Winchester Cooley, City Developer, Taken by Death



Stout-Feldman Studio Photo Winchester Cooley

Winchester Cooley, resident of El Paso for 55 years and one of the city's outstanding developers, died at his home in the Lower Valley yesterday.

He was 74. He was born in Springfield, Mo., Aug. 19, 1875. When a child he moved to Las Vegas, N. M.

In 1895 he came to El Paso to be employed by the First-National Bank as a clerk.

Became Bank President

His boyhood ambition to be a banker was realized when he became president of the Rio Grande Valley Bank and Trust Co.

When this company was merged with the City National Bank in 1919, Mr. Cooley was made vice-president.

He was president of the City Mortgage Co, when he died. He founded the company.

He developed much El Pase real estate, including Manhattan Heights and the Rosedale Additions.

School Named For Him

He was one of the principal owners of the Consumers Ice and Fuel Co. and the El Paso Ice and Refrigerator Co.

Mr. Cooley was a 33rd degree Mason, one of the first in the state of Texas. He was a member of El Maida Shrine.

Winchester Cooley School in the Lower Valley was named in his honor.

He was a graduate of the University of Michigan.

List Of Survivors

Mr. Cooley is survived by his widow, Mrs. Marian B. Cooley of El Paso; five sons. William S. of El Paso; Mahlon of Newhall. Calif., and Winchester Jr., John B. and Richard B. of Los Angeles. Calif.; five daughters. Mrs. A. A. Gridley, Mrs. Donald Johnson. Mrs. Scott Wilkey and Mrs. J. C. Weaver of El Paso, and Mrs. J. C. Weaver of El Paso, and Mrs. J. H. Perkins of El Monte, Calif.; a sister, Elizabeth Cooley of Las Vegas, N. M., and 25 grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are pending with Kaster and Maxon.