

LINKS TO LAKES

The Newsletter of the Arthur Lakes Library

No. 14, Spring 1999

Colorado School of Mines

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From the Director

by Joanne Lerud

Things are looking better around the Library! The HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning) System has been completed. As this is winter, we know the system can heat -- now we wait to test cooling in the summer. The new fire alarm system has also been completed; it has better lighting and better sirens. Access holes in the ceiling are closed again. We no longer trip over wire spools. Still in progress is HVAC controls upgrade in the "new" addition.

In past years the security alarm systems, HVAC system, and fire alarm system have been replaced. Our walls looked as though we had been through a war. Consequently, the painters are patching and painting so that we can be proud of our Library. The wall paint smell is minor but paint for the metal surfaces, like handrails, is very odoriferous. Because of this, we will try to apply these paints in the Summer.

The construction activity caused the asbestos tiles in the hall on the top floor to loosen. Subsequently, the tiles will be removed and carpet will be laid. Furthermore, the Administrative Offices will receive carpeting. The interim Administrative Office will in the Fish Bowl on the main floor.



The Founding of the Colorado School of Mines 125 Years Ago

By Robert Sorgenfrei

In the late 1860's, citizens in Golden, the capital of Colorado Territory, were eager to see an institution of higher learning established in their city. At the same time, Reverend George Randall, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Colorado Territory was looking for a site to start an institution of higher learning he planned to call Jarvis Hall, named after a benefactor George A. Jarvis of Boston, who had donated a great deal of money toward the effort. Randall envisioned a school of mines as part of this educational enterprise. In order to get the planned school of Mines located in Golden, Charles Welch, a prominent local citizen offered Randall 12 acres of land situated about a mile south of town (where the Lookout Mountain School is now located) free of charge, if he would locate his school there. Randall agreed and the first building of what came to be known as the Jarvis Hall was started in the Fall of 1869. However, that November, before construction was complete, a severe windstorm destroyed the building. Bishop Randall went to work immediately raising more funds to rebuild. By 1872, Randall had raised sufficient funds to construct two buildings. With these funds he rebuilt Jarvis Hall and in addition, Matthews Hall. Jarvis Hall was essentially a liberal arts school consisting of a preparatory department, where students prepared for college study and

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by Robert Sorgenfrei

an academic department, where college level courses were offered. Matthews Hall was a theology school.

A brochure entitled, *University Schools at Golden, Colorado. A.D. 1873-74* is the only documentary source we have for the first mining school in Colorado. In the brochure, the School of Mines is under the Department of Physics. The brochure described the first mining school in the following manner:

"A substantial brick building has been erected for the use of this school. The lower story is used as a laboratory, and will be furnished with all necessary conveniences for smelting and assaying. In the second story is the Library and a Lecture Room. The Cabinet embraces collections in Geology, Mineralogy, Metallurgy; an Herbarium containing a thousand Botanical Specimens; illustrations in Natural History. The institution is supplied with a Philosophical Apparatus adequate to the wants of the school".

The school year for the fledging School of Mines began on September 4, 1873 and ran for forty weeks. It was divided into four terms of ten weeks each, and ended on June 25, 1874. Tuition was \$100 per term for students described as "Boarding Scholars" and \$15.00 per term for "Day Scholars". "Boarding Scholars" were required to furnish 3 napkins, three towels, and a napkin ring, all of which were to be distinctly marked with the owner's name. The library was said to have 1,200 volumes. There was no mention of degrees being granted or of any kind of diploma being issued. The number of students attending that first year is not known.

Official records for the first year of operation as part of Jarvis and Matthews Hall do not exist. From the sketchy information available, however, it seems that problems soon arose. There were questions about whether public money from the Territorial Legislature should go to a church run institution. Attendance was low and the curriculum limited. There seemed to have been a lack of clear leadership and direction brought on by being a part of a liberal arts college and theology school.

Local politics also effected the School. The selection of Golden as the site for what was to become the Colorado School of Mines was a matter of some luck and the right circumstances. In the latter half of the 1860's, there was a great deal of rivalry between Golden and Denver over which town should be the capital of the Territory. Golden was the capital of Colorado Territory from 1864 to 1867, but Denver was surpassing it in population and political clout. A showdown came in 1867, when the Legislature voted to move the capital to Denver. The pro-Golden forces and pro-Denver forces in the Legislature had been evenly matched. However, in the end, a bill to move the capital to Denver won by a single vote. Many Golden residents claimed that that vote had been bought, but could not prove it. For citizens of Golden, it was bad enough that Denver had the capital, but adding insult to injury, Denver also wanted the School of Mines. Citizens of Golden were determined this would not be the case, but they would have to act immediately to prevent it

In the early part of 1874, efforts began to sever the School of Mines from the Jarvis Hall Schools by making it an institution strictly under the control of the Territorial Government. These efforts came to fruition on January 24, 1874 when Representative Levi Harsh introduced a bill entitled "*An Act to Establish a School of Mines at or near Golden, Jefferson County, Colorado Territory.*" After some political maneuvering by supporters such as Edward L. Berthoud, Charles C. Welch, George West, W. A. H. Loveland, and others the bill was approved on February 9, 1874 and signed by Governor John Routt. This made the Colorado School of Mines the first publicly supported institution of higher education in Colorado. It was also the first publicly supported mining school in the United States that was separate from a state university and under its own Board of Trustees.

The first school term for what was now the Territorial School of Mines began on September 2, 1874, and lasted until June 30, 1875. Records for the first three years of operation are

sketchy. The 1874 bulletin does mention that Territorial or State Diplomas will be given after a course of instruction that takes three years. A page in the first bulletin for the School, issued by the Territory in 1874, sums up well the rationale behind its founding:

"The action of the Territorial Government in establishing a mining school within short range of the most developed mineral sections of the Territory appears to be generally conceded with the legitimate industry of Colorado.

In no other mining region is the fact more conclusively demonstrated that a modified system of beneficiation is necessitated by the peculiar idiosyncrasies of the raw material. Any measure having the impress of utility in this regard should naturally be in sympathy with those intelligently developing our mineral resources. The scope of this utility is understood to be a public one, the receiving and imparting of knowledge bearing upon the exploitation and reduction of ore, and upon technical education being the service it is hoped will be performed."

This is how the Colorado School of Mines was founded 125 years ago. The celebration of the 125th anniversary began with the inauguration of President Bickart, February 9, 1999 and will continue throughout the year.



Increased Access to NTIS Publications

The Arthur Lakes Library is partnering with the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) and the Government Printing Office (GPO) to offer the CSM community increased access to U.S. sponsored scientific and technical information through the NTIS-GPO Pilot Project. This online database provides selected NTIS publications from October 1997 to the present in a full-text, online image format (the reports need to be read with Adobe Acrobat software). This database contains approximately 35,000 reports with several hundred being added each month. Access to this database is currently limited to the Government Publications area in the Library (1st floor) for initial searching. A staff member will need to log a user onto the database. Once connected, a user can identify, request, and expect delivery within 24 hours of online, full-text NTIS publications. For more information, see the NTIS Pilot Project Page at <http://www.mines.edu/library/govpubs/ntispp.html> or contact Lisa Nickum at x3695 or lnickum@mines.edu.



Chemical Abstracts Online Trial

Tired of paging through the print issues of Chemical Abstracts to find articles on chemistry topics? The Library will be commencing a trial of *SciFinder Scholar* on April 12. This new product created by Chemical Abstracts Service offers full electronic access to:

- CAplus, the world's most comprehensive database of chemical literature and patents, with more than 15 million abstracts of journal articles, patents, and more dating from 1967 to the present.
- the largest substance database, CAS Registry, with more than 19 million substances

Details of the trial have not been established, so please check the library webpage at <http://www.mines.edu/library/> for updated information. For more info on SciFinder Scholar, check out the Chemical Abstracts Service website at <http://www.cas.org> or read a review in the Journal of Chemical Education at http://jchemed.chem.wisc.edu/Journal/Issues/1998/Aug/rev0898_2.html.



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by Robert Sorgenfrei

NTIS Publications

Chemical Abstracts Online Trial

Book reviews

The American West-Then and Now

Mary Dale, review

For those of us who are aware of or involved in recent discussions about proposed corporate development on South Table Mountain, transmission towers on Lookout Mountain, and/or the Northwest Parkway route, the following books provide some interesting perspectives on the development of the American West. Both are collections of writings, which address change from the human and environmental perspective. Char Miller says,

“... the human imprint is far more indelible than that of a herd of woolly quadrupeds. Managed properly, their hoofprints leave but ephemeral marks upon the ground. Our footprints, by contrast, whether in the form of housing or resort villages, roads or tunnels, reservoirs or water treatment plants, are set in concrete. Our presence is considerably more permanent.

...Once that deadly embrace is complete, all that will be left of the Rockies, for example, will be the coarse and disquieting representations now pitched in beer commercials, evoked in popular song, and ironized in airport architecture.”
(**Reopening the American West**, “Tapping the Rockies,” p. 181)

Change in the American West: Exploring the Human Dimension Edited by Stephen Tchudi, University of Nevada Press, (Call No. F595 .C47 1996)

This book is a diverse collection of essays, poems and reminiscences. Some are very personal stories, while some are more dispassionate commentaries on issues and events. Not all of the pieces are equally appealing but the combined whole presents an interesting perspective. Perhaps the best description of the book appears in the text on the back cover. “Change in the American West brings together twenty intriguing perspectives on the human dimension of change in our region. Using the humanities as their guide, the writers of this volume focus on some of the individual elements and events that have led to that curious creation called the West.”

Reopening the American West Edited by Hal K. Rothman, University of Arizona Press, (Call No. GE198 .W47 R46 1998 (Boettcher Collection))

The collection of writings in this volume was compiled as a follow-up to a symposium based on an NEH project titled “Second Opening of the West.” The book is divided into three sections, Places, Pasts and Understanding and contains some thought-provoking essays. One of the authors, William deBuys, says, “American history was born in incompleteness. Its most profound moment—that of first contact between Europeans and Native Americans—we know almost exclusively from only one side of the encounter. The other left comparatively little record of what it felt, thought and experienced.” (“Dreams of Earth,” p. 14)

Library Notes

PATRICIA ANDERSEN has joined the staff at Circulation in February. A native of Australia, Patricia has lived in Golden for the past 15 years.

Library Directory

Director.....	x3690
Circulation.....	x3698
Information Delivery/ILL.....	x3699
Information Delivery/Photocopy.....	x3899
Reference.....	x3694
Government Publications.....	x3695
Maps.....	x3697
Acquisitions.....	x3691
Cataloging.....	x3692

Library Hours (School Term)

Monday-Thursday.....	7:30 AM to 12 Midnight
Friday.....	7:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Saturday.....	9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Sunday.....	3:00 PM to 12 Midnight