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Guide to the Jean F. Block Papers 1980's



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Descriptive Summary

Identifier	ICU.SPCL.BLOCKJF
Title	Block, Jean F. Papers
Date	1980's
Size	1 linear ft (2 boxes)
Repository	Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Jean Friedberg Block was a University of Chicago expert and a renowned scholar of the architecture and peopling of Hyde Park and the University. Block's papers include general information about the University from the early-to-mid 20th century. Series I contains general correspondence and other information about the University's development. Series II contains material pertinent to "The Uses of Gothic," a 1985 exhibit in the Special Collections Resource Center, which was largely authored and coordinated by Ms. Block.

Information on Use

Access

No restrictions

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Block, Jean F. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Jean Friedberg Block, a lifelong Hyde Park resident, was born in 1912. She received a master's degree from the University of Chicago in 1963 and was awarded the Alumni Association Public Service Citation in 1981. A founding member of the Hyde Park Historical Society, Block also served on the boards of the Chicago Academy of Sciences, the Chicago Architecture Foundation and International House.

Block was a renowned expert on the architecture of the University and its surrounding neighborhood. Her 1978 book, *Hyde Park Houses: An Informal History, 1856-1910*, describes the neighborhood's sociological and architectural transformation from bucolic suburb to urban neighborhood through photographs and text. Block next turned her attention to the aesthetics of the university itself. In 1983, the University of Chicago published her second book, *Writing in The Uses of Gothic: Planning and Building the Campus of the University of Chicago 1892-*

1932. Block was a lead author and coordinator of *The Uses of Gothic*, a 1985 exhibit in the Special Collections Research Center. At the time of her death, Mrs. Block was writing a history of apartment houses and their effect on Chicago neighborhoods from 1910 to 1950.

Block died in 1988 at the age of 76. She was survived by two children and five grandchildren. The sunken viewing garden directly north of the Joseph Regenstein Library was named the Jean F. Block Memorial Garden after her death.

Scope Note

Jean Friedberg Block was a University of Chicago expert and a renowned scholar of the architecture and peopling of Hyde Park and the University. This collection of Block's papers includes general information about the University from the early-to-mid 20th century. Series I contains general correspondence and other information about the University's early architectural development. Several of these materials are published documents.

Series II contains material pertinent to "The Uses of Gothic," a 1985 exhibit in the Special Collections Resource Center, which was largely authored and coordinated by Ms. Block. This series contains her research of other similar exhibits and reports about university buildings and Chicago architecture.

Related Resources

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

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

Subject Headings

- University of Chicago -- History
- Architecture -- Illinois -- Chicago
- Hyde Park (Chicago, Ill.)

INVENTORY

Series I: Architectural History Project Materials

Box 1

Folder 1

Presidential Papers, Buildings and Grounds

Box 1

Folder 2

Presidential Papers 1889-1925, Building Plans

Box 1

Folder 3

Presidential Papers 1889-1925, Misc.

Box 1

Folder 4

Bibliography

Box 1

Folder 5

Board of Trustees Correspondence

Box 1

Folder 6

F.T. Gates Papers

Box 1

Folder 7

Correspondence of the Founder and his Associates

Box 1

Folder 8

President's Papers 1889-1925, Trustees

Box 1

Folder 9

Gates Papers, Site

Box 1

Folder 10

Minutes of Buildings and Grounds Committee, 1890-1902

Box 1

Folder 11

Goodspeed, "History of U. of C."

Box 1

Folder 12

Trends in University Growth, pp. 150-163

Series II: Materials from 'The Uses of Gothic' Exhibit

Box 2

Folder 1

Charles Allerton Coolidge

Box 2

Folder 2

Samuel Yellin

Box 2

Folder 3

Olmsted Brothers

Box 2

Folder 4

Lee Laurie

Box 2

Folder 5

Beatrix Ferrand

Box 2

Folder 6

Edward Bennett

Box 2

Folder 7

Goodspeed Correspondence

Box 2

Folder 8

Survey of Boston Architectural Drawings and Photographs

Box 2

Folder 9

Yale University Library

Box 2

Folder 10

Harvard University Widener Library

Box 2

Folder 11

University Coat of Arms

Box 2

Folder 12

Symbolism Photographs

Box 2

Folder 13

'The Barflie,' April 1984

Box 2

Folder 14

Chicago History Journals

Box 2

Folder 15

Stained Glass Magazine, Summer 1982

Box 2

Folder 16

Stained Glass Magazine articles, 1940s-1960s

Box 2

Folder 17

Misc. Exhibition Materials