

Kammerer Family Business Collection

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1842-1914



Title Statement

Kammerer Family Business CollectionKammerer Family Business Collection ,1842-1914, undated
Ms.2022.079

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2022.079

Unit Date

1842-1914

Language

Materials in this collection are in English.

Abstract

This collection consists of the family business papers, primarily of John Kammerer and his son, Joseph Kammerer. In addition, there is material from George W. Jones (likely a business partner or associate) and general correspondence relating to the family businesses. Materials date from 1842 to 1914, though most items are from before 1900.

Creator

Kammerer, Joseph

Extent

0.7 Cubic Feet 2 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

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Source of Acquisition

This collection was purchased by Special Collections in two accruals in April 2018 and April 2019.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Kammerer Family Business Collection was completed in December 2022.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Kammerer Family Business Collection, 1842-1914, Ms2022-079, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Historical Information

Historical records indicate that John Kammerer was born in Germany in 1793 and later immigrated to Pennsylvania, south of Pittsburgh. John was originally a miller and millwright, but he later opened a hotel and general merchandise store, which his son, Joseph, inherited after his death. Joseph Kammerer went on to expand family operations to include a drug goods store, a mill, and a distillery (well known in the late 19th century as Kammerer Pure Monongahela Rye Whiskey).

More information: <http://pre-prowhiskeymen.blogspot.com/2022/04/how-kammerers-created-pennsylvania-town.html>; <http://www.pa-roots.org/data/read.php?811,444023>

Scope and Content

This collection consists of the family business papers, primarily of John Kammerer and his son, Joseph Kammerer. In addition, there is material from George W. Jones (likely a business partner or associate) and general correspondence relating to the family businesses. Materials date from 1842 to 1914, though most items are from before 1900. The documents in this collection reflect the operations and management of the Kammerer family land, farm, and businesses, which included, at various points: an inn/tavern, a grain mill, a distillery, and a drug goods store.

Keywords

Agriculture

Cocktails -- History

Cocktail History Collection

Food Technology and Production

History of Food and Drink

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

This collection is separated in to three series: Correspondence, Administrative, and Financial. Materials in each series are further arranged in chronological order or by the person whom they relate to.

Correspondence includes letters to and from John and Joseph Kammerer, as well as George W. Jones and general correspondence relating to the family business.

The administrative series includes documents relating to running the business, such as insurance records, a mill ledger, prescription pads, and advertisements.

The financial series contains materials such as checks, invoices, and receipts relating to the Kammerer family business.

The foreign language materials are in a folder separate from the rest of the collection as they have not been translated at this time.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I: Correspondence

Unit Date 1852-1905

John Kammerer Correspondence

Unit Date 1853-1856

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Joseph Kammerer Correspondence

Unit Date 1854-1886

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

G.W. Jones Correspondence

Unit Date 1874-1884

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Kammerers Correspondence

Unit Date 1854-1872

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Correspondence about Business

Unit Date 1852-1905

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Series II: Administrative

Unit Date 1853-1881, undated

John Kammerer

Unit Date 1853-1856

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Joseph Kammerer**Unit Date** 1862-1909**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 7 (folder)**Joseph Kammerer Prescription Pads****Unit Date** 1881**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 8 (folder)**G.W. Jones Distillery Plan****Unit Date** 1875**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 9 (folder)**Business Ephemera****Unit Date** undated**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 10 (folder)**Legal Documents****Unit Date** undated**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 11 (folder)**Joseph Kammerer Mill Book [ledger]****Unit Date** 1882-1904**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 4 (folder)**Series III: Financial****Unit Date** 1842-1914**John Kammerer Invoices****Unit Date** 1850-1854**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 12 (folder)**Joseph Kammerer Invoices****Unit Date** 1880-1884**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 13 (folder)**Invoices****Unit Date** 1851-1902**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 14 (folder)

John Kammerer Receipts**Unit Date** 1846-1854**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 15 (folder)**Joseph Kammerer Receipts****Unit Date** 1854-1882**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 16 (folder)**Receipts****Unit Date** 1842-1901**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 17 (folder)**Bonds****Unit Date** 1877-1881**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 18 (folder)**Promissory Notes****Unit Date** 1851**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 19 (folder)**John Kammerer Accounts****Unit Date** 1848-1854**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 20 (folder)**Checks****Unit Date** 1877**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 21 (folder)**Checks****Unit Date** 1878**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 22 (folder)**Checks****Unit Date** 1879**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 1 (folder)**Checks****Unit Date** 1880**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 2 (folder)

Checks

Unit Date 1881, 1914

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Foreign Language Materials

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Language Materials seem to be written in German, most likely in a 19th century German script called Kurrent. SCUA is unable to provide translations at this time.