

**INVENTORY**

**Collection #112**

**Marier Men's Shop/Karl Hooper Collection**

**The Brick Store Museum  
Kennebunk, Maine**

**Compiled by Rosalind Magnuson  
Archivist  
December, 2011**

## **COLLECTION 112**

### **Marier's Men's Shop/Karl Hooper Collection**

This small, but important collection, was given to the museum when Karl Hooper of Marier's Men's Shop on Main Street closed its doors in August, 2011. The proprietor, Karl Hooper, was the last person to own the shop, which opened in 1929. Mr. Hooper began working at the store when he was a sophomore in high school in 1954, and eventually bought the store from Robert Marier in 1967. The store sold men's clothing to Kennebunk's gentlemen, and included such items as suits, jackets, shirts, pants, ties, robes, shoes, raincoats, hats, jeans, underwear, swim suits, and limited boy's clothes, and featured brands such as Pendleton, Jockey, Hush Puppies and Jantzen. Marier's also provided the Kennebunk Police Department, Kennebunk Public Health Department, Kennebunk Water District, the Kennebunk Athletic Boosters Club and Kennebunk High School with clothing.

From the 1940s through the 1970s Marier's was an agent for the White Star Laundry, a Biddeford dry cleaning establishment. Patrons would deliver to Marier's the clothing to be cleaned, and pick it up at a later date.

Mr. Hooper gave the museum ten ledgers, dating from 1947 to 1972. These ledgers provide a glimpse into the lives of Kennebunk men and women and the clothes they wore. The ledgers are alphabetical, and reflect the debits (the merchandise) and credits (the payments) to each account. One ledger (1963 – 1964) is with the Collection. The rest are upstairs on the shelves with the scrapbooks.

The collection is divided into two boxes and the ledgers. The accession number is 2011.176.001-013.

### **Box 1**

Folder 1: Misc. receipts from the White Star Laundry, Biddeford, from the 1960s-1970s

Folder 2: Map: Official Highway Map, 1957, signed by the State Representative Emesh O Varell.

Souvenir booklet *Maine The Land of Remembered Vacations*, c. 1955, signed by State Representative Emesh O Varell.

Folder 3: cards from the Welcome Wagon, n.d.

Folder 4: Miscellaneous letters from customers, c. 1965

Folder 5: Copies of statements from Marier's to individuals and organizations

Folder 6: Three copies of ads which ran on WIDE in Biddeford, 1972

Folder 7: Copies of miscellaneous statements from Marier's, 1969-1972

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Folder 8: Letter from The Security Credit Acceptance Corporation, c. 1969, to Marier's Men's Shop regarding a past due bill.

Folder 9: Book of Gift Certificates c. 1955, and three used Gift Certificates c. 1970

**Box 2**

Ledger from 1963 - 1964

**Gold Wooden Box**

This box was used by customers of Marier's Men's Shop for a "Store Hunt" in 1937. A customer of the establishments listed on the front of the book of coupons would try his hand at opening the box with a key. Coupons inside the booklet are for \$1, \$.50, \$.25, \$.10 and \$.05. The directions for the game are in the box. The Men's Shop was one of the sponsors of the "Store Hunt." It is rare to have the entire box, with instructions, extant.