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My lifelong love affair with university libraries

By **Caroline Brettell**, *president of SMU Faculty Senate and chair of the Department of Anthropology*

My life in university libraries began when I was in 10th grade at a small independent school in Montreal, Quebec. For a research



paper, I chose the topic, "Humor in the Literature of Mark Twain." The resources at my school library were limited, so my father, a graduate of McGill University, suggested that I explore McGill's library. There I found multiple editions of Twain's oeuvre and an extensive collection of critical literature. I

happily spent several Saturday afternoons sitting at a big table stacked high with books taking notes on 3 x 5 notecards.

In more recent years, a project took me to the Rare Book and Manuscript Library at McGill, where I discovered that, among its holdings, were the papers of my grandfather, Charles Bieler, a theology professor at McGill from 1908 to 1940, and of my uncle, Etienne, a McGill physics professor. Needless to say, I was distracted for several hours from the real topic of my research. But more important, I came to appreciate the role that such collections play in the intellectual life of universities.

I left Montreal for Smith College. What I remember most about that library was its wonderful collection of back issues of newspapers and magazines. During study breaks I browsed through early volumes of Life or the Saturday Evening Post.

I transferred from Smith to Yale in fall 1969. One of the joys of my two years in New Haven was spending time in the stacks of Sterling Library. I loved the narrow rows of shelves, the smell of old books, and the peace and quiet. Once, while working on a paper on obeah, the Afro-Caribbean religion of Jamaica, I stumbled across a book that was written by a planter and published in the 18th century – a treasure, and a real find for my paper.

Something is lost as students increasingly shift to the Internet and other online databases as sources for research – the thrill of discovery as one runs fingers across the spines of a row of books on a shelf.

Whenever I find myself on a university campus, I always set aside time to do two things – visit the bookstore to see what my colleagues around the country are assigning in their classes, and visit the library. These "bookplaces" offer me homes away from home.

SMU creates digital library for World War II materials

During the early 1940s, as World War II was being fought in Europe and the Pacific, American colleges and universities offered unique resources on the home front.

Brooklyn College required all students to become certified in first aid as part of its civilian defense program. Theater students at Wayne State University created plays to improve citizen morale, and the University of Tennessee provided leadership training to civil defense workers.

Higher education's role in the World War II civilian effort is the subject of a 40-page booklet, *Colleges and Universities and Civilian Defense*, published in 1942 by the U.S. Office of Civilian Defense. The booklet is part of more than 200 World War II documents recently digitized and made available on the Web by the government information resources staff of Fondren Library.



More than 6,000 pages of material from pamphlets, posters, and booklets, the culmination of a three-year project, are available on the Internet at worldwar2.smu.edu.

In November Central University Libraries hosted a reception and exhibit announcing completion of the project's first phase. More than 6,000 pages of material from pamphlets, posters, and booklets, the culmination of a three-year project, are available on the Internet at worldwar2.smu.edu. The full text of pamphlets on

subjects such as air raid training, boarding homes for women war workers, and community action for children can be viewed online and printed or downloaded.

"Our goal is to digitize about 500 U.S. government documents related to World War II," says Steve Short, former government documents librarian. "It would be a tremendous resource for

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In Memoriam

Stanley Marcus, chairman *emeritus* of the Neiman Marcus Company and former SMU trustee, died Jan. 22, 2002. An author, publisher, and longtime supporter of the SMU libraries, Marcus served on the advisory boards of the Friends of the SMU Libraries and the Archives of Women of the Southwest in DeGolyer

Library. He donated his papers to DeGolyer in 1993 and helped fund their cataloging, making them accessible to researchers. In addition, he gave his collection of miniature books to Bridwell Library in 1987.

"We have just received the remainder of the Marcus office files documenting the last 10-15 years of Mr. Stanley's life," says Russell Martin, director of DeGolyer Library. "What is remarkable is that, to the very end, Stanley Marcus maintained a vigorous pace and continued to cultivate a wide range of professional and personal interests. He held to a standard of activity that few can match. Once these new arrivals are processed and integrated into the rest of our

Marcus Collection, we will have a splendid archive for researchers in many fields – business, the arts, literature, publishing, book collecting, and politics, to name only a few."

Emily C. Norwick, a leader in establishing Texas libraries, died Sept. 23, 2001. As area supervisor for the W.P.A. Library Project, she directed library services in five counties from her office in Paris, Texas. She played a significant role in helping the Dallas County Library Committee establish a library service. Her contributions helped fund the Norwick Center for Media and Instructional Technology at SMU. The endowment created in her name will continue to support NCMIT services. "We surely will miss Emily and her interest in 'all things library,'" says Central University Librarian Gillian McCombs.



Three benches will be added to the Laura Bush Promenade on the west side of Fondren Library. The benches will be located near the World War II memorial outside the Science and Engineering Library. For information about purchasing a bench in honor of a loved one or faculty member, call Amy Carver, 214-768-1939.

World War II continued from page 1

anyone wanting to find out what life was like during World War II."

When the site was introduced, patrons were encouraged to support the digitization program in two ways – funding a document's digitization or donating World War II materials to the collection.

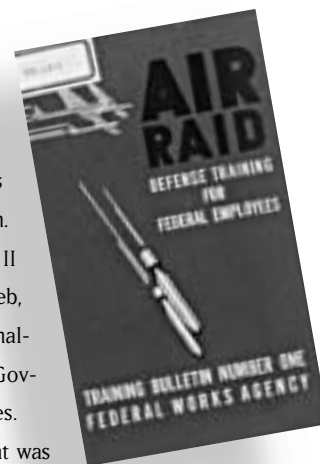
U.S. Navy veteran Carter Murphy, professor *emeritus* of economics, fought in the Normandy invasion. He



contributed his invasion field reports as well as posters and local news clippings about the war. Tom Fomby, professor of economics, gave a Japanese flag captured in the Battle of Manila and a captured German flag to the collection. The flags belonged to his father, a U.S. Army veteran.

A federal depository library since 1925, Fondren Library receives 70 percent of the documents produced by the U.S. Government Printing Office. The library preserves the documents and provides public access to the information.

Making the World War II information available on the Web, however, posed a unique challenge, says Joseph Milazzo, Government Information Resources.



Each page of each document was scanned, then formatted for Internet delivery. The CUL Systems Office provided technical support and installed the software necessary for the site's creation. The Central Information Processing Department aided in the development of a framework for organizing the material and trained Government Information Resources staff in the procedures of original cataloging.

"Prior to 1976, the U.S. Government Printing Office did not offer consistent standardized cataloging of government publications," Milazzo says. "For the most part, this is the first time these materials have been cataloged."

As librarians continue to add documents to the digitization effort, they also are working to add more user-friendly features to the site.

"In a way we're just beginning," Milazzo says. "It's a constant work in progress."

Art historian thrives on paper chase

When art historian Annemarie Weyl Carr reaches an impasse in her research, she heads to the second floor of Hamon Arts Library to a favorite section: N6260 perhaps, or ND623. She pulls lavishly illustrated art books from the shelves, sits cross-legged on the floor with books on her lap, and turns the pages.

"Sometimes when I am examining a painting that may be hard to date or to understand, I look at other art for contrast," says Carr, University Distinguished Professor of Art History. "New comparisons can lead to new insights."

Carr, who joined SMU in 1972, is internationally renowned for her knowledge of Byzantine art.

The Byzantine Empire, the medieval Christian phase of the Roman Empire, lasted from the installation of the Roman government in Constantinople (now Istanbul) in 330 C.E. until the city's fall to the Ottomans in 1453. Among the Byzantines' greatest art forms was the icon, images of sacred figures or events.



Annemarie Weyl Carr

Carr has spent recent years studying an icon that has been veiled for centuries, yet can be traced through hundreds of replicas that survive in churches or icon collections. Known as the Kykkotissa, the icon is named after the late 11th-century Monastery of Kykkos, located on the highest mountain of Cyprus.

In addition to her Middle East travels, Carr conducts much of her research at Harvard University's Dumbarton Oaks Center of Byzantine Studies in Washington, D.C., the primary center for Byzantine studies in North America. When she returns to SMU, however, Carr finds valuable resources at University libraries.

"By its very nature art history is interdisciplinary," Carr says. "When we study any artifact we evaluate it in context to economics, crafts and trades, major events, religious customs, behavior patterns, and patrons. Key questions for me are 'Who wanted it?' 'What was it for?' and 'What was it supposed to do?'"

Carr's research also utilizes the medieval collection in Bridwell Library, the history section on the fourth floor of Fondren Library, and the art history collection at Hamon. She has found a willingness among the libraries to acquire the resources she needs for her research and teaching.

The Hamon Arts Library's acquisition of art history books written in foreign languages has enhanced the art history graduate program, Carr says. "Graduate students have to be able to study sources written in European languages for their theses."

For her undergraduate courses, such as an honors medieval art course, Carr designs assignments to help students develop book skills. "Books for me are alive with insights, but many of my students are not 'paper people,'" she says. "I want them to understand it is very hard to do serious research from purely electronic resources. I try to construct a situation so they discover how one book leads to another.

"When students start using a library as a tool, they learn to enter with a sense of excitement and potentiality."

MYSTERY SOLVED



The children who toured the Edwin J. Foscue Map Library in Fondren Library in 1954 attended Stephen J. Hay School, located in the Oak Lawn area of Dallas at the corner of Herschel and Gilbert, says Elissa Sommerfield. Sommerfield is a member of the Friends of the SMU Libraries who attended the school.

A photograph of the field trip hangs in the map library. In the fall 2001 issue of Annotations, readers were asked to help identify the students and provide more information about the school, identified in the photo only as Hay School.

The Hay School was meaningful to another Friends member. Longtime Friends member Frances Golden Ware is the granddaughter of Stephen J. Hay. A community leader, he was president of the Dallas Independent School District School Board and served as Dallas mayor from 1907-11.

From Longfellow to Hemingway: Leaves and Literature returns to the East Coast

Visit the homes of American poets and authors on the Friends of the SMU Libraries literary tour of Boston, Massachusetts, and of Portland and Camden, Maine.

Leaves and Literature: Chapter Five, October 16-21, will include a tour of Craigie House, the Henry Wadsworth Longfellow National Historic Site in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and lunch at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, Massachusetts, site of Longfellow's "Tales of the Wayside Inn." Historic sites in Portland, the birthplace of Longfellow, also are on the tour.

For the fifth year historian Charles Calhoun will lead the tour. The author of a Longfellow biography, he lives in Portland, Maine.

The tour also will include the Emily Dickinson Room at Harvard University's Houghton Library and the Camden hotel where poet Edna St. Vincent Millay first recited her poetry to guests as a chambermaid.

The itinerary is not limited to poetry, however. A private tour of the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston will include a visit to the Hemingway room, which contains a collection of Ernest Hemingway's books, papers, and memorabilia. In addition, travelers will have an opportunity to view the art of the Wyeth family at the Farnsworth Art Museum in Camden.

Tour size is limited and reservations are required by June 1, 2002. For more information, call the Friends of the SMU Libraries, 214-768-3225 or visit its Web site www.smu/libraries/friends.

Third Tables of Content rated a best-seller

Guests at 13 tables hosted by Dallas and SMU leaders buzzed with conversation at Tables of Content, an event sponsored April 20 at the Meadows Museum by the Friends of the SMU Libraries to benefit the Friends' annual grant program.

Now in its third year, Tables of Content is an evening of dinner and conversation in which guests at each table discuss literature, journalism, history, or the arts. Table hosts included authors Prudence McIntosh and SMU English Professor C.W. Smith, columnist MaryIn Schwartz, public radio host Glenn Mitchell, composer Simon Sargon, and SMU Associate Professor of Art Mary Vernon.

Honorary chairs of the event were SMU Board of Trustees member Michael M. Boone and Marla Boone. Missy Collins, Friends vice president, chaired the Tables of Content subcommittee.

The following are some of the individuals who supported Tables of Content with their contributions: William P. Clements Jr., Anne and Bill Abney, Marla and Mike Boone, Missy and Michael Collins, Marjorie Currey, Pam and Jack Lange, JoAnn and Sherrill Pettus, Rachel Segal, Toni and Marsh Terry, Michael V. Hazel, Caren Prothro, and Frances Golden Ware.

Friends of the SMU Libraries welcomes new members

Carrye Allen	Sherry and Jack Mullins
Harry J. Aurermann	Bowman O'Connor
Jeri and Stan Baker	Matthew T. Pattillo
Maury Ballenger	Sharon Penfold
Girija and U. Narayan Bhat	Dr. Jim Pollin
Mary Helen Barksdale Bradford	Adrienne Rekerdres
Addie and Carl Christensen	Norma Reynolds
Will Denhann	Suellen Rosmarin
Denise DuPont	Cynthia Schwartz
Roger Fullington	Linda L. Shapiro
Nancy and L.R. "Bob" Gibson	Becky Shewchuk
William Grammer	Ramya Sreenivasan
Jack Harrison	Noah J. VanAmburg
Katie Lippas	Jana Vanderslice
Janie McGarr	Rosario and Esteban Wee
Paula M. Mosle	Ceciliee Wallace

New members as of April 15, 2002



Wearing her grandmother's hat, Frances Golden Ware presented "An Afternoon Tea with the Hay Family" at the January meeting of the Friends of the SMU Libraries. Ware told the story of her family through letters and other materials now part of the Archives of Women of the Southwest. Attending the meeting were Archives of Women of the Southwest board members Ruth Morgan, former provost (left), and Virginia Whitehill.

Historic opera collection makes debut at SMU

Hamon Arts Library is one of five libraries nationwide designated to receive a collection of Metropolitan Opera radio broadcasts and telecasts on CD and DVD.

Hamon is the only academic library to receive the collection; other institutions include the San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum, the Museum of Television and Radio in Los Angeles and in New York City, the New York City Public Library, and the Chicago Public Library.

The Metropolitan Opera, founded in 1883, is known for its high-quality performances by renowned artists. *Hansel and Gretel* was the first complete opera broadcast by radio from the Metropolitan Opera on Christmas Day 1931. Regular Saturday afternoon live radio performances delivered the opera to communities throughout the United States and Canada.

In 1977 the Met began a regular series of televised productions with a performance of *La Bohème*. Now, three to four of the Met's more than 200 performances each year are televised.

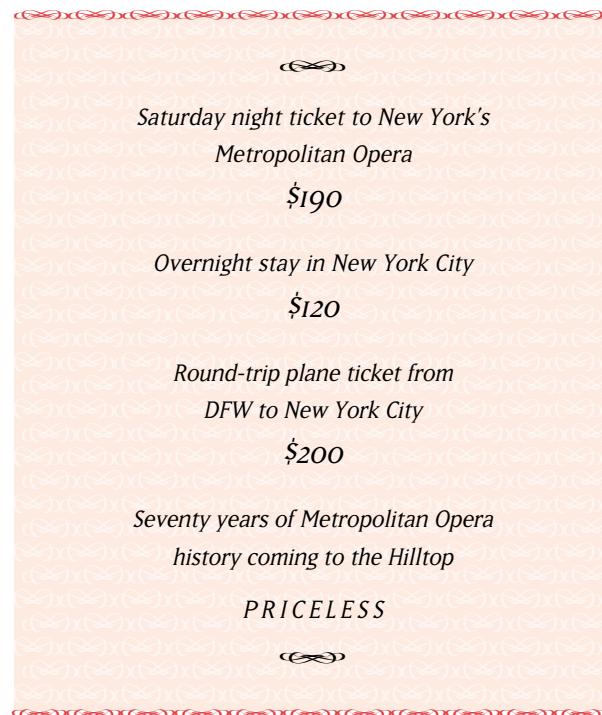
"This collection includes 70 years of the Met's radio broadcasts and nearly 30 years of PBS broadcasts," says Tinsley Silcox, director of Hamon Arts Library. "For students and professors of voice, music history, and opera, I would have to say this collection is truly priceless."

To be considered for the collection, Silcox submitted an application outlining the goals of the library, Meadows School of the Arts, and the Music Division.

"This collection includes 70 years of the Met's radio broadcasts and nearly 30 years of PBS broadcasts," Silcox says. "For students and professors of voice, music history, and opera, I would have to say this collection is truly priceless."



The Metropolitan Opera collection joins other opera materials in the Bywaters Special Collection at Hamon, including a photograph and letter from soprano Joan Sutherland, and Metropolitan Opera programs.



"Our Music Division's reputation — especially the strong vocal performance area, the reputation of SMU as a whole, and the state-of-the-art fine arts library were very powerful and persuasive factors," he says.

The new material will be added to 30,000 sound and video recordings in the Hamon Audiovisual Center. Silcox expects to receive the complete collection by December 2002. "This material simply has not been available outside the archives of the Metropolitan Opera," he says. "All the performances are significant. There are recordings of performers that are available nowhere else and early recordings of now-established stars."

Voice Professor Barbara Hill-Moore says she is "highly anticipating" the collection's arrival. "We all know that it's a special opportunity," she says. "Otherwise, students would have to go a long distance to see and access this material. But, to have it right here in our library will be unbelievable."





Classroom audiovisual technology in the Dedman Life Sciences Building is controlled from a podium workstation designed and installed by NCMIT staff. David Alley, NCMIT technology support manager, inspects the workstation in the Harold Jeskey Lecture Hall.

Not your parents' classroom

In the histology lab of the new Dedman Life Sciences Building, students learning about the genetics of an enzyme watch a reaction as it occurs on a large screen. Biological Sciences Lecturer Eva Oberderster demonstrates the reaction using a computer imaging workstation that enables all students in the lab to see microscopic images at the same time.

The Norwick Center for Media and Instructional Technology designed and installed audiovisual classroom and laboratory technology in the new building, representing the center's expanded services.

Early in the Dedman Life Science Building's planning process, Associate Dean of Dedman College Randy Phillips asked the NCMIT staff to review the audiovisual plans of the architect's consultants.

"The NCMIT staff came up with a host of suggestions and improvements, including alternative delivery strategies, equipment specifications, and recommendations for particular models of audiovisual equipment," Phillips says. "In previous building projects we received the audiovisual consultant's proposal, which the building contractor implemented. With the Dedman Life Sciences Building,

though, NCMIT staff members had done such a superb job in translating our needs into specific details, we asked them to oversee the purchase, installation, and setup of all the audiovisual equipment in the new building."

The eight classrooms and four student laboratories in the building are fully equipped with the latest in audiovisual technology, says David Alley, NCMIT technology support manager. In addition, two portable media units are available for use in conference rooms and offices.

"Everything the instructor needs in the classroom is mounted in the podium; it's a complete workstation," Alley says. "Our goal was to support everyone's technology needs, yet make using the technology as simple as possible."

Retractable screens, overhead lights, videocassette and DVD players are controlled by a simple touch on a small podium control box designed and programmed by NCMIT staff.

Instead of overhead projectors, the classrooms feature document cameras that project two- and three-dimensional opaque papers and objects onto a screen.

Students respond well to the technology, Oberderster says. "It has a certain amount of 'wow' factor."

"Our colleagues in NCMIT stretched our budget dollars, and when all was said and done, we got more equipment in more rooms than we had expected," Phillips says.

Chat with an online librarian

When a Dallas businesswoman needed help finding a law journal, she didn't have to leave her office or even pick up the telephone. She merely clicked on "Chat With a Librarian" on the Central University Libraries' Web site and was connected with a librarian.

"Although I don't work at the law library, I was able to help so she didn't have to make the trip from downtown," says Erika Ripley, Fondren Library periodicals librarian. "We did the entire transaction online."

Through the library's pilot project "Chat with a Librarian," patrons can ask questions, receive a reference librarian's response, and immediately ask any follow-up questions.

"For the past year, we've discussed the idea as part of the overall drive to increase online resources," says Amy Turner, Web librarian. "It gives our online patrons a chance to interact with us through their computers without an extra connection, picking up the phone, or coming to the building."

For those who do not know where to begin their research, a librarian can direct them to the best source for their topics. Librarians can even "push" a Web page to a patron.

"Pushing a page' is a new feature that lets me actually show patrons a Web page without having to navigate them to it," Ripley says.

So far, most patrons have been graduate students and users from the community seeking access to SMU resources.

The service is available noon-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday through the end of the spring term. The pilot, which was initiated Feb. 11, will be suspended May 9 so that librarians can evaluate the service and make a decision about its future availability.

Visit "Chat With a Librarian" at www.smu.edu/cul/chat.html.

"Everything the instructor needs in the classroom is mounted in the podium; it's a complete workstation. Our goal was to support everyone's technology needs, yet make using the technology as simple as possible."



Reference librarian Marcella Stark assists a student at the Fondren Library reference desk.

All in a day's work

The first thing reference librarian Marcella Stark tells new SMU students is, "No question is a bad question." As a librarian serving the public, Stark's days are filled with questions, and she likes it that way.

"I tell students we are here to help. No one was born knowing how to research," she says. "Reference librarians can save them

time and lead them to information that will help them write a better paper."

Seven days a week Stark and 11 other reference librarians take turns staffing the reference desk on the first floor of Fondren Library East. Late nights a graduate student assistant works at the desk until 2 a.m.

"The bulk of our work consists of teaching library users to search databases and helping them select appropriate terms to use in searching so they can locate relevant materials for their topics," Stark says.

In April 2001 reference librarians answered 3,243 questions, helped 2,383 users who sought assistance at the reference desk, answered 425 questions by phone, and responded to 64 questions by e-mail.

To contact reference staff by phone, call 214-768-2326; to reach the Ask-a-Librarian Web site see www.smu.edu/cul/refquestion.html.

INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW

Reference librarians always keep a list of particularly interesting or challenging questions. In the past few months, when reference librarians greeted a patron or answered the phone, they recorded a sampling of the questions they received.

- > Why do Americans prefer coffee to tea?
- > What was the Gross National Product of Hungary in 1989?
- > What are the ingredients in cream-filled cookies?
- > What is the history of the Palatine Germans who settled in the Albany, New York, area before 1730?
- > What are the market values of NFL teams from 1990 to the present?
- > Compare and contrast the French and British colonies in North America.
- > In what year did the 7-Up polar bear commercials first appear?
- > Who was the sociologist who first used the phrase "feminization of poverty?"

Food for Fines

Central University Libraries collected 913 cans of food as part of its December Food for Fines drive, giving patrons the option to pay library fines with canned goods. Each canned good paid \$2 in fines.

The food was added to other items in Central University Libraries' holiday charity drive. Led by the Library Enrichment and Development committee, the annual charity drive was open to all patrons and staff.

CUL donated the food to the North Texas Food Bank. Toys, clothes, and other items were donated to the Parkland Hospital Child Life Program.

Happy birthday, Fort Burgwin!



The library at SMU-in-Taos will commemorate the 150th anniversary of Fort Burgwin, headquarters of SMU-in-Taos, with two exhibits, "Fort Families" and "We Were Here" feature the 1850 accounts of an officer's wife, an Army private, and a doctor. Other anniversary events include an open house June 22 and 23, a concert series, and the colloquia lecture series. Speakers include New Mexico historians Mark Simmons (left) and John L. Kessell. For more information visit www.smu.edu/taos/.

Calendar

Events

- May 1 **SMU Libraries Staff Recognition Awards**, 3 p.m., Arthur Anderson Gallery, Fincher Hall
- May 13 **Friends of SMU Libraries dinner meeting**, 6 p.m., S&S Restaurant, speaker is David Dillon, *Dallas Morning News* architecture critic. Call 214-768-3225 for reservations.

Exhibits

- Through May 31 "**Faculty Recognition: Works Published in 2001**," Fondren Library Center
- Through May 31 "**Libraries and Leaders: Donors to SMU Libraries, 1915-2002**," DeGolyer Library
- June 22-23 "**A Literary History of Fort Burgwin**" SMU-in-Taos Library



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Library Phone Numbers

DeGolyer Library/Special Collections	214-768-2253
Friends of SMU Libraries	214-768-3225
Fondren Library – recording	214-768-7378
Fondren Library – Information Desk	214-768-2326
Fondren Library	
Circulation/Reserve	214-768-2329
Government Information Resources	214-768-2331
Hamon Arts Library	214-768-2894
Norwick Center for Media and Instructional Technology	214-768-3199
Science and Engineering Library – general	214-768-2444
Science and Engineering Library – reference	214-768-2282
Systems Office	214-768-3229

Web Sites

All SMU Libraries	www.smu.edu/libraries/
Ask-a-Librarian	www.smu.edu/cul/help.html
Government Document Collection	www.smu.edu/cul/gir
Online Resources	www.smu.edu/cul/or/
World War II Materials	worldwar2.smu.edu
Edwin J. Foscue Map Library	www.smu.edu/cul/maps

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