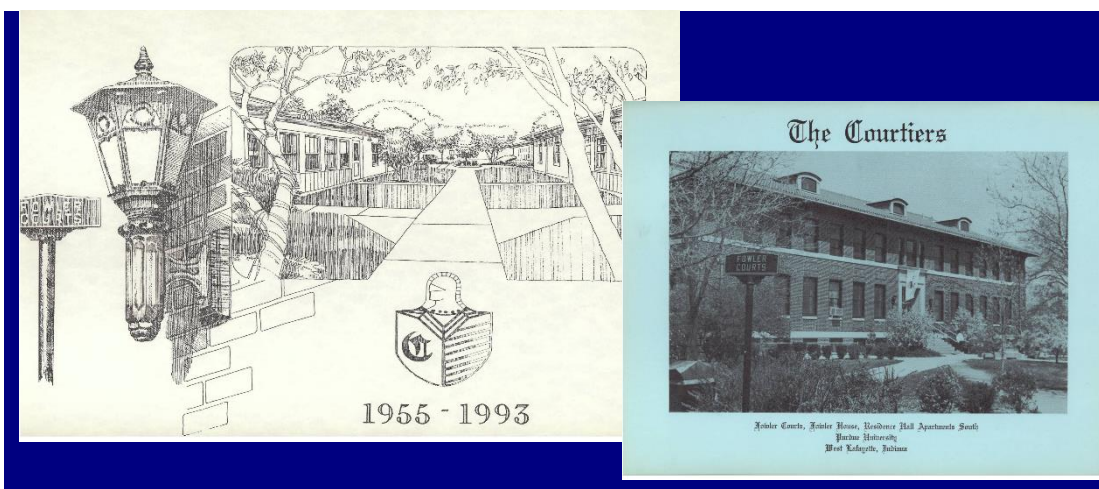


PURDUE

UNIVERSITY



FINDING AID TO THE FOWLER COURTS RESIDENCE HALL RECORDS, 1920s-1993

**Purdue University Libraries
Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections
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504 West State Street
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2058
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Revised by: Amanda Burdick, November 3, 2016
Processed by: Mary A. Segó, June 18, 2014

Descriptive Summary

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Creator Information | Legacy collection, creator unknown |
| Title | Fowler Courts Residence Hall records |
| Collection Identifier | UA 43 |
| Date Span | 1920s-1993, predominant 1954-1993 |
| Abstract | Annual reports, orientation guidebooks and handbooks, faculty fellow directories, yearbooks, calendars, photographs, historical information, including Purdue residence hall dress code standards and guest hours policies (1960s-1980s), and various memorabilia documenting the history of Fowler Courts and Fowler House. |
| Extent | 1.2 cubic feet (3 mss boxes) |
| Finding Aid Author | Mary A. Segó |
| Languages | English |
| Repository | Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries |

Administrative Information

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Location Information: | ASC |
| Access Restrictions: | Collection is open for research. |
| Acquisition Information: | Legacy items; donors various and unknown. Courtier crests items and Fowler Poultry Science Building and Fowler House photographs donated by Marlene Sue Jacks, widow of Purdue alum, Merrill L. Jacks. |
| Preferred Citation: | UA 43, Fowler Courts Residence Hall records, Karnes Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries |
| Copyright Notice: | Purdue University |

Subjects and Genres

Persons

Fowler, James M., 1844-1930
Jacks, Merrill L., 1934-1992
Michael, Velma, -1956
Wilson, Lillian, -1961

Organizations

Purdue University
Purdue University. Residence Halls

Topics

Purdue University--Fowler Courts--Residence Halls
Purdue University--Fowler Courts—Courtiers
Dormitories--Indiana--Indiana--West Lafayette
Purdue University--South Campus Courts
Purdue University--Harrison Street Courts
Purdue University--Fowler Poultry Science Building
Purdue University--Alumni and alumnae
Purdue University--Students
Purdue University--Social life and customs--20th century
Purdue University--Buildings
Dress codes

Form and Genre Types

Annual reports
Artifacts
Brochures
Correspondence
Directories
Guidebooks
Handbooks
Memorabilia
Newsletters
Photographs
Records
Yearbooks

Occupations

Student

History of Fowler Courts and “The Courtiers”

The first Courtiers lived three blocks south of the Purdue Memorial Union on Harrison Street. These men lived in the first type of court building and called themselves the Harrison Hundred. The court style of housing was so successful that the Harrison Hundred soon became the “Courtier 1,000,” two years later, in 1955, when the new courts were built along State Street.

In the fall of 1965, State Street Courts were renamed Fowler Courts. This was done in honor of James M. Fowler who was born in Lafayette and who spent most of his life in the community. Few business projects in northwest Indiana were handled without some involvement of the Fowler family. Mr. Fowler gave much of the land on which the University stands and was treasurer of the Board of Trustees from 1890 until 1929; the year before he died. Fowler House, the main building in the courts and where the dining hall was located, was named after Mr. Fowler’s son and was formally named The Harriet Fowler and James M. Fowler Jr. Memorial House.

As the student organization in the Courts grew to include Residence Halls Apartments South, many special interest groups were formed, as well as the overall Courtier government. Because of the needs of these groups, facilities and equipment were soon made available for the residence hall radio station (WKHJ) and darkroom facilities for Courtier photographers, referred to as Photoshop.

Social programs also developed rapidly, and came to include two annual dances: Mistletoe Madness and the Snowflake Fantasy dinner dance in February. In addition to the annual events, several informal dances became traditional as well as events such as the Halloween Party, children’s Christmas party and Madan Carroll Boat Dance.

At the completion of the 1992-1993 school year, Fowler Courts were torn down to create parking spaces and to make way for what later became First Street Towers. Fowler House is currently used for the Department of Child Development and Family Studies. In July 2011, the Miller Child Learning Center and the CDFS Child Development Laboratory School were combined to form one facility with classrooms in Fowler Memorial House and Hanley Hall.

Source(s):

Orientation brochure, “Purdue University, The Courtiers, Student Union Courts and Fowler House,” 1976-1977

The Courtiers newsletter, 1992-93

Collection Description

Scope

The Fowler Courts Residence Hall records (1920s-1993; 1.2 cubic feet) document the history of Fowler Courts Residence Hall and Fowler House. The records include annual reports, orientation guidebooks and handbooks, faculty fellow directories, yearbooks and calendars. Also included are Purdue Residence Hall dress code standards and guest hours policies from the 1960s-1980s. Historical documents consist of background information on the closing of Harrison Street Courts and the transition to South Campus Courts, the naming of Fowler Courts, Fowler Courts awards and scholarships and the Courtier crest. Various memorabilia include a booklet compiled by former residents and staff, newsletters and programs. Photographs dating back to the Fowler Poultry Science Building are included; Fowler House, the area that became the kitchen and dining area for Fowler Courts residents used to be the old poultry show pavilion. The records are organized into six series:

Arrangement

- 1. Annual Reports, 1954-1962 (0.05 cubic feet).** This series contains annual reports for the “Men’s Quadrangle,” “Union Courts and Fowler House,” and Fowler Courts. The annual report of the residence hall was presented each fiscal year to the university president by the hall manager. As indicated on the report form, “this report includes serious handicaps or regressions due to current conditions; outstanding achievements on the part of students; attendance of notable professional meetings; major publications by members of staff; unusual or noteworthy gifts; etc.”
- 2. Annual Orientation Guidebooks and Handbooks, 1962-1993 (0.12 cubic feet).** The orientation guidebooks and handbooks in this series contain information that was used to help new residents of Fowler Courts adjust to life at their residence hall. The guidebooks and pamphlets include topics such as hall history, facilities that were available, social events, sports, important phone numbers and residence hall government opportunities.
- 3. Faculty Fellows Directories, 1976-1988 (0.07 cubic feet).** The directories found here contain pictures, biographical information and contact information for the various Faculty Fellows over the years at Fowler Courts. A Faculty Fellow is a member of the faculty who is interested in getting to know the students on a one to one level. They are available to the students as a source of information about Purdue and post-graduation life.
- 4. Fowler Courts Yearbooks, 1978-1984 (0.35 cubic feet).** This series is comprised of the first Fowler Courts yearbook, which started in 1978, thanks to financial support from the Joint Assembly at Fowler. In 1982, the silver anniversary edition was published to celebrate 25 years of Fowler Courts’ memories, and a copy can be found in the series. Two more yearbooks, 1982-83 and 1983-84 are also

featured. The content of the yearbooks include photos of administrative staff, food staff, students and memories of fun times.

5. Calendars, 1984-1989, (0.05 cubic feet). “The Courtier” calendars in this series provided the residents of Fowler Courts, Fowler House and Residence Hall Apartments South with a yearly calendar of activities at the residence halls, including University activities. Also included with the calendars are hall maps; hall administrators and staff; key phone numbers; Courtier Club officers, constitution, budget and freshman council; hall highlights; awards; living standards; guest hours policy and other conduct policies.

6. Photographs, Historical Information, Memorabilia and Artifacts, 1920s-1990 (0.4 cubic feet). This series contains a wide assortment of items related to Fowler Courts and Fowler House history; photographs of Fowler Hall Poultry Building, which later became the Fowler House, the kitchen and dining area for Fowler Courts, circa 1920s-1950s; Purdue Residence Hall dress code and guest hour policies, 1960s-1980s; “Fond Memories of Fowler, 1955-1993,” a booklet compiled by former Fowler Courts residents and staff, along with various memorabilia and information related to the history of Fowler Courts and Fowler House.

Descriptive Rules

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Processing Information

All materials have been housed in polyester sleeves, acid-free folders, and acid-free boxes. The material in each series is arranged chronologically.

Revision History

Collection identifier updated from UA 12.05.15-16 to UA 43 as of November 3, 2016.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Series 1. Annual Reports, 1954-1962

(.06 cubic feet)

Box 1 *Annual Reports, Men's Quadrangle, Student Union Courts, Fowler House and Fowler Courts, 1954-1962*

Folder

1. Annual report for the Men's Quadrangle made by R.D. Hunt, Manager, 1954-1955
2. Annual report for the Student Union Courts and Fowler House, made by R.C. Cadwell, manager, 1955-1956
3. Annual report for the Student Union Courts and Fowler House, made by R.C. Cadwell, manager, 1957-1958
4. Annual report for the Student Union Courts and Fowler House, made by R.C. Cadwell, manager, 1959-1960
5. Correspondence, letter addressed to R.L. Page, Director of Men's Residence Halls, from R.C. Cadwell, Manager of Fowler Courts, concerning annual report, 1961-1962

Series 2. Annual Orientation Guidebooks and Handbooks, 1962-1993

(0.17 cubic feet)

Box 1 *Annual Orientation Guidebooks and Handbooks, 1962-1993*

Folder

6. Orientation brochure, "Purdue University, The Courtiers, Student Union Courts and Fowler House," 1962-1963
7. Orientation brochure, "Purdue University, The Courtiers, Student Union Courts and Fowler House," 1963-1964
8. Orientation brochure, "The Courtiers," 1964-1965
9. Orientation brochure, "The Courtiers," 1965-1966
10. Orientation brochure, "The Courtiers" 1967-1968
11. Orientation brochure, "The Courtiers," 1968-1969
12. Orientation brochure, "The Courtiers," 1976-1977
13. Handbook, "Fowler Flashes," 1970-1971
14. Handbook, "Fowler Flashes," 1972-1973 (3 copies)

15. Handbook, "Fowler Flashes," 1973-1974 (2 copies)
16. Handbook, "The Courtiers," 1984-1985
17. Handbook, "The Courtiers," 1992-1993 (2 copies)

Series 3. Faculty Fellows Directories, 1976-1988

(0.17 cubic feet)

Box 1 *Fowler Courts Faculty Fellows Directories, 1976-1988*

Folder

18. Directories, Faculty Fellows, Fowler Courts, 1976-1977
19. Directories, Faculty Fellows, Fowler Courts, 1977-1978
20. Directories, Faculty Fellows, Fowler Courts, 1978-1979
21. Directories, Faculty Fellows, Fowler Courts, 1979-1980
22. Directories, Faculty Fellows, Fowler Courts, 1980-1981
23. Directories, Faculty Fellows, Fowler Courts, circa 1985
24. Directories, Faculty Fellows, Fowler Courts, circa 1988

Series 4. Fowler Courts Yearbooks, 1978-1984

(0.35 cubic feet)

Box 2 *Fowler Courts Yearbooks, 1978, 1982-1983, 1979-1980*

Folder

1. Yearbook, Fowler Courts, "Reflections of '78," volume 1, dedicated to Dr. T.E. Pearson, 1978 (2 copies)
2. Yearbook, Fowler Courts, "82 Courtiers," The Silver Anniversary Edition, 1982
3. Yearbook, Fowler Courts, "Fowler Courtiers," 1982-1983
4. Yearbook, Fowler Courts, "The Courtier," 1979-1980 (3 copies)

Series 5. Calendars, 1984-1989

(0.05 cubic feet)

Box 2 *Calendars, "The Courtiers," Fowler Courts, Fowler House, Residence Hall Apartments South, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, 1984-1989*

Folder

5. Calendar, "The Courtiers," Fowler Courts, Fowler House, Residence Hall Apartments South, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, 1984-1985
6. Calendar, "The Courtiers," Fowler Courts, Fowler House, Residence Hall Apartments South, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, 1986-1987 (2 copies)

7. Calendar, "The Courtiers," Fowler Courts, Fowler House, Residence Hall Apartments South, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, 1987-1988 (2 copies)
8. Calendar, "The Courtiers," Fowler Courts, Fowler House, Residence Hall Apartments South, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, 1988-1989

Series 6. Photographs, Historical Information, Memorabilia and Artifacts, 1920s-1990

(0.4 cubic feet)

Box 3 *Photographs, Historical Information, Memorabilia and Artifacts, 1920s-1990*

Folder

1. Photographs, Fowler Hall Poultry Building (later became Fowler House; kitchen and dining area for Fowler Courts) circa 1920s-1950s

Item

1. Photograph (4" x 5") of Merrill Jacks in front of Poultry Building, with unidentified man; notation from Marlene Jacks, in regards to husband, 1954
2. Photographs (4" x 5") of unidentified group of 13 people, undated
3. Photographs (4" x 5") of unidentified group of 5 people, undated
4. Photographs (4" x 5") of unidentified group of 4 people, undated
5. Photograph (3 ½" x 6") laboratory group studying incubation; short course, winter 1947
6. Photograph (5" x 6 ½") unidentified men seated around a table, 1954
7. Photograph (5" x 7") unidentified group of people (from Poultry Department ?). The man holding the blueprints is J. Holmes Martin, circa 1954
8. Photograph (4 ½" x 6 ½") of five unidentified men tagging chicks, undated
9. Photograph (4 ½" x 6 ½") 20th Annual Meeting of the Poultry Science Association, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, August 21-24, 1928
10. Photograph (8" x 10") five men (from Poultry Department ?). The one holding the blueprints is J. Holmes Martin, 1954
11. Photograph (8" x 10") Purdue's first Egg Day, April 1, 1953
12. Photograph (8" x 10") Purdue's second Egg Day, April 1, 1954
13. Photograph (7 ½" x 9 ½") several unidentified men in a laboratory setting, undated (2 copies)
2. Proposal for naming of Fowler Courts, 1954 (includes photograph of unidentified man, possibly Fowler)
3. Booklet, "Fond Memories of Fowler," 1955-1993 (2 copies)

4. Clipping, "State, Harrison Courts Hold First Winter Formal Jan. 14: Snowball Fantasy Chosen as Courtiers' Theme," *Purdue Exponent*, p.1, Friday, December 9, 1955
5. Courtier crest unveiling; speech, clipping and crest, 1956
 - Item
 1. Original speech, given by Harrison Court resident, Merrill L. Jacks at the first annual winter semi-formal, "Snowflake Fantasy," and Courtier crest unveiling, January 14, 1956
 2. Invitation (includes crest inside), "Snowflake Fantasy," January 14, 1956
 3. Program, "Snowflake Fantasy," January 14, 1956
 4. Clipping (photo) of Courtier crest unveiling, publication information unknown, 1956
 5. Paper Courtier crest, 3" x 4", 1956
 6. Window stickers, Courtier crest, 3 ½" x 4 ¼" (3), 1956
 7. Cardboard cut-out of Courtier crest, 7" x 9", 1956
 8. Fowler Courts crest pins in small box. The pin with the original design has "MLJ" on the back, since it belonged to Merrill L. Jacks, circa 1956
6. Program, "Second Annual Dance Tulip Time," sponsored by men of Cary Club, the Courtiers and the Gables Club, March 16, 1957
7. Policies for selecting Outstanding Scholar Award and Lillian Wilson Memorial Award, 1956-1961
 1. Obituary and policies for selecting Outstanding Scholar Award in Mrs. Ernest Michael's name (head maid of the Student Union courts and Fowler House - on same sheet as information about Lillian Wilson) 1956
 2. Rules for selecting recipient of the Lillian Wilson Memorial Award for the most active Courtier (Wilson had been a night clerk at Fowler Courts from 1958-1961), April 11, 1961
8. Pamphlet, describing Courtier programs of financial aid; Courtier Quick Loan Fund and the Courtier Scholarship Aid Program, 1960
9. Residence Hall Dress Code Standards, 1963-1980
 - Item
 1. Dress Code Standards, Student Union Courts and Fowler House (Friday dinners, home basketball games at Gable Courts and Terry House) 1963-1964
 2. Dining Room Dress Standards, Men's Residence Halls, 1964-1965
 3. Dining Room Dress Standards, Men's Residence Halls, 1965-1966
 4. Clarifications on Dining Room Dress Standards, Men's Residence Halls, 1966-1967
 5. Dining Room Dress Standards, Men's Residence Halls, 1967-1968
 6. Dining Room Dress Standards, Fowler Courts and Fowler House, 1969-1970
 7. Revised Dress Standards, Fowler Courts and Fowler House, 1970

8. Standards of Dress, Personal Appearance and Employee Uniforms, 1980
10. Photographs, "1st Prize Campus Xmas Decoration Contest, Won by Unit 1226," December 1963 and "2nd Place, All Campus Xmas Decoration Contest, Unit 1226," undated
11. Correspondence in regards to closing of Harrison Street Courts and transition to South Campus Courts, 1966
12. Guest Hours Policies, Purdue University Residence Halls and Guest Hours Policy Evaluation and Raw Data, 1968-1980

Item

1. Guest Hours History, 1968-1976 (2 copies)
2. Guest Hours Policy for Purdue University Residence Halls, 1973-1974
3. Proposed Room Entry, Search, and Seizure Policy and Procedures, Seminar Topic, June 23, 1976
4. Guest Hours Policy for Purdue University Residence Halls, 1978-1979
5. Guest Hours Policy for Purdue University Residence Halls, 1979-1980
6. Recommendations by the Residence Halls Administration for Changes in the Board of Trustees Guest Hours Policy for Purdue University Residence Halls, March 14, 1980
7. Guest Hours Policy Evaluation and Raw Data, undated
13. List of charter members of Fowler House, during 1956-1957 school year (50 names of men and addresses), 1980
14. Invitation, 25th Anniversary Celebration of Fowler Courts, (sketch of Fowler House on front) January 30-31st, 1982
15. "A Presidential Review," *Purdue Exponent*, May 6, 1987
16. Programs, Courtier Powderpuff Football Fundraiser for Tippecanoe County Special Olympics, 1988, 1990

Item

1. Program, "Courtier Powderpuff Football Fundraiser for Tippecanoe County Special Olympics," 1988
2. Program, "Second Annual Powderpuff Football Game," Sunday, October 28, 1990
17. Pamphlet with attached map of Residence Hall Apartments North (became Hilltop Apartments in 1993) and South (became Married Student Housing in 1993) undated
18. Map, Fowler Courts and Fowler House, undated
19. Drawings, pen and ink, Fowler House and Fowler Courts, 12" x 9", undated
20. Candles in glass holders (noted possibly used at Halloween Party or during power outages at Fowler House), undated