

CHAPTER 20

College Housing and Related Service Facilities*

A. NATURE AND COMPOSITION OF FACILITIES

1. DESCRIPTION OF FACILITY

"If a graduate of the class of 1920 were to set out today on a tour of the housing at his old alma mater, he would be struck above all by its variety. The off-campus rooming house, the dormitory quadrangle, and fraternity row are still there—dressed in a different style, perhaps, but still recognizable. But the apartment village for married students is new. So is the center for graduate students. And so is the nearby subdivision where the faculty are building homes. Colleges are housing more people of more kinds, and they realize that a large and varied population demands extensive and varied facilities."¹

In broad terms, college housing includes housing facilities occupied by individuals associated with an institution whether on or off campus, privately or institutionally owned. This discussion will deal only with that part of college housing which is owned and controlled by the institution, and limited to the housing requirements of the college student. Included are residence halls for single students, apartments for married students, houses for special groups and for graduate students. Since the college housing complex is the student's home away from home, other facilities which affect the physical and social well-being such as food service facilities, student centers, and infirmaries are also included.

The structures may be small, large in size, single story, or high-rise, incorporating a wide range of architectural design and floor plan varying with the need and characteristics of the institution, its location and circumstances.

Whatever the nature of the facility, its size or design, it needs first of all to serve the purposes and programs of the institution's educational program. Since institutions vary widely in their philosophies and objectives, it would be expected that the housing patterns would reflect such differences. While definitive statistics are not available on institutional housing policies, tabulations from American Council of Education and Office of Education publications for the school year 1962-63 are informative:

* Prepared by J. Trevor Thomas, Community Facilities Administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development, with minor editing by Committee staff.

¹ Riker, Harrold C., *College Students Live Here*, Educational Facilities Laboratory, 1961.