

James D. Allen Journals

Included in this collection are records for James D. Allen, an early Justice of the Peace in Johnson County, Kansas.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: James D. Allen
Title: James D. Allen journals
Dates: 1858-1872
Size: 1 box, 4 folders
Location: SC50

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Terms governing use and reproduction: Due to preservation concerns, researchers are asked to use the photocopies.

Additional physical form available: Also available as photocopies.

Acquisition information: Unknown.

Custodial history: Formerly classed and located in X/Y collection, MVSC Q 978.164 A42J.

Citation note: James D. Allen journals (SC50), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Biographical/Historical note

James D. Allen (1812-1894) settled in Shawnee in 1857 and was appointed Justice of the Peace for Shawnee, Johnson County, Kansas in that year. He was also a Notary Public. He was born in 1812 and died March 21, 1894, and is buried in Shawnee Cemetery.

Scope and content note

This collection contains one large journal (7½" x 12") and one small diary/account book (3½" x 6") which belonged to James D. Allen, Justice of the Peace and Notary Public for Shawnee, Johnson County, Kansas. It covers the years 1858 to 1872. The larger account book contains information pertaining to the Shawnee Baptist Church which was organized in Shawnee, Johnson County, Kansas, in June 1860. Other items found in this book include: accounts payable and receivable; Justice of the Peace records including entries for mortgage deeds, quit claim deeds, etc.; an index of names; maps; and prose writing.

Allen's smaller diary/account book (1858-59) entries cover primarily the first half of the year of 1859. Both books have been photocopied, and the photocopies are in the box with the originals. The diary contains information concerning activities of Mr. Allen and mentions names prominent to that area at the time.

Collection Inventory

The larger book contains:

- "A Declaration of the Faith, Practice and Covenant of the Members of the Shawnee Baptist Church, organize in the town of Shawnee, Johnson County, Kansas Territory, June, 1860". It contains 15 articles of faith and 7 "Of the Church" entries, and a covenant which has the following names attached to it: J.D. Allen, Wm.Elledge, A.H. Thompson, Mary Thompson, B.J. Ingraham, Mary Ingraham, Lila Ingraham, Joseph Flint, Jeremiah King, Adaline Allen, and Julia J. Hagan.
- Accounts payable and received listings
- Justice of the Peace record entries as copy of mortgage deeds, warranty deeds, quit claims deeds, etc.
- Index of names (p. 71)
- Maps which include an example of a township (p. 32) and plat map of an area which may be Olathe since it contains a "Court House Square" (p. 59-60) or it may be of Shawnee since it was county seat at the time.
- Miscellaneous prose writing.

Processed Special Collections Librarian, Sara Nyman, May 1995.