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**MS 1311**  
**Cananea Mining Papers**  
**1893 - 1930**

## **DESCRIPTION**

This small collection consists of correspondence associated with the Cananea Consolidated Copper Mining Company of Cananea, Sonora, Mexico. The papers contain both incoming and some outgoing correspondence from several of the company leaders including David Cole, James H. Kirk, Dr. L. D. Ricketts, and W. D. Thornton. Much of the materials reflect company equipment orders to suppliers and general mining operations. Some personal correspondence is present to and from David Cole. Oversized drawings show various mining equipment utilized or developed for the mines.

2 Boxes plus Oversized, 2.5 linear ft.

## **HISTORICAL NOTE**

The area near Cananea Sonora Mexico has maintained a long history of ore production. In 1896 the area was purchased and developed by William C. Greene. By 1907 Greene had lost control of the mine to Rockefeller-backed interests. The Cananea Consolidated Copper Company was in full production by 1903 with over 5,000 workers (both Mexican and foreign) employed in 1906 and over 14,000 by 1910. In 1906 a labor strike at the facility featured Greene requesting armed irregulars from Bisbee to help break the strike. With periodic disruptions the mines remained open during the Mexican Revolution period, 1910-1920 but experienced some closure in 1920-1921. Mining operations continued into the 1980s.

## **ACQUISITION**

Donated by Leo Sonderegger in 2007 along with a personal and family history collection.

## **ACCESS**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

## **COPYRIGHT**

Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Archives Department.

## **PROCESSING**

The collection was processed by Dave Tackenberg in June 2007.