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Descriptive Summary

Identifier  ICU.SPCL.BURTONJUDSONCOURTS
Title  University of Chicago. Burton-Judson Courts. Records
Date  1929-2007
Size  5.75 linear feet (9 boxes)
Repository  Special Collections Research Center
            University of Chicago Library
            1100 East 57th Street
            Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract  The Burton-Judson Courts ("B-J") Residence Hall opened in 1931 and was named after the second and third Presidents of the University of Chicago, Harry Pratt Judson (1906-1923), and Ernest DeWitt Burton (1923-1925). The collection contains correspondence, programming and event materials, directories and administrative material, photographs and T-shirts related to its yearly resident activities. Materials date between 1929 and 2007, with the bulk of the material dating from the late 1970s to the early 1990s, primarily documenting the Resident Master tenures of Jonathan Fanton (Resident Master from 1978-82) and Harold and Marlene Richman (Resident Masters from 1982-92).

Information on Use

Access

Series VI contains evaluative student correspondence and College Council minutes, restricted for 80 years from date of record creation (until 2058, 2068); personnel information, financial documents, donor information, and expense reports restricted for 50 years (available beginning in 2051); and College Faculty minutes restricted for 30 years (until 2018).

The remainder of the collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: University of Chicago. Burton-Judson Courts. Records, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library.

Historical Note

The Burton-Judson Courts ("B-J") Residence Hall opened in 1931 and was named after the second and third Presidents of the University of Chicago, Harry Pratt Judson (1906-1923),
and Ernest DeWitt Burton (1923-1925). From its initial concept, presented in 1924 by President Burton, the residential hall has had a core aim to create a community within the larger University. The neo-Gothic building south of the Midway is comprised of six houses: Dodd-Mead, Chamberlin, Vincent, Coulter, Linn-Mathews, and Salisbury.

Jonathan Fanton was Resident Master of Burton-Judson Courts from 1978 to 1982. Under Fanton’s efforts, the Faculty Fellows program of the residence hall took form. Fanton invited faculty members to become involved in the social events of the residence hall, attend special dinners in their honor with small groups of students, and provide personalized mentorship to incoming freshman residents. Fanton also led the organization of a momentous fiftieth anniversary celebration of the residence hall in November 1981.

Harold and Marlene Richman led Burton-Judson Courts from 1982 to 1992 as Resident Masters. They inherited Fanton's burgeoning Faculty Fellows program and built its ongoing, yearly success. Under the Richmans, a wide variety of resident activities and quarterly events flourished, including Cabaret Nights, the B-J Olympics, and the B-J Players’ yearly musical theater productions. The B-J newsletter, Courtside, was started in 1984 and sent to the Faculty Fellows, among others, to keep them informed of the many events occurring in their adoptive residence hall.

**Scope Note**

The records of the Burton-Judson Courts Residence Hall include correspondence, programming and event materials, directories and administrative material, photographs and T-shirts related to its yearly resident activities. Materials date between 1929 and 2007, with the bulk of the material dating from the late 1970s to the early 1990s, primarily documenting the Resident Master tenures of Fanton and the Richmans. The records were donated by Marlene Richman.

The Burton-Judson Courts Records are organized into six series: Series I: History, Administration, Directories; Series II: Correspondence; Series III: Activities and Events; Series IV: Audio-Visual; Series V: Oversize; and Series VI: Restricted.

Series I, History, Administration, Directories, gives a picture of the many people involved in the life of the residence hall. This series contains several items of general historical interest on the first decade or so of Burton-Judson life. It also includes many lists of the staff, resident heads and assistants, Resident Masters, alumni residents, Master’s Committee members, B-J Council Members, and Faculty Fellows of the residence, as well as portrait directories for B-J and the College.

Series II, Correspondence, contains staff memos to/from the Resident Masters as well as abundant correspondence concerning the B-J Faculty Fellows. Much of this correspondence
signals B-J social events throughout the quarter for the Fellows to attend. Of particular note is the exchange of poignant thank-you letters marking the end of the Richmans' tenure as Resident Masters.

Series III, Activities and Events, includes material concerning the various events and programs organized throughout the year at B-J, as well as some of the day-to-day workings of the residence hall. This includes correspondence, fliers, orientation schedules, Courtside newsletters, and invitations. Of particular interest are several documents pertaining to the Dodd-Mead Dinner, including hand-written toasts to William Dodd from the 1980s; ample material on the 50th anniversary celebration in 1981; and materials documenting the Richmans' varied yearly traditions, including the February counter-ritual of "Hibernerk."

Series IV, Audio-Visual, contains photographs, negatives, and Polaroid pictures of Burton-Judson students, staff, and events (such as the B-J Olympics, Cabaret Nights, and various musicals). It also includes a small cassette tape from 1988.

Series V, Oversize, contains T-shirts from the B-J student musicals dating from 1989-92 and undated T-shirts for the B-J Olympics staff teams.

Series VI, Restricted, Box 8 includes restricted material for thirty and fifty years from date of creation. Box 9 contains restricted material for fifty and eighty years from date of creation.

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

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

Richman, Harold. Papers

University of Chicago. Office of Student Activities. Records

**Subject Headings**
- University of Chicago
- University of Chicago. Alumni Association
- University of Chicago. College
- University of Chicago. Student Housing

**INVENTORY**

**Series I: History, Administration, Directories**
Box 1
Folder 1
  General B-J History, First B-J Radio Station Broadcast, B-J Council Constitution, 1929, 1945, 1980-81
Box 1
Folder 2
Box 1
Folder 3
  Administration – Resident Heads and Assistants, Resident Masters, 1959-2002
Box 1
Folder 4
  Administration – Burton-Judson Resident Master’s Committee, 1981
Box 1
Folder 5
  Administration – Resident Heads and Assistants, 1982-92
Box 1
Folder 6
  Lists – Fellows and Resident Heads, 1981
Box 1
Folder 7
  Lists – Fellows, Resident Heads, Council Representatives, 1981-82
Box 1
Folder 8
  Burton-Judson Courts Directories, 1988-93 and undated
Box 1
Folder 9
Box 1
Folder 10
  Burton-Judson Master Lists, 1932-1959
Box 1
Folder 11
  Burton-Judson Master Lists, 1932-61, 1976-78
Box 1
Folder 12
  B-J Resident Alumni Lists by Year, 1933-1981 and undated
Box 2
Folder 1
  Burton-Judson Master Lists (Alumni), 1959-64, 1969-78, 1980-81
Box 2
Folder 2
  Salisbury House Resident Directory, circa 1981
Box 2
Folder 3
  Burton-Judson Applicant, circa 1981
Series II: Correspondence

Box 2
Folder 4
Staff Memos and Staff Lists, 1982-1986

Box 2
Folder 5
Faculty Fellows - Correspondence and Fellows Lists, 1977-1982

Box 2
Folder 6
Faculty Fellows - Correspondence, Fellows Lists, Burton-Judson History, 1978-1982

Box 2
Folder 7
Faculty Fellows, 1980-1981

Box 2
Folder 8
Faculty Fellows, Sept. 1982-May 1983

Box 2
Folder 9
Faculty Fellows, 1982-1983

Box 2
Folder 10
Staff and Faculty Fellows - Correspondence and Housing Survey, 1982-1989

Box 2
Folder 11
Faculty Fellows, 1983-1984

Box 2
Folder 12
Faculty Fellows, 1984-1985

Box 2
Folder 13
Faculty Fellows, Sept. 1985-May 1986

Box 2
Folder 14
Faculty Fellows, Sept. 1986

Box 3
Folder 1

Box 3
Folder 2

Box 3
Folder 3
Richmans’ End of Tenure as Resident Masters, Aug. 1992

Series III: Activities and Events
Box 3
Folder 4

Box 3
Folder 5
Activities and Events – Resident Master Jonathan Fanton File, 1979-1982

Box 3
Folder 6

Box 3
Folder 7

Box 3
Folder 8
Activities and Events – Dodd-Mead Dinner, 1940, 1981, 1984 and undated

Box 3
Folder 9

Box 3
Folder 10
Activities and Events – 50th Anniversary Celebration Committee, 1981

Box 3
Folder 11
Activities and Events – 50th Anniversary Celebration – RSVPs, 1981

Box 3
Folder 12
Activities and Events – 50th Anniversary Celebration, 1981

Box 3
Folder 13
Activities and Events – 50th Anniversary Celebration, 1981

Box 4
Folder 1
Activities and Events – 50th Anniversary Celebration – Fellows Correspondence and Resident Welcome, 1981-1982

Box 4
Folder 2
Activities and Events – 50th Anniversary Celebration – Logistics and Post-Event Correspondence, 1981

Box 4
Folder 3
Activities and Events – Prospective Students and Parents Reception – April Weekends, January-April 1982

Box 4
Folder 4
Activities and Events – Kieff’s Brunch June 6, 1982
Box 4
Folder 5
Activities and Events – Fellows Dinner June 6, Coleman Dinner June 14, Peter Kountz Reception July 27, 1982

Box 4
Folder 6
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1982-1983

Box 4
Folder 7
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1983-1984

Box 4
Folder 8
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1984-1985

Box 4
Folder 9
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1985-1986

Box 4
Folder 10
Activities and Events – "Hell No, We Won’t Go" and Hibernerk, 1985, 1987

Box 4
Folder 11
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1986-1987

Box 5
Folder 1
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1987-1988

Box 5
Folder 2
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1988-1989

Box 5
Folder 3
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1989-1990

Box 5
Folder 4
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1990-1991

Box 5
Folder 5
Activities and Events – Resident Programs, 1991-1992

Series IV: Audio-Visual

Box 5
Folder 6
Burton-Judson Photographs, 1983-1985

Box 5
Folder 7
Burton-Judson Photographs, Negatives – Olympics, Café Night, Barnard Dedication, Staff, 1986-1987
Box 5
Folder 8
Box 6
Folder 1
  Burton-Judson Photographs, Negatives – B-J Olympics, Cabaret Night, Staff, Helicopter/Social Hour, 1988-1989
Box 6
Folder 2
  "Grease" – Photographs and Program, 1989
Box 6
Folder 3
Box 6
Folder 4
  "Guys and Dolls" – Negatives, Photographs, Program, 1989-1990
Box 6
Folder 5
Box 6
Folder 6
Box 6
Folder 7
  Burton-Judson Staff Photographs, 1991
Box 6
Folder 8
Box 6
Folder 9
Box 6
Folder 10
  Burton-Judson Photographs and Negatives, undated
Box 6
Folder 11
  Burton-Judson Photographs and Negatives, undated
Box 6
Folder 12
  Burton-Judson Photographs, undated
Box 6
Folder 13
  Mini Cassette Tape October 13, 1988

Series V: Oversize
Box 7
12 T-shirts, 1989-1992 and undated

**Series VI: Restricted**

**Box 8**
**Folder 1**
Univ. of Chicago College Faculty Minutes, May 1989

**Box 8**
**Folder 2**
Fundraising for Kitchen Renovation Project, 1971-1979

**Box 8**
**Folder 3**
Personnel, 1978

**Box 8**
**Folder 4**

**Box 8**
**Folder 5**

**Box 8**
**Folder 6**

**Box 8**
**Folder 7**
B-J Kitchen Project – Financial Documents and Correspondence, 1979

**Box 8**
**Folder 8**
Resident Master’s Fund – Check Register, Financial Documents, Memos, 1980-1981

**Box 8**
**Folder 9**
50th Anniversary Celebration – Financial and Logistical Information, Donations, 1981

**Box 8**
**Folder 10**
50th Anniversary Celebration – Response Record and Donations, 1981

**Box 8**
**Folder 11**
50th Anniversary Celebration – Financial Documents, Donations, Resident Directories, 1981

**Box 8**
**Folder 12**
Resident Master’s Fund – Financial Documents, 1981-1982

**Box 8**
**Folder 13**

**Box 9**
**Folder 1**
Resident Master Financial Memos, 1982

Box 9
Folder 2
   Resident Masters' Program and Expenses by Quarter, Year, 1982-1991

Box 9
Folder 3
   Resident Masters' Orientation Expense Reports, 1987, 1988

Box 9
Folder 4
   Student Correspondence – Jonathan Fanton, 1978

Box 9
Folder 5
   Univ. of Chicago College Council Minutes, Oct. 1988