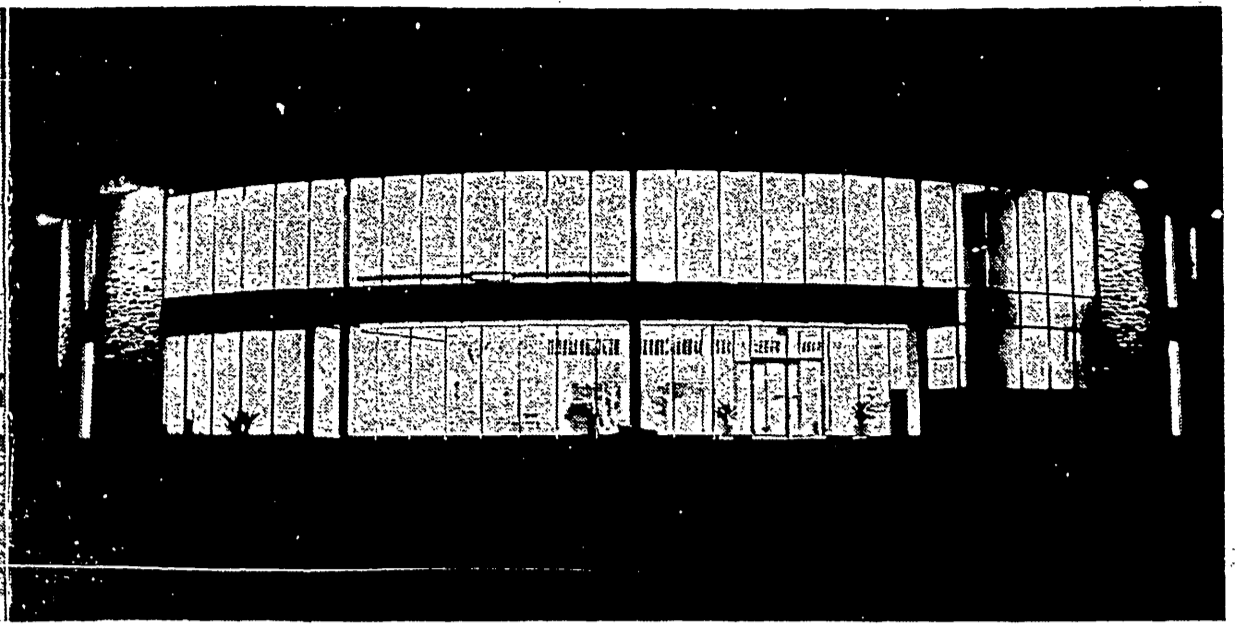
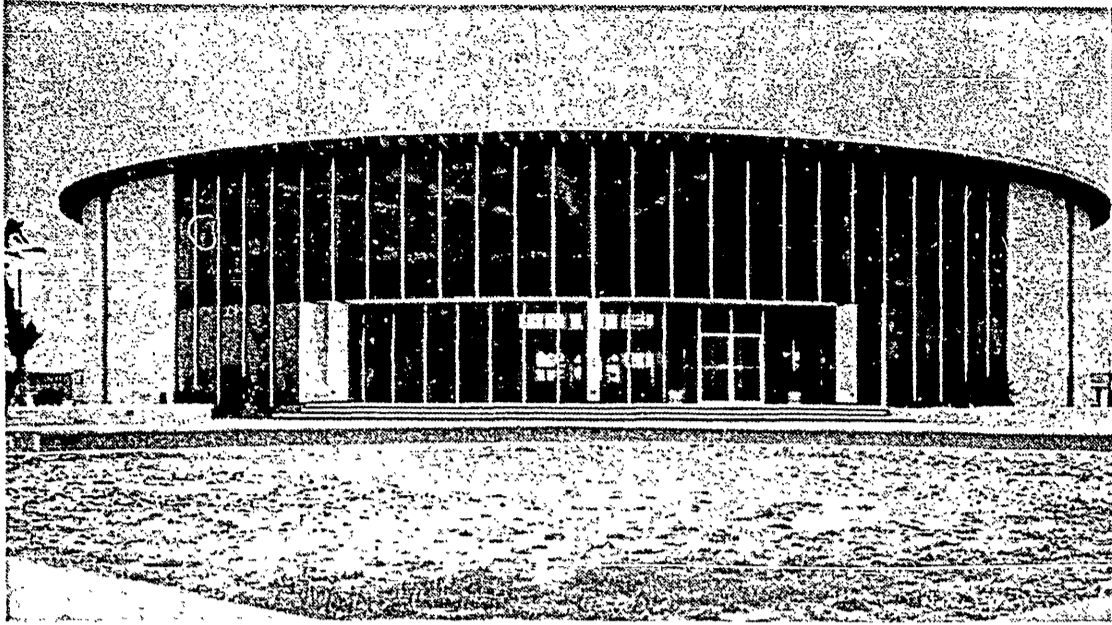


UCC Will Dedicate Modern Library Friday



DAY OR NIGHT, THE \$300,000 UNIVERSITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI LIBRARY IS ONE OF THE OUTSTANDING ARCHITECTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ENTIRE SOUTH TEXAS AREA

Building Combines Beauty, Efficiency

By BOB BYRNE
When the University of Corpus Christi dedicates its new library Friday, it will mark not merely the addition of a new building to a steadily growing campus, but a milestone in both a very real and a symbolic sense.

It is a milestone in the real sense because it represents the major accomplishment thus far in a 20-year development program designed to serve an eventual enrollment of 2,500 students.

Easily the most striking building at UCC, the new library combines beauty and functional efficiency in a way that may be unique. It is believed to be the only perfectly round library on any campus in America.

And it is in its design that the library also becomes a symbolic achievement.

Library that is most impressive for here is beauty plus a purpose. Around a 14-foot centerpiece of light columns surrounded by growing plants are study tables, card catalogues, reference materials and the spoke-like rows of bookshelves, or "stacks." At the outer edge, to the left of the entrance, are the curved, custom-built circulation and reference desks.

On the mezzanine are more stacks plus a less-formal student reading lounge area which looks out upon the bay.

A 2,100-square-foot area on the mezzanine, about a tenth of the total library space, has been set aside as a fine arts center, and it is here that paintings will be displayed until a fine arts building is constructed. The center's first showing, a collection of George Ennis landscapes loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Mullins, will be on exhibit for two weeks beginning Friday.

The entire building is air conditioned.

"We're about 98 per cent moved," Dr. Carl Wrotenbery, librarian, said with a somewhat weary smile. "We're just now beginning to enjoy the esthetic and functional values."

The esthetic values speak for themselves, but how about the functional?

"Control and versatility," Wrotenbery sums up. "From the circulation and reference desks, the staff can see virtually every foot of the library. The closeness and compactness of the design saves both time and effort."

"As for versatility, you'll notice that there are almost no permanent partitions. Stacks and other furnishings are moveable, so they can be arranged any way we need them."

Wrotenbery came to UCC in September, 1962, from the library at Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth where he was in charge of circulation.

"It's a little premature to gauge student reaction but I think we're going to see an increase in circulation," Wrotenbery said. The library averaged about 2,000 books circulated a month during the fall semester.

Right now and for some time to come the library's biggest need is for funds to build up the collection. The year began with 26,000

books in the stacks and Wrotenbery expects to reach the 50,000-volume mark soon.

The major goal at the moment, is the 50,000-book total recommended by the American Library Association. There still will be far to go at that point, however. The library is designed to hold 100,000 volumes.

In addition to Dr. Wrotenbery, the library's staff is made up of Mrs. June Fox, catalogue librarian and director of the processing room; Miss Jewell Westerman, in charge of the reference desk and periodical material; Mrs. Willie Wright, in charge of the circulation desk; two full-time typists who also do some clerking, and about 10 student assistants who work from eight to 15 hours a week.

As a material and a symbolic achievement, then, the library seems to have lived up to the hopes and the work of those long months of its creation.

And if it stands as a tribute to the spirit of UCC, it stands also as a tribute to the spirit of its donors, Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Butt Sr.

Asked why she and her husband chose a library as their gift to the university, Mrs. Butt expressed their feelings in this statement:

"It would be difficult to catalogue all our reasons for wanting to build an adequate library building for the University of Corpus Christi. No school can develop its potentialities unless teachers and students alike have access to a growing library, and the first step toward this goal seemed to be the providing of a building which would encourage the development of a library designed to meet not only the needs of the immediate future but one which would provide library facilities as they should be 10 years hence.

Building Is Wheel

The building is a wheel; its straight rows of shelves extend from a circular center as spokes to the glass-and-stone rim of the exterior wall.

In a larger sense, however, the "wheel" is really the hub, for it is around the library that the life of the university will revolve.

"The library is the storehouse of the collected knowledge of the ages," says Dr. W. A. Miller, UCC president. "Out of its material the minds of young men and women of today may be prepared and conditioned for present and future problems by the use of the mistakes and victories of those who have lived before us."

The basic design for the library and its role in UCC's development is a part of the \$13 million master plan begun in 1952 by the nationally known city planning firm of Harland Bartholomew and Associates.

There were more immediate needs for the young school, however, and the library was relegated to temporary quarters until permanent dormitories, classrooms and an administration building could be constructed.

In fact, the library did not begin to become a reality until 1960. On April 15 of that year, UCC's board of trustees announced that Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Butt Sr. had made a personal gift of \$250,000 to finance the building.

Plans for the new building were drawn by John E. Lindabury, an H.E.B. employe. Fred Folmer, assistant librarian at the University of Texas, was a library consultant on the project, as was Mrs. Phyllis Burson, librarian of Corpus Christi's La Retama Public Library.

Henry Steinbomer of San Antonio was consulting architect.

Inherent Difficulty

Problems multiplied, some created by the building's own dramatic design.

As problems multiplied so did costs. The \$250,000 gift grew closer to \$300,000 and the final outlay still is not known.

Yet officials maintain that the building is a bargain and could not be duplicated for anywhere near the \$300,000 figure under normal circumstances. Mrs. Butt, who worked closely with the planners and builders during all phases of construction, said many of the suppliers granted concessions on materials and contracts because they were personally interested in the building. Many local firms donated equipment and furnishings.

She also praises the dedicated "extra effort" of J. H. (Bob) Daniel of the H.E.B. Construction Co. which built the library, and of construction foreman Lawrence Goodrich.

Outside, the round two-story building of gray glass and light stone stands in sharp contrast to UCC's other permanent buildings which, though the same height, are rectangular and built of red brick.

But it is the inside of the li-

Mezzanine Features

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Gift to Youth

"The building is a gift to the young people of South Texas, of all races and creeds, who wish to spend their college years under the influence of Christian leadership."

"A school with such leadership will be the deliberate selection of many of our finest young people, even though their financial situation permits a wide range of choice; however, we had in mind also those students who must go



LOUNGE AREA OF MEZZANINE ... Dawn Davenport, Prisciliano Hernandez at studies

to college on a limited budget. There are in the Valley, Corpus Christi, and in the trade territory tributary to both, thousands of young people who have fine minds but whose economic background is such that they must either live at home during their college years or find work to help with their expenses. There are few places in America which offer a more favorable situation for the working student than does the University of Corpus Christi.

"We are committed to the position that schools supported by men who believe in Christian leadership must not be inferior academically to tax-supported schools. We believe also that many people who share our pride in what America has become under the free enterprise system will continue to support this particular school, for Corpus Christi is now developing a four-year liberal arts college where every student will be encouraged to grow in Christian character while he receives a sound academic background in his chosen field."

"Corpus Christi rapidly is becoming a great industrial center. We should like to remind our townsmen of this traditional impact of institutions of higher learning upon the areas about them. Our city, with its rich reservoir of cultural activity, together with the school, has unlimited opportunity for leadership in this section of Texas and in those countries to the south of us whose young people are already adding much to campus life. Vachel Lindsay has said well much that I would like to say at this point:

"Let not our town be large, remembering
That little Athens was the Muses' home,
That Oxford rules the heart of London still,
That Florence gave the Renaissance to Rome."

H. E. BUTT GIFT

Official Opening Slated With Evening Ceremonies

Dedication ceremonies for the University of Corpus Christi Library will begin at 8 p.m. Friday.

Included will be a brief program and a tour of the building.

The public is invited to the dedication.

A private dinner at 6 p.m. will be given honoring the UCC Sustainers Group, an organization made up of those who have contributed to the school.

Dr. W. A. Miller, UCC president, will open the public ceremony at the library with a welcome and introduction of guests.

Howard E. Butt Jr. will give the dedicatory prayer and the University Choir will respond with "Bless This House."

Howard E. Butt Sr. then will formally present the \$300,000 building — a personal gift from Butt and his wife — to the university. Miller will accept on behalf of the school.

Students and faculty members

will give a 30-minute program of instrumental and choral presentations, and dramatic readings.

A tour of the building, conducted by library staff members and students will close the event.

Included in the tour will be the collection of George Ennis landscapes, loaned to the library by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Mullins of Corpus Christi. The two-week exhibit beginning Friday will inaugurate the library's fine arts center on the mezzanine.

The library will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, and from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays. It will be closed Sundays.

This Sunday only, the library will be open to the public from 3 to 5 p.m., but there will be no program or conducted tours.

Dr. Carl Wrotenbery, librarian, said the public may check out books from UCC's library by getting permission from one of the staff members.

Congratulations
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. . . To the rapidly expanding University of Corpus Christi on the wonderful educational facilities provided by this new library. Many thanks for selecting the quality Air-distribution systems of —

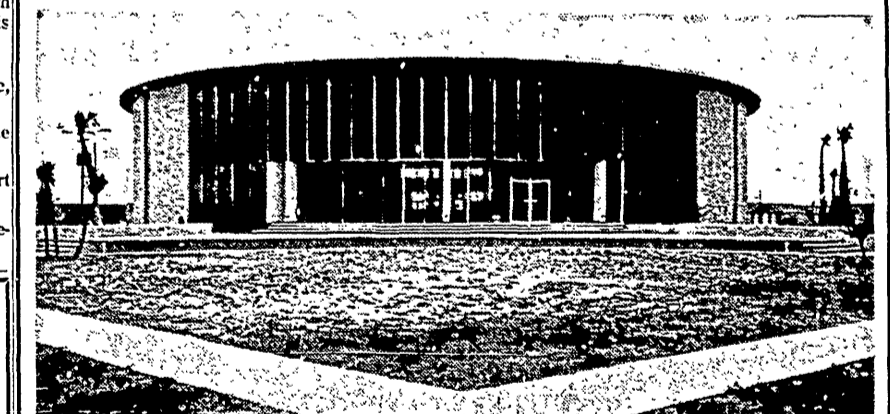
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Library's Share Of 1963-64 Budget

Of a total UCC budget of \$724,623, for the fiscal year beginning June 1, the library will receive \$26,100 to be divided equally for books for the school's six divisions.

Other funds for books come from individual donations and from the UCC Alumni Association. The local chapter of the group has collected more than \$2,500 since last December when, in honor of Mrs. H. E. Butt Sr., the Mary Holdsworth Butt Library Fund was begun as a special alumni project.

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Congratulations
To The University of Corpus Christi upon completion of their modern new library.

Congratulations . . .
The growth of South Texas will owe much to the expanding educational facilities contributed by the H. E. Butt Foundation.

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