

Porter Osborne Tour

1. Penfield Hall, known in Porter's day as the "Co-op", was the Student Center where he socialized with Eunice Yeomans and Sybil Swygert. Here, the students received their mail, bought their books and supplies, and made dates. Remember, there were no women's dormitories at that time.
2. Roberts Hall was built and dedicated during Porter's day. At the dedication, Porter finally "overshot the strip," drawing a heavy disciplinary measure.
3. Sherwood Hall was Porter's residence hall upon arrival at Mercer. In Sherwood, there was a dining hall, scene of many of Porter's adventures and misadventures. There, he worked for Mrs. Raleigh, who was "no stranger to suffering" and met Boston Harbor Jones who nudged Porter into setting off the siren "cause it needed doin!"

Porter resided on the first floor of Sherwood Hall and engaged in much mischief, a huge portion of it directed toward his blind roommate, Tom Christian. Mrs. Capulet was Sherwood's housemother and Porter's protector, despite his pranks at her expense. (Mrs. Capulet was actually Mrs. Montague, who was on the staff of the Hardman Library and, in fact, as much a supporter and defender of students as Mrs. Capulet.)

4. The monument in front of Sherwood Hall honors the memory of Lee Battle who is one component of composite of Boston Harbor Jones. Battle, who served in several capacities including trainer and unofficial head cheerleader for the athletic teams, was loved by the entire Mercer community of Porter's time.
5. The Hardman Building, which now houses the Art Department, was the Library during the Osborne era.
6. The Ryals Building, now home of Mercer One, housed the Walter F. George School of Law during Porter's time.
7. Groover Hall, in which the Education Department was, but where the Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) is now located, was the domicile of the Christianity Department where Porter received the ministry of Dr. Rudh following the attempted suicide of Eunice.
8. Ware Hall, in which the Math Department is now located, was originally named Willet Hall, and was then the domicile of the Biology Department. Here, Porter learned from Henry Bean, and took the measure of Hyman Goldberg.