

CS water inexpensive, requested by developers

by Edey Williams
Battalion Reporter

Developers of the Nantucket subdivision Tuesday were granted permission from the College Station City Council to buy water from the City of College Station due to the high prices charged by Wellborn Water Supply.

Nantucket subdivision is outside the College Station city limits.

Phyllis Hobson, developer of the subdivision, said Wellborn

Water Supply currently charges \$1,000 per tap installed on lots in the subdivision and the cost is predicted to rise to \$2,300. The cost is only \$300 to \$450 in the College Station area, she said.

Hobson, who addressed the council Tuesday night, said the water lines needed to connect the subdivision to College Station's closest main water line would be installed at the developers' expense.

reasonable water (prices)," she said.

Council members voted unanimously in favor of selling the water to Nantucket. But if Wellborn wants to continue furnishing Nantucket with water, then proposals from both cities must be submitted to the Public Utilities Commission for the final decision.

City Attorney Lowell Denton reminded the council that it was only voting on whether it wanted to sell water to the subdivision.

In another water-related discussion the Council listened to a presentation from the Whalen Corp., which wants to take over operation of the city's water storage and sewage plant systems.

City employees have been assured that they would not lose their jobs as a result of the shift from public to private ownership. To discuss the effects on employees if the switch is made, a representative from Whalen Corp. will meet with the 14 city sewage employees Tuesday to discuss questions they might have, about topics such as retirement benefits.

"We merely hope to provide owners another chance for

\$7 million project

Research park OK'd

by Karen Schrimsher

Battalion Staff

The master plan for the Texas A&M Industrial Research Park was given final approval Tuesday by the Texas A&M System Board of Regents.

The \$7 million development will be an extension to the west campus. The University will own and manage the property.

The park is planned so that Texas A&M System research and selected industrial and commercial companies will benefit from a working relationship. More than 3,300 letters have been sent to industries that might have an interest in leasing tracts in the park.

Most responses have been positive toward the program,

although companies such as Ford Motor Co., Dow Chemical Co., and RCA are not planning to build more facilities in the near future.

A gift of \$500,000 worth of non-domestic animals was accepted from John W. Mecom, Jr. and Katsy Mecom. The 500-member herd includes giraffe, antelope, bison, ostrich, deer and gnu. The animals are currently housed on a ranch near Laredo.

The University plans to sell most of the animals and keep 10 for use by the College of Veterinary Medicine. The animals will be transported from Laredo at the expense of the purchaser.

In other business, the following were approved by the board:

- An appropriation of

\$75,000 for the preliminary design of a \$5 million poultry science center.

- A \$65,000 appropriation for the preliminary design for the Advanced Ocean Drilling Program facility. The program will be the first tenant of the newly-approved research park.

- A \$10,000 appropriation for the preliminary design of a \$1 million track and field events center.

- An appropriation of \$76,000 for the construction of a toxicology laboratory at the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory in Amarillo and for equipment for the College Station laboratory.

- An \$80,000 appropriation for the design of physical education and intramural playing fields. The \$1.5 mil-

lion project will be added to Penberthy Intramural Center.

- The appointment of Bert G. Schiff, a member of the Class of '43, to a five-term on the board of trustees of the Free Enterprise Center.

Schiff is an independent producer, and serves as director of Trinity and Loan and Interim Cities Bank in Dallas.

The 10-member board consist of the deans of agriculture, business administration, education, engineering, liberal arts colleges, five business leaders created by the development foundation and the Association of Former Students.

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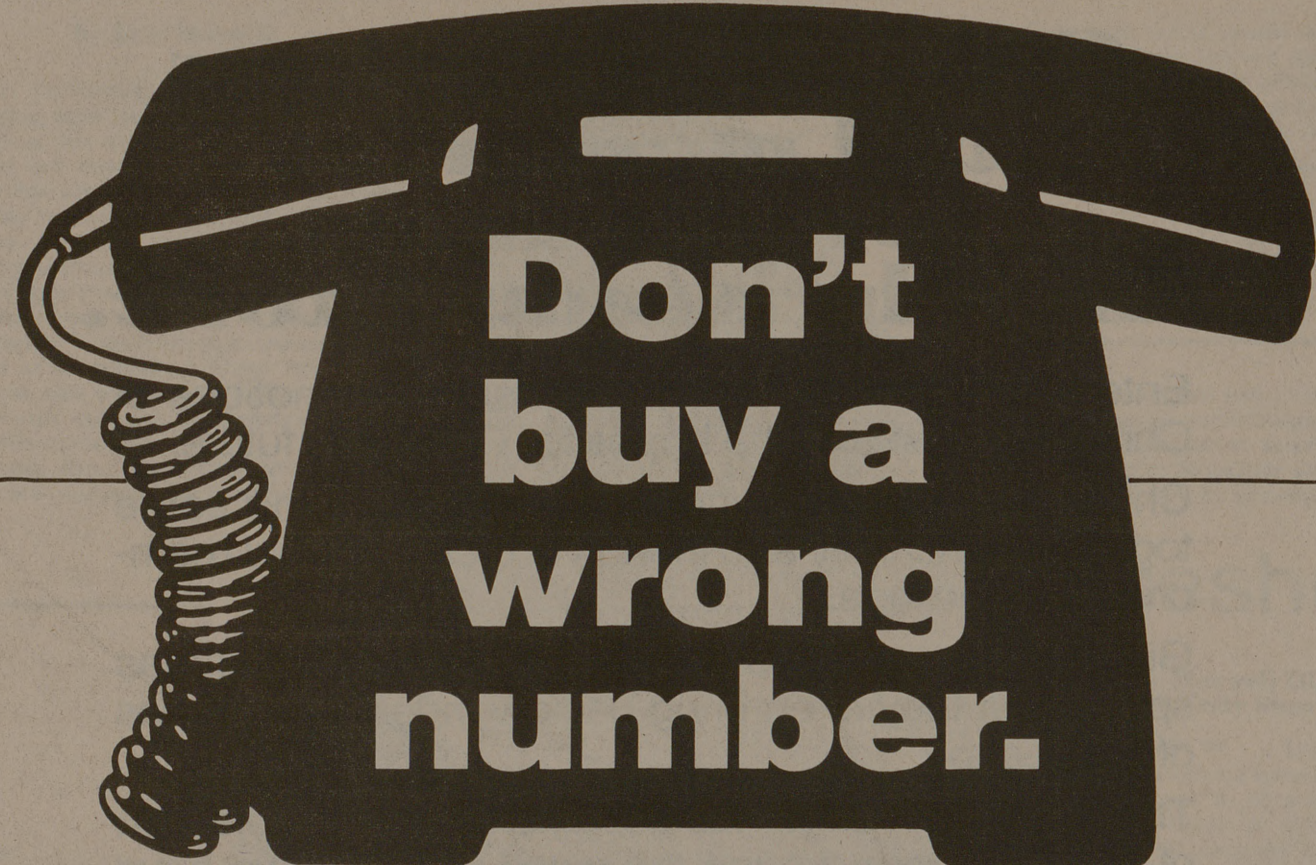
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Luxury

MSC Regents' Annex provides grand setting

by Karen Wallace

Battalion Staff

Hiding within the walls of the Memorial Student Center is the Regents' Annex, which possesses the grandeur of the White House and the mystery of a 17th century castle.

The art and furniture of the regents' quarters on the first floor of the Regents Annex, across the street from Cain Hall, date from the 15th century to the present.

The rooms are used for entertaining prospective donors and for meetings of the Texas A&M Board of Regents, Robert G. Cherry, executive secretary to the Board of Regents, says.

"We entertained one man earlier this year who donated \$1 million," Cherry said.

The quarters opened in 1974 — 10 years after designer William Pahlman began gathering the art and furniture pieces.

Pahlman, a graduate of the Parsons School of Design in New York and Paris, was hired by the University to design the University Center, which includes the J. Earl Rudder Center Tower, the Memorial Student Center and the Regents' Annex.

"Pahlman stressed time and balance in each room of the regents' quarters," Vicki Burt, secretary to the board, said.

Most of the money for the decorating came from the available regent's fund and from the regents themselves, Cherry said.

"The 14 people on the board during the period of decoration gave a total of \$2,262,000 themselves," Cherry said.

The rooms consist of a foyer, a reception room, ladies' and men's sitting rooms, the meeting room, a dining room, a picture room and an elevator lobby. The board member's suites are upstairs. The regents stay in the annex during board meetings once every two months, and whenever they are in town.

Eighteenth century marble busts, Chinese pots and jars, tables made for Napoleon after the Egyptian campaign and marble floors and ceilings greet the guests as they enter the foyer, a formal welcoming room.

In the center of the room is a \$9,000 18th century Cloisonne bowl from the Chin-Lung period. The bowl sits atop a William IV black japanned table—a table with gold inlaid designs.

A pair of 18th century oil paintings entitled "Two Caesars on Horseback," worth \$5,000 each, hang on the walls beside the door to the reception area.

Behind the reception desk, a \$5,334 18th century antique Sheraton mahogany front bookcase houses a \$10,000, 32-piece set of Staffordshire China.

A pair of 1869 oil paintings depicting different cattle breeds of that time hang in the area along with another pair from 1860 called "Goodwood Race Courses," artist unknown, which shows the same horse race scene from different angles.

There is a small sitting area in front of the fireplace. Beside the mantle is a group of 18th century Chinese paintings, "Chinese Sailing Ships."



A \$2,500 antique Chinese Export punch bowl, rare because of its large size, sits on a table in front of the fireplace.

On the wall to the right of the fireplace hangs a five by six-foot painting entitled "Miles and Miles of Bluebonnets." The \$15,000 painting is said to be Julian Onderdonk's best.

At the other end of the room, facing the fireplace, hangs a \$6,000, 17th century Japanese screen depicting the Phoenix Birds. The screen opens up to reveal a projection screen.

A \$2,000 Ming statue of Kuan Yin, from the late 15th to early 16th century, guards the lobby from the corner.

The hallway leading from the elevator lobby to the dining room is papered in blue silk, and is lined by two Louis XV French Consoles, 18th century Chinese Chippendale mirrors, 18th century English crystal lanterns, and a large Empire Urn from 1800.

Four floor to ceiling windows provide most of the light for the dining room. Close to the heavy raw silk curtains is a semblance of midday in the middle of the afternoon.

The wall covering, painted in Hong Kong, depicts life in a Chinese village.

The 1840 Chippendale in the center of the room is a Mexican style. The sitting area of the fireplace is used for lunch or dinner gatherings. Porcelain figures of historical figures, Prince Albert, Queen Victoria and a black marble bust of Abraham Lincoln are on the table.

A handmade, hand-painted sterling silver tea set, worth \$2,715, sits on a 17th century mahogany console. It is never used. Tours of the annex are offered for large groups and organizations.

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