



The Urbana Free Library

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Chanute Air Force Base Subject Files:
Buildings

COLLECTION 200.002

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Thomas Kuipers and Ani Karagianis
Creator/Corporate name: Chanute Air Force Base
Inclusive Dates: 1918-1993, bulk 1939-1987
Physical Description: 2 boxes, 1.5 linear feet

Provenance:

The Chanute Air Force Base Subject files were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives from the defunct Chanute Air Force Base Museum upon its closure. The Subject Files were curated and maintained by the History Office of the Chanute Air Force Base and later preserved by the museum.

Access:

The records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

Biographical/Historical Note: Most permanent Chanute buildings were constructed during or following World War II. In the 1960s, CAFB renamed many buildings after decorated and fallen military personnel.

Scope and Content Note: This collection spans nearly the entire history of CAFB as an active military institution and contains documents pertaining to the buildings at the base. There are very few records concerning buildings prior to World War II and few in the late 1980s and early 90s, most likely because CAFB was no longer doing new construction. The 'Halls' records have considerable documentation concerning renaming buildings and dedication. These would be of interest to those researching the Army Memorialization Board and later groups that established army regulations and criteria for naming military buildings. The housing records, particularly those concerning Title VIII Wherry Act Housing, would be of interest to those researching military housing and federal efforts to improve living standards in the military. The bulk of the collection comes from the 1930s-1980s.

Arrangement: Files are arranged alphabetically by folder title. To avoid creating a subseries, halls are listed by 'Hall – NAME' to keep them all together within the collection. Within each folder, records are typically arranged in order by correspondence, building information, biographical information, ephemera, and newspaper clippings.

Related Material:

Related materials are in the 200.014 Building Records Collection.



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Subject Terms:

Chanute
Chanute Air Force Base
Rantoul
Subject Files
Military History
Air Force History
Wherry Act

Container List:

Box 1:

Series 1

- Folder 1: A.C. Operations Hangar, 1938-1939
 - Construction Specifications
- Folder 2: Barbershop, 1990
 - Obituary
- Folder 3: Building Numbers: Old – New
 - Building Conversion List
 - Street Conversion List
- Folder 4: Chapels, 1940s-1990s
 - Correspondence
 - U.S.A.F. News Release, 1972
 - Church Bulletins, 1981
 - Publication
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 5: Chapman Court Housing, 1940s-1980s
 - Correspondence
 - Building Histories
 - Talking Paper
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 6: Commissary, 1960s-1980s
 - Correspondence
 - Building History
 - Construction Specifications
 - Environmental Assessment
 - Equipment Listing
 - Ephemera
 - Newspaper Clippings
- Folder 7: Construction



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- Talking Paper
- Folder 8: Dining Halls, 1940s-1990s
 - Correspondence
 - Official U.S. Army Cookbook, 1946 (copy)
 - Official U.S. Military Building Form
 - Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 9: Display Center (Building 201) Opening and History, 1968-1989
 - Brochure
 - Newspaper Clippings
 - Correspondence
 - Display Locations
 - Meeting Minutes
 - Sketches of Layout
 - Policies
 - Display and Maintenance Assignment
 - History
 - Loan Agreements
- Folder 10: Display Center Exhibits and Events, 1969-1986, undated
 - Brochures
 - Newspaper Clippings
 - Museum History
 - List of Special Events Held
 - Blood Chit Display
- Folder 11: Dormitories and Barracks, 1925, 1964, 1980, 2001
 - Regulations
 - Newspaper Clipping
 - Museum Exhibit Records
 - Newspaper Clipping
 - Student Relocation Dormitory Plan
- Folder 12: Entrance Gates, 1987-1990
 - Photographs (from Scrapbook)
 - Correspondence
 - Rantoul Press Newspaper Clipping
- Folder 13: Halls – Dyess, 1960s
 - Correspondence
 - Building Dedications/Descriptions
 - Floor Plan
 - William Dyess Statement of Military Service
 - Ephemera
 - Wings*, May 16, 1968
- Folder 14: Halls – Faktor, 1960s-1970s
 - Correspondence
 - Building Dedication
 - Staff Summary Sheets
 - U.S.A.F. News Release, 1978



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Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 15: Halls – Gates, 1967-1968

Correspondence

Building Dedication

Maj. Gen. Byron Gates Biographical Sketch

Newspaper Clipping

Folder 16: Halls – Grissom, 1967-1972

Correspondence

Building Histories

Trainer Rockets

Gus Grissom Personnel Records

Talking Papers

Maps/Floor Plans

Ephemera

Folder 17: Halls – Hopwood (1/2), 1960s-1970s

Correspondence

Building Histories/Facts

Lectures/Speeches

Aerospace Education Workshop

Folder 18: Halls – Hopwood (2/2), 1960s-1970s

Routing Slips

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 19: Halls – Howard Smith, 1985-1986

Correspondence

Building Dedication

Maynard Howard Smith Biographies

Maynard Howard Smith Statement of Military Service

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 20: Halls – Hunter, 1980, 1990-1991

Correspondence

Biographical Sketch of Hunter

Obituaries

CAFB Bulletin, 1980

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 21: Halls – Jackson, 1950s-1980s

Correspondence

Historical Sketches of Building

Dedication Remarks, 1968

Carl E. Jackson Personnel Records

Ephemera

Folder 22: Halls – Mathies, 1960s-1970s

Correspondence



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- Building Dedication
- Biographical Sketches
- Man's Magazine* Article, February 1962
- Training Services Work Orders
- Ephemera
- Newspaper Clippings

Folder 23: Halls – Roberts, 1987

- Correspondence
- Biographical Sketch
- Building Dedication
- Ephemera
- The Pacesetter, July 1987 (3 issues)
- Newspaper Clippings

Folder 24: Halls – Truemper, 1950s-1960s, 1989

- Correspondence
- Building Dedication
- Walter Edward Truemper Statement of Military Service
- Biographical Sketch
- Floor Plan
- Ephemera

Folder 25: Halls – White/'Buckingham Palace', 1960s-1990s

- Correspondence
- Building Dedication
- Building Histories
- Thomas White Statement of Military Service
- Biographical Sketch
- Security Guard Post Guidelines
- Floor Plans
- Ephemera
- Newspaper Clippings

Folder 26: Heat Plant (1/2)

- Correspondence
- Project Book
- Meeting Minutes
- Newspaper Clippings

Folder 27: Heat Plant (2/2), 1987

- History of the Heat Plant 1917-1987

Box 2:

Folder 1: Housing at CAFB, 1940s-1980s

- Correspondence
- Fact Sheets
- Contracts
- Annexation



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Maps

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 2: Old Buildings (Pre-1920), 1917-1918

Correspondence

“Air Puffs”, 1918

Folder 3: P-6 Center Headquarters, 1970s-1980s

Correspondence

Building History

Attic Floor Plan

Folder 4: Post/Base Exchange, 1999

Ephemera

Newspaper Clipping

Folder 5: Prairie View Inn, 1989

Welcome Guide

Folder 6: Red Cross Building, 1941-1942, 1989

Site Plans/Blueprints

Ephemera

Newspaper Clippings

Folder 7: Title VIII/Wherry Act Housing (Chanute Gardens) (1/2), 1950s

Correspondence

Memorandums

Contracts

Survey

Folder 8: Title VIII/Wherry Act Housing (Chanute Gardens) (2/2), 1950s

Specification Manuals