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Hotel Stilwell records, 1945-1975

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Hotel Stilwell Records Collection, MS 129

Overview of the Collection

Title	Hotel Stilwell Records Collection
Collection Number	MS 129
Creator	Hotel Stilwell Board of Directors
Dates	1945 - 1975
Quantity	18 linear feet
Summary	This collection consists of guest records, registration cards, financial records and miscellaneous financial documents related to the Stilwell Hotel in Pittsburg, KS.
Repository	Pittsburg State University, Leonard Axe Library, Special Collections & University Archives 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccol@pittstate.edu
Access Restrictions	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
Languages	English

Biographical Note 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

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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

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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