RICE UNIVERSITY FONDREN LIBRARY

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

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.

THE FLYLEAF

Founded October 1950 and published quarterly by The Friends of Fondren Library, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, Texas 77251, as a record of Fondren Library's and Friends' activities, and of the generosity of the library's supporters.

Editor, Elizabeth Dabney; Editorial Committee, Samuel Carrington, Margaret Clegg, Ferne Hyman, Tom Phillips, Nancy Rupp.

FRIENDS OF FONDREN LIBRARY

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Cover: Sam Houston, from a daguerreotype made while he was governor of Texas, 1859-1860 from SAM HOUSTON THE GREAT DESIGNER by Llerena Friend.

Photographs by Elizabeth Dabney and from SAM HOUSTON THE GREAT DESIGNER by Llerena Friend; THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO AND THE SAN JACINTO CAMPAIGN by L. W. Kemp and Ed Kilman, and THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF SAM HOUSTON edited by Donald Day and Harry Herbert Ullom.
Dear Friends,

This year, there are over 1,000 memberships of the Friends of Fondren, a record number! Membership means participation. The ultimate reward of membership is to become a participant in the organization’s activities. We invite and encourage each of you—especially our new members—to become an active participant in our Friend’s programs and projects. Your ideas for new programs and activities will be welcomed. Our goal is to present to the Rice community interesting and intellectually stimulating programs which relate to the Fondren Library. More broadly, we have a responsibility to Houston which you, as members, can help us fulfill.

The Friends of Fondren undertake financial projects in support of the library, and every member is needed to help with these. We are pleased that members once again supported our annual Fondren Saturday Night benefit (Casino-Dance-Auction) in March, to make it a festive and productive event. This annual party over the past seven years has raised $90,000 for the permanent Endowment Fund. Now the Friends are engaged in securing funds to assist with the renovation project. Our sincere appreciation goes to those who have contributed time and money to these and other endeavors.

Participation of all the members is our goal. We need each of you, as individuals, to be active participants in our projects. Your direct involvement in our annual fund-raising event will be fun for you and important to the Friends and the Library. We need your creative ideas and your active involvement if our supportive association is to achieve its goal. Any member of the Board will be happy to help you find a personal committee assignment or project on which to work. A possible opportunity for service will be assisting the librarians this summer in placing security magnetic tape on the books in Fondren’s collection. We can renew our efforts in this year which is the 40th Anniversary of the groundbreaking for Fondren Library.

Let us have your input. Please indicate your availability to assist in Friends’ programs and projects. A telephone call to me at 621-1266 or to our Executive Director, Betty Charles, at 527-4022, will be most welcome.

We hope to hear from you soon.

In Friendship,

Mary Lou Margrave
Vice-President, Programs
THE FRANKLIN WESTON WILLIAMS COLLECTION OF SAM HOUSTON MATERIALS

Marian M. Orgain
Senior Member, American Society of Appraisers
Member, The Friends of Fondren Library

General Sam Houston of Texas, 1793-1863, is one of the two most important figures in early Texas history and is one of the most interesting of all American nineteenth century political men. Perhaps because of his many successes, laced with some spectacular failures, possibly because of his complex and controversial nature, he and material relating to him are extremely collectible. There have been, since the 1830's and continuing today, a veritable flood of biographies, histories, articles, studies, novels, moving picture shows, and television specials in which he is one of the principal characters. Perhaps the real secret of his appeal is that there is no simple answer to the enigma that was Sam Houston. In his life and letters can be found something for everyone--saint or sinner. He can be the consummate politician, the implacable foe, the cynical realist, the kind husband and father, the swashbuckling hero with a possible taint of one of Byron's characters. There is no simplistic solution to his personality. To sum him up in a few words is, to quote one of his own figures of speech, like having more than one hot potato in your mouth at one time. Therefore, any considerable body of contemporary information about him becomes immediately highly desirable for the scholar and collector alike...

Franklin Weston Williams was the grandson of General Sam Houston and Margaret Lea Houston. He collected documents and letters by and about his illustrious forebear all his life. Some materials he inherited but some were given him by his family and friends because of his deep interest. In this Sesquicentennial Year (1986), Mrs. Charlotte Williams Darby, his daughter, has decided to place on permanent loan to Rice University's Fondren Library over two hundred documents and letters, both to make them available to scholars of Texas history and to honor the memory of her father who had carefully preserved them through the years. The Franklin Weston Williams Memorial Collection of Sam Houston materials, then, will benefit from being housed in the temperature and humidity controlled facilities of the Woodson Research Center—the Special Collections Department of the Fondren Library—and the faculty and students of Rice University as well as other serious scholars will have access to a large collection pertaining to the man, Sam Houston.

The Collection is made up of letters (1) written by Sam Houston himself—sometimes completely in his handwriting and sometimes only signed by him, (2) letters received by him from persons who range in significance from those high in the government of the United States or Texas itself to communications from utter strangers who were seeking a variety of favors, and (3) letters or documents purely personal in nature such as letters from family members or bills. The question immediately arises as to whether the material is published or unpublished. Does it cast a new light on history? Houston seems to have been from his early twenties very conscious of preserving copies of important letters. There were no carbon papers or typewriters in the early nineteenth century so that the person or government which wished to have records had to make and keep copies. Consequently, except for personal letters—ones he wrote his family or friends on purely personal matters—Houston kept copies of his own letters. Sometimes these are in the form of notes to a secretary to write letters; sometimes his first draft was apparently kept as a file copy. Because of his own sense of history, Franklin Weston Williams made available his collection to people like Marquis James when The Raven was being written and to Eugene C. Baker and Amelia Williams when they were compiling the eight-volume The Writings of Sam Houston.

Therefore, many of the items in this collection have been published. However, by no means have all of Houston's letters contained in it been published, and almost none of the letters by such people as Anson Jones or Thomas J. Rusk have been published. Even if material is presumed to be preserved in the Archives, it is not always accessible. I have not checked anything like all of them, but it is obvious that many are unprinted, and reading them with Houston's replies as reported in The Writings can often elucidate a mystery. At any rate, this large number of letters and documents can certainly fill out our knowledge of events.

And there is a great deal to be said for seeing the real piece of paper by people who are used to copies of copies of copies. Some of our blase college students have never seen a real document and the emotional impact can be real indeed. There are letters to both James Fannin and James Bowie of December 30, 1835 giving orders completely ignored. There are the almost funny letters of the old Indian scouts with their picturesque language and equally impressive handwriting and spelling—almost my favorite is the man who had been reported as killed by the Indians but had 'escaped by flight.' Then there is the poignant
letter in August of 1861 from Houston to his wife telling her to let their son Sam go on to the war-`God can shield him as he has me. Tell him that he takes with him the love and prayers of a Mother and Father for his safety and honor.' Then there is the caustic comment on the verso of a letter from General Mumucan Hunt in July 1842 urging Houston to approve the proposed War Bill (to launch an invasion of Mexico) `On the subject of the Bill of Absurdities. Gen. Hunt is on the high way to Mexico!' Or there is the thrill of looking at a real letter from an Indian chief, this time John Jolly (Oo-la-te-ka) who was Houston's adopted Indian father, a letter that says how eagerly he has followed news of Houston's career and how much he would like to hear from him--then the hopeful inquiry about whether the Cherokees would have special land reserved for them in Texas? Or there is Houston's own account of the death of Andrew Jackson as written to James Buchanan, Secretary of State of the United States.

In general this collection is in good condition. Letters of the time were usually folded in thirds, sealed with wax, and sent forward. Most of these were filed upright in a file box with appropriate directions often by Houston himself. Simply folding and unfolding them has produced some wear and tear. A few are split at the seams into three places, as letters of the times often are. A few have been burned along the edges-perhaps they are some of the papers rescued from the trash fire when his family were clearing up to move from Independence. The military commission in the Militia of Tennessee is very faded. A few papers are crumpled as if thrown away and then picked up and straightened. In the majority of cases, however, these letters and documents are in as good condition as any paper and ink objects of their time ever are. Mercifully fully three-quarters of the collection will be liable to last longer than a group of material from the Civil War, just after wood pulp became so extensively used in the making of paper. To aid in determining the value of the Collection, it has been divided into several different categories to allow some assessment of the contents. About half of the letters in the Collection were written in the 1840's and 1850's...This group of materials is obviously rich in possibilities for further research and study...

In the Franklin Weston Williams Memorial Collection of Sam Houston Materials are several significant items that date before 1830. One of the most interesting to watch is the development of the Houston signature from a fairly plain, if bold 'Sam Houston', to the very elaborate 'I Am Houston' with its characteristic rubric found in later years...

Of the groups of letters and papers making up this Collection, one containing some of the most highly desirable items for a private or an institutional collector are those which relate to Houston as a military man. Beginning with a couple of orders in letters dated in 1835, these include a rare printed broadside (Streeter No. 287) and several orders issued after he had been elected president in September, 1836. Then in both terms as President he perforse was greatly concerned about the military affairs of Texas. Houston's concern for the welfare of civilians who found themselves in the war of armed forces can be seen in several of the documents, as can his ever-present watchfulness for the welfare of the ordinary soldier. These materials are often in less good condition than most of the other letters and documents, both because of the circumstances surrounding their genesis and because of their being much handled through the years. Many field orders are on torn halves as is true of all Texas military collections....

One of the letters in this group is signed by Thomas J. Rusk, written on August 9, 1836, and is addressed to 'General Sam Houston, Commander in Chief, Texian Army, Nacogdoches or San Augustine.' This is an extremely significant letter in which General Thomas J. Rusk, important figure then and later in Texas military and
governmental matters, thanks General Houston for suggesting that he run for President of Texas, but declining as being too young (he was thirty-three). He goes on to say that in his opinion only Houston can rally the country and keep the welfare of the army in mind. He thinks Houston must be the one to unify the different factions in Texas. He knows two attempts have been made to get rid of Houston.

And another letter from the group concerning military affairs is one from Jefferson Wright, a well known portrait painter in the Republic of Texas serving in the Texas militia. This letter is dated November 2, 1842. The informality of this report from a regimental officer to the President tells a good deal about conditions in Texas. 'Dear Gen: I'm smartly bothered! Orders, Orders! Regimental at that!! What shall I do first? ...Many of our citizens apprehend (sic) an attack upon Galveston and many of them talk of but little else--high, ho. Good knows what a body is to come to these times...Yours truly, Jeff. Wright.'...

Among the subcollections that make up the Franklin Weston Williams Memorial Collection on Texas history is one containing items of extreme rarity that relate to the Indians in Texas during the time of the Republic of Texas (1836-1845). Sam Houston, in all probability, knew the Indians better than anyone else in any position of power in the Republic of Texas. Twice he had lived with the Cherokees—once as a youth of 16-19 who was not yet ready to settle down to the demands of life in civilization as represented in a small Tennessee town of the early nineteenth century and again as a mature man 36-41 when he had, for whatever reason, resigned the governorship of Tennessee and fled for solace to his 'wild brothers', some of the same Cherokees that he had known before the War of 1812. When General Houston, then, became President of the Republic of Texas in December 1836, he had felt that they had legitimate grievances against the white people but were terrifyingly savage in both defense and attack.

Indian relations with the Republic of Texas during the Revolution itself were comparatively calm, in large part because of the efforts of Houston and one of his most trusted agents, the freedman William Goyens of Nacogdoches.

An interesting letter signed by Sam Houston, President of the Republic of Texas, addressed to William Goyens, Indian agent, begins 'you will learn that a Treaty is to be held with my wild brothers of the Priana (sic)...tell that my thoughts are always on the happiness of mankind, and I will not sleep until the great work is done... Letters, other than purely personal ones, entirely in the handwriting of Houston at this time, are indeed scarce for he had a succession of secretaries. That paper continued to be scarce in the Republic is evidenced by the fact that William Jack had begun a legal document on one side of the sheet before it was used for a file copy.

A fine letter from Gen. Albert S. Johnston to General Sam Houston, dated March 5, 1838, from San Antonio de Bexar tells Houston that deputies to the Comanches had returned to say that their reception had been friendly although Mexican emissaries had been trying hard to incite them against the Texans. He was urging that Houston make peace with the Comanches while they were friendly.

Another letter from this group is from John Jolly (Oo-la-te-ka), Houston's Cherokee foster father. He says that he has kept up with news of him (Houston) but wonders if Houston still cares as much for him as he did at one time. Jolly also asks if the Cherokees would have a 'country' set aside for them and their rights respected. This is of great rarity and interest since letters from Indians in the southwest at this time are rare.

Among the subgroups of the Sam Houston materials are some letters and documents that involve Americans of prominence in the government of the United States and Texans involved in the affairs of Texas and the United States. General Andrew Jackson is the person that comes to mind in this connection because of the well-known close relationship between him and Houston. Here falls Houston's letter to James Buchanan, then Secretary of State but later President of the United States, describing the deathbed of General Jackson, at which Houston arrived too late to see his old friend. Then there is a letter from Jackson's nephew A. J. Donelson in which he tells General Houston of Jackson's high regard for him (Houston). There are other documents signed by such men as Daniel Webster and John C. Calhoun as well as letters like the one from General Zachary Taylor detailing United States policies. At times one might wonder how Houston came into possession of these documents, but since Houston has the sense of organization that made him keep copies of his official correspondence, even if he had to write those copies himself, he may well have preserved important papers rather than risk their destruction. As
President of the Republic of Texas, 1836-1838 and 1841-1844, he was of course more than tangentially involved in all matters dealing with the government of the United States.

Among the subcollections are letters from people seeking to bring groups of people to Texas or simply people trying to find for themselves the good life that Texas seemed to offer. General Houston was contacted about conditions in Texas by all manner of people from 1833 until his death.

Many of the bills for General Houston and his family, another subcollection, are from the decade of the 1850's when Houston was a Senator and away from the family and Huntsville for long months at a time. The bills include pages of entries from the general store in Huntsville kept by T. and S. Gibb. There one can revel in the price of flour by the barrel, pencils, calcio and molasses. The bills for 1858 are listed on a scrap of paper and then all but one of the bills are attached so that one can follow the Senator returning home and settling the expenses incurred while he was in Washington. There are two separate notices of money he paid Baylor College to help support the young institution of higher learning. One of the interesting accounts is Houston's own expense account of 1849-1850. A Senator received $8.00 a day for expenses. These bills represent social history and are interesting indeed.

In the group of materials containing family letters, to and from General Houston, are a number of letters from cousins of Sam Houston and other relatives as well as two letters from Margaret Houston to her mother, Nancy Lea. Houston, in a note on one of Margaret's letters, calls Mrs. Lea 'Mother' and is most solicitous of her welfare. Apparently, in spite of a difficult beginning, their relationship became very affectionate. Perhaps the most significant letter of the lot is one written 'crisscross' from Houston himself to Margaret Houston just after the beginning of the Civil War.

There is a fragment of a letter to Margaret saying that he really does not want public office, but wants to stay at home with his family. Sam Houston received many invitations to speak at various political and semi-official meetings as one would expect. Fortunately many of these have been preserved in the collection. Several of the letters in this group have Houston's notes on them. If, for instance, he was sending other news home to his wife, he often enclosed some particularly flattering invitation which she saved.

In the group of letters of general correspondence of the 1830's is one from W. G. Anderson at San Augustine, dated April 8, 1837, To His Excellency Sam Houston. Anderson is assuring General Houston that he personally had checked the appropriate records and that the proper steps had been taken to insure the validity of Houston's divorce as granted by the Mexican government in 1833. Since Texas was a new country, there was a great deal of confusion over legal matters to see what remained valid and what was not. Houston himself apparently wished to consider marriage if his union with Eliza Allen had indeed been dissolved.

Of the large number of letters from the 1840's, there are many that are more or less routine letters of introduction or congratulation. Some, however, are from people important in their own right. Samuel May Williams, for instance, was one of the men like Thomas F. McKinney who managed to help procure loans for the infant Republic of Texas. John S. (Rip) Ford is one of the most colorful of the Texans, slightly younger than Sam Houston and his associates. Gail Borden, Jr. was not only famous as a newspaper editor but experimented with the preservation of foods by canning milk successfully.

A letter from General James A. Hamilton, dated November 6, 1842, at Savannah, to President Houston, is an incredible piece of effrontery in which the South Carolina general advises Houston on how to manage the affairs of the Republic.

Another letter signed by Gail Borden, Jr., at Galveston, November 17, 1842, Jr. is very friendly, full of political and personal comments. At one point he says that 'Texas has no more need for a Navy than an ox has wings.'

The letter from Samuel May Williams, former secretary to Stephen F. Austin and partner in the Williams and McKinney firm which had lent money to the Republic of Texas and arranged several loans is telling the President that at this point he cannot lend any money to the Republic, but sends all good wishes and will send some supplies for the troops—a barrel of Baltimore flour, a barrel of sugar, and a sack of coffee.

The letter from John S. (Rip) Ford, dated May 19, 1846, tells General Houston that Governor James P. Henderson will surely appoint Sam Houston to the U. S. Senate from Texas or else the 'world would justly regard him as a 'brute'. He goes on to relate something of the political machinations of the Lamar party.

Many of the letters of the 1830's are either purely personal or contain hints that Houston might have been seeking higher office than the Senate of the United States.

The communications from citizens' groups would belong either to the correspondence of the 1840's or perhaps to Military Affairs since they all have to do really with the Archive War. It will be remembered that a division of the Mexican army captured San Antonio in May of 1842. President Sam Houston called for an emergency session of the Texas Congress to meet in Houston, not Austin, which he feared the Mexicans might attack. A group of citizens of Austin feared that the President might try to move the capital permanently from Austin and packed the archives of the country into boxes and put a guard over them. At the end of December 1842 Houston ordered a Ranger company to remove the archives but not to shed blood. Mrs. Angelina Peyton

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Eberly led a group that fired on the wagons of archives. The Rangers proceeded on their way but the vigilance committee, on January 1, 1843, caught up with the Rangers and exchanged shots. The Rangers gave up the archives because they had orders not to cause bloodshed and the papers were returned to Austin to stay until the government returned in 1844 from its temporary quarters in Washington on the Brazos.

The miscellany includes two Spanish language documents who seem to be too late to be connected with Sam Houston but to have been kept because they concern San Jacinto in Mexico. There is a prescription for Mrs. Houston to take a few drops of Fowlers solution (arsenic) for her health. Dr. Fletcher continued a long letter hoping that she would soon recover her health and return to her family. Also in Margaret Houston's own handwriting is an essay on 'The use of Time' that is marked as being from the Mother's notebook.

Mrs. Charlotte Williams Darby received from her cousin Gen. Letcher copies of two letters his grandfather, one of Sam Houston's cousins, had preserved and one typed copy of a letter from Houston given to the Texas White House some years ago. One of the letters to John Letcher Sam Houston is inquiring about genealogical details of their family and is regretting that when he was young he did not pay more attention to the older people who knew the answers to his questions about who his grandparents were and why the family came from Scotland.

Through Mrs. Darby's generosity, then, and her desire to memorialize her father, Franklin Weston Williams, these letters and documents are being deposited at the Fondren Library for their preservation and for the use and benefit of the serious scholar. Surely from it will come some more nearly precise and accurate accounts of various incidents concerning Texas and Sam Houston himself. Perhaps there will be somewhat different emphases with more of Houston the administrator, the humanitarian, the indulgent father, not just the gallant fighter—though that he was!
ALICE PRATT BROWN LIBRARY — ART ARCHITECTURE MUSIC

Jet Prendeville, Art and Architecture Librarian

For years the idea of a combined art and architecture library had been seriously considered. It was in December 1984, that the Fondren Library had the resources to bring the idea to fruition. At that time, the Board of Governors of Rice University awarded funds to Fondren Library to create a new fine arts library dedicated to the memory of Alice Pratt Brown. Mrs. Brown had distinguished herself as a generous patron of the arts and education in Houston, and at Rice University in particular. The establishment of the Alice Pratt Brown Library — Art Architecture Music acknowledges her considerable support of the arts at Rice.

Formal dedication ceremonies took place October 5, 1986, after almost two years of planning, renovation, and moving a collection of over 70,000 books, journals, scores, and recordings into a new space of 18,300 square feet. Crain/Anderson Architects were commissioned to design and renovate the second floor space to house the fine arts collection.

From the earliest stages of planning, the distinctive rooms with the four two-story high windows offering beautiful views of the campus was a fixed point of reference.

Ellen Burns, Music Librarian until March 1985, and I spent innumerable hours compiling statistics for the use of the University Librarian and the architects. Using shelflist counts and standard mathematical models, fairly accurate statistics of the size of the present collections were calculated. Estimating growth over the next fifteen years was based upon acquisitions and budget history, as well as collection development assessments. Reliable statistics for the various types of materials were necessary in order to calculate shelving requirements for the general stacks, rare books, folios, and recordings.

In addition to statistics, Ellen and I provided the architects with information on library functions, service areas, special equipment, and furniture requirements.

Using our information and projections for the growth of the collections and shelving requirements, the architects determined that the Brown Library would need approximately 18,000 square feet to accommodate service areas and the present and future collections.

With the first phase of our involvement in the planning process completed, the librarians began to prepare for the subsequent move into the new space. For Ellen the impact was immediate. The Music Library, which occupied the nucleus of the future library, had to be moved so that renovation could commence. During the Spring Break of 1985, the entire Music Library was moved into the mezzanine.

The art and architecture collections were dispersed throughout Fondren Library with the major holdings concentrated in the second floor stacks and in a 2,800 square foot basement room which housed the DeMenil collection. By 1985 the majority of all available shelving for art and architecture books was filled to capacity.

The overcrowded condition of the Art Library was indicative of the critical space shortage facing all of Fondren Library. Long before the Brown Library project was approved, Fondren Library had begun to reclaim space, and to reorganize stacks and public service areas. Additional space for new materials was created by placing ceased and older runs of scientific journals into high density storage. More space was also created by reconfiguring the stacks that is, aligning the shelving units along a north-south axis and reducing the aisle width.
Renovation for the Brown Library and the reconfiguration program had a mutual impact. Floor plans for the Brown Library encompassed a large stack area housing part of the literature collection. The general stacks would have to absorb these books soon to be displaced by the art and architecture collections, just as Fondren books would reclaim stacks vacated by the art and architecture volumes. Because the only structural change to this area involved building a wall, the removal of the literature books and shelving could progress simultaneously with major renovations in the eastern half of the new library. Most of the ‘heavy duty’ renovations were completed by late January 1986. The process of moving materials began in early February with the transfer of all art and architecture flat folios and rare books into a secure area within the Brown Library.

Shifting the stacks during the reconfiguration project allowed us to move the basement Arts collection to stacks adjacent to Fondren’s second floor Arts collection. The vacated shelving was in turn installed in the Brown Library along with new shelving. Books in these two collections had to be intershelled book by book in the Brown Library. Temporary and permanent employees of Fondren’s shelving staff began the move and integration of the books. The collection was systematically spaced to allow the expansion of journal runs and the future growth of all subject areas over the next fifteen years. During the move 19th century imprints, oversize, and fragile volumes were moved to Brown Library’s restricted stack area.

When the Brown Library opened its doors to the public on March 26, 1986, only the art and architecture folios, rare books, reference collection, several book ranges of classical archeology and pre-Columbian art, the exhibition catalog collection, and the study print files had been moved. By the formal dedication ceremonies in October, the Alice Pratt Brown Library was filled with 70,000 books, journals, exhibition catalogs, and scores, 16,000 recordings, sixteen listening stations, and 11,000 study prints. The reading room, graced by paintings on loan from the DeMenil Museum, displays hundreds of current periodicals.

Students and faculty will benefit from more than a lovely new library in which to work. Research will be much easier. The library is staffed by two professional librarians, Sandy Wenner, the Music Librarian, myself, and fifteen student employees. For the first time, current periodicals, indexes, reference and reserve books, and the general collections are housed in one contiguous space.

Since May 22, a NOTIS terminal has been in operation at the Brown Circulation Desk. Over 8,000 Brown Library volumes have been checked out through Fondren’s new integrated on-line catalog and circulation system. Soon two terminals will be installed in a public area to allow access to LIBRIS, the on-line catalog. With the exception of about 6,000 exhibition catalogs, all art and architecture books are in the LIBRIS system. In order to locate scores and recordings, researchers must still use the card catalog and micro-computer printout as well as LIBRIS. Over the next few years, the card catalog and micro-computer records will be transferred to LIBRIS.

The Brown Library offers particularly strong holdings in Ancient, Renaissance, and Modern Art History, modern architecture, and collected works of composers from the Renaissance to the 20th Century.

Special funds from the University and the Brown Foundation have enabled the Library to purchase expensive works such as the thirty-two volume Corbusier Archive, fifty-four volumes of the Catalogue of Printed Music in the British Library to 1980, and microfilm sets of several significant early art and music journals. Such support greatly enhances the research quality of the collection. Attesting to that fact, the Alice Pratt Brown Library is appreciated and widely used by thousands of people who have used the Library since March 1986.
FONDREN LAUNCHES AV PROGRAM

Fene Hyman, Assistant
University Librarian for
Collection Management

Rice University has not, until now, had an active audiovisual program. Several years ago, Dr. Samuel Carrington, the University Librarian, appointed a committee of librarians and faculty to investigate the need for audiovisual materials to support university courses. The committee's report indicated that both faculty and students were ready to move toward an established AV program and that the logical place for this was in the Fondren Library.

The next step was to get some funding to make the program possible and to decide on the major thrust of acquisitions. The first decision, with which the faculty-staff AV committee agreed, was to concentrate on video cassettes and to purchase one-half inch and three-quarter inch cassettes. Most of the titles which we expect to acquire are available in these formats. The second decision was to place AV in the Division of Government Publications and Special Resources.

Fondren was to collect, house, and provide access to the video titles needed by the faculty to enhance university courses. Essentially, the videos would be used in a reserve room model, with the instructor assigning a tape for class use and requiring either a group showing or individual viewing by the students. All the titles purchased would be cataloged and would appear in LIBRIS.

Dr. Carrington was extremely supportive of the AV program. He provided seed money for the first equipment purchases in 1985. In addition to the equipment already in the Kyle Morrow Room, this included two TV monitors, one one-half inch VH, and one three-fourth inch VCR. The two units were placed in the Government Publications Room. It did not take long before these units were well used. During the first year, the English Department, using the BBC Shakespeare cassettes, and Geology, with some rented and borrowed titles, kept the machines active.

In 1986, the University administration approved a budget for additional equipment, and, with funds from the Friends of Fondren, a grant from the Rice Committee on Undergraduate Teaching, plus some other identified funds for titles, we had the green light to begin an AV center in the Fondren Library. A committee, consisting of Barbara Kile, Director of Government Publications and Special Resources, Joe Hatfield, Directory Access Services, and myself, have been mainly responsible for putting the program together. In the new half-time AV position created in the Division of Government Publications and Special Resources, Carlos Calillo will be responsible for record-keeping, booking machines and tapes, and overseeing the use of equipment.

The available equipment will cover a variety of situations and audience sizes. The Kyle Morrow Room will continue to be 'booked' for video showings for large groups of up to one hundred. For classes up to twenty-five students, Room 314 of the Fondren is equipped with a 25" monitor and the requisite VCR's.

The old Reference Center office is now the AV Center. In that room, four AV carrels equipped with TV monitors, VCR's, and headphones accommodate from one to four people watching individual cassettes. The carrels are constructed in a manner that allows for varying numbers of viewers, while still maintaining a degree of privacy for studying the material on the screen.

A wide variety of video cassettes has already been cataloged, and more titles are on order. As was mentioned before, we have the complete series of BBC Shakespeare plays, donated to the Fondren by the English Department. Other titles fall into a wide range of subject areas, including mechanical engineering, geology, opera, history, anthropology, biology, and folklore. Some full-length feature films and documentaries are also a part of the collection.

Although the purchase of titles is the primary means of acquiring cassettes, we also try to borrow and, in some instances, rent videos. Since the AV program is to support university courses, we are attempting to be as broadly based as possible. The choices include many titles that are entertaining, as well as instructional.

None of the tapes circulate. For the most part, they are used in the Library on library equipment. Only faculty members may check cassettes out to preview or show in another campus building.

Reaction to the AV program has been favorable. Through this program, we were able to borrow an excellent BBC production on the Library of Congress to show at a Friends of Fondren program. We expect both the interest and the need to grow in the coming years.
NEW MEMBERS

December 31, 1986 to February 27, 1987

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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.

Betty Charles, Executive Director, Stanley Brewer, Librarian, Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
and Ralph Holibaugh, Associate University Librarian
GIFTS TO THE FOUNDREN LIBRARY

December 31 to February 28, 1987

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 special event such as birthdays, graduations, 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.

Gifts in Kind

Gifts of books, journals, manuscripts and recordings were received from:

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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Benjamin Monroe Anderson Collection on the History of Aeronautics, by Benjamin M. Anderson

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May 6, 1987 –
Monday – Friday
Saturday
Sunday

7:45 AM – 8:00 PM
10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
CLOSED

(Closed May 23 – 25, Saturday – Monday, for Memorial Day)
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- Donor: $25
- Contributor: $50
- Sponsor: $100
- Patron: $250
- Benefactor: $500
- Rice University Student: $10
- Rice University Staff/Faculty: $20

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