Guide to the Demopolis, Alabama, Bonds
MSS.0426

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit
February 27, 2013
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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### Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Repository</strong></th>
<th>University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title</strong></td>
<td>Demopolis, Alabama, Bonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date</strong></td>
<td>1819 April 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extent</strong></td>
<td>0.05 Linear feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language</strong></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Abstract</strong></td>
<td>Bonds for the &quot;sixteen-hundred and eightieth part&quot; interest in the Company of the town of Demopolis, Alabama, in 1819.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Preferred Citation note**

Demopolis, Alabama, Bonds, University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama
Biographical/Historical note

Demopolis was founded and named by a group of French expatriates, a mix of exiled former Bonapartists and other French migrants who had settled in the United States following the overthrow of the colonial government in Saint-Domingue. The name, meaning the People's City or City of the People, was chosen to honor the democratic ideals behind the endeavor. First settled in 1817, it is one of the oldest continuous settlements in Alabama, incorporating on 11 December 1821.

Organizing themselves first in Philadelphia, French expatriates petitioned the U.S. Congress to sell them property for land to colonize. Congress granted approval by an act on 3 March 1817 that allowed them to buy four townships in the Alabama Territory at $2 per acre, with the provision that they cultivate grape vines and olive trees. Following advice obtained from experienced Western pioneers, they determined that Alabama would provide a good climate for cultivating these crops. By 14 July 1817, a small party of pioneers had settled at White Bluff on the Tombigbee River, at the present site of Demopolis, founding the Vine and Olive Colony.

Scope and Contents note

The collection contains three bonds for the "sixteen-hundred and eightieth part" of the company of the town of Demopolis, Alabama. All three bonds are dated 21 April 1819 and are signed by four commissioners of the town of Demopolis.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama January 2009

Revision Description

February 2013

Conditions Governing Access note
None

Conditions Governing Use note
None

Provenance
unknown

Processed by
C. Doughty, 2009; updated by Martha Bace, 2013

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Demopolis (Ala.).

Genre(s)

- Bonds (negotiable instruments)

Geographic Name(s)

- Demopolis (Ala.)
- Marengo County (Ala.)
## Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonds</th>
<th>Box</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>205</td>
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