Griswold House was first built in 1885 by Peabody and Stearns of Boston, Massachusetts. Constructed in the Queen Anne style like the rest of the Circle Houses, Griswold has the added architectural features like half-timbering on the gable ends, and oriel windows that jut out from the second floor. In 1895, following the Woodhull House fire, Griswold was expanded to accommodate additional students. The House is named for Sarah Helen Griswold Green, widow of Lawrenceville benefactor John Cleve Green.

SARAH HELEN GRISWOLD GREEN

Sarah Helen Griswold Green, the widow of John Cleve Green, was born in New York City in 1815, the daughter of George Griswold, a wealthy merchant. John Cleve Green, who began as an apprentice for her father, would not meet her as an adult until he returned from China in 1841, whereupon they quickly married. They had three daughters: Maria Matilda, Helen Griswold, and Mary Edith, all of whom died as children.

When John Cleve Green died in 1875, Mrs. Green became one of the chief executors of his estate. She died in 1893 at her home in New York, leaving several hundred thousand dollars to various institutions, including the Children's Aid Society, the Presbyterian Hospital of New York, and the Lawrenceville School. Her $100,000 donation was instrumental in building the Edith Memorial Chapel, named for her youngest child, Mary Edith Green. She is known as one of the four founding members of the John Cleve Green Foundation, which "refounded" the Lawrenceville School in 1883.

In 1885, the Griswold House colors were garnet (a dark red) and gray, although these were so close to Lawrenceville's red and black that by the 1920s, the colors were changed to red and blue. The Griswold House flag is a red band across a blue field. In the center of the band is the Griswold House crest, adorned with a football, representing athleticism, and a book, representing scholarship.
The young men of Griswold (formerly Griswoldites, now Grisraelis), have been frequent winners of the Foresman Trophy for athletic excellence since they first won it in 1933. They were also the first house on campus to form a House government (in 1910), and the first house to possess a "wireless" telephone (in 1922). After a fire that destroyed the kitchen in 1952, a new addition was built in 1956, with a modern, updated kitchen and a living space for a dietician, who prepared the food for The Griswold, Woodhull, and Cleve Houses.

At the beginning of each year, Grisraelis descend into the basement of the House and **carve their names into the foundation**. They also celebrate the holiday season with a recitation of "**The Night Before Grismas,"** an ever-changing adaptation of the famous Clement Clark Moore poem.

**Notable Housemasters** include Henry P. Warren (1883-1886) who went on to become the principal of the Albany Academy; Thomas B. Bronson (1892-1928), who served as Griswold Housemaster for 36 years and the Assistant Head Master for six; and Lewis Perry, Jr. (1938-1958), who became the headmaster of the Fountain Valley School in Colorado.

Notable Alumni include Karl Behr L1903, a survivor of the Titanic, and Knowlton Lyman "Snake" Ames L1886, the first Perdue University football coach.

**GRISWOLD HOUSE CHEER**

"G! G! G! G-House!"
(Repeated over and over)