

History of child care development efforts at Harvard

January 25, 2011

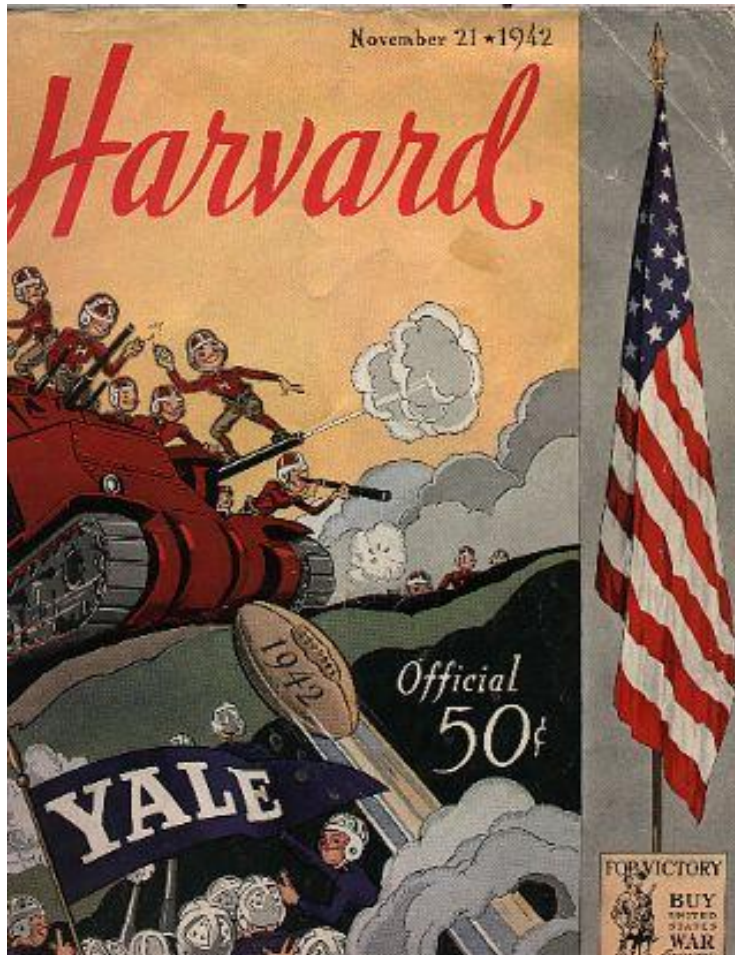
Child care at Harvard



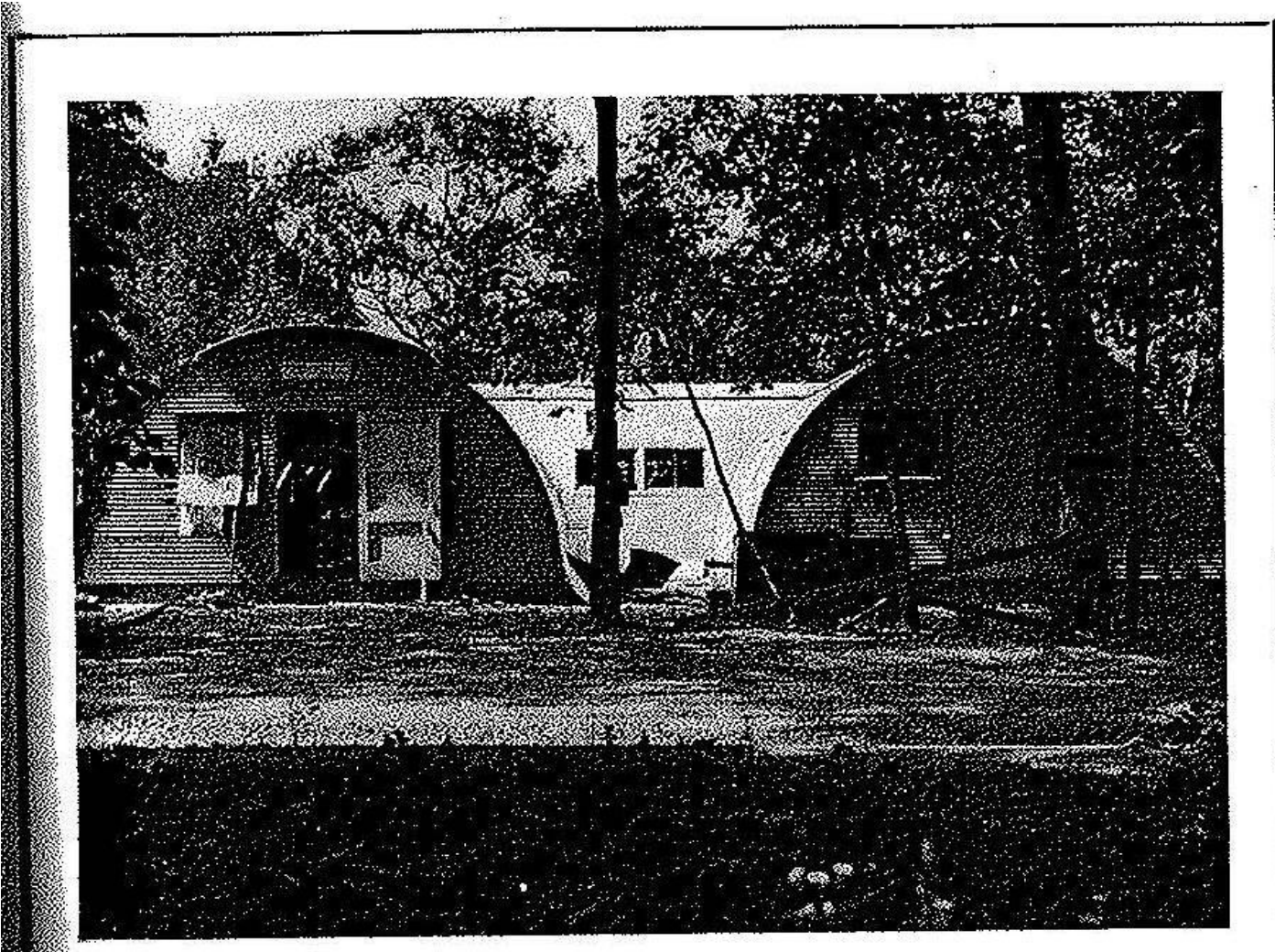
1932: work experience for Radcliffe students



1941-1945: Wartime project



1950: Veterans ➔ “lab” school



NEW HARVARD SCHOOL OPENS THIS WEEK FOR STUDENTS UNDER FIVE (NEWS ITEM)



IS THIS WHAT HARVARD MEANS BY GENERAL EDUCATION IN A FREE SOCIETY?

IT'S IN KEEPING WITH PRESIDENT CONANT'S IDEA THAT MEN WITH THE PROPER INTELLECTUAL QUALIFICATIONS



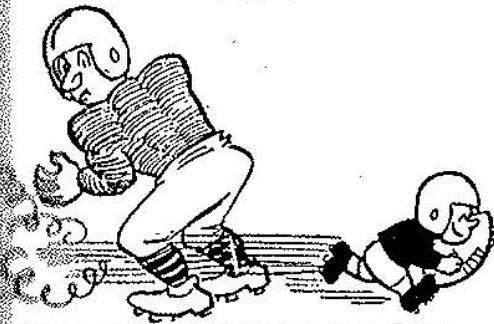
- OUGHT TO COME TO HARVARD.

LIKE ANYONE ELSE, THE FIVE YEAR OLDS AT HARVARD WILL RECEIVE TOLERANT AND INDIFFERENT TREATMENT.



NO HAZING;

WE JUST HOPE COACH HARLOW DOESN'T USE THESE FELLOWS ON THE FOOTBALL TEAM -



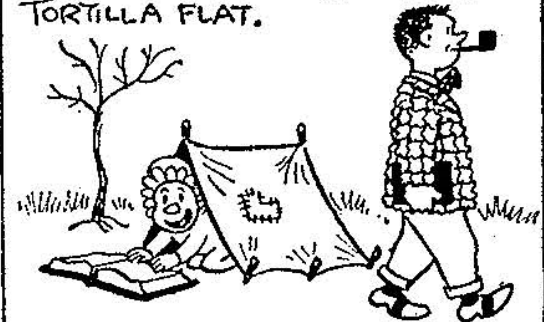
WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE THEM FROM BACK OF THE 10TH ROW.

THESE G.I. STUDENTS' CHILDREN SHOULD HAVE PLENTY OF SOCIAL LIFE HOWEVER.



WE SUGGEST A JUNIOR INSTITUTE OF 1770.

STUDENTS ARE JAMMED INTO THE HOTEL BRUNSWICK AND THE AREA NEAR THE BUSINESS SCHOOL KNOWN AS TORTILLA FLAT.



HARVARD IS NOW SEEKING STUDENTS WHO WON'T TAKE UP MUCH ROOM.

DAHL

MR. FRANCIS DAHL OF THE BOSTON HERALD VIEWS THE HARVARD NURSERY SCHOOL

1950s-1960s: Married students

Peabody Terrace
Children's Center



c. 1963: Preschool closes

- Quonset huts are razed to make room for William James Hall
- Preschool appears to have closed



1969: Social change



1969-1970: Radcliffe alumnae



Radcliffe Child
Care Center

win, assistant teacher, and two New-World craftsmen at the Radcliffe;



1971: Harvard Law School students



Harvard Law School Preschool



Botanic Gardens Children's Center

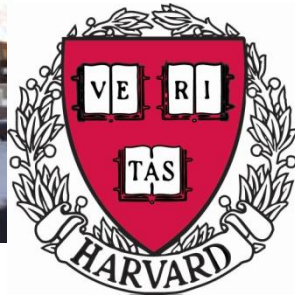
1971: Graduate Women's Organization



Harvard Yard Child Care Center



1972: Harvard/Radcliffe Child Care Council



Oxford Street Day Care Cooperative



1976: HU child care advisor



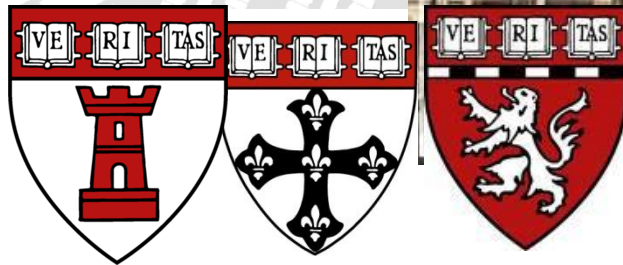
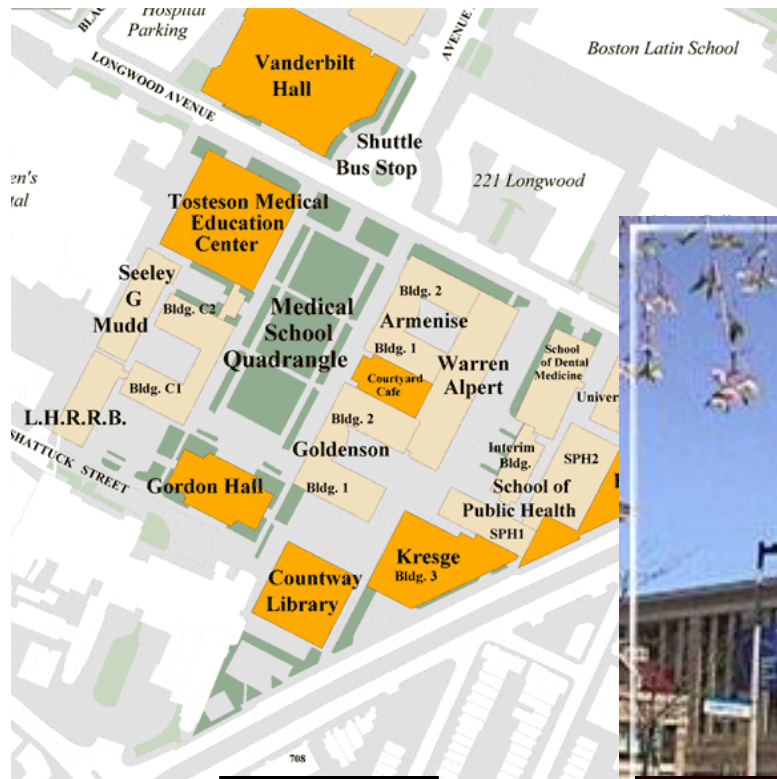
Soldiers Field Park Children's Center



1982: consortium of institutions



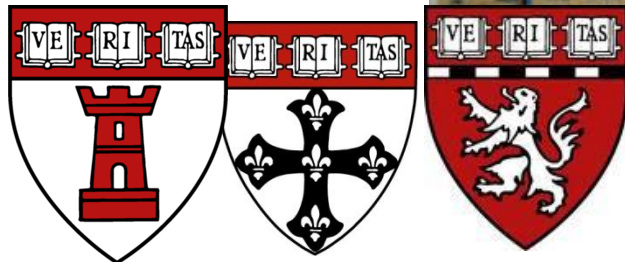
Longwood Medical Area
Child Care Center



2000: MASCO



Bright Horizons at Landmark Center



Meanwhile: Other types of care...

- Back-up and gap care
 - In-home, drop-in, school vacation programs
- Access to care
 - Nanny agencies
 - Resource and referral



Affordability

Cost has always been a major focus:

- Child care now takes up more of our budgets:
 - 1970: \$30/week (\$168 adjusted \$)
 - 2011: \$350/week
- Full time infant care = \$25,000 +



Scholarships/subsidy

- In 1989, HUCTW's first contract included a scholarship program for members of HUCTW (Harvard employees)
- Scholarship later expanded to other Harvard benefits-eligible groups, and is funded through the fringe pool
- Some school-based and affiliate hospital subsidy



Many voices ...

Many Harvards ...

- ***School-specific***
- **Employees**
- **Benefits-eligible**
- *Non-benefits eligible*
 - **Visiting scholars**
 - Unions
 - *Postdocs*
 - **Students**
 - **Residents**
 - Ladder faculty
 - Fellows
 - **AFFILIATES**

Many efforts:

- Needs assessments
- Surveys
- Focus groups
- Demographic analyses
- Reports
- Memos
- Strategic
- Conversations
- Conferences

Why don't we just ...

- ... form cooperative playgroups?
- ... give center employees Harvard health insurance?
- ... make everyone equally eligible?
- ... add a classroom?
- ... turn apartments into child care centers?
- Regulations have improved to boost quality and made informal care tougher
- Rules around fringe funding determine who is eligible, this is governed by federal law
- Funding conversations need to consider funding mechanism

Harvard University

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION

June 17, 1975.

MEMO TO: All Day Care Center Directors
FROM: Frances Howe
SUBJECT:

The Harvard Police believe it advisable for children in the centers to wear a "fig leaf" at all times. This issue arose at Currier House in its first year of operation and it has been generally understood that "fig leaves" were required. Steve Hall has reaffirmed this policy on behalf of the administration.

Themes

1. History of child care = history of space
2. Emergent strategy
3. Build on what we have: Successfully straddled children's developmental needs and needs of 2-worker households



At day's end, three-fourths of a family leave Larsen Hall for home.

