Welcome to the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, the main library of Tulane University.
This booklet will introduce you to the richness and diversity of our collections and to the services we offer library users. In addition to a large general collection, we have several specialized collections which support graduate and faculty research in many disciplines.

We have changed the way our research library works by introducing computer technology, adopting new forms of storage, and applying different methods of library management, but our basic mission remains the same—to promote scholarship and to provide access to information not only in this library but in libraries across the country and around the world.

Libraries are at the center of the information revolution, and our goal is to provide quick and efficient access to information through library automation. Developments in this field are rapid, and we are adopting as much of this new technology as we can absorb and afford.

The library is central to Tulane’s commitment to scholarship and teaching of the highest order. We are proud of our library—it has served Tulane well. We must keep growing and plan for change if we are to continue to meet the needs of a dynamic research university.

Philip Leinbach, University Librarian
HISTORY OF HOWARD-TILTON

Our collection began with the merger of three independent libraries, the Howard Memorial Library, the F.W. Tilton Memorial Library, and the Newcomb College Library. The Howard Library, formerly on Lee Circle, was once the city's main reference library. It was opened in 1889 by Miss Annie Turner Howard, to fulfill her father's wish to establish a public library in the city of New Orleans.

The F.W. Tilton Memorial, the original Tulane Library, was constructed with funds donated by Caroline Stannard Tilton. Named in honor of her husband, the building opened in 1902. The three library collections were merged in 1941, when the first Howard-Tilton Library building (now the Tulane Law School) was completed. The present library facility opened in 1968.
LIBRARY SERVICES

General information, help with using the collection, and instruction in library research methods may be obtained at the general reference desk in the library lobby. The Reference Department provides a computerized literature search service, using an IBM personal computer to retrieve a bibliography of research materials. The Reference Department also provides an interlibrary loan service and maintains a 2,300 volume reference collection, a vast collection of government documents and a microforms collection.

The use of computers has greatly increased the efficiency with which the library acquires, catalogs and circulates library materials. Tulane is a member of the OCLC library network, which shares information about books through computer files. The information is used to help select and process books and serials and to locate titles requested by library users. DataPhase, an automated circulation system implemented at Tulane in 1981, helps keep the complex records involved in lending and retrieving library materials. The system may someday lead to a computerized catalog.
THE COLLECTIONS

The general collection is arranged according to subject in open book stacks, allowing all library users direct and convenient access to materials. Although the library is open for use to the public, circulation of library materials is generally restricted to Tulane faculty, staff and students.

The Science and Engineering Division, on the first floor, covers biology, chemistry, psychology, physics, geology and computer science, in addition to civil, electrical, biomedical, mechanical, chemical and petroleum engineering. The division staff offers a full range of reference services, including computerized literature searches, printed bibliographic aids, and classroom instruction. A reference area in the front of the division contains basic research materials and a selection of journal indexes. The humanities collection, on the second floor, supports programs in literature, language, philosophy and religion. It includes an extensive fine arts collection covering art, architecture, dance, theater and communications. Selected journal titles are displayed in a central reading area. The social science collection, on the third floor, provides research materials in history, sociology, social work, anthropology, political science, economics and education. The Selley Reading Room for the Social Sciences, generously donated by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Selley, provides a comfortable and attractive study area for the use of selected social science periodicals. In addition to the general collections, there are several special collections throughout the library.
The Latin American Library, one of only three separate Latin American collections in the country, is an integral part of Tulane’s programs in Latin American studies. The emphasis of the collection is on Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central America, although there is a growing body of material pertaining to Brazil and other South American countries. The collection includes over 123,000 books and serials, and more than 3,000 maps from the 16th century to the present. The Tulane Latin American Photographic Archive contains more than 12,000 photographs covering such diverse subjects as Pre-Columbian art, Guatemalan culture and Peruvian architecture. The Latin American Library exhibits selected material and lends materials nationwide for similar exhibits in other libraries and museums.
The Jazz Archive is a valuable resource for the study of early jazz. The collection emphasizes the music of New Orleans. It includes over 30,000 records and 800 tapes, supplemented by a large collection of oral history, sheet music, scrapbooks, memorabilia, photographs and a collection of books and serials on jazz. Listening rooms and reading areas are available for the use of this unusual resource.
Rare Books, Manuscripts and University Archives

The rare book collection, built largely through gifts and donations, includes rare botanical works, American Revolutionary War pamphlets, early Bibles, British Shire histories, and many first editions of important 19th and 20th century British and American authors. Authors who are especially well-represented include William Faulkner, Stendhal, Lafcadio Hearn and Edward Gorey. Endowments and gifts are actively sought to maintain and develop the collection.

The Manuscripts Department contains documents dating back to the 12th century, with most of the collection focusing on 18th and 19th century items relating to New Orleans, Louisiana, and southern Mississippi. Some of the many interesting collections are the Joseph M. Jones Steamboat Collection, papers of Jefferson Davis, papers of six Louisiana governors and 10 congressmen, Confederate Army diaries, and the papers of Lyle Saxon and George Washington Cable.

The University Archives contain the printed record of Tulane’s history and its involvement with the local community, Louisiana and the nation. Copies of student yearbooks and campus publications are kept here, along with alumni records, building records and scrapbooks of university activities.
and believe
with undying
affection your uncle
Jefferson Davis
MAXWELL MUSIC LIBRARY

Founded in 1909, the Maxwell Music Library is one of the oldest of its kind in America. Music books are supplemented by over 10,000 records and more than 14,000 musical scores. Listening equipment is available, and a separate reference collection provides thematic indexes, music dictionaries and encyclopedias, and other research tools.

LOUISIANA COLLECTION

This comprehensive collection of state and local history includes books, journals, maps, state documents, photographs, prints and newspaper clippings covering the history of Louisiana from colonial times to the present. The many rare items kept here include the Louisiana Map Collection, containing maps of the Louisiana Territory and early state maps, and the Louisiana Sheet Music Collection, comprising music published in Louisiana or written by composers from 1830 to 1920.
The SEAA contains one of the largest and most important collections of architectural research materials in the country. Over 100,000 original drawings are on file, together with photographs, specifications, maps, books and artifacts. The major emphasis of the collection is on New Orleans and Louisiana from 1830 to the present. The SEAA’s gallery features rotating exhibits selected from the archive’s own holdings as well as materials borrowed from other collections, both public and private.
OTHER TULANE LIBRARIES

In addition to the central library facility, there are a number of branch or associated libraries for the use of the Tulane community.

Rudolph Matas Medical Library: In the Central Business District; supports Tulane’s School of Medicine and the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

Law Library: Joseph Merrick Jones Hall; supports the Law School.

Mathematics Library: Gibson Hall; supports graduate study and research in mathematics.

Architecture Library: Richardson Memorial Hall; contains materials on architecture, urban planning, building technology and preservation.

Norman Mayer Library: supports the A.B. Freeman School of Business.

Delta Regional Primate Research Center Library: Covington, Louisiana; supports the Primate Center’s facility.

Meade Natural History Library: Belle Chasse, Louisiana; provides additional research materials in the life sciences.

CREDITS

Cover, Inside front cover, P. 1: Jacob Aron Room, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library
P. 3: View of Howard Library from Camp Street, photography by Dan Leyrer, circa 1935. File photo from the Louisiana Collection.
P. 6: From Incidents of Travel in Central America, Chiapas, and Yucatan by John L. Stevens, 1841. From the collection of the Latin American Library.
P. 11: Detail of the plan of Tilton Hall; Andry and Bendenagel, architects, 1901. From Paul Andry Drawings, gifts of Charles G. Andry. Southeastern Architectural Archive.
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