

Guide to
MS 10
James M. Creighton Collection, Photos and Documents

1975.08

2 Linear Feet

Prepared by Amanda Weyer
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Donation made by Mrs. Jessie Baumert, daughter of James Creighton, to the Arizona Historical Society in 1975.

Sources: The Arizona Republic May 4, 1980
 The Arizona Republic October 22, 1971
 The Arizona Republic February 28, 1974
 The Phoenix Gazette October 2, 1982

Library and Archives
Arizona Historical Society
Central Arizona Division

Historical Note

James Creighton was born in New Brunswick, Canada in 1856. He moved to Denver in 1879, where he worked at the Brown Palace Hotel while he went to night school studying

to become a building contractor. He also helped to build the first stone building on top of Pike's Peak.

Before moving to Phoenix in 1882, James lived in Tombstone and Tucson, AZ, where he opened a construction business. He was the contractor and architect for the first buildings at Fort Huachuca and its water works. He also designed Old Main at the University of Arizona.

While in Phoenix, James went into partnership with the successful bidder on carpentry and metal work for the courthouse. In 1888, he opened an architecture office and won the bid to design City Hall. Some notable examples of his work are the Niels Peterson house (Tempe, 1892), the Andre Building (Tempe, 1888), the Peterson Building (Tempe, 1898), the Tempe Hardware (1898), the Frank Titus house (Scottsdale, 1892), the W. J. Murphy house (Phoenix, 1897), the first building at the Tempe Normal School, the Dominion Hotel in Globe, the Madison, Wilson, Adams, and Osborn schools, and the Florence courthouse. Of note are the Peterson house with its high ceilings, strategically located ventilator system, shaded east and west porches, and southern bay windows for winter heat; and the Tempe Hardware which is one of the best remaining examples of his commercial architecture. He was responsible for the coherent effect of the early commercial development along Mill Avenue in Tempe, and was also considered the leading designer of homes and commercial buildings in territorial Arizona.

At the turn of the century, James moved to Birmingham, Alabama because of a severe drought that squelched growth in Arizona. He returned to help rebuild the city of Prescott after the 1900 fire and maintained an office until he was 70. He traded his homesteaded 100 acres at 16th Street and Indian School Road for a ranch called Country Club Manor. As a founding elder of the First Presbyterian Church in Phoenix, James strongly promoted missionary work among the Indians. He designed the first buildings at the Phoenix Indian School, taught classes there, and maintained strong ties with religious missions beyond the city. He traveled widely from 1922 until his death in 1946 in Phoenix.

Scope and Content

This collection contains materials found in two family scrapbooks outlining J.M. Creighton's autobiography and his architectural achievements. The documents compiled by his daughter include papers, correspondence, photographs and memorabilia of the Creighton family.

Container List

BOX 1

Folder 1 Naturalization papers for J. M. Creighton

Folder 2	Jessie Creighton Baumert correspondence 1940, 1946-7
Folder 3	J. M. Creighton correspondence 1893-1946
Folder 4	J. M. Creighton correspondence 1913-1943
Folder 5	James Creighton history
Folder 6	Clipping of James Creighton's architectural work
Folder 7	Religious life 1930-1942, 1974
Folder 8	Unknown / Missing at time of guide
Folder 9	J. M. Creighton writings
Folder 10A	J. M. Creighton autobiographical writings
Folder 10B	J. M. Creighton travel journal
Folder 11	J. M. Creighton letters to his children
Folder 12	Genealogical materials
Folder 13	Programs 1929-1965
Folder 14	Cards and Receipts 1929-1947, n.d
Folder 15	Report cards, marriage and memorial certificates 1900-64
Folder 16	Travel expenses and comments 1897
Folder 17	Passports 1922
Folder 18	Passports, 1929, n.d.
Folder 19	Insurance 1945
Folder 20	Conference and convention notes 1945, n.d.
Folder 21	Unknown / Missing at time of guide
Folder 22	Phoenix <u>Redskin</u> January, 1933
Folder 23	Scrapbook – Historical Topics pages 1-21
Folder 24	Scrapbook – Historical Topics pages 22-52

Box 2 – Photos**Folder 1**

75.8.1 5 Boys in Standing Formation
 75.8.2 Group of Children
 75.8.3 Children (enlarged)
 75.8.4 Missing at time of guide
 75.8.5 James M. Creighton
 75.8.6 Missing at time of guide
 75.8.7 Unidentified Lady
 75.8.8 Unidentified Man
 75.8.9 Portrait of a Portrait
 75.8.10 James M. Creighton

Folder 2

75.8.04R Missing at time of guide
 75.8.06R Small Photo of Man
 75.8.12R Mounted Photo of J. M. Creighton

Folder 3

75.8.11 David Creighton and Euphemia
 75.8.12 Missing at time of guide
 75.8.13 David and Euphemia
 75.8.14 Creighton Family Photo
 75.8.15 Bible Class at Indian School
 75.8.16 Baumert, Man and Wife on Sofa
 75.8.17 2 Unidentified Ladies
 75.8.18 Group in Yard 1946
 75.8.19 Children on Stone Porch
 75.8.20 Group of Children by Building

Folder 4

75.8.21 James Creighton and 3 others
 75.8.22 Baumert – Woman by Book Stacks
 75.8.23 Baumert – Room Interior with Safe
 75.8.24 Baumert – Fancy Interior Door
 75.8.25 Baumert – Door Handle
 75.8.26 Baumert – Stairway

- 75.8.27 Baumert – Interior Windows
- 75.8.28 Baumert – Osborn School
- 75.8.29 Baumert – Creighton Historical Display
- 75.8.30 Office Worker

Folder 5

- 75.8.31 Baumert – Lady on Stairs
- 75.8.32 Baumert – Door Knob
- 75.8.33 Baumert – House where J. M. Creighton was born
- 75.8.34 Baumert – Pinal Courthouse
- 75.8.35 Baumert – Old Main, University of Arizona
- 75.8.36 Baumert – Old Main, University of Arizona
- 75.8.37 Baumert – Clock tower of Pinal Courthouse
- 75.8.38 Baumert – Pinal Courthouse
- 75.8.39 Baumert – Chimney of Old Main
- 75.8.40 Baumert – Pinal Courthouse

Folder 6

- 75.8.41 Creighton Home
- 75.8.42 Creighton Home
- 75.8.43 Creighton Home
- 75.8.44 Creighton Home
- 75.8.45 Old Main
- 75.8.46 Dorms at University of Arizona, Porch
- 75.8.47 Creighton display at bank
- 75.8.48 Adams Hotel
- 75.8.49 Baumert, has duplicate