Who uses The Texas Collection?

Who uses The Texas Collection? The Texas Collection is the proud repository of the world's largest collection of materials related to the history of Texas. If you have an interest in Texas, you will find fascinating materials in The Texas Collection.

The Texas Collection is the home of important collections related to Texas history, including the papers of early Texas leaders, rare and unique books and manuscripts, and other materials that help tell the story of Texas.

For information about the collections, visit the website: www.baylor.edu/lib/texas

Left: Thomas Field, student at the London School of Economics, is researching diplomat Thomas Maitre (BA and LLB'34), for his dissertation on United States relations with Bolivia in the 1960s.

Right: Joe W. Forrest researches John J. Audubon's time in Texas.

Right: Dr. Kenneth C. Hafertepe, Chair for Museum Studies at Baylor, is currently researching for his book on the material culture of German Texans.

Right: Baylor senior Anastasia Carter researches for her History of Texas class.

Above: Dr. Charles Grear, Assistant Professor of History at Prairie View A&M University, is the 2009 recipient of the Bumney Parker Research Fellowship, which is awarded to a visiting scholar to promote the study of Texas history. Dr. Grear focused his research on Texas and Texas during the Civil War, both soldiers and civilians.

For additional information about this fellowship, please visit our Web site: www.baylor.edu/lib/texas

Right Historical true crime authors Sherri Keen and James Pyles research for their latest book, which is set in Waco. For more information, please visit www.JacobBallBooks.com and www.TomPsFiddle.com.

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Upcoming Events

Lecture featuring Mike Shoup, from the Antique Rose Emporium, who will discuss his book "Texas Blooms." Reception and book signing to follow.

Febr. 25, 2010, 3 p.m.


The Texas Collection is a co-sponsor of this event.

March 18, 2010, 4 p.m.

"Texas Blooms," an exhibit celebrating horticulture in Texas.

February-May 2010

Grand opening and dedication of the new Frances Poage Map Room.

For additional events at The Texas Collection, please visit our Web site: www.baylor.edu/lib/tex

Texas Blooms

Lecture and Exhibit to Explore Roses, Horticulture in Texas

The Texas Collection's 2010 spring lecture and exhibits will center on the theme of "Texas Blooms." Featured speaker, G. Michael Shoup, founder of the Antique Rose Emporium in Independence, Texas, will present "Lessons From a Rose Rustler" on Thursday, February 25, at 3:00 p.m. in the Guy B. Harrison Reading Room, first floor, Carroll Library. Shoup, who admits to always having an interest in plants, majored in biology at Trinity University where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree. He has a master's degree in horticulture from Texas A&M University. He has served on the board of directors and as president of the Heritage Rose Foundation, an organization dedicated to the preservation of antique roses.

Rustling is a "time honored tradition" in Texas and around the world according to the Texas Rose Rustlers, an organization that studies and preserves old garden roses. Their website www.texasroserustlers.com includes an "Etiquette of the Rustle." The Antique Rose Emporium specializes in the reintroduction and distribution of historic Old Garden Roses. Two garden/retail centers— one in Independence and the other in San Antonio — showcase the varieties of antique roses in today's gardens. Shoup's hope is that there will be a "renaissance in the preservation of these rare and beautiful roses."

Shoup has published three books about antique roses—Landscape with Antique Roses with Liz Drussel (1992), Roses in the Southern Garden (2000), and The Guide to Antique Roses, which has just been released. Copies of the latter two will be available for sale after the lecture.

Purchase your copy of Roses in the Southern Garden and The Guide to Antique Roses after the lecture.

Lecture and Exhibit to Explore Roses, Horticulture in Texas

Interested in horticulture in Texas? Be sure to see the “Texas Blooms” exhibit in The Texas Collection. Exhibit will feature botanical illustrations, vintage pressed flowers, and a plethora of materials on many aspects of horticulture, from growing vegetables to landscaping to identifying wildflowers.

The exhibit will run February-May and is open to the public.

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Excitement abounds in Washington County in the neighborhood of Independence, where Texas Collection personnel have been busy preparing facilities to house visitors, current staff members, and tourists. Historical research and document preservation with village residents and organizations are also moving forward.

The highlights of this progress may be expressed succinctly:

- Digital scanning of documents, correspondence, images, and other archival materials has accelerated, thanks to the staff of Christina Gilliam and Courtney Hale, temporary assistants to the Director.

**INDEPENDENCE VISITOR CENTER TO OPEN**

Great news! The Texas Collection is pleased to announce that the Independence Visitor Center will soon be available for Baylorites, local citizens, and passersby in the historic village of Independence, Texas. The center will serve a variety of purposes. The annual Baylor Line Camps that bring incoming freshmen to Independence to learn early university traditions will now have an office. In addition, the several historic preservation projects of The Texas Collection (Baylor Library System) will now have comfortable quarters in Washington County and an even stronger relationship with the active Independence Historical Society.

The newly renovated building, now home to the visitor center, has quite a history. In 1824, as one of the original “Old Three Hundred” empresarios, Stephen F. Austin led a small Texas colony of settlement approved by Mexico. John P. Coles arrived in the Brazos Valley with his family and began a community called Coles’ Settlement not far from where Baylor University would one day have a college campus (1845-1886). In 1835, the Mexican central government erected a small, very strong building for Coles—now the appointed alcalde—and other officials. Shortly after the Texas Revolution, the community’s name changed to Independence, and Coles continued in a new judicial capacity, this time for the fledgling Republic of Texas. The newly renovated building, now home to the visitor center, will be formally dedicated on the afternoon of Friday, April 16, 2010. We hope to see you there!

The building continued in use for area judicial proceedings, and the heirs of Mrs. Earle A. Lange. Baylor University negotiated with the Powells for this attractive, venerable structure. Restoration was completed under the watchful eyes of the Powells for this attractive, venerable structure. The three-room edifice now has gorgeous cedar flooring, central HVAC, a small bathroom, and ample space for its new occupants to carry out a new program of greeting visitors and providing general service to travelers. The Independence Visitor Center will be formally dedicated on the afternoon of Friday, April 16, 2010. We hope to see you there!

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- Walking paths on Windmill Hill—the original male campus between 1845 and 1886—are being enhanced with stone borders and smoother crushed granite surfaces, and a large stone sign on Texas FM 56 will soon direct visitors to this beautiful site on Sam Houston Road.

- The Independence Visitor Center, co-sponsored by Baylor and the local Independence Historical Society, will be ready for occupancy by the day of its dedication and grand opening on April 16, 2010.

Readers now have several new reasons for journeying to the crossroads village of Independence. For the Texas Collection, the village continues to provide a wonderful venue for research and preservation efforts. For local residents of Independence, our sincere hope is that they are enjoying renewed attention by the university and basking in the light that comes from discoveries by passersby.

- Thomas L. Charlton

**THE TEXAS COLLECTION GOES DIGITAL**

As part of a university-wide digitization initiative, The Texas Collection, in collaboration with Baylor’s Electronic Library, began digitizing select, highly utilized resources in 2008. Digitization not only aids users globally, but it also helps prolong the life of these materials, many of them fragile and rare. With the assistance of student workers, The Texas Collection is continually able to add to its ever-growing list of electronic holdings.

Researchers may find catalogs for Baylor University at Independence and Waco University as well as select Texas legislative manuals. Partial runs of Round Up, Lariat, and Waco City Directory are already part of the electronic collection, and more are in the process of being added.

Digitized collections may be accessed via The Texas Collection homepage (www.baylor.edu/lib/texas) or the Electronic Library homepage (www.baylor.edu/lib/el).