

# Mens Cooperative House Records, 1938-1986

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Men's Cooperative House (Bozeman, Mont.)
<b>Title</b>	Mens Cooperative House Records
<b>Dates</b>	1938-1986 1938 1986
<b>Quantity</b>	.5 linear feet
<b>Collection Number</b>	Collection 2509, MtBC, us (collection)
<b>Summary</b>	The Mens Cooperative House Records consists of the initial member list, house leases, member lists, meeting minutes, and reminiscences. Two scrapbooks, consisting primarily of photographs of both houses and members engaged in various activities, complete the collection.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">Montana State University Library, Merrill G. Burlingame Special Collections</a> Montana State University-Bozeman Library Merrill G Burlingame Special Collections P.O. Box 173320 Bozeman, MT 59717-3320 Telephone: 406-994-4242 Fax: 406-994-2851 <a href="mailto:spcoll@www.lib.montana.edu">spcoll@www.lib.montana.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	This collection is open for research.
<b>Additional Reference Guides</b>	An alternative form of this finding aid can be found at <a href="http://www.lib.montana.edu/collect/spcoll/findaid/2509.php">http://www.lib.montana.edu/collect/spcoll/findaid/2509.php</a>
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

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## Historical Note

The Men's Cooperative House (informally known as the Men's Co-op) had its origin in the ideas of Dr. Phillip Eckert. He was part of a group which discussed forming a student housing cooperative and received great support from the independent students of Montana State College, Bozeman. Subsequent meetings were held and on May 11, 1937 the articles of incorporation were approved. After a trip to Washington State University and the University of Idaho, the core principles of the Coop were founded and by Freshman Week 1937 the first house was open for business with Ruth Kitterman of Great Falls as manager. On March 23, 1938, a house was opened at 603 South Third Avenue for the men with thirty-three initial members. Each person who joined had to pay the \$5 membership fee and the same for a deposit. By Summer 1939, the Cooperative had enough reserve funds to buy a house at 712 South Willson to house their operations. The Coop operated until 1984, when their assets were liquidated and the Montana Technology Development Trust was developed to continue to assist student success.

# Content Description

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The Men's Cooperative House records were donated to Montana State University by Hayden Ferguson of Bozeman, Montana in May, 2008.

### Processing Note

This collection was processed 2011 August 16

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	List of Charter Members Spring	1938
1/2	Leases	1938, 1943
1/3	Student Housing Constitution	1952, 1969
1/4	Meeting Minutes	1953-1957
1/5	Miscellaneous	
1/6	Reunion	1986
1/7	"Resumes and Life Histories of The Men's Coop Home 712 S. Wilson" compiled by Leroy Bergstrom	
2/1	Scrapbook	1938-1942

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/2	Scrapbook	1944, 1946-1960, 1968-1969

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Housing, Cooperative-Montana-Bozeman

Male college students-Housing-Montana-Bozeman-Societies, etc

### Corporate Names :

603 South Third Avenue (Bozeman, Mont.)-History

712 South Willson (Bozeman, Mont.)-History

Men's Cooperative House (Bozeman, Mont.)-Archives

Montana State University (Bozeman, Mont.)-Students-Photographs

Montana State University (Bozeman, Mont.)-Students-Housing-Photographs

Montana State University (Bozeman, Mont.)-Students-Housing-Societies, etc.

Kim Allen Scott, 2011