

Most of University's Land Has Been Gifts



EDUCATIONAL institutions must have land. They require land for their own use. Often they have secured much of their income from the land which had come into their possession. Gifts to universities have often been in the form of land. Doubtless that will continue to be true.

The University of Kansas has been compelled to buy some of the land it has needed. Fortunately, it has been able to do this without such sacrifices as have been required of some institutions which failed to anticipate their needs until values had advanced as they tend to do in the vicinity of a growing university. The University has also been fortunate in the foresight and generosity of many of its friends. Its most valuable real estate has come to it in the form of gifts as will be apparent from the following list of these donations.

1. The Act of Congress which admitted Kansas into the Union designated seventy-two sections of public land as the foundation of an endowment fund for a state university when such an institution should be established. Later this land was sold and the proceeds became the initial contribution to what the state constitution gave the name of "University Fund."

2. The forty acres on which Fraser Hall was erected, lying west of Louisiana Street and Mississippi Street and south of Thirteenth Street, was donated by the City of Lawrence in 1863.

3. The city block west of Ohio street and south of Tenth Street, on which Corbin Hall now stands, was given by the City of Lawrence in 1865. Previously, it had been given to the Presbyterian Church on condition that "Lawrence University" should be built and conducted there. That organization, failing to carry thru the project, assigned its rights to the Episcopal Church which was no more fortunate. The title to the land reverted to the city which transferred it to the State for the use of the proposed state university.

4. The block east of Indiana and south of Tenth was given by General James H. Lane to extend the last mentioned tract and afford a suitable location for the new university. These two blocks together constitute what was for many years known as "North College Campus."

5. Because of its slightly location the

By OLIN TEMPLIN, '86, g'89

point east of the building, later named "Fraser Hall," now occupied by the residence of Mrs. J. B. Watkins, was donated to the University by Governor Charles Robinson on condition that an observatory should be erected there. The five years granted for meeting that condition expired before it had been met and the interest of the University was forfeited.

6. In 1890 Col. J. J. McCook, of New York City, gave \$2,500.00 to aid athletics at the University. Half of that gift was used to aid in the purchase of twelve and a half acres of land, later designated as "McCook Field," the other half being spent for improvements on the field. The land was purchased from Governor Robinson who, by reduction of price to half the actual value, made a contribution of \$1,250.00. The land was deeded to the Kansas University Endowment Association which still holds the title.

7. The University is indebted to Governor Robinson for still another gift of land which was made in 1891. This is the block west of Oread Avenue now occupied by Dyche Museum and the Union Building.

8. When the University received thru a bequest by William B. Spooner a sum of money which it was decided to devote to the erection of a library and a chancellor's residence, there was no suitable location available. It was therefore decided to devote part of the fund to the purchase of a tract between Oread Avenue and Louisiana street north of Fourteenth. On this tract, the two buildings were later erected. This land is listed as a gift since it was purchased from funds that had been donated to the University.

9. When plans for the erection of Dyche Museum were being made it was found that Mississippi Street south of Thirteenth interfered and the City of Lawrence accordingly vacated that block, amounting to two and one-half acres. This was done on condition that the University should open a curved driveway to the west which not only afforded a much better grade but provided one of the most satisfactory features of the present campus.

10. The conviction had been gradually growing that the original forty acres which in the beginning were expected to be sufficient for all future

expansion of the University were insufficient. Measures were taken to acquire the entire block lying to the west and north of the campus. Most of this was acquired by purchase. A tract of ten acres located on the west of the campus, and on which the Gymnasium, the Geology Building, and most of the Administration Building now stand, was donated to the University by Frank B. Lawrence, a nephew of Mrs. Charles H. Robinson. Mr. Lawrence also owned an irregular tract of forty-one acres situated on the south, west, and north of the ten acres he donated. This larger tract he sold to the University on terms which amounted to a gift. At an estimated value of \$10,000, the University agreed to pay Mr. Lawrence annually six per cent on that amount during his life time. Mr. Lawrence lived only three years.

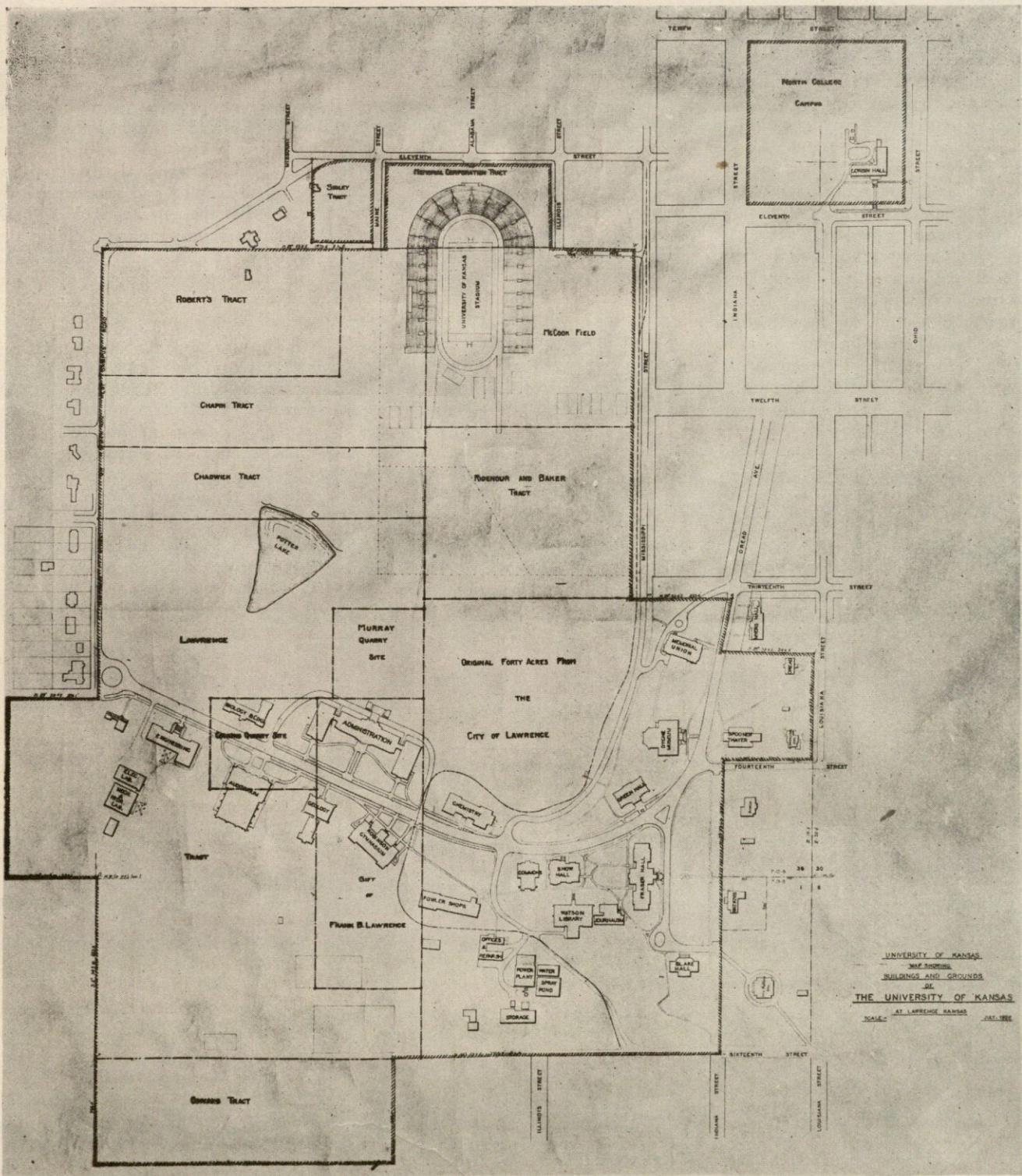
11. The last gift of land from the city of Lawrence was by the vacation of that part of Fourteenth Street which extended west of Oread Avenue.

12. The University never had a better friend than Governor Charles Robinson as the foregoing list shows. He made repeated contributions of land during his lifetime. At his death, it was found he had named the University of Kansas as the residuary legatee of his will. When the estate was settled it was found that, besides money amounting to about \$10,000, the University came into possession of 1,300 acres of land situated about four miles northeast of Lawrence. The value of this land was approximately \$150,000. Under a ruling of the attorney general, the land is still held by the University and the annual rentals added to its endowment fund.

13. To make possible the organization of a medical school as a part of the University, Dr. Simeon B. Bell gave certain tracts of land, together with money contributions, with authority to sell and apply the proceeds to the new medical school. There was included in this gift a farm in Cass County, Missouri, 340 acres; a farm in Jackson County, Missouri, 80 acres, and 101 lots in Rosedale, Kansas. He also gave a seven acre tract in Rosedale as a site for the new school.

14. As a contribution to the medical school, Dr. Marshall A. Barber deeded to the University 18½ lots in Kansas City, Kansas.

15. When it was decided to enlarge the Stadium, it became necessary to



Friends Have Been Generous In Land Grants

Reference to the accompanying plat will disclose how significant have been the gifts of land which have gone into the present campus of about one hundred and seventy-five acres. Only the less important parcels designated as the Roberts Tract, Chapin Tract, Chadwick Tract, Ridenour & Baker Tract, Murray Quarry Site and the Cockins Quarry Site were not donations. These six pieces of land were purchased in 1905 with an appropriation of \$11,900 made for the purpose by the State Legislature. The Sigley tract with residence, lying northwest of the Stadium, was purchased by the University within the past year at a cost of \$10,000.

secure two blocks in west Lawrence, south of Eleventh Street and north of McCook Field. This was done with funds contributed as a part of the Memorial Campaign. Title to this land

is in the University of Kansas Memorial Corporation.

16. It has long been recognized that more land was needed, especially for athletic practice, to the south of the

campus. In 1924 a little more than ten acres, known as the "Gowans Tract" was purchased by the Athletic Association for the purpose and title was placed in the Kansas University En-

dowment Association. This can well be considered a gift of the Athletic Association to the University.

17. In 1918 Dr. J. L. Porter left a bequest for the benefit of the Medical School consisting of securities valued at something more than \$10,000, and a farm of 160 acres in Miami County, Kansas. The farm is valued at \$10,000 and is held and rented by the University, the income being devoted to medical scientific research.

18. The Cosmopolitan House was purchased with funds raised by friends of the foreign students attending the University. The building occupies two lots on the west side of Indiana Street between Sixteenth and Seventeenth.

19. Watkins Hall, the generous gift of Mrs. J. B. Watkins, was erected for the use of a group of deserving young women. It occupies a fractional acre on the east side of Indiana Street, between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets.

20. Thirteen acres, the site of the new Medical School buildings in Kansas City, Kan., valued at \$66,000, the gift of the city of Rosedale and friends of the Medical School.

Gifts to Watson Library

By CHAS. M. BAKER



IFTS play an important part in the history of most libraries whether public or university. Many have secured their chief treasures or even their beginning through the generosity of friends and alumni rather than by purchase with their modest book appropriations. Through the years Watson Library has received many gifts of books from varied sources, ranging from single volumes to collections of several hundreds.

Among these have been the F. M. Perkins Bequest of Law books; the Edward Brown Collection of works of general interest; the Dean F. O. Marvin Bequest of Engineering books; and the Law Collection of Dean James W. Green. More recently the Library has received Senator P. B. Plumb's collection of government documents; from Dr. J. D. Riddell over 250 Medical books; and from John de Navarre Maccomb, Jr., 200 volumes in memory of his father.

At least one class, that of 1890, has presented the Library with valuable books; one sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta, has established a memorial fund in honor of one of its members, a fund that has already enriched the Library to the extent of 300 volumes. This is a form of memorial that ought to appeal to families and societies for the reason that the annual purchases made with the income keep it a living memorial which, if wisely administered, can be adapted to changing conditions and need never grow out of date or useless.

From the Hispanic Society of America have come over 200 volumes, some very costly, illustrating Spanish culture.

To Dr. Otto E. H. Vollbehr of Berlin, bibliophile, the Library is indebted for two outstanding gifts. One is its only incunabula, a fine specimen of the Nuremberg Chronicle printed in 1491. The other is the magnificent collection of 120 early maps of the Western Hemisphere dating from 1570 to 1783. This collection ranks fourth in the United States.

A modern library is administered as a working collection of books to which students are given the freest access that is consistent with the library's other aim, that of preserving these books for future students. For this reason donors should not attempt to attach restrictions and difficult conditions to their otherwise generous gifts.

Closely related to books is another noteworthy gift received by the Library, the Arthur Wellington Clark Collection of Bookplates presented by his brother Alfred Houghton Clark as a memorial in 1928. This collection includes 9,000 bookplates, interesting because of their owners or designers, many of them beautiful examples of engraving.

At the side of the Loan Desk in Watson Library hangs a portrait of Chancellor Strong given by Mrs. Strong, and on the wall opposite a clock, the gift of the Class of 1918. In the Main Reading Room stand two busts, that of Louisa M. Allcott and Frank Sanborn, the Abolitionist, presented by the sculptor Mr. F. E. Elwell. A bust of Emerson is the gift of the Class of 1901.

Birger Sandzen is represented in the Browsing Room by his painting of Wild Horse Canyon presented by the Jayhawker, and in one of the offices hangs a copy of Carpaccio's St. Jerome given by Mrs. Ethel B. Allen Hamilton.



Beginning of the Lawrence Room in Watson Library

Miss Carrie Watson, librarian emerita, had so many gifts of pictures, souvenirs and other memorabilia of the city of Lawrence that she obtained a room in Watson Library for display of the collection. At present the room also contains objects that will later be moved to a University Room for they do not pertain particularly to Lawrence.

The case in the center of the above picture contains a collection of manuscripts, public papers, pictures and the like of Dr. Charles Robinson, first Governor of Kansas. Probably most important is about two dozen original letters of Amos A. Lawrence to Dr. Robinson referring to affairs of the Emigrant Aid Society and the founding of the University of Kansas. The collection was presented by Dr. F. W. Blackmar.

On the wall, left to right, are pictures of Charles Gleed (only corner of frame is visible), Bust of General J. H. Lane, pictures of Sen. J. J. Ingalls, Susan B. Anthony, Judge J. S. Emery, Governor Robinson, Judge S. O. Thacher and Mrs. Thacher, Dudley Haskell and Mrs. Haskell, Robert Morrow and Mrs. Morrow, Governor Robinson and Mrs. Robinson, the John Brown Fort at the south east corner of Mr. Oread, First House in Lawrence (built by Paul R. Brooks.)

Not in the above cut are pictures of Prof. Byron Caldwell Smith, Prof. F. W. Bardwell, Miss Kate Stephens, Dr. F. W. Blackmar, the Old Windmill, the Old Town Clock and Unitarian Church, John Brown, First Kansas Board of Health, and the Legislature of 1877.