
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 0380
Jacobs Family
Business records, 1868-1919

DESCRIPTION

Correspondence, banking records, business receipts, contracts, agreements, and ledgers relating to the Jacobs family's pioneer mercantile and banking enterprises in southern Arizona.

17 boxes, 8.5 linear ft.

RELATED MATERIAL

Related material is available at the University of Arizona Special Collections Library, Jacobs Family Collection.

ACQUISITION

Some materials were donated by Harry Wright in 1957.

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 in 1991 and a finding aid created by Kim Frontz, December 1997.

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged in six series: Correspondence, 1868-1892. Business receipts, 1868-1917. Contracts and agreements, 1872-1890. Ledgers, 1869-1912. Banking records, 1879-1896. Banking records: Checks, etc., 1878-1916.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Pioneer southern Arizona merchants and bankers; Lionel and Barron Jacobs arrived in Tucson in 1867 to open a branch of M.I. Jacobs and Company, a general store. Their father, Mark I. Jacobs remained in California, where he purchased goods and managed operations by mail until his retirement in 1875. When Mark Jacobs retired, the store was renamed L.M. Jacobs and Company. Other Jacobs' relatives were sent to Safford (Abraham M. Franklin) and to Florence (Martin Calisher) to operate store branches. In 1879, the family established the Pima County Bank, the first bank in Tucson. In 1880, L.M. Jacobs and Co. quit their merchant business to focus on banking. They were later associated with the First National Bank, Cochise County Bank, Santa Cruz Valley Bank, Consolidated National Bank, and Arizona National Bank. Both brothers retired from banking in 1913 or 1914; Lionel died in 1922 and Barron died in 1936.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Correspondence, banking records, legal records, and business receipts document the economics of business in territorial Arizona and provide a detailed record of the Jacobs family's business operations. Correspondence is chiefly between Mark Jacobs and his sons, Lionel and Barron, and mostly concerns their mercantile business but also includes personal matters. The rest is from suppliers and freighters concerning arrangements for goods. Receipts are present from suppliers which show amounts paid and quantities ordered for store merchandise. Ledgers include a day book and a ledger book for 1869, listing customers, purchases, and amounts. Customers include John B. Allen, Leopoldo Carrillo, Charles Shibbell, Mark Aldrich, P.R. Tully, and many other local pioneers.

Contracts and agreements include City of Tucson indentures for property, mining location notices, a contract for purchase of a mule and wagon train, and fees for legal services. Bank records consist of correspondence and transaction records between banks for the transfer of monies. There are also deposit slips, checks, bank drafts, and certificates of deposit from the banks under their management, and a journal for First National Bank, 1882 to 1885, which lists customers' daily account balances. An essay by L.M. Jacobs, "Banking in Arizona," considers the usefulness of banks, the banker's status, and the reputation of banking in Arizona. It was written about 1900.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Series 1: Correspondence, 1868-1892

Box 1

f.1-13 Correspondence, 1868-1876

Box 2

f.14-28 Correspondence, 1877-1878

Box 3

f.29-45 Correspondence, 1879-1892

Series 2: Business receipts and accounts, 1868-1917

Box 4

f.46-55 Business receipts and accounts, 1868-1876

Box 5

f.56-64 Business receipts and accounts, 1877-1917

Series 3: Contracts and agreements, 1872-1890

Box 6

f.65 Indentures for Tucson property, 1871-1873
f.66 Contracts and agreements, 1872, 1877, 1879, 1882, 1890

Series 4: Ledgers, 1869-1911

f.67 Day Book, 1869 (by transaction)
f.68 Ledger Book, 1869 (by customer)
f.69 Merchandise Ledger, 1870-1872
f.70 Register of Collaterals, 1891-1911
f.71 Notarial record, 1919
f.72 Manuscript: Banking in Arizona, by L.M. Jacobs

Oversize Ledgers

Vol. 7 Oversize Store Ledger, 1875-1878

Vol. 8 Oversize Store Day Book, 1870-1872

Vol. 9 Oversize Journal, 1878-1885

Vol.10 Oversize Individual Journal, First National Bank, 1882-1885
(Daily bank transactions and account balances, alphabetically by customer)

Series 5: Bank records, 1879-1896

Box 11

- f.73 Cryptogram book – code book for bank telegram security, 1879
f.74-78 Pima County Bank correspondence and transaction slips, 1879-1880

Box 12

- f.79-81 Pima County Bank correspondence and transaction slips, 1881-1882
f.82-83 First National Bank (Tucson) correspondence and transaction slips, 1881-1884

Box 13

- f.84-86 First National Bank (Tucson) correspondence and transaction slips, 1883-1885
f.87-89 Cochise County Bank (Tombstone) correspondence and transaction slips, 1882-1884

Box 14

- f.90-95 Cochise County Bank (Tombstone) correspondence and transactions slips, 1884-1889
f.96-97 Santa Cruz Valley Bank (Tucson) correspondence and transaction slips, 1889-1890

Box 15

- f.98 Consolidated National Bank (Tucson) correspondence and transaction slips, 1890
f.99-103 Arizona National Bank (Tucson) correspondence and transaction slips, 1891-1893

Box 16

- f.104-110 Arizona National Bank (Tucson) correspondence and transaction slips, 1893-1896

Series 6: Bank records – Checks, Certificates of Deposit, etc., 1878-1916**Box 17 (Rare)**

- f.111 L.M. Jacobs & Co., Bankers
Memorandum checks, 1878-1879
f.112-123 Pima County Bank
Bills of exchange, cashiers checks, deposit slips, 1879-1882

Box 18 (Rare)

- f.124-128 Agency, Pima County Bank
Bills of exchange, certificates of deposit, etc., 1880-1882
f.129-134 Cochise County Bank
Bills of exchange, 1885-1889

Box 19 (Rare)

- f.135-145 Cochise County Bank
Bills of Exchange, Certificates of Deposit, Bank Checks, Deposit Slips, 1882-1889
f.146-152 First National Bank, Bills of Exchange, 1882-1885

Box 20 (Rare)

f.153-155 First National Bank, Checks, Deposit slips, 1882-1885
f.156 Bank of Tucson checks, 1885, 1887
f.157 Consolidated National Bank checks, 1898, 1899
f.158-161 Santa Cruz Valey Bank bills of exchange, 1889-1890

Box 21 (Rare)

f.162-171 Santa Cruz Valley Bank
Bills of exchange, certificates of deposit, deposit slips, 1889-1890
f.172-174 Arizona National Bank, misc. checks, 1884-1899
f.175 Misc. banks, checks, etc., 1886-1916