

JONES, JOHN W.

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Born at _____ New York or Missouri, _____ 18____ (about 1825).

Son of _____ and _____.

Married, Hilaria Armenta at Arizona City, February 19, 1871, who was born in Sonora, about 1840; children, John, Isadora (Mrs. _____), Louisa (Mrs. _____) and Mary (Mrs. _____).

Listed, U. S. Census, 1860 at Arizona City, age 36, born in Missouri, occupation - Farmer, property valued at \$2,500; Territorial Census, 1864, at Arizona City, age 36, born in New York, occupation - Carpenter, resident in Arizona 2 years; U. S. Census, 1870, at Arizona City, age 42, born in Missouri; occupation - Liquor dealer, property valued at \$10,000.

The following is taken from the historical notes of James M. Barney:

J. W. Jones, an early resident of the Yuma country, had an extensive ranch on the Gila bottoms, just above the settlement of Colorado City. During the great flood of the winter of 1861-1862, the water stood - on parts of his farm - nearly 20 feet deep and he lost everything.

Jones lost his life in a very singular manner. In opening a bottle of porter, he pricked his hand with a piece of wire - erysipelas set in and he died within a few days. In Arizona City, he established what was known as the Yuma Exchange, operated in later years by Jose M. Redondo and David Freank. The latter afterwards became known through the Territory as David Balsz having had his name changed by legislative enactment during the session of one of the earlier Legislatures.

A letter from Arizona City reporting his death was printed in the Tucson Arizona Citizen of March 4, 1871 which stated:

J. W. Jones was a man admired and respected by all who knew him. The funeral was the most imposing spectacle ever before witnessed here. Business of all kinds was suspended and every person seemed to be impressed to the fullest extent of the great loss sustained by the whole community.

James M. Barney and David Neahr were named as administrators of his estate which had an appraised value of \$15,340 with debts amounting to \$5,901.

Died at Arizona City, Yuma County, A.T., February 20, 1871; buried, _____ Cemetery.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Barney, James M. of Phoenix - Historical Notes, p. 12.
Probate Court of Yuma County - Docket No. 21.
The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, February 25, 2:1 (death notice),
March 4, 2:2 (funeral) and March 11, 1871, 2:4 (probate notice).