

# **REPORT OF CONNECTICUT JONES ON THE SITE KNOWN AS “HITCHCOCK HOUSE”**

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## **The Site**

The site known as “Hitchcock House” lies at about 20 feet below the surface of El Chicago Nuevo, in the ancient neighborhood of “Hyde Park,” which lies approximately below what is now the Playa de Castro. Careful study of the stratigraphic layers surrounding the site reveal that it was probably a four-storey building of some kind, and that it was adjoined to another four-storey building of decidedly inferior design. I would speculate that whoever lived in this inferior building, which bears that faded inscription ELL HALL, possibly once reading “Hell Hall,” were the domestic servants of Hitchcock House.

Hitchcock House sustained severe structural damage sometime between the years 2004 and 2006. There is a wrecking ball that dates from that period reading “Property of the Housing Office. For use only on dorms that do not return their housing surveys in sufficient quantities.” I am not sure what the inscription means, although recent scholarship on the 21<sup>st</sup>-century Housing Office suggests that they owned a variety of similar equipment during this period. It was around this time that Hitchcock ceased to be inhabited.

## **Basic Needs**

Two food sources have been identified within walking distance of Hitchcock. One was called “Sammy’s” and appears to have been a small gourmet eatery of some kind. The other is Bartlett Hall, or as its scholars have termed it due to its ambiguous architectural structure, the “Gymfeteria.” I speculate that the rarefied social life of the higher classes in Hitchcock House revolved around Sammy’s, while the majority of its residence ate at the Gymfeteria. Excavations undertaken there last year made a variety of findings regarding its food service around early 2005. Pieces of Cheesecake Factory cakes and tubs of Edy’s ice cream have been found intact in their original serving units, and they seem to have recently acquired all-day breakfast capabilities. Signs from the period indicate that it was open until 8 P.M. standard time (metric time not having been adopted until Jimmy Carter’s second presidential term, 2008-2012).

Hitchcock House had its own laundry facility, of the two-machine kind common for the period. Stratigraphic evidence from the floor of the laundry room suggests that accretions of dirty clothes were allowed to build up for only a week at a time before being cleaned out. What was done with the cleaned-out clothing is anybody’s guess, but I speculate that they were used to clothe itinerant clowns. At the time Hitchcock House’s name appears on a list of volunteers at a Ronald McDonald House; Ronald McDonald was a famous 21<sup>st</sup>-century clown, so I can only assume that the culture of Hitchcock House held clowns in veneration, much as Hindu culture holds cows. What else, then, would they do with their old clothes? Incidentally, radiocarbon dating suggests that the dirty clothes were removed regularly on Mondays.

## **Reproduction**

A UV-flashlight reveals that, under a layer of caked dust, a certain envelope in the basement of Hitchcock House is labeled “Condoms.” However, no condoms were found in the envelope, so I am not sure what it was for. On a related note, a stash of unused condoms was found in the room known as “H542.” I am not sure how to explain these phenomena, although the evidence I have just described leads me to believe that reproductive privileges in Hitchcock House were on a kind of laissez-faire system in which individuals would hoard condoms to themselves for no particular reason, perhaps to decrease the likelihood that other House members would gain a genetic advantage of some kind.

## **Entertainment and Culture**

At the time of Hitchcock House’s evacuation a videotape labeled *Battlefield Baseball* was in its video player, having been played on Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005, at 10:00 P.M. I watched this video, and from it I have concluded that the people of Hitchcock House were entertained by spectacles of meaningless violence, much like the decadent Romans. However, their cultural life was more complicated than that: all of them seem to have owned books. Many of the books are quaint forays into what was then considered to be math and science: “physics,” “chemistry,” “biology,” “analysis,” and “topology” are among their topics. Of course as any practicing Ethereologist can tell you, their theories have no currency today. Perhaps of more value were their literary and philosophical books: they were familiar with Shakespeare, Aristotle, Henry James, and even Patricia Highsmith. Clearly at least some of them were capable of a finer kind of cultural life than *Battlefield Baseball* indicates.

## **“Scav Hunt”**

Nobody is quite sure what Scav Hunt was, but its traces are everywhere in Hitchcock House, from banners commemorating it to archaic websites for organizing it. Records of Scav Hunt survive from the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, including long and preposterous lists of items, presumably to be completed. Why anybody would wish to complete them I do not know. After 2006, the name Scav Hunt disappears from the archival record, but the lists continued to be produced and distributed, apparently to powerful members of the University community. At this point, however, they are written in secret code. These code lists can be traced for another decade or so, and it is presumed that while they were in use important figures competed to complete them by manipulating those in their power. For example, a copy of a code list from 2007 found at the White House has the item “Invade Iran [241 points]” crossed out in red pen; another list, found in Pakistan and dating from 2012, reads “Nuclear winter [1000 points],” also crossed off. Of course history shows that these code lists were hardly irrelevant. Interestingly, the last known former Scav Hunt judges were the only people to have the foresight to leave Old Chicago shortly before it was obliterated by neutron bombs in 2014, coincident with a “Destroy Chicago [782 points]” item that was unearthed recently in North Korea.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

*Connecticut Jones*