Information Sheet

R  Ritter family.
100  Ritter and Howard families, papers, 1850-1956.
     Fifty folders and nine volumes.

THIS COLLECTION IS IN OFF-SITE STORAGE. AT LEAST TWO DAYS' ADVANCE
NOTICE IS REQUIRED FOR RESEARCH USE.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more
information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

This collection consists of correspondence, legal records, business papers, and
miscellaneous material of the Ritter and Howard families of Jasper County, Missouri.
Included are mining leases and drill records, 1883-1911, and records of the Stone School
District, 1903-1940.

Three generations of two families are represented in this collection. Both the Ritter
and Howard families settled in Jasper County just before the Civil War, and both
followed similar pursuits after the war. They were linked in 1920 by the marriage of H.
A. “Bill” Howard and Mae Ritter.

Most of the material in the collection falls into three general categories: land and
farm records, mining leases, and the records of the Stone School District. Printed
material from the Anti-Horse Thief Association and papers pertaining to public works in
Jasper County during the 1920s and 1930s comprise two other, smaller, categories.

Although neither family actively engaged in mining on their properties around
Oronogo and Carl Junction, both leased their lands to prospecting and mining firms.
Included here are leases and related correspondence, prospect drill records, and a ledger
detailing royalty payments made by mining companies operating on J. S. Wright’s lands
near Carl Junction. Chronologically the records reflect the period of greatest production
in the mineral district of southwestern Missouri.

The farm papers include a multitude of deeds, rent records, and a set of farm records
kept by H. A. Howard, 1939-1954. Also included are records pertaining to several
unallotted parcels of land purchased in Indian Territory (now in McCurtain and Mayes
counties, Oklahoma) by Lewis G. Howard in 1911-1914. Howard worked through the
U.S. Indian Service to complete the transactions, the details of which are found in Folder
8. The same folder contains papers pertaining to the construction during World War II of
a U.S. Army ordnance plant near Pryor, Oklahoma, on land owned by the Howards.

The largest group of records in the collection are those of the Stone School District,
1903-1940. Seven bound volumes and fifteen folders of loose material are available,
which represent all the varieties of records kept by the teachers and officers of the
district. The collection contains term and monthly reports of the teachers and district
clerks, financial reports from the county treasurer to the district, annual enumeration of
students, teacher’s contracts and applications, and miscellaneous receipts and correspondence. The records are from the papers of Arthur and Rosa Ritter, who were officers of the district for over twenty years.

Arthur Ritter also was involved in other public duties, including positions as commissioner of the Carl Junction Public Road District, and supervising engineer on various Works Progress Administration projects sponsored by the Jasper County Relief Organization. Ritter’s appointments as road commissioner and WPA project proposals are in Folders 20 and 21.

r46  2 October 1980       Mr. & Mrs. Larry Lundien        Gift

Shelf List

This collection consists of correspondence, legal records, business papers, and miscellaneous material of the Ritter and Howard families of Jasper County, Missouri. Included are mining leases and drill records, 1883-1911, and records of the Stone School District, 1903-1940.

FOLDERS 1-8 Personal, business, and legal papers, 1850-1952.

Folder 1: Correspondence, 1879-1952.
Folder 2: Miscellaneous papers, 1874-1929.
Folder 3: Legal papers, 1850-1912 (four deeds are in OVERSIZE).
Folder 4: Legal papers, 1913-1942.
Folder 5: Tax papers, 1880-1945.
Folder 6: Mining leases, 1873-1931.
Folder 7: Drill hole records, 1911.
Folder 8: Oklahoma land papers, 1901-1941.

FOLDERS 9-18 Farm record books, 1939-1956.

Folder 09: Farm record book, 1939.
Folder 11: Farm record book, 1944.

FOLDERS 19-22 Jasper County community projects and public works, 1919-1946.

Folder 19: Carl Junction Community Club, constitution and bylaws, n.d.
Folder 20: Carl Junction Special Road Commission, papers, 1919-1929.
Folder 21: Jasper County Relief Organization, papers, 1931-1935.
Folder 22: Agricultural conservation program, papers, 1946.
FOLDERS 23-32  Anti-Horse Thief Association, manuals and proceedings, 1905-1919.

Folder 26: Missouri A-HTA constitution, 1916.
Folder 27: Missouri A-HTA constitution, 1918-1919.
Folder 30: Proceedings, Missouri Division Annual Session, 1917.
Folder 31: Proceedings, Missouri Division Annual Session, 1918.

FOLDERS 33-35  Miscellaneous material, ca. 1911-1936.

Folder 33: Missouri highway maps, 1931, 1936.
Folder 34: Little River County, Arkansas, advertising brochure, ca. 1911.
Folder 35: Photographs.

FOLDERS 36-50  Stone School District, Jasper County, Missouri, records, 1903-1940.

Folder 36: Revised School Laws of Missouri, 1907.
Folder 37: Teacher’s Term Reports, 1903-1932.
Folder 38: Teacher’s Monthly Reports to District Clerk, 1903-1925.
Folder 39: Teacher’s Monthly Reports to District Clerk, 1926-1932.
Folder 40: Teacher’s Monthly Reports to District Clerk, 1932-1938.
Folder 41: Notices of Annual School Meetings, 1911-1933.
Folder 42: Reports of District Clerk to County Clerk, 1919-1932.
Folder 43: Annual Enumeration of Students, 1922-1939.
Folder 45: Statements of the County Treasurer to the District Clerk, 1907-1938.
Folder 46: Teacher’s Applications, 1913-1931.
Folder 47: Teacher’s Contracts, 1904-1938.
Folder 48: Certificates of Apportionment, 1906-1940.
Folder 50: Miscellaneous papers, Stone School District, 1921-1933.

VOLUMES 1-7  Stone School District, Jasper County, Missouri, record books, 1906-1939.

Volume 1: District Record Book, 1906-1912.
Volume 2: District Clerk’s Record, 1921-1929.
Volume 3: District Clerk’s Record, 1929-1932.
Volume 4: District Clerk’s Record, 1933-1939.
Volume 5: Teacher’s Record of Attendance and Standing, 1920-1925 (OVERSIZE).
Volume 6: Teacher’s Record of Attendance and Standing, 1926-1932 (OVERSIZE).
Volume 7: Teacher’s Record of Attendance and Standing, 1932-1938 (OVERSIZE).
VOLUMES 8-9 Miscellaneous business ledgers, 1883-1935.

Volume 8: Mining royalty ledger, J. S. Wright, Jasper County, Mo., 1883-1902.

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