

Tall Texas building mirrors state's image

by Larry Baggs
Battalion Reporter

The south annex of Heldenfels Hall has become a map of Texas — at least in the minds of some creative students.

Granted, Padre Island is missing, the Texas Panhandle is not quite right and state lines are distorted, but when viewed from the top of Rudder Tower, the roof does resemble the image of Texas.

Ronald D. Lyle, an architect for Golemon & Rolfe of Houston and the building's designer, was surprised when asked about the resemblance. He said any resemblance was purely coincidental.

"I have seen the building from the air and have reviewed the blueprints numerous times, but I never saw that," he said. Lyle, who designed the building in 1974, said he wished he could claim the creative design, but said it was a result of the needed functions of the building.

Lyle said the University had three requirements — the largest auditorium possible, a rotating stage and a service corridor to reach the stage — in the construction of the south annex. Coupled with the size and shape of the site, this led to the design, he said.

The rotating stage is at the Northwest corner of the annex. Both the stage and the separate corridor allow a professor to set up a program before his lecture without disturbing classes in progress.

The corridor servicing the stage was angled at 45 degrees to save space, Lyle said. The shape of the auditorium allowed the maximum number of seats.

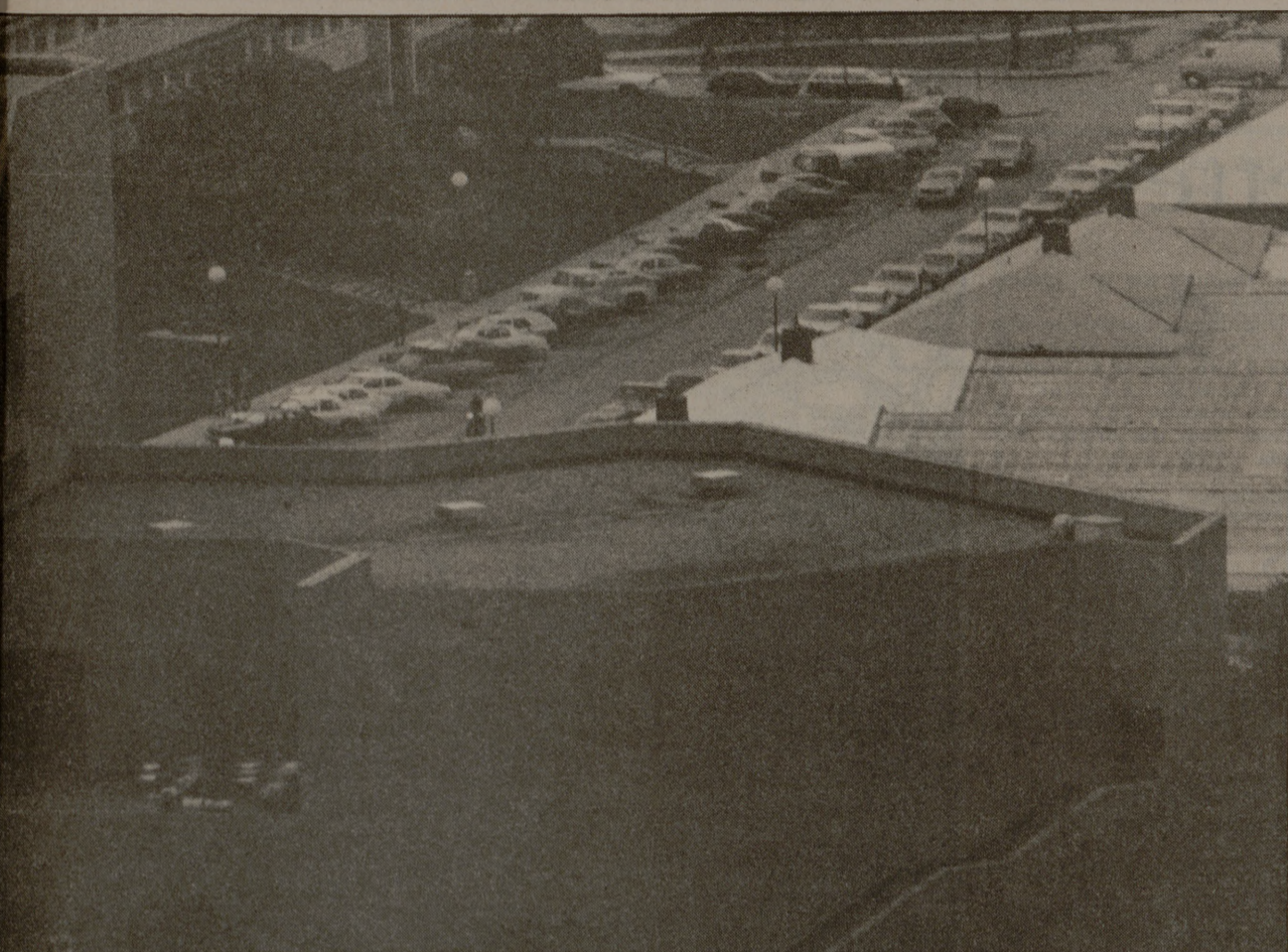
"We were asked to provide 312 seats, and I think we were able to fit 308," Lyle said. Gen. Wesley E. Peel, vice chancellor for facilities planning and construction, said a bid

from BFW Construction Co. was accepted in 1975 and work was completed in 1977. The building cost slightly more than \$5 million, Peel said.

"It is a simple building and yet it is one of the better appreciated buildings on campus," he said. "The staff who use it are very

pleased with how functional the building is."

Heldenfels Hall was named after H.C. Heldenfels who received a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M in 1935. Heldenfels served as president of the Board of Directors — now the Board of Regents — from 1965 to 1967.



staff photo by John Ryan

From the roof of Rudder Tower, one can see the slight, but unplanned, resemblance of the south annex of Heldenfels Hall to the shape of the state of Texas.

City to set up route system to keep bicycles out of traffic

by Lori Weldon
Battalion Reporter

Riding a bicycle on campus can be a frustrating experience — but getting to campus on a bicycle through city traffic can be worse.

By 1983, however, the City of College Station plans to complete a system of connecting bike routes, lanes and paths designed to protect riders by rerouting

them from heavy traffic areas such as Texas Avenue, John Black, College Station traffic engineer, said.

The bike routes, which will be marked by signs, will direct bicyclists through back roads to the campus.

The project also will include striped lanes on campus streets such as East Main, Coke, Throckmorton and the Eastgate entrance to Texas A&M University. Another path, which will connect Dominik Drive and Kyle Street is planned east of Texas Avenue.

When the bicycle routes are completed and provide alternative routes, an ordinance will be passed to restrict bicycles from

travelling on Highway 30, Texas Avenue or from Holleman Drive to Lincoln Street, Black said.

The ordinance will set a fine for bicyclists who fail to comply, he added.

The city considered bike routes several years ago, and a grant from the Federal Highway Administration recently was made available.

The grant reimburses the city 75 percent of the total project costs.

The administration awarded only \$1 million nationwide for such projects, and the only Texas cities included in the grant were College Station and Mission, Black said.

Total project cost is estimated at \$47,000 and includes the cost of the signs, paths and striping.

A polimer material will be used instead of paint for the striping which is expected to last for six or seven years without touch-ups, Black said.

Banquet to honor agricultural leaders

by John P. Lopez
Battalion Reporter

Texas Commissioner of Agriculture Reagan Brown will speak at a banquet tonight honoring the efforts of agricultural leaders in Brazos county.

Brown is expected to discuss the importance of Brazos County farm production to the economy.

Four outstanding agriculture leaders from Brazos County — outstanding farmer, outstanding rancher, agriculture community leader and adult leader of youth groups — also will be honored at the banquet.

The event sponsored by the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce will start at 7 p.m. at 100 Heldenfels. Tickets cost \$7.50.

OFFICIAL NOTICE
General Studies Program

Students who plan to Pre-Register for the Fall Semester in the General Studies Program are **URGED** to pick up a Pre-registration Form in Room 100 of Harrington Tower from Mar. 29 thru Apr. 16.

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