The Establishment of Fraternities at Georgia Tech

by Emily Beck & Meg Morris
Fraternities

"We're starting a fraternity..."
Dr. Isaac S. Hopkins

• Tech’s first President
• Previously President of Emory College at Oxford, GA
• Made honorary ATΩ at Emory
Alpha Tau Omega

• Beta Iota Chapter
  • Founded at Tech in 1888
  • Colors: Old Gold and Sky Blue
  • Flower: White Tea Rose
  • Founded in Richmond, Va
  • Sept. 11, 1865
  • 1st chapter at Virginia Military Institute
Alpha-Tau Omega Fraternity.

Georgia Beta Iota Chapter.

The Georgia Tech 1897
The Blueprint 1908
• Georgia Phi Chapter
• Founded at Tech in spring of 1890
• Colors: Purple and Old Gold
  • Flower: Violet
• Founded in Tuscaloosa, Al
  • 1856
• 1st chapter at Univ. of Alabama
Kappa Sigma

• Alpha Tau Chapter
• Founded at Tech on Oct. 5, 1894
• Colors: Maroon, Old Gold, and Peacock Blue
• Flower: Lily of the Valley
• Founded in Charlottesville, Va
• 1867
• 1st chapter at Univ. of Virginia
Founding of KapSig

Discovery of correspondence

1894 statistics:

150 Tech men

34 Greek affiliated

“…A good southern frat…”

Confusion with founding dates
Founding of KapSig

- Minutes log for ΚΣ dating 1896-1898
- The original charter for ΚΣ
Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

Georgia Alpha-Tau Chapter.

The Georgia Tech 1897
More Fraternities

Sigma Nu  Kappa Alpha  Phi Delta Theta

1896  1898  1902
And More Fraternities...

Pi Kappa Alpha 1904
Phi Kappa Sigma 1904
Chi Phi 1904
Phi Kappa Sigma

The Skull House

- Alpha Nu Chapter
- Founded at Tech on January 15, 1904
- Colors: Black and Gold
- Founded in Philadelphia
  - 1867
- 1st chapter at Univ. of Pennsylvania
Fraternity Life
Meetings

• Friday or Saturday Nights

• “Leaves and Permits”
Houses and House Rules

- Strict rules
- Most houses where I-75/85 now stands
- Served as meeting place then grew into a dormitory
• Hate Week
  • Rolling Pledgeship and Initiation
  • Short pledge periods
• Washington Seminary
• Strict social rules
• Combined fraternity parties
Rivalries

• Intramural baseball and football
• “The Frats get more and more sorry as they multiply…”
• Fights between Fraternities
Varsity Sports

- Baseball
- Football
- Time Commitment

Well it’s Up with the White and Gold, Down with the Red and Black
Greek Community
2K3
International Fraternity Council
& Panhellenic
Philanthropy