Research Concerning Alumni Memorial Hall, Perlstein Hall, and Siegel Hall

Cataloged collections (as of May 26, 2010) which may contain photos or written descriptions of Perlstein Hall, Alumni Memorial Hall, or Siegel Hall to help determine the original construction or appearance of the building include the collections listed on page 2 below.¹

Omitted from this list are:

- Press releases (Acc. No. 1998.149) which may be worth searching if detailed descriptions of the buildings were made available to the press for groundbreakings and dedications ceremonies; these were routinely publicized by IIT. An index of press release titles from 1940-1999 is available as an electronic word-searchable document; contact the Archives if you are interested in receiving it.

- Technology News may also include descriptions; the online articles with index are available at: http://archives.iit.edu/technews/

- Other serial titles published by IIT may also include information about these buildings; for a see list of titles and publication dates, see: http://archives.iit.edu/indexes/IITArchives_Indexes_RegisterSerialTitles.pdf

When researching these buildings, keep in mind the following points regarding building names:

1. All three of the buildings had alternate names when they were first announced:

   - Alumni Memorial Hall. Originally known as the “Navy Building” because it was built to house the campus NROTC program. Note also that references to “Alumni Hall” are incorrect; the building was dedicated as a MEMORIAL building to alumni who lost their lives in service – not to all IIT alumni.

   - Siegel Hall. Originally referred to as the Electrical Engineering and Physics Building. Prior to Siegel Hall’s construction, the Physics Department was house in a section of the former Armour Flats (later renamed Chapin Hall), so references to “Physics Building” may indicate the Flats structure rather than Siegel Hall.

   - Perlstein Hall. Earliest documentation identifies this building as the Chemistry and Metallurgical (or Metallurgy) and Chemical Engineering Building. The Chemistry Department was not accommodated in this building, so the building became known as the Metallurgical (or Metallurgy) and Chemical Engineering Building during its construction period. (Note that I have also found an erroneous reference to this building as the Mechanical and Chemical Engineering Building.)

2. Various similarly-named buildings were constructed for Armour Research Foundation (later, IITRI); e.g. Chemistry Research Building. If the building name includes “Research,” it was an ARF laboratory building, not an IIT academic building.

List of Relevant Collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accession No.</th>
<th>Collection Name</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1989.004</td>
<td>Campus Buildings - drawings</td>
<td>1943-1948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990.005</td>
<td>Office of Public Relations 35 mm color slides</td>
<td>1936-1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990.006</td>
<td>Office of Public Relations 35 mm color slides</td>
<td>1940-1952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998.010</td>
<td>Gilbert Force Papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998.046</td>
<td>Ralph Owens Papers</td>
<td>1936-1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998.049</td>
<td>Henry T. Heald Papers, IIT President</td>
<td>1940-1952</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Detailed inventories of these collections are available as electronic documents; contact the IIT Archives if you would like them sent to you.

Additional materials related to IIT buildings and grounds (though not necessarily the buildings noted above) will be found in the following collections. Inventories are also available.

1998.009 Real estate materials
1998.010 Gilbert Force Paper; Parduyn (Superintendent of B & G) files
1998.019 Aerial views
1999.030 CFO (M. Tract ?) papers
1998.042 Aerial views
1998.046 Ralph Owens Papers
1998.049 H. T. Heald Papers
1998.131 A. Alschuler plan materials
1998.149f 1 item: James Clark, Superintendent of B & G
1998.199 Photos
1998.213 Buildings and Grounds Committee Minutes
1998.215 ARF photos
1998.226 Lantern (glass) slides
1998.267 Color transparencies
1998.276 4x5” prints
1999.027 Alumni Memorial Hall Collection
1999.036 Henry Knepler Papers
2000.013 Harold Bretz Slides
2002.041 Building Space Use Reports, 1961-80
2003.009 Harold Bretz Photos
2003.010 35 mm slides
2006.018 Richard T. Smith Photos
2007.025 Theodore Cable Slides
2010.013 Naval ROTC Records

Catherine Bruck, University Archivist
May 27, 2010

1 Terms searched to identify relevant collections include the following:
• Alumni Memorial [Hall]; Navy Building
• Siegel [Hall]; Physics Building (references to Chapin Hall were excluded); Electrical Engineering [building]
• Perlstein [Hall]; Metallurgical [engineering building]; Chemical Engineering [building]
• Lobby
• Building(s) and Grounds

END