TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Libraries

Updates on Ongoing Projects Funded by the Friends
As of November 7, 2025

PACE Grant for Texas A&M University Sesquicentennial Student Researcher

Funding Schedule: $7,260 by December 12, 2025*; $4,620 by August 31, 2025*

*The Friends will be invoiced by the Libraries business office.

Student Assistant Transition

We were initially fortunate to hire Audrey Hendrick with these funds. Audrey, a dedicated student, had already worked on various Special Collections projects in the past. Funded by this grant, her role involved significant contributions, including research dedicated to Mapping Historic Aggieland and providing general support for the sesquicentennial. She also presented her "Sink" research at a past Friends Annual Meeting.

We are delighted to report that, as of October 2025, Audrey was hired by the Special Collections and Archives Division in a full-time capacity as the Sesquicentennial Archival Research Specialist for 18 months. This transition is a testament to the high-level professional development and academic growth fostered by the Friends-supported student assistant role.

Continuing Research Support

With Audrey's promotion to a full-time position, we have since hired a new student assistant, Illian Arellano. Illian is a History major who is interested in pursuing a career in libraries, archives, and museums, making him an excellent fit to continue providing dedicated research support for the sesquicentennial initiatives.

Audio/Visual/Film Inventory Student Assistant Project – Digitization Component

Funding Source: $21,000 ($20,000 for student wages and $1,000 for supplies and equipment)

The remaining balance of $2,371.63 from this project's budget was approved by the Friends on July 25, 2025, to use for the digitization of the films.

To maximize our impact and fulfill the ultimate goal of preservation, we propose combining the remaining $2,371.63 with recently secured external funding dedicated to digitization. This amount will be leveraged with a $45,000 grant and a previous $25,000 award to fund the digitization of the films that were identified and assessed during this inventory project. This combined funding strategy will ensure the longevity and accessibility of these historical moving-image assets.

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Friends Preservation Assistance Fund

Total Remaining: $42,200

The Texas A&M Center for Heritage Conservation (CHC)* project is more than halfway completed. Libraries student employees are diligently working to digitize the collection. Their wages will be funded by the Friends Preservation Assistance Fund.

This collection arrived at the Libraries in June. The CHC collection documents conservation work on Texas buildings from the 1970s through the 1990s. The items have been quarantined, treated, and rehoused in their entirety.

*Part of the College of Architecture