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Stilwell, Arthur, collection, 1909-2010

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Stilwell, Arthur, Collection, MS 167

Arthur Stilwell Collection

Collection Number	MS 167
Title	The Arthur Stilwell Collection
Name and Location of Repository	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas
Dates	1909 - 2010
Collection Size	.5 linear foot
Creator	Unknown
Scope and Content	A collection of documents relating to Kansas City railroad developer Arthur Stilwell, including correspondence, photographs, and newspaper clippings.
Access Restrictions	This collection is open for access
Languages	English

Biographical Note Arthur Edward Stilwell was born October 21, 1859, in Rochester, New York, and died September 26, 1928. In Stilwell's early years he worked as an insurance salesman for the Travelers Insurance Company. During his time with the company he developed a coupon annuity life-insurance policy that would allow the policy holder to get an income after a certain age. Following this position, he sold real estate, and then founded the Kansas City Southern Railway. He had a goal of connecting Kansas City to the Gulf of Mexico. To meet this goal, he started to build the necessary rail lines, which would run through Pittsburg, Kansas. Because Pittsburg did not have a suitable hotel for those traveling this route, Stilwell financed the construction of the Hotel Stilwell in Pittsburg. During the years that he was heading the railway company, he is credited with building more than 2,300 miles of rail lines and having founded more than forty cities. After he had retired, Stilwell took up writing and had published several books, poetry, and plays.

Series This collection contains primary and secondary resources and is divided into the following series:

1. Biographical Information
2. Correspondence
3. Photographs
4. Newspaper Clippings
5. Research
6. Miscellaneous

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Series 1: Biographical Information

F. 1 Biographical information about Arthur Stilwell.

Series 2: Correspondence

F. 2 Correspondence concerning Arthur Stilwell and the Hotel Stilwell from 1909 through 1979.

Series 3: Photographs

F. 3 Photographs of the interior and exterior of the Hotel Stilwell.

F. 4 Photographs of Arthur Stilwell, family/friends, and the staff of the Hotel Stilwell.

F. 5 Photographic negatives of the Hotel Stilwell.

F. 6 Photographs of the aforementioned images with matte backing.

Series 4: Newspaper Clippings

F. 7 Newspaper clippings of Arthur Stilwell and the Hotel Stilwell.

F. 8 Newspaper clippings.

F. 9 Newspaper clippings.

Series 5: Research

F. 10 Research materials about the Hotel Stilwell

F. 11 Research materials about Arthur Stilwell, the Hotel Stilwell, and the hotel plans.

F. 12 Research material notes.

F. 13 Research materials about the documents that were needed to make the Hotel Stilwell into a historical place and the financial information about the cost of the building and restoration.

Series 6: Miscellaneous

F. 14 Miscellaneous information (menus & pamphlets) about the Hotel Stilwell.