

WERTHEIMER, AARON

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WERTHEIMER, AARON, born in Baden, Germany, about 1831; never married; came to northern Arizona late in 1863; the Journal of the Walker Mining District shows that he located 300 feet on the Michael Lode on May 8, 1864 and three days later was one of six who located 300 feet each on the Mammoth Lode; on June 16 of that year he joined with five others in locating the Sonoma, Sinaloa, and Buncombe Lodes at Big Bug.

Listed Territorial Census, April, 1864, 3d District (Yavapai County) age 33, single, born in Germany, resident in Arizona 5 months, naturalized citizen, occupation - Trader, property valued at \$3,050; he formed a partnership with F. H. Wunderlich and Michael Wormser under the firm name of Wormser and Company which conducted a large and successful mercantile business in Prescott; when the first Masonic Lodge (Aztlan No. 177) was established in Prescott he affiliated with it and became well known as a public spirited resident of the Community for a decade; the following are selected from numerous references to him in the Prescott Arizona Miner;

January 18, 1868 - - Mr. Wertheimer, who recently arrived here from Wickenburg, informs us that, about one week ago, a squad of Indians succeeded in stealing five head of mules - the property of Mr. F. M. Chapman, out of his corral at that place. The Vulture mill was running and business was brisk. Considerable rain had fallen and the roads were, in consequence, very muddy, and it was with difficulty that the teamsters navigated the immense land schooners employed in hauling quartz from the mines to the mill.

March 28, 1868 - - Aaron Wertheimer, of the firm of Wormser and Co., arrived home yesterday from California, where he went some time ago to purchase a spring and summer stock of goods for his house in Prescott. Ben Block's brother accompanied him.

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February 13, 1869 - - Messrs. Wertheimer, Wormser and Lennon arrived home in company with the mail carrier, Mr. Dixon. They found very deep snow on the divide and had a rough trip.

July 10, 1869 - - Aaron Wertheimer of Wormser and Co., Prescott, arrived here from La Paz Sunday last, having closed up the business of his firm at that place.

February 19, 1870 - - Wormser and Co. -- The recent withdrawal of F. H. Wunderlich from this old Prescott house leaves but two members now in the firm - M. Wormser and Aaron Wertheimer - and they are so well known to the city of Northern Arizona that we need not say more in their behalf than that during their long mercantile career in the Territory they have befriended many. Of Mr. Wunderlich, we have but to say that he is a man, in every sense of the word, and one, too, who has used his time and means to advance the interests in the Territory.

December 17, 1870 - - Aaron Wertheimer and I. Q. Dickson arrived home Tuesday night last from Southern Arizona. They visited Wickenburg, Phoenix, Adamsville, Florence, Tucson and other places, and met with kindness everywhere. Mr. Wertheimer, who had an eye single to the grain question, informs us that there is plenty of corn and barley in the southern country and that owners were anxious to sell.

January 28, 1871 - - Wormser and Wertheimer are "laying low" until summer, when they will commence the erection of a new brick store. They would start work on it now but for the fact that a goodly portion of their capital "is out" in mines and farms and cannot be collected until spring.

July 8, 1871 - - Wormser and Wertheimer pay us for informing the public that they are selling good new mix flour at \$8.50 currency, the hundred.

September 14, 1872 - - Aaron Wertheimer is about to ship, by wagon, an invoice of Irish potatoes to Mr. Berger's Mill and mine, near Ehrenberg, Yuma County. The chances are that this section will have a big surplus of Murphies this year.

March 22, 1873 - - Those old time Arizona traders, Messrs. Wormser and Wertheimer, have taken a new and very spirited start in business. They have just opened a new and excellent stock of goods at Phoenix, in Salt River Valley; have received several barrels and casks of wines and liquors here and will soon receive several wagon loads of fresh staple goods, which will be spread out for sale in their new adobe store. Being old time people, and good men, we are gratified at the new lead of energy they have just developed.

Listed, U. S. Census, July, 1870, at Prescott, A.T., age 39, occupation - Merchant, property valued at \$5,000; died at Prescott, Yavapai County, A.T., January 20, 1874, aged 42; buried _____ Cemetery; his estate, consisting of a half interest in the stock in trade of the firm of Wormser and Wertheimer, was appraised at \$5,000; two days before his death he made the following will:

In the name of God, I, Aaron Wertheimer, of the firm of Wormser and Wertheimer of Prescott, County of Yavapai and Territory of Arizona, do make, publish and declare this my last will and testament - -

1st. -- I nominate and desire that my partner, Michael Wormser, be appointed executor of this my last will and testament, without being required to give any bond.

2d. -- For the purpose of settling the estate with as little delay and expense as possible, I desire that my said executor shall close the partnership business, pay all indebtedness of the firm and collect all debts due the firm, and to sell and dispose of such property as may be necessary for that purpose without any order of the Probate Court.

3d. -- I desire and request that my said executor pay and discharge all of my private debts and, if there should not be enough left to my share out of the partnership assets, then I authorize him to sell and dispose of any individual property, which I may own, for that purpose.

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4th. -- Whatever property, money, or effects may be left after the payment of debts, as aforesaid, I give and bequeath to my brother, Michael Wertheimer, of Portland, Oregon.

Having full confidence in the integrity of, my said executor, I hereby expressly direct that he be permitted, and he is hereby fully authorized, to act in the settlement of the business as though it were entirely his own; and I hereby give him full power and authority to make such gifts, bequests and devises, as would be necessary to enable him to carry out my wishes in every respect.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Ferish, T.E. - History of Arizona, Vol. 6, pp. 198-199.
 Probate Court of Yavapai County, A.T. - Docket No. 78.
 The Arizona Miner, Prescott, January 18, 3:1 and March 28, 1868, 3:2; February 13, 3:1, March 13, 3:3, July 10, 3:1 and October 9, 1869, 3:1; February 19, 3:2, July 23, 3:1 and December 17, 1870, 2:2; January 28 and July 8, 1871, 3:1; February 3, 3:1 and September 14, 1872, 3:1; March 22, 1873, 3:1; March 6, 1874, 3:2; January 22, 1875, 2:2 (events of the past year).
 The Arizona Citizen, Tucson, January 31, 1874, 2:2 (death notice).