The Frances C. Poage Map Room dedication and the opening of the map exhibit, “Mapping It Out: A Cartographic History of Texas,” will be possible.” John Wilson, Interim Director of The Texas Collection and Baylor University. The dedicated facility also honors Poage, the new map room would not be possible.”

The Race to the Ends of the Earth, and the Epic Story of the Map That Gave America It’s Name

The Fourth Part of the World

The Fourth Part of the World,秋 2010

Upcoming Events

Toby Lester, author of The Fourth Part of the World, will lecture at The Texas Collection on the Web in The Texas Collection.

Above: Baylor students Amy Bunch, Jonathan Paige, and Sheralom Thomas research in the media room.

In the Ruth Shick Montgomery Media Resources Room, the addition of new furniture, cabinetry, lamps, tables, lighting, and equipment make this a fully functioning area that patrons can use for a variety of media-related tasks. The room is also home to a Knowledge Imaging Center (KIC) scanning station, which provides a fast, environmentally-friendly way to quickly scan and store images.

Recent Renovations at The Texas Collection

The Frances C. Poage Map Room moved into a newly remodeled space. Custom cabinetry, lighting, and furniture has been added to protect, preserve, and organize map holdings.

Above: Graduate student Ah Ra Cho uses the KIC scanner in the Ruth Shick Montgomery Media Resources Room.

Toby Lester, author of The Fourth Part of the World, will present a lecture to dedicate the grand opening of The Texas Collection.

Fall 2010

Upcoming Events

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The Race to the Ends of the Earth, and the Epic Story of the Map That Gave America It’s Name

The Fourth Part of the World, and book signing at The Texas Collection will be held immediately following the lecture. We invite you to join us for these events.

Congressman William R. Poage established an endowment to help The Texas Collection purchase and preserve map holdings. These funds were also be used to help establish a map room in honor of his wife, Frances. In addition to monetary donations, Congressman Poage donated maps for the collection and solicited donations from others. Now with over 10,000 maps, the collection has grown extensively since Poage first established the fund. The issue was where to store these holdings.

Construction on a map room began in February 2009 and was completed in September 2010. The Frances C. Poage Map Room is now a place where map holdings will be preserved and used in a space worthy of such a great friend to The Texas Collection. Small maps are stored in the 170 flat files lining the walls, and large maps are kept in their-to-ceiling wooden storage units specially designed for oversize maps.

Sitting prominently in the middle of the room, the 9 x 9 glass-topped table also contains additional storage undershelves for large maps. Above the table hang a beautiful stained glass globe, task lighting lines the perimeter of the room. To preserve the maps from damaging sunlight, UV-blocking glazing was installed. With rich millwork, multiple counterops, large workspaces, effective lighting, as well as the vast map collection which fills it, the Frances C. Poage Map Room is truly an asset to The Texas Collection and Baylor University.

“This new Poage Map room was built to accommodate this expansive collection of Texas maps,” John Wilson, Interim Director of The Texas Collection, said. “And it is hoped that everyone will feel welcome and want to use this amazing resource. Having this collection at Baylor is a true honor and Baylor and Central Texas are fortunate to have it nearby. If not for the generous endowment provided by Congressman Poage, the new map room would not be possible.”

With Lester’s extensive research and his ability to draw readers into a story, Wilson has trouble envisioning anyone more suitable to dedicate the new home to some of Waco and Texas’ most treasured maps.

Lester is a major author who has spent a considerable amount of time and energy on researching and writing a story about discovery, geography, and geography. 

With Lester’s extensive research and his ability to draw readers into a story, Wilson has trouble envisioning anyone more suitable to dedicate the new home to some of Waco and Texas’ most treasured maps. Lester is a major author who has spent a considerable amount of time and energy on researching and writing a story about discovery, geography, and geography.

Lester first takes the reader through the story of the Waldseemüller world map of 1507 and the lasting impact its discovery and subsequent discoveries have had on the face of the modern world. To tell the map’s story, Lester first takes the reader back to the discovery and exploration of “the fourth part of the world”, which would eventually be called America. He tracks the map’s creation by Martin Waldseemüller, following it until the information it provides inspires Nicholas Copernicus to conclude that the world is not the center of the universe.

“The book is beautifully researched and written,” Wilson said. “Lester is an engaging author and he is a gifted storyteller. How he manages to tell the story about the first map to have America written on it and make it into a page turner is worthy of admiration and praise.”

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Parting Thoughts From the Director

The Texas Collection is a very exciting place to be these days. Even better times are ahead for this venerable institution started by its distinguished founder and principal donor, Dr. Kenneth Sas and former director, Dean F. E. Davis. From its days on campus to its current residence in the Department of History, it has been a valuable resource for students and researchers alike. The Texas Collection has played a key role in the history of Baylor University, and it continues to honor the legacy of its principal donor, Dr. Kenneth Sas, and its distinguished founder and former director, Dean F. E. Davis.

Thank you for supporting The Texas Collection with your gifts of Civil War letters, photographs, Baylor items, and monetary donations. All have been gratefully received over the past eight months. Your continued support allows the collection to thrive and continue to be a valuable resource for students and researchers alike.

Greetings From the Interim Director

The unspeakable horrors of century-old oak trees and dusty trail gently guide visitors through a rich history that offers some of the best stories in Texas — and undoubtedly the best of Baylor University. The Texas Collection is home to a pristine copy of both the military unit lettering and numbers used to indicate place names and roads, resulting in a high-resolution image on each map. The maps are not just static images, but are interactive and allow viewers to click on the maps to zoom into small details on each map, such as the small letters and numbers. The resulting high-resolution image will allow online visitors to see small details on each map, such as the small lettering and numbers used to indicate place names and roads.

A Timeless Heritage Calls for Timeless Support

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CIVIL WAR MAPS DIGITIZED

An important collection of Civil War maps will be available online, thanks to a grant from the Heart of Texas Foundation, the Ray I. Riley Digitization Center in the Moody Memorial Library, and partnerships with local organizations. Baylor University's tangible and historical presence in the village of Independence, Texas, is a heritage that would have been lost without the preservation efforts of local organizations, Baylor University, and the town of Independence.

The maps, which were created from scans of original source material, were presented in a standardized format that allows researchers to more efficiently pursue their interests and use the maps as tools for research.

The next steps in the process involve quality control and ensuring that the maps are accessible to researchers. The maps will be available online for free, providing a valuable resource for students and researchers alike.

The University of Texas at Austin has opened Independence Visitor's Center. The town overflows with rich heritage that dates back to the 1800s—a heritage that would have been lost without the preservation efforts of local organizations, Baylor University, and the town of Independence.