

**Harris County Archives  
Houston, Texas**

*Finding Aid*

**A. J. WAGNER COMPANY, INC. RECORDS  
1908 - 1910**

**Manuscript Collection:** MC011

**Size:** 2 volumes

**Accession Number:** 2005.019

**Restrictions on Access:** None

**Processed by:** Sarah Canby Jackson,  
2005

**Restrictions on Use:** None

**Acquisition:** Included in Grand Jury  
Records transmitted by the Harris  
County District Attorney May 5, 2005.

**Citation:** [Identification of Item], A. J. Wagner Company, Inc., MC011, Harris County Archives, Houston, Texas.

**Creator Sketch:**

In April, 1908, A. J. Wagner & Company, a general merchandise firm, succeeded Wagner and Brandon in Bryan, Texas. The firm apparently had four stores located in Central Texas - Bryan, Navasota, Mexia, and Cameron. C. A. Lindsay, formerly manager of the Mexia branch of the company was transferred to Bryan to manage the store in their newly remodeled building. By August 1910 A. J. Wagner & Company, one of the largest firms in Bryan, filed for bankruptcy. By mid-September Richard G. Maury was named trustee and dissolution of the firm's assets began. It is unclear from the newspaper reports whether the bankruptcy affected all of the firm's locations or only the Bryan location. However, Wagner continued to own the building. In January 1912 he leased it to W. T. James for use as a furniture store and in 1915 filed a \$10,000 suit in District Court against the City of Bryan for damages due to street repairs. In 1916 Wagner added a third story to the building.

**Scope and Contents Note or Collection Summary:**

Two volumes of financial records, 1908 – 1910, document the business activities of the A. J. Wagner Company, Inc. in Bryan, Navasota, Mexia, and Cameron, Texas, from its inception to its declaration of bankruptcy in August 1910.

**Archivist's Note:**

The records were part of a 58 volume transfer to the Harris County Archives from the District Attorney's Office in May 2005. The origin of the A. J. Wagner Company, Inc. records is unknown. It is possible that they were originally exhibits in a district court case and became intermingled with the Grand Jury Dockets. They may also have been used as evidence in Grand Jury deliberations.

Copies of newspaper articles from the Bryan, Texas papers relating to A. J. Wagner Company are in the MC011 holding record.

## Inventory

**Series: Financial Records**

**Dates: 1908 - 1910**

<b>Title / Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
Journal	1908, 05/28 – 1910, 08/19	1030-E-03
Cash Book	1908, 05/01 – 1910, 08/15	1030-E-03