

Perry-Castañeda Library

Monday, August 29, 1977
 The General Libraries
 The University of Texas at Austin

PCL OPENS TODAY!

The Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL), the new main library of The University of Texas at Austin, opens today climaxing seven years of planning and construction. Located at the corner of Speedway and 21st Street, with over 500,000 square feet of floor space, PCL is one of the largest academic library buildings in the country and can house 3,250,000 volumes.

The merger of the resources and staff of the old Main Library, the Education-Psychology Library, and the Business Administration-Economics Library into the new facility provides a major new information resource for the University and for Texas. The General Libraries invites all University students, faculty, and staff to visit and use the Perry-Castañeda Library.



The Perry-Castañeda Library — a major new information resource for The University and Texas.

MAIN LIBRARY HISTORY

The Perry-Castañeda Library is the third main library building constructed on the UT Austin campus. Library development at the University has had an interesting but complex history.

Although the University opened its doors in 1883, no library facilities were available until 1884. In March of that year a small, unlighted room on the fourth floor of the recently constructed Main Building became the first library facility on campus. Books previously scattered in offices about the campus were brought together to form the nucleus of a collection. During these first years of operation, female students and faculty had free access to the collection; books for male students were paged by the librarian. In 1885 the library was moved to the first floor where there was seating for 75 and space for collection growth for a projected 25 years; however, by 1896 seating space was reduced to 17 places because of the growing collection.

During this initial period of development from 1883-1911, financial support for the collection was irregular. The Regents and Legislature allocated book funds some years but not others. From 1885-1891 the book collection grew at an average rate of 617 books per year. The first card catalog of holdings was made in 1892 when an author index, the basis of the present catalog, was started. By 1904 a subject catalog was begun. Even now library users occasionally encounter one of the early, handwritten catalog cards in the Public Catalog.

By the turn of the century there was growing support for a separate library building. In 1908 the Governor and Legislature agreed to fund a new library for the University. Cass Gilbert, University Architect, was commissioned to design a beautiful building (now Battle Hall) of which Texans could be proud. Because library needs were ignored in the design of the building, problems resulted which would plague the library for the next 20 years. Although the building was ready for occupancy in 1911, there were no book stacks because the Governor had

vetoed the necessary appropriation. The weight of book stacks temporarily set up in the reading room caused the new building to crack! In 1912 the book stack area was completed, electricity added, and library hours extended to 10 p.m.

Space continued to be a problem in the new building during this period of concentrated collection building. During this time several distinguished book collections were acquired, among them the Garcia Collection and the Wrenn Library. It was not until 1931 after ten years of agitation for larger facilities that funds were finally allocated.

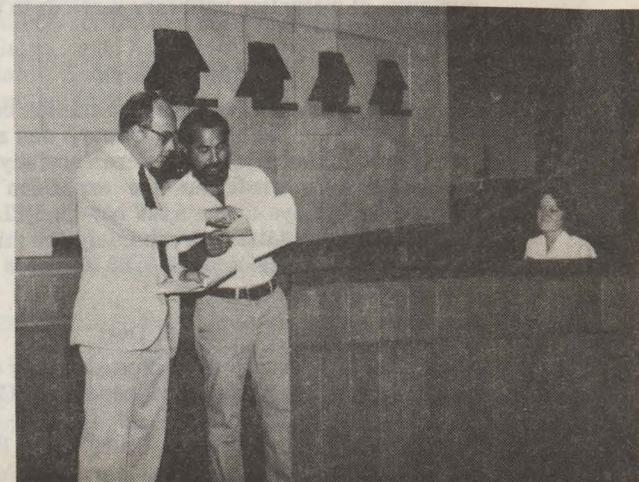
Paul P. Cret, Consulting Architect, decided the new library should be located on the highest point on campus even though this required the removal of the old Main Building. Construction was planned in two stages: a building with a library on the second and third floors and 11 stack floors was constructed on the back of the old Main Building; after the razing of old Main, administrative offices were added on the front and a 307 foot tower was constructed. The new library facility, planned as the finest library building in the South, opened in early 1934 and has served the University and State for over 40 years. As the University and library grew, however, this facility became inadequate and as early as the 1940's, proposals were made for expanding the Main Building and Main Library. Several proposals considered included building additions to the Main Building, filling in the courtyards, and building under the South Mall — an area of solid rock. A Planning Committee proposed building a new facility in its 1971 report to *ad interim* UT President Jordan. The Board of Regents authorized planning and funding for the new facility in 1972 and the construction contract was awarded in early 1974.

With today's opening of the Perry-Castañeda Library, a new era of library service has begun for the University and the State.

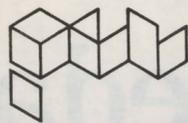
PERRY-CASTAÑEDA LIBRARY STATISTICS

The Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL) is one of the largest academic library buildings in North America and is a major research center in Texas.

Size:	500,673 square feet, gross area 413,168 square feet, net assignable area 6 levels 9.3 acres of carpeting 70 miles of book stacks
Cost:	\$21,700,000 including landscaping, furniture, and furnishings
Capacity:	3,250,000 volumes 3,200 seats including 200 in studies 880 graduate student lockers



Finance Department Chairman, Conrad Doenges, and Marketing Professor, Hosein Askari, scan the Self-Guided Tour before they go through the PCL turnstiles.

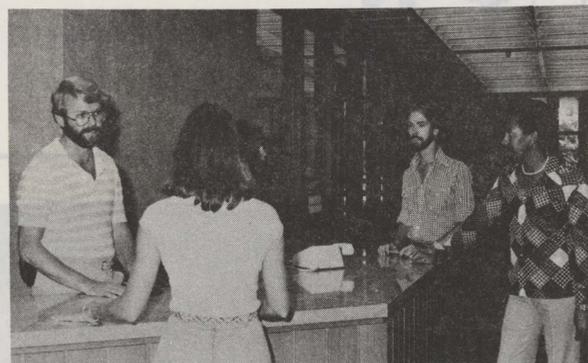


Where To Go For What

A Preview of PCL Services

WHERE TO GO FOR WHAT?

Most library service points are located on the first and second levels of the Perry-Castañeda Library. These pages offer a glimpse of services.



REFERENCE SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND INFORMATION DESK

◀ The Reference Services Department and the Information Desk together form a centralized information point for the UT Austin campus. Librarians at the Reference Desk are skilled at assisting with library research and explaining the use of library resources. Information Desk staff provide assistance with the Public Catalog and answer general information questions. Publications on library services, facilities, and resources can be picked up at either desk.

CIRCULATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

◀ Library materials are charged out and returned at the Circulation Services Desk. Library staff here can recall the books you need which are checked out. They will also search for any materials you are unable to locate on the shelves and contact you when they find them.

DOCUMENTS UNIT

Who is the largest publisher in the world? The U.S. Government! Its publications and those of the United Nations and the RAND Corporation are housed in the open stack Documents Unit. Documents and Reference Services personnel help you use this collection.



RESERVES UNIT

The Reserves Unit is the primary reserve collection for graduate courses. Reserves for undergraduate courses in the Colleges of Business and Education, the School of Nursing, and the Departments of Economics and Psychology are also maintained here.

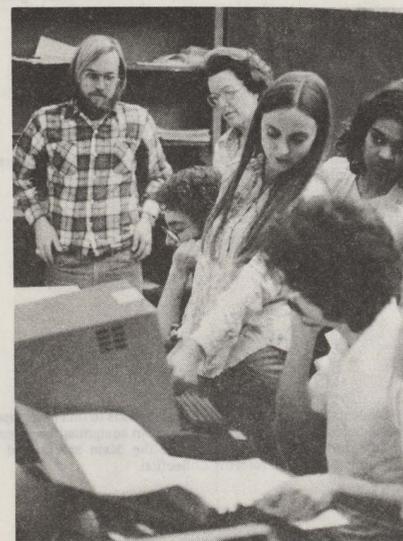
INTER-LIBRARY SERVICE (ILS)

▶ Inter-Library Service borrows or obtains photocopies of materials from other libraries for UT Austin graduate students, faculty, and staff.



SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Confused about using the library? There are special seminars available on library research and resources. These library user education presentations are among the programs coordinated by the Special Services Department.

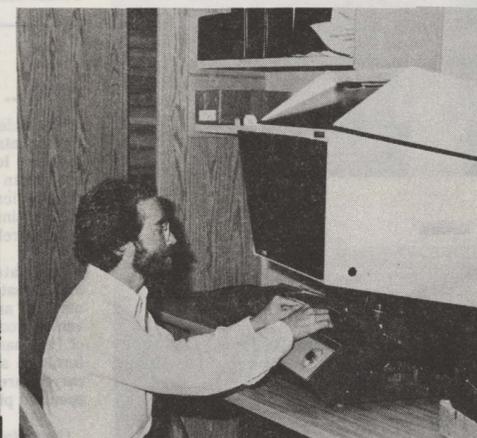


MAP ROOM AND HRAF

A collection of maps and atlases ranging from political and military to city and road maps is housed in the new Map Room. Human Relations Area Files (HRAF), a data retrieval system for cross cultural and area studies, is also located here.



Old



New

PERIODICALS AND MICROFORMS UNIT

Current issues of periodicals and newspapers and a large microforms collection are available here. Library personnel at the desk help you locate periodicals and use microform equipment.

COMPUTER-BASED INFORMATION SERVICES (CIS)

◀ Computer-based Information Services offers an alternative to time consuming searching of printed indexes. CIS utilizes computer capabilities and over 60 different data bases to retrieve citations relevant to a particular topic.

PHOTODUPLICATION SERVICE

In addition to the coin-operated photocopy machines available on every level of PCL, library personnel will make photocopies and microform copies of library materials in the new Photoduplication Service on the first level.



Refreshments area.

PLANNING THE BIGGEST LIBRARY MOVE IN TEXAS HISTORY!

Planning for the move of the old Main Library, the Business Administration-Economics Library, and the Education-Psychology Library to the new Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL) began two years ago. Behind the scenes, staff activities were concentrated on projects designed to facilitate the move to the new building with a minimum of disruption in library services to the University community.

A Mile of Cards

Preparing the move of the seven million cards in the Public Catalog in the old Main Library was an exacting task. Public Catalog contents were carefully measured and calculations made for the expansion from the previous 6,074 trays to the 9,720 now in PCL. The new Public Catalog contains approximately one mile of cards and grows at the rate of 50,000 to 60,000 cards (up to 52.5 feet) per month.

43 Years of Dust

Merging units conducted inventories of their collections to facilitate the integration of collections in PCL. General inventories were completed in the Business Administration-Economics Library, the Education-Psychology Library, the Documents and Microforms Collection, and the Main Library Reference Department.

In the Main Library stacks, the inventory of all books classified in the Library of Congress Classification and of UT Austin theses and dissertations was completed. An inventory of Dewey-classified books is in progress. Circulation Services' staff removed 43 years of accumulated dust from the one million plus books in the Main stacks and in the Documents and Microforms Collection, and identified books needing repair. Vacuuming crews worked with portable radios with ear plugs to drown out the noise and with face masks to filter the dust.

Merging Collections

Merging four reference collections necessitated the reclassification of about 600 titles. In addition, 1,800 professional reports from the Business Administration-Economics Library were cataloged and Nursing literature formerly in the Undergraduate Library was recataloged and transferred to PCL. Maps and atlases in the Reference Department and the Documents and Microforms Collection were recataloged for the new Map Room. International documents were cataloged and bound for PCL stacks, and about 16,000 Congressional documents were bound for the new open stacks in the PCL Documents Unit.

Staff Planning

General Libraries' staff were involved throughout the planning process in a variety of ways. They assisted in the selection and arrangement of new furniture and equipment for their units and in planning new staffing patterns and operating procedures.

Reference librarians from the merging collections met regularly to discuss reference services, scheduling, and collection development for the Reference Services Department in PCL. To familiarize themselves with the collections and user needs in the merging units they also participated in a staff exchange program.

Special orientation lectures and tours were scheduled later in the planning period. The Assistant Director for Public Services gave a series of public lectures to introduce library staff and the UT Austin community to the new facility. Twenty-nine tours introduced 409 General Libraries' staff members to the new library.

Because these activities fostered good working relationships and provided needed orientation, General Libraries' staff are better equipped to assist the public in the new library.

INFORMING THE PUBLIC

In May 1977 the General Libraries began issuing *PCL Move Information*, a publication designed to keep General Libraries' staff informed of every step in the move process. In response to interest within the University community, the mailing list was expanded to include UT Austin administrators, deans, departmental chairmen, academic program directors, and University Library Committee members.

THE MOVE BEGINS

Moving books from the 17 levels of the Main Library stacks began July 5. Seventy-two persons hired specifically for the book move loaded book movers and shelved materials in call number order in the PCL stacks. UT Austin transportation crews assumed responsibility for moving the loaded book movers to PCL.

Materials from the Main stacks required approximately 7,000 book mover loads (each book mover held 12 linear feet of books). A two man team could load eight book movers per hour; 40-50 book mover loads were moved to PCL each hour. This work required two shifts working a total of 10 hours per day, six days per week.

Materials required by library users after being moved to PCL were paged on request and returned to the Main Library Circulation Desk within 24 hours.

BUILDING AND LANDSCAPING

The Indiana limestone exterior with recessed windows of bronze solar glass contributes to the contemporary design of PCL. In the interior, oak paneling, marble-topped service desks, brick flooring, and Texas fossiliferous limestone wall areas and columns harmonize with carpeting and furniture in soft earth tones.

Live oak trees indigenous to the Austin area are planted in tree wells around the building. The lower courtyard outside the refreshments area is landscaped with shade-

tolerant plants and river birch trees. Azaleas fill the area between PCL and Robert E. Lee Hall. Near the loading dock primrose jasmine softens the contours of the brick retaining walls. Several plazas around the building feature live oak trees and planters with edges wide enough to serve as seating.

Architects for the new building were Phelps, Simmons and Garza and Associates and Bartlett Cocke and Associates, Inc.; the general contractor was Stokes Construction Company.



Book stacks in the Old Main Library.

CHRONOLOGY

- April 29, 1972 Board of Regents authorizes new Social Science and Humanities Library
- March 18, 1974 Construction contract is awarded. Construction begins.
- September 12, 1975 Board of Regents names new facility.
- March 9, 1977 Construction is completed.
- June 23, 1977 The move to PCL begins.
- August 29, 1977 Perry-Castañeda Library opens.

CHANGES

The new Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL) provides on six levels four times the floor space found on the 22 levels of the old Main Library and has approximately 3,200 reader seats, two and one-half times the number in the

old facilities. Increased space and better design has permitted major changes in the provision and organization of library services, in the book stacks, and in reader facilities.



Public lockers.

Graduate student lockers.



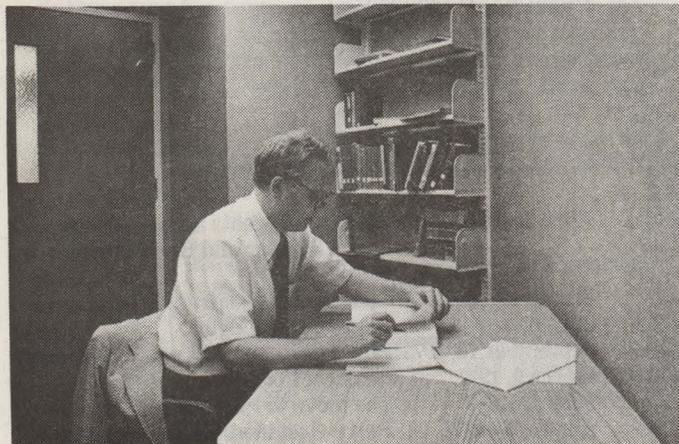
Reader Facilities

- *Public lockers are located in the foyer on the second level.
- *Graduate student lockers on the stack levels may be reserved for the semester.
- *Private locked studies along the walls on the stack levels are assigned to doctoral students admitted to candidacy and for faculty members engaged in library research.
- *A seminar room on each stack level is available for group study or discussion when not reserved for library user education programs.
- *Coin-operated typewriters are available on each stack level.
- *PCL has a refreshments area on the first level. This public area, facing a landscaped garden, has tables and chairs and a variety of vending machines.
- *PCL has two outside book returns: one directly outside the main entrance and one facing Speedway at street level near the new self-service post office.



The open book areas are designed to provide fifteen years of expansion.

History Professor Lewis Gould in one of the closed studies in PCL stacks.



Library Services

Now ...

The Reference Services Department and the open stack Documents Unit are adjacent and located on the entrance (second) level of PCL. Centralizing the resources of the old Main Library, the Business Administration-Economics Library, and the Education-Psychology Library insures easier access to the materials and additional reference personnel to provide assistance.

Graduate reserves, as well as reserves for undergraduate courses in business, economics, education, nursing, and psychology are now located in one convenient room. The new Reserves Unit on the second level of PCL has seating for 280 students. Carrels and lounge furniture are interspersed throughout the room; many carrels are equipped with electrical outlets. Two coin-operated photocopy machines are also available here.

Computer-based Information Services (CIS) is now a part of the new Special Services Department. Those interested in arranging for online searching of bibliographic data bases as well as arranging for current awareness services should contact the personnel in this department on the first level.

A comprehensive user education program sponsored by the General Libraries will be coordinated by the Special Services staff.

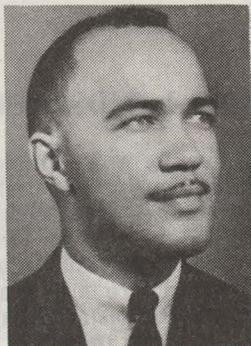
A separate Map Room on the first level provides space for U.S. Defense Mapping Agency political and military maps of the world, atlases, and road and city maps.

Newspapers, periodicals, and microforms from the merged libraries are now combined in a new unit, the Periodicals and Microforms Unit (first level). A large attractive microform reading area has been provided.

In addition to the coin-operated photocopy machines available on every level of PCL, library personnel will make photocopies and microform copies of library materials in the new Photoduplication Service on the first level.

Book Stacks

The book stacks in the Perry-Castañeda Library, located on the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth levels, are open to all. Access to the brightly lit and spacious stack levels is by means of modern elevators or broad stairways. Carpeted floors insure quiet. Lounge seating is interspersed on each stack level, and modern carrels are located along the windows (some have dramatic views of the Capitol).



DISTINGUISHED FACULTY

The Perry-Castañeda Library is named for two former University professors, Ervin S. Perry and Carlos E. Castañeda. Professor Perry was the first Black to be appointed to the academic rank of professor, and Professor Castañeda played a central role in the early development of the Benson Latin American Collection.

In an effort to recognize the contributions of these early distinguished Black and Mexican American faculty members and to express the University's lasting commitment to educational opportunities for all Texans, President Lorene Rogers recommended to the Board of Regents that the new Social Science and Humanities Library at The University of Texas at Austin be named the Perry-Castañeda Library. By unanimous vote the Board adopted this proposal at the meeting on September 12, 1975.

Before ...

Documents and Reference were hard to find and located on different floors in the Main Building. Documents had to be paged from the stacks which were closed to the public.

Since there was no room in the old Main Library, graduate reserves were located in numerous libraries on campus.

Computer-based Information Services (CIS) was temporarily housed in the Periodical Room of the old Main Library.

Students had to search numerous locations to find newspapers, periodicals, and microforms. Microform equipment was located in the limited space available in the Main stacks and the Documents and Microforms Collection.

The book stacks in the old Main Library occupied 17 levels and were closed to undergraduates. They were poorly lit and lacked adequate seating for those who wished to study there. Access was by means of a narrow, dark stairway or a cramped, unreliable elevator.

FINDING YOUR WAY

Overwhelmed at the thought of finding your way around almost ten acres of library space? Take heart!

A new *Self-Guided Tour* available at the Information Desk on the second level has been prepared by General Libraries' staff to help you tour the building and locate the major public service areas. This *Guide* describes departments, stack areas, special collections, and public services on each level. In addition, symbols on large, clearly marked floor plans indicate the locations of stairs, telephones, smoking areas, elevators, photocopy machines, and rest rooms. Take this *Self-Guided Tour* to acquaint yourself with the many services available in PCL. The *Self-Guided Tour* includes a stack guide (inside cover) and is completely indexed for quick referral on your future trips to PCL. During the fall semester a taped audio-cassette tour will be introduced. Watch for announcements of its availability.

Other publications describing the collections and specific library services are also available at the Information Desk.

The General Libraries' staff looks forward to welcoming you to PCL. Please consult staff at the Information or Reference Desks on the second level whenever you need assistance.