1989

RESIDENCE HALLS

BLUEPRINT
Today when someone first moves into a residence hall at Georgia Tech, he is confronted with enormous changes that sometimes make this new life a difficult adjustment. For instance, he will be forced to share a very small room with a stranger, and the chances are that he will also have to share a bathroom with a whole group of strangers. Nevertheless, residence hall life is quite tolerable and sometimes can even be enjoyable. There will always be certain drawbacks to residence halls and the Residence Hall Association (RHA), which is the second-largest organization on campus, tries to see that improvements are always being made. If you don’t believe this, try to picture yourself as a resident of a Georgia Tech “dormitory” in 1968.

To begin with, don’t even think about registering for housing on Cyber, and if you happen to be a female, I hope you will be satisfied with one of the only thirty-two female housing spaces available in either the YMCA or the Alpha Xi Delta sorority house. By the way, unless you are prepared to live in a tent you better stay on East campus because none of the West campus housing had been built in 1968.

Besides these obvious differences, there has been an effort to make resident halls a fun place to live rather than just a place to sleep. The RHA has tackled this problem and has had much success. In 1968 “dormitories” did not even have intramural teams; in fact, there was not even an RHA or a Department of Housing. The closest thing to the Department of Housing was the Auxiliary Enterprise Office, and the first organization resembling the RHA was the Interdormitory Council which was not even formed until the early seventies. Today events such as the Techwood Spring Party and the Winter Buzz are some of the more exciting events held on campus every year.

As far as the general upkeep of the residence halls goes, twenty years ago it was a big undertaking for a “dormitory” to be painted, and today the Department of Housing annually budgets almost $2 million for renovations alone. Even though these renovations are sometimes hard to notice, they definitely make the residence halls a better place to live. One such renovation was the $1 million dollars spent in installing sound-insulated windows by the expressway on East campus. And if you think safety is a problem today, twenty years ago the “dorms” were in such bad shape that the doors leading outside couldn’t even be locked on most residence halls. But don’t think living conditions were too primitive because there was one air-conditioned “dorm” and most of the furniture was a luxurious World War II Army issue. Even though each room did not have a telephone, there was one pay phone per floor, but that did not matter because it was easy to keep in touch with your loved ones because visiting hours were from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m. every Sunday!

As you can tell, “dorm” life at Tech has changed a lot since 1968. Students now look upon residence halls as an integral part of their student life. Thanks to the efforts of the Department of Housing and the RHA, residence halls have now become a fun place to live rather than just a place to sleep.
Resident Life Has the Best of Everything
What Would School Be Without All of This
FROM BOTTOM TO TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT: Cathy Brown, Laura Hudson, Miller Templeton, Page King, Richard Moore, Steve McConnell, Kathy Griffin, Shawn-Eric Brooks, Lauren Kent-Delany, Valerie Luko.
FROM BOTTOM TO TOP, LEFT TO RIGHT: Don Waters, Greg Cruise, Patrick Sun, Dan Hince, Kelvin Smith, Pat Dall, Riley Nelson, E. Scott Carter, Larry Crenshaw, Gary Flom, Andy Rachels, Chris Shelton, David Thomas, Paul Batra, Mark Wallier, Greg Brakel, Jeff Moseley, Troy Stewart, Jim Barber, Bill Allison, Eric Jacobs, Steve Rich, Chris Cheney, James Kuster, George P. Burdell, George P. Burdell, Stan West, John Roberts, Robbie Cowart, Mike Cladakis, Stuart Zuhitten, Dave Burgess.
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