

**TITLE:** Virginia Hotel registers

**DATE RANGE:** 1890-1910

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 0834

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 6 linear ft. (2 boxes and 8 outside items)

**PROVENANCE:** Unknown

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**CREDIT LINE:** Virginia Hotel registers, MS 0834, Arizona Historical Society-Tucson

**PROCESSED BY:** Processed by Dave Tackenberg in June 2000.

**HISTORICAL NOTE:** The Virginia Hotel of Benson was owned and operated by the Castaneda family in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. With the arrival of the Southern Pacific Railroad in the early 1880s, Benson's business economy expanded. With railroad lines converging, the town became a "Hub City" for transportation and connections in the southern portion of the territory. Three hotels in Benson furnished accommodations for travelers: The Grand Hotel operated by S. Friedman; The Mansion Hotel operated by Charley Hoy; and The Virginia Hotel. The Virginia was operated by the Castaneda family (J.M. Castaneda, E.J. Castaneda, and A.A. Castaneda) as owners and managers from at least 1892 to 1910.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:** Contains 12 hotel registers for the Virginia Hotel of Benson from 1892 to 1910. Registers include listings of individuals from the local southwest area and from as far away as San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Chicago, St. Paul, and Mexico. One additional ledger contains receipts and statements for supplies associated for the hotel for the period 1890-1892. Receipts include such prominent firms as L. & H. Goldwater of Benson, S.H. Drachman, and L. Zeckendorf & Co. of Tucson.

**CONTAINER LIST:**

| <b>Box</b>           | <b>Folder</b> | <b>Description</b> | <b>Dates</b>                |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>1</b>             | 1             | Hotel register     | May 1903-Feb 1904           |
|                      | 2             | Hotel register     | Jan-July 1905               |
|                      | 3             | Hotel register     | July 1905-Feb 1906          |
| <b>2</b>             | 4             | Hotel register     | Jul 1907-Jan 1908           |
|                      | 5             | Hotel register     | Mar 1904; Apr 1908-Feb 1910 |
| <b>Outside items</b> | 1             | Hotel register     | Feb 1892-Feb 1893           |
|                      | 2             | Hotel register     | Feb 1893-Jan 1894           |

|  |   |                                     |                                |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  | 3 | Hotel register                      | Jan 1894-Dec 1894              |
|  | 4 | Hotel register                      | Jan 1895-Jul 1896              |
|  | 5 | Hotel register                      | Aug 1897-Jul 1898              |
|  | 6 | Hotel register                      | Apr 1899-May 1900;<br>Feb 1901 |
|  | 7 | Hotel register                      | Jun 1902-Apr 1903              |
|  | 8 | Ledger with statements and receipts | Oct 1890-Nov 1892              |