Art and Recreation: The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union, Unity House, and Diego Rivera

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Unity House

Is easy to reach by car, bus or train... 85 miles over wonderful roads from New York... 105 miles from Philadelphia... express buses direct from Unity offices at reduced rates.

For Reservations, Rates, Information — Address

UNITY HOUSE
Forest Park, Pa.

New York Office:
1710 Broadway, New York 19
Columbia 5-1000

ALFRED A. TAKIN
Managing Director

In the Pocono Mountains
A pleasant run from New York or Philadelphia

UNITY HOUSE
Forest Park, Pennsylvania
Unity House
“Then and Then” Photographs

All images from the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union Photograph Collection
The “Main Building” at Unity House, 1920s vs. 1970s.
Boaters enjoying the lake at Unity House.

Above: c. 1970s.

Left: c. 1920s.
Above: Hand-colored postcard showing the tennis courts, c. 1920s.

Left: Couples playing badminton on the tennis courts, c. 1955.
Lectures

Above: Crowd listening to author Jan Valtine, 1942.

Left: Lecture on social psychology, 1926.
Recreation

Above: Guests on the Veranda, c. 1920s.

Left: Women relaxing at Unity House, c. 1955.
Panel I: Colonial America
Panel II: The American Revolution
Panel III: Revolution and Reaction
Panel IV: Expansion and the American Dream
Panel V: The Growing Conflict Over Slavery
Panel VI: The Civil War
Panel VII: Reconstruction
Panel VIII: The Labor Movement and Labor Radicalism
Panel IX: Industrial Conflict and Class War
Panel X: Imperialism in Latin America
Panel XI: Depression and Unrest
Panel XII: Unrest and Confusion
Panel XIII: Nazi Kultur
Postcard, only image found thus far showing the murals in place at Unity House.
First fire at Unity House, August 21, 1934 burned the main building, dining room and several cottages and cabins.
Brochure for the 1935 Season of Unity House touting “Fireproof Buildings”
“The main building of Unity House—including dining, room, kitchen, administrative offices, children’s dining room, staff dining room, bar, pavilion, sugar bowl, newspaper stand and the lobby which included a series of murals by the Mexican master, Diego Rivera—was destroyed by a fire during the night of February 28, 1969. The destruction was complete.”

34th Convention Report and Proceedings, 1971

The Rivera murals had been appraised for $364,000, but after the fire, negotiations with the insurance company only allocated $282,000 for the destroyed works of art which were irreplaceable.
Interested in learning more?

Contact me:

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