Guide to the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands labor contract
MSS.0230

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November 27, 2012
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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### Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>United States. Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands labor contract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1865 June 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>0.05 Linear feet (1 item, 4 leaves; photocopy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>Labor contract dated 16 June 1865 with estate of Greene Underwood of Dallas Co., Alabama, binding former slaves to plantation in return for food, clothing and medical care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Preferred Citation note

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands labor contract, W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama.
Biographical/Historical note

The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, usually referred to as simply the Freedmen's Bureau, was a U.S. federal government agency that aided distressed freedmen (freed slaves) in 1865–1869, during the Reconstruction era of the United States. The Freedmen's Bureau Bill, which created the Freedmen's Bureau, was initiated by President Abraham Lincoln and was intended to last for one year after the end of the Civil War. It was passed on March 3, 1865, by Congress to aid former slaves through legal food and housing, oversight, education, health care, and employment contracts with private landowners. It became a key agency during Reconstruction, assisting freed ex-slaves in the South. The Bureau was part of the United States Department of War. Headed by Union Army General Oliver O. Howard, the Bureau was operational from 1865 to 1871. It was disbanded under President Ulysses S. Grant.

Scope and Contents note

The collection contains a labor contract dated 16 June 1865, with estate of Greene Underwood of Dallas County, Alabama, binding former slaves to work the plantation in return for food, clothing and medical care.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama February 2008

Revision Description

November 2012

Conditions Governing Access note

None

Conditions Governing Use note
None

Provenance
unknown

Processed by
unknown, 2008; updated by Martha Bace, 2012

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

• Legal documents

Geographic Name(s)

• Alabama--History--1819-1950
• Dallas County (Ala.)

Personal Name(s)

• Underwood, Green

Subject(s)

• African Americans
• Alabama
• Business and Labor
• Freedmen--Southern States--Economic conditions
• Government, Law and Politics
• Organizations
• Plantation life
## Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bureau</th>
<th>Box</th>
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