

Acknowledgments	iii
Biography of John Tarleton	1
Tarleton Creed	5
Tarleton Color Song	6
On Ye Tarleton (Fight Song)	6
The True Flame (Centennial Song)	7
Presidents of Tarleton	8
Tarleton's Educational Evolution	9
The Spirit of Tarleton	10
Traditions and Legends	16
Tradition	16
Airplane Incident	16
Alumni J-TAC	17
Centennial Medallion	17
Class Ring	17
Grassburr	18
J-TAC	18
May Pole Celebration	18
Oscar P	19
Plowboys	19
Purple Book	20
Purple Poo	20
Snake Dance	20
TTS and TTP	21
Uniforms	22

Landmarks	23
Cannon	23
Carillon	24
Centennial Lane	24
Flagpole	24
Hunewell Bandstand	25
J-TAC Hearts	25
John Tarleton Bronze	25
John Tarleton House	26
Light Poles	26
Military Memorial	26
Organizational Sidewalk	27
Pearl Mahan Rock	27
Rock Gates	28
Rock Wall	28
Smokestack	29
Street Names	29
T-Bench	30
Tarleton Gravesite	30
The Texan	30
Time Capsule	30
Three Penny Triangle	31
Trees and Grass	31
Tru Tru Grave	32
ULTRA	32

Table of Contents



University Park	33	Business Building	42	College Store	53
World War II Marker	33	College Farm	42	Fishpond	54
Activities and Events	34	Davis Hall	43	Gymnasium	54
Candle Lighting Ceremony	34	Dining Hall	43	Home Economics Building	54
Cruise The Island	34	Oscar H. Frazier Memorial Track	43	Lewis Hall	54
Duck Camp	35	E. J. Howell Education Building	44	Marston Science Hall	55
Founders Day Celebration	35	Humanities Building	44	Marston Conservatory	55
Founder's Song	35	Hydrology and Engineering Building	44	Original Building	55
Howdy Week	36	Industrial Technology Building	45	Rec Hall	56
Silver Taps	36	Mathematics Building	45	Mary Corn Wilkerson Dormitory	56
Tarleton Stage	36	Memorial Stadium	45	An Expanding Campus	57
Homecoming Traditions	37	Nursing Building	45	Tarleton State University-Central Texas	57
Beauty and the Beast	37	Observatory	46	Terrell School of Clinical Laboratory Sciences	57
Distinguished Alumni Dinner	37	Recreational Sports Facility	46	Dora Lee Langdon Cultural and Educational	
Drum Beating	37	Residence Halls	47	Center	57
Fish and T Contest	38	Science Building	48	W. K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of	
Homecoming Parade	38	Dick Smith Library	48	Texas	58
L.V. Risinger Memorial Bonfire	38	Barry B. Thompson Student Center	49	Awards Programs	59
Midnight Breakfast	39	Tarleton Center	50	Distinguished Honors	59
Silver Bugle Hunt	39	Trogdon House	51	Faculty & Staff Recognition	61
Yell Contest	39	Vance Terrell Intramural Complex	51	Student Recognition	63
Tarleton Architecture	40	Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center	52		
History of the Tarleton Brick	40	Wisdom Gymnasium	52		
Administration Building	41	Tarleton's Past	53		
Joe Autry Agriculture Building	41	Auditorium	53		
Cecil Ballow Baseball Complex	42	Chamberlin Hall	53		

Acknowledgments

We would like to acknowledge the following people for their contributions to the Traditions Handbook. This handbook is a compilation of tradition, legend, fact, and future. We appreciate the hard work and dedication of the many individuals and departments who made this publication a reality.

Dr. Dennis P. McCabe, President

Amanda Albrecht

J. Louis Evans

Mary Anne Foreman

Dr. Chris Guthrie

Rusty Jergins

Dr. C. Richard King

Paul Koonsman

Glenda Stone

Donna Strohmeier

University News Service

University Publications Department

Bill Ware

The printing of this publication is made possible by contributions from

Jostens

Office of Student Activities

Tarleton Alumni Association

Tarleton Alumni Relations

Volume 2, September 2005



Biography of John Tarleton



Information from an article titled "John Tarleton" written by Dr. C. Richard King for the October 1951 issue of The Southwestern Historical Quarterly.

John Tarleton had little formal education and found little happiness in life, but a bequest in his will created two institutions of higher learning and made it possible for thousands of young people to receive an education.

There is no documentation of his birth, but it is believed John Tarleton was born in November 1808. Orphaned at an early age, John went to live with an aunt in Vermont, and his brother was sent to another relative in Virginia. John and his aunt never got along, and he began early making plans to leave. On one occasion he overheard his aunt tell a neighbor that "John will live around here until I die; then he will get my money." This statement made him determined to leave his aunt's home at once.

Tarleton tried to join the army, but John, who was naturally small for his age, was advised by recruiters to grow up before he applied again. When his aunt heard of the boy's attempt to join the armed forces, she offered him money for flailing wheat stored in the barn. With the \$15 Tarleton earned from this job, he left Vermont and worked his way to North Carolina where he cut wood. Then he worked cradling wheat for \$1.50 a day. It was while in North Carolina that John learned of the death of his brother.

Making his way to Knoxville, Tennessee, Tarleton taught school for \$30 a month and later applied to Perez Dickerson for a job in the Cowan-Dickerson mercantile. He stayed there for some 40 years living

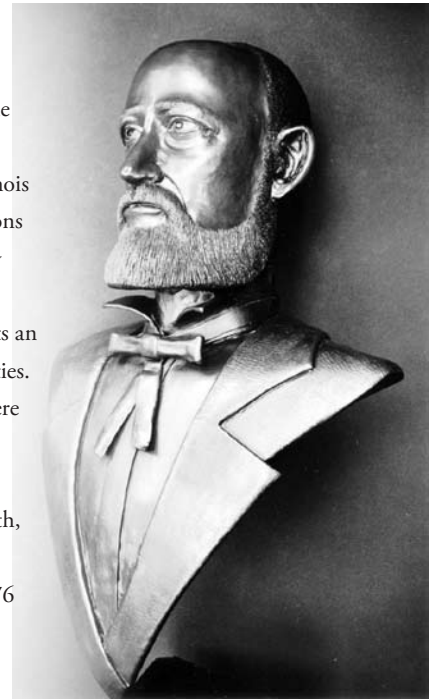
frugally in the back of the shop and investing his salary in government certificates issued to soldiers of the War of 1812 as bounties for locating land.

These certificates accounted for millions of acres of land in Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Illinois and states farther west. Considered extremely remote prairie desert, little value was placed on these sections of land and most soldiers were willing to trade them for merchandise in the store. Once transferred, they could be claimed upon payment of surveying fees and patent fees amounting to about \$15.

Among his acquisitions, was 10,000 acres of land in Texas which he bought for 12 and a half cents an acre. It would be more than 30 years before Tarleton saw this land located in Erath and Palo Pinto counties. When he finally arrived at the territory, Indians were camped on the spot, so Tarleton went to Waco where he established a mercantile store.

During his stay in Waco, Tarleton met and married Mary Louisa Johnson, a member of the aristocratic Dunnica family of Missouri. Her first husband was Telephus Johnson. At the time of his death, Johnson owned thousands of acres of Brazos bottom land and was considered one of the wealthiest men in Waco. Tarleton and Johnson signed an antenuptial contract before their wedding in September of 1876 agreeing to keep properties and estates separate. After a wedding trip to the International Centennial exhibition in Philadelphia, Tarleton charged his bride with half the expenses.

When she discovered her husband had considerable land holding in addition to his mercantile store, Mary Louisa suggested a more equitable division of property. Tarleton is reported to have refused. The marriage didn't last long after that, and shortly after their first anniversary, Mrs. Tarleton left for St. Louis and filed for divorce. Tarleton arrived at the hearings just in time to present a copy of the marriage contract. The divorce was granted with no property division.



A bronze bust of John Tarleton, located in the south entrance of the Administration Building, stands proud with tradition. See page 26 for more information.



The only existing photograph of John Tarleton, a pioneer of Erath County and the founder of Tarleton State University.

Despite the divorce, John and Mary Louisa remained friends, and they corresponded intermittently. Tarleton kept the letters in a trunk. She frequently questioned who would inherit Tarleton's property and expressed concern that he would die in a "small uncomfortable room with no good bed to lie on."

Tarleton returned to his lands in Erath and Palo Pinto counties in 1880, walking from Waco with a suitcase and his money concealed in square-toed shoes and patches on his clothes. He arrived in Santo looking more like a tramp than a merchant.

The Indians had left his land, but they had been replaced by squatters. Tarleton paid the people for improvements they had made and had the area surveyed. Unable to sell the plots, he fenced off the ten thousand acres and began ranching. Cattle with the "TRTN" brand on the left side were shipped four hundred at a time. The price of cattle dropped, and Tarleton lost large sums of money before he hired a lawyer and began disposing of his holdings.

Small in stature, Tarleton was considered miserly and eccentric by many, but he was strictly honest. He paid his way in full and was fair to hired hands and associates. When his clothing became worn, he repaired them himself. Tarleton walked almost everywhere he went and would often buy 10 cents worth of cheese and some crackers and lean against a building to eat. Although he owned a horse, he decided it was too expensive and did not keep it.

Resentful of the hardships during his youth and his missed opportunities for an education, Tarleton sent many of his neighbor children to school.

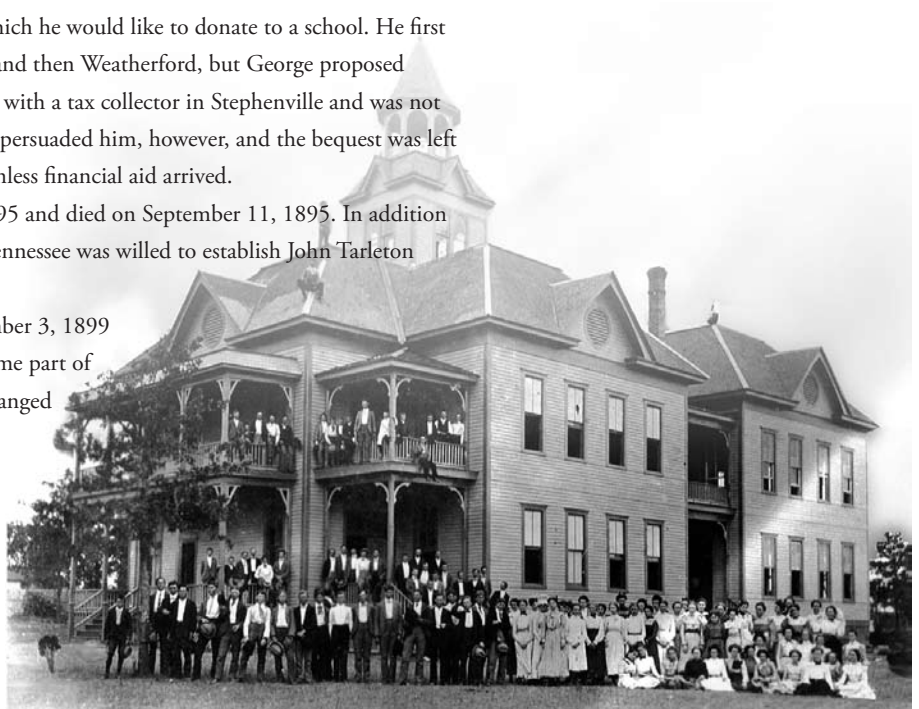
Tarleton hired J. Collin George to represent him in a legal dispute among ranchers. George not only won the case, he earned the confidence and respect of his client. After that, the firm of George and Martin

handled all of Tarleton's legal affairs. This association between rancher and lawyer was to play an important role in the establishment of the Texas college which bears his name.

In his will, Tarleton said he had about \$85,000 which he would like to donate to a school. He first considered leaving the money for a school in Palo Pinto and then Weatherford, but George proposed Stephenville. Tarleton had had an unfortunate encounter with a tax collector in Stephenville and was not pleased with the idea of leaving his money there. George persuaded him, however, and the bequest was left to the struggling Stephenville college that was doomed unless financial aid arrived.

Tarleton contracted typhoid fever in the fall of 1895 and died on September 11, 1895. In addition to the funds for John Tarleton College, his property in Tennessee was willed to establish John Tarleton Institution.

John Tarleton College opened its doors on September 3, 1899 with W. H. Bruce as president. In 1917, the college became part of The Texas A&M University System and the name was changed to John Tarleton Agricultural College.



Tarleton State University's Original Building, the John Tarleton College.

Tarleton Creed

By Robert Wood

Student, John Tarleton Agricultural College, 1927–28

Before I came to Tarleton I had only a vague idea of what school spirit really means. I had no definite conception of just how much a school could mean to me. But I had been here only a short while until I became a small part of the school, and the school a large part of me. Now Tarleton holds a spot in my heart that no other school will ever be able to reach. Every true Tarletonite is imbued with this spirit, which is simply and beautifully expressed in our Tarleton Creed.

I believe in Tarleton; not that there are not other schools with admirable features worthy of a student's allegiance; but for me Tarleton is the best school on earth. **I** believe in her fundamental principles. **I** love her professors; **I** believe in her students, in their desire for the best and their ability to realize it in their lives.

I believe it is my duty to support Tarleton in everything; not to be blind to her faults, but to set myself to their eradication; not to expect of my school any higher conduct than of myself as an individual, but to make my conduct conform to the highest ideals.

I believe in Tarleton's mission, a mission in every good movement.

I believe the hand of Providence is clearly discernible in Tarleton's history, and that full recognition and place should be given to God in our school life.

Dean J. Thomas Davis proudly marches on the front line with Tarleton cadets.

*Oh! Our hearts with joy are thrilling
when the Tarleton Colors wave,
And our spirits rise with rapture
when the Tarleton sons are brave;*

*On Ye Tarleton, On Ye Tarleton
Break right through that line
Ever forward, ever onward
We'll get there or die
On Ye Tarleton, On Ye Tarleton,
Fight for Victory
Fight, Texans*, Fight, Fight, Fight!
and win this game.*

*originally worded Tarleton

*Fight for Victory, Fight for Honor,
And success will crown the fight;
ALL HAIL the proud defenders of the
Purple and the White!*

*(Second verse, no longer sung)
On Ye Tarleton, On Ye Tarleton
Strive for ideals high
Guard your standards, your traditions
Raise them to the sky
On Ye Tarleton, On Ye Tarleton
Biggest and the best
Oh Tarleton, How I love you
None have guessed.*

The lyrics to "On Ye Tarleton" were written in 1920
by H.A. Schmidt, a voice professor at Tarleton.

Tarleton Color Song

On Ye Tarleton (Fight Song)



The True Flame

(Centennial Song)



*Like a beacon in the darkness
Shines our alma mater bright.
As one hundred bonfires burning
Guide us homeward through the night.*

*For one hundred years
Through the joys and tears
Tarleton Spirit has remained.*

*Since the founding generation
Brought honor to the name,
Brought honor to the name!*

*In our everglowing embers
Shines Tarleton's bright pure call
To a culture of distinction
In her varied hallowed halls.*

*Friend of field and range,
Through ten decades of change
Burns an ever glowing flame.*

*And the present generation
Offers honor to the name
Offers honor to the name!*

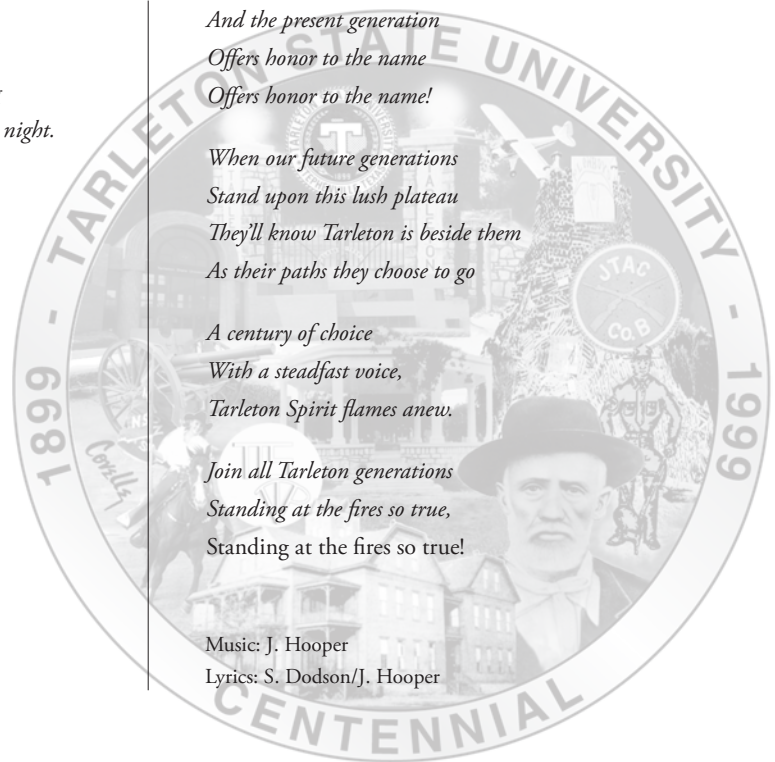
*When our future generations
Stand upon this lush plateau
They'll know Tarleton is beside them
As their paths they choose to go*

*A century of choice
With a steadfast voice,
Tarleton Spirit flames anew.*

*Join all Tarleton generations
Standing at the fires so true,
Standing at the fires so true!*

Music: J. Hooper

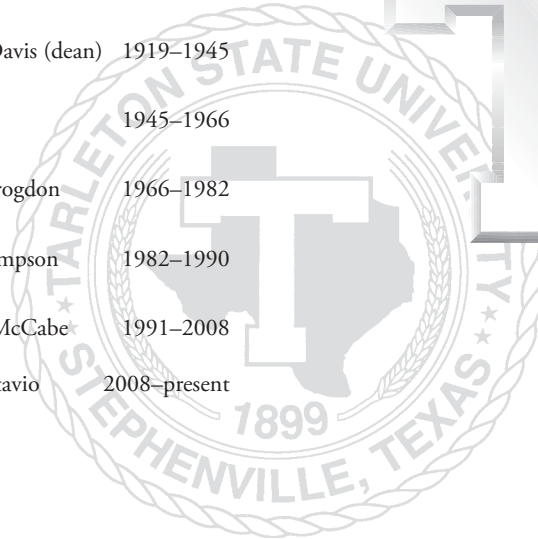
Lyrics: S. Dodson/J. Hooper



Presidents of Tarleton

William Herschell Bruce	1899–1900
Edgar Elliott Bramlette	1900–1906
Frank M. Martin	1906–1908
J. D. Sandefer	1908–1909
Elzy Dee Jennings	1909–1911
George J. Nunn	1911–1912
Roswell W. Rogers	1912

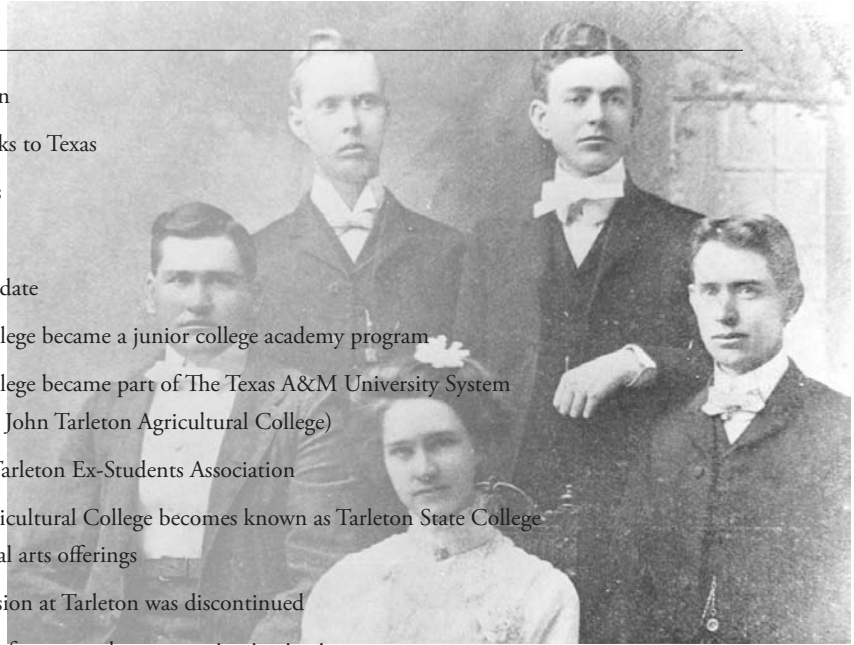
James Duncan Hughlett	1913
James Franklin Cox	1913–1919
James Thomas Davis (dean)	1919–1945
E. J. Howell	1945–1966
William Oren Trogdon	1966–1982
Barry Baird Thompson	1982–1990
Dennis Patrick McCabe	1991–2008
F. Dominic Dottavio	2008–present



Tarleton's Educational Evolution



-
- ca. 1808 John Tarleton born
 - 1865 John Tarleton walks to Texas
 - 1895 John Tarleton dies
 - 1896 Classes first met
 - 1899 Official founding date
 - 1906 John Tarleton College became a junior college academy program
 - 1917 John Tarleton College became part of The Texas A&M University System (name changed to John Tarleton Agricultural College)
 - 1935 Founding of the Tarleton Ex-Students Association
 - 1949 John Tarleton Agricultural College becomes known as Tarleton State College to reflect the liberal arts offerings
 - 1953 The academy division at Tarleton was discontinued
 - 1959 Tarleton became a four-year, degree granting institution
 - 1970 Coordinating board approved masters level courses
 - 1973 Tarleton State College became Tarleton State University
 - 1999 Tarleton State University-Central Texas established
 - 2003 Coordinating board approved doctorate level courses



*John Tarleton College's
first graduating class, 1903.*

The Spirit of Tarleton

by J. Louis Evans

Yes, **I** am the spirit of Tarleton. **I** was born in 1899 from the soul of an itinerant farmer.

I suffered the pangs of early childhood with James Cox, Pearl Chamberlin, Charles Froh, George Ollie Ferguson, and Charlie Hale.

I was with Governor Ferguson in 1917 when he made Tarleton a part of the Texas A&M College, and taught with D. G. Hunewell, Pearl Mahan, H. C. Doremus, and Jack English.

I nursed the sick with Louise Barekman, and **I** laid a cornerstone with J. Thomas Davis.

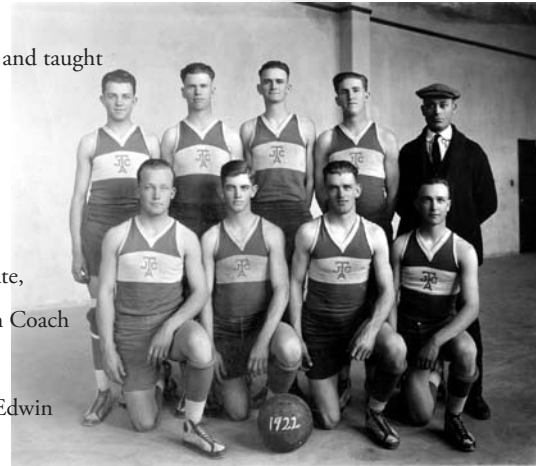
I sowed the fields with Monroe Wells, and **I** wrapped the Maypole with Laura Fellman.

I was in Ripley's "Believe It or Not" with J. Dixon White when he shot a 57 on a par 72 course.

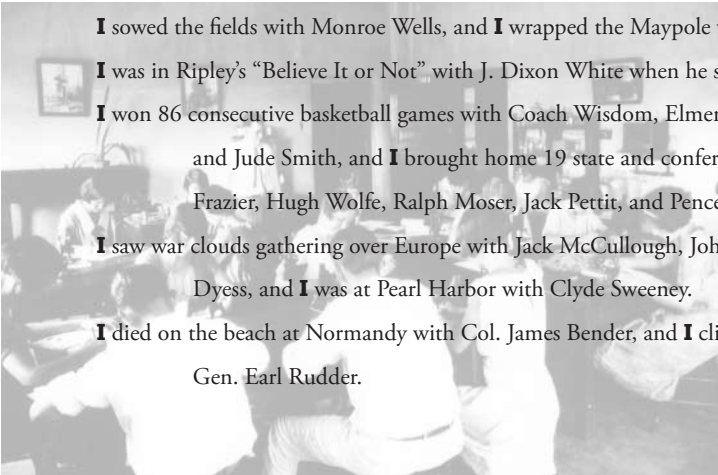
I won 86 consecutive basketball games with Coach Wisdom, Elmer Finley, Oran Spears, Willie Tate, and Jude Smith, and **I** brought home 19 state and conference track championships with Coach Frazier, Hugh Wolfe, Ralph Moser, Jack Pettit, and Pence Dacus.

I saw war clouds gathering over Europe with Jack McCullough, John Buckner, Tid Watkins, and Edwin Dyess, and **I** was at Pearl Harbor with Clyde Sweeney.

I died on the beach at Normandy with Col. James Bender, and **I** climbed the cliffs at Pointe Du Hoc with Gen. Earl Rudder.



The JTAC Men's Basketball Team with Coach Wisdom in 1922.



I fell from the skies over Stuttgart, Germany with John Fielding Higgs, and **I** flew 30 seconds over Tokyo with Bob “Bullet” Grey.

I was in the blood of Elmo Donaho spilled on Heartbreak Ridge.

I built a financial empire with Gus Wortham, and **I** ran Houston Natural Gas with Robert Ray Herring. **I** held the scalpel with Randolph Clark, Norman Shumway, Vance Terrell, and Bud Frazier, and **I** shared the classroom with Mae Jones, Dick Smith, Dollie Glover, Doyle Graves, Doc Blanchard, and Joe Antry.

I won an Oscar with George Kennedy, and **I** was on “Eyewitness News” with Marvin Zindler.

I went to the National Baseball Finals with Cecil Ballow, Roy Menge, and Mickey Lee, and **I** was in the Kennedy Parade and on the UT Tower with Jerry Flemmons.

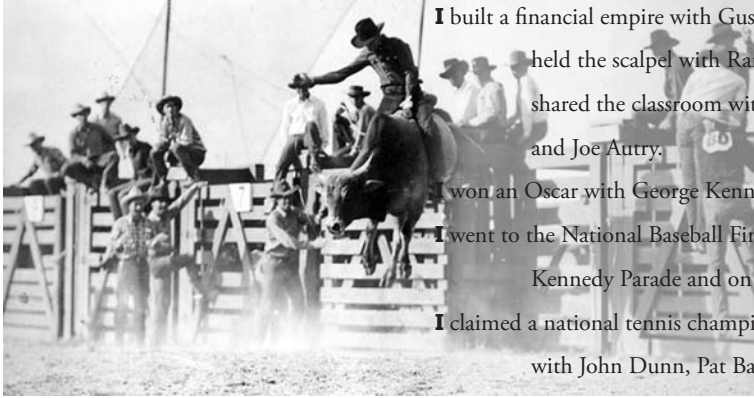
I claimed a national tennis championship with Buddy Stasney and Wayne Kiser, and **I** won the Aztec Bowl with John Dunn, Pat Ballow, Ronald Mays, and Walter Moegelin.

I held Todd and Brian McMahon in my arms while they cried for their father, J. D., and **I** roamed the gridiron with Marvin Brown, Lloyd Corder, and Ricky Bush.

I won the national rodeo championships with Johnny Edmondson, Randy Magers, Terry Walls, Connie Wilkinson, Vicki Higgins, Martha Thompkins, and Sally Preston.

I was with Governor Price Daniel, Joseph Chandler, Rufus Higgs, Harvey Belcher, and Jack Teddlie when Tarleton became a four year college, and **I** marched with the Texan Stars.

I walked the Halls of Congress with Sam Russell and Charlie Stenholm, and **I** sat on the bench with Ernest Belcher, J. Curtiss Brown, Don Jones, and James Morgan.



Tarleton's widely known successful rodeo program brings nationwide attention to the University, and attracts students from many states.

I toured the Caribbean with the Troubadours, and **I** played at the World's Fair with the Jazz Ensemble.

I presided over the Senate with Ben Barnes, and **I** sat on the Railroad Commission with Jim Langdon.

I made the laws of Texas with J.P. Word, Carl Hardin, J. Manley Head, Joe Hanna, Bill Meier, Mike Moncrief, and Bob Glasgow.

I was on the Coordinating Board with Jack Arthur.

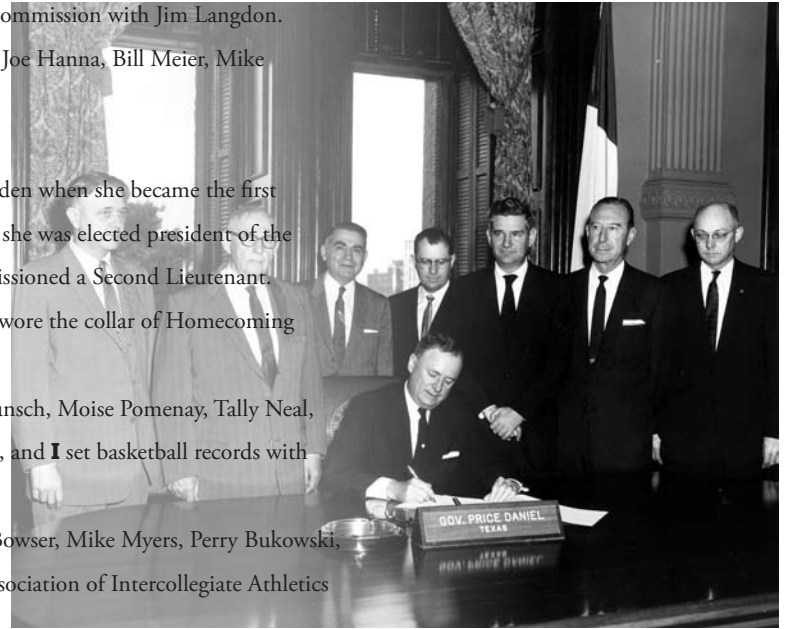
I broke the color barrier with Jumper Davis, and **I** was with Nancy Golden when she became the first woman student body president, Guin Sherman Lemke when she was elected president of the Alumni Association, and Deann Moore when she was commissioned a Second Lieutenant.

I wore the crown of Miss Rodeo America with Debbie Johnston, and **I** wore the collar of Homecoming Queen with Jessie.

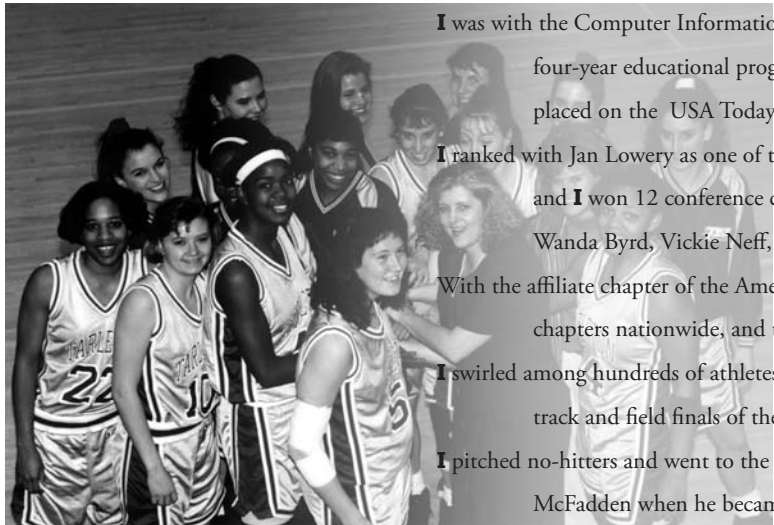
I won All America honors with John Riggs, Randy Winkler, Harlen Wunsch, Moise Pomenay, Tally Neal, Dianna May, Wanda Byrd, Cindy Greer, and James Hawkins, and **I** set basketball records with Judy Gleaton, Dwayne Johnson, and Ross Taylor.

I am the Sunflower Bowl championship ring on the fingers of Gaylon Bowser, Mike Myers, Perry Bukowski, and Craig Hancock, and **I** high jumped into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame with James Hawkins.

I ran the distance with Javier Tamez to become a four-time conference champion, sprinted with Chuck High, and went to the national finals with Lane McNamara as Tarleton's first decathlon performer.



In 1959, Governor Price Daniel signed the Tarleton Four-Year Bill. Standing third from left is E. J. Howell, Tarleton State College President, and second from right is Dr. D. M. Harrington, Texas A&M Chancellor.



Jan Lowery, one of the winningest coaches in all divisions of women's basketball in the U.S., celebrates with her championship Women's Basketball Team.

I was with the Computer Information Systems and Management Department when it was selected the top four-year educational program in the United States, and **I** cheered when Dara Robertson was placed on the USA Today's All Academic College Team.

I ranked with Jan Lowery as one of the winningest coaches in all divisions of women's basketball in the U.S., and **I** won 12 conference championships and advanced to the national finals three times with Wanda Byrd, Vickie Neff, Dianna May, and Jennifer Washington.

With the affiliate chapter of the American Chemical Society, **I** was designated one of the "Outstanding" chapters nationwide, and the only one from Texas.

I swirled among hundreds of athletes from throughout the U.S. and Canada as Tarleton hosted the national track and field finals of the NAIA.

I pitched no-hitters and went to the Philadelphia Phillies with David Agado, and **I** was with Jeffrey McFadden when he became Tarleton's first All-America basketball player and joined the professional ranks.

I blocked and ran to a football record with Eric Lugo, Mike Loveless, Eddie Washington, Brian Lewis, Robert Simpson, Jr., and Bobby Sutton when the Texans posted the first 10-0 season in Tarleton's history.

I won the Piper Award with Aaron Grant, Don Zelman, and Tim Flynn, and **I** was named Texas Artist of the Year with Covelle Jones.

I sat on the Board of Regents 23 years with Clyde Wells, and I explored outer space with Millie Hughes-Fulford.

I was with E.J. Howell and Bill Trogdon when Tarleton burst from her shell and lifted her wings to the sky.

I spread across the heart of Stephenville as TSU's physical facilities mushroomed, and I rumbled across Texas with the Alumni Association chapters.

I was the Mace at the inauguration of Barry B. Thompson, and I graduated with Emily Jane.

Yes, I have the spirit of Tarleton, and by the grace of God I'll always have.



Tarleton graduate Millie Hughes-Fulford was a payload specialist aboard the Earth-orbiting Columbia space shuttle.

About the Author

A Stephenville native, J. Louis Evans attended John Tarleton Agricultural College from 1933 to 1941. After serving in the military, Evans returned to Tarleton in 1952 to manage the College Store. He left in 1958 to enter private business and over the years worked for a number of newspapers including the Stephenville *Empire Tribune*, the Hamilton *Herald* and the San Marcos *Record*.

Evans was elected Mayor of Stephenville four times, was company commander of the Stephenville National Guard, president of the Lions Club, American Legion Commander and Chamber of Commerce Director. He was named Stephenville Jaycees “Outstanding Young Man” in 1959 and was honored as Distinguished Alumnus of Tarleton in 1975.

In 1970 he was named as Tarleton’s Director of Development and Executive Director of the Tarleton Alumni Association and served for four years in that position before leaving to become editor of the San Marcos paper. He returned to Tarleton in 1976 to resume his role as Executive Director of the TAA and served as Director of Information. He retired in 1984.

Out of respect for his long association with the University, Evans was invited to speak at the December 1984 graduation. His only daughter, Emily was among the graduates. His short Tarleton history lesson remains among the more popular commencement remarks ever delivered at the University. The piece was last updated in 1991 by Evans at the request of the Alumni Association.

A JTAC cadet guards the airplane from NTAC after the crash landing on campus.



Tradition

*It may be right or it may be wrong;
it may be good or it may be bad;
but right or wrong, good or bad,
it has always been done this way.
We like it done this way and
we plan to continue to do it this way.*

— L. V. Risinger

Airplane Incident

At the height of the Tarleton-North Texas Agriculture College rivalry, frequent raids by opposing students were common. Bonfires were the primary objectives, and as described in the *J-TAC* newspaper, the students were driven by “the desire to cause premature conflagration of the accumulated rubbish.”

On November 29, 1939, two days before the traditional football game, and in retaliation for the burning of the NTAC bonfire by Tarleton students the night before, an NTAC student and an accomplice flew over the Tarleton campus and attempted to bomb the bonfire. In their efforts to repel the air attack, Tarleton students on guard threw various objects at the plane. L. V. Risinger hurled a 2 x 4 into the air which struck the propeller and disabled the aircraft. The pilot glided over what is now the Trogdon House and crash-landed in a clump of trees. While the NTAC student and his buddy were launching the air attack, three truck loads of NTAC students were attempting to invade campus by land. Both the land and air attacks were repulsed. The NTAC students were captured, given a block-T haircut, and sent on their way. The Homecoming bonfire has been dedicated to L. V. Risinger, defender of our bonfire, who died in 1994.

Traditions and Legends



A*lumni J-TAC*

The *Alumni J-TAC* is the official publication of the Tarleton Alumni Association. It was first published in 1971 in newspaper format, and today is printed three times a year as a full-color magazine.

C*entennial Medallion*

The Tarleton Centennial Medallion was created by artist Covelle Jones in 1999 commemorating the centennial year of Tarleton State University. Covelle, an alumnus of Tarleton State University, was commissioned by the University to create the bronze medallion recognizing the school's 100th birthday. The Centennial Medallion depicts many of the unique symbols that have come to mean so much to former Tarleton students.

C*lass Ring*

The official Tarleton State University ring was designed by a committee of alumni and students. The top of the official ring is adorned with the traditional border of the University seal encircling the Tarleton "T." The sides reflect lasting campus traditions—the campus gates and cannon surrounded by the oaks and antique lamp posts that characterize the campus. Symbolizing the modern aspect of Tarleton, the ring features the impressive architecture of the administration building.

The Tarleton State University class ring was the first ring in the world to feature series numbering as part of a design. As graduates and alumni order their ring, a series number is etched into the outside of the ring adding to the tradition and meaningful achievements it represents.

G*rassburr*

The first yearbook was published in 1916 and was named *Grassburr* by editor Roy Mefford. The reason he selected that particular title has been lost to history although speculation has been made that grass burrs plagued the landscape of the early Tarleton campus. Written recollections by Dean J. Thomas Davis indicate that when he arrived on campus in 1919 he “found a few run-down buildings and a 40-acre campus knee high in grassburrs.”

Numerous attempts have been made over the years to change the name. Yearbook staffers wanted to change the name in the 1920s, but President James Franklin Cox suggested it was “as good a name as any.” The Student Council in 1936 was stirred with ideas of a full scale change on campus. The name of the yearbook survived.



The Grassburr staff in 1934.

J-TAC

Originally called the *Tarletonite*, the *J-TAC* is Tarleton’s official newspaper. The first issue was published in 1919. J-TAC stands for John Tarleton Agricultural College. The *J-TAC* was named by Tarleton student John H. Winters who entered the contest to name the paper and won \$5.

M*ay Pole Celebration*

The May Pole Celebration was part of the May Fete pageant that was part of Tarleton’s Parent’s Day festivities from 1921 to the late 1930s. In the May Pole celebration, a team of female student dancers, wearing formal apparel accented by floral accessories, moved in a synchronized manner while wrapping ribbons around a central post. Following this ceremony the winner of the annual May Queen election would be announced by a master of ceremonies with the title of “Lord Tarleton.” The tradition was reprised in 2009 by the Tarleton Alumni Ambassadors.



Tarleton students kneeling and pounding the ground to raise the spirit of Oscar P.

Oscar P

Recent legend has it that John Tarleton had a pet duck named Oscar P who went everywhere with him. The two were so close that Oscar P is said to be buried with Tarleton.

At various student activities, the Purple Poo rally Tarleton students by raising the spirit of Oscar P. This is done by kneeling and pounding the ground while calling out “Hey, Oscar P.” Although this has become one of the favorite traditions, there is no evidence to verify the story.

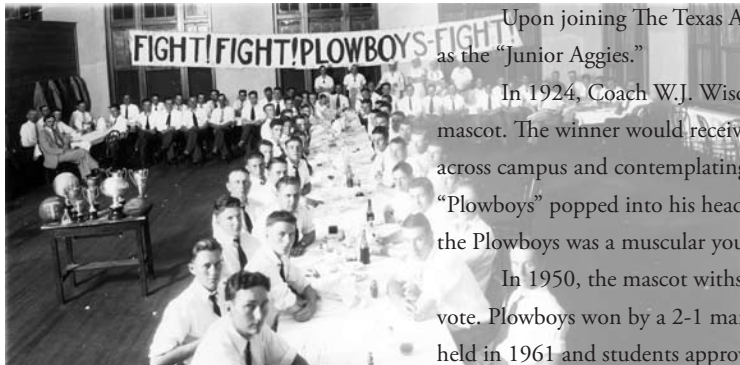
Plowboys

Upon joining The Texas A&M University System in 1917, the Tarleton athletic teams became known as the “Junior Aggies.”

In 1924, Coach W.J. Wisdom became disenchanted with the name and held a contest to select a new mascot. The winner would receive \$5 and Wisdom would be the sole judge. One day, Wisdom was walking across campus and contemplating the fact that Tarleton was primarily an agricultural school when the name “Plowboys” popped into his head. He immediately adopted the new mascot and kept the \$5. The symbol of the Plowboys was a muscular young man in overalls pushing a hand plow.

In 1950, the mascot withstood a challenge when four additional names were suggested for a student vote. Plowboys won by a 2-1 margin. With the University’s changing image, however, another election was held in 1961 and students approved the name “Texans” and TexAnns.” The horse and rider became the new athletic mascot of the University.

In 1984, a group of interested students established a spirit organization on campus and re-adopted the name “Plowboys.” The Plowboys attend athletic events and other campus activities and are familiar to students because of their white shirts, hats, and purple chaps.



Sports Banquet in the 1920s

Purple Book

The original student handbook, known as the “purple book,” came into being in 1917. For 25 years, the handbook reminded students that they must walk to town on Tarleton Street —no riding in cars— with girls on one side of the street and boys on the other. Many of the rules are Victorian, but they were accepted practices at the time.

Purple Poo

The Purple Poo evolved from the TTS/TTP spirit organizations. The still-secret organization gathers to make Poo signs each Monday night. The signs appear on campus every Tuesday morning and occasionally comment on campus political life and student life. The signs are nailed to the trees on campus and most are designed to promote school spirit.

Purple Poo members appear in public dressed in costume to conceal their identity. Many members “un-mask” at the Leadership and Service Awards Ceremony each April while others choose to have their pictures appear in the *Grassburr*. At commencement, graduating members will pass a purple pig to the university president as they pass across the stage.

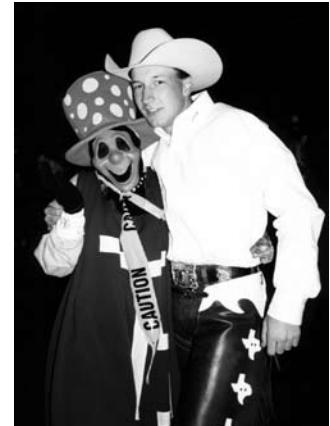
Snake Dance

In the early years, students assembled on the lawn of the Trogon House, locked arms and snaked their way to the bonfire site. The dance was led by the cheerleaders, who carried torches to light the way. The activity kicked off the lighting of the bonfire festivities.

With the relocation of the bonfire to the college farm, students now snake dance from the yell contest at Wisdom Gym to the start of drum beating at the Thompson Student Center..



Tarleton's spirit Plowboys and Purple Poo



Tarleton's Purple Poo



T*TS and TTP*

Formed when Tarleton was a junior college, the Ten Tarleton Peppers (TTP) and Ten Tarleton Sisters (TTS) are the two oldest organizations on campus. These spirit organizations for men and women were formed in 1921 and 1923 respectively.

New members of these secret organizations are selected by current members. When first organized, the two groups met late at night and prepared signs for upcoming athletic events. The basic signs at this time were made of canvas and were stretched between trees on the campus. The clubs met in the attic of the old recreation hall which is now the Administration Annex.

The identities of the senior members were disclosed in group photos when the yearbooks were distributed. Senior members stood facing the camera while others faced away from the camera with various and sundry items placed over their heads. The groups are sponsored by faculty and staff members.

*The Ten Tarleton Sisters
and the Ten Tarleton Peppers.*

U*niforms*

In the early 1900's there was no required uniform for either female or male students. However the students themselves adopted a good quality serge suit for the girls and the A & M cadet gray military uniform for the boys. It was not until the fall of 1918, when Tarleton became a state institution, that the girls' blue chambray uniform became official. The uniform was made of Parkhill's Imperial Chambray #7588 using pattern #1133. Slight variations in the pattern occurred over the years, including Home Journal's pattern #1925, McCall's #4017, 3475, and 8660, Butterick's #2460, and Simplicity's #3688 and 4906, but the basic uniform consisted of a blue chambray dress and belt with a white Cambric collar and black Windsor tie with black shoes. Other fabric used later was Bluebonnet Chambray and L.M.C. Super Strong Cloth. These uniforms were worn by the unmarried female students to classes, assembly, laboratory, library, and other school exercises when deemed appropriate by the administration. Beginning in 1931 a white cotton fine-ribbed pique dress, made by and finished by the same pattern as the chambray dress and made of at least thirty-nine cents per yard quality material that was on sale in Stephenville, was required for special occasions, including commencement. Because of a shortage of material during the war years, the women were not required to wear uniforms. Officially, beginning after the war and for the 1945-46 school year, women's uniforms were no longer required.

Landmarks

Cannon

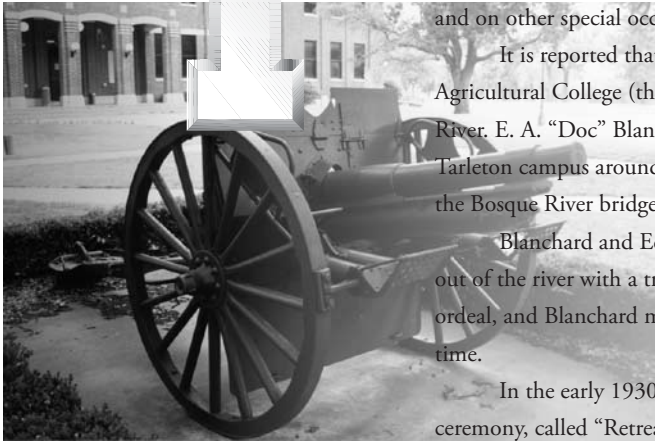
Possibly the most famous landmark on the Tarleton campus is a World War I cannon located in front of the Education Building under an oak tree. The cannon was brought to Tarleton from Fort Sam Houston in 1922 to be used in ROTC training. The cadets exhibited their expertise on the field piece at Parents' Day and on other special occasions.

It is reported that around 1928, during the early days of the rivalry between Tarleton and North Texas Agricultural College (the "Grubs"), the cannon was stolen by NTAC students and dumped into the Bosque River. E. A. "Doc" Blanchard, who came to Tarleton in 1926, said the students hauled the cannon off the Tarleton campus around 5 a.m., headed out Texas Highway 377, veered off to the north as they approached the Bosque River bridge, and rolled the cannon into the river.

Blanchard and Ed Emmett, Tarleton maintenance foreman, and a crew of men, pulled the cannon out of the river with a tractor and hauled it back to the campus. Several wheel spokes were broken during the ordeal, and Blanchard made new spokes by hand since the college had no wood-turning equipment at that time.

In the early 1930's, the cannon was placed at its present site. For many years, there was a weekly ceremony, called "Retreat Parade", for the ROTC in which the cannon played an important part. In this ceremony, the U.S. flag in front of the Administration Building (now the Education Building) was lowered, "taps" was played and the cannon was fired. This ceremony continued for many years until the university was forced to silence the cannon. Legend has it that if a virgin walks in front of it, it will fire.

Thanks to the classes of 1991 & 1992 the cannon has been restored to its original condition. The spokes have been replaced and the entire cannon sandblasted and painted its original color.



The cannon represents over seventy years of Tarleton traditions, and now stands as a symbol of peace gained through sacrifice.

C*arillon*

Donated by the Classes of 1977 through 1982, the Carillon honors Dr. W. O. Trogdon, the University's twelfth President. The Carillon chimes every hour and plays the school song and other selections on special occasions.

C*entennial Lane*

Dedicated on October 12, 1999 as part of Tarleton's Centennial Celebration, Centennial Lane is located on the South side of the Tarleton Obelisk between Lillian and Washington streets. The street represents the symbols of Tarleton's partnership and its kinship with the greater Stephenville community.

F*lagpole*

The old flagpole in front of the Education Building was given by Tarleton students in the 1920s and displays a marker naming those students. Taps was traditionally played in front of the flagpole. Claims have been made that it was difficult to find anyone who could climb the pole to paint it or clean it. The flagpole telescoped to over 75 feet.

The old flagpole remains standing with pride as the American Flag waves high above Tarleton's campus.



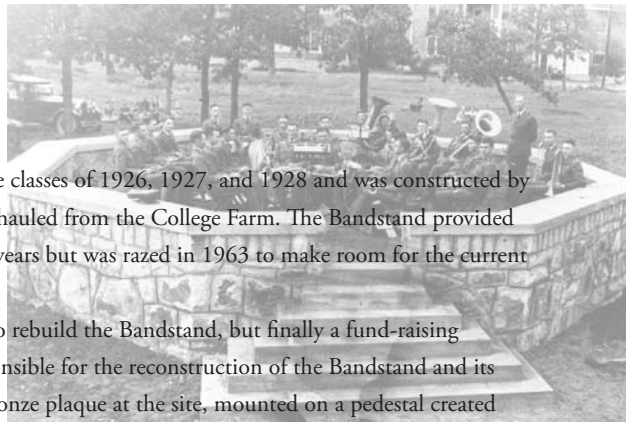


The famous Hunewell Bandstand

Hunewell Bandstand

The Hunewell Bandstand was a gift from the classes of 1926, 1927, and 1928 and was constructed by Tarleton staff and students with rock quarried and hauled from the College Farm. The Bandstand provided a stage for the bands of D.J. Hunewell for over 30 years but was razed in 1963 to make room for the current Tarleton Center.

Over the years several attempts were made to rebuild the Bandstand, but finally a fund-raising drive by the Tarleton Alumni Association was responsible for the reconstruction of the Bandstand and its subsequent dedication at Homecoming 2005. A bronze plaque at the site, mounted on a pedestal created with rock from the original Bandstand, relates the history of the structure.



J-TAC Hearts

In 1926 a rock retaining wall was built bordering the north side of Military Drive. The letters “J-TAC”, encompassed by two hearts, were mortared into the wall immediately across the street from Hunewell Hall. A block “T” and a five-pointed star are located in the wall immediately west of the “J-TAC”.

John Tarleton Bronze

Stephenville artist Leon McCoy designed the statue of John Tarleton which is located at the south entrance of the Administration building. The bronze was a gift to the University upon the opening of the building in 1986, given by the Classes of 1983, 1984, 1985, and 1986.

John Tarleton House

Located on the Stephenville Historical House Museum grounds, John Tarleton's house has been restored and filled with artifacts of Tarleton history. The house, formerly located on the property of Mr. & Mrs. John Laird, was moved to its current site in 1992. The museum grounds are open from 2 to 5 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

Light Poles

The traditional green light poles and the lighting on campus have become as traditional as the rock walls and have withstood just as many architects who wanted them removed. Originally installed in the late 1920s with glass globes, they now feature plastic globes. Many of the poles display bronze plates naming the classes that donated them.

Military Memorial

The Military Memorial, located in Heritage Oaks Park, was built by the Tarleton Alumni Association and dedicated on May 29, 2001. The red granite cube rests in the center of a circular plaza and honors the men and women of Tarleton who served in the military during peace and war. A single gold dollar coin was placed in the center beneath the granite cube. The coin is facing heads up and is a 1999 issue to commemorate the university centennial.





Organizational Sidewalk

Completed on June 24, 1994, the organizational sidewalk is dedicated to the student organizations of Tarleton State University. Born from an idea of the Pi Sigma Epsilon Marketing Fraternity, the sidewalk is a walking tour of university organizations. Over sixty organizations were allowed to place original designs representing their organizations in the sidewalk which runs along Vanderbilt Street in front of the Thompson Student Center. The sidewalk will be relocated during fall 2009 due to the completed construction of the dining hall.

Pearl Mahan Rock

The Pearl Mahan Rock was given by the Class of 1931 in honor of Professor Mahan. The granite rock, after residing for a time in back of the brick wall that encircled the President's home, was placed southeast of the Education Building in Heritage Oaks Park.

The story goes that the class of '31 had very little money to put toward a gift to the institution — slightly more than enough to engrave the granite. In order to make the gift more meaningful, some class members from the Marble Falls-Fredericksburg area hired a truck to deliver the big granite rock to campus.

Pictured above, the organizational sidewalk is located in front of the Thompson Student Center, and the Pearl Mahan Rock in Heritage Park honors Professor Mahan.

Rock Gates

It is not known whether the various gates to the original 40 acres of campus were ever locked at night, but they were closed according to some reports. Gates were popular gifts from the classes of the '30s.

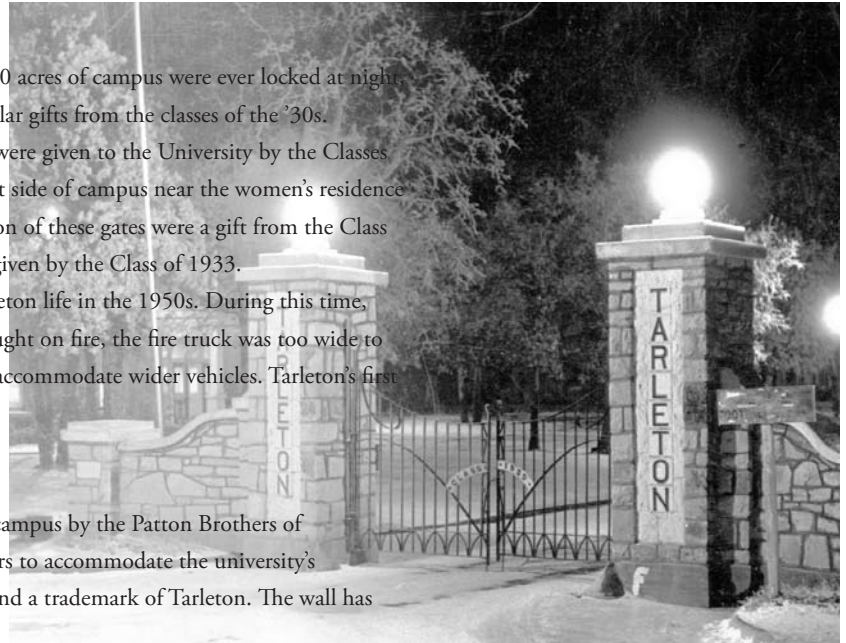
The rock gates on Washington, known as the front gates, were given to the University by the Classes of 1932 and 1934. The former front gates on Tarleton Street (east side of campus near the women's residence hall complex) were gifts from the Class of 1925. The metal portion of these gates were a gift from the Class of 1935. The north gates that open on to Vanderbilt street were given by the Class of 1933.

The gates on Tarleton Street were a significant part of Tarleton life in the 1950s. During this time, they were the only entrance to campus. When the dining hall caught on fire, the fire truck was too wide to go through the gates. The gates eventually had to be widened to accommodate wider vehicles. Tarleton's first rock gate was dedicated on May 25, 1925 and cost \$404.81.

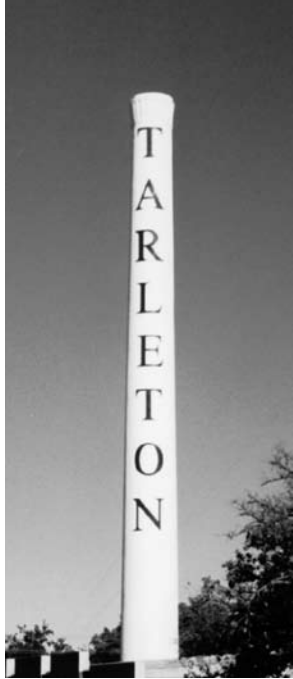
Rock Wall

A native stone wall was built around the original 40-acre campus by the Patton Brothers of Stephenville in the 1930s. This wall has been altered over the years to accommodate the university's expansion; however, it remains an important campus landmark and a trademark of Tarleton. The wall has withstood the desire of several architects to have it removed.

A retaining wall built in 1926 exists just across the street from the women's dorm complex. In the wall are four hearts and the letters "J-TAC." These letters stand for John Tarleton Agricultural College.



The famous Rock Gates opening to Tarleton Street have been part of the beautiful campus landscape since 1925.



The smokestack towers high above Tarleton's campus.

Smokestack

Built in 1923 at a cost of \$4,500.00, the smokestack is located on the northeast corner of the campus. Legend has it that a student from NTAC flew over the campus and threw a brick inside the stack. The smokestack is no longer in use, but remains a Tarleton landmark. The Smokestack was restored in 1998 with "Tarleton" painted down the side. A single brick was unearthed from the bottom of the smokestack during a maintenance inspection in spring 2009.

Strict Names

In the Fall of 1995 the Student Government Association named four streets on campus after important alumnus who have contributed to Tarleton's heritage.

Nancy Golden Drive is named for Tarleton's first female student body president and is located on the South side of Hunewell Annex.

Military Drive, located in front of the Howell Education Building, is named in honor of all the students serving in the R.O.T.C. program. In the early years, cadets marched down the street for drill.

Doc Blanchard Drive, located between the Math and Education Buildings, is named for the Tarleton professor who began teaching Industrial Technology in 1927. Blanchard donated the 1911 Fire Chief vehicle that is located in the Thompson Student Center.

Alumni Island is located in front of the Dining Hall and honors Tarleton's former students.

T-Bench

A concrete bench in the shape of a block “T” was the Class of 1942’s gift to the university. It is located just east of the Hunewell Annex residence hall.

Tarleton Gravesite

Originally buried in Patillo, John Tarleton’s body was removed from its first resting place in April 1926 and taken to the college campus, where it remained for two years. In April, 1928, an expanding campus required that Tarleton’s body be moved again. The subsequent construction of an auditorium made it necessary to move the body to its final resting place at the southwest edge of the campus in a triangular park. A granite marker in the park’s center is inscribed simply “John Tarleton.”

The Texan

In 1961, the horse and rider representing the Texan became Tarleton’s mascot. A student is selected each year to serve as the Texan at official events. Designed by Nelda Lee, the mosaic located in front of the Tarleton Center was a gift from the Class of 1967.

Time Capsule

A Sesquicentennial time capsule was placed next to the Pearl Mahan Rock in 1986 in recognition of Texas’ 150th anniversary. Items in the time capsule were placed there by the Tarleton Sesquicentennial Committee to be opened during Texas’ Bicentennial.



Pictured above, the T-bench is located on the east side of campus. Below, John Tarleton’s gravesite is his third and final resting spot.

T*hree Penny Triangle*

The island located between the women's residence halls and the dining hall was a popular place to gather and watch friends cruise by before the Washington Street entrance to Tarleton was closed and the Administration building was constructed. Students regularly used the area to meet and socialize between classes and after eating at the dining hall.

The campus social clubs and other organizations enhanced the area by donating benches which provided a place for students to sit. The Alpha Phi Omega national service fraternity located their bench in prime area in the middle of the island. The story goes that while cement was being poured in the triangular shaped area, a group of students placed newly minted pennies at each of the points.

The island still experiences heavy foot traffic, the APO benches are frequently used as a spot to stop and chat, but few student ever notice the pennies that are embedded in the cement. The 1974 pennies that are currently located at the triangle are not original to the site, but their date does match that first investment.

T*rees and Grass*

Trees have always been an integral part of the Tarleton campus. Today, the official class ring features an oak tree in its design.

Although there were many more varieties of trees on the original campus, at least one tree remains from each of the 254 counties in Texas—although some are not officially classified.

The largest trees on campus are the post oaks, seen in early 1900's pictures. The red cedar south of the Math Building dates back to around 1920. Burr oak, red oak, chinquapin oak, live oaks, and Chinese pistachio comprise the more recent plantings on campus.

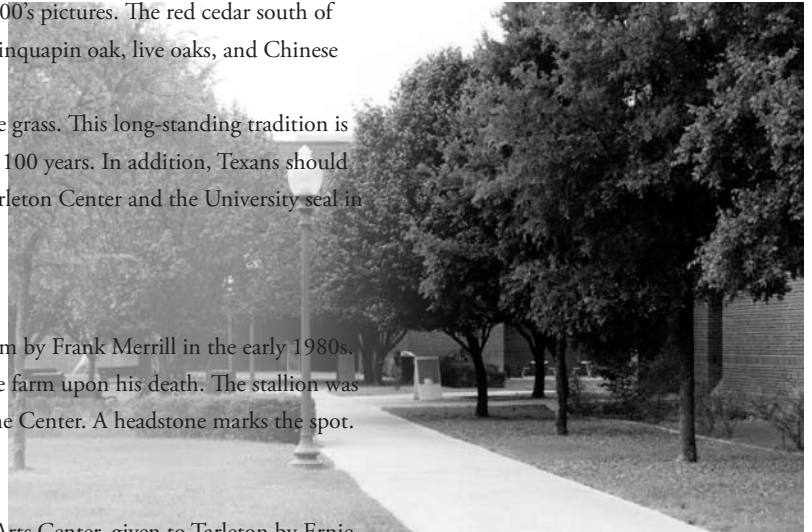
True Tarleton Texans honor the campus by not walking on the grass. This long-standing tradition is one reason the Tarleton campus has retained its beauty for more than 100 years. In addition, Texans should refrain from walking upon the Texan Rider mosaic in front of the Tarleton Center and the University seal in front of the Thompson Student Center.

T*ru Tru Grave*

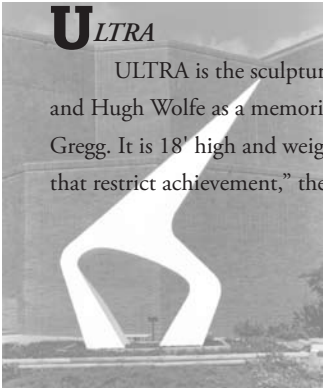
Tru Tru was a stallion donated to the university's horse program by Frank Merrill in the early 1980s. It was stipulated in the donation that Tru Tru be buried at the college farm upon his death. The stallion was laid to rest in 1986 along College Farm Road just north of the Equine Center. A headstone marks the spot.

U*LTRA*

ULTRA is the sculpture adjacent to the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center, given to Tarleton by Ernie and Hugh Wolfe as a memorial to Dean J. Thomas Davis. The work is of steel, fabricated by artist John Gregg. It is 18' high and weighs approximately 2,000 pounds. Designated as a symbol for "unlocking limits that restrict achievement," the tip of the solid white sculpture points due north.



The most beautiful part of Tarleton's landscape, trees have remained a landmark throughout the university's history.





The honorable World War II marker

U*niversity Park*

University Park, located on Lillian across from the Library and Fine Arts Center, was a project of the student government in the early 1970s, marking Tarleton's transition from college to university.

W*orld War II Marker*

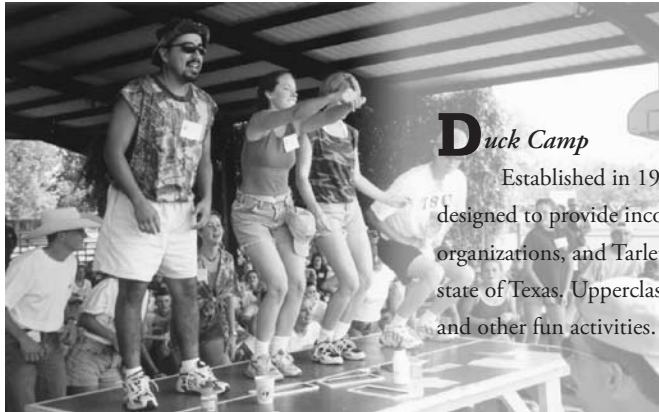
Given by the Class of 1943, the World War II marker honors the students, faculty, and staff who served in the war. This marker is located in front of the E. J. Howell Education Building.

Activities and Events



Convocation and Candle Lighting Ceremony

During convocation, freshman are officially welcomed to the Tarleton family and begin their journey of challenge, discovery, friendship and opportunity. Students pledge their commitment of integrity, diversity, and civility. Students light a candle during the candle lighting ceremony to signify the joining of the Tarleton family. Each student's flame will burn until their life is finished and their Tarleton brothers and sisters lay their flame to rest at the Silver Taps Ceremony.



Duck Camp

Established in 1995, Duck Camp is a transition camp for incoming Tarleton Texans. Duck Camp is designed to provide incoming students with the opportunity to increase their awareness of campus activities, organizations, and Tarleton's rich traditions. Duck Camp is held each August at variety of camps around the state of Texas. Upperclassmen, called Group Leaders, assist the incoming students with college life sessions and other fun activities.

Tarleton's highly successful Duck Camp provides a fun and relaxed atmosphere for incoming students.

Founders Day Celebration

The Founder's Day Celebration, which originated in 1902, was a tribute to John Tarleton. The celebration was held each November to coincide with Tarleton's birthday. There was a program in the auditorium of the original building followed by a processional to cover Tarleton's grave with flowers. At the time Tarleton was buried where Heritage Oaks Park is now located.

As the faculty and students gathered around the grave, they sang to the tune of "America" the following words which were written by Lily Pearl Chamberlin for the first celebration.

In Fall 2002, students began to celebrate Founder's Day with remembrances. Today the Student Government Association coordinates Founder's Day activities.

Founder's Song

*On this, the day of days
When all our land gives praise,
We now advance,
And stand around his grave,
To honor him who gave
His wealth our youth to save
From ignorance.
He wished to leave behind
Some blessing for mankind
That faileth not;
And thus he gave us here
This school, to us so dear,
Where those from far and near
May cast their lot.*

*The monument he reared
Will make his name revered
In future time,
When from these walls shall go
Those whom the world shall know
In stations high or low,
By lives sublime.
Our benefactor thou,
We raise our voices now,
And thanks acclaim.
Long may our College stand,
A beacon in this land,
And crown with honor grand
John Tarleton's name.*

H*owdy Week*

The first week of school each fall is designated as Howdy Week. A variety of activities, hosted by departments and student organizations, are held that welcome new students into the Tarleton family.

S*ilver Taps*

The Silver Taps Ceremony, honoring those faculty, staff, students, and alumni, who died during the previous year, was held for many years in conjunction with homecoming activities. The ceremony was moved to the spring semester in 2005 to provide increased recognition for the program. Silver taps is a cooperative undertaking of the student body, the Alumni Relations Office, and the Tarleton ROTC program. The role call and candle lighting ceremony culminate each year with a processional and the placing of flowers at the base of the Tarleton State University Military Memorial.

T*exan 2 Texan*

Held the weekend before classes begin, Texan 2 Texan helps students acclimate to the university setting through peer group activities, faculty partner meetings, and interactive activities. The event culminates with Convocation and Candle Lighting.

Homecoming Traditions

B*eauty and the Beast*

One student from each ramp in the men's residence halls is transformed into a beauty contestant for the evening by students from the women's residence halls. A beauty pageant is held in which contestants vie for the title of queen. Girls from the women's residence halls dress as the beauties' escorts.

D*istinguished Alumni Dinner*

The Tarleton Ex-Students Association (renamed the Tarleton Alumni Association in 1976) initiated its Distinguished Alumni recognition program at Homecoming in 1966. Gus Wortham was honored as the first Distinguished Alumnus. In 1969 the Distinguished Faculty and Staff category was added, in 1976 the Distinguished Friend was added, and in 1984 the first Outstanding Young Alumni category was initiated. These honorees are now presented each year at homecoming at the Distinguished Alumni Dinner.

D*rum Beating*

The 1920s marked the beginning of a tradition that is a favorite among Tarleton students—the beating of the drum. At the height of the rivalry between JTAC and NTAC, the burning of the opponent's bonfire prior to the scheduled celebration was a popular undertaking. During this time, Tarleton students would station themselves around the perimeter of the rock wall to guard the bonfire. A drum was beaten 24 hours a day until kick off of the football game to discourage NTAC students from invading campus. Today, organizations and residence hall students carry on this tradition during Homecoming week by beating the drum on Tuesday evening and continuing until kickoff on Saturday. The original drum was suspended from a frame; today, 55 gallon steel drums are used. The winner of the Yell Contest beats the drum following the Plowboys.



Former Tarleton President Dr. Barry B. Thompson joins in the kickoff of the traditional drum beating.

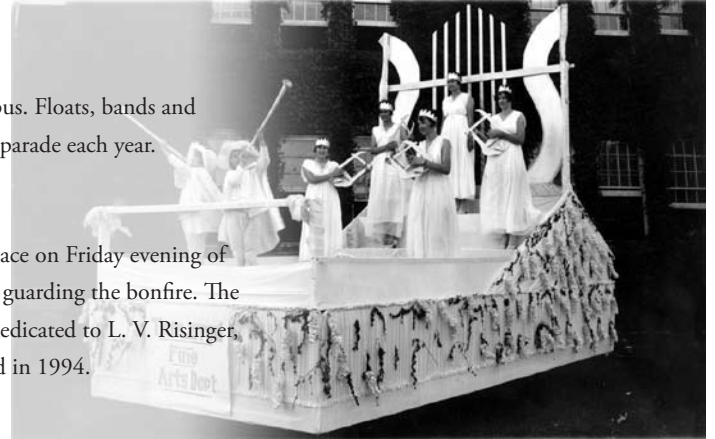
Tarleton's Fine Arts Dept. float won first prize in 1926. Pictured below is the traditional L. V. Risinger Memorial Bonfire.

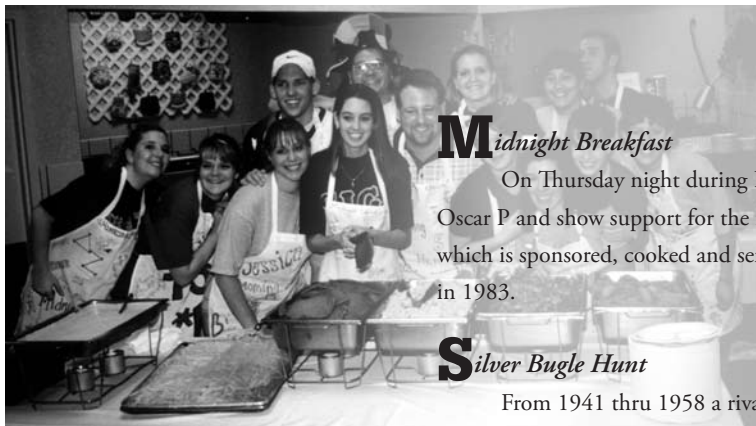
Homecoming Parade

The parade begins at Memorial Stadium and encircles the Tarleton campus. Floats, bands and marching units from Tarleton and surrounding communities participate in the parade each year.

L. V. Risinger Memorial Bonfire

A tradition started during the 1920's, the burning of the bonfire takes place on Friday evening of Homecoming week. The Plowboys organization is responsible for building and guarding the bonfire. The Homecoming Court is recognized during the festivities. The bonfire has been dedicated to L. V. Risinger, acclaimed defender of the bonfire during the air raid of 1939. Mr. Risinger died in 1994.





The annual Midnight Breakfast hosted by the Student Government Association.

M*idnight Breakfast*

On Thursday night during Homecoming week, a midnight pep rally is held to raise the spirit of Oscar P and show support for the football team. The pep rally is followed by the annual midnight breakfast which is sponsored, cooked and served by the Student Government Association. Midnight Breakfast began in 1983.

S*ilver Bugle Hunt*

From 1941 thru 1958 a rivalry raged between Tarleton and North Texas Agricultural College which was highlighted each Fall by the presentation of the silver bugle to the winner of the annual football game. The winner maintained “bragging rights” to the bugle until the following year’s game. NTAC won the final game in 1958, and in the years since, the hated “Grubs” (NTAC) have lost or misplaced the silver bugle. To commemorate this event, a university wide scavenger hunt to “search for the silver bugle” is held each year during Tarleton Homecoming week.

Y*ell Contest*

During the 1980s, the Student Government Association added the Yell Contest to Homecoming Week, and it quickly established itself as a traditional component of the celebration. Student organizations perform step and dance moves to original chants and lyrics; a panel of judges selects the top three teams. The winning team has the honor of beating the drum immediately following the Plowboys. Initially held in the Administration Mall, the event moved to the Thompson Student Center amphitheater and is currently held in Wisdom Gymnasium.

History of the Tarleton Brick

Edgar L. Marston, president of the Texas and Pacific Coal Company headquartered in Thurber, frequently demonstrated his appreciation for John Tarleton Agricultural College by funding scholarships and other events.

In the early 1900s , Marston, who was also head of the largest brick plant in the Southwest, donated the bricks to build a science hall on campus. The bricks were shipped to Stephenville from Thurber on the Fort Worth and Rio Grande Railway. Because of his generosity the new building was called the “Edgar L. Marston Science Hall” when it was completed in 1906 at a cost of \$7000. The Marston Music Conservatory followed in 1916 built from Thurber bricks that were sent by William Knox Gordon, a Virginia civil engineer hired to run the Thurber coal and brick operations.

Tarleton’s source of donated construction materials ran out in 1931 when the Thurber brick plant was closed. However, the red Thurber bricks had already made their impact on the campus as future buildings followed the color trend.

Wisdom Gymnasium, the Horticulture Center, and buildings located at the farm were constructed in the late ’60s of white brick. Rumor had it that all buildings on the original 40 acres were to be red brick and new buildings on the west campus were to be the Wisdom Gym beige brick. However, when the Traditions Residence Hall was built in 1984, the rumor was disproved. All facilities built since Traditions have been of the traditional red brick. Acme Brick Company produces a “Tarleton Blend” that was used on several buildings.

*Tarleton
Architecture*



A*Administration Building*

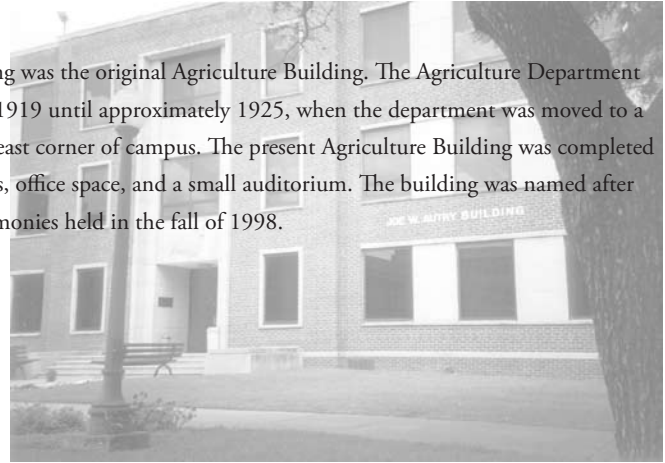
Built in 1984, the Administration Building was designed to accommodate a growing student population, as well as an increased need for student services. The island, which originally intersected Washington Street, was closed to through traffic when the Administration Building was erected.

J*oe Autry Agriculture Building*

The current Education Building was the original Agriculture Building. The Agriculture Department occupied space in the building from 1919 until approximately 1925, when the department was moved to a wooden frame building on the northeast corner of campus. The present Agriculture Building was completed in 1951 and contains classrooms, labs, office space, and a small auditorium. The building was named after longtime dean Joe Autry during ceremonies held in the fall of 1998.



The Administration Building facing Washington Street.



Cecil Ballow Baseball Complex

Tarleton's baseball complex was dedicated to former Dean of Men and baseball coach, Cecil Ballow, on March 5, 1987. Ballow was appointed Dean of Men in 1948 and retired as Dean of Students in 1979. He was a graduate of Texas A&M and an all-conference shortstop on the Southwest Conference championship baseball team.

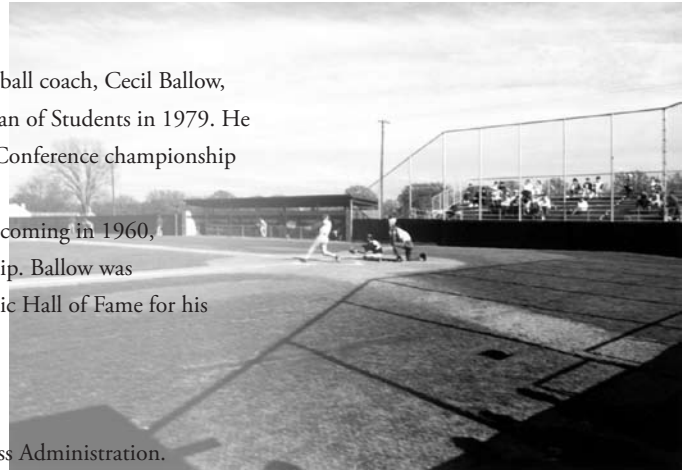
He was Tarleton's baseball coach for 10 years, with his most successful year coming in 1960, when the Plowboys were runners-up for the National Junior College Championship. Ballow was selected as a Distinguished Faculty Member and inducted into the Tarleton Athletic Hall of Fame for his accomplishments.

Business Building

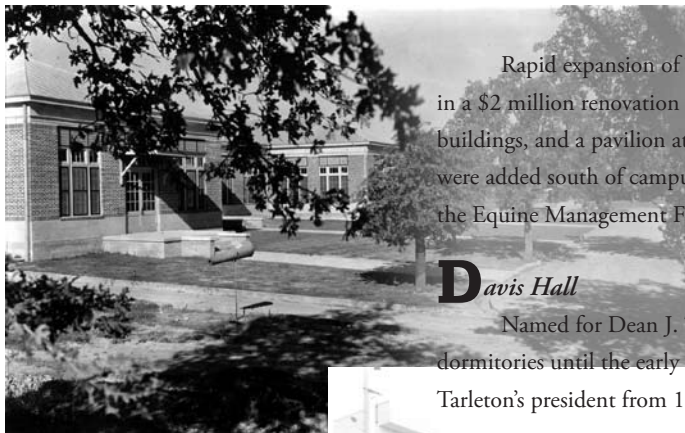
The Business Building was finished in 1987 to house the College of Business Administration.

College Farm

Perhaps because of its heritage as an agricultural school, Tarleton seemed to always have had some sort of college farm facilities for use as teaching labs. Early yearbooks, as far back as 1921, featured photographs of the farm, and one of the earlier mentions comes in relation to efforts to make Tarleton part of the Texas A&M University System in 1917. A group of students from the Mechanical Arts department built a model replica of the farm which included its two-story residence, barn, silo, and several corrals. They displayed it in the Capital Building in Austin while the legislation was being discussed.



The Cecil Ballow Baseball Complex, named in honor of Cecil Ballow, former Dean of Men and baseball coach.



*Pictured above, the Dining Hall in its earlier days.
At left, Oscar H. Frazier Memorial Track.*

Rapid expansion of Tarleton's agriculture-related degree programs in the early to mid 1970s resulted in a \$2 million renovation project that included construction of the swine lab, meats lab, two poultry buildings, and a pavilion at the college farm. In addition, the horticulture center and ag mechanics building were added south of campus on Washington Street. In 1982, \$2 million in funding was raised to construct the Equine Management Facility in response to the newly introduced horse production program.

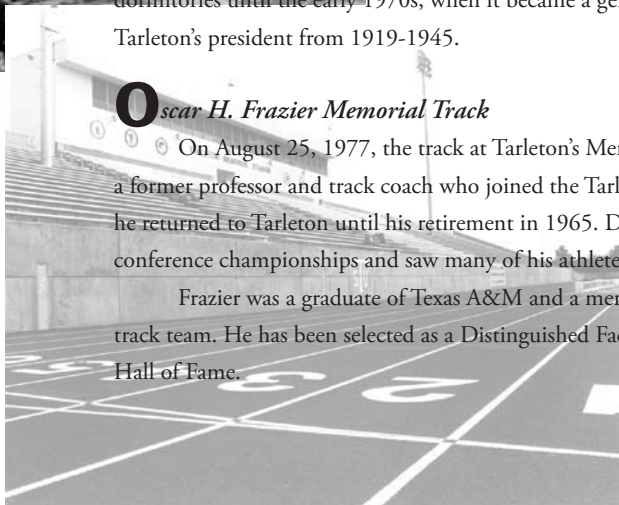
Davis Hall

Named for Dean J. Thomas Davis, Davis Hall was completed in 1936. It was used as boys' dormitories until the early 1970s, when it became a general purpose building. J. Thomas Davis served as Tarleton's president from 1919-1945.

Oscar H. Frazier Memorial Track

On August 25, 1977, the track at Tarleton's Memorial Stadium was dedicated to Oscar H. Frazier, a former professor and track coach who joined the Tarleton faculty in 1925. After Frazier served in WWII, he returned to Tarleton until his retirement in 1965. During his coaching tenure, Frazier won 19 state and conference championships and saw many of his athletes go on to major colleges and even the Olympics.

Frazier was a graduate of Texas A&M and a member of the Southwest Conference championship track team. He has been selected as a Distinguished Faculty Member and inducted into the Tarleton Athletic Hall of Fame.



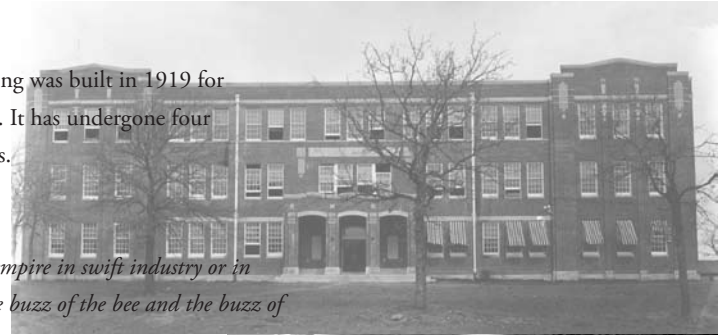
E. J. Howell Education Building

Named for former president E. J. Howell, the present Education Building was built in 1919 for the purpose of housing administrative offices and the Agriculture Department. It has undergone four renovations since then and now houses the College of Education and Fine Arts.

Inscription on the front of the E. J. Howell Education Building:

The John Tarleton Agricultural College

In Texas, the great call is the call of the soil. Other commonwealths may strive for empire in swift industry or in trade or in shipping. We hold no jealousies but on our thousand miles of prairie the buzz of the bee and the buzz of the mower are telling of our plenty youth. Listen to the call: the soil is our mother.



Engineering Technology Building

The Industrial Technology building was built in 1952, and contains forty-two rooms and twelve laboratories.

Grant Building

Completed in 1973 and originally named the Humanities Building, it housed the Departments of English, Social Sciences, and Business. The building now houses the Departments of English and Languages, Social Sciences, Social Work, Sociology, and Criminal Justice. It was renamed the Grant Building in Fall 2007 after long time Social Science professor, Dr. O.A. Grant.



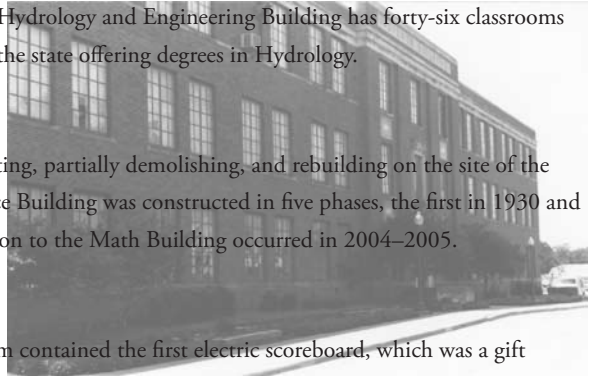
Sharing much of Tarleton's history and tradition, the E. J. Howell Education Building has undergone many changes, it remains a focal point of campus activity.

Hydrology and Engineering Building

Built in 1987, the 45,047 square foot Hydrology and Engineering Building has forty-six classrooms and offices. Tarleton is the only university in the state offering degrees in Hydrology.

Mathematics Building

The Math Building is the result of gutting, partially demolishing, and rebuilding on the site of the original Science Building. The original Science Building was constructed in five phases, the first in 1930 and the last in 1960. The renovation and conversion to the Math Building occurred in 2004–2005.



Memorial Stadium

Completed in 1949, Memorial Stadium contained the first electric scoreboard, which was a gift from the Tarleton Ex-Students Association, the Classes of 1946 and 1949, and the Academy Class of 1946. Additions to the stadium began in the early 1950's and lasted until the mid 1980's as funds were made available. The stadium underwent an extensive renovation in 2004. Artificial turf was installed and a state of the art scoreboard was added to the north end of the field.



Home of The Texans, Memorial Stadium draws large crowds at many sporting events.

Nursing Building

First used as an infirmary, the Nursing Building was built in 1953 and designed as a conventional hospital. In the mid-1970s, it became the student health center, and in 1983 became the home of the Nursing program.

O*bservatory*

A fully robotic research-grade telescope was installed at the Hunewell Ranch and became operational in the Fall of 2005. The observatory is the third largest in Texas and one of the few fully robotic telescopes in the world. The fully robotic feature allows participants to maneuver the motorized telescope through their observation instructions, exploring everything from weather on Mars to near-earth asteroids, and get their results back quickly. The observatory measures 884 total square feet and includes the 20-foot diameter dome with opening and closing capabilities and is viewable through glass from the control room.

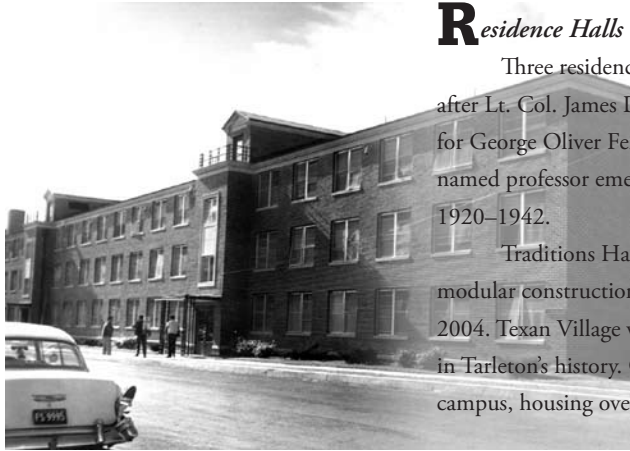
R*ecreational Sports Facility*

In the spring of 2004 students passed a referendum to have a Recreational Sports Facility built. The new indoor recreational sports facility will foster a higher level of healthful living among Tarleton students. This facility will provide an adequate physical/wellness balance to the intellect/career preparation components of the Tarleton experience. This facility will cost approximately \$14 million, and the building size is estimated at 70,000 square feet. Construction is set to begin during the spring of 2006. The new facility is scheduled to open in the fall of 2007.

Residence Halls

Three residence halls are named after people who made a difference at Tarleton. Bender Hall is named after Lt. Col. James D. Bender, a professor of Military Science from 1937–1942. Ferguson Hall is named for George Oliver Ferguson, Associate Dean and Head of the History Department from 1919–1950 and named professor emeritus. Hunewell Hall and Annex are named for D. G. Hunewell, Band Director from 1920–1942.

Traditions Hall was completed in 1984. This facility was unique because it was the first “pre-fab” modular construction on campus. The building underwent an extensive renovation during the Summer of 2004. Texan Village was completed in the Fall of 2002. It was the first university-built apartment building in Tarleton’s history. Centennial Hall was completed in the Fall of 2004. It is the largest residence hall on campus, housing over 400 students. It was built to house incoming freshman.



*A look at Ferguson Hall (men's dormitory)
in the past.*

Tarleton entered the 21st century with a new Science Building.

Science Building

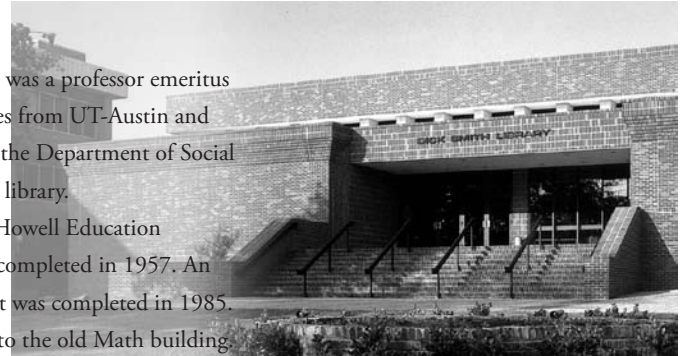
The Science Building opened its doors on April 27, 2001. The \$30.8 million, 160,000 square foot building replaced the old Science building, which opened in 1931. The six new classrooms, five lecture halls, and one auditorium combined with three computer labs, thirty-eight teaching labs and sixteen research labs bring Tarleton's student well into the twenty-first century. The most prominent feature of building is the planetarium, one of only three of its kind in the state of Texas. The state-of-the-art planetarium features a sixty-four seat theater with a forty foot dome. It utilizes a digital star projector that includes eighteen slide projectors, one video projector, two computers and a massive surround sound system.



Dick Smith Library

Widely recognized as “the” authority on Texas government, Dr. Dick Smith was a professor emeritus of social sciences at Tarleton. He attended Tarleton in 1925-26 and received degrees from UT-Austin and Harvard. His teaching career spanned the years 1933-67, and he served as head of the Department of Social Sciences for 20 years. Smith donated his personal library collection to the Tarleton library.

The library was originally housed in the old Administration (now the E. J. Howell Education Building) Building, and then in the old Science Building. The current library was completed in 1957. An addition to the back was completed in the late 1960s, and the addition to the front was completed in 1985. The library underwent an extensive renovation in 2004. The building expanded into the old Math building. A student lounge, coffee bar, 12 group study rooms and a library instruction classroom were added during the renovation.



The Dick Smith Library offers state-of-the-art technology for research material.

Barry B. Thompson Student Center

Dedicated in 1994, the \$15.7 million, 90,000 square-foot Thompson Student Center houses a number of university offices; the Campus Store; the post office; a spacious food court, and a weight training facility.

One of the unique features of the building is the group of three brick murals which depict Tarleton's history. The brick murals, located in the West lobby of the Thompson Student Center, were created by artist Mara Smith and her associate Kris King. The murals were designed to capture the spirit of Tarleton State University and its dedication to the individual.

The smallest panel depicts the Airplane antic of 1939 in which students of North Texas Agricultural College attempted to light the Tarleton bonfire. Tarleton students rallied against the enemy, knocked the plane from the sky, saved the bonfire and forever became part of Tarleton's history.

The center panel known as the "tree panel" is a tribute to our benefactor, John Tarleton. The oak tree symbolized how our heritage has grown from a humble beginning with John Tarleton to a university deeply entrenched in spirit and tradition.

The largest panel, better known as the "college panel", depicts Tarleton's dedication to the total education of a student. The mural recognizes the importance of a student's total education

The Barry B. Thompson Student Center offers many services and entertainment opportunities for students.



through academics and social involvement. The university's past accomplishments are recognized as the foundation for its future achievements.

The murals are dedicated to the past, present and future students of Tarleton State University for their undying spirit and dedication to our great university.

A time capsule was interred in the Fall of 1999 as part of the University's Centennial Celebration. The capsule contains a snapshot of information and pictures about campus during its centennial year. Student organizations were given the opportunity to place items in the capsule as well. The capsule is located in the brick wall at the entrance to the ballrooms behind specially designed bricks. The capsule will be re-opened in 2049.

The Thompson Student Center is named in honor of Dr. Barry B. Thompson, a Distinguished Alumnus and President Emeritus of Tarleton and Chancellor Emeritus of The Texas A&M University System. Ceremonies renaming the building were held in conjunction with Homecoming 2002 activities.

An extensive \$1.8 million renovation is underway on the lower level. The newly renovated area will house offices for the Student Government Association, Center for Diversity Initiative, International Office as well as a student organizational area, Advising Services and Student Publications.

The beautiful Trogdon House is rich with tradition and history.



Tarleton Center

Built in 1964, the Tarleton Center was the focal point of student activities for almost 30 years. With the completion of the Student Center in 1994, the Tarleton Center was renovated to house several university offices.

Trogdon House

The president's home was built in 1924 from native stone by local workers and students for the price of \$8,000. Built for Dean J. Thomas Davis and his family, the residence has housed Dean Davis, Dr. E. J. Howell, and Dr. W. O. Trogdon and their families. Dr. Trogdon was the last president to live in the house. In 1982, the Hall was converted to office space and used by the Development Foundation. On October 14, 1989, the Hall received designation by the Texas Historical Commission as an official landmark. Formerly called the Hall of Presidents, it was named the Trogdon House on February 17, 2001 in honor of W.O. and Florene Trogdon. The home is currently under renovation and will again house Tarleton's president.



Vance Terrell Intramural Complex

Tarleton's intramural complex was dedicated on October 19, 1985, to a person described by many as "the man who made Tarleton," Dr. Vance Terrell. Dr. Terrell graduated from the University of Texas Medical School and established the Stephenville Hospital and Clinic in 1923 with his brother, Dr. J.C. Terrell. He has been actively involved in Tarleton's development and was instrumental in getting Tarleton elevated to a four-year college in 1959. He was also involved in raising funds to construct Memorial Stadium in the '50s, and led renovation and expansion efforts in the '70s. Dr. Terrell is a Distinguished Alumnus and a member of the President's Club and President's Commission. Dr. Terrell is credited with bringing the nursing program to Tarleton.

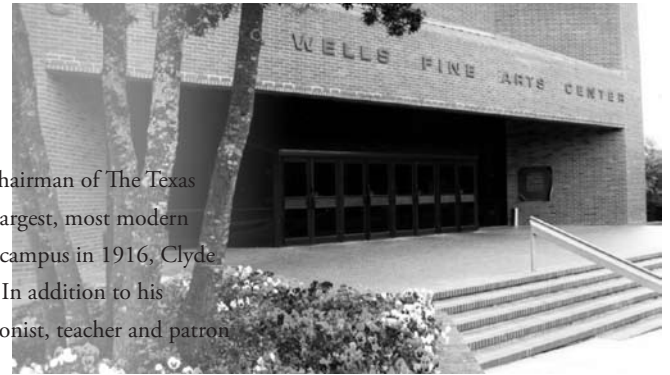
Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center

Named in honor of Clyde H. Wells, a distinguished Tarleton alumnus and Chairman of The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents for 12 years, the Fine Arts Center is the largest, most modern theatrical complex in a 150-mile area of West Texas. Born across the street from the campus in 1916, Clyde Wells attended Tarleton from 1934-1936 and graduated from Texas A&M in 1938. In addition to his dedication to higher education, Wells was also a businessman, ranchman, conservationist, teacher and patron of the humanities.

A carillon was given by the classes of 1977-1982 to honor Dr. W. O. Trogdon, the university's 12th president. The carillon chimes every quarter hour and plays the school song on the hour.

Wisdom Gymnasium

The main gymnasium in the Health and Physical Education Building was dedicated to former coach W. J. Wisdom on February 26, 1972. Wisdom, who once guided the Plowboys basketball team to an 86-game winning streak, came to Tarleton in 1920 and coached the Plowboys until his retirement in 1943. From 1930-1940, his basketball teams lost only 10 games. From 1934 to mid-1938, they won 111 of 112 — including the 86-game streak. This feat earned him a spot in Ripley's "Believe it Or Not." Wisdom also coached football and baseball, winning 18 Texas State Junior College Championships. These accomplishments earned him a place in the Texas Sports Hall of Fame and the Tarleton Athletic Hall of Fame. His basketball players were highly recruited by major colleges and universities, and it is said that at one time in a game between Texas A&M and the University of Texas, all 10 on the court were former Plowboys.



*Wisdom Gym was dedicated to former Hall of Fame coach W. J. Wisdom.
The inset picture is Coach Wisdom with his winning Plowboys basketball team in 1925.*

Tarleton's Past



Auditorium

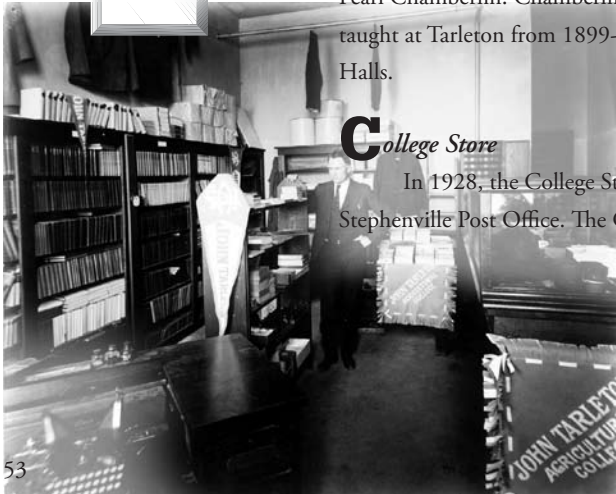
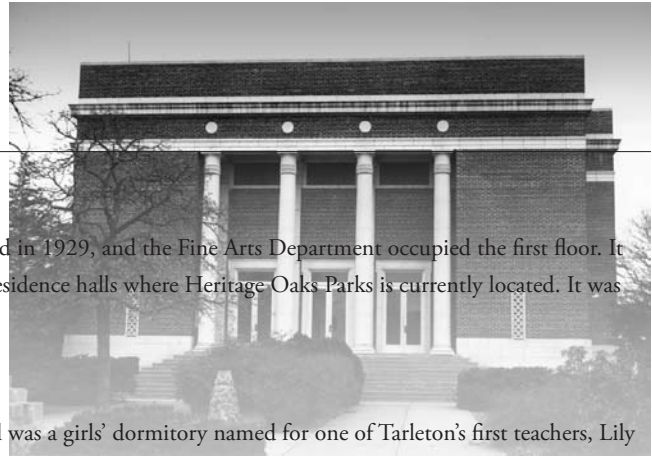
The Auditorium was constructed in 1929, and the Fine Arts Department occupied the first floor. It was located across from the women's residence halls where Heritage Oaks Parks is currently located. It was torn down in the early 1980s.

Chamberlin Hall

Built in 1925, Chamberlin Hall was a girls' dormitory named for one of Tarleton's first teachers, Lily Pearl Chamberlin. Chamberlin was Dean of Women and Head of the Home Economics Department. She taught at Tarleton from 1899-1907 and 1914-1928. The dormitory was located east of Moody and Gough Halls.

College Store

In 1928, the College Store was built to house the student supply store and a division of the Stephenville Post Office. The College Store was located in the front part of the old Rec Hall.



Inside the College Store in the late 1920s.

C*ruise The Island*

Held annually during the first week of school, students and organizations show their school spirit by driving around alumni island. This tradition began when the island went through to Washington Street. Students would cruise down Washington street from the Dairy Queen located on the East end of town to the Dairy Queen located on the west end of town as a way to socialize. The official university sponsored event began in the fall of 1985 when the construction of the Administration building closed the island to Washington Street. The event motto “Cruise It or Lose It” became the battle cry of students who wanted the remaining part of the island preserved for cruising. The tradition was discontinued in Fall 2008.

D*ining Hall*

Built in 1927, the original Dining Hall was completed at a cost of \$50,000. It was renovated several times during its 82 year history. The dining hall was razed in the spring of 2009.

F*ish and T Contest*

Students living in the residence halls are encouraged to construct a Fish (women) or a T (men) as part of homecoming week activities. After they are completed, these creations are judged for originality and creativity. In recent years, individual ramps have worked together to complete one. The Fish and/or T is then entered in the contest. Prizes are awarded to the best Fish and T.

Fishpond

Donated by the Class of 1923, the circular fishpond featured a pedestal supporting a small figure of a child. The fishpond was located in the area of the old Administration and Home Economics buildings and honored the first Tarleton professor who had a Ph.D, Dr. E.L. Reed. The fishpond was removed from campus in the late 1950s.

The Home Economics Building



Gymnasium

The Gymnasium, built in 1923, was also used as an auditorium. It was located just inside the Vanderbilt Street gates. The football field was located where the Fine Arts Center now stands.

Home Economics Building

Originally built as the Crow Administration Building in 1910, the building became the Home Economics Building in 1919. Mrs. Mollie Crow, a friend of Tarleton, bequeathed the funding for the building in her will. The building was located where the Military Memorial now stands.

Lewis Hall

Named for Lena Lewis, Lewis hall was built in 1925 for a cost of \$9,600. Lewis held the title of teacher, dietitian, and manager of the girls' dormitory. The building was connected to Gough and Moody Halls and was demolished in 2002.

M*arston Science Hall*

Edgar L. Marston, President of Texas and Pacific Coal Company donated the brick for the Marston Science Hall, built in 1902. During the thirteen years of its existence, it contained chemical and physical laboratories and manual training workshops. Marston Science Hall was located where the Industrial Technology building now stands. It was dismantled brick by brick in 1950.

M*arston Conservatory*

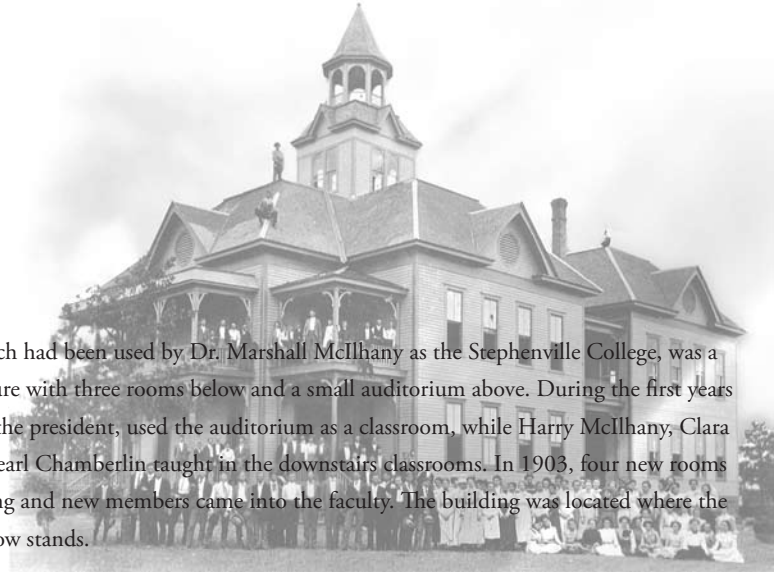
In 1915, Edgar L. Marston donated more brick to Tarleton, this time for the construction of a music studio. The Marston Conservatory was in existence until 1930 and was located where the women's lobby now stands.

Marston Science Hall.



O *original Building*

The building, which had been used by Dr. Marshall McIlhany as the Stephenville College, was a two story wooden structure with three rooms below and a small auditorium above. During the first years of operation, Dr. Bruce, the president, used the auditorium as a classroom, while Harry McIlhany, Clara Bartholomew, and Lily Pearl Chamberlin taught in the downstairs classrooms. In 1903, four new rooms were added to the building and new members came into the faculty. The building was located where the women's residence hall now stands.



R*ec Hall*

In 1934, the Rec Hall was built behind the College Store at the request of Carl “Doc” Birdwell, then the manager of the College Store. It provided a place for students to gather between classes and for social clubs to hold their dances. In 1966, when the Tarleton Center was constructed, the Rec Hall became “The Studio,” home of the drama department. It became part of receiving and storage in 1980 upon completion of the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center. The building currently houses the human resources office and the copy center.

M*ary Corn Wilkerson Dormitory*

Built in 1908, the Mary Corn Wilkerson dormitory was the primary living quarters for female students. In 1923, an annex was built that contained the dining hall, which held 500 students. The dormitory faced McIlhane Street, and was located where Hunewell Annex now stands.



The Mary Corn Wilkerson Dormitory housed female students.

An Expanding Campus



Tarleton has expanded past the boundaries of Stephenville to other areas of the region to offer classes, workshops, and exhibits.

R*esidence Halls*

Gough Hall was named after Lula C. Gough, Associate Professor of Biology from 1921–1950. Moody Hall was named after Mrs. W. E. Moody, residence hall manager during the 1930s.

T*arleton State University-Central Texas, Killeen, Texas*

Established on September 1, 1999, Tarleton-Central Texas is an upper-level institution offering bachelor's and master's degrees. The student population at Tarleton-Central Texas is diverse and growing. Tarleton-Central Texas offers undergraduate degrees in 38 areas and graduate degrees in 26 areas. The Board of Regents approved Tarleton Central Texas to become Texas A&M Central Texas in Fall 2008. The transition process is currently underway for TCT to become its own campus.

T*errell School of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Fort Worth, Texas*

Tarleton offers the professional year of medical technology training through its Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences in Fort Worth, Texas. The Terrell School is a fully accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS) is a seven-month intensive study in lecture courses and basic laboratory techniques. The school was established in 1978.



Dora Lee Langdon Cultural and Educational Center, Granbury, Texas

The center provides facilities and opportunities for Tarleton to develop and expand educational and cultural programs in the Hood County area. The center is situated one block from Granbury's historic square. The center encompasses one entire city block and has three-historic buildings on site. The center is named for well know Granbury composer, musician and philanthropist, Dora Lee Langdon. The Center opened in June 1996.

W. K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas, Thurber, Texas

The W. K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas is dedicated to the preservation of the history of Thurber and industrial development in Texas and the American Southwest. Tarleton State University Foundation, Inc. built and furnished the Center, with support and assistance from Mrs. W. K. Gordon, Jr., Erath County, and the Texas Department of Transportation. The Center represents the culmination of a long and happy relationship between the University and the town of Thurber, Texas. The facility was dedicated in November 2002.



Awards Programs



D*istinguished Honors*

Athletic Hall of Fame

The Tarleton Alumni Association established the Tarleton Athletic Hall of Fame in 1980 with the initial induction of 25 former athletes. Now more than 110 outstanding athletes have been honored on the Hall of Fame Wall in Wisdom Gymnasium. The Athletic Hall of Fame honors those individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to Tarleton State University athletics. Induction reflects the University's appreciation of their achievements and their commitment to excellence.

Alumni Academic Forum

The Alumni Academic Forum was initiated in 1993 by the Tarleton Alumni Association. The goal of the program was to recognize outstanding graduates of each of the University's academic colleges and allow them the opportunity to interact with current students in a classroom setting. Each academic college is represented by two alumni who spend their morning in the classroom and are introduced at noon at the Alumni Academic Forum Luncheon. Individual plaques representing the honorees are on display in the offices of the academic deans.

John Tarleton Spirit Award

Initiated in 1988, the John Tarleton Spirit Award recognizes students for outstanding contributions to the student life program at Tarleton. Sometimes referred to as the "other education", the complete campus

experience includes not only academics but involvement in various organizations and activities. These extracurricular programs require dedication and countless volunteer hours on the part of those students who give freely of their time and resources to insure successful programs or activities. Students must be junior classification or higher to qualify for the award.

Distinguished Alumnus

Awarded at Homecoming to an alumnus who has received significant recognition through career and/or community service and leadership.

Outstanding Young Alumnus

Awarded at Homecoming to an alumnus under 40 years of age who has received significant recognition through career and/or community service and leadership.

Distinguished Faculty

Awarded at Homecoming to a former Tarleton faculty member who had a distinguished career at Tarleton and/or has received special recognition since leaving Tarleton.

Distinguished Staff

Awarded at Homecoming to a former Tarleton staff member for his/her outstanding service and dedication to Tarleton State University.

Distinguished Friend

Awarded at Homecoming to an individual or organization who has brought recognition to Tarleton or who has supported Tarleton or the TAA in a significant manner.

Faculty & Staff Recognition

Jack and Louise Arthur Award

The purpose of the Jack and Louise Arthur Award is to honor effective and dedicated teachers. This prestigious award was instituted in 1983 under the former title of “Distinguished Service Award”. The award was renamed in 1989 in honor of Jack and Louise Arthur who were true patrons of education.

To be eligible for the Jack and Louise Arthur Award a nominee must have served at Tarleton State University for at least five years, with a full-time faculty appointment. The award is intended to recognize those who only teach; therefore, no Department Head, Dean, Vice President, or President is eligible to receive the award. Recipients are only eligible to receive the award after five years of receipt of the last award.

Employee of the Month

Awarded to an employee who demonstrates outstanding dedication, service and commitment through his/her respective campus, department/division, representation in campus organizations, along with service and volunteer efforts. The award is presented monthly and the honoree is given a variety of gift certificates, The Employee of the Year is chosen from the monthly winners and receives a watch and cash award.

O. A. Grant Excellence in Teaching Award

The O. A. Grant Excellence In Teaching Award, initiated by the Tarleton Alumni Association and the Tarleton Alumni Relations Office in 1999, honors Tarleton faculty who are regarded as outstanding educators. At least one individual from each of the university’s academic colleges, except from the College of Graduate Studies, is selected and recognized at the Alumni Academic Forum. The honorees are presented a cash award and a commemorative plaque.

The May Jones Advisor of the Year

Presented to an advisor who has demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication to their organization. This person serves as a role model to all students as well as other advisors. This person serves as a role model to all students as well as organizational advisors. The award is presented at the annual Leadership and Service Awards Dinner hosted by the Division of Student Life. The honoree receives a purple heart-wood pen and is recognized on a plaque in the lobby of the Thompson Student Center.

Barry B. Thompson Service Award

Created in 1997, the Dr. Barry B. Thompson Service Award honors the former Tarleton student, president and The Texas A&M University System Chancellor-Emeritus. A veteran educator, Dr. Thompson helped shape the Texas educational system for some 45 years including 13 years in public schools. The award is presented each year during the fall commencement exercises in recognition of a full-time faculty member who is committed to student growth in academics as well as outside the classroom. Candidates for the Barry Thompson Faculty Service award are nominated by their students; the recipients receive a plaque and a \$1000 stipend.

S*udent Recognition*

Award for Fraternal Excellence (Organization)

Presented to the nationally affiliated Greek fraternity or sorority that symbolizes the excellence of the Greek system.

Colonel Will L. Tate Organization of the Year (Organization)

Presented to the organization that has dedicated itself to the development of individual members as well as making a difference in student life at Tarleton.

Excellence in Diversity Programming Award (Organization or Individual)

Presented to the student, group or organization that demonstrated commitment to diversity education during the current academic year.

Freshman Participation Award (Individual)

Presented to the freshman who is most actively involved in all aspects of campus life.

Impact Award (Organization or Individual)

Presented to the student, group or organization who demonstrated commitment to positive change by solving or addressing a social issue or concern.

John Tarleton Spirit Award (Individual)

Presented to 12 individuals (senior, junior or graduate status) who, through their actions, represent the true spirit of Tarleton.

May Jones Advisor of the Year (Faculty/Staff)

Presented to an advisor who has demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication to their organization. This person serves as a role model to all students as well as other advisors.

Program of the Year (Organization)

Presented to the group or organization that presented the most creative and innovation activity or program during the current academic year.

Senator Robert J. Glasgow Award (Community)

Presented to community businesses, organizations, agencies or leaders who, over the years, have dedicated their time and resources to supporting students and enhancing student life at Tarleton.

Sophomore Leadership Award (Individual)

Presented to the sophomore who is most actively involved in all aspects of campus life.

Student Life Award (Individual)

Presented by the Division of Student Life to a student, alumni, faculty or staff member who has made outstanding contributions to the area of student life at Tarleton State University. The individual must be nominated by someone within the Division of Student Life and selection is made by the Student Life Staff.

Wellness Leadership Organizational Award (Organization and Individual)

Presented to the student, faculty, staff or community member AND group or organization who demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication to the holistic wellness and safety of Tarleton State University and the Stephenville Community through projects and involvement.

W.O. (Bill) and Flo Trogdon Service Awards (Organization and Individual)

Presented to a maximum of five individuals AND a maximum of two organizations that have demonstrated outstanding contributions in the area of service to the campus or community.

Volunteer of the Year Award (Individual)

Presented to the student who demonstrated volunteerism to the campus and/or community during the current academic year.