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Constitutional Convention vouchers, 1836

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Constitutional Convention vouchers

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Arkansas State Archives
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201
501-682-6900
state.archives@arkansas.gov

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Summary Information

Repository	Arkansas State Archives
Title	Constitutional Convention vouchers
Date	1836
Extent	0.02 Cubic feet 1 folder, 1 reel microfilm
Language	English
Language of Materials	Materials entirely in English.
Microform [Reel]	MG.000201

Preferred Citation

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Biographical/Historical Note

The question of Arkansas statehood surfaced in the early 1830s as the territory's population grew, but many felt that the economic strain the new state would face from the loss of federal funds would be financially crippling. Some feared that Arkansas statehood might be premature.

When Ambrose Sevier, a territorial delegate to Congress, learned Michigan planned to join the Union, he saw an opportunity. To preserve an even number of free and slave states, Arkansas needed to be paired with a northern territory. On December 17, 1833, Sevier introduced an unsuccessful resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives to investigate the possibility of Arkansas seeking admission to the Union. Although representatives attempted to admit both Michigan and Arkansas during 1834-1835 sessions of Congress, on March 4, 1835, Congress adjourned with neither territory joining the Union.

Sevier abandoned the idea of asking Congress for permission to draft a state constitution and turned to the "constitution in hand" approach. After much debate, a constitutional convention opened in Little Rock on January 4, 1836. The meeting took place in a church, since the territory had no capitol building. Delegates adopted a new state constitution on January 30, 1836, and a copy was sent to Washington, District of Columbia, for Congressional approval. After much political maneuvering, President Andrew Jackson signed the Act that admitted Arkansas as the twenty-fifth state of the Union on June 15, 1836.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains sixty-five vouchers issued by the 1836 Constitutional Convention. These vouchers detail how much money was allotted by the territorial government for each individual traveling to the Convention.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 2/1/2011

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use. The ASA possesses the material listed in this finding aid in the original format, but due to preservation concerns this collection is accessible to the public through microfilm format.

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The copyright law of the United States (Title 17-U.S. Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. The person using this material is liable for any infringement.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Unknown, 1948.

Collection Inventory

1. Walker W. Trimble

2. G.L. Martin

3. Henry Slavins

4. John Shepard

5. Grandison D. Royston

6. John F. Ring

7. Caleb S. Manly

8. C.P. Bertrand

9. John L. Lafferty

10. Sam C. Roane

11. Abraham Whinnery

12. David W. Lowe

13. Robert Smith

14. Gilbert Marshall

15. Asa J. Baker

16. Mark Bean

17. Albert Pike

18. Elijah Kelley

19. James H. Walker

20. David Walker

21. C.P. Bertrand

22. Thomas Murray, Jr.

23. William Strong

24. Travis G. Wright

25. John Adams

26. Josiah N. Wilson

27. Joseph McKeon

28. John Ringgold

29. Charles R. Sanders

30. T. Dickinson

31. G.D. Royston

32. James Boone

33. Robert McCamy

34. John Robinson

35. Wright W. Elliott

36. T.J. Lacy

37. N. Menefee

38. William M.K. Ball

39. George Halbrosk

40. James W. Bates

41. William E. Woodruff

42. Thomas S. Drew

43. A.J. May

44. George W. Ferebee

45. John D. Calvert

46. Albert Pike

47. Absalom Fowler

48. G.L. Martin

49. Henry Slavins

50. Anthony H. Davies

51. John Clark

52. Bushrod Washington Lee

53. Terence Farrelly

54. J.S. Conway

55. R.C.S. Brown

56. John Drennen

57. Andrew Scott

58. John Wilson

59. Lorenzo N. Clarke

60. Asa G. Baker

61. The Trustees of the Presbyterian Church

62. The Trustees of the Baptist Church

63. H.L. Biscoe

64. William Cummins

65. John McLain

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