Guide to the University of Chicago Beecher House Records 1893-1951

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Descriptive Summary

Identifier: ICU.SPCL.BEECHERHOUSE
Title: University of Chicago. Beecher House. Records
Date: 1893-1951
Size: 1.5 linear feet (2 boxes)
Repository: Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract: Beecher House, women's residential living quarters at the University of Chicago. The Beecher House Papers consist of the house constitution, membership lists, minutes, treasurer's accounts and reports, and other material related to residential living in Beecher Hall from 1893 to 1951.

Information on Use
Access: No restrictions

Citation: When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: University of Chicago. Beecher House. Records, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Historical Note: In 1893 Mary Beecher gave $50,000 to build Beecher Hall (named after the donor;s late husband, Jerome). It was constructed at 5844 University Avenue that summer, and opened its doors that fall. Because the residence for women was incomplete by the time classes started, Deans of Women Alice Freeman Porter and Marion Talbot were able to influence their designs. Beecher, and its sister hall, Kelly, and the other women;s dormitories, Green and Foster Halls, became centers for campus parties and receptions.

Although Beecher House was a part of the University of Chicago housing system, it was also an organization for the women who lived there. Members were initiated, dues were paid, and social events were held.

Scope Note
The Beecher House Papers consists of two boxes containing the house constitution, membership lists, minutes, treasurers’ accounts and reports, and scrapbook material related to residential living in Beecher Hall from 1893 to 1951.

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

Marion Talbot. Papers

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

Subject Headings
• University of Chicago. Beecher House
• University of Chicago. Beecher Hall
• University of Chicago -- Student housing
• University of Chicago -- History
• Student housing -- Illinois -- Chicago

INVENTORY
Box 1
Folder 1
Constitution and membership lists, 1900-1951
Box 1
Folder 2
Minutes, 1893-1903
Box 1
Folder 3
Minutes, 1903-1910
Box 1
Folder 4
Treasurer’s account book, 1893-1909
Box 1
Folder 5
Treasurer’s accounts and reports, 1925-1939
Box 1
Folder 6
Summer quarter receipts and payments, 1940-1948
Box 1
Folder 7
Miscellaneous records and memos, 1904-1948
Box 2
Folder 1
Leaves from House scrapbook, 1919