James Knight and Walter C. White Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2002

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2001084818

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009235

Prepared by Karen Linn Femia
Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2009
Collection Summary
Title: James Knight and Walter C. White Papers
Span Dates: 1825-1867
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1831-1846)
ID No.: MSS84818
Creator: Knight, James, 1787-1858
Extent: 70 items
Extent: 1 container plus 1 oversize
Extent: 2.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English and Spanish
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2001084818
Summary: “Old Three Hundred” colonists and land grantees from Stephen F. Austin’s colony in Texas. Correspondence, financial, legal, and real estate papers, and a hand-drawn map of Fort Bend County, Texas.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Austin, Stephen F. (Stephen Fuller), 1793-1836.
Knight, James, 1787-1858.

Subjects
Landowners--Texas--Fort Bend County--Maps.
Pioneers--Texas--Fort Bend County.
Real estate business--Texas--Fort Bend County--Maps.
Real estate business--Texas--Fort Bend County.

Places
Fort Bend County (Tex.)--Commerce.
Fort Bend County (Tex.)--History.
Fort Bend County (Tex.)--Maps.
Texas--Commerce.
Texas--History--To 1846.

Occupations
Colonists.

Provenance
The papers of James Knight and Walter C. White, “Old Three Hundred” colonists in Texas, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 2001.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of James Knight and Walter C. White is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).
**Access and Restrictions**

The papers of James Knight and Walter C. White are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

**Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, James Knight and Walter C. White Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Scope and Content Note**

The papers of James Knight (1787-1858) and Walter C. White (d.1837) span the years 1825-1867, with the bulk of the material dating from 1831 to 1846. The papers are primarily in English with one land deed from 1825 in Spanish. Knight and White went to Texas with the James Long expedition in 1821 and later enrolled with Stephen F. Austin’s colony as one of the “Old Three Hundred” families. In Austin’s colony, land grants were given to families rather than individuals. Single men could be paired to qualify for a land grant. Knight and White, both single at the time, were paired and received the land grant together in present-day Fort Bend County where they also operated a store, trading post, and a ferry. White died in 1837, and many of the papers concern his estate and Knight’s legal matters related to their real estate and business partnership. Also in the collection is a hand drawn map of Fort Bend County showing plots of land with names of the owners.

**Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged alphabetically and therein chronologically.
# Container List

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<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Financial material, 1837-1846, 1859, undated</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Knight, James</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1832, 1844-1846, 1852-1859</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Legal papers, 1831-1855 <em>See also Oversize</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Map of Fort Bend County, Texas, undated <em>See Oversize</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>White, Walter C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Correspondence, 1836-1837 <em>See also Oversize</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Estate papers, 1825, 1837-1843, undated <em>See also Oversize</em></td>
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<td>BOX OV 1</td>
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<td>BOX OV 1</td>
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<td>Legal papers, 1836 (Container 1)</td>
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<td>Map of Fort Bend County, Texas, undated (Container 1)</td>
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