. 3 Brochures, pamphlets, Historic Inventories of houses in Jennings, and a photograph of St. Jacobi School children, 1930-1994
- f. 4 Photographs, S0081_f.3_0001-0031, 1891-1980

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Historic buildings--Missouri--Jennings	3-4	Yes
Jennings (Mo.)	1-4	Yes
Jennings (Mo.)--History	1-4	Yes
Jennings, James, 1780-1855	1	
Jennings Historical Society (Mo.)	3	
M. A. Seed Dry Plate Company	1-2	
North Missouri Railroad Company	1	
United Railways Company of St. Louis	2	