

Information Sheet

R Grant-Davis Lumber Company.
109 Records, 1882-1949.
Twenty-nine volumes and nine folders.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are business records of a lumber company based in Cabool, Missouri, which operated in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. The collection includes ledgers, cash books, trial balances, inventories, and correspondence with the St. Louis and San Francisco ("Frisco") Railroad Company regarding freight claims. Russelle Grant Simonsen, daughter of Paul S. Grant, the last president of the firm, donated the records of the Grant-Davis Lumber Company. Mrs. Simonsen also provided background information on the company and the individuals who operated it. This information has been filed in the Information Folder.

The Grant-Davis Lumber Company was organized as the Grant Lumber Company in Cabool in 1886. The founder was Silas W. Grant, who had come to Missouri via Nebraska, from Indiana, in 1872. After settling briefly in Chariton County, Grant moved south to Texas County to engage in the lumber business in the hardwood forests of the Ozarks. His son, Paul S. Grant, joined the company before his father's death, and became the president of the firm. Charles E. Davis joined the company after marrying into the Grant family. With Paul S. Grant as president and Charles Davis as secretary, the firm operated as the Grant-Davis Lumber Company until it entered receivership in 1939.

The company bought and cut timber throughout southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. The main office was located in Cabool, with lumber camps at Hanks and Sterling, and yards on the Frisco railroad at Springfield, Willow Springs, Mountain Grove, Dunn, Sax, and Mountain View. Although the firm did cut and sell some dimensional lumber, its lumber order book indicates that the biggest part of the company's business came through the sales of fence posts, railroad ties, and bridge pilings. Midwestern firms, especially railroads, construction companies, and lumber dealers, were frequent customers.

The bulk of this collection consists of bound financial records, and includes ledgers, cash books, trial balances, inventories, and records of shipments. The inventory and sales records (volumes 23-26) are particularly useful in determining the scope and nature of the company's business. The firm incorporated around 1930, and the stock ledger is available, as are the minutes of the board of directors' meetings for 1931-1939. The folders contain unbound journal pages, freight claims and related correspondence with the Frisco railroad, and miscellaneous correspondence and printed material.

The Grants were involved in other business ventures, and the collection includes the stock ledger of the St. Louis, Cabool and Little Rock Railway Company, a line that was never constructed. Silas Grant also was an investor in the Mexican Mining and Development Company, which operated a profitable mine in Oaxaca, Mexico, until its seizure by the government during the Revolution. Credits from mine revenues are noted in several of the cash books.

Nine volumes are filed in OVERSIZE.

Shelf List

These are business records of a lumber company based in Cabool, Missouri, which operated in southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. The collection includes ledgers, cash books, trial balances, inventories, and correspondence with the St. Louis and San Francisco ("Frisco") Railroad Company regarding freight claims. Russelle Grant Simonsen, daughter of Paul S. Grant, the last president of the firm, donated the records of the Grant-Davis Lumber Company. Mrs. Simonsen also provided background information on the company and the individuals who operated it. This information has been filed in the Information Folder.

Volumes 1-11: Daybook and ledgers, 1882-1938.

- Vol. 1: Daybook, C. R. Hughes, 1882-1884.
- Vol. 2: Ledger, 1899-1900.
- Vol. 3: Ledger, 1900-1902.
- Vol. 4: Ledger, 1902-1904.
- Vol. 5: Ledger, 1904-1905.
- Vol. 6: Ledger, 1905-1907.
- Vol. 7: Ledger, 1907-1909.
- Vol. 8: "Transfer Ledger," 1906-1907.
- Vol. 9: Ledger, S. W. Grant, 1907-1912.
- Vol. 10: Ledger, 1913-1914 (OVERSIZE).
- Vol. 11: Ledger, 1925-1938 (OVERSIZE).

Volumes 12-20: Cash books, 1904-1942.

- Vol. 12: Cash book, P. S. Grant, 1904-1908.
- Vol. 13: Cash book, 1914-1916.
- Vol. 14: Cash book, 1916-1918.
- Vol. 15: Cash book, 1918-1921.
- Vol. 16: Cash book, 1921-1924 (OVERSIZE).
- Vol. 17: Cash book, 1924-1942 (OVERSIZE).
- Vol. 18: Cash book (checks), 1915-1919.
- Vol. 19: Cash book (checks), 1919-1924 (OVERSIZE).
- Vol. 20: Cash book (checks), 1923-1931 (OVERSIZE).

Volumes 21-22: Trial balances, 1915-1935.

- Vol. 21: Trial balance, 1915-1921.
- Vol. 22: Trial balance, 1921-1935 (OVERSIZE).

Volumes 23-26: Records of inventory and sales, 1910-1939.

- Vol. 23: Shipping record, 1910-1938 (OVERSIZE).
- Vol. 24: Lumber orders, 1912-1919.
- Vol. 25: Inventory ledger, 1915-1918 (OVERSIZE).

Vol. 26: Inventory ledger, 1922-1939, foldered in two parts:
Part 1: 1922-1929.
Part 2: 1930-1939.

Volumes 27-29: Stock ledgers and minute book, 1905-1939.

- Vol. 27: Stock ledger, St. Louis, Cabool and Little Rock Railway Company, 1905.
- Vol. 28: Stock ledger, Grant-Davis Lumber Company, 1931-1933.
- Vol. 29: Minute book, Grant-Davis Lumber Company, 1931-1939.

Folders 1-3: Journal pages, 1918-1921.

Folder 1: Journal, 1918-1919 (Pages 1843-2123).

Folder 2: Journal, 1919-1920 (Pages 2124-2462).

Folder 3: Journal, 1920-1921 (Pages 2463-2756).

Folders 4-6: Freight claims and related correspondence with the Frisco railroad, 1904-1915.

Folder 4: Claims, 1904-1915.

Folder 5: Claims, 1912-1913.

Folder 6: Claims, 1913-1918.

Folders 7-9: Correspondence and miscellaneous items, 1900-1949.

Folder 7: Enclosures from volumes 2-26 (1900-1917).

Folder 8: Enclosures from Volume 29 (minute book), 1931-1935.

Folder 9: Miscellaneous, 1931-1949.

r116

26 March 1982

Russelle Grant Simonsen

Gift

Index Cards

Black Rock (Ark.).

Bull Shoals Lake (Ark. and Mo.).

Business records—Missouri.

Cabool (Mo.).

Clifton, W. R.

Clifton and Dove General Merchandise (Cabool, Mo.).

Coffey Lumber Company (Black Rock, Ark.).

Davis, Charles E.

Dunn (Mo.).

Ellis, J. Fred.

Grant, Paul S., 1887-1954.

Grant, Silas W., 1852-1908.

Grant-Davis Lumber Company (Cabool, Mo.).

Hanks (Mo.).

Howell County (Mo.).

Hughes, Emil C.

Hughes, C. R.

Lee, A. E.

Lumber trade—Arkansas.

Lumber trade—Missouri—Howell County.

Lumber trade—Missouri—Springfield.

Lumber trade—Missouri—Texas County.

Mexican Mining and Development Company.

Patton, John W.

Patton, Charles P.

St. Louis, Cabool and Little Rock Railway Company.

St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad Company.

Sargent (Mo.).

Springfield (Mo.).

Sterling (Mo.).

Texas County (Mo.).