ANDERSON HALL

Anderson Hall was a dormitory for girls. It was the first residence home built on the campus and it was built in 1938. At that time it housed thirty-five girls. It had its own kitchen and the girls had a very wonderful house mother who was Mrs. Carolyn Schneider. Mrs. Schneider was affectionately called Mrs. "S" and the girls had great regard and affection for her.

The building was named in honor of Mrs. Agnes Heely Anderson, who was named to the Order of Patrons and Founders of the College of Puget Sound in 1940. It cost $403,000 exclusive of furnishings and at that time the cost was $2450 per student.

During the war, the number of students staying in the dormitory was doubled or tripled and ninety people ended up staying there. We had the "golden dozen" which was a dormitory within a dormitory in the basement and they seemed to have a lot of fun calling themselves one of the "golden dozen."

This was the beginning of a new philosophy of the campus. It was found that everytime we had a bed on the campus, we had a student to fill it. We also knew that the junior colleges were coming very rapidly to the State of Washington, as they had in California, and we would need to be a resident college rather than a commuting college. We also knew that
for the academic excellence which we desired, we would need to bring our students from a wide range geographically. This was the beginning of the dormitory construction.

In 1954-55, a second unit was added or a main unit called Langdon Hall. Langdon Hall was named for Mrs. Langdon who was a member of Plymouth Congregational Church. I was the interim pastor there on three different occasions when they were in the process of securing new ministers. I got to know many of the people very well. One time Mrs. Langdon asked me to come and see her at her apartment in Seattle. She said she would like to do something very nice for the University and out of the conversation came the fact that she would like to make a major contribution to the University and she would like to have her name involved. We were in the process of designing the second unit at that time. Mrs. Langdon did give the University a considerable amount of money. In our discussion, I asked her what she was going to do with the remainder of her estate which was sizable and she said she would like to leave it to some good cause where it would do the best good in the future. I talked with her about a will on many occasions and she said she had a will. I asked her if she had designated where the remainder would go and she said she had not but it would be taken care of. Imagine my surprise when her will was read that she had designated three people to determine where her estate would go. One was Mr. Smith, who was the business officer for the
Congregational Church. One was a man who had been very much interested in the YMCA and the third was myself. We met and it appeared almost at once that there was a division of opinion. The YMCA man wanted all the money to go to the International YMCA cause. She had told me that she had no interest in this cause, although she was interested in the Seattle YWCA. Mr. Smith was very friendly and the two of us finally decided that one-third should go to the Plymouth Congregational Church, one-third should go to the College of Puget Sound and one-third should go to the YWCA. The YMCA man became very adament and finally I told him that if he demanded his way, I would file a minority report with the court stating that she had told me on several occasions that she had no interest in his cause. However, I was very eager for one-third to go to the Plymouth Congregational Church which furnished their camp with it, one-third to go to the YWCA which renovated its building in downtown Seattle, and one-third to come to the College of Puget Sound. This was the final distribution. Langdon Hall was named for Mrs. Langdon because of the annuity she had with us and because of the bequest which she gave to us. Langdon Hall incorporated a number of new idea in dormitory living as were found in the current University Housing at that time.