The physical structure of a dormitory shapes the social life of its residents.

By Gordon Haff

In the early 1970's MIT undertook a comprehensive renovation of its dormitories. It was a move away from the old corridor-style dormitories like Baker House, East Campus, and the Old Burton House to new ones which employed the suite system. After its renovation in 1971, and as a dormitory before that, Burton House was generally considered the classic example of a corridor-style dorm. The report noted that "in corridor-style dorms the dormitory environment resembles a former Burton's Third floor."

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