

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama

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Summary Information

Repository:	University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama
Creator:	United States. Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands
Title:	Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands labor contract
ID:	MSS.0230
Date [inclusive]:	1865 June 16
Physical Description:	0.04 Linear Feet (1 item , 4 leaves; photocopy)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	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

Preferred Citation

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands labor contract, University Libraries Special Collections, The University of Alabama.

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Biographical / Historical

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.

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Scope and Contents

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.

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Administrative Information

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unknown, 2008; updated by Martha Bace, 2012

Conditions Governing Access

None

Provenance

unknown

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Controlled Access Headings

- Alabama
- Business and Labor
- Organizations
- Government, Law and Politics
- African Americans
- Alabama -- History -- 1819-1950
- Dallas County (Ala.)
- Freedmen -- Southern States -- Economic conditions
- Plantation life
- Legal documents
- Underwood, Green
- United States. Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands

General

To provide faster access to our materials, this finding aid was published without formal and final review. Email us at archives@ua.edu if you find mistakes or have suggestions to make this finding aid more useful for your research.

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Labor contract	box 195