

Crews, Samuel, Sharecropper Contract

Samuel Crews Sharecropper Contract

1876



Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2008.067

Unit Date

1876

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The Samuel Crews Sharecropper Contract is a manuscript agreement that outlines the terms in which Samuel Crews can farm, but not own, lands belonging to S. and R. Dodd in Halifax County, Virginia, for the year 1877.

Creator

Crews, Samuel, b. abt. 1846

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Biographical Note

Samuel Walter Crews appears in Virginia's 1850 census under southern Halifax County as a four-year-old boy, thus placing his birth in around 1846. Crews was born to James Henry Crews and Marguerite Walker and had three sisters: Anne E., Phebe M. and Mary F.

Crews was a sharecropper, one who farms land without owning it for a share of the yield. Sharecropping became popular in Halifax County, Virginia, after the abolition of slavery caused landowners to seek new forms of labor.

Scope and Content

The Samuel Crews Sharecropper Contract is a manuscript agreement between S. and R. Dodd and Samuel Crews for the year 1877. The contract outlines the terms in which Samuel Crews can farm, but not own, land in Halifax County, Virginia. In the document, Crews agrees to pay the Dodds one fourth of crops grown and to build a fence. Crops cultivated include tobacco, corn, wheat, and oats. This diversified list of crops represents the shift away from a tobacco monoculture that occurred between 1870 and 1880 in Virginia.

Keywords

Agriculture

Legal instruments (Legal documents)

Sharecropping -- United States -- Virginia

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Description of Subordinate Components

Contract

Unit Date 1876

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