

The staircases throughout the University of Illinois campus are an architectural exhibit - displaying the evolution of building codes through the years. The University's first structure was built in 1867, the same year New York City adopted the first governmental building codes in the United States. Over time, we have adapted the built environment to be more accessible. Building codes highlight this, and staircases present the perfect visual through an increase in stair tread length, and the decrease in the rise. I ventured to multiple campus buildings, counted their steps, measured their rise and run, and documented them in order to prove their precedent.