



DESIGN LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

VALLEY NATIONAL BANK DRAWINGS COLLECTION

Collection #: MS MSS 21

Location: DESIGN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Drawings, etc.: 1927-1986

No. of Items: 7 oversize folders, 1 map case drawer

Historical Background

The Valley National Bank can be traced to the Gila Valley Bank, founded in 1899 in Solomonville, Arizona. By 1902, the Gila Valley Bank had opened branch offices in other towns and grew to be the largest bank in Arizona by 1914. The Valley Bank was founded in Phoenix in 1914. Although entirely separate from each other, the Gila Valley Bank and the Valley Bank had the same individuals as administrators.

In 1922, the Valley Bank and the Gila Valley Bank and Trust Company merged to form the Valley Bank and Trust Company headquartered in Phoenix. Over the next few decades the Valley Bank absorbed several small banks in Arizona. In 1935, the Consolidated National Bank of Tucson merged with the Valley Bank and Trust Company, forming the Valley National Bank.

By 1950, the Valley National Bank had 29 branches, 250,000 customers, and 2/3 of all bank credit business in Arizona. In 1950, the Valley National Bank was the largest bank in the Rocky Mountain

Region and was the 76th largest bank out of the 15,000 banks in the United States. The Valley National Bank continued to be the major banking establishment in Arizona for the next 40 years. In the 1990s, the Valley National Bank was absorbed by Bank One (of the Banc One Corporation).

Scope and Content Note

The drawings were donated in April 1997 by Charles Pelletier, Coordinator of Corporate Properties of Bank One. The geodesic dome materials were donated in August 1995 by Scott Walker, Vice President of Bank One Arizona.

The collection is comprised of seven oversize folders containing primarily drawings of various Valley National Bank offices in Phoenix, Show Low, Tempe, and Tucson. Most of the items are blueprints, sketches on tracing paper, and diazos. Of particular note are the works of prominent architects: Bennie Gonzales (Folder 6), H. H. Green (Folder 1), and Frank Lloyd Wright (Folder 4). Also included in the collection are photographs and press releases for the geodesic dome in Tempe (Folder 3), which was the first geodesic building in Arizona.

Container List

Map Case Drawer 153G R2 D13

Folder 1 H. H. Green/H. H. Green-Martin R. Young, Jr./H. H. Green & Starkweather & Morse Assoc. Architects

Item 1 Temporary Building, 1st St & Willetta St Phoenix-Job No. 6743-July 1950-4 sheets

Item 2 NW corner, 1st St & Willetta St., Phoenix-July 1946-w/Martin R. Young, Jr.-5 sheets

Item 3 University Office, Tucson-1 sheet

Item 4 University Office, Tucson-June 1950-w/Starkweather & Morse-1 sheet

Item 5 University Office, Tucson-undated-w/Starkweather & Morse-1 sheet

Folder 2 Walter E. Riley

Item 1 Luhrs Office, SW corner Jefferson & Central, Phoenix-March and April 1958-15 sheets (multiple copies of sheet E2)

Folder 3 Weaver & Drover Architects

Item 1 Press Releases and Photographs-Geodesic Dome, Rural Rd & Apache Blvd, Tempe-1962

Item 2 Tempe Office-File No. 6024-November 1960-1 sheet

Item 3 Demountable Bank, 40th St & Camelback, Phoenix-File No. 6034-September 1960-1 sheet

Item 4 File No. 6144-untitled-December 1961-5 sheets (two copies of sheet S-K-4)

Folder 4 Frank Lloyd Wright

Item 1 The Daylight Bank, Tucson-photocopies of preliminary drawings w/accompanying text-March 1949-2 sheets

Item 2 The Daylight Bank, Tucson-c. 1949-13 sheets

Folder 5 Miscellaneous Architects

Item 1 Doyle Flynn & Associates-untitled-undated-3 sheets

Item 2 Friedman & Jobusch, Inc. Architects/Engineers-Proposed Valley National Bank Plaza, Pueblo Center Redevelopment Project, Tucson-Job No. 1173-August 1971-3 sheets

Item 3 Gordon Maas Luepke, AIA-Florence Highway & Rudasill Rd, Tucson-Project No. L-699-November 1967-2 sheets

Folder 6 Miscellaneous Architects

Item 1 Bonar/Orchard-Palm Grove Study for the Biltmore, 26th St & Camelback, Phoenix-August 1986-1 sheet

Item 2 Terry Atkinson, AIA- Proposed Oracle Grant Office-Project No. 713-August 1957-1 sheet

Item 3 Bennie Gonzales, Architects, AIA-West Van Buren Office-June 1966-1 sheet

Item 4 Jasker & Eisen-Consolidated National Bank & Office Building,

Tucson-November 1927-1 sheet

Item 5 J'ian Clark-untitled-undated-1 sheet

Item 6 Grand Canal Drawing Company JC-untitled-undated-1 sheet

Folder 7 Unidentified Architects

Item 1 University Office, Tucson-January 1958-5 sheets

Item 2 Prototype Bank-April 1980, March 1981-5 sheets

Item 3 Show Low Office-undated-1 sheet

Item 4 Campbell Grant Office-Project No. 629-January 1957-1 sheet

Item 5 Logo-New Tucson Office- undated-1 sheet

Item 6 February 1965-untitled-1 sheet

Finding aid by Laura A. Purcell (April 1998)

Updated by Harold Housley (June 2016)