

TEXAS

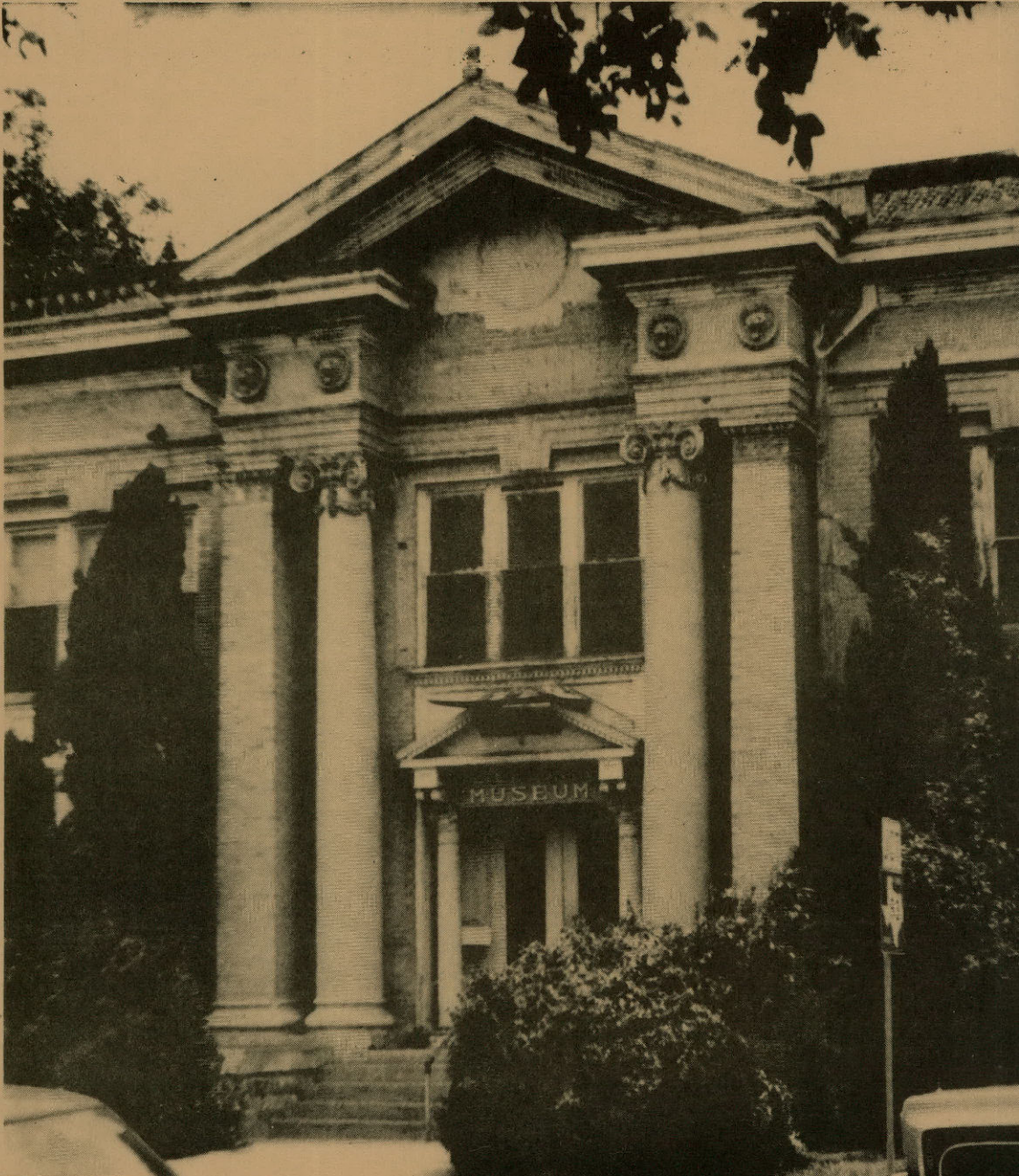
Volume 43

Number 2

Summer 1981



LIBRARIES



Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Price Daniel, Sr., <i>Chairman</i> <i>Liberty</i>	Lucian L. Morrison <i>San Antonio</i>
Chilton O'Brien, <i>Vice-Chairman</i> <i>Beaumont</i>	Mrs. R. Ed Palm <i>Fort Worth</i>
C. Stanley Banks <i>San Antonio</i>	John Ben Shepperd <i>Odessa</i>

Texas State Library

Director and Librarian

Dorman H. Winfrey

Assistant State Librarian

William D. Gooch

Fiscal and Personnel Officer

William H. Carlton

Administrative Division

Joe Meyer

Archives Division

David B. Gracy II

Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Donald K. Bailey

Information Services Division

Allan S. Quinn

Library Development Division

Raymond Hitt

Records Management Division

William Dyess

The Texas State Library became a separate state agency in 1909 when the Texas Library and Historical Commission was created. Legislation in 1979 changed the name of this group to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Two Commission members are appointed in September of each odd-numbered year to serve for six-year terms. The Texas State Library is housed in the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building at 1201 Brazos and at the Records Center at 4400 Shoal Creek Boulevard.

TEXAS

Volume 43
Number 2
Summer 1981

LIBRARIES

- | | | |
|----|--|-------------------|
| 51 | The Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative
at Texas Tech University | Martin Jamison |
| 54 | Amarillo Consortium Plans
Major Cooperative Effort | |
| 55 | ROUNDUP | |
| 62 | The Micropublishing Program:
State Documents | Katherine Adams |
| 66 | Second Mirabeau B. Lamar Collection
Accessioned by State Archives | Michael R. Green |
| 73 | Private Collections
Important to UT-Austin | Lamar Lentz |
| 77 | Two for Texas from Texas | Dorman H. Winfrey |
| 79 | New Volume Aids
Oral History Programs | Thad Sitton |
| 81 | Carnegie Libraries of Texas
The Past Still Present | Paul M. Culp, Jr. |

Editor. . . .Millicent Huff

Texas Libraries is published quarterly by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Views expressed in signed articles are not necessarily those of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission or the Texas State Library. Contributions and editorial correspondence should be sent to Editor, *Texas Libraries*, Texas State Library, Box 12927 Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711. Indexed in *Library Literature*.

About the Cover

The library on the cover of this issue of *Texas Libraries* is the Belton Carnegie Library.

Looking Ahead

During the past six months substantial changes have taken place in the manufacturing of *Texas Libraries*. These changes are already affecting the publication. We hope that they will make it possible to enhance the publication's usefulness to its readers. Results of the initial survey sent to all Texas public and academic libraries are beginning to come in, and we are asking all readers of the publication to let us hear from them. One effect of the changes in manufacturing should be more timely publication. As a result of the reduction in typesetting costs made possible by the interface between word processing equipment and electronic typesetting equipment described on this page in the last issue, we hope to increase the amount of content in each issue. We need to hear from you. Several of the respondents to the first survey indicate that they would like more information on people. Since State regulations concerning publishing prohibit publicizing individuals, we have indeed let the pages of this publication become impersonal. A first step is found in this publication. Where we can, we are identifying by name the individuals in photographs. We will also attempt to look at the individuals behind the substantial changes that are now taking place in libraries while still obeying the spirit and the letter of the legislation. In the months ahead we will be trying other new kinds of material. Let us hear from you.

The Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative at Texas Tech University

by Martin Jamison

There is a Turkish folktale about the legendary Nasreddin Hoca that has the man searching for something before his house in the moonlight. When a passing neighbor asks what is missing, Nasreddin Hoca explains that he has dropped his signet ring. When the passerby asks exactly where he dropped it, Hoca replies, "In the coal cellar." "Then why are you looking for the ring out here?" the other questions. And Nasreddin Hoca replies, "In the cellar it's quite dark, while the light is so much better here in the street."

The converse of this simple tale is symbolic of the labor behind the Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative. The Archive represents twenty years of field taping by Dr Warren Walker and his wife, Barbara K. Walker—who chose to go digging in the "coal cellar" of Turkish towns and countryside for firsthand narration of folktales rather than gathering what others had collected, where the light would have been better. Recently quartered in the library of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, the Archive contains more than 2,000 items of Turkish folk narrative on over 600 tape reels and cassettes. It offers the largest indexed collection of its kind outside of Turkey and the only one in the United States. The term "narrative" in its title attempts to encompass the wide variety of its spoken and musical materials.

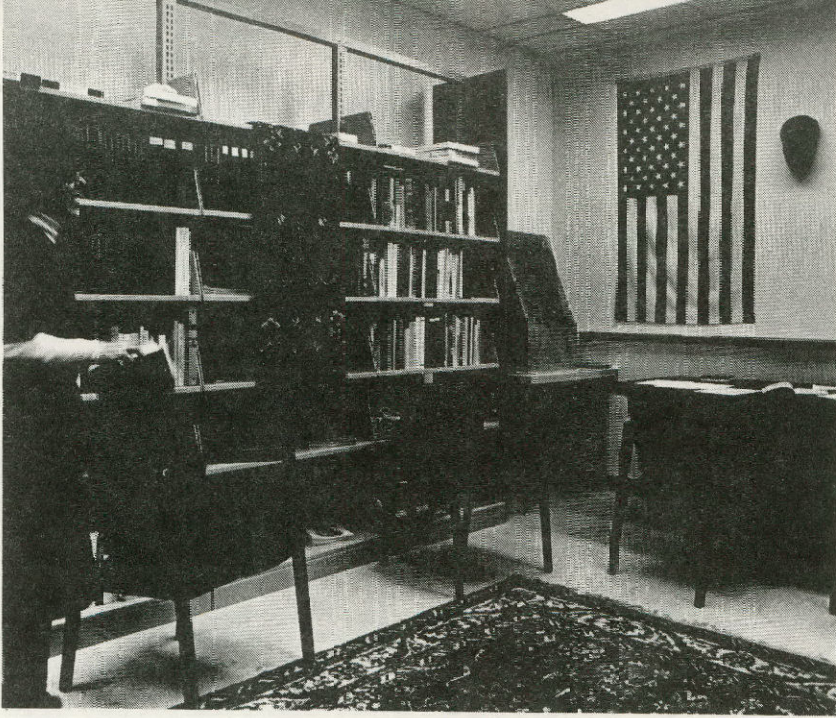
The Archive originated in 1961, during the Walkers' first visit to Turkey. Warren Walker, now Horn Professor of English at Texas Tech, was going to the University of Ankara on a Fulbright Lectureship in American Literature. At the time the Walkers had no intention of starting an archive, but they did plan to tape source material from which to write scholarly works and children's books, hoping in that way to open a window on Turkish culture for Americans. Before long their collection of field tapes became a viable folktale archive. Why Turkish, then, as opposed to some other country unfamiliar to Americans? The answer lies in Turkey's historic role as a land bridge connecting Asia and Europe. For centuries diverse peoples have passed through the region, each leaving its share of cultural baggage behind. Turkey *had* to be a storehouse of oral narrative, but in 1961 the Walkers had no idea of how rich a storehouse it would prove to be.

They have found that the Turkish oral tradition is remarkably strong. They have traveled some 12,000 miles within Turkey, usually in the company of their friend and colleague, Dr. Ahmet E. Uysal, recording folktales in dozens of villages, in even the smallest of which a good narrator is to be found, and in such remote places as Sinop Penitentiary on the Black Sea. Television and radio have not diminished the demand for oral narration in the countryside; also, since the literacy rate remains quite low, even ancient tales that have long been available in print are still heard directly from the mouth, and soul, of the village storyteller.

For the researcher going to work in the Archive, the tape cassettes become the principal resource, supplemented by transcripts, notes, and a basic collection of supporting materials. Over 500 of the tales have been translated into English (many from dialectical Turkish into standard Turkish and then into English), and the translations have been typed and bound. Nothing in the tales is changed in the process, the transcribing itself being done with the utmost care: explanatory remarks appear where confusion may arise; any musical portion of a narrative is set off by indentation; and copies of the original translations from dialectical Turkish may be consulted if the user questions an interpretation or the accuracy of the translation. Another aid to the scholar is the multi-volume set of notes on the narratives. These indicate the particular tale's variations, its relation to the Aarne-Thompson *Types of the Folktale* and the Eberhard-Borataw *Typen Turkischer Volksmarchen*, and its appearance in one form or another in printed sources. Supporting materials make up the remainder of the collection and include reference works, Turkish novels, anthologies of Turkish folktales, proceedings of Turkish



Barbara and Warren Walker, Founders of the Archive of Turkish Oral History (Photo by Mark Rogers)



Lisette Borg, a long-time resident of Turkey, examines the Archive's supporting materials. (Photo by Barbara Dunn)

folktale conferences, and a number of the Walkers' own titles, such as Warren's *The Book of Dede Korkut. A Turkish Epic* and Barbara's *Stargazer to the Su'tan*.

The primary finding aids to the collection are the *Preliminary Catalogue No. 1*, a card index, and two type indexes. The *Preliminary Catalogue* separates the story titles into eight broad groups: (1) tales of the supernatura; (2) perplexities, dilemmas, and ingenious deductions; (3) humorous tales; (4) moralistic narratives; (5) minstrel tales; (6) anticlerical tales; (7) folk anecdotes; and (8) miscellaneous narratives. Each translated narrative is assigned a unique archive number that leads the user to the transcript. The card index provides access to both transcripts and tapes by the eight divisions (with occasional subdivision), by name of narrator, by village in which the recording took place, and by province in which the village is found. The type indexes cross-refer between the Aarne-Thompson and Eberheard-Boratav type numbers and the in-house archive numbers.

For the future, the work of collecting, translating, and indexing will continue. The Walkers took their most recent trip to visit Turkey in June of 1981. They read papers at the Second International Congress on Turkish Folklore, and did field taping as before. They freely admit that the Archive of Turkish Oral Narrative has been a labor of love and that it's often quite dark in the coal cellar. But, they hasten to add, the signet rings are there.

Martin Jamison is a librarian at Texas Tech University.

Amarillo Consortium Plans Major Cooperative Effort

Four major libraries in the Amarillo metropolitan area have formed a consortium and accepted a grant of more than \$1.5 million to consolidate their resources and make available to all patrons of each library the total offerings of the combined facilities.

Cooperating in the unique venture are the Amarillo Public Library headed by Alice Green, the Amarillo College Learning Resource Center directed by George Huffman, the West Texas State University (WTSU) Cornette Library at Canyon, Texas, 16 miles south of Amarillo, and the Harrington Health Sciences Library at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at Amarillo. The WTSU librarian is Frank Blackburn, and the librarian at the Amarillo campus of Texas Tech medical school is Carolyn Patrick. Head librarian for the medical school library system is Dr. Charles Sargent.

The \$1,526,160 grant from the Harrington Foundation of Amarillo will be used to purchase a central computer and on-line terminals for each participating library so that patrons at each location will have immediately available the combined listing of all available books in the system. Also, a computerized book acquisition program will display a list of books on order by any of the participating libraries, thereby eliminating unnecessary duplications in purchases.

Task forces are being established to work with a consulting firm to plan the requirements and implementation of the system. Development and implementation of the system is expected to extend through four years. The automated circulation system is expected to be ready for use in 1983.

ROUNDUP

With this issue of Texas Libraries we are beginning a new column of brief news items about Texas libraries. We invite your contributions. If readers see a note they would like to see expanded into an article, we hope they will let us know.

Comfort Public Library

The Comfort Public Library received a big birthday present in honor of its twenty-fifth birthday in June. Chester Schwethelm and his son A.C. Schwethelm deeded the Schwethelm Building, built in 1916 by their father and grandfather, to the library.

The two story native limestone building at the corner of Seventh and High streets has approximately 3,500 square feet of floor space. A community fund drive to raise funds to convert the building to library use was launched at a Silver Tea in the building on June 7.

"Comfort has a pressing need for more library space, and we have a facility that will fulfill that need," Chester Schwethelm said. "We are proud to have this opportunity of helping this community which has been the home of the Schwethelm family for 125 years."

Houston Public Library

Houston Public Library reports an overwhelming response in its recent fundraising campaign for an \$800,000 Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Board and Friends of Houston Public Library have succeeded in raising—and exceeding—the \$600,000 required to qualify for the \$200,000 NEH grant.

Awarded in 1978, the grant challenged the library to raise \$600,000 locally to enrich the Humanities collections. By the June 30, 1981 deadline, library fundraisers had tallied \$648,300.00 in contributions—\$48,300.00 over the required total, with checks and pledges still pouring in.

Commented Ann Hornak, HPL Assistant Director, "Especially heart-warming have been the many individual and significant contributions from our own staff as well as the sizeable gifts from individuals, very large corporations and foundations, professional societies and other community groups which helped put us over the top of our goal."

She said the fundraising campaign was conducted solely by volunteers "with virtually no budget" through letters, personal contacts, newspaper and broadcast publicity—including a TV commercial donated by a local advertising agency—mayor's press conference announcements and a mail-back contribution form appearing in the library's system calendar. Most effective in eliciting responses, she said, were the radio spots and contribution form in the library's own calendar.

Spearheading the Challenge Grant Fund Drive were Mrs. Deborah Pannill, Chairperson, with Mrs. Jerald D. Mize, and Mrs. Ford Hubbard, Jr., other members of the Library Board.

State Health Department Film Library

A collection of 4,169 films—there are 957 titles—is available for loan to organizations and individuals in Texas from the State Health Department's film library. The only charge is prepayment for return postage and insurance.

The films are all 16mm with sound, and most are in color. All films are cleaned and inspected before being mailed out. Among the 40 categories of films in the collection are Accident Prevention, Adolescence, Drugs and Narcotics, Food Hygiene, Immunization, Sanitation, School Health, Sex Education, Smoking and Health, and Venereal Disease.

The film library is now focusing particular attention on films that stress life-style modifications. The health care industry represents the largest expenditure of public health funds in the nation. Health care delivery professions know that the best way to reduce these high costs is to make people responsible for their own health.

Catalogs and order blanks are available at local health departments. A new catalog will be published in September, and libraries may request a copy so that they can order films for their own programming or make the information available to library users.

In 1981, more than 35,000 bookings are expected. Because of the large number of bookings, requests should be made in writing at least ten days (They may be made up to six months prior to the scheduled showing.) before the showing. These requests must be made by mail. Users may, however, check the availability of films by calling Ernest A. Grottke at (512)458-7250.

Hemphill County Library

The Hemphill County Library is appealing to local residents' need to stay out of the noonday sun with a baseball cap. The library may be the only one anywhere that is housed in a Women's Christian Temperance Union building. The caps sell for \$9.95 and will benefit special projects of the library.



Gates Memorial Library

Gates Memorial Library, which formerly housed the Port Arthur Public Library and now houses the library for Lamar University's Port Arthur campus, has been named to the National Register of Historic Places. Constructed in 1917 with funds given by Mrs. John W. Gates in honor of her husband and son, the building was constructed of reinforced concrete with outside walls of Bedford limestone backed with brick and hollow tile. A bond issue in 1952 made possible an addition that nearly doubled the library's size.

The building was designed by the architectural firm of Wetmore and Warren of New York, which also designed the Dallas Union Terminal and the union Terminal of Houston.

Gates was one of the most colorful figures in late nineteenth and early twentieth century Texas. Starting out as a salesman for a wire and manufacturing company, he was persuaded that there was a market for barbed wire. After the discovery of oil at Spindletop, he was a major investor in the newly organized Texas Company.



Official Memorandum

By

WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR.

Governor of Texas

GREETINGS:

AUSTIN, TEXAS

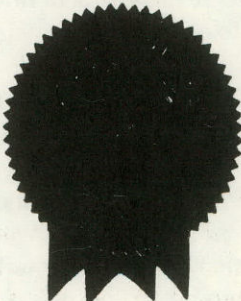
IN JULY, 1981, THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS IS OBSERVING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE BLIND AND THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY AS THE REGIONAL LIBRARY THAT SERVES THIS STATE IN THE PROGRAM.

THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY BECAME ONE OF THE ORIGINAL 19 REGIONAL LIBRARIES BECAUSE THE AGENCY HAD PURCHASED A SMALL GROUP OF EMBOSSED BOOKS THAT IT CIRCULATED TO BLIND TEXANS. STATE LIBRARIAN ELIZABETH WEST BEGAN THE SERVICE IN THE EARLY 1920'S BECAUSE SHE FELT THAT BLIND TEXANS HAD THE SAME RIGHT TO LIBRARY SERVICE THAT OTHER TEXANS HAD.

MUCH HAS CHANGED ABOUT THE PROGRAM IN THE LAST FIFTY YEARS. BOOKS RECORDED ON DISKS WERE MADE AVAILABLE IN 1933. MORE RECENTLY BOOKS AND MAGAZINES HAVE ALSO BEEN RECORDED ON CASSETTE TAPE. IN 1966 PERSONS WHO CANNOT READ ORDINARY PRINTED MATERIAL BECAUSE OF PHYSICAL HANDICAPS OTHER THAN BLINDNESS BECAME ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM.

IN HONOR OF 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO TEXANS, I SALUTE THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY. MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN FROM THROUGHOUT THIS STATE ARE LIVING FULLER LIVES BECAUSE THEY CAN READ THE BOOKS AND MAGAZINES AVAILABLE TO THEM AS A RESULT OF THIS PROGRAM. FROM YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE BECOMING PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS TO OLDER TEXANS WITH PHYSICAL HANDICAPS BROUGHT ON BY AGE, MORE THAN 35,000 READERS FIND INFORMATION AND RECREATION IN THESE BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

AS THE FIRST HALF CENTURY OF SERVICE ENDS, WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY THAT WILL INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF READING MATERIAL AVAILABLE. WORKING TOGETHER THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY WILL MAKE THE MATERIAL AVAILABLE.



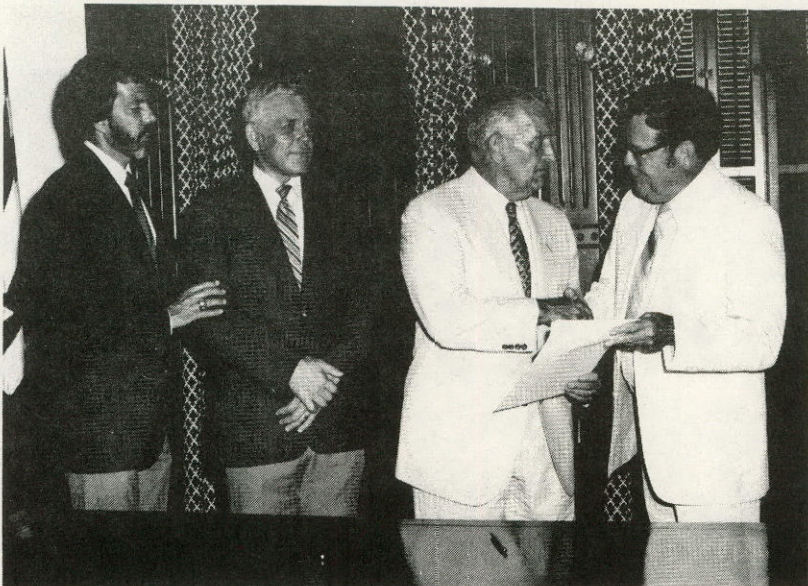
In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my
signature this 23RD day of JUNE, 19 81

W.P. Clements
Governor of Texas

Rockdale's Lucy Hill Patterson Memorial Library

Thanks to a Rockdale resident who turned down a reward after he found and returned a purse belonging to a Houston woman, the Lucy Hill Patterson Memorial Library has received a \$100 gift. Mr. and Mrs. Larry Harris sent the check along with the following letter to Librarian Collie Parker:

Dear Librarian: We would like to donate this \$100 to the library. This is in great appreciation of the honesty of Mr. Brady Nelson. I recently lost my purse with money, credit cards, and other valuables. Mr. Nelson found the purse and contents and turned them in to the Rockdale Police Department. Such honesty is seldom seen these days. He refused a reward; therefore, we wish the library to accept this money in his name. Sincerely, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Harris.



Governor William P. Clements shakes hands with Dorman H. Winfrey, right, director of the Texas State Library, following the signing of a proclamation honoring fifty years of service to the blind by the Texas State Library and the Library of Congress. The proclamation is reproduced to the left. Donald K. Bailey, director of the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, and Charles Raeke, director of program evaluation at the Texas Commission for the Blind and a user of the service, look on.

Irving Public Library

Under terms of the cable television franchise for Irving, a studio for community programming is being installed at Irving Public Library. Teleprompter, which was awarded the Irving cable franchise in April, 1981, will supply funds for equipment and employees to operate ten municipally coordinated channels.

The first studio, located at the main library, will include a two-color camera system. The agreement requires the company to deposit \$175,000 with the city for investment in a studio in the proposed new main library. The company must provide to the City a 3,000-square foot studio equipped with a four-color camera and a mobile van with microwave and production equipment.

The City of Irving has earmarked 5 percent of the franchise fees it receives for production of local programming. A \$250,000 prepayment against future franchise fees has been received for initiating programming for community channels.



Anne Hollingsworth accepts the John Cotton Dana Award presented to the Texas State Library and the Texas Library Association for "developing and documenting a model statewide multimedia campaign to increase public awareness of libraries." The award was presented by Leo M. Weins, president of the H. W. Wilson Company.

Texas State Library

Among the publications that appeared during the Texas Centennial was a Texas Edition of the 1936 *Encyclopædia Britannica*. The copy at the Texas State Library is bound in blue with bluebonnets stamped in gold on the binding and includes a 32-page "History of Texas" by Charles W. Ramsdell, professor of history at the University of Texas. The State Library's copy also includes an illuminated presentation page signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Copies without special presentation pages and with the bluebonnets stamped in silver are located at Baylor University's Texas Collection, Weatherford College, and the Allan Shivers Library and Museum at Woodville. These include Dr. Ramsdell's "History of Texas." A set with the distinctive binding but without the insert is at the Perry School, a private school in Austin.



Representative Chris V. Semos of Dallas, chairman of the Texas 1986 Sesquicentennial Commission (center), examines the presentation page of a special 1936 edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. The page was signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. On the left is Dr. Dorman Winfrey, director of the Texas State Library. On the right is Randy Lee, director of the Sesquicentennial Commission.

The Micropublishing Program: State Documents

by Katherine Adams

The recent establishment of a Micropublishing Program by the Texas State Library means that Texas State government publications are now readily available in microfiche format at a nominal charge to any interested citizen or institution.

The Texas State Publications Clearinghouse, which administers the program, has long been in the business of acquiring State documents and making them available for patron use. The development of a program to convert paper documents to fiche is, in the minds of the Clearinghouse staff, another necessary step in increasing the access which citizens have to the publications issued by their state's government.

The production of microfiche copies of Texas State documents received by the State Library should be viewed as one part of a larger document "package." By law, all Texas State agencies and State-supported colleges and universities are required to deposit with the Texas State Library one or more copies of each publication issued. Incoming publications are classified, cataloging data added to OCLC, indexed, announced in the monthly *Texas State Documents* checklist, and retained in a permanent collection. This collection, which numbers well over 80,000 items, is the basic source for libraries and individuals. Reference service for the collection is provided by the Public Services reference staff at the State Library.

All State documents received by the State Library are available for in-house use and on loan. In addition, whenever possible the Clearinghouse distributes copies of documents received to a network of fifty depository libraries located around the State. The purpose of this depository network and documents distribution is to provide citizens easy access to State documents throughout Texas.

The decision to design and implement a program for microfilming Texas State documents was made in the late 1970's, and it came because micropublishing offered the best way to make Texas State government publications available to people who otherwise might not be able to obtain them.

The dilemma facing many active Texas documents users was clear; how could they obtain for permanent use older Texas Documents or current documents which they saw listed on the monthly Texas State

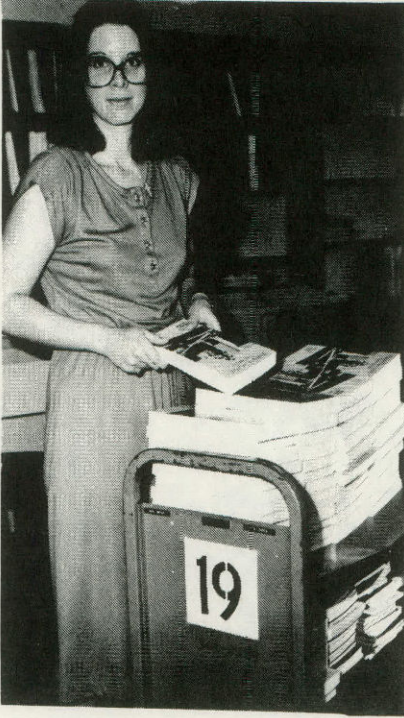


Wesley Waldrope operates the microfilm camera used in the micropublishing program.

Documents checklist. Obtaining them from the Clearinghouse was not an option; the Clearinghouse distributes paper copies of documents received only to its depository libraries. And going directly to the issuing agency was a time-consuming process and one which did not always guarantee acquisition of the desired publications—small print runs meant that documents were not widely circulated and older publications were simply no longer in stock. Since the Texas State Library maintains the most comprehensive collection of current and older Texas documents, the library seemed the logical institution to increase the availability of the documents, and micropublishing seemed the most desirable and efficient means.

Serious talk about offering State documents in microfiche format began in 1975, and by 1979 the Clearinghouse had administrative backing to undertake an in-house micropublishing program. During 1979, a planetary camera, microfiche loading and duplication equipment, and supplies were acquired and a camera operator was hired.

By January, 1980, the Clearinghouse was ready to begin filming documents on a regular basis—or so the staff thought. The plan of action was to film all documents (except those copyrighted) listed on each checklist produced beginning with the January, 1980, checklist. Persons or institutions would be able to buy individual documents on fiche or purchase a complete checklist of documents. The *Texas State Docu-*



Lisa Garner prepares a collection of college catalogs for distribution to depository libraries.

ments checklist would serve as the monthly announcement of microfiche availability; orders would be placed simply by noting each document's unique "entry" number which accompanied it on the checklist.

As the saying goes, "the best laid plans..." The plan to have the micropublishing operation up and running smoothly by January, 1980, proved impossible. Time tables worked out in advance were not feasible; training took longer than anticipated; procedures that proved inefficient or cumbersome had to be revised. In addition, the plan to film all documents listed on each checklist was questioned when it was realized that for the Micropublishing Program to become self-sustaining filming priority needed to go to "high demand" documents. This meant filming current documents more selectively and filming documents "packages" which were sure to be good sellers. Further, decisions were required concerning the format of the eye-readable header used on each fiche, microfiche prices and methods of payment, acquiring releases for copyrighted materials, refilming procedures, tracking documents as they moved through the microfilm conversion process, and standards for quality control. All the questions and problems which the Clearinghouse faced in early 1980 during the first few months of filming needed to be addressed and resolved. This took lots and lots of time—indeed, one full year.

Today the State Library's Micropublishing Program is running fairly smoothly. Documents are filmed and announced on a regular basis, and orders are received and filled. The Clearinghouse has established a policy of filming current publications on an as-needed basis, that is, when an order is received or when only one copy of a document is deposited with the Library and a microfiche copy is needed to back up the single copy available for reference use. Older publications can also be pulled from the collection and filmed on demand. In addition, the Clearinghouse identifies series or packages of documents in its collection which have a high reference use and for which, therefore, there is a demand. For example, the Clearinghouse has filmed the *Texas Register* from 1976 to 1980 and is currently filming the *Opinions* of various Texas attorneys general. Plans also call for filming agency annual reports in series, legislative interim committee reports, and long-standing series from some agencies and universities. such as the *Texas A&M Bulletin* series.

Announcements of microfiche availability accompany each checklist beginning with the January, 1981, issue. This list also serves as an order form, giving price per individual document and a price list for series and packages available. The microfiche announcement and order form are mailed with the monthly checklist to over 500 checklist subscribers. Documents on microfiche cost 50 cents per fiche for all older documents, that is, documents listed on any checklist before January, 1980, and 25 cents for current documents— those listed after January, 1980. Documents packages are priced at a per package price based on 50 cents per fiche.

The Micropublishing Program has been operating for a year and a half. That time has been spent planning, designing, and implementing a workable process for the conversion of paper Texas State documents to microfiche copies which can be sold to any interested person or institution. While the "start-up" time needed to get the program fully operational was much longer than anticipated, it was time well spent. The Texas State Library can now offer, with confidence, high quality microfiche copies of Texas State documents at a nominal charge. And documents users who wish to acquire, for their permanent use, the publications of Texas government now have the opportunity to do so.

Katherine Adams was Coordinator of the State Documents Clearinghouse.

To.

Miss Henrietta Moffitt.

O, lady, if the stars so bright,
Were diamond worlds bequeath'd to me,
I would resign them all this night,
To frame one welcome lay to thee;
For thou art dearer to my heart,
Than all the gems of earth and sky;
And he who sings thee as thou art
May boast a song that cannot die.

But how shall I the task essay?—
Can I rejoin the tuneful throng,
Since Beauty has withdrawn its ray—
The only light that kindles song?
No, no—my harp in darkness bound,
Can never more my soul beguile;
Its spirit fled when woman frown'd,
Nor hopes for her returning smile.

Then blame me not—my skill is gone—
I have no worthy song to give;
But thou shalt be my favorite one,
To love and worship whilst I live;
What e'er betides—where'er I roam,
Thine Angel image I will bear
Upon my heart, as on a stone,
In deathless beauty sculptur'd there.

"In Deathless Beauty," an example of Lamar's calligraphy, is included in the recently acquired papers.

Second Mirabeau B. Lamar Collection Accessioned by State Archives

by Michael R. Green

The Texas State Archives, through a grant from the Moody Foundation, has recently acquired a second Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar Collection, comprising the personal papers of the second elected President of the Republic of Texas. The new accession promises greater insight into the life of this enigmatic figure. Various documents trace Lamar's aristocratic upbringing in Georgia; his involvement in literary, military, commercial, and political endeavors; and the more familiar details of his public career as Commander-in-Chief, Vice President, and President of the Texas Republic.¹ The Collection also focuses on Lamar's subsequent diplomatic service as ambassador to Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

The Moody Foundation provided not only the purchase price of \$30,000, but also funds for restoration and conservation, and the production of a comprehensive calendar. Scheduled for release in 1982, the calendar will contain entries abstracted from the new material as well as a facsimile reproduction of Elizabeth Howard West's calendar of the Lamar Papers.

The Mirabeau Lamar Papers are considered by many to be among the most valuable manuscript collections in Texas. Prized not only for their autograph and philatelic value, the Papers have formed the bases for scores of articles, theses, dissertations, and other works of historical scholarship. In addition to his many other avocations, Lamar was an avid collector of historical material. Within this Collection are more than three hundred letters, documents, and manuscripts relative to Spanish, Mexican, and pre-Republic times. Thousands of others detail the Texas Republic and early statehood. The Collection was purchased from Lamar's daughter, Loretto Lamar Calder, by a legislative appropriation, approved by Governor Thomas M. Campbell on March 19, 1909.² The purchase price, \$10,000, now represents only a fraction of their worth.

Unlike the earlier accession, which are largely public papers, much of the new material is of an intensely personal nature. The grey periods of Lamar's life, often following the deaths of loved ones, are illuminated to an extent. Like his brother Lucius, who committed suicide in 1834, Mirabeau had from boyhood been much inclined to melancholia. The death of his first wife, Tabitha Jordan Lamar, plunged him into a deep, seemingly irreversible, depression. Philip Graham's biography gives

meager coverage of Lamar's activities for 1831-2, noting: "The next two years Lamar spent in travel."³ The newly acquired Papers suggest a trip to Cuba in the company of family physician and friend, William B. Rogers, and residence at Matauzas at the home of Harriet Harper. This is the first evidence that Lamar ever left the continental Americas.

Equally interesting and significant is Lamar's involvement with the Columbus *Enquirer* (1828-35). The young Georgian may claim credit for founding Columbus' first newspaper.⁴ Bulky presses and type were transported overland from Augusta and deposited there when the city was little more than a surveyor's camp. In spite of financial difficulties, Lamar transformed the tabloid into one of the most successful vehicles for the State Rights and nullification movements in the South.⁵ The *Enquirer* also carried some of his early poetic attempts. Unfortunately, few issues survive. The new Lamar Collection traces the founding of that enterprise through sundry documents— ship's manifests, bills of lading, contracts, a prospectus, receipts— and a handful of letters.

Lamar's meteoric rise from an obscure private to Commander-in-Chief of the Texas Army has puzzled historians, since little was known of his military experiences prior to 1835. Several new documents confirm prior military associations in Georgia with the "Baldwin County Volunteers" and the "Lafayette Volunteers" (probably the same organization). As was customary, the militia elected officers from their own membership. That he was chosen to command speaks well of Lamar's popularity, if not his military prowess. This experience earned him the title, "Captain," one Lamar shortly exchanged for "General," a title he preferred to "President," even though the latter was generally considered more prestigious.⁶ At any rate, the question is purely academic. Lamar's rapid promotion through the ranks of the Texas Army came largely through his heroics during the San Jacinto campaign.⁷

Several items in the new collection command special attention. The President's relationship with Jane Long, particularly in later years, has been a subject of speculation. Documents trace the deterioration of their mutual friendship and eventual breach over joint operation of the Long plantation. The shadowy Eleven League Grant takes on a personal meaning through the correspondence of James Harper Starr, Washington L. Hill, and William B. Stokes.⁸ These men fought futilely to perfect this and other spurious land claims that were the root of Lamar's financial troubles in later years. Edward Fontaine's fifty-page "Biographical Sketch of General Mirabeau B. Lamar" is the only known complete copy. The Louis Lenz Collection at Barker Texas History Center at the University of Texas at Austin contains an early draft, obviously far from final in form. Also of note is a carefully penned draft of "In Deathless Beauty," one of the best examples of Lamar's verse and calligraphy. This prime copy was executed during his courtship of Henrietta Maffitt, while

8th - The said parties agree to live in and occupy the same residence which shall be kept up and furnished jointly, each being at an equal part of all the expenses of the same.

In testimony whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hands and seals, using scrolls for their seals, this the day and year first above written.

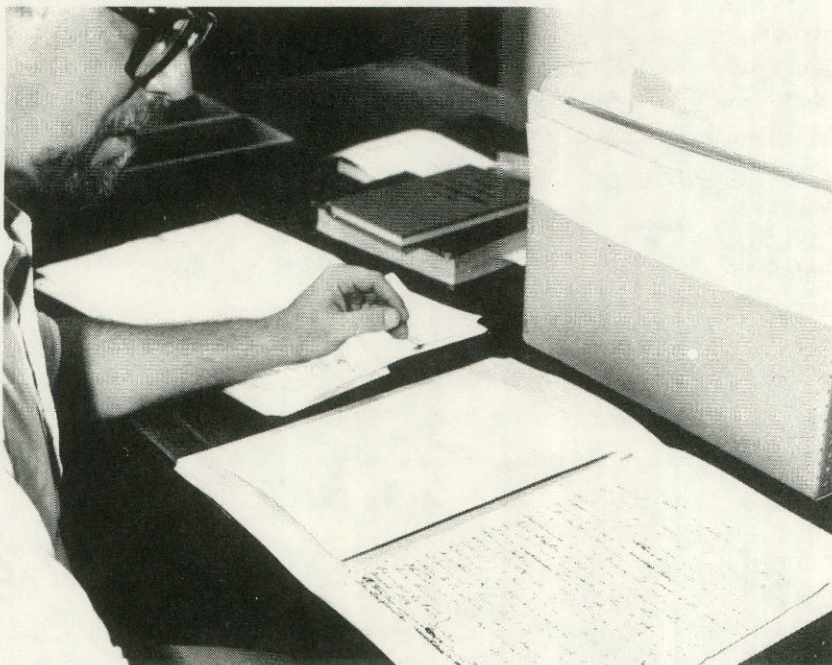
Witness my hand
at San Antonio

Jane H Long
Mirabeau D. Lamar

they were guests in the home of Mrs. John Settle. Graham included a facsimile of this piece in his *Life and Poems of Mirabeau Lamar*.

Other noteworthy items include an autobiographical essay of Lamar's early life, from age ten through his purchase of an interest in the Cahawba Press, entitled "Now For Myself." Two sketches of Henrietta Maffitt Lamar, one by Annie Doom Pickerall, the other purportedly autobiographical, are also included. Several unpublished examples of Lamar's verse, with titles as divergent as "Lawyers" and "Love," are represented. The collection also contains photographs, genealogy and phrenology charts; a sumptuous collection of James Hamilton and James Harper Starr correspondence; a Lafitte letter; a letter from a young slave who wishes to return to the Lamar household; a second biography of Lamar by his granddaughter, Mrs. Ethelbert H. J. Andrews; detailed specifications for the Houston "White House"; a brief log of his 1835 trip to Texas; a deed to Creek Indian lands sold at lottery; and an advertisement for a menagerie in Puntas Arenas, Costa Rica.

Of more somber substance are papers relative to the mutual animosity between Lamar and his presidential predecessor, Sam Houston. Lamar was an idealistic statesman; Houston, a realistic, pragmatic politician. Documents from the new Collection recount a law suit brought by Houston for alleged damage to his furniture while the "White House" was occupied by Lamar. Although the items were used by his successor



Michael Green works with the materials in the Lamar Papers. Among the papers in the collection is a Lamar copy of a Jean Lafitte original letter.

less than six weeks, Houston was able to collect double the furniture's value in damages.⁹ Years later, while occupying a seat in the U. S. Senate, the latter blocked several attempts to secure a diplomatic mission for Lamar. This interference is fully and sadly illustrated in the correspondence of James Hamilton. One may discount more ludicrous assertions. P. Edmunds, Texas consul at New Orleans, writes of a conspiracy involving Houston, Memucan Hunt, and Dr. Anson Jones. According to Edmunds, the trio planned to kidnap Lamar and deliver him over to the "Mexican authorities." Although the writer alleges he witnessed the conversation, portions were probably taken from context to emphasize and color the situation.¹⁰ That Lamar believed this and other equally ridiculous reports, there can be no doubt. They survive side-by-side with more worthy documentation of the past. They fed his paranoia and his appetite for equally damaging evidence against "Old Sam." Both the early and later Lamar Collections bear witness to the intensity of their political infighting.

President Lamar's fiscal irresponsibility, both public and private, has been the subject of much controversy. The recent accession does little to exonerate him. In fact, it may serve as further evidence of his profligacy. From the mid-1820's, his is a history of tardy promissory notes, unsuccessful and improvident speculation, and—true to character—earnest attempts to satisfy his creditors. Lamar was not a lavish man. His

clothing was worn, even antiquated, and his quarters were Spartan. His greatest financial failings were unquestioning faith and impulsive generosity, both well detailed by Edward Fontaine. A substantial portion of this second collection reviews the chain of financial reversals, many linked to real estate, that left the Republic's second elected President all but indigent in later years.¹¹ Diplomatic missions to Nicaragua and Costa Rica managed to satisfy his creditors, but the rigorous routine, unhealthy climate, and vicious indictments by the press left Lamar less than a year of contentment. He died December 19, 1859, at his modest home in Richmond, Texas.

Although biographer and literary critic Philip Graham was granted limited access to the Papers some fifty years ago, only family members have seen them *en toto*. When the Archives establishes administrative control over the collection and completes conservation measures currently underway, the new Lamar Papers will be opened for the public use. The production of the comprehensive calendar should prompt investigation, synthesis, and publication, and it is hoped that their research potential is matched by interest from scholars.

Notes

1. The office of Commander-in-Chief and President were separate during the early days of the Republic of Texas.
2. Accession file, Loretto Lamar Calder, AC 1909/1, Texas State Library.
3. Philip Graham, *The Life and Poems of Mirabeau B. Lamar*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1938, 27.
4. Etta Blanchard Worsley, *Columbus on the Chattahoochee*. Columbus: Columbus Office Supply Company, 1951, 70-72.
5. Prior to the Civil War, the doctrine of Nullification was expounded by advocates of State Rights, largely concentrated in the American South. Proponents held that states have the right to declare null and void and to set aside any Federal law which violated their voluntary compact embodied in the U. S. Constitution. Nullifiers gained their greatest support following the Tariff Act of 1832, which favored northern manufacturing interests at the expense of the agrarian South.
6. Henry Thompson, a Philadelphian, wrote to Lamar: "A lady asked me if gentlemen of Texas were not *generals generally*. I told her the *Major* part of them were quote *Captains* in their own way. I *Judge* she would think so if she was in at a party at Congress time in Houston." Henry Thompson to Mirabeau B. Lamar, September 5, 1839, Lamar Papers (AC 1909/1), Doc. 1441.
7. During a cavalry skirmish, prior to the Battle of San Jacinto, Lamar rescued the Secretary of War, Thomas Jefferson Rusk, from a party of Mexican lancers. That same day, under similar circumstances, he saved

Walter Paye Lane, a future Confederate general. [Houston] *Telegraph*, 14 April 1838; *Texas Almanac for 1858*. Galveston: Richardson and Company, 1857, 110; *Galveston Weekly News*, 27 December, 1859; Walter Paye Lane, *The Adventures and Recollections of General Walter P. Lane*. Marshall: News Messenger Company, 1928, 12-13.

8. The early days of the Texas Revolution witnessed a degree of cooperation between Texas insurgents and their counterparts in Northern Mexico. The government of Coahuila, based at Monclova, issued eleven league grants to those Texans who would defend the Constitution of 1824 against usurpers. Calculated to solicit support against the Centralists, these grants also promised to steer Texans clear of the road to independence. After the revolt, these claims were successively nullified by the Texas Land Office and the courts.

9. See also Francis R. Lubbock, *Account of Court Costs, Sam Houston vs. Mirabeau Lamar*, December 21, 1847, Andrew Jackson Houston Collection, Doc. 3658 Oversize, Drawer 58, Texas State Archives. Curiously, Sam Houston's published writings are silent on the subject.

10. Houston's vehement denial of the charge is preserved in a transcript of a speech delivered at a Methodist Church in Houston, December 17, 1845, Amelia W. Williams and Eugene C. Barker, *The Writings of Sam Houston*. 8 v. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1941, IV, 435-437.

11. Land speculation may be considered Lamar's greatest personal weakness, and, paradoxically, his greatest public triumph. His vision of a public educational system, funded entirely from the public domain, seemed quixotic to his contemporaries, but has formed bases for the firm, and financially-solvent school systems Texas enjoys today.

Michael R. Green is an archivist at the Texas State Library. He has recently processed and calendared the Lamar Papers described in this article.

When the Seminar on Library History was held in Austin in 1980, several participants expressed surprise that the University of Texas at Austin had begun to acquire special collections so early in its history. In this article Lamar Lentz, who is now associated with the Festival at Round Top, discusses these early collections.

Private Collections Important to UT-Austin

by Lamar Lentz

The importance of the private collector in building great libraries has been recognized by librarians and administrators throughout history. A great library has been built at the University of Texas at Austin and its cornerstones are the early private collections acquired by the University during its formative years. All Texans can take pride in these collections as they serve as primary sources for scholars from across our state and nation as well as visiting scholars from throughout the world. These early private collections were the foundation for the Humanities Research Center and firmly established the tradition of excellence that has characterized the acquisition program of the center.

When Swante Palm bequeathed his collection of books to the University, he planted the seeds of what were to become some of the largest trees of learning in this generation. Swante Palm was born in Sweden in 1815 and first settled in La Grange, Texas, in 1844, later moving to Austin, where he prospered as a businessman. In 1897 he presented his collection of over 10,000 volumes to the University. The volumes included strong holdings in Scandinavian works, the classics, travel, literature, history and the arts. As an undergraduate, I had the good fortune to discover among the books in his collection a volume I could locate in no other library. In the cover of the book, I found these words had been written, "Books have a place in the furnishing of every man's world...by choice of them he defines what he is...their presence signifies that where they are his mind is at home...so the collection of books is part of the pleasure of every reading creature who would find

his own place." More than seventy years later, the influence of this early Texas settler is still felt. The seed Swante Palm planted sprouted in the minds and hearts of those who would come after him to enlarge and expand what he had begun. The early seeds of learning were nurtured to fruition by the acquisition of several additional private collections.

There are three developments in the first twenty-five years of this century which underscore the importance of the private collector in building a great library. George W. Littlefield, early benefactor of the University, was persuaded by Professor R. H. Griffith to purchase for the University the collection of John H. Wrenn, a Chicago businessman whose collection of first editions and manuscripts was especially strong in seventeenth and eighteenth century English poetry and dramatic literature. The man chiefly responsible for bringing the collection of over six thousand items together was Thomas J. Wise, an English bibliographer who has become well known for his forgeries. On March 23, 1920, at the dedication of the Wrenn Library, Professor Griffith stated, "we dedicate it to the increase of knowledge, to research, to the finest adventure, the discovery of things new among men."

The second development came through the acquisition of the Aitken Library in 1921 through a special appropriation from the Texas Legislature. The Aitken Library had been assembled by George Atherton Aitken, an Englishman. The purchase of his collection, which was strong in books pertaining to English literature of the first half of the eighteenth century including works by Pope, Steele, and Swift, strengthened the holdings of the library in English literature. There are over eight thousand items in the collection which include a collection of seventeenth century English newspapers and periodicals.

The third development involved the collection of another Texan and continued in the tradition of Sir Swante Palm. Miriam Lutcher Stark of Orange presented her collection to the University in 1925. Her library started as a family collection and dramatically expanded to include miniature books, jeweled books, and English books and manuscripts, notably concentrated in the nineteenth century and pertaining to the Romantic movement. Of special note are the collections which pertain to Byron, Shelley, Keats, and Lamb. Included with her collection of books and manuscripts were paintings and decorative objects which were to foretell another aspect of the collection program.

It should be noted that the Wrenn, Aitken and Stark libraries were brought together in 1936 on the fourth floor of the University's Main Building to provide a fitting place for their display and an atmosphere to enhance their study. The Stark Room was designed to include not only the books but also the furnishings and paintings, and included exhibition space for the many rare and beautifully bound books. The Wrenn Room was a replica of the library of Sir Walter Scott and featured walnut

woodwork and carved tables and chairs. The wood ceiling was decorated in three sections which portray the marks of the great printers, the seals of the great universities and figures illustrating the history of costume. The stained glass windows were designed by Charles J. Connick and symbolize the various types of literature. The Aitken Room was designated for research and study. As great collections come into fruition, they must have notable administrators such as Miss Fannie Ratchford whom the late Dr. Harry Ransom described as both a scholar and librarian. Her careful attention to detail would aid scholars throughout her career and for many years to come as they seek to interpret and utilize the libraries of these remarkable collectors.

The University rare books library continued to grow, but the thrust of the development was interrupted by a depression and a world war. After World War II, as focuses began to shift, the acquisition of two private collections signaled dramatic changes in the rare books program. Although both collections were acquired in the same year, their differences are significant.

The library of Edward Alexander Parsons, a New Orleans attorney, was acquired in 1958 as a gift from Judge and Mrs. St. John Garwood, the late Mr. and Mrs. William Lockhart Clayton and the M.D. Anderson Foundation. The Parsons Collection of Bibliotheca Parsonniana is a



From emblem no. xxvi in *Cats*,
Sileni Alcibiadis, pars secunda, item 38.

collection of original manuscripts, historical documents, engravings and prints of ancient masters, sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth century books and pamphlets, modern typography and private presses, and fine prints and bindings. There are over forty thousand books and over eight thousand manuscripts included in the collection. The Parsons Library enhanced the holdings and continued along the lines that the University collection had taken since its inception with the acquisition of the library of Sir Swante Palm.

The close of the 1950's would herald the acquisition of the library of T. E. Hanley of Bradford, Pennsylvania. His collection had been built over a period of thirty years and is remarkable in its size and its scope. The collection is especially strong in the twentieth century materials but includes substantial holdings in nineteenth century materials. Included are books, manuscripts, and correspondence, over 155,000 items. There are works on Americana, biography, bibliography, English and American literature, economics, business, fine arts, history, religion, geography, travel, painting graphics, philosophy and religion, science and mathematics, and the social sciences. The list of authors represented in the collection is most impressive, and there are manuscripts of G. B. Shaw, Walt Whitman, D. H. Lawrence, James Barrie, Robert Browning, Elizabeth Browning, Lewis Carroll, Joseph Conrad, T. S. Eliot, John Galsworthy, Thomas Hardy, James Joyce, Somerset Maugham, Ezra Pound, Robert Louis Stevenson, A. Swinburne, Oscar Wilde, Thomas Wolfe and W. B. Yeats. The most complete collections known of G. B. Shaw and D. H. Lawrence materials are found in the Hanley Library.

The acquisition signalled the beginning of a new period of collection that would be marked by the boldness that the *Saturday Review* described as a "New Renaissance." This Renaissance grew on the foundations of these early acquisitions of private collections such as the libraries of Sir Swante Palm, John Wrenn, George Aitken, Miriam Lucher Stark, Edward Parsons and T. E. Hanley. The collections they established made the University a viable place for the location of a great library, and they remain major contributors to the success of its development as a resource for future generations to research and study.

Two for Texas from Texas

Sometimes persons have a tendency to conclude that so called "coffee table" books are intended to impress a guest or visitor and are seldom read by the owner. This may be true in some instances, but with the price of books these days I have not had the feeling the books I see in homes on coffee tables are there to impress me or others. Two new University of Texas Press books, *The University of Texas: A Pictorial Account of Its First Century* (by Margaret C. Berry, Austin: University of Texas Press, \$25.00) and *The Guadalupe Mountains of Texas* (text by Alan Tennant, photographs and drawings by Michael Allender, Austin: University of Texas Press, \$29.95) will probably be seen in the homes of a good many persons in this state. Size alone would justify the books being kept convenient for viewing and reading and not just to show and impress. No Texas-ex will have to justify the display of the two publications; these two books would be a cause for celebration for any reader: historian, photographer, environmentalist, or Texas citizen.

This reviewer has had an interest in the Guadalupe Mountains of Texas since the summer of 1947, when there was an opportunity over a July 4th holiday to visit at the base of El Capitan and Guadalupe Peak and read the Texas Centennial Marker about the route of Butterfield Overland Mail. Over the years I have taken many friends and family members to see the magnificent view and when traveling by air in the area I have always requested a window by the side with a view of El Capitan and Guadalupe Peak.

The text by Alan Tennant gives an account of the area from prehistoric times to the present. He writes of the natural and social history, with fine descriptions of desert plants and animal communities. Michael Allender has provided 60 color photographs and 12 wildlife drawings for the book. These two men spent three years in the Guadalupe Mountains and now the pictures, research, and observations are available. At

present, the Guadalupe Mountains area is unspoiled by man. If this unique wilderness area is preserved for future generations, much credit must go to Senator Ralph W. Yarborough, who in 1963 introduced the first bill to establish the national park, which was created by Congress in 1966.

In the near-by Big Bend National Park area, Ludwig Bemelman wrote: "The mantle of God touches you; it is what Beethoven reached for in music...." And of the Guadalupe Mountains Michael Allender writes in his Preface: "The observer is entertained by the *entire* symphony."

The reader, unable to go into the Guadalupe Mountains will have a rich reward with this book in hand. It may be placed on a table, but no doubt it will be picked up and read and looked at again and again.

*

In 1976, Texas A & M University observed its centennial with the publication of two works: a two-volume history by Dr. Henry C. Dethloff *A Centennial History of Texas A & M University, 1876-1976* and *A Pictorial History of Texas A & M University, 1876-1976*, also by Dethloff. The two-volume *Centennial History* is a scholarly documented study with bibliography and valuable statistical tables. The *Pictorial History* gives a history of A & M with about half the book devoted to illustrations, many in color. When the A & M histories came out, many persons asked what the University of Texas would do in the way of a published history when the University celebrated its centennial in the 1980's.

We now have the answer with the publication of *The University of Texas: A Pictorial Account of Its First Century* by Dr. Margaret C. Berry. Carrying out the plan of the late Dr. Harry Ransom, who had been commissioned by the University of Texas Board of Regents to do the history but died suddenly in April of 1976, Berry completed the work she describes as "a pictorial account of events that have been of significance during the University's first century." It is a well written, interesting, and entertaining history, showing the "importance of people shaping the University." Illustrated with more than 1,000 photographs, the history of the University comes to life with rare photographs of early Austin and the University. And the beautiful color photography of the modern University is some of the finest quality color printing this reviewer has seen.

The University has come far in reaching the goal of "the University of the first class." Great credit goes to many, including a dedicated citizenry and outstanding faculty and administrators. The university indeed moved up the academic ladder in this country. In 1937, football was king in Austin and Coach Dana X. Bible's salary was "about twice the amount the president of the University was making

and nearly four times the salary of the Governor of Texas." A look at current U. T. and State budgets will show that inequity no longer exists. Ex-students, faculty, staff, and students on campus point with pride to the U. T. library system, "one of the great libraries of the Western world," and Dr. Berry has devoted a chapter to "Libraries and Special Collections." No doubt much credit for the intellectual maturity and library growth goes to the late Chancellor Ransom. According to former U. T. President, Logan Wilson, it was Dr. Ransom, who "in an era and a region where the investment of time and money in stadiums may in some locales exceed that in libraries,... stood firmly for the library as a center of the higher learning enterprise."

Dr. Berry's history goes into the book category of "first class." The author deserves thanks of all former students. Perhaps the nicest tribute would be to say "the Eyes of Texas Are Upon You."

Dorman H. Winfrey
Texas State Library

New Volume Aids Oral History Programs

From Memory to History: Using Oral Sources in Local Historical Research by Barbara Allen and Lynwood Montell, Nashville, The American Association for State and Local History, 1981.

In *From Memory to History*, Allen and Montell have written a "handbook for researchers wishing to tap the rich storehouse of personal memories and community traditions in reconstructing and writing local history." Their book is "designed as both a descriptive guide to the oral materials available to local historians, and as a manual for evaluating and interpreting these materials" (ix).

Unlike other recent oral history manuals, which are primarily concerned with research design, interview techniques, transcription, and the archival administration of oral history, Allen and Montell's guide offers advice about the use of "orally communicated history" once it is in hand. Their intent is "to set forth ways to evaluate and use oral

materials once they have been gathered." *From Memory to History* thus serves as a highly valuable extension of the procedural "nuts and bolts" in two earlier handbooks published by the American Association for State and Local History— Willa K. Baum's *Oral History for the Local Historical Society* (second edition, 1971), and Baum's *Transcribing and Editing Oral History* (1977). It also meshes well with the how-to-do-it manual of another folklorist/oral historian, Edward Ives' *The Tape Recorded Interview: A Manual for Fieldworkers in Folklore and Oral History* (The University of Tennessee Press, 1980). Used in conjunction with Ives' book or the Baum manuals, *From Memory to History* can take the local historian from first interviews to finished manuscript in the incorporation of orally communicated history with local historical studies.

The great strength of the Allen and Montell handbook is that it offers detailed advice about how to deal with the "interface" between history and folklore in orally communicated testimony, a problem that other manuals largely ignore. Both elements are almost always present in such testimony, and interpenetrate and interact in a very complex way. Lynwood Montell in particular is an unquestioned authority on the subject. His *Saga of Coe Ridge* (1970) is a masterful reconstruction of the history of a Black settlement in Appalachia entirely from oral sources.

As Montell proved in the Coe Ridge study, folkloric materials *do* have historical value. "Through the process of identifying these floating narrative elements (folklore), the local historical researcher can peel away the embellishment husk to reveal the historical kernels of truth" (p. 74).

Of course, the "embellishment husk" itself can be an interesting topic for historical study. What a group chooses to believe about their past becomes in effect a kind of truth, one strongly affecting present attitudes and behavior. The latter area is the study of "folk history"— "What people in another society believe really happened, as judged by their sense of credibility and relevance" (p. 11).

In any case, certain chapters of the Allen and Montell book should be required reading for local historians working with oral sources. Chapter Two in particular, "characteristics and settings of orally communicated history," offers a highly original summary of the ways in which orally communicated history differs from conventional documentary history, and several other chapters are equally useful. *From Memory to History* is a unique and helpful manual for the practitioner of local history.

Thad Sitton
Texas Sesquicentennial Commission

Carnegie Libraries of Texas: The Past Still Present

by Paul M. Culp, Jr.

It has been over a decade since note has been taken of the thirty-three Texas libraries which were built with gifts from Andrew Carnegie or grants from the Carnegie Corporation. Anne Teague wrote a report entitled "Carnegie Building Grants to Texas Communities" as one requirement for her M.L.S. at the University of Texas in 1967, and the *Texas Library Journal* published a short article by Mrs. Teague in the Spring, 1968, issue. These works deal with the grants and the early history of these libraries; as for what has been happening in recent decades, there has been nothing other than a brief telephone survey by the Texas State Library to determine which buildings were still standing.

The following article grew from a quixotic notion conceived a few years ago to visit the thirty-one cities (Houston and Dallas had two each) and try to determine what the Carnegie library meant to the cultural and social life of each community. The visits were made, and those fourteen buildings still standing were studied and photographed. Their present use was analyzed and their future speculated upon. Only those fourteen will be examined in this article; the nineteen which have been demolished or have burned will be dealt with in the next issue of *Texas Libraries*.¹

One marvels that so many of what were thought to be relatively permanent endowments should have been found inadequate so soon. Only schools among public buildings have been superseded more quickly. Even courthouses built in the same era, 1898-1917, have a higher survival rate. (See June Welch's *The Texas Courthouse*.) One would think that nothing has expanded more rapidly than government in the ensuing years.

The purpose of this article is not to bewail the fact that so many Carnegie libraries were demolished; there are practical reasons why the institution has become so rare. The names of Homer, Virgil, Shakespeare, Voltaire, and Moliere were often inscribed around the cornices of the libraries if not always in their card catalogs (if they had one), but these professed ideals may have been the indirect cause of the disappearing Carnegie. The grants were not large even by turn-of-the-century standards; in their desire to have mini-Parthenons or mini-St Peter's cathedrals (architects speak of Carnegie Classic and Carnegie

Renaissance), cities often skimmed on structural details that later proved ruinous, as individual case histories reveal. The larger grants (\$50,000) made possible the budget Graeco-Roman temples in Dallas, Houston and other large towns; the majority of buildings which still survive, however, are less grandiose structures made possible by coalitions of boosters and booklovers in some very small towns indeed.

It is a curious—and somewhat shameful—fact that Texas had the nation's highest percentage of failures to meet the terms of the agreement with Carnegie concerning the support of the libraries. The only conditions that Carnegie made for his gifts were that the city provide a suitable site and that 10 percent of the amount of the grant be provided each year to maintain the building, purchase books, pay salaries, etc. At one point fourteen Texas recipients were not complying with their pledge. This record looks even worse when one considers that Texas received few grants compared to other states with comparable populations (Indiana had the highest number of grants of any state with 164 and California had 142).²

Ballinger

Ballinger has what many would consider to be the most beautiful of the remaining Carnegie buildings. Unlike the others, which were built primarily of brick, it is constructed entirely of a locally quarried white stone, impressive in its dimensions and clean of line. It is one of only five Carnegie buildings in Texas still used as a public library, a rarity not pointed out when it was featured on "The Eyes of Texas," a television program which deals with Texas life and history, on November 17, 1979.

Like several Carnegies in small towns, it is considerably larger than is needed for library purposes (probably 9,000 square feet, not including the basement). The Library Board had plans drawn for a much smaller new library, but the restorationists won out. Mrs. J. Dexter Eoff and other members of the Runnels County Historical Society have been active in seeking restoration grants, and Mrs. Joe Busenlehner, the librarian, is pleased with the decision. Some West Texas librarians who are familiar with the structure thought it a bad decision to restore the old building rather than build a new one. However, Ballinger is such an attractive place that the decision was in character, and one senses that it will prove successful.

At the time of this writer's visit, the entire book stock was housed in a single partitioned-off reading room on the ground floor, but a "modern multi-use center" is planned. A master plan has been prepared by Larry Jones while working under Willard B. Robinson, a professor of architecture and museum science at Texas Tech University. This plan shows an



Carnegie Library at Ballinger

exterior true to the original construction period (except for a ramp entrance in the rear) and an interior updated to meet the needs of a modern library. Fortunately, Ballinger was one of the few Carnegies with the entrance on the ground floor, so there are only a few front steps. The exterior phase of the restoration has been essentially completed; its purpose was to halt deterioration and make it weathertight. According to the Ballinger Ledger, woodwork was painted, windows, columns, and moldings reworked, mortar joints repaired, and steel reinforcing rods installed in the rear of the structure.

The interior has much to be done, but even in its present state one senses what has made so many local people and other Texans enthusiastic about restoring the building so it can take a more active part in the city's life again. It is potentially elegant, with small stained-glass windows near the entrance and interior columns. The floors are beautiful hardwood and the windows are large and well-designed (many Carnegies seem dark and cramped inside—Ballinger's seems light and spacious, even though not much larger than most of the others); the ceilings are embossed metal and at least sixteen feet high. There has always been a meeting room on the ground floor which in earlier days—before desire for air conditioning became all-important—was used for club meetings and receptions. There is even a full kitchen to meet the demands of these functions. In short, it suggests a spacious old home more than a public building. The librarian recalls the school carnivals which were held in the upstairs auditorium (with an enormous stage!),

with back stairs going all the way to the basement, which was used as a house of horrors (complete with trapdoor); a skull and crossbones painted over the stair can still be seen. Recapturing all this nostalgia in the 1980's may not be possible, but one hopes that grants and gifts keep coming.

Jefferson

Two other cities, Jefferson and Palestine, have Carnegie buildings which can rival Ballinger's in overall aesthetic appeal if not quite in architectural merit, and both are still being used as public libraries. Jefferson's Carnegie Library harmoniously blends in with other handsome old structures in the heart of this city which is the preservationists' dream. A distinction that Jefferson's Carnegie would certainly merit is that of having had the largest variety of uses other than as a library. It has been school, dance studio, Red Cross headquarters, youth center, office space for various government agencies (e.g. W.P.A.), museum, and sewing center for the needy. Although "only" a library these days, the Carnegie is a notable part of Jefferson's cultural life and participates in the famed Historical Pilgrimage by accomodating an art show in the large hall that occupies the second floor.

Despite this, it is operated on the smallest of budgets. In recent years the city has given \$250, the county \$500, and card-holders paid dues of \$1 per person or \$2 per family. There is only one paid (part-time) employee; other workers are volunteers. Not surprisingly in this city which runs counter to so many other trends, the Jefferson Carnegie is unique in that the city gave the library building to a self-perpetuating Library Board, whose members volunteer time to operate the library. In many other cities, clubs that ran libraries gave their collections to the cities when Carnegie presented the building, but Jefferson reversed this pattern.

The collection of Jefferson is a strange one. There is an unusually good scrapbook (mostly filled with clippings from the Jefferson *Jimplecute*) and other materials of historical interest. These materials reveal a varied record of the library's significance to the community. One reads of the sewing center set up here during the depression, sees countless school themes entitled "Our Carnegie Library," and laughs at anecdotes from the 1950's when the building housed a youth center (dances in the auditorium caused lights to quiver and the ceiling to shake). The book stock, though, is made up almost entirely of donations since there is scarcely any money to buy books (let alone the services of a professional librarian). Most significantly, there are no periodical subscriptions. From the beginning, the city has remained detached from the operations of the library. Even the \$200 paid for the two lots on which the building was constructed was provided by Carnegie Library Association. Accord-

ing to one person interviewed, Jefferson had a bitter Reconstruction and it "never really accepted the Carnegie building, because of the 'Yankee' restrictions. When original supporters died off, the library deteriorated because the City felt no moral responsibility for it—a stepchild in the community."

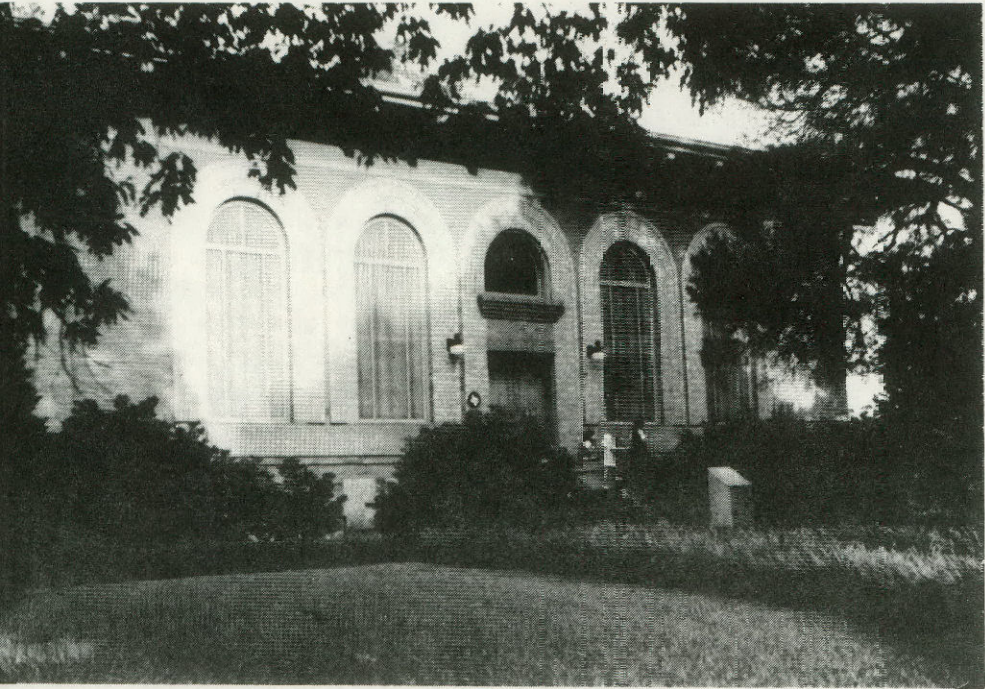
The biggest crisis in the library's history came in December, 1958, when it was made public that extensive repairs would have to be made to the building if it were to continue to give service to the community. The Library Board and the Jefferson Historical Society and Museum together raised \$25,000 (the Museum had been in the Library, but outgrew it and bought the old Post Office-Court House), which provided funds to restore underpinnings, paint inside and out, reinforce brick pillars, replace windows, replaster etc.

Mrs. W.S. Terry, who headed the drive, said it was the "easiest fund-raising ever. We sent letters to almost everyone who had ever lived in Jefferson, had raffles and rummage sales, and the money just rolled in." Typically, a large and well-designed "Fund Raising Scrapbook" is in the library. In January, 1959, these renovations began. This chronicle of repairs began by being called a crisis, because there was some feeling to demolish the Carnegie when the deteriorated state was made public. Engineers, however, found it to be structurally sound despite the extensive repairs necessary to preserve the building.

Palestine

The Palestine Carnegie Library presents as pleasant an aspect as one could hope for in a public building. In a consultants' report prepared by Len Radoff and David Henington in 1979, it was noted that "the Carnegie building is a significant structure. It is a fine example of Prairie architecture in the style of Frank Lloyd Wright, and its basic qualities and features continue to present a facade of distinction and classical symmetry."³ Standing in front of this library, one can capture an idealized image of early twentieth-century America—beautiful lawns studded with shrubs and magnolia, and an attractively maintained building looking (if one doesn't look too closely) as good as new.

The picture inside is not such a romantic one. Palestine is much larger than Jefferson and the library has been reasonably well supported. The result is serious overcrowding that is threatening the structural integrity, according to the consultants' report. There is no danger of the destruction of this landmark (unless it collapses from the sheer weight of the book stacks) because of the sincere attachment of the local citizens. However, there are serious problems: in addition to the damage to the structure caused by excessive weight on the floors, the building shows the strange propensity for Carnegie structures to have faulty basements. The report notes "problems with water in the basement have persisted



Carnegie Library at Palestine

from the time the library was built." As the report further suggests, it is felt that the library should be converted to some less strenuous use—perhaps to a museum and meeting rooms,⁴ as in the case of Sherman, Cleburne, and Belton.

Stamford

One has to return to West Texas, to Stamford, to see the Carnegie which no one could ever guess was one. From the preservationists' point of view, what happened in Stamford was a disaster. Because West Texas aridity does not lend itself to the trees and shrubbery that make buildings age gracefully, there is a great fondness for remodeling by attaching new facades, and that is exactly what happened in Stamford. In 1962, paneled sheet steel was placed around the building down to the stone foundation, and of course the large columns had to be removed so as not to appear too incongruous. Some structural improvements were made at the same time. The result is a usable building that is more than large enough, but certainly not an inspiring one.

The Stamford Carnegie is quite large, with three full floors. Since the remodeling in 1962, the library occupies air-conditioned quarters in the basement (first floor), the Family Planning Center and the meeting room for Alcoholics Anonymous are on the second floor (with only evaporative coolers), and nothing is on the third floor. Before the remodeling, a

youth center was on the first and second floors and the library was at the top of the building. The new quarters, beside being air-conditioned, are also free of leaks (though some damage occurred when some children playing with the plumbing upstairs caused water to run through the ceiling and damage the reference alcove). One unusual memento from early days is the black cast-iron shelving, with four ranges linked together in groups; they are so heavy that one wonders how they avoided plummeting through the wooden floors all the way to the basement before the remodeling. The Stamford Carnegie has fewer archives and relics of its past than any of those which are still libraries. One has to turn to the offices of the local paper, the *Stamford American*, to discover what has happened to the building over the years. On April 5, 1962, a picture of the "Carnegie Library—the Way It Used to Look," was accompanied by the following text:

Visitors at the open house of Carnegie Library will be pleased to find that the building no longer looks like the above picture shows it. New siding covers the outside and new windows give it a more modern look. The entrance way is now protected by a small porch and marble panels flank each side of the swinging glass doors.⁵

The publisher of the *Stamford American* noted that the remodeling was purely a matter of economics. At that time "no one was restoring buildings," and it would have been twice as expensive. To end on a favorable observation, Stamford has a better collection of reading materials than most small town libraries in this state and seems to be serving its community well.

Terrell

The Terrell Carnegie Library is, like Palestine's, a severely overcrowded building. Like many Carnegies, structural difficulties showed up early, and enormous steel rods had to be installed when the building was only ten years old. These rods literally pull in the walls in all directions—with huge turn-buckles to increase the tension if necessary. A new roof was put on in the winter of 1978-79, but the damage on the second floor which precipitated this step is still visible. There are still problems with drainage in one corner because the bricks allow moisture to penetrate. In March 1978, energy saving tinted windows replaced the wood framed windows that had rotted. This improvement, however, may prevent the building being placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The second floor of the library was originally a cultural center for Terrell and was also used as a meeting place for local clubwomen. Plays, lectures, book reviews, and other activities were frequently presented. The auditorium has a fine wooden ceiling, and the front of the second floor has meeting rooms with pull-down partitions which still function

perfectly. As the years passed, however, the upper floor was not used—it became a storage area that collected dust and rubbish. In 1973, the Terrell Heritage Society decided to use the upper floor as a museum of local history in connection with the city's centennial. Thus the upstairs is a museum already, and the Heritage Society would be delighted to take over the whole building. It is a pleasing structure, with a frieze of chiseled names reflecting the literary ideals of the time it was built.

Plans for a new library are taking more positive form than in Palestine, and a piece of property has been acquired—a promising sign both for the future of the building and for library service in the community. The librarian has noted that "the town would never stand for it to be torn down," so serious consideration has been given to making it into a museum, and visits to such places as Cleburne have taken place. The wording of the deed for the land that the Carnegie occupies caused one problem. The Elks Home and Park Association sold the lot to the city for \$750 with the stipulation "that should the said premises at any time cease to be used for the aforesaid purpose and for said purposes only" the land would revert to the Elks. Although the Elks are no longer in Terrell, it was obvious that the city did not have clear title. This has since been resolved as the Elk's state office sent a letter releasing any claim on the land. The Friends of the Library have set a \$75,000 fund-raising goal, and several fund-raising activities have been sponsored.

Sherman

The Sherman Carnegie, now the Sherman Historical Museum, has not been used as a library since the Sherman Public Library was completed in late 1972. The first Carnegie to be converted into a museum, it seems an admirable solution. The museum, which opened July 1, 1976, as "the official storehouse of historical archives of Grayson County," was the city's bicentennial project. Restoration started early in 1976 and involved plaster repairing, painting, installation of new fixtures in restrooms, and air-conditioning. Since the opening, further restoration has repaired the front columns which were pulling away from the building and repaired a leaking wall in the basement (the familiar complaint). The appearance of the Sherman Carnegie is somewhat austere, though the main floor is raised for "prominence" and therefore gives problems of access, like nearly all Carnegies. The basement, which originally housed a lecture room with a capacity of 250, is not yet heavily used in the building's new role. The various reading rooms on the main floor have enabled a meaningful organization of the local historical collection, an important link with the past of this fine old Texas town.

Cleburne

Perhaps the most successful conversion from a Carnegie Library to a museum is in Cleburne, both from the standpoint of the collection and the building itself. Sherman's collection is interesting and the building well restored and maintained, but it is basically a no-nonsense building—very plain as Carnegies go. Cleburne's building is laden with eccentric details which are startling—but exciting—in this day of brick and glass shoeboxes. One is even disappointed that the strange Egyptian-like ornaments originally on the corners of the building were removed at some time in the past. An article in the Museum's clippings file boasts, "It should be noted that the present building was the first attempt at architectural expression in Cleburne."

It is now on the National Register of Historic Places. The Layland Museum, as the building has been renamed, was featured on the March 28, 1981, "Eyes of Texas" telecast, which should help promote awareness of its existence. It has only been officially open as a museum since March 9, 1979 (the public library had moved to its new quarters in July, 1978). The museum collection has Civil War memorabilia, county artifacts (the Laylands were among the earliest settlers of the area), and—most outstandingly—Indian archeological artifacts. Overall observations reveal a building in quite good shape, with much restoration in progress at the time of this author's visit.

Architectural details are ornate, and an effort has been made to obtain fittings contemporary with the building. The few original pieces of furniture are well cared for, and the inside plaster columns have been restored by volunteers. Some historical reference sets have been left in the museum although they belong to the Cleburne Public Library. Only theatrical or historically related programs are eligible to use the restored auditorium, and now there is even a permanent theatrical group called the Carnegie Players. What used to be the children's reading room upstairs is set aside for meetings and slide presentations. When asked to rate the present condition of the Carnegie building, the city librarian rated it "fair," but the curator of the Layland Museum rated it "good." It should be noted that the new library, which shares a building with City Hall, is somewhat smaller than the Carnegie; if one considers the adjoining meeting room which the library may use, however, it is considerably larger, and of course the space is much more suited to modern library uses.

Belton

Belton is the third city to dedicate its Carnegie as a museum. Like the other two, the Bell County Museum features county pioneer artifacts, memorabilia, personal archives, etc. The City of Belton retained owner-

ship of the Carnegie when the library moved to its new building in 1975, but Bell County has obtained a 99-year lease. Three groups, the Bell County Historical Survey Committee, the Bell County Fine Arts Association, and the Governor Samuel Matthews Chapter of the Colonial Dames, 17th Century, submitted competing proposals for the use of the building. Their claims were first publicly aired in a hearing by the Belton Council on February 11, 1975. The latter group was apparently eliminated quickly (they wished to obtain title to the building and convert it to a museum and theological center), because a hearing on May 28, 1975, involved only the first two groups; at that meeting the decision was made for the building to be a museum rather than an arts center, but to date the elaborate plans (*Temple Daily Telegraph*, May 29, 1975, reported "the Committee will begin work on a master plan to restore the building to its early 1900's splendor") have not come to fruition. In fact, Bell County Museum looks rather dilapidated, but there are recent signs that some restoration may finally be done.

Clippings in the Belton Public Library vertical file indicate that the city feels it is nearly unique in that its check was directly from Andrew Carnegie rather than from the Carnegie Corporation. As a matter of fact, the Carnegie Corporation was not formed until 1911, so the great majority of those cities which received money before that time received personal gifts from Carnegie. The formal term "grant" is usually used as a convenience for those gifts as well.

Gainesville

Gainesville is the only city which is using its Carnegie as an arts center, although Belton considered that alternative. It is difficult to know what to say about this structure, other than that it is one of the ones less likely to be still standing in the next century. Frankly, it is not a beautiful building, and it shows all the years since it was opened October 16, 1914; a long-time librarian, Miss Lillian Gunter, described it as "a very plain one-story and high basement structure of native cream colored pressed brick, dimensions 50 feet x 60 feet." A person not aware of its contribution to Gainesville's cultural history (and therefore not applying rosy subjectivity to his glance) might call it ugly. The first use that would come to mind—as a museum—would not apply in Gainesville because it already has a good local museum housed in the old fire station. On the other hand, Gainesville has a fine collection of Victorian mansions; the public appreciation of the city's history, which is obvious even to the casual visitor, bodes well for the eventual restoring of the Carnegie. In the meantime the building is being used; in fact, recent reports indicate that it is being used for theatrical performances again. For some years it has been leased by the city to Art Activities for \$1.00 annually. The building is maintained by that organization, but the city carries an

insurance policy and says it has not even considered demolishing the structure. Cooke County College has conducted some of its art classes—the messier ones—in the building, and there is a kiln in the basement.

There is no great mystery why the library left the building. Many records catalog both the progress and the increasing difficulties with the Carnegie building, as well as the earlier library. Gainesville was one of the few towns in Texas which had a viable public library before the Carnegie grant. It was the second county library to be created in Texas (in 1920, when the Carnegie was only six years old). Also significant was the fact that in 1923, Gainesville was providing services to black citizens, although Miss Gunter's account shows it was certainly separate and unequal:

On the lower floor is a Negro reading room with separate entrance, then the only one in the state [*sic*: Rosenberg Library in Galveston had a branch for Negroes in 1905. Houston a colored Carnegie in 1912], completely equipped and ready for the books which it will be the duty of our colored citizens to supply.

By the end of World War II, the building was looking frayed. "It was recommended that a new building be planned for, or the old one reconstructed, to give at least twice as much space. The lighting was antiquated, and there was very little work space. Books were shelved on tables because the shelf space was insufficient. There was no office and less than one-fourth the storage space needed. There were no public restrooms. The floor covering was worn out and the inside stairs were unsafe." (*Report of Post-War Plans for Cooke County Free Library.*) It is not surprising, then, that the library moved to a new facility.

Franklin

Franklin's distinction is that it was the most blatant in its failure to comply with the agreement with the Carnegie Corporation. The building was not completed until 1914, but old timers in Franklin give assurance that they attended the first grade in the Carnegie building almost as far back as that date (one even said 1913 was the first year it was used as a classroom). Whatever the exact date, the building was used as a library only a short time. Some slight modifications were then made—the visitor can see how the open arches which made two reading rooms on the main floor have been boarded in to make two classrooms. Though the Carnegie housed the first and second grades for many years, the present use is as a home economics class building on the main floor, and a Coordinated Vocational Academic Education shop in the basement. A new high school is to be constructed, and home economics may soon move. It is used as the polling place, but it is doubtful that that would be sufficient service. Some thought was given to housing a health clinic there, but the people concerned did not think the building would suit.

There will probably be some pressure on the site, as the Carnegie backs on a busy highway and has a Dairy Queen next door.

If the busy site was not a disagreeable feature the best solution might be to sell it as a residence. An article called "Wanna Sell Your Old Carnegie?" gave one example, among three Carnegie case histories, of a large residence being made from a Carnegie a few years ago. In Franklin's case, the upper floor would make a pair of gigantic living areas and the more than 1,700 square feet in the basement could be divided into a number of bedrooms. The small section which juts out behind the building could be a kitchen upstairs and a suite of baths downstairs. The cost of restoring would be fairly high, but nothing like the cost of new construction since the building seems to be structurally sound; the square footage is approximately 3,500, the smallest Texas Carnegie but a large residence. The home economics teacher, Mrs. Majorie Sullivan, who has taught in the building for years, sees no major problems— even the traditionally leaky Carnegie basement has been successfully repaired by the school system. The imaginative eye can see many possibilities; the hardwood floors are in good shape, the embossed ceiling is not bad, the columns framing the two interior porticos on either side of the ample entry could be stripped back to their natural wood finish, etc. All this is most unlikely in a small town like Franklin, but it offers one of the few hopes that the building might be restored to its simple, but attractive, original appearance. Incidentally, the town now has a public library, but it is housed in a very small building on the Courthouse Square.

Wiley College

Although Carnegie made many gifts to educational institutions for library buildings, only one is in Texas. That recipient is Wiley College, a small, predominately black, private institution in Marshall. It seems widely believed in Marshall that the Carnegie representatives had intended to give the city the \$15,000 in 1906. The city allegedly refused because the library would have to be an integrated facility, and the Carnegie people, piqued, went across town to Wiley. This seems unlikely for two reasons. Though Carnegie disliked segregation and urged cities to make libraries available to all, he was enough of a realist to know that this would not be the case in the South of his day. He therefore based his funding formulas only on the white population in cities where segregation prevailed. In the second place, as has already been noted, Carnegie was very generous to colleges and universities (over \$12,000,000) and notably to Negro colleges. Furthermore, Marshall is not among those cities listed by Bobinski (Beaumont, Commerce, Crockett, Denton, Gatesville, Gilmer, Nacogdoches, Paris, Port Arthur, and Wharton) as having refused a Carnegie grant.⁶ Incidentally,



Carnegie Library at Bryan

the Carnegie Corporation has no microfilmed correspondence with Marshall or Wiley College.

In any case, Wiley College received the grant and built the structure which is now the Willis J. King Administration Building (named after a Wiley graduate, class of 1910, who went on to become a distinguished educator and Methodist bishop). The college library has moved to a much larger building. The building has a beautifully restored exterior of red brick, and the modern windows are not jarring; the interior, however, has been completely gutted, and the resulting administrative offices look as though they were built only a few years ago, as indeed they were.

Bryan

Bryan is the only city to be using its Carnegie as a city office building, currently housing the Division of Planning, Traffic, Inspections, and Community Developments. It is such a vigorously growing city that officials were glad to have an empty building when the new Bryan Public Library was dedicated December 14, 1969, sixty-six years to the day after the Carnegie Library had opened. This use is seen as temporary by everyone, however, because there is a very strong desire to use the Carnegie as a museum. A "Statement of Significance" has been prepared to acquaint interested persons with the most historically

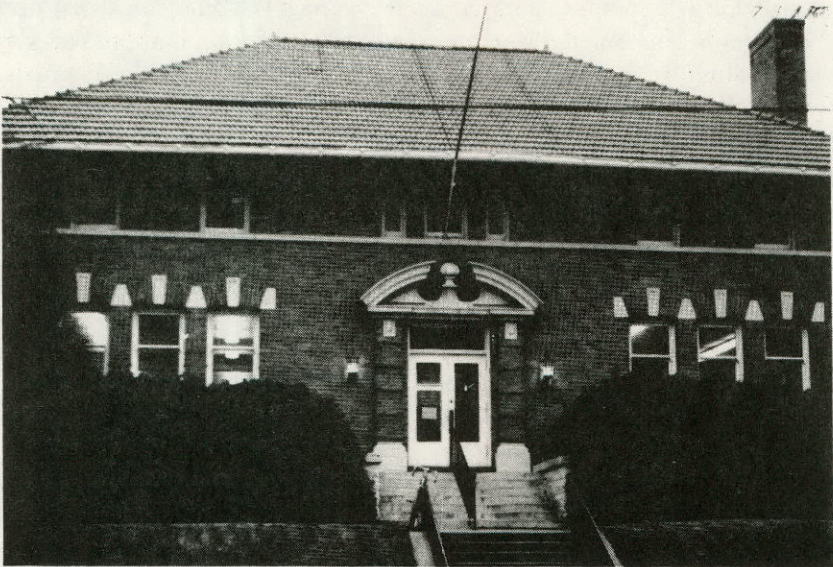
important building in Bryan. From the time of building, the Carnegie was "the center of the town's cultural, religious, civic, and political activities." The most memorable historical significance, however, had to do with an event reaching beyond Bryan, the long association with Hood's Texas Brigade. This famed Civil War military group met in the Carnegie auditorium every year from 1919 until the death of the last soldier in 1933. A small white stone set into the red brick reads: HOOD'S TEXAS BRIGADE/BRYAN OUR LAST HOME/AND THIS HOUSE OUR LAST HEADQUARTERS. Joining this marker on the front of the Carnegie is a historical medallion placed by the Texas Historical Survey Committee on December 5, 1964 (first in Brazos County), and a historical marker placed in December, 1969. The building was recorded in the National Register of Historic Places on October 27, 1976, and thereby entitles Bryan to H.U.D. funds for restoration. Instrumental in obtaining this status was an organization called Citizens for Historic Preservation, formed in 1975. This group leads those who, in their words, "hope to restore the building and use it for a historical museum with the Junior Museum of Natural History on the second floor. The County has no museum. Bryan is an old town and there are many attics here which are crying to empty their precious relics to a suitable place." The idea of a Junior Museum on the second floor is a fine idea for continuity, because for many years that area was the children's library. The old auditorium stage was used for programs which the children produced themselves.⁷

The city has maintained the structure well, other than such non-structural details as the Corinthian columns which adorn its Greek-Revival facade. Bryan chose well in hiring a local Aggie architect (Fred Edward Giesecke) because this is the only Texas Carnegie with no steps and no damp basement—it sits flush to the ground. Unfortunately, the old furniture has been disposed of with the exception of a few pieces which were moved to the new library "contrary to the architect's desire." Perhaps some of those who purchased pieces when the Friends of the Library disposed of them will place those association pieces in the museum where it is set up.

Tyler

The Tyler Carnegie building is presently in a state of limbo; unlike other Carnegies it has suffered from a surfeit of attention since the library moved out last summer. The only thing definite is that the city will retain the building for its own use, and the present plan is to convert it into a senior citizens' center. The city commissioned detailed plans for the conversion, whose major features are an elevator tower on the north side (away from the street), a series of ramps on the side street to a new main entrance, and restoration of Carnegie Hall on the second floor to

its original function as a large auditorium. All these plans upset several groups which have different plans for the building: the Historical Society would like to have it for a museum, a group of businessmen would like it for an "old-town" shopping center, and still another group sees it as a United Way center. There is even a small, but vocal, group of elderly citizens who want to hold out for a luxurious center constructed just for them—not a city hand-me-down. All this dissension has caused the city to call for a public hearing June 5, 1981, to see what Tylerites think about using the Carnegie as a senior citizens' center. The main point is that the city is committed to preservation, as it should be. Though not as handsome as some Carnegies, the building is on the National Register of Historic Places, and all structural studies show that it is well-built and well-maintained. The Tyler Carnegie is the only one still standing which was enlarged, because other large towns which outgrew their Carnegies before World War II simply demolished them. Tyler used matching funds and labor from the W.P.A. to double the size to 11,000 square feet in 1935-1936; this was a large library then, but was very small for a city Tyler's size (metropolitan area well over 100,000) at the time the new library was opened in mid-1980. The Carnegie gives the appearance of having been constructed entirely in 1904, because the brickwork and red tile roof (its most distinctive feature) match so well. At the same time as the addition, murals were painted by a W.P.A. artist to depict life and industry of the Tyler area in that era. The old library has three floors, but staff members refer to the basement as a dungeon (one whole room was sealed off in the past for some reason, and one can see through the



Carnegie Library at Tyler

cracks, like Howard Carter, "wonderful things": old books, chests, etc.). The structure is as solid as a rock, though, and hopefully can give the city of Tyler many more years of good service.

Memphis

Memphis has a Carnegie structure still standing, though it is no longer the library. At the time of the author's visit, the move had just been made to the new, much smaller, library (May 1978) and there was already talk about selling the Carnegie for brick. Now, three years later, the situation is still much the same. It is assumed that the building will be torn down eventually, but no firm decision has been made. Early this year the contents were sold (many books and some furniture, such as the massive charging desk, had not been moved), leaving an empty shell. The building had been condemned as structurally unsound many years ago. The second story had long been abandoned owing to a bad roof and shaky floor, and the bath (singular) was antiquated. Observation revealed that the cracks in the masonry (the walls had had to be braced) allowed plenty of West Texas dust to filter in. There is no apparent need for the building; Memphis already has a local history museum, housed in an old bank, so possibly by the time this article is in print the existing Carnegies will be reduced to thirteen.

References

1. Nearly all the information in this article was obtained from one of three kinds of sources: librarians, city managers, library trustees, and "old-timers;" personal observation of library buildings and the services which libraries give their host communities; and vertical file materials, whose efficacy varied greatly depending upon the penchant for packratting and inverse fondness for tidiness by generations of previous librarians. Any material gleaned from sources other than these three kinds will be here documented with formal footnotes.
2. George S. Bobinski, *Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1969), p.20.
3. Leonard Radoff and David Henington, *Community Analysis with Recommendations for Library Development: City of Palestine* (Houston: Library Consultants' Study, 1979), p.15.
4. *Ibid.*, p.16.
5. *Stamford American* (April 5, 1962), p.6.
6. Bobinski, *Carnegie Libraries*, pp. 116-133.
7. Ardith K. Melloh, "Children's Programs at Carnegie Public Library," *Texas Libraries*, Vol. 16 (May, 1954), p.4.

Texans who cannot read ordinary printed material because of poor vision or a physical handicap that prevents their reading ordinary books and magazines can obtain books and magazines recorded on disks and tape, embossed in braille, and printed in large type from the Texas State Library. The materials are mailed at no charge anywhere in Texas. For more information, write the Texas State Library, Box 12927 Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711. Or call 1-800-252-9605. This is a toll-free call. The materials include informational and recreational reading. Thanks to a volunteer recording program, an increasing number of regional titles is being made available. Readers may select subjects in which they are interested, and a new book will be sent each time they return one. They may also make special requests by calling the toll-free number.

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Austin, Texas 78711

Permit No. 586

TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
TEXAS ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY BUILDING
BOX 12927 — CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711