



Archival and Manuscript Collections Finding Aid

ACCESSION No.: HRHS-116

COLLECTION TITLE: Purcell Park Collection

DATES: 1951 - 2014

SIZE: One folder

DONOR: L. J. Purcell

PROCESSED: Processed September 1, 2016 by K. Craun

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

Purcell Park opened as Fairview Community Playground in 1951 on land owned by Edward Purcell. In June, 1954 Edward Purcell sold his land to the City of Harrisonburg for \$1, but only as long as the land was used as a playground and public recreation area. From this point forward the land was known as Purcell Park.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

This collection contains information concerning the formation of Purcell Park in Harrisonburg, VA.

COLLECTION INVENTORY:

- Correspondence pertaining to the 1951 opening of Fairview Community Playground
- Notices of annual community picnics, 1952, 1953
- Various photographs of 1951 community picnic
- Copy of deed dated June 21, 1954 showing land donated to the City of Harrisonburg from Edward S. Purcell and Kathryn B. Purcell
- Extract taken from the minutes of a meeting of the City Council dated August 10, 1954, naming the park in honor of Edward Purcell
- Typed article about the first community playground dated July 29, 1961
- Various newspaper articles concerning Purcell Park, 1971-2014