4-28-2016

Dr. James L. Forsythe Papers, 1867-2002.

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Abstract
This collection consists of materials created and collected by Dr. James L. Forsythe, noted Kansas historian, professor and chair of the History Department at Fort Hays State University. It also includes research notes and manuscript drafts for Dr. Forsythe’s book entitled *The first 75 years: A History of Fort Hays State University*.

Biographical/Historical Note
Dr. James L. Forsythe was born December 18, 1934 in Bransford, Texas. He married Sherrill Kay Zartman on August 10, 1956. They had three sons, James L. Forsythe, Jr., Garen David Forsythe, and Dana Sean Forsythe. Dr. Forsythe passed away on December 16, 2011.

Dr. Forsythe received a Bachelor of Science Degree in History in 1960 and his Master's Degree in History with a minor in Economics in 1962. Both degrees were from North Texas State University. In 1971, he received his Ph.D. in History with a minor in Economics from the University of New Mexico.

Dr. Forsythe began his work at FHSU in 1963 as an Assistant Professor of
History. In 1968, he became an Associate Professor and in 1971, a Professor. From 1975 to 1981 he served as Chair of the Department of History. He became the Dean of the Graduate School in 1981 and added the position of Vice Provost of Academic Affairs in 1993. He retired December 10, 1999.

In 1977, Dr. Forsythe wrote *The first 75 years: A History of Fort Hays State University*. In 2002, Dr. Forsythe published his second historical book about Fort Hays State University entitled *Lighthouse on the plains: Fort Hays State University, 1902-2002*.

**Scope and Content Note**

Dr. James L. Forsythe papers are organized into seven series.

Series I consists of various Fort Hays State University departmental reports from 1976-2002.

Series II documents Forsythe’s study of the Athletic Department’s history such as women’s and men’s basketball records, history of basketball coaches, and the Tiger mascot.

Series III contains research materials for Dr. Forsythe’s books, *The first 75 years: A History of Fort Hays State University*.

Series IV documents the history of Fort Hays State University. The history of each campus building is recorded along with the history of the campus land, the campus landmarks, and the campus faculty.

Series V contains a history of the state of Kansas including information on Ellis County, Kansas; Hays, Kansas; Forts Harker and Wallace; Indian reservations; and military Fort Hays, Kansas.

Series VI contains a history of Fort Hays State University with such information as newspaper articles about the school from 1902-1969, campus departments and buildings, and Federal land acquisitions.

Series VII contains manuscript drafts on Dr. Forsythe’s book, *The first 75 years: A History of Fort Hays State University*.

**Arrangement Note**

The James L. Forsythe Papers are arranged into seven series:

I. Reports, Departmental
II. Athletics Department
III. Book
IV. Fort Hays State University History
V. History of Kansas
VI. History of the School
VII. Manuscript

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Fort Hays State Normal School
- Fort Hays Kansas State College
- Fort Hays State University
- Fort Hays State University--Faculty
- Kansas Board of Regents

Personal Name(s)

- Allen, Martin
- Chapman, Amos
- Cunningham, Morton Christy
- Custer, George A. (George Armstrong), 1839-1876
- Forsythe, James L.
- Gross, Paul
- Keller, Anna
- Lewis, William A.
- McCartney, Ernest Ray, 1897-
- McMines, Maude
- Picken, Frances Lillian Hoxie
- Picken, Lucy Lillian
- Picken, William S.
- Sternberg, George Fryer
- Welty, Raymond L.
- Wooster, Lyman Dwight

Subject(s)

- Ellis County (Kan.)—History
- Fort Harker (Kanopolis, Kan.)--History
- Fort Hays (Kan.)--History
- Fort Wallace (Kan.)--History
- Indian reservations--Kansas
- Kansas--History
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4 Fort Hays Normal
5 Handwritten Notes
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16 Agnew Hall
17 Albertson Hall
18 Brooks Building & Witt Building
19 Cunningham Hall & Gross Coliseum
20 Custer Hall
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24 Heather Hall
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26 Lewis Field
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28 Malloy Hall
29 McCartney Hall – Old Forsyth Library
30 McGrath Hall
31 McMindes Hall
32 Memorial Student Union
33 Picken Hall
34 Rarick Hall-Industrial Arts Building-Model Agricultural High School
35 Sheridan Hall-Sheridan Coliseum
36 Sternberg Museum-Media Articles
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<td>Lewis Field Pioneer Garden</td>
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<td>Lily Pond</td>
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<td>Old Campus House-Old Fort Hospital</td>
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<td>Picken, William</td>
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