

MURPHY, JAMES

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MURPHY, JAMES

Born at _____ Indiana _____ 18____.

Son of _____ and _____

Married, Refugia Galves at Phoenix, about 1878.

Children; James Thomas, John Dennis and Samuel Houston.

Went from Texas to California via the Gadsden Purchase in 1858; returned to the Colorado River in the early sixties to prospect for placer gold; settled in the Salt River Valley in 1868 where he established the first store on what is now east Van Buren street; formed a partnership with J. T. Dennis and in 1871 they moved the store to the north side of Washington Street, just east of Montezuma Street; they also engaged in farming and in hauling freight in central Arizona; was elected one of three Townsite Commissioners to lay out the Town of Phoenix, 1870.

On December 1, 1868, he entered as a homestead the N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$, 9 T. 1 N. R. 3 E. which adjoined the original Phoenix Townsite on the east and is now bounded by Van Buren and Jackson Streets, between 7th and 12th Streets; on December 15, 1884, he platted a part of the quarter section between Van Buren and Jefferson Streets and 7th and 11th Streets as the Murphy addition to the City of Phoenix; he also acquired the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 14, T. 2 N. R. 4 E., southwest of Phoenix, and helped to build the first school house in what has since been known as the Murphy School District.

Listed, U. S. Census 1870, at Salt River Valley (Phoenix) Yavapai County, A.T., age 36, born in Indiana, occupation - Farmer; the following obituary was printed in the Phoenix Arizona Gazette of August 4, 1887:

He came to Texas in 1852, from where he went to California in 1858. He settled in Arizona in 1860, at what was then known as Gila City. Two years after this he moved up the river during the excitement over the Lopez mines. From that time on he had lived north of the Salt River, having settled permanently in the Valley in 1869.

During his residence here he had always been actively engaged in merchandising, trading and farming, and at the time of his death and for the past thirteen years, was a partner with John T. Dennis of this city. In all his undertakings he was successful, and by close application to business he accumulated considerable property.

He was universally respected by all who knew him, and his death will cause a pang of sadness to the hearts of friends who revered him for the many manly traits that marked his life.

Died at Downey, Los Angeles County, California, August 3, 1887, buried, Evergreen Cemetery, Los Angeles, his estate was appraised at \$33,458.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Farish, T.E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 6, pp. 94, 175, 216
W. W. Elliott & Co - History of Arizona Territory, 1884, p. 273
Barney, J. M. - "Phoenix - A History" in Arizona Historical Review, January, 1933, pp. 269, 277 - 279.
Probate Court of Maricopa County - Docket No. 114.
The Arizona Gazette, Phoenix, August 4, 1887, 1:2 (obituary).