

Williams, Samuel, Ledger

Samuel Williams Ledger

c. 1839-1840



Title Statement

Williams, Samuel, Ledger Samuel Williams Ledger, c. 1839-1840 Ms.2023.055

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2023.055

Unit Date

c. 1839-1840

Language

The material in this collection is in English.

Abstract

The Samuel Williams Ledger contains a "Memorandum of the amount Paid to Each of my Children Toward Their Legacies" with accompanying pages identifying ten children by name along with associated inheritance. The names of 18 men, women, and children enslaved by Williams are listed as well as property such as horses, cows, beds, and land.

Creator

Williams, Samuel, 1769-1840

Extent

0.2 Cubic Feet 1 box

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 Samuel Williams Ledger was purchased by Special Collections and University Archives in February 2021.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Samuel Williams Ledger was completed in June 2023.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Samuel Williams Ledger, c. 1839-1840, Ms2023-055, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

The creator of the ledger is probably Samuel Williams (1769-1840), a Virginian enslaver in Wythe and Smyth counties. Williams married Sarah "Sally" Buster (c. 1776-1836) on September 25, 1795, in Wythe County, and together they had ten children. The 1830 U. S. Federal Census indicates Williams enslaved 13 persons and the 1840 census lists 11 enslaved people, including 6 under 10 years old. The ledger includes the names of 18 enslaved men, women, and children.

External Sources:

Dealer's description

U.S. Federal Census, 1830-1840

"Samuel Williams", Findagrave.com, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/219008167/samuel-williams>, accessed March 14, 2024.

"Samuel Williams" in the Virginia, U.S., Select Marriages, 1785-1940, Ancestry.com, <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/discoveryui-content/view/3800030:60214>, accessed March 14, 2024.

Scope and Content

The Samuel Williams Ledger contains a "Memorandum of the amount Paid to Each of my Children Toward Their Legacies" with accompanying pages identifying ten children by name along with associated inheritance. The names of 18 men, women, and children enslaved by Williams are listed as well as property such as horses, cows, beds, and land.

Keywords

African Americans -- History

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

Slavery -- United States

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Description of Subordinate Components

Samuel Williams Ledger

Unit Date c. 1839-1840

box 1