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# The Curtilage

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## The Curtilage

MARCH 28, 2019 BY [PAMELA G SMITH](#)

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The need for a dormitory for law students had been recognized for some time – as early as 1898, in fact. However, the situation was not



Sadler Curtilage, 1964

adequately addressed until 1946, when [Dean Walter Harrison Hitchler](#) informed the Board of Trustees of the Law School that he was having difficulty locating suitable housing for students. On March 1, 1946, the Board of Trustees authorized the formation of a committee to explore raising funds for the construction of a dormitory. The committee submitted its report at a special meeting of the Trustees on February 1, 1947, indicating that the project could be undertaken. Thereafter, a campaign began to raise funds from alumni for the project.

In 1949, architects Walter Karcher and Livingston Smith, from Philadelphia, were hired to design the dormitory, which would occupy an empty tract of land next to the Law School that was purchased in 1932. The plans for the dormitory called for the construction of five interconnected buildings. One building was to house an apartment for Dean Hitchler. Construction of the dormitory began on February 11, 1951.

The entire dormitory complex was named the Sadler Curtilage, in honor of the late Honorable Wilbur F. Sadler, former president of the Board of Trustees and one of the Law School's Incorporators. Within the complex, the main building was named after Dean Hitchler, and the remaining four buildings were each named after Dr. C. Scott Althouse of the Board of Trustees and former faculty members Joseph McKeenan, A.J. White Hutton, and the Honorable Fred S. Reese. The dormitory was dedicated in a ceremony on June 7, 1952 with [Governor John S. Fine](#), Class of 1914, delivering the dedication address.

The Sadler Curtilage was renovated in 1988, thanks to a gift from Dr. Jacob Levinson, Class of 1928. As a result of this renovation, the Sadler Curtilage was renamed the Levinson Curtilage. The Levinson Curtilage was dedicated in a ceremony in June, 1989.

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Aerial Photo of Demolition

The Curtilage was demolished in 2008 as part of the Trickett Hall renovation and construction of Lewis Katz Hall.



Trickett Hall and Lewis Katz Hall

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