



Picky About Your Motels? Try Courts!

Never interested in collecting Motels? Nothing about the category that holds your interest? Perhaps you are a Motel collector, and you have reached that point where you have so many of them that the whole category is just beginning to become one big blur. Have you ever given any consideration to specializing in a narrower focus within the Motel field? You can. Here's a suggestion*Courts!*

Cabin courts, cottage courts, motor courts, tourist courts...they're some of the earliest motels you're likely to find among Motel covers. These are before the term "motel" came into common use [*the Motel Inn, in San Luis Obispo, CA, was the first to actually use the word in 1925—see Sierra-Diablo Bulletin, May, 1998*]. Although you'll occasionally find newer covers that use the "courts" identification, they're not the real thing...it's something akin to calling your brand new restaurant "Ye Olde Cafe"...it's just not the same thing.

Nope! The real "courts" are all front-strikers and decades old. Lots from small towns. Lots with pictures of old cars. (See? They're beginning to sound interesting already, aren't they?) "Courts" were what motels were called before the term "motel" took over, although there was certainly a lot overlapping during the transition period, and even the word "courts" wasn't where the motel concept actually began.

I don't know anyone who collects Courts as a separate category, but there's no reason why you can't be the first!

