

Lobdell Car Wheel Company Account Books

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1881-1902



Title Statement

Lobdell Car Wheel Company Account BooksLobdell Car Wheel Company Account Books, 1881-1902
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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1940.019

Unit Date

1881-1902

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

This collection contains the records of a Smyth and Wythe County, Virginia furnace and store operations of the Lobdell Car Wheel Company, including customer store accounts, payroll records, and furnace operation reports.

Creator

Lobdell Car Wheel Company

Creator

Lantz, Jacob W., 1868-1940

Extent

2.9 Cubic Feet 9 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Lobdell Car Wheel Company Account Books were donated to the university in 1939 or 1940 and transferred to Special Collections and University Archives in 1955.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Lobdell Car Wheel Company Account Books commenced and was completed in January 2013. Initial description was completed in or prior to May 1970.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Lobdell Car Wheel Company Account Books, Ms1940-019, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Administrative History

The Lobdell Car Wheel Company had its beginnings in 1830, when Jonathon Bonney and Charles Bush established a small foundry in Wilmington, Delaware. By 1867, the year it was incorporated as the Lobdell Car Wheel Company, the business had added partner George Lobdell and become the world's largest manufacturer of wheels for railroad cars.

White Rock Furnace, located five miles from Rural Retreat and near the head of Cripple Creek in Smyth County, was among the Lobdell Car Wheel Company's operations in Virginia. Built in 1875, and originally known as the Panic Furnace, the White Rock was purchased in 1880 by Lobdell, which also bought Brown Hill Furnace in neighboring Wythe County. The White Rock ceased operation in the early 20th century, when the company found it more cost effective to purchase, rather than mine and manufacture, its iron.

Scope and Content

This collection contains account books relating to the southwestern Virginia business concerns of the Lobdell Car Wheel Company. Most of the records seem to have originated with the White Rock Furnace in Smyth County. Included are customer account records from the company's store, payroll ledgers, invoices, correspondence, and furnace operation records and reports. Much of the correspondence is addressed directly to Jacob W. Lantz, who managed Lobdell's farm and conducted other business for the company.

Related Archival Materials

See the Jacob W. Lantz Papers, Ms1975-003, also in Special Collections and University Archives.

Keywords

Account books

Iron foundries -- Virginia

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

Smyth County (Va.)

Wythe County (Va.)

Existence and Location of Copies

This collection has been digitized and is available online.

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged by ledger type, then chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Store customer accounts

Unit Date 1881-1883

box 1

Container 1-2 (item)

Store customer accounts

Unit Date 1885-1889

box 2

Container 1 (item)

Store customer accounts

Unit Date 1889-1891

box 3

Container 1-2 (item)

Store customer accounts

Unit Date 1891-1894

box 4

Container 1 (item)

White Rock Furnace monthly account balances

Unit Date 1884-1887

box 4

Container 2 (item)

Scope and Content

This volume also contains store customer accounts, 1888-1889.

Freight accounts

Unit Date 1888-1893

box 4

Container 3 (item)

Store day book

Unit Date 1882-1883

box 5

Container 1 (item)

Store day book

Unit Date May-Oct 1900

box 5

Container 2-3 (item)

Incoming correspondence

Unit Date 1890-1895

box 6

Container 1 (item)

Extent [bound volume]

Invoices and receipts

Unit Date 1887-1890

box 7

Container 1 (item)

Extent [bound volume]

Invoices and receipts

Unit Date 1890-1893

box 8

Container 1 (item)

Extent [bound volume]

Brown Hill Store inventories and reports

Unit Date 1881-1883

box 9

Container 1 (item)

Labor expenses

Unit Date 1897-1901

box 9

Container 2 (item)

Farm and stables payroll records

Unit Date 1892-1895

box 9

Container 3 (item)

White Rock Furnace daily operation reports

Unit Date 1881-1902

box 9

Container 4 (item)

White Rock furnace payroll records

Unit Date 1881-1890

box 9

Container 5 (item)