Overview of UB Archives and Civic Switchboard project

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Special Collections & Archives at UB

The History of Modern Baltimore Lives Here.

Special Collections and Archives collects, preserves, and provides access to archival materials in all formats to support the research needs of students, scholars, and the public. We demonstrate our commitment to the local community by sharing and expanding our unique resources on the history of modern Baltimore.

Collection Databases:
- Baltimore Regional Studies Archives: 20th-century local history collections
- University Archives: Institutional records of the University
- Hereditary and Lineage Organization Archives: National membership records

Search Online: Access to our collections is provided through the online collection database.

Visit Us: Special Collections and Archives is open Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. We are located in the Turner Learning Commons, rooms 200 and 215. Research appointments are recommended for best service. (All researchers without campus ID cards must check in at the RLB Library security desk, located at the Oliver Street entrance of the RLB Library.)

Contacts: speccol@ubalt.edu, 410-837-4253, or see our staff page.

For more information: Use the navigation options in the column to the left, or read about our recent activities in the library’s blog!
Baltimore Regional Studies
Archives

- Neighborhood Histories
- Housing
- Politics
- Law Enforcement
Neighborhood Histories

• Baltimore Heritage Records
• Baltimore Neighborhood Heritage Project
• Baltimore Voices Company Records which has Oral histories of Pennsylvania Avenue & Old West Baltimore
• East Baltimore Oral History Project
• Dick V. Cook Papers
Housing

- American Civil Liberties Union of Maryland Records
- Baltimore Neighborhoods, Incorporated Records
- Citizens Planning and Housing Association Records
- Northeast Community Organization Records,
- Urban Renewal Files
Politics

• Betty Garman Robinson Papers,
• Chester L. Wickwire Papers which has information on Civil Rights and Social Activism
• Kurt L. Schmoke Photographs
• Mitchell Family Collection
• Model Urban Neighborhood Demonstration Records
Law Enforcement

- Criminal Justice Commission Records
- Baltimore Sixty-Eight Riots Collection
- Jo Ann Robinson Research Files
- Negro League Oral History Collection
- Robert Breck Chapman Photographs
Welcome to the Special Collections & Archives Database

Explore finding aids and inventories to locate the unique collections in University of Baltimore's Special Collections and Archives. The collections contain analog records, digital, and audio visual primary sources for students and researchers to access.

Search The Archives

Enter your search terms
Search all record types
Keyword
Years: From To
Search
Civic Switchboard

Connecting Libraries and Community Information Networks

Read more in our guide for libraries

Civic Switchboard is an Institute of Museum and Library Services supported effort that aims to develop the capacity of academic and public libraries in civic data
UB Students & INFO110

Introduction to Information Literacy course content teaches students to engage with resources at the RLB Library and in the community.
WHO WE ARE

Our goal: To strengthen Baltimore neighborhoods by providing meaningful, accurate, and open data at the community level.

BNIA-JFI is dedicated to producing reliable and actionable quality of life indicators for Baltimore’s neighborhoods.

Vital Signs provides indicators that “take the pulse” of Baltimore neighborhoods by measuring progress towards a better quality of life for all residents.

QUICK LINKS

Get Vital Signs 17 Report
Civic Switchboard Project

Digital Exhibits

Baltimore Regional Studies Archives

University Archives

Resources for Faculty

- **Civic Switchboard Field Project** is sponsored by Civic Switchboard which is an Institute of Museum and Library Services supported effort that aims to develop and advance the capacity of academic and public libraries in civic data ecosystems. The project’s title is “Exploring the Baltimore Regional Study Archives and the Baltimore Vital Signs Open Data to Improve Quality of Life in Baltimore Neighborhoods.”

The Baltimore Regional Study Archives (BRSA) at the Robert L. Bogomolny Library (RLB) contains a wealth of archival information on Baltimore’s neighborhoods. These resources offer many pathways for potential users to work with open data prepared by the Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance (BNIA) for neighborhoods and track quality of life measures impacting their community. The purpose of this collaboration is to create a learning environment enhanced by pedagogical supports to enhance residents’ ability to access archival materials as well as open data and empower them to effectively “tell their story” about their neighborhoods. This guide trains librarians, faculty and community members on BNIA and BRSA resources and how to incorporate the materials into course lessons and research.

- A complete list of the archival collections in the Baltimore Regional Studies Archives at the University of Baltimore is available in our collection database.
Linking Neighborhood Archives and Vital Signs Open Data

The University of Baltimore has many resources for librarians, faculty, students and Baltimore community members to learn more about their neighborhoods, from historical archives to quantitative open data about current community-based indicators. This page offers a concrete example and lesson plan on how to incorporate the materials into University courses and other training sessions.

1. Choosing a Collection within the Baltimore Regional Study Archives (BRSA) at the Robert L. Bogomolny Library

For the Spring Introduction to Information Literacy (INFO 110) Course at the University of Baltimore, Librarian Kristin Conlin decided to use collection for the Model Urban Neighborhood Demonstration (MUND), which was a public-private partnership from 1967 to 1974 between the Baltimore Community Action Agency, the Greater Baltimore Committee, and Westinghouse Corporation. The goal was to focus the resources and expertise of the private sector on a single district within Baltimore City, applying the best practices of business to the problems of urban renewal.

- New to looking at Archives as primary sources? Take a look at these how-to videos to learn more about the University of Baltimore's Special Collections and Archives and how you can access their materials.
- You can find links to reports, plans, meeting minutes and other digital objects for the entire MUND collection in the LibGuide created by archivists at the RLB Library.
- The MUND collection also has a digital photo exhibit that students can use for their research.
- The collection also has several videos that can be used during class to help students understand communities they may never have been to before.
  - Election of MUND Board of Directors, September 27, 1969
  - Dedication of the Hunter Street Playground, October 27, 1969
  - Grand Opening of the Hunter Street Playground, January 8, 1969
  - Grand Opening of the Sea Host Restaurant, July 10, 1970
  - Mobile TB Screening Van, August 24, 1970
  - Fighting Poverty, Parren Mitchell Interview, June 24-27, 1968
Thank you!