
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY949 East Second Street
Tucson, AZ 85719Library & Archives
(520) 617-1157ahsref@azhs.gov

MS 879**WISE, JOSEPH ENOS, 1867-1952****WISE PAPERS, 1879-1922****DESCRIPTION**

The collection primarily reflects the cattle business of Joseph Wise around Nogales and Calabasas and in the Santa Cruz Valley in general. There is material relating to the Baca Float claims, the Sopori Land and Cattle Company and the Salero Livestock and Land Company. There is business correspondence as well as a small amount of personal correspondence. There are two folders of legal documents (1884-1922) and some of the names included are Thomas D. Casanega and Eugene and Lena Wolff. There is one folder of material related to Eugene Knight Sykes (1893-1988), a nephew of Wise. There one folder of legal documents connected with the Luketch family. The collection also includes one notebook kept by Lucia (Lula) Sykes Wise in 1879.

1 Box, .4 linear feet

INVENTORY

Folder 1	Correspondence, 1891-1918
Folder 2	Hotel Santa Rita materials
Folder 3	Manuscripts
Folder 4	Notebook of Lucia Sykes, 1879
Folder 5	Papers relating to Eugene Knight Sykes, 1917-18
Folder 6	Legal papers relating to the Luketch family, 1893-1904
Folder 7	Papers relating to building in Nogales, 1914-15
Folder 8	Legal Documents, 1884-1911
Folder 9	Legal Documents, 1912-22
Folder 10	Baca Float Papers, 1899-1915
Folder 11	Baca Float Papers, 1916-19
Folder 12	Account Books, 1913-17
Folder 13	Miscellaneous financial documents

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Joseph Wise was born in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania in 1867, the son of a Pennsylvania congressman, Morgan Ringland Wise. Morgan Wise first came to Arizona in 1879 and Joseph joined him in 1883. The Wise family built up large cattle holdings around Calabasas. Their land was part of the 100,000 acres disputed by the Baca Spanish land grant. The Wise family fought the case for 25 years in courts, but they were finally dispossessed of the land in 1918. Joseph wise married Lucia Sykes (daughter of Charles P. Sykes) in 1899. Joe and Lucia lived at the Santa Rita Hotel in Calabasas which was built by her father from 1899-1910. In 1910, he had a spacious home built in Calabasas. Wise also acquired many

business properties in Nogales and moved his family moved there in 1916. After the court decision, he acquired the *El Rancho Arizona* in Sonora, Mexico. Wise served as mayor of Nogales from 1933-1935 and was a director for the Sonora Bank and Trust Company. Lucia died in 1946 and Joseph died in 1952.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Marguerite Wise MacDonald in 1953.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on this collection.

COPYRIGHT

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

PROCESSING

The collection was processed by Riva Dean, Library/Archives Co-Manager in May 1997.