

A Guide to the Jordan and Figgat Partnership Books, 1850-1852

Jordan and Figgat Partnership Books, 1850-1852
1850-1852

A Collection in the Library of Virginia Rockbridge County Chancery Cause, 1862-001
Library of Virginia
2008

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History

Processed by: Greg Crawford

Title Statement

A Guide to the Jordan and Figgat Partnership Books, 1850-1852

Subtitle: Jordan and Figgat Partnership Books, 1850-1852

Collection: Chancery Records Index - Rockbridge County Chancery Cause, 1862-001

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Publication Statement

Date: © 2008 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

Publisher: Library of Virginia

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MARC record, created by Greg Crawford, 08 September 2008

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

2013-11-21 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Chancery Records Index

Rockbridge County Chancery Cause, 1862-001

Language

English

Collector

Jordan and Figgat (Rockbridge County, Va.)

Physical Characteristics

Digital images.

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Digital images were generated by Crowley Micrographics through the Library of Virginia's Circuit Court Records Preservation Program.

Preferred Citation

Jordan and Figgat Partnership Books, 1850-1852. Local government records collection, Rockbridge County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

For additional information see the Rockbridge County Chancery Cause, William L. Figgat versus Samuel F. Jordan. It can be found in the [Chancery Records Index](#) at the Library of Virginia web site. The index number is 1862-001.

See also Jordan Family Collection, 1752-1992. Accession 42492. Business records collection, The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia. It contains records related to Samuel F. Jordan and the Junction Valley Turnpike Company.

Historical Information

Jordan and Figgat was a partnership formed in 1850 by Samuel F. Jordan and William L. Figgat. The partnership was contracted by Junction Valley Turnpike Company to build sections of the Junction Valley Road between Buchanan, Virginia, and Staunton, Virginia.

Samuel Francis Jordan was born on 9 January 1805. He was the son of Col. John Jordan and Lucy Winn of Rockbridge County, Virginia. He married 1) Hannah Weaver Davis and 2) Elizabeth Leibert Keen. Samuel F. Jordan was engaged in the production of iron, and owned furnaces in Allegany, Amherst, Bath, Botetourt, Louisa, and Rockbridge Counties. He died on 8 June 1872.

An act of the General Assembly passed March 17, 1849, incorporated the Junction Valley Turnpike Company, to make a macadamized road from the town of Buchanan in Botetourt County to Staunton in Augusta County, passing through Lexington in Rockbridge County. Capital stock was set at \$60,000, with the Board of Public Works subscribing to \$27,000. The Board of Public Works was to appoint an engineer to locate and superintend construction. The company was to be allowed to increase capital up to \$40,000 additional. The charter was amended January 19, 1850, to limit the width of the road to 20 ft., and to allow the construction of a plank road rather than macadam. March 20, 1851, an increase was authorized by private subscription for a branch from Lexington to Alum Springs in Rockbridge County, and a branch to the Natural Bridge, and also to allow the town of Staunton to subscribe to stock up to \$3,000. March 31, 1853, an increase of \$25,000 was approved to complete work to the northern terminus at Staunton. February 25, 1856, an amendment provided that the company was not required to renew plank or macadam which had deteriorated, and that tolls could be collected. December 22, 1857, the Board of Public Works was authorized to buy the turnpike under a decree of the circuit court of Rockbridge County to settle a suit brought by William L. Figgat and others, vs. the Turnpike Company. On March 6, 1873, the Board of Public Works transferred its interest to the counties through which it passed.

The volumes were used as exhibits in a chancery suit, William L. Figgat versus Samuel F. Jordan, heard in the Circuit Court of Rockbridge County during the 1850's and 1860's.

Rockbridge County was named for Natural Bridge, an exceptional rock formation located in the county. The county was formed from Augusta and Botetourt counties in 1778, and another part of Botetourt was added later.

Scope and Content

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Jordan and Figgat Partnership Books, 1850-1852, consists of an employee log book and an account book.

Jordan and Figgat Laborer Log Book, 1850-1851, records attendance of laborers of Jordan and Figgat who worked on the Junction Valley Road. Information recorded include names of laborers, amount of day worked, and total hours worked for the month. Laborers include hired slaves.

Jordan and Figgat Laborer Account Book, 1850-1852, primarily consists of individual accounts of laborers of Jordan and Figgat. The accounts record disbursements to laborers for services rendered. Form of payments to laborers include cash, tobacco, bacon, nails, corn, shoes, etc. Information found in entries include name of laborer, date of transaction, form of transaction, and amount paid. Volume also includes individual accounts of individuals and companies from whom Jordan and Figgat purchased goods and supplies such as blasting powder, bacon, clothing, blankets, shoes, etc.

Index Terms

Persons:

Figgat, William Landrun, 1806-1880.

Jordan, Samuel Francis, 1805-1872.

Corporate Names:

Jordan and Figgat (Rockbridge County, Va.)

Junction Valley Turnpike Company (Rockbridge County, Va.)

Subjects:

African Americans -- History -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Road construction industry -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Road construction workers -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Slavery -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Toll roads -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Wages -- Road construction workers -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Geographical Names:

Rockbridge County (Va.) -- History -- 19th century.

Genre and Form Terms:

Account books -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Business records -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Logs (records) -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.

Local government records -- Virginia -- Rockbridge County.