THE TOWN OF HOUSTON

SITUATED at the bend of navigation, on the West bank of Buffalo Bayou, is now for the first time brought to public notice, because, until now, the proprietors were not ready to offer it to the public, with the advantages of capital and improvements.

The town of Houston is located at a point on the river which must ever command the trade of the largest and richest portion of Texas. By reference to the map, it will be seen that the trade of San Jacinto, Spring Creek, New Kentucky and the Brazos, above and below Fort Bend, must necessarily come to this place, and will at this time warrant the employment of at least One Million Dollars of capital, and when the rich lands of this country shall be settled, a trade will flow to it, making it, beyond all doubt, the great interior commercial emporium of Texas.

The town of Houston is distant 15 miles from the Brazos river, 30 miles, a little North of East, from San Felipe, 40 miles from Washington, 40 miles from Lake Creek, 30 miles South West, from New Kentucky, and 15 miles by water and 8 or 10 by land above Harrisburg. Tide water runs to this place and the lowest depth of water is about 4 feet. Vessels from New Orleans or New York can sail without obstacle to this place, and steamboats of the largest class can run down to Galveston Island in 8 or 10 hours, in all seasons of the year. It is but a few hours sail down the bay, where one may take an excursion of pleasure and enjoy the luxuries of fish, shell, oysters and sea bathing.

Galveston harbor being the only one in which vessels drawing a large draft of water can navigate, most necessarily under the Island the great naval and commercial depot of the country.

The town of Houston must be the commerce center, and provisions for the government will be stored, because situated at the very heart of the country, it commands security and the means of easy distribution, and a national arsenal will not doubt very soon be established at this point.

There is no place in Texas more healthy, 1. A. Abundance of excellent spring water, and containing the water of the Gulf. No place in Texas possesses so many advantages, the climate, the trade and the rates of tax.

Oak is inexhaustible quantity by the salt and brackish Magnolia, rows in abundance. In the vicinity are large, pieces of stone.

Nature appears to have designated this place for the future seat of government. It has none of theæsthetic requirements. An extensive and well watered, be

...in the high and deep bed and the source of the river. As the country shall improve, rail roads will be in use, and will be extended from this point to the Brazos, and up the canals from this up to the head waters of San Jacinto, running through the east, and in a few years the whole trade of the upper Brazos will make its way into Galveston of Bay through this channel.

Preparations are now making to erect a water saw Mill, and a large Public House for accommodation, will soon be opened. Steamboats now run in to this river, and will in a short time commence running regularly to the Island.

The proprietors offer the lots for sale on moderate terms to those who desire to improve them, and invite the public to examine for themselves.

A. C. ALLEN, for

THE COMMERCIAL BULLETIN, OF NEW ORLEANS, MOBILE ADVERTISER, THE GLOBE,

At Washington, Evening Courrier and New York Epitapher, New York Herald, and Louisville Public Advertiser are requested to make three insertions of this advertisement, and forward their bills to the office for payment.
Founded under the charter of the university dated May 18, 1891, the library was established in 1913. Its present facility was dedicated November 4, 1949, and rededicated in 1969 after a substantial addition, both made possible by gifts of Ella F. Fondren, her children, and the Fondren Foundation and Trust as a tribute to Walter William Fondren. The library recorded its half-millionth volume in 1965; its one millionth volume was celebrated April 22, 1979.

The Friends of Fondren Library was founded in 1950 as an association of library supporters interested in increasing and making better known the resources of the Fondren Library at Rice University. The Friends, through members' dues and sponsorship of a memorial and honor gift program, secure gifts and bequests and provide funds for the purchase of rare books, manuscripts, and other materials which could not otherwise be acquired by the library.

Cover: Advertisement in the "Telegraph and Texas Register", August 2, 1836, from the Masterson Collection, Woodson Research Center. Photo by Kristi Isackson.

Photographs by Elizabeth Dabney
Dear Friends,

As we begin the 1986-1987 year, Fondren Library and the Friends of Fondren face many challenges. As your new President, I look forward to meeting these with the same help and support you have shown the Fondren Library over the past year. Perhaps the most exciting challenge is to help the Library participate fully in the goals of the Rupp Administration. This will include further use of new information technologies, renovation of the existing building and formulation of long-range plans to allow the Fondren Library to keep pace with Rice’s future. Your liaison between the Library and the community at large is just as important as your financial assistance in successfully addressing these issues.

Another challenge is growth of the Friends organization itself. Now numbering over 1500 members, the Friends of Fondren represent a stable base of alumni and other supporters who contribute significant effort toward the Library’s programs. Your new Membership Vice-President, Mary Lou Rapson, will be concerned with renewals as well as acquiring the new members necessary to keep the Friends a dynamic organization. Your help in publicizing the mission of the Friends and inviting your associates to join is always appreciated. The Patron membership category has been upgraded for 1986-1987 to $250 per year. I hope that this new category will give you an opportunity to upgrade your membership sooner than you might have otherwise been able to do so. Remember that a significant portion of our operating budget, derived from your dues, is used to buy books—a direct contribution to the quality of the Fondren Library’s collection.

Some of the most enjoyable programs on the Rice Campus are sponsored and organized by the Friends. The upcoming year will be particularly challenging in this regard as we try to meet and exceed the fine quality and variety of events arranged by Program Vice-President, Mary Lou Margrave. However, I have little apprehension about our continued success in this area, as Mary Lou is returning to her office with plans for the new year already made. These activities include the following:

New Technologies at Fondren Library—Library tour to see what’s new; Printing History by Mr. Don Piercy, Director, Museum of Printing History; Annual Homecoming Brunch jointly sponsored by the Friends and the Rice engineering Alumni; Book Collecting with Mary Orgain, Appraiser, the Fifth Annual Schubertiad, a nineteenth-century musical event featuring performances by students of the Shepherd School; the Seventh Annual Fondren Saturday Night, the Friends’ annual fund-raising event for the Friends Endowment Fund;
Preview of Student Art Exhibition sponsored by the Friends and the Arts Committee of the Association of Rice Alumni; a reception honoring Rice authors as well as one honoring the founders.

The main fund-raising project of the Friends is also in good hands for the next year. Our new Special Event Vice-President, Edgar O. Lovert, was responsible, with others, for making an expanded Fondren Saturday Night a success last March. This was our first experience at having an event in the RMC, a move which allowed us to triple our invitation list and include more items in the Auction. Despite the poorest economic environment in Houston in recent years, revenues and profits increased by significant margins, allowing our endowment to grow at an unprecedented rate in 1985-1986. We also learned from our first experience in the new location and will be able to make next year’s event an even bigger success.

Perhaps the largest challenge we face this year is brought about by the plan for the complete renovation of the Fondren Building. This plan will take into consideration efficient space utilization given Rice’s present and projected library requirements as well as present and future library technologies. Recently we have seen the implementation of NOTIS, the Fondren’s computerized, on-line catalog, and the opening of the Alice Pratt Brown Library to house the art, architecture and music collections within existing space at Fondren. The Brown facility, which has its own circulation desk, is perhaps a model of what the future holds for the entire Library. How can the Friends participate? Our last major capital project was the renovation of the Sarah Lane Lounge on the third floor. Plans are being made for a similar project which will complement the renovation described above. Your suggestions of what the Friends should undertake are welcome, as is your support in any capital improvement effort.

Finally, I face a personal challenge of being a fairly new (I’d like to say young) Board member who is still learning the ropes of this organization. My experience over the last two years has taught me that there is still much to learn—and much to be accomplished. Luckily, I am privileged to work with a group of Officers and Board members who bring a wealth of experience and truly function as a team. It is this aspect, most of all, which allows me to tell you how much I look forward to the upcoming year.

The Friends of Fondren is a unique organization on the Rice Campus. It brings members of the community, whether or not they are Rice alumni, closer to the great information resources that exist at Rice University. Your support will enhance the ability of the Fondren Library to become a true “information center”, using up-to-date technology to meet the needs of faculty and students as well as other corporate and individual users.

Very truly yours,

David D. Itz
President

Mr. Donald M. Kehn presenting University Librarian Samuel M. Carrington with a donation from the Reading for Pleasure Club.
FONDREN LIBRARY’S READER SERVICES DIVISION

Bill Robnett, Director of Reader Services

The Division of Reader Services, the largest Fondren Library division in numbers of librarians, has a name that also very accurately describes its primary function: service to the readers/users of Fondren Library. It is likely that you have dealt with a member of this division when you have either called or personally come in to Fondren Library. Answering reference questions, selecting books in all subject areas, and searching computerized data bases fall within the activities of the division’s librarians. Rare books and manuscripts, music, and art are part of Reader Services, as is the Business Information Center, located in Herring Hall.

Library Education. Research libraries in academic institutions have evolved from serving as warehouses whose primary functions were to keep books in order on the shelves and the doors open into units with an educational purpose integrated into the academic life of the parent institution. Fondren Library, while continually adding new materials to an already strong collection and keeping its doors open very long hours, has also increased its role direction of serving as an educational unit within Rice University. The Reader Services division is primarily responsible for such activities. Education and orientations for users of the Fondren Library run the gamut of techniques in what has been termed most often within the academic library profession bibliographic instruction. This type of instruction includes a tour/orientation for all incoming freshmen (completed in one day) to a one-credit course in library research techniques each semester of the academic year to weekly introductory sessions for “drop-in” users interested in learning about Fondren’s new automated catalog, LIBRIS. All librarians in the division participate in these educational activities, which are coordinated by one professional librarian, who arranges the educational activities, prepares publicity materials, and helps maintain consistency and quality within the bibliographic instruction program.

Reference Services—New and Old. The reference skills of librarians in the Reader Services division reflect the development of reference activities within the profession since its establishment. Without the modern reference publications and computer-searchable databases which are readily at hand in 1986, early librarians depended very often on well-developed memories of what information was available in which publications. Today the librarians of the Reader Services division depend upon their memories in the same manner, since these same librarians also coordinate book selection. Reading reviews or scanning the contents of many publications may help them solve a problem or answer a question posed by a Fondren Library user months or years after the librarians have browsed through newly arrived materials.

What helps distinguish the modern reference librarian from his/her predecessor is the present-day access to a much more extensive selection and types of reference tools available to assist in information gathering and problem solving. There are approximately 11,000 titles (and many more volumes!) in the Reference Room on the first floor of Fondren Library, a number which does not include the additional reference publications in the Brown Library: Art, Architecture, Music; Woodson Research Center; and the Business Information Center. To give an idea of the type and amount of literature referenced by these published sources, the tenth cumulative index of Chemical Abstracts, covering the years from 1977-1981, includes over 2 million articles published internationally about chemistry-related topics. It should be pointed out that the development of reference sources accompanied the information explosion in order to help provide access to exponentially increasing amounts of printed information, which in turn have been an outgrowth of computerization in many instances, a process which has also been critical in the development of yet more reference sources, especially of the nonprint types.

The nonprint reference sources, now considered essential to research library reference work, include the computer-searchable databases. In many cases these databases are electronic versions of the printed sources in the...
Reference collection in Fondren Library. Examples of these include Chemical Abstracts, PsychInfo (the electronic version of Psychological Abstracts), and Compendex (Engineering Index in a computer searchable format). Other databases exist solely in this electronic format, representing reference tools that must be "learned" in front of a computer terminal, so that the availability of this information can be communicated to the Fondren Library user. Of course these electronic sources are accompanied by printed documentation, representing yet another type of reference tool—those for reference tools!

The computer-searchable databases have taken a new turn during the past five years—they are becoming "user friendly." More accurately the vendors of the systems through which the databases are accessed have recognized that many people have personal computers in their homes or offices, and that there is a market among these people who can do their own database searching without a reference librarian between them and the keyboard (keep in mind that searching databases is much, much more than typing in subject terms to be located in the databases). The key to providing such a "self-search" service was developing new software that literally prompts the user to type in the correct information at the appropriate time during a search. Fondren Library introduced these "user-friendly" search services, specifically BRS/After Dark and Knowledge Index, to the Rice community over two years ago. These services are more economical, which is an attraction for the students, both graduate and undergraduate, and also provide access to databases which are very useful in the academic programs at Rice University. Since the introduction to these services in the library, several departments and professors have set up their own searching operations in their offices and laboratories. The Reader Services librarians now serve as consultants on developing search strategies.

Now technological advances in storing and retrieving information have brought a new challenge—CD-ROM (Compact Disk-Read Only Memory)—to the Reader Services librarians at Fondren Library within the past year. Most of the information is familiar; the format is new. CD-ROM technology, familiar to many audiophiles already, will enable the librarians to bring the hardware into Fondren Library, rather than accessing the databases through telephone lines to sites as remote as New York or California. Among the questions that must be answered are which database systems should be purchased (at this time there is very little standardization among the various systems, so that system-specific hardware must be purchased with each database), how can this information be utilized within the Fondren Library, and are the CD-ROM databases the equivalent of the print sources, when such exist? It is a well-known marketing approach to slightly modify new formats of old information, so that libraries must have all formats to be able to provide all the information within the databases to library users.

The Traditionalists: The Division of Reader Services includes Woodson Research Center (WRC), which houses rare books, manuscripts, and the Rice University archives. In certain regards the WRC is representative of the very traditional in libraries and does even resemble very early libraries with its closed stacks and numerous leather-bound volumes. However, it is within units such as WRC that up-to-date conservation techniques for library materials are practiced. The leather-bound volumes, which were shelved originally in those early libraries, require much care. Also, the production of paper changed in the mid-nineteenth century to incorporate chemicals that almost virtually assure self-destruction within this century. When dealing with late 19th and early 20th century manuscripts—certainly keys to Houston's history—conservation becomes extremely critical. Acid-free boxes and folders must be used to avoid further decomposition of these very important records.

It is also in Woodson Research Center, unlike other units and departments of Reader Services, that physical and intellectual processing of all types of documents takes place. Archive and manuscript collections are not treated like books, magazines, and journals, which will have relatively few points of access, such as author, title, and some subjects. Most of us recognize these access points as a card in the catalog or a screen on LIBRIS. Archive and manuscript collections require the Reader Services librarians in WRC to analyze, weed, and create multiple access points for collections representing hundreds of documents, all of which have a common tie such as an individual, a time period, or an institution—or combinations of these. Some examples are the Julian Huxley collection, the James A. Baker III papers, Johnson Space Center History Archives, and several collections of Civil War materials.

Reader Services, in the Fondren Library definition, encompasses several departments and units and a large variety of activities. Because Fondren Library users—a rather unpredictable group in the kind of questions and information needs they have from day to day—constitute the larger part of the Reader Services' clientele, the results are intellectual challenges, interaction with interesting people and research interests, and a great deal of enjoyment.
Notes from Down Under: A Library Exchange

Paula Garrett, Reference/Collection
Development Librarian

Exchanges are working adventures. The general public has often heard of foreign exchanges between students and teachers, but those between librarians are perhaps less well known. Before coming to Rice, I worked at Chicago Public Library and three of my colleagues there managed exchanges in Australia and New Zealand. So I knew the possibility existed, and I had often fancied the idea of actually living and working in another country. I made my 1985 New Year's resolution to initiate and pursue such an endeavor and began writing letters in January. With the support of the Fondren Library administration and my immediate supervisor, I contacted eight academic libraries in Great Britain and Australia from a list provided by the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. I had three positive responses all from Australian libraries. For professional and personal considerations, I chose to exchange with Katie Egan at the Australian National University Library in Canberra, the national capital.

A potential exchangee should take into account not only compatibility with their partner's job, but also with their life style. If one exchangee will be accompanied by family, their counterpart will need to have sufficient living space to accommodate them or else other arrangements for housing will have to be made. My exchange was quite equitable in this respect as Katie and I were able to trade apartments and automobiles easily.

With regard to job compatibility, the optimal situation requires little or no need for training on either end. In this way each exchangee should be able to step right into his partner's position—a real advantage considering the time limits of an exchange both from the viewpoint of the exchangee and that of his respective supervisor. Again, this transition was a smooth one. Our professional backgrounds and experience were similar enough to require minimal training, yet sufficiently different to allow for expansion and growth in our fields. Katie's job gave me the opportunity to act in a supervisory capacity, which was particularly challenging coming into a new system in a new country. On the other hand, my position at Rice permitted Katie to become involved with collection development and have more faculty contact.

The Australian National University is one of nineteen universities in Australia. In addition, there are approximately fifty colleges of advanced education. These are all public and government-sponsored institutions, and fees are kept at a minimum. ANU opened in 1946 devoted to post-graduate studies, not to the exclusion of undergraduate study but with a definite emphasis on research. 1960 saw the amalgamation of the ANU and Canberra University College which created the two major divisions of the university—the Institute of Advanced Studies and the School of General Studies.
Unfortunately, these distinctions were carried over to the library. There are two main buildings housing the social sciences and humanities collections. Through the years the Menzies building has been associated with the Institute of Advanced Studies or graduate and faculty research, and the Chifley building with the School of General Studies or undergraduate study. The science collection has a separate building along with six branch libraries.

In 1984 efforts began to change this division among the buildings of the library by "rationalizing" the collection. This involved distributing certain call number ranges of materials to certain buildings to create one library system. Like Rice and many other U.S. libraries the Library of Congress system is used there. Prior to this rationalization two departments existed for each discipline—one for teaching faculty and one for research faculty. As a result there was a lot of duplication.

ANU has approximately 6,000 students, and the library, like Fondren, contains over a million volumes. The library staff is comprised of 190 full time positions and sixty part time. Due to union regulations of after hours work, there is a particularly large part time, or as they say, "casual" staff.

Rice and ANU are at similar stages of library automation. During the exchange both libraries were working on bringing up the online catalog for public use. The system at Rice, NOTIS, is from Northwestern University in Illinois and is not yet commercially available in Australia. In 1983 the Assistant Director of the library at ANU and Director of Catmup Computing Services were sent to the U.S. to visit the offices and sites of four different online library systems they had chosen, URICA, a system sold and maintained by a division of McDonnell Douglas, was their final choice.

Both Katie and I were involved in editing messages and instructions for the online catalog and designing user guides and promotional literature. In addition, we each performed computer searches on commercial databases such as Psychological Abstracts and Public Affairs Information Service. There are Australian vendors of such services like AUSSINET which provide a national perspective on the literature. Specifically, there is a database, Australian Public Affairs Information Service. When I searched the international systems such as Dialog which is based in the U.S., I had to add an extra fifty percent to the standard costs to cover telecommunications to the U.S.

In general, the philosophy and approach to librarianship in Australia is quite similar to that in the States. We worked with a group of professionals who were committed to public service and were proficient in their efforts. Like my situation at Rice, teamwork was an accepted way of life and a real plus for us all.

The major difference lies in the organization and management of the two libraries. Rice is a private institution and the library has half the staff of the ANU. The hierarchy is informal and usually flexible. When I send out a promotional flyer to the academic departments, I do not have to gain permission from the University Librarian. There is delegation of authority, and I enjoy a certain autonomy. ANU, by contrast, supports a tight bureaucracy with a very formalized chain of command. It is a public institution based on traditional British organizational structure. A simple bookmark has to be authorized by the Library Director, who also must also give final approval to standing orders of library material. Endless planning and advisory committee meetings produce teams of memora-

Yet even with this highly structured organization, I was surprised to learn that employee evaluations are nonexistent. Raises are based on cost-of-living increases.

While I prefer the informal atmosphere at Rice and do believe in periodic evaluations and merit raises, there is an institution in all the Australian libraries I visited which I do support—tea time!

Also, I liked their idea of a higher duties pay. When a supervisor is away for more than 3 days, one of that supervisor's staff members is asked to assume additional responsibilities and is given a certain percentage increase in his salary for that time.

An interesting phenomenon I encountered in Australia was RSI, repetitive strain injury. RSI is described as an overuse injury to muscles, tendons, and connective tissues due to repeated use and prolonged, fixed positions. Symptoms include pain, swelling, fatigue, and loss of function in the affected body part. Library staff whose responsibilities largely involve data entry on a computer terminal are those most often afflicted. Preventative measures such as time out for exercises and job sharing have been instituted. The library has hired an ergonomics specialist and spent $70,000 on ergonomic furniture. No doubt it is a serious problem even though there are conflicting theories and much speculation regarding the reasons for its appearance in the workplace. Viewpoints vary from accepting RSI as a real physical disease to attributing the symptoms totally to psychological problems in the suffering individuals. Generous workmen's compensation programs have also been suggested as a "motive" for RSI. Certainly other countries have experienced problems with similar symptoms in office settings; however, the approach and categorization of RSI remain particularly Australian.

The most important factor contributing to the success of my exchange had to be the people, both those at the ANU and the folks I met along the way. They displayed an openness and hospitality which immediately put me at ease and made me feel at home.

Australians value their individualism. While I was there, they commemorated the tenth anniversary of the dismissal of Labour Prime Minister Gough Whitlam. This "sacking" was carried out by the Queen of England's representative, the Governor General, who still maintains ultimate authority in this Commonwealth country. There has been a move for Australian independence which is still active to a degree, and a contest has been run to redesign the Australian flag which still displays the Union Jack. Trade unions are strongly felt, and in their best efforts attempt to protect the rights of the individual as does the medical care system. And like many Americans, Australians work hard to buy their own homes.
Australia is a country of wide open spaces and abundant flora and bird life. I arrived in early spring as the golden wattle began to bloom and the aggressive magpies began fending their young which meant dive-bombing attacks on passersby.

Canberra, a small, orderly city, is built around Lake Burley Griffin, named after the American architect who designed the capital city. The new Parliament House site sprawls in the middle of one of the focal roundabouts. The Snowy Mountains, Australia's highest peaks, are a two-hour drive from Canberra as are the south coast beaches.

My travels included Sydney (on several occasions), Melbourne, Adelaide, and the countryside in between. Sydney is as lovely as everyone says, if not moreso, with its countless harbor inlets, the massive Harbour Bridge, and of course the Opera House—its white sculptured tiles resembling sails or waves or fins, depending on your perspective. Probably the most spectacular vista I encountered was along the Great Ocean Road winding southwest from Melbourne about 100 miles. Rugged coastline is dominated by huge rock formations weathered by time and the elements. The best known of these has been named the Twelve Apostles.

On my way back to the States I stopped in New Zealand and explored the South Island for a week—definitely not enough time, but I did manage to see the glaciers and the pastoral lake country, and of course tons of sheep!

I would certainly do it all again, if given the chance. An exchange obviously has many professional and personal advantages. To transfer experience and skills to a new setting and thereby become more adaptable is a professional gain. An international exchange like this also fosters good public relations between countries widening perspective within the profession. Personally, the travel opportunities are a real perk allowing the exchangee the unique chance to not only visit but actually settle into a foreign country. A new network of friends is made, exposure to a different culture is possible, and finally an exchange offers a day-to-day adventure.
WATERMARKS

Lee Harrington, Class of 1986

Although books which are published today are clearly and precisely dated, it has long been a challenge to bibliographers to date precisely aged publications. At last, to a great extent through the discoveries of Dr. Allan Stevenson, a method for dating otherwise undatable books through the use of watermarks has been widely accepted. Watermarks are made by wire designs fastened to the chain lines of a paper mold; these make impressions in the soft, wet paper pulp in the mold. The resulting designs become visible when the paper is held up to the light. They are termed "watermarks" merely because paper is produced from a mixture of pulp and water.

Dr. Allan Stevenson, one of the foremost authorities on the use of watermarks and a world renowned scholar and bibliographer, worked out a system for studying the design of the watermarks; the condition of the marks fastened to the chain lines as seen in the paper; and an analysis of paper makers' and printers' techniques—thus developing a method for dating early manuscripts and books.

He did not rely on hand tracings of watermarks as used by Briquet which often lost the evidence offered by the position of the fastening-dots and the deterioration of the watermarks from constant use. He used methods of photographing the watermarks. The most accurate method was by beta-ray photography. In fact, he found beta-radiography an indispensable tool in watermark research.

He found beta-radiography cannot only photograph watermarks that are always correct in size (a heretofore difficult task), but can also bring to light watermarks which had previously been obscured by overprinting. By studying the wear and deterioration of the watermarks, undated material could be dated by establishing their occurrence on similar paper through a series of dated books. Its impact on bibliographical research has been stated by Dr. Stevenson, "It is at once evident that radiographic reproduction is due to make a large difference in the bibliographic study of watermarks. It may even prove to be the incentive and means to make paper investigation available to all."

Dr. Stevenson's contributions to the study of watermarks also includes his research on the Missale Speciale, as seen in his book, The Problem of the Missale Speciale. The Missale Speciale was thought by many bibliographers to:

(1) have been printed under the direction of Gutenberg;
(2) have been printed earlier than the 1457 Psalter; and
(3) have type that was made and put into use before the 42-line Bible was begun, thereby establishing its right as the oldest surviving document printed with moveable type.

Through his careful analysis of watermarks, typesetting and paper molds, however, Dr. Stevenson showed, without a doubt, that the Missale Speciale was published in the early 1470's (probably 1473) a decade or more after the Gutenberg Bible (1455-60).

Dr. Stevenson began his study in 1954, after a copy of the Missale was purchased by the Pierpoint Morgan Library in New York. An examination of the known copies of the Missale showed that it was printed on 4 lots of paper containing 3 distinct watermarks. Thorough search revealed 11 other books printed on the same paper. Paper containing these marks appears only in books printed between 1473 and 1479.

Having established the dates in which these 3 certain watermarks were produced, and thus the dates when the Missale could have been printed, Dr. Stevenson goes on to unearth the papermills where the paper was made in order to determine where the Missale was printed. When the mill was located, it was discovered that a one-time apprentice to Gutenberg, Berthold Ruppel, once worked at the mill. So while Gutenberg's influence is probable in the publication of the Missale Speciale, the research conducted by Dr. Stevenson shows that it could not have been printed before the Gutenberg Bible, but rather in the early 1470's. While a triumph for bibliographers worldwide, this discovery could have been a disappointment to owners of a Missale Speciale who hoped they had the earliest publication in history.

As one can see, the analysis of watermarks has proved an invaluable tool to bibliographers worldwide. The difficulties of securing a place for paper studies in bibliographical research have been described quite accurately by Dr. Stevenson, "The bibliographical study of paper has had a difficult time winning a place among the methods of scholars . . . The examination of paper is not an open sesame unto truth . . . It is evident to any schoolboy that the watermarks in books must have some significance; yet many a scholar, after trial and defeat, has arrived at the rationalization that they are not worth the trouble."

Regardless of degree of public recognition (or lack thereof), watermark research has provided bibliographers with a nearly accurate method with which to date aged publications.

Dr. Stevenson was born in 1903 in Ontario, Canada. He received his B.A. from the Rice Institute in 1924 and his M.A. in 1926. He continued his studies at the University of Chicago, where he received his PhD in English and Bibliography in 1949. Dr. Stevenson was employed by a number of institutions as both professor and bibliographer, including a stint as an English instructor at the Rice Institute from 1924-1928. He died in 1965 at his home in Chicago.

Notes
1. The Times (London), April 7, 1970.

We wish to thank Mrs. Rachael Stevenson, Dr. Stevenson's wife, for her invaluable help.
Miss Sarah Louise Lane

1897 — 1986
THE FRIENDS OF FONDREN LIBRARY

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The Friends of Fondren Library is most grateful to these new Friends for their interest and to the Friends of longer standing for their support and for renewing their commitments.
GIFTS TO THE FONDREN LIBRARY

March 1, 1986 to May 31, 1986

The Friends sponsor a gifts and memorials program for the Fondren Library which provides their members and the community at large a way to remember or honor friends and relatives. It also provides the Fondren the means to acquire books and collections beyond the reach of its regular budget. All gifts to the Fondren through the Friends' gift program complement the library's university subsidy.

Funds donated through the Friends are acknowledged by the library to the donor and to whomever the donor indicates. Gifts can be designated in honor or memory of someone or on the occasion of some signal event such as birthdays, graduation or promotion. Bookplates are placed in volumes before they become part of the library's permanent collection.

For more information about the Friends' gift program, you may call Gifts and Memorials or the Friends' office (527-4022). Gifts may be sent to Friends of Fondren, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, Texas 77251, and qualify as charitable donations.

The Friends and the Fondren Library gratefully acknowledge the following gifts, donations to the Friends' fund and donations of periodicals, and other materials to the Fondren. All gifts enhance the quality of the library's collections and enable the Fondren Library to serve more fully an ever-expanding university and Houston community.

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Members of the Friends will receive The Flyleaf and invitations to special programs and events sponsored by the Friends. In addition, members who are not already students, faculty, or staff of the university will receive library circulation privileges.

Checks for membership dues should be made out to the Friends of Fondren Library and should be mailed to Friends of Fondren, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, Texas 77251, along with your preferred name and address listing and home and business phone numbers. Dues qualify as charitable donations. Dues, like donations to the gift fund, also help meet the Brown Foundation Challenge Grant which last year, in response to gifts to the university for current operating expenses, added nearly $2.5 million to the university’s permanent endowment. The same opportunity exists this year.

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