



Newport Historical Society

Guide to the Vernon Court Junior College Collection, 1964 – 1971

Newport Historical Society
82 Touro Street
Newport, Rhode Island 02840
(401) 846-0813
www.newporthistory.org

Descriptive Summary

<i>Collection Identifier</i>	MS.2013.5
<i>Title</i>	Vernon Court Junior College Collection
<i>Creator</i>	Vernon Court Junior College
<i>Date</i>	1964 – 1971 (bulk 1964 – 1966)
<i>Extent</i>	about 200 items in 1 box
<i>Abstract</i>	This collection contains documents, memorandums, publications, and memorabilia relating to Vernon Court Junior College.

Historical Note

Vernon Court Junior College in operation from September 1963 to January 1972. It occupied the mansions Vernon Court, Fairlawn, and Stoneacre, as well as other mansions in the Ruggles Avenue area. It was associated with The Hatch Preparatory School for Boys, which had occupied Vernon Court since 1956. In January 1972 the College faced financial difficulties that forced it to close. At the time of closure the school had 157 enrolled students and 80 employees.

All three school buildings were eventually sold, including Stoneacre Field, a 3.75 acre plot, for \$61,000 to local plumbing contractor, D. Dixon Donovan. Stoneacre, the former W. Goadby Loew villa, had been demolished to make room for new dormitories, which were never built. Donovan bought other former Vernon Court properties along Ruggles Avenue as well. When the Vernon Court mansion was sold, the property was put back on the tax rolls. Fairlawn is now The Pell Center of Salve Regina University. After passing through several owners, it was acquired by Laurence and Judy Cutler in 1998 and is home to the National Museum of American Illustration. Stoneacre is now the site of Cutler's "Olmstead Park."

The actress Joan Crawford received an honorary Associate in Arts degree from the school in 1966, when her identical twin daughters, Cathy and Cynthia Crawford, graduated.

Lippincott, Bert. (2013 March). Vernon Court Junior College. Newport Historical Society, Newport, RI.

Scope and Content

This collection contains materials relating to Vernon Court Junior College. It contains publications from the College including the Court Crier, the school's newsletter and the Alumnae Journal. Also included are memorandums, letters, and other communications from administration to both students and parents regarding school events, policies, and development efforts. Course registration information detailing course offerings and their schedules, as well as final examination schedules are available.

Memorabilia from the school including adhesive patches, window decals and the lyrics of the Vernon Court Junior College Alma Mater are included. Student Handbooks as well as a Viewbook for the academic year 1964-1965, give a very detailed view of student life and academic expectations.

Organization

The Vernon Court Junior College Collection is organized into one series:

1. Vernon Court Junior College files, 1964-1971, undated

Folders are organized alphabetically by type. Within each folder documents are arranged chronologically with undated material appearing last.

Subject Access

People

Apicelli, Linda
Ashley, Franklyn, Dr.
Baker, James B.
Clough, Vida S.
Crawford, Joan, 1908-1977
Hopf, John T.
Kuhnly, W.W.
McCormick, Virginia
Straw, Thelma C.
Vernon Court Junior College
Walsh, Michael F.

Subjects

Junior colleges--Curricula
Junior colleges--United States--Directories
Women in education

Form/Genre

boarding schools (institutions)
handbooks
higher education
invitations
junior colleges (institutions)
pennants
photographic postcards
programs (documents)

serials (publications)
stickers

Access and Use

<i>Physical Access</i>	This collection is housed on site at the Newport Historical Society. Researchers can be seen by appointment during operating hours.
<i>Reproduction & Use</i>	<p>NHS allows monitored personal photography of manuscript and artifact collections for research use only, with some limitations and restrictions. Fees apply. See our Personal Photography Policy and Agreement for more details.</p> <p>NHS also offers digital scans of collections material for educational, commercial or personal use. Fees apply.</p> <p>Personal photography or purchase of digital prints and scans does not imply permission to reproduce or publish these materials. Images from the NHS collections may be reproduced only with written consent of the Newport Historical Society. Permission is granted for one time, non-exclusive use only. All subsequent and additional use requests must be made in writing.</p> <p>We reserve the right to restrict photography of copyrighted, culturally sensitive or physically endangered materials.</p>
<i>Citation</i>	Vernon Court Junior College Collection, MS.2013.5, Newport Historical Society, Newport, Rhode Island

Administrative Information

<i>Processor</i>	Processed by Stacie Parillo, March 7 2013.
<i>Descriptive Rules</i>	Finding aid based on <i>Describing Archives: A Content Standard</i> (DACS)
<i>Accession Info</i>	MS.2013.5; Gift of Linda Apicelli, accepted January 2013

Inventory