

Pittsburg State University

## Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

---

Finding Aids

Special Collections & University Archives

---

9-6-2022

### Hotel Stilwell Records Collection, 1945-1975

Special Collections, Leonard H. Axe Library

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/fa>



Part of the [Business Commons](#)

---

## Hotel Stilwell Records Collection, MS 129

### Overview of the Collection

<b>Title</b>	Hotel Stilwell Records Collection
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS 129
<b>Creator</b>	Hotel Stilwell Board of Directors
<b>Dates</b>	1945 - 1975
<b>Quantity</b>	18 linear feet
<b>Summary</b>	This collection consists of guest records, registration cards, financial records and miscellaneous financial documents related to the Stilwell Hotel in Pittsburg, KS.
<b>Repository</b>	Pittsburg State University, Leonard Axe Library, Special Collections & University Archives 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccol@pittstate.edu
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	There are no restrictions and the collection is open for research. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Biographical Note</b>	The city of Pittsburg formed a board of trade in 1889 that concluded that Pittsburg needed a modern hotel. Initial seed money of \$100,000 was acquired in July of that year. Arthur E. Stilwell of Missouri, Kansas and Texas Trust company provided further funding, so it was decided to name the hotel after him. In July of 1889, W. C. Lindsey was hired to design the hotel and C. W. Green to build it. The hotel was dedicated on April 26, 1890. The Hotel Stilwell has played an important role in the history of Pittsburg. In 1919 it served as the temporary capital of Kansas. Clarence Darrow issued his reply to the interrogatories of the Scopes "Monkey" Trial from the hotel in 1925. Speeches by William Jennings Bryan, Eugene V. Debs, Theodore Roosevelt, Susan B. Anthony and more were

## **Hotel Stilwell Records Collection, MS 129**

delivered from the balcony. The hotel was added to the National Register of Historic Sites in 1980.

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

1. Guest Records
2. Registration Cards
3. Financial Records

### **Series 1: Guest Records 1954 – 1975**

Box 1: Guest Records 1954

Box 2: Guest Records 1955 – 1957; 1961 – 1964

Box 3: Guest Records 1964 – 1966

Box 4: Guest Records 1965 – 1967

Box 5: Guest Records 1967 – 1968

Box 6: Guest Records 1968 – 1969

Box 7: Guest Records 1970 – 1971

Box 8: Guest Records 1973 – 1975 / Registration Cards

### **Series 2: Registration Cards 1954 – 1968**

Box 9: Registration Cards; Date Unknown

Box 10: Registration Cards; 1954 – 1959

Box 11: Registration Cards; 1959 – 1963

Box 12: Registration Cards; 1964 – 1968

### **Series 3: Financial Records 1945 – 1967**

Box 13: Financial Statements; 1945, 1946, 1949

**Hotel Stilwell Records Collection, MS 129**

Box 14: Financial Statements; 1951 – 1953

Box 15: Financial Statements; 1954, 1956 – 1958

Box 16: Financial Statements; 1959, 1960, 1962, 1963

Box 17: Financial Statements & Miscellaneous; 1957, 1964, 1967

Box 18: Financial Records & Miscellaneous; c. 1949 – c. 1958