



*Inventory of the*

**Adams Brothers Store Ledger  
(MSS2006015)**

Created by Burt Altman

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## **SUMMARY INFORMATION**

Dates: 1898-1899 (inclusive)

Extent: 1.4 LinearFt.

Languages represented in collection: English

Portions of collection available online? : No

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

### **Acquisition Information:**

The Adams Brothers Store Ledger was purchased through Florida State College for Women Class of 1944 Florida History Endowment.

Provenance: Created by Francis and Nathaniel Adams

### **Access Conditions:**

Collection is open to research

### **Use Conditions:**

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Preferred Citation: Adams Brothers Store Ledger, Special Collections, Florida State University Libraries, Tallahassee, Florida

### **Processing History:**

Processed by Burt Altman in September 2006.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL / HISTORICAL NOTES**

The Adams Brothers Store was started by Robert Watkins Adams in White Springs (FL) around 1865. According to David W. Hartman and David Coles' Biographical Roster of Florida's Confederate and Union Soldiers, Adams was an officer in the Confederate army who was wounded and taken captive at the Battle of Gettysburg. After a prisoner exchange and a period of hospitalization, he resigned from military service. Following the end of the Civil War, he farmed for a few years and then opened a general merchandise store in White Springs. According to Rowland H. Rerick's *Memoirs of Florida*, he successfully managed this business until his death

on August 15, 1886.

After Adams died, his widow Sophia Jane Adams and their sons Francis and Nathaniel renovated the building. Renovation was completed in 1892. In 1905, the store became an incorporated family business. Farmers brought their cotton in wagons to be weighed on the cotton scale behind the store, and cash was paid or credit was then entered in the mercantile records to purchase goods. The Adams Brothers Store is one of Florida's oldest wooden-framed mercantile stores, and it is still in its original location.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTES**

While the Adams Brothers Store Ledger covers only a brief period of the existence of this business (1898-1899), it documents the operations of a late 19th and early 20th Century mercantile store in north Florida. It is significant to researchers studying North Florida's economic history during this period.

## INDEXING TERMS

### *Personal Names:*

Adams, Robert Watkins, 1839-1886  
Adams, Francis  
Adams, Nathaniel  
Adams, Sophia Jane

### *Corporate Names:*

Adams Brothers Store

### *Subject Terms:*

White Springs (Fla.)--History--19th Century  
Merchants--Florida.  
Business enterprises--Florida--Hamilton County

### *Genre/Format Terms:*

account books

## COLLECTION CONTENTS

### OS 1 Ledger Book

OS 1 Adams Brothers Store Ledger Book (1898-1899) : 1 item