



C.V. Starr East Asian Library

STARR OPENING

NEWSLETTER of the
 C. V. STARR EAST ASIAN LIBRARY and
 CHANG-LIN TIEN CENTER FOR
 EAST ASIAN STUDIES
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After more than twenty years of discussion, twelve years of planning, and two years of construction, the C. V. Starr East Asian Library opened its doors to the campus and community last March 17.

The *San Francisco Chronicle's* Charles Burress announced the debut that day, front page, center. Inside, architecture writer John King described the Starr as "a work of art" set in "a trophy location." Other local papers carrying the story included the *Contra Costa Times*, the *San Jose Mercury News*, and the *San Francisco Business Times*. Asian media included *Sing Tao Daily* 星島日報, *World Journal* 世界日報, Xinhua News Agency, KTSE, Jiji Press Limited 時事通信社, the *Korea Times* 한국일보, and the *Korea Daily* 중앙일보. KQED radio carried the story for NPR; the Voice of America and BART TV followed. The coverage resulted, on opening day, in a rush of the curious, interested, and determined.

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Letter from the Director



On December 23, 2007, the East Asian Library closed its doors in Durant Hall after half a century of service there, and the Center for Chinese Studies Library closed its doors in the basement of the Fulton Street building. The following month they merged, becoming the C. V. Starr East Asian Library and Chang-Lin Tien Center for East Asian Studies. Located on the northern border of Memorial Glade, across from Doe Library, the Starr is an architectural jewel. It has been acclaimed in the media and academic community for its design as much as for its status as the first freestanding building ever constructed on an American campus specifically to house an East Asian collection.

The move into the new building was an arduous process that required more than two years of preparation and planning on the part of library staff. Altogether more than 350,000 items were moved into the Starr from five locations—Durant Hall, California Hall, temporary storage

in Moffitt Library, the Fulton Street site, and the Northern Regional Library Facility (remote storage) in Richmond. This included not only books and periodicals, but also rare holdings—early editions and manuscripts, maps, rubbings—and large compendia—gazetteers and local histories, the Buddhist canon, sets of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean classics. All had to be integrated on the shelves, a time-consuming and physically laborious task.

The end product, however, was well worth the effort: with more materials on campus, consolidated in one location, students and researchers now enjoy an ease of access they haven't had for decades. The quality of the collection has never been an issue. The print collection, which has long drawn scholars from across the country and across the Pacific, is a clear reflection of Berkeley's commitment to Asian studies; more recently it has become a symbol of the shared cultural heritage of the peoples of East Asia and the United States. The Library's digital resources constitute shared culture of a different sort: classical sources and modern, data bases, full-text journals, and e-books, in the thousands and hundreds of thousands, all accessible via the web.

It has occurred to me that the granite, wood, and glass of the Starr, the light and space that welcome visitors have become a resource in themselves—a tangible resource, certainly, in providing a permanent home for our collections, but an intangible resource as well. After the October 2007 dedication, I toured the new building with a Berkeley alumnus who had worked in the East Asian Library in Durant Hall in the 1960s. After walking the length of the main floor, he stopped, looked about him, and told me that he found the space inspiring and was certain it would inspire others.

From the early days of planning, the Starr Library/Tien Center was envisioned as an academic commons, where faculty, students, and visiting scholars from across the disciplines and departments would meet. This was not possible when our collections and operations were dispersed, when we lacked meeting rooms and even electrical outlets that would allow students to use their laptops in the reading room. It is possible now. Every day since our March 2008 opening, the Starr has opened its doors to not only students but seminars, study groups, and research groups. The Starr Library/Tien Center is proving to be the catalyst we had hoped for.

Peter Zhou
Director, C. V. Starr East Asian Library

ON LOAN

Thanks to the expertise and generosity of map collector David Rumsey and Cartography Associates, over 1,500 hundred images from the Starr's collection of early Japanese maps have been mounted on the web, and more are added to the site regularly. One unexpected outcome of the accessibility afforded by the website is renewed institutional interest in the collection. Last year, the Field Museum in Chicago borrowed three of the Library's maps for its exhibit *Maps*, which traveled on to the Walters Art Museum, Baltimore. Other lenders included the British Museum, the Bibliothèque nationale, the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, and the Library of Congress. Next year, the Starr will be lending maps (and a rubbing) to the Asia Society, New York, for its upcoming *Buddhist Pilgrimage and Asian Art*. Dates and additional venues to be announced. 利



Keightley's oracle bone, the newest, and oldest, addition to the Starr's rare holdings. Oracle bones generally date between the 14th and 11th centuries BCE. This fragment is the subject of a discussion between Keightley and Peter Hessler in Hessler's *Oracle Bones: A Journey Between China's Past and Present* (2006).

GIFT OF GENIUS

Anyone familiar with Berkeley's East Asian studies program knows that in 1986 Professor (now emeritus) David N. Keightley, History, received a MacArthur Fellowship, often called the "genius award," for his work on Shang dynasty oracle bones. Less well known is how frequently and generously Professor Keightley has put his genius at the service of the East Asian Library. While serving as acting director of the Library in 1999–2000, Keightley hand-wrote notes to colleagues and friends of the Library urging them to do what they could to support the building campaign. At the groundbreaking in 2004, Keightley pledged a gift of his own, to be presented on the completion of construction—a fragment of an oracle bone, which had been given him years earlier by another eminent member of the East Asian faculty, Peter A. Boodberg. Professor Keightley made good on his pledge at the time of the October 2007 dedication; the bone is now housed in the Fong Yun Wah Rare Book Room. 利

A NEW VOLUME ON OLD BOOKS

A new book on the East Asian Library's collections was issued in October 2007 to coincide with the dedication of the Starr Library: *Impressions of the East: Treasures from the C. V. Starr East Asian Library, University of California, Berkeley* (Heyday Books, 2007), by Deborah Rudolph. Addressed to the general reader, *Impressions* offers an introduction to the Library's Chinese, Japanese, and Korean rare book collection through brief discussions of individual items and photographs of books, maps, manuscripts, and rubbings. It is the fourth title the Library has produced on its collections and the first that is not a catalog.



The Library's Chinese holdings include hundreds of volumes once in the collections of celebrated bibliophiles and scholars. Here, a copy of *Xianfo qizong, Miracles of the Immortals and Buddhas*, once in the library of the Japanese Nanga painter Tomioka Tessai.

The first of the four titles is *The Asami Library: A Descriptive Catalogue* (University of California Press, 1969), written by Chaoying Fang and edited by Elizabeth Huff. The library of the title, approximately nine hundred works in over four thousand volumes, was assembled by Asami Rintarō while serving as a legal advisor and judge in Seoul in the early decades of the last century. After his return to Japan and subsequent death, Asami's family sold the collection to the Mitsui clan, who, in the middle of the century, sold it to the newly established East Asiatic Library along with approximately 96,000 other items from the clan's library.

The Asami has always been considered one of the most valuable parts of the Mitsui acquisition; it was for this reason that Elizabeth Huff asked Chaoying Fang to catalog the collection. A scholar as well as a trained bibliographer, Fang demonstrates in his notes on the Asami titles just how close the association between printing and governmental affairs was in pre-modern Asia. The catalog is fascinating reading, even for the student with no access to the Korean language or the Asami collection.

The second of the titles published concerning the East Asian Library's collections is *Edo Printed Books at Berkeley, Formerly of the Mitsui Library in the Collection of the University of California, Berkeley* カルフォルニア大学バークレー校所蔵三井文庫旧蔵江戸版本書目 (Yumani shobo, 1990). *Edo Printed Books* was the work of a team of catalogers—Oka Masahiko, of the National Institute of Japanese Literature; Kodama Fumiko and Tozawa Ikuko, of the National Diet Library; and Yuki Ishimatsu, of the East Asian Library—and



The Asami collection includes a number of manuscripts that modern scholars believe Asami Rintarō must have acquired from members of the royal circle. It also includes a number of paintings produced by court artists to serve as mementos to guests at royal festivities. Church'ōn kyech'ōp.



A handful of titles included in *Edo Printed Books* did not come to the Library through the Mitsui acquisition, including this work on snapper. *Suizoku shashin* is one of the thousands of volumes presented to the University Library by Charles Kofoid, chair of Berkeley's Zoology Department between 1910 and 1936.

was made possible by a U.S. Department of Education Title IIC grant obtained by the late Donald Shively. The catalog was designed to provide readers an overview of the Japanese block-printed books at Berkeley dating to the Edo period (roughly 1600 to 1867), since the collection is arguably the largest outside of Japan and contains over a hundred titles unique to either side of the Pacific. The catalog succeeds in this by presenting brief records in a classified arrangement, conveniently allowing the researcher to survey Berkeley's holdings in, for example, Western medicine or the illustrated pulp fiction known as *kibyōshi*.

The third title published is *An Annotated Bibliography of Chinese Rare Books in the East Asian Library*,

University of California, Berkeley 柏克萊加州大學東亞圖書館中文古籍善本書志 (Shanghai guji chubanshe, 2005), compiled by a team of bibliographers working under the general direction of Chen Xianxing, of Shanghai Library's rare book department. In keeping with the character of Chinese traditional bibliography, the focus of the annotations is determination of the edition date, print date, and provenance of some eight hundred titles in the Library's rare book collection. While not written for the layman, the catalog's annotations offer the interested reader an excellent introduction to the issues of Chinese historical bibliography and the art of authentication.

Impressions takes a different tack, resembling a coffee table book more than a catalog. The beauty of the book rests in its subject matter—a selection of texts, maps, and rubbings from EAL's rare holdings—and is complemented in the photography and design of Diana Chen ('87) and SF Digital Studio, of San Francisco. Discussion centers on the items' cultural or technological significance. A brief history of the development of the East Asian collection at Berkeley opens the volume, in a foreword by Peter Zhou. *Impressions* won its publisher, Heyday Books, a Commonwealth Club California Book Award for Contribution to Publishing. For information on ordering a copy, visit www.heydaybooks.com. 利



Bruce Williams, longtime member of the East Asian Library staff, spent hundreds of hours, and an incalculable amount of energy, planning and getting ready for the move.

Students and faculty who had been denied Library resources during the two months it took to move into the new building were the first to arrive and get to work. Most of those who walked in later in the morning came to study the building itself, stooping, craning, pointing to details, snapping pictures with cell phones or cameras. Now, half a year after the Starr's public opening, groups of architects and architecture students, librarians, alumni, Berkeley and Bay Area residents continue to tour the Library on a regular basis, and students pour through the doors. Attendance during the school term averages over four hundred heads a day, seven days a week.

Casual visitors remark on the building's space, use of light, materials. Library users are more concerned with the increased functionality and conveniences the Starr offers. Students can now plug their laptops into study carrel outlets and log onto the Internet using the wireless access available throughout the building. Graduate students and undergraduates are taking advantage of the Yehan Numata and Edward and Mabel Gee group study rooms. Art History and East Asian Languages faculty are holding seminars in the Saul and Sherry Yeung Art History Seminar Room. Researchers from overseas and outside the Bay Area are finding it easier to consult rare materials, now that thousands of volumes previously stored in Richmond have been recalled to campus and housed in the Fong Yun Wah Rare Book Room.

New to the East Asian Library, and to the former Center for Chinese Studies Library, are the facilities of the Coleman Fung Media Center and the Vivien W.



The newsletter of the C. V. Starr East Asian Library and Chang-Lin Tien Center for East Asian Studies is published regularly by the Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94709-6000, and is mailed with its compliments to supporters of the Library. For more information on becoming a supporter of the East Asian Library, call Peter Zhou, director of the Library, at 510-643-6579, or visit the Starr's website, at www.lib.berkeley.edu/EAL/about/support.html.

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Photography: Diana Chen, SF Digital Studio, Inc. (pages 4-5); Aisha Hamilton, and Deborah Rudolph

*This is one of the earliest seals carved for the East Asian Library, and the same seal that appears throughout the Library in signage. It reads "University of California, East Asian Library."



The Starr's main reading room is full all day, every day. During finals week last spring, students desperate for study space sat on the floor, on the kick stools kept in the stacks, and on the wide window sills found at irregular intervals along the north wall.

W. Chen Room. Together they provide scanners, a networked microfilm/microfiche reader, workstations with advanced applications, equipment for playing or recording CDs, DVDs, audio or video cassettes, and television programs. A newly installed satellite dish allows researchers not only to view live broadcasts from China, Japan, and Korea, but to project them onto a large screen or individual monitors for class viewing. Susan Xue, the Starr's electronic resources librarian, is offering orientation sessions to faculty who might not be aware of the capabilities, or possibilities, now available to them.

Before the opening of the Starr, staff expected that the merger of the East Asian Library and the Center for Chinese Studies Library would broaden the scope of the collection and increase the Library's core constituency. Less expected was the synergy generated by the coincidence of the consolidated collections, the choice location, the enhanced facilities,

and the welcoming interiors of the Starr. The change of address has presented the Library with an opportunity, and a responsibility, to engage more fully in campus programming.

The Library has decided to respond to this challenge by scheduling events that draw on Library resources. It has begun modestly, offering Friday afternoon movies in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean. But more ambitious plans are in the offing, including a distinguished speaker series featuring friends of the Library. Director Peter Zhou also hopes in the future to be able to install exhibit space in the Starr, where treasures from the rare book vault could be viewed by any visitor to the Library at any time.

Berkeley's East Asian collection spent its first fifty years in Doe Library, and its second fifty in Durant Hall. It opens its second century in a building designed for it, dedicated to it, and already a prominent feature on the campus map. 利

THE LIBRARY THAT FRIENDS BUILT



The C. V. Starr East Asian Library and Chang-Lin Tien Center for East Asian Studies was built entirely with private funds, contributed by over 1,200 individuals, foundations, and corporations. Every gift made a difference; but it was a cornerstone grant from the Starr Foundation, an early gift, that transformed the project from an idea into a reality. Florence Davis, pictured here at the October 20, 2007, dedication, is President and a member of the Board of Directors of the Starr Foundation, established by the insurance entrepreneur Cornelius Vander Starr in 1955. 本

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