



## TEXAS TECH IN RETROSPECT

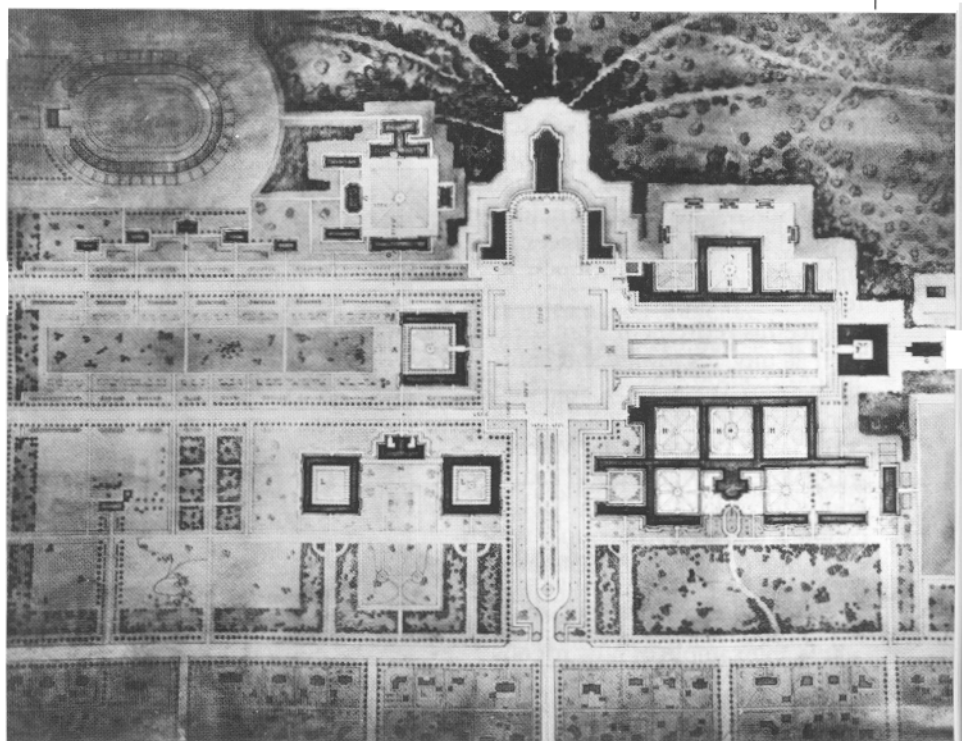
### *The Texas Tech Historic District*

BY DR. DAVID J. MURRAH

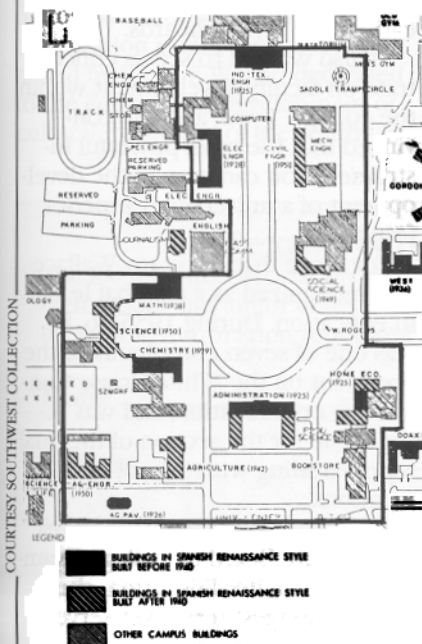
**T**hanks to the dedicated work of a Texas Tech professor and his wife, the central core of the University's campus has been approved to be designated as a historic district by the Texas State Review Board of the National Register of Historic Places.

**The Dairy Barn, constructed in 1925, has also been approved for individual listing on the National Register.** Pending final approval by the National Park Service, both the Texas Tech Historic District and the Dairy Barn will be listed in February.

**Nominated to the National Register** by Horn Professor of Architecture Willard B. Robinson, his wife historian Jean M. Robinson, and graduate assistant Craig Drone, **the**



*Campus designer William Ward Watkins' original plan for Tech.*



*Boundaries of the Texas Tech Historic District.*

Historic District represents several years of effort by campus preservationists to get the District created.

In order to be designated a Historic District, an area must include structures that share a common theme and be at least 50 years old. The Texas Tech Historic District, which comprises Memorial Circle, the Engineering Key, and the Science Quadrangle, includes the Administration Building (1925), Home Economics (1925), the old Textile Engineering Building (1925), Agricultural Pavilion (1926), Electrical Engineering (1928), Chemistry (1929), and Mathematics (formerly the Library, 1938).

The District commemorates de-

signer William Ward Watkin's original plan for the campus. Watkin, who was head of the College of Architecture at Rice in the 1920s, chose the distinctive Spanish Renaissance Revival style for Tech in order to carry on what he termed "the tradition of the early architectural history" of Texas:

The great table lands of West Texas . . . have likeness in color and character to the table lands of central Spain, and this group of college buildings, as it gradually develops into its different courts, can carry the early traditions, fittingly tying in the bond tradition, the old history and the new, the past, the present, and the hope for the future.



## TEXAS TECH IN RETROSPECT

### *RHA preserves more than buildings*

BY DANA TAYLOR

The day of the ranch house as hub to sprawling acres is fading. The sight of the Stetson-clad rancher astride his trusty steed grows less common. The memories of hay in the barn, creaking windmills and cowboys by the campfire are unknown by 20th century man.

All is not lost, however. These memories are not forgotten by the National Ranching Heritage Center. They are kept alive in dedication to ranching history. More than 30 historical ranching structures have been relocated and restored on the 14-acre center in the last 20 years. Such structures as the dugout, bunkhouse, commissary and carriage house capture memories of ranch times gone by.

The idea to preserve these ranching structures was conceived in 1966 by then Tech president Dr. Grover Murray. He attended a geologist meeting in Norway and was taken with The National Folk Museum of Norway, which preserved historical structures.

Murray returned to Texas Tech with the idea of a Ranch Headquarters to be supported by a Ranch Headquarters Association, originally a seven-member committee, five of whom were ranchers.

The idea received such overwhelming response that the committee changed the name to National Ranching Heritage Center. Texas Tech provided land for the center in 1968. The Ranching Heritage Association, a support organization for the center, formed in 1969, and the blacksmith shop was the first building relocated the next year.

Alvin Davis, executive vice president and general manager of the

RHA, said the center's goal is to provide a glimpse of history. More than 100,000 youngsters and reminiscing adults tour the center each year.

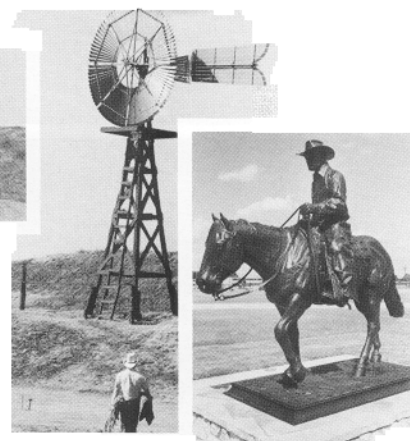


Davis said the center hopes to attract even more tourists by relocating additional structures. The center is considering a church, a Spanish/Mexican compound, more windmills and a livery stable to house horse-drawn vehicles. Davis also hopes to relocate cattle town structures representative of the ranching era.

Ideas for relocating these or any structure depend on a joint decision between the executive committee of RHA and the Texas Tech president and/or Board of Regents.

Criteria for soliciting structures depends on the structure's historical quality, an easily movable size and architectural style usually dating from 1830 to 1930. Davis said the center looks for structures representative of all the ranches in the United States, in particular the Southwest. However, the structures presently at the center have all been found in Texas.

With criteria met and a structure approved, the question of funding arises. Davis said that often the ranch family who donates a structure also finances the relocation and restoration. Otherwise, the center solicits funds from those interested in preserving the particular structure or from the general public.



DARREL THOMAS

With 30 structures already in place and perhaps more on the way, the center takes advantage of two special events each year to share its historical collection. Every third Saturday in September, the RHA hosts Ranch Day. More than 200 volunteers, clad in the dress of the time, mingle in and among the structures re-enacting customs of the ranch era.

Each December, the RHA hosts Candlelight Christmas for all to experience the wonder of a ranch style Christmas. Davis said 5,000 visitors attended the Christmas special within the four-hour period last year.

The true wonder of The National Ranching Heritage Center radiates year-round. The center stands as a beacon to a past not to be forgotten as the hustle and bustle of the 20th century demands more and more attention. For just a while, everyone can step back in history and appreciate a heritage gone by.

# TEXAS TECH IN RETROSPECT

## Tips for Techsans

BY ROBERT W. CLARK



Never let it be said that Texas Tech did not prepare its incoming students for the intricacies of college life. Between 1940 and approximately 1975, various student organizations on campus issued handbooks for students.

The first, and definitely most unique, handbook was called "Tech Tips for Coeds" and was published by the Association for Women Students. Begun in 1942, the handbook provided women with guidelines for living. Included were a list of Tech traditions such as the freshman fish caps and the Double-T bench; words to the Fight Song, College Hymn and the Matador Song; and a handy clothes chart that prescribed snap-brim hats as appropriate for football games.

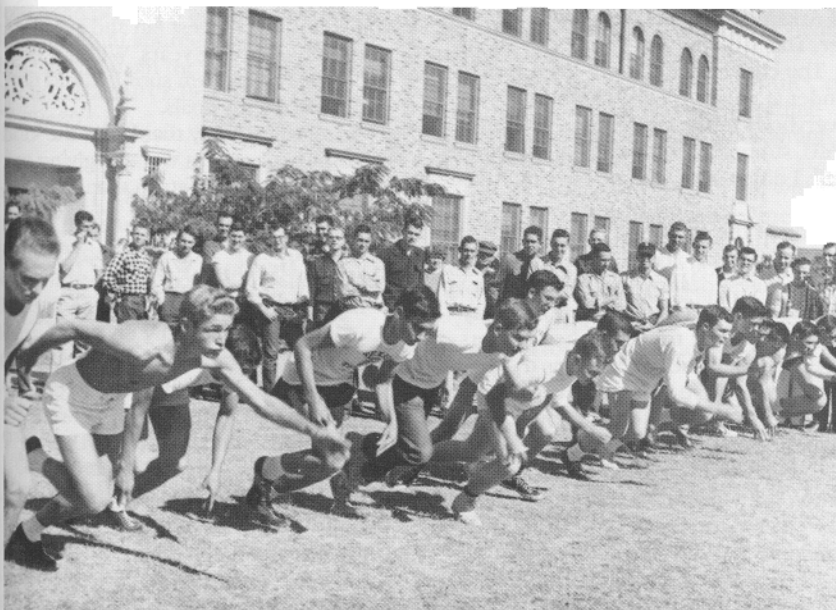


Coeds wade through mud on campus — are they following the proper fashion tip?

Behavior guidelines were also available in "Tech Tips." For example, coeds were recommended against breaking a date with one man for another because "you can't reorder men as if they were Blue Plate Specials." Women in the dorms were asked not to doodle while on the phone because remarks like "Foo on you" weren't meant for the permanent record. And a 1956 handbook declares that "Tech women may not act as cigarette girls at any men's organizations on campus."

The handbooks for Tech men were more direct. Issued by the Men's Residence Council, the "Tips" consisted more of "Don'ts" than "Dos." Certain things were strictly forbidden: drinking, gambling, hazing, firearms and explosives. It also recommended that men eat their meals at the table in the dining hall — "not half in the dining room and half in the lobby," and men were asked not to take out their vengeance on the vending machines. Indeed, the tone of the men's tips can best be summed up in Dean of Student Life James G. Allen's opening remarks in a "Tips for Tech Men" from the 1950s: "Be reasonable... we'll be reasonable with you, too."

Perhaps needless to say, there was a tip for almost every occasion a new student might encounter at Texas Tech. Whether a student followed the advice or not is another story...



1954 Turkey Run, heeding the advice to let off steam outside the dorm.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SOUTHWEST COLLECTION



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## TEXAS TECH IN RETROSPECT

### *Pictures for Posterity*

BY JANET NEUGEBAUER

In 1965, Mortar Board, then a senior women's honorary organization, and the Southwest Collection started "Pictures for Posterity" to preserve the photographic records of Texas Tech.

At the time, the school was young enough that good photographs of the early days were still available.

Interest ran high. Walter L. Daniels, a pioneer Lubbock photographer, donated many pictures of campus life in the 1920s and 1930s that he printed from original negatives taken during the early days of Texas Tech. Other alumni contributed memories.

As one wrote, "If mental pictures could be transferred to paper or film, I could supply a great many of them."

Those who contributed photographs received a membership certificate in the Texas Tech Heritage Club. The Southwest Collection

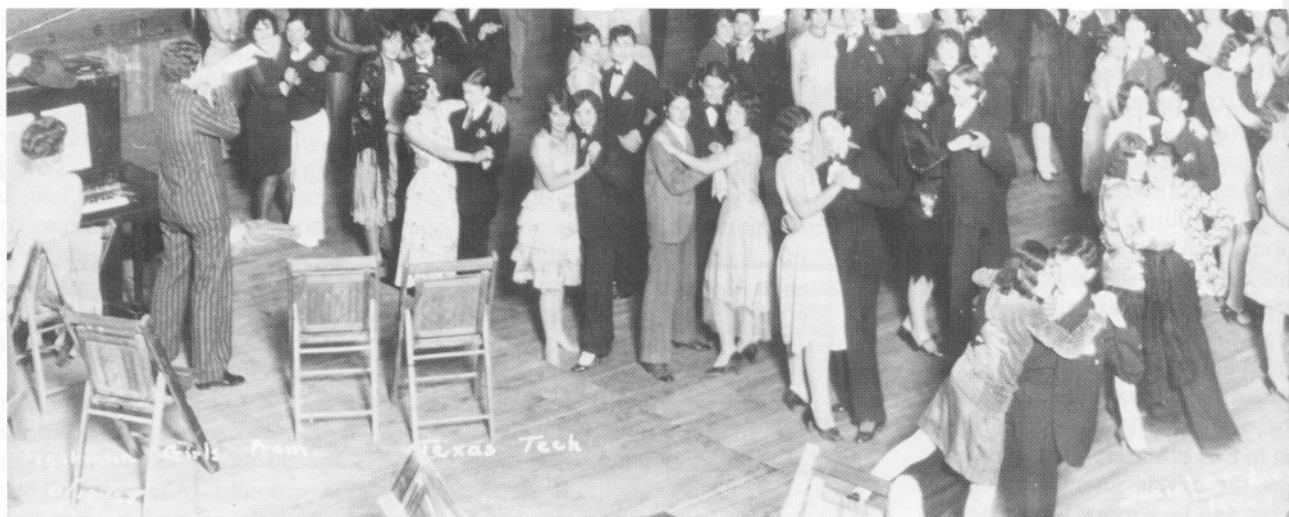


*Students studying in the Library, 1927.*

received the donations and maintains them today within the Heritage Club Collection, which now includes more than 1,000 scenes of

campus life taken from 1923 to the present.

Additional donations are always welcome.



*Freshman Girls Prom, 1928.*

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY SOUTHWEST COLLECTION



# TEXAS TECH IN RETROSPECT

## *The College That Is To Be*

BY STEPHANIE EDWARDS

**W**ith the beginning of the new academic year, it seems appropriate to reflect upon Texas Tech's initial plan for what a college should be. A copy of the first Texas Technological College Bulletin of 1924, which is housed in the Southwest Collection, reveals the expectations for the college

In the bulletin, titled "The College that is to Be," President Paul W. Horn addressed the issues of what kind of people should be on the faculty; what kind of buildings are needed; what should be taught; what would be the administration's ideals; and whom should attend.

As to the faculty, several qualifications were listed.

"Our faculty men should be manly men, upstanding, able and willing to meet whatever issues need to be met and to take whatever part needs to be taken in the battle of life. They should set high value upon scholarship, a higher value upon human ability and a still higher value upon human character. They should be able to teach. It will, after all, be their chief business. . . . He should recognize that fundamentally the success of a college is to be found in its service to the individual student."

President Horn also believed that the administration should place the welfare of the student above that of the school. Convinced that the college is to be democratic, Horn opposed any type of class distinctions between freshmen and upper classmen. Consequently, he favored the board of trustees' decision to not allow Greek letter fraternities to be organized on campus.

Horn then pointed out the four college divisions. The college of liberal arts would have subjects that



*Home Economics and the Administration Building, 1926*

are mostly cultural and fundamental to the other departments. The college of household economics would include "those subjects that are of special value to women in their great work of home making"

The colleges of agriculture and engineering would have classes that were most needed in the region.

Horn expected the buildings to be adapted to the particular purposes which they were to fulfill. This also meant the protection of the occupants' health, through proper heating, lighting and ventilation; the development of their aesthetic faculties; and the adding to the integrity and uprightness of an individual's character.

Finally, Horn discussed the kind

of students who should attend. He stated, "We wish our student body to include all the young men and women who may desire to enter and who may be able to profit by the instruction given."

Horn believed that selective admission standards were not in "accord with the theory of democracy which holds that every man is entitled at least to the chance to make out of himself the very best that he can make." Horn called the use of admission standards to exclude students as "intellectual snobbery."

After reading these early expectations for this school, one quickly recognizes how Texas Tech has changed from "The College that is to Be."

SOUTHWEST COLLECTION PHOTO

# Texas Tech IN RETROSPECT

By JIM MATTHEWS  
of the SOUTHWEST COLLECTION

## Graduation Day at Texas Tech

**D**uring a windy spring day in 1927, an academic procession formed at the Textile Building on the campus of Texas Technological College. At 10:30 a.m. on May 30, the senior class of 14 June graduates and 13 August graduates joined the procession and marched to the college gymnasium. There, the first commencement exercises at Texas Tech took place.

Dr. William B. Bizzell, president of the University of Oklahoma, gave the baccalaureate address, speaking on "Qualitative and Quantitative Education."

Tech president Paul Horn allowed the spring graduates to draw slips to decide who should receive the first diploma. Mary Dale Buckner of Lubbock won this honor, and her diploma was presented by Clifford B. Jones, chairman of the Texas Tech Board of Directors. The following year, in 1928, 98 graduates received their degrees from Texas Tech. That year, the first master's degrees were presented to Horace Bailey Carroll in history, R. W. Matthews in education, and Walter Irwin Wilkins in sociology. Amon Carter, first chairman of the Board of Directors, received the first honorary degree conferred in 1930.

Over the years since 1927, thousands of Tech graduates have attended commencement exercises held at the college gymnasium, the football stadium, the lawn of the

Tower, Lloyd Bentsen, Will Rogers Jr., Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and Texas governors Pat Neff, Coke Stevenson, John Connally and Preston Smith.



*The graduating seniors of 1927.*

Administration Building and the Lubbock Municipal Auditorium and Coliseum. Commencement first took place in the newly opened coliseum in May 1956, when weather problems prevented an outdoor ceremony. The complex has been the site for Tech graduations since that time.

Following the example of Dr. Bizzell, numerous college and university presidents have delivered the commencement address at Texas Tech. Other notable speakers included U.S. Rep. George Mahon, Waggoner Carr, John

For many years, a summer commencement was held in August. Recently, this second graduation was moved to December of each year. In 1990, Tech graduated 1,402 students in December – 1,137 with bachelor's degrees, 192 with master's degrees, 56 with doctorates and 17 from the School of Law. This month, a similar number will join the procession of graduates reaching back to 1927, when that first class marched into a plain wood and stucco gym and crossed the bridge to the future.