
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**949 East Second Street****Library and Archives****Tucson, AZ 85719 (520) 617-1157 Fax: (520) 629-8966 ahsref@vms.arizona.edu**

MS 1222**Menager, Joseph, 1887-1979****Personal Papers, 1888-1979****DESCRIPTION**

This collection contains correspondence between family members. This collection also contains correspondence and documents concerning mining interests in Altar, Mexico; the dry goods, real estate, cattle business; "Menager's Dam" in southern Arizona, and personal family court cases. Also includes a small number of family photographs and a photograph of Navajo baskets.

3 Boxes, 1.25 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Sylvia Ruiz Lafferty donated the collection in 2001.

RELATED MATERIAL

MS 487 Louis Menager papers

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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PROCESSING

Dan Deurloo, working under the supervision of Riva Dean, processed the collection in February 2002.

ARRANGEMENT

1/ Menager correspondence, 2/Business Documents, 3/ Ruiz Family.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Joseph Menager was born in Arizona Territory in 1887, and died at the Arizona Pioneer's Home in July of 1979. He was involved in various interests in southern Arizona including the dry-goods business, land & cattle business including the building of "Menager's Dam, and real estate. Joseph Menager was the son of Henry Menager who came to Arizona Territory from Nogent, France in the 1870's.

Joseph's sister, Lucy Menager, married Leandro Ruiz of Guaymas Mexico and a great deal of the personal and business correspondence in this collection was related to the Ruiz family. Leandro Ruiz and his sister, Ysabel Ruiz, were the children of Pacifica Ruiz and Benigno Torres. Ysabel was born in Guaymas in 1851. She was married to Dominic Momious, who died before they had any children. Ysabel then married Mr. Momious's business partner, Pierre Baffert, which explains the presence of the Baffert biography in the collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers of Joseph Menager include personal correspondence from 1903-1979, regarding the lawsuit and divorce of Henry Menager vs. Fannie Menager, 1903-1904, Henry Menager's estate, 1903-1909, correspondence about Mary Menager's insanity, 1912-1914, correspondence about Dora Gillette, missing daughter of Maxine Gillette (sister of Joseph Menager), 1920-1942, and correspondence between Joseph Menager and nephew Albert Ruiz, 1967-1979. Also includes a small number of family photographs with a photo of Menager's store, Navajo women with baskets, Joseph's collection of Navajo baskets, and a chateau in France.

The papers and documents relate to various business ventures, including dry goods, mining, ranching, and real estate. There are business accounts of Menager's dry goods stores in Tucson and Indian Oasis, 1895-1916, accounts and correspondence about the importation of furs, 1925-1926, as well as documents about Tucson real estate, 1888-1935, land & cattle in the Ajo area, 1893-1923, Florence Canal Co. 1888-1890, Livestock Sanitary Board, 1924-1925, two cattle tally books, 1924-1925, and business accounts and two maps of Menager's Dam, 1913-1933.

The papers of Leandro and Lucy Ruiz include correspondence related to their homestead and stock raising, 1916-1938, and documents concerning real estate and cattle raising, and a death certificate, biography & burial certificate of Lucy Ruiz. Also contains business correspondence and ephemera of Albert Ruiz.

Approximately one third of the collection consists of personal correspondence between family members, one third related to various business interests, and one third is related to the Ruiz family.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

- F. 1 Correspondence regarding lawsuit and divorce case, Henry vs. Fannie Menager, 1903-1904
- F. 2 Correspondence regarding Henry Menager's health-burial-estate, 1907-1909
- F. 3 Correspondence regarding Mary Menager's insanity, 1912-1914
- F. 4 Correspondence regarding Dora Gillette, missing daughter of Maxine, 1920-1942
- F. 5 Correspondence between Joseph Menager and Albert Ruiz, 1967-1979
- F. 6 Last Will & Testament of Joseph Menager and Selective Service records, 1953
- F. 7 Various business correspondence, 1895-1912
- F.7A Correspondence to Joseph Menager (including a few from Father Ventura), 1949-1955
- F. 8 Correspondence regarding the sale of Menager Dam, 1933-1938
- F. 9 Correspondence regarding mining in Mexico, 1902-1935
- F. 10 History of "La Liberal" Mine as written by Henry Menager
- F. 11 Documents- mining in Mexico, 1902-1915

Box 2

- F. 12 Dry Goods business accounts, 1895-1907
- F. 13 Indian Oasis business accounts, 1915-1916
- F.13A Promissory notes, 1890-1913
- F. 14 Business accounts, importation of furs, 1925-1926
- F. 15 Documents, various, 1888-1935
- F. 16 Documents, land & Real Estate, 1895-1935
- F. 17 Documents, Florence Canal Co. 1888-1890
- F. 18 Documents, cattle ranching, 1893-1923
- F. 19 Livestock Sanitary Board Documents, various stock certificates, & miscellaneous correspondence regarding the Livestock Sanitary Board.
- F. 20 Tally books, cattle, 1924-1925
- F. 21 Miscellaneous Real Estate papers
- F. 22 Business accounts regarding "Menager's Dam" 1913-1933
- F. 23 Maps of "Menager's Dam"
- F. 24 Various personal items & clippings
- F. 25 Photographs, various family members.

Box 3

- F. 26 Miscellaneous papers, death certificate, biography, & burial certificate of Lucy Ruiz, 1976-1977
- F. 27 Documents, Leandro Ruiz, 1906-1928
- F. 28 Correspondence relating to Homestead and stock-raising, 1916-1938
- F. 29 Business correspondence of Albert Ruiz
- F. 30 Ephemera of Albert Ruiz including Tucson High School letter