

Georgia Institute of Technology

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT

**Crosland Tower
(Graduate Addition to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library)**



Photographer Marion Ellis - October 2013

**Prepared for
Office of Capital Planning and Space Management**

**Prepared by
Ray & Ellis Consulting**

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Preservation and Tax Incentives

Atlanta, Georgia

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1.0 Report Purpose

An historic structure report provides documentary, graphic, and physical information about a building's history and existing conditions. In the field of historic preservation and architecture it is used as a planning tool, guiding management decisions concerning the use or re-use of a building, identifying an appropriate treatment approach to be taken during the building's rehabilitation, providing design professionals with an understanding of the historically and/or architecturally significant space, features and finishes of a building that should be preserved, and directing future maintenance activities.

This historic structure report will document the Crosland Tower (Graduate Addition) and is a companion piece to the Historic Structure Report for the Price Gilbert Memorial Library. Using photographs, maps and drawings to graphically illustrate points made in the text, the report will include the following information:

- a brief history of the Georgia Tech libraries from the opening of the school to the construction of the Crosland Tower(Graduate Addition)
- an examination of the events surrounding the planning and construction of the Crosland Tower
- a discussion about the architects for the building, Roberts and Company, and Ed Moulthrop, Architects
- An introduction to Dorothy M. Crosland for whom the building is named
- an account of the Crosland Tower construction history
- an architectural description of the building
- an assessment of the building's current condition
- the identification of significant spaces, features and finishes.

2.0 HISTORY OF LIBRARIES AT GEORGIA TECH

Introduction

The construction of the Price Gilbert Memorial Library was the culmination of a nearly thirty year struggle to obtain a proper library to house the growing collection of technical publications considered by many to be one of the best in the country. After World War II, the need for sophisticated technical education became apparent and Georgia Tech moved to position itself to be at the forefront of those institutions offering the types of engineering degrees and research opportunities that were emerging as essential to the economic growth of the region and the country.

But the journey to build a library worthy of Georgia Tech—both a structure and a collection—was not an easy one. What began as a few books on a shelf of one professor's office slowly progressed to several rooms within the Academic Building, one of two buildings first constructed for the school in 1888, to the Carnegie Library, built in 1906, and finally to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library, completed in 1953. This is the story of the library at Georgia Tech from its humble beginnings to the outstanding example of mid-century modern architecture (or “functional” architecture as was the preference of its designer, P. M. Heffernan) that was and is the Price Gilbert Memorial Library.

Academic Building Library

The 1916 issue of the Blue Print provides insight into the earliest uses of the Academic Building. It notes that “[t]he three middle front rooms on the second floor were originally intended for a library, they communicated through wide arched openings and were used as a drawing hall for some years, until a small library was gathered mainly through the efforts of Dr. Matheson, the Professor of English” (Figure 2-1). Despite these provisions for a library, President Hopkins, when describing the opening of the new school in October 1888, remarked:

We are in much need of a reference library. The commissioners do not feel authorized to devote any of the appropriations to that purpose and I am at a loss to know how to get the books we want. We need technical reference books, cyclopedias and books of that kind. Many gentlemen engaged in the manufacture and sale of machinery are abundantly supplied with the technical literature of their trades or arts and could supply the technological school with books and periodicals which it needs without inconvenience to themselves.”¹

In an article on the history of the Georgia Tech library, written for The Georgia Librarian, the beginning of the Georgia Tech library was described in the following manner:

The school's first "library" was a collection assembled by English professor Kenneth G. Matheson in his classroom, for want of a better location. In April 1899, the fledgling library was moved to a room in the Administration Building. Students were encouraged to donate materials, and the library became one of the most popular departments on campus.”²

The 1899-1900 issue of Annual Catalogue and Announcements reported for the first time on the school's library. It reported that 1,200 volumes had recently been acquired.³ The Georgia Librarian article noted that the first librarian was hired in 1901.

The collection was housed on the second floor of the Academic Building in three rooms considered modest by today's standards but which at that time must have been considered extravagant. The 1900-1901 Annual Announcements described it as “a handsomely furnished and well equipped reading room with some forty of the leading papers and periodicals of this country and England.”⁴

¹ James E. Brittain and Robert C. McMath, Jr., Documentary History, p. 19-20. The Atlanta Constitution article is titled “President Hopkins on Engineering at Tech,” 5 September 1888.

² Jean Price, Virginia Kinman, Ann Vidor, “A History of the Georgia Tech Library,” The Georgia Librarian (November, 1986): 98.

³ Annual Catalogue and Announcements for 1899-1900, p. 41.

⁴ Annual Announcements, 1900-1901, p. 96.

(Figures 2-2, 2-3). The 1902-1903 Annual Announcement described it as a "well-organized and well-selected library of nearly 2,000 volumes... Valuable literary and scientific reference-books have been acquired, and departments established in fiction, history, biography, travel, philosophy and natural science."⁵ By 1906-1907 the library collection numbered over 3,500 volumes, due primarily to gifts received from local friends of Tech who had responded to appeals for aid.⁶

Lyman Hall, president of Georgia Tech from July 1896 until his death in August, 1905, worked tirelessly on behalf of Georgia Tech. Originally only offering a Bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering, President Hall expanded the degree programs to include Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Textile Engineering and Chemical Engineering. He also embarked on an ambitious building program to support this academic growth. During Hall's tenure, the Knowles Dormitory, A. French Textile Engineering Building, Swann Dormitory and the Electrical Engineering Building were constructed. What President Hall was not able to accomplish however, despite tremendous efforts on his part, was the construction of a new library to house the expanding collections that supported his expanding academic programs.

A New Building

It was Tech's third president, Dr. Kenneth G. Matheson, who had started Tech's first library on a shelf in his office, who was finally able to secure funding for a new library. President Matheson approached Andrew Carnegie and on March 26, 1906 Carnegie donated \$20,000 for the construction of a new library with the stipulation that the school also appropriate at least \$2,000 a year to support the library and its collections.⁷

The building was designed by the Atlanta architectural firm *Morgan and Dillon, Architects*, the successor firm to *Bruce and Morgan, Architects*, who had designed the Academic Building and the original Shops building. Of the new building President Matheson noted "every foot of available space will be used and the building will be flooded with light."⁸ The building had a full basement and included an assembly room, club room, binding room, storage room and a janitor's closet. On the first floor were two reading rooms, the librarian's office, a stack room and a seminar room.⁹ The Carnegie Library was completed in time for the fall term, 1907 (Figures 2-4 through 2-7). The building was constructed by *Gude and Walker*, an Atlanta construction company that two years before had built the Atlanta Terminal Station.

Once the new library building was complete, President Matheson turned his attention to building its collections. Inspired by a donation from Columbia University of several hundred duplicate volumes from their collection, Matheson contacted other universities, requesting that they send Georgia Tech their duplicate material. Although none matched Columbia's donation, the collection did grow. The 1908-1909 Annual Announcements reported that the library contained over 5,000 volumes, including new additions in architecture and the natural and applied sciences, and over 100 leading scientific periodicals and papers from this country and England. The Board of Trustees also made good on their promise, appropriating \$5,000 for equipment for the new library.¹⁰

During World War I, Tech was one of eight locations for the U.S. Army School of Military Aeronautics. The Library acquired books on military science and aviation. The Board of Trustees annual appropriation included the salaries of the librarian and an assistant. Of the library's staffing and collection, The Georgia Librarian article on the history of the Georgia Tech library noted:

⁵ Annual Announcements, 1902-1903, pp. 98-99.

⁶ Annual Announcements, 1906-1907, pp. 10-11.

⁷ *Ibid*, p. 24.

⁸ Warren E. Drury, III. "The Architectural Development of Georgia Tech." M.A. Thesis, Georgia Institute of Technology, June 1984, pp. 83, 85.

⁹ Annual Announcements, 1907-1908, p. 95.

¹⁰ Annual Announcements, 1908-1909, p. 109.

While the amount spent on salaries gradually increased over the years, the portion used for purchase of materials remained at approximately \$1,000 from 1910 to 1924. When two-thirds of the Julius L. Brown estate was left to the school, the library received a generous gift of some 3,000 volumes of general fiction, history, biography, literature, and art [Brown was the son of Civil War governor Joseph E. Brown]. These books were added to the collection on a regular basis over the next decade, along with new purchases and gifts, bringing the library collection up to a total of over 16,000 volumes. By 1924, the annual appropriation had reached \$4,600, and the library had become less dependent on gifts and donations.¹¹

Despite this auspicious start, the library collections continued to suffer. President Marion Brittain (president from 1922-1944) once remarked:

"The lack of attention given to the Library in the early days of the school is strange and hard to explain even when we remember the straitened financial situation prevailing. As late as 1922, before the addition was built, half of the building was not used and the entire lower section was filled with old mattresses and beds left over from the training of the veterans of the First World War."¹²

Apparently this lack of attention had been somewhat ameliorated by 1932 for that year a small stacks addition was constructed on the back side of the building to hold an additional 40,000 volumes. By 1934, the basement of the Knowles Building next door was also being used by the library. U. S. Government and State documents were held there along with reference books, bound and unbound periodicals, maps and patents and duplicate books and periodicals. There was also a small work room and additional storage.¹³

With the completion of the Price Gilbert Library in 1953, the Carnegie Library was renovated to house the offices of the President, Vice-President, Public Relations, Alumni Association and Alumni Foundation.

What's In a Name?

The Carnegie Library was named for Andrew Carnegie, once the second wealthiest man in the United States, who amassed a huge fortune in his lifetime and spent the later years of his life giving his money away. The following is from the National Park Service "Teaching with Historic Places Lesson Plans, Carnegie Libraries: The Future Made Bright."¹⁴

Andrew Carnegie's decision to support library construction developed out of his own experience. Born in 1835, he spent his first 12 years in the coastal town of Dunfermline, Scotland. There he listened to men read aloud and discuss books borrowed from the Tradesmen's Subscription Library that his father, a weaver, had helped create. Carnegie began his formal education at age eight, but had to stop after only three years. The rapid industrialization of the textile trade forced small businessmen like Carnegie's father out of business. As a result, the family sold their belongings and immigrated to Allegheny, a suburb of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Although these new circumstances required the young Carnegie to go to work, his learning did not end. After a year in a textile factory, he became a messenger boy for the local telegraph company. Some of his fellow messengers introduced him to Col. James Anderson of Allegheny, who every Saturday opened his personal library to any young worker who wished to borrow a book. Carnegie later said the colonel opened the windows through which

¹¹ Jean Price, Virginia Kinman, Ann Vidor, "A History of the Georgia Tech Library," The Georgia Librarian (November, 1986): 98.

¹² Allen Kent, Carolyn Hall, Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science, Volume 52, Supplement 15, New York: Marcel Dekker, Inc., 1993, p. 108.

¹³ Schematic floor plan, "Library Annex – basement of Knowles Dormitory," Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 6, Folder 5.

¹⁴ <http://www.nps.gov/NR/twHP/wwwlps/lessons/50carnegie/50carnegie.htm>.

the light of knowledge streamed. In 1853, when the colonel's representatives tried to restrict the library's use, Carnegie wrote a letter to the editor of the Pittsburgh Dispatch defending the right of all working boys to enjoy the pleasures of the library. More important, he resolved that, should he ever be wealthy, he would make similar opportunities available to other poor workers.

Over the next half-century Carnegie accumulated the fortune that would enable him to fulfill that pledge. During his years as a messenger, Carnegie had taught himself the art of telegraphy. This skill helped him make contacts with the Pennsylvania Railroad, where he went to work at age 18. During his 12-year railroad association he rose quickly, ultimately becoming superintendent of the Pennsylvania's Pittsburgh division. He simultaneously invested in a number of other businesses, including railroad locomotives, oil, and iron and steel. In 1865, Carnegie left the railroad to manage the Keystone Bridge Company, which was successfully replacing wooden railroad bridges with iron ones. By the 1870s he was concentrating on steel manufacturing, ultimately creating the Carnegie Steel Company. In 1901 he sold that business for \$250 million.

Carnegie then retired and devoted the remainder of his life to philanthropy. Even before selling Carnegie Steel he had begun to consider what to do with his immense fortune. In 1889 he wrote a famous essay entitled "The Gospel of Wealth," in which he stated that wealthy men should live without extravagance, provide moderately for their dependents, and distribute the rest of their riches to benefit the welfare and happiness of the common man--with the consideration to help only those who would help themselves. "The Best Fields for Philanthropy," his second essay, listed seven fields to which the wealthy should donate: universities, libraries, medical centers, public parks, meeting and concert halls, public baths, and churches. He later expanded this list to include gifts that promoted scientific research, the general spread of knowledge, and the promotion of world peace.

By 1907, Carnegie had made possible the construction of over 1,600 library buildings in the United States, England, Wales, Scotland, South Africa and other English-speaking countries. The majority of these, 1,016, were located in the United States.¹⁵ Through 1916 this number had swelled to over 2,700 public libraries and 116 libraries at colleges and universities.¹⁶

Price Gilbert Memorial Library

Establishing the Need

As World War II was winding down and as the 1940s progressed Georgia Tech experienced tremendous growth, in both its academic programs and the number of students being served. It quickly became painfully obvious that the Carnegie Library was grossly inadequate. In his Annual Report for July 1, 1948 to June 30, 1949, President Van Leer remarked "If Georgia Tech were rated exclusively on its library, classrooms, and laboratories, it would rank at the bottom. Additional facilities *must* be constructed as soon as possible."¹⁷ In his next annual report, for July 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950, President Van Leer identified three ways to measure the quality of an educational institution. The first was by the quality of the graduates—Georgia Tech's were top notch. The second was by the quality of the faculty—again, Georgia Tech's faculty was top notch. The third was by the extent of the facilities. Sadly, he remarked, in this regard, Georgia Tech was inadequate especially when considering the high enrollment versus the capacity of the existing buildings.

¹⁵ Theodore Wesley Koch, A Book of Carnegie Libraries, White Plains and New York City: The H. W. Wilson Company, 1917: vii-viii

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 18.

¹⁷ Blake Van Leer, "Annual Report of the President, 1948-1949." Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 11.
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The inadequacies of the Carnegie Library boiled down to it being too small. There was not enough space for the students, there was not enough space for the staff and there was not enough space for the collections (Figures 2-8 to 2-14). Students, faculty, and people outside the Georgia Tech community could be found remarking about problems with the Carnegie Library.

In a letter to President Van Leer written October 15, 1948, Dr. A. J. Walker, head of the English Department, and a member of the faculty Library Committee made the following two points.

May I take this occasion to point out two ways in which the lack of an adequate library destroys effective instruction. In the first place, the fact that our 1,353 freshmen and 1,164 sophomores cannot possibly be seated in the library, or even find standing room, means that we have realistically adjusted our courses to the existing conditions. We can do little to encourage reading and to furthering the students' efforts at self-education. We cannot do much more than teach a single textbook. We cannot effectively teach freshmen to know and use a library; we cannot teach sophomores to go beyond the text and the teacher to find what greater men have said and done. I need not mention the needs of the 401 students taking advanced courses. We are failing them badly when we offer them no adequate library facilities.

In the second place, the lack of a library is the greatest single deterrent to effective scheduling of students. Schedule after schedule is deliberately made so as to fill the student's hours without a break, because there is no place where the student can use a vacant hour profitably. At the best, the library can seat only one out of every thirty day students. The practice at every other college I know is for the student to use the library between classes, either for study or for additional reading. Such hours are often his most profitable. Here at Tech we deny him this opportunity.¹⁸

Graduate students and researchers from the Engineering Experiment Station were particularly handicapped by the lack of adequate library facilities. Several members of the faculty expressed concern that Tech's graduate programs would be unable to grow because of this.

At the same time, Professor Joseph Howey of the Department of Physics expressed similar concerns to the whole of the faculty library committee, adding to Dr. Walker's list, that library assignments could not be made because of limited facilities and that the poor library facilities for graduate students limited the development of the graduate program.

The students were no less vociferous in their criticism of the existing library facilities. The Georgia Tech Graduate Club had a litany of complaints centered mainly on how noisy the library was. Silence, it felt, should be maintained; freshman tours should be ended to cut down on noise; typewriters should be placed in their own room where the noise would not be distracting; carpet should be placed on the stairs; the exterior doors to the basement should be opened so that students could enter and exit through them and not use the stairs so much; periodicals should be placed in a special room where students could relax and smoke; technical bulletins should be put in one place as they were currently scattered throughout the various departments on campus and were difficult to access; and finally, the hours should be extended, especially in the Knowles Library where most of the research materials were kept. One student, in a letter to the editor of the *Technique* was a bit more succinct. He noted that the senior class was being asked to give money for a new Student Union building. He believed that "we have as much need for such a building as Agnes Scott has for a cocktail lounge." The current Y.M.C.A., which was serving the purpose of a student center, was just fine as far as he was concerned. However, he went on to say "Did you ever try to get a seat in the library in the morning—any morning?...I would be willing to give \$5 for a new library, but not one cent for a building that will merely replace the Y.M.C.A."¹⁹

If there was not enough space for the students, it was nothing compared to the conditions under which the collections were housed. In 1946 the library consisted of approximately 80,000 volumes, more

¹⁸ Letter, Dr. A. J. Walker to President Blake R. Van Leer, October 15, 1948. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 5.

¹⁹ E. P. Maxim, "We have the 'Y,'" *The Technique*, 31 May 1949, p. 4.
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than double the number of volumes the Carnegie Library had originally been built to hold. In 1947 Mrs. Crosland wrote to President Van Leer apprising him of the status of the collections to date. She noted that there were over 83,400 volumes, with several thousand yet to be catalogued. And the library had just received its first shipment of maps from the Army Map Service. Her final comment, "It seems as though we must get a building some way for our collection that cannot be replaced if destroyed by fire."²⁰ By 1950, there were over 100,000 volumes stored in scattered and unsatisfactory places throughout the campus, making it difficult for students, faculty and researchers to find necessary materials. An editorial in the July 15, 1949 issue of *The Technique* noted that books were "stored in every conceivable nook and cranny of the library with some types overflowing into the basement of Knowles."²¹ (Figure 2-15)

Professor Joseph Howey of the Department of Physics also pointed out the danger of fire.²² These sentiments were echoed by Dean L. L. Sweigert of the Division of Graduate Studies. Dean Sweigert was especially concerned about fire, especially after he had been notified about sparking in the electrical system of the Knowles Building where much of the library's collection was stored. He further remarked about the danger to both graduate and undergraduate accreditation should something happen to the library.

Dorothy Crosland, Tech's head librarian at the time, sought support for a new library from her colleagues outside the Georgia Tech community. W. P. Kellam, the assistant librarian at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill wrote Mrs. Crosland in November, 1948 thanking her for the tour she had recently given him of the Georgia Tech library. He remarked on what splendid and valuable collection she had amassed but how he "shuddered" at the thought of it being housed in two building which were "fire-traps."²³ The term "fire-trap" would appear often over the next few years when describing both the Carnegie Library and the facilities in Knowles.

At Mrs. Crosland's urging, Ted Forbes, the Executive Vice-President of the Cotton Manufacturers Association of Georgia, wrote to President Van Leer communicating his willingness in helping Tech obtain a new library. Such a library would be of great value to both the Textile program at Tech and to manufacturers across the state that currently use its collections.²⁴ So large and so quickly was the collection growing that by 1950 Mrs. Crosland was turning down donations because there was no place to put the material. To cap it off, a rather bleak picture of Georgia Tech's Carnegie Library was painted in the most recent report of the Engineers' Council for Professional Development. Dr. E. B. Norris, Dean of Engineering at Virginia Tech, reiterated earlier comments about the crowded conditions within the Carnegie Library and the dangerous conditions found in the Knowles Building. These comments were passed along to President Van Leer by Mrs. Crosland.²⁵

The Collections

Dorothy Crosland, who came to Georgia Tech as an assistant librarian in 1925 before becoming the head librarian in 1927, worked tirelessly to amass what was often described as one of the best collections of technological and scientific books at a university in the country. She had a regular column in *The Technique* in which she would describe for students what was available in the library. In a 1944 article she remarked that since it was the purpose of Georgia Tech to produce the best

²⁰ Letter, Mrs. Dorothy Crosland to President Van Leer, May 7, 1947. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 5.

²¹ "Library—Our Paramount Need," *The Technique*, 15 July 1949, p. 2.

²² Memorandum to Library Committee from Joseph H. Howey, October 14, 1948. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 5.

²³ Letter, W. P. Kellam to Mrs. Dorothy M. Crosland, November 16, 1948. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 5.

²⁴ Letter, Ted Forbes to President Van Leer, September 25, 1947. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 5.

²⁵ Letter, Mrs. J. Henley Crosland to President Van Leer, January 17, 1950. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 6, Folder 1.

engineers in the country, it was her job to acquire one of the best collections of technical and scientific books, magazines and other materials in the country. Where once the President of Georgia Tech had to nearly beg for money to purchase library books, Mrs. Crosland was able to secure money to buy books and other necessary documents from a variety of sources. Beginning in 1939, the General Education Board of the Rockefeller Foundation made grants to Georgia Tech to buy books, technical pamphlets and reports. Through 1953 this amount equaled approximately \$97,000, which the Board of Regents matched with \$45,000.

In October 1945, Tech received a \$30,000 grant with which to purchase scientific and technical journals needed by the Graduate and Research Divisions. She had a long list of items to purchase—well over \$100,000 worth of materials. For a variety of reasons she had difficulty finding what she needed in this country and was urged to go to Europe to purchase what she could. In 1946 or 1947 Mrs. Crosland made a ten-week trip to Europe that proved to be quite successful. In a report she prepared after her return, Mrs. Crosland made the following comments.²⁶

I am back in the Tech Library. I am convinced the contacts and acquisitions that I made will continue to pay dividends for years to come. I had books and periodicals given to me, the cost of which would be more than the entire cost of my trip. Book dealers are searching for and finding materials for me. There is hardly a day but that I get a quotation or a letter from a dealer or librarian. I visited thirty-seven libraries and innumerable book dealers and publishers in England, Scotland, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France, and Switzerland. Exchange relations were established with the best known engineering school libraries in all the countries. In exchange for our Engineering Station Bulletins, we are to receive bulletins, reports and dissertations from the various institutions. The librarians were most cooperative and helpful.

There is no way to estimate the value of the ten weeks trip, that took me some 18,000 miles into eight foreign countries. The books acquired, the contacts made, for not only the library, but the institution and our State, cannot be valued in dollars and cents.

Further support and acquisitions followed. In 1949-1950, Lloyd C. Daniels donated \$5,000 to Georgia Tech to establish an endowment fund, the income of which was to be used to buy periodicals and rare books for the library.²⁷ In 1950, Georgia Tech's library became one of 52 research libraries in the country to be designated an official repository of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), providing facilities for over 3,500 declassified and unclassified AEC research reports.

Construction Priority

Although the distressing conditions found at the Carnegie Library were self-evident, a new building was not a given. The debate about the need for a new library became especially heated as the 1940s progressed, especially when it became apparent that a new architecture building or even a new classroom building would be constructed before a new library.

A new library had been on every Tech president's priority list since the early 1920s. When in 1944 a new campus master plan was developed, several new buildings were identified as being critical: a classroom building, library, administration building and Memorial Hall. By mid-1945 preliminary drawings for these buildings had been developed and copies distributed to the appropriate parties on campus. In the 1945-1946 Annual Report of the President, the Library was near the top of the list of buildings urgently needed at Georgia Tech, and the report noted that the plans and specifications were about 80% complete (although where this percentage came from is unknown for other documents from the time indicate that a design had not yet been approved). But a new library stubbornly remained *near* the top of the priority list for the next several years. Although it was generally agreed

²⁶ "Book Buying Project." Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 6, Folder 5.

²⁷ Blake Van Leer, "Annual Report of the President, 1949-1950." Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 11.
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that a new library was critical to the continued effectiveness of Georgia Tech, there were several obstacles in the way of its being at the top of the list.

On the site of the library were seven houses that had been acquired when Tech purchased the land in the 1940s (Figure 2-16). President Van Leer pointed out to Dr. Walker of the English Department in October, 1948, these houses were being used by the architecture program, the Air Force Headquarters and the ROTC program (Figures 2-17 through 2-19). If the library were built before the architecture building, there would be no place to house the displaced programs. Similarly, President Van Leer pointed out, if the classroom building was constructed first, it would provide sufficient space so that all of the old houses being used as classrooms and offices could be demolished thereby freeing up several building sites.²⁸

By the time of President Van Leer's 1948-1949 Annual Report, a new library had finally made it to the top of the President's priority list; all that was needed now was financing. When the library was first proposed, the 1945-1946 Annual Report of the President listed the estimated cost at \$1 Million dollars. By the time the 1948-1949 Annual Report was published in the fall of 1949, this figure had grown to \$1.5M. To make matters worse, there was no money to pay to have the final plans and specification prepared. So it was a blow to many in the Georgia Tech community when in March, 1950, the Board of Regents announced that the architecture building would be constructed before the library. The primary reason was that the drawings and specifications for the library were not yet complete.

In January, 1950, Georgia Tech, through the Board of Regents, made an application to the Federal government for a grant to defray the costs of preparing the plans and specifications for the new library. The grant was part of a Federal public works program. Tech requested \$60,000; it was estimated that the cost to prepare the plans and specifications would be about \$80,000. After the announcement that the architecture building would be the next building on the Georgia Tech campus to be built, President Van Leer wrote to Hughes Spalding, chairman of the Board of Regents asking for assurances that the library would be the first priority within the next year or two. The Federal government was hesitant to give Georgia Tech an advanced planning grant as Tech had received money four years ago for the preparation of plans and specifications for a new classroom building, which had yet to be built.²⁹

Spalding responded a few days later saying that the Georgia Building Authority had the authority to borrow up to \$12M to construct buildings system-wide. The Building Authority had accepted a proposal to borrow \$6M now and that within six months it would borrow an additional \$6M. Spalding then assured President Van Leer that at the March Board of Regents meeting the next year (1951), the library would be designated as having the first priority at Georgia Tech. Mr. Spalding hoped this letter would be sufficient to prompt the Federal government to give the advanced planning grant to Georgia Tech.³⁰

In June 1950, Georgia Tech learned that it had received the \$60,000 planning grant from the Federal Government. This plus the approximately \$20,000 received from Judge Price Gilbert allowed the design process to move forward and working drawings and specifications prepared.

Library Construction

Ads for bids for the construction of the new library were published Saturday, March 31, 1951. Bid proposals were due at the end of April. On April 27, 1951 the Atlanta Journal announced that J. A. Jones, Construction Company of Atlanta was the low bidder. Their bid was for \$1,585,500, more than

²⁸ Letter, President Van Leer to Dr. A. J. Walker, October 20, 1948. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 5.

²⁹ Letter, President Van Leer to Hughes Spalding, March 14, 1950. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 5.

³⁰ Letter, Hughes Spalding to Colonel [President] Van Leer, March 16, 1950. Georgia Tech Archives, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, MS001, Box 5, Folder 5.
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\$200,000 over the estimate. It took several more months before a contract was let but finally, on July 5, 1951 the ground-breaking ceremony was held. Construction progressed over the next fourteen months. The Certificate of Occupancy was received from the Atlanta Building Department on September 18, 1953 and the building opened November 2, 1953.

Library Dedication

The Price Gilbert Memorial Library was dedicated during a three-day celebration, November 19-21, 1953. It was a joint dedication with the new library at the University of Georgia in Athens. The schedule of activities included the dedication of the University of Georgia library on Thursday morning, November 19th; a symposium titled "Availability and Use of Research Materials" Thursday evening and Friday morning; an open house and reception at the Price Gilbert Memorial Library on the Tech campus on Friday evening; and the dedication of the Price Gilbert Memorial Library on Saturday morning. Participants in the dedication included President Blake Van Leer, Governor Herman E. Talmadge, Mrs. Dorothy Crosland and John E. Burchard, the Dean of Humanities and Social Studies at M.I.T. and the library consultant on the project. Unfortunately, Judge Gilbert died in 1951 just over a month after the ground-breaking ceremony.

Graduate Addition/Crosland Tower

By 1962 the Price Gilbert Memorial Library was still considered the jewel of the campus. As hoped when the building was being planned, the design of the library served the needs of the growing institution well. But as predicted, within ten years tremendous pressures were being exerted on the building and by 1964 plans for a new Graduate Addition, what came to be known as the Crosland Tower, began.

Technically, the need for another new library building was identified as early as 1948, before The Gilbert Memorial Library was ever built. The need for more library space was a constant battle for Crosland. The Price Gilbert Memorial Library was conceptually planed as a larger building. As early as 1948, long before it was built, the Georgia Tech Administration suggested reducing the immediate space requirement for a library building, recommending building a second library ten years after completion of the first. This would result in a lower initial investment and a faster procurement of funds. As a result, the Price Gilbert Memorial Library was planned and completed with the knowledge that the need for another building would arise within 10 years of completion.³¹ However the design of the Price Gilbert Memorial Library did not include expansion capabilities.

In 1964, when the plans for a new Graduate Addition were first developed, Georgia Tech had 900 graduate students. The expected number in 1975 was 2,000. In the same year, meeting minutes from a meeting in Crosland's office with T. H. Cushman, D.O. Savini and E. A. Moulthrop state that the existing building was not planned for expansion, hence the need for an addition. At this time the library building housed 466,000 volumes or 600,000 items. The minutes also state that the addition needs to consider the space requirements of the next 10 years, until 1975, at which time a capacity of 1,000,000 volumes will have been reached. Also, as believed by Crosland and to be incorporated into the master plan a single centralized location was preferred to de-centralization of library buildings.³²

In 1964 the Georgia Tech Administration held a space requirement conference and determined that a computer center and photographic labratory also needed to be accommodated somewhere other than the Ceramic Engineering Building, as previously planned. The suggestion was to connect the area between the Hinman Research Center and the planned library addition ground floor with a single story building. This would eventually allow the computer center, the photo lab and the library to

³¹ Letter from Robert Strite, Assistant to the President, to Bush-Brown, Gailey & Heffernan, dated February 19, 1948. Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, Box 5, Folder 20. MS001, Archives & Records Management, Library and information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

³² Bulletin #2, conference minutes from a meeting in Mrs. Crosland Office July 23, 1964, attending J. H. Crosland, T. H. Cushman, D. O. Savini, E. A. Moulthrop

form an integrated group (currently the Georgia Tech Archives Research Center is located in this single story connection space).

In April of 1965 a Federal Grant of \$1,000,000 for a library addition and a grant for \$492,717 for the Space, Science and Technology Center were approved. These grants along with \$2,000,000 already approved by the Board of Regents were adequate to construct a 130,000 square foot library addition. The plan was to make the new building the graduate research library and the Price Gilbert Memorial would become primarily the undergraduate library.³³ Crosland predicted that by 1975 over one million items would be housed in both structures. At that time maximum enrollment was expected to be 8,000 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students.³⁴

Robert and Company was picked as architects and advised to design a building with a possibility of expansion in mind. The Graduate Library addition was designed with a strong enough foundation to possibly add up to five floors when needed.³⁵ Expansion of the Price Gilbert Memorial Library was to be towards the east (Figure 2-21).

President Edwin D. Harrison presided over the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Graduate Addition on October 20, 1966. Among the attendees were Dorothy M. Crosland, Governor Sanders, Price Gilbert Junior, son of the man for whom the original library was named, and Dr. George L. Simpson, Chancellor of the University System of Georgia (Figures 2-22, 2-23). The dedication ceremony of the completed building was held on November 21, 1969.^{36,37} In 1985 the building was named the Crosland Tower (Figures 2-246, 2-25).

During conception of the library addition, Crosland had predicted 1975 as a time when probably another expansion would be needed. In February 1989 a feasibility study for renovation and expansion of the library evaluated three options for expansion: vertical, northward or westward. The study concluded none of the options were viable and suggested a new, separate library building.

This has not happened at the time of this report. Georgia Tech currently has not built a separate library but instead created a westward expansion by attaching the Clough Commons to the Gilbert Memorial Library. This space was planned as a gateway building for freshmen, housing classrooms, support services and social areas, spawning an idea for a new type of library – a productivity zone that went well beyond traditional library/information commons. The entire space is designed for user control and flexibility. There are no fixed walls; flexible and dynamic furnishings give possibilities for “on the fly” presentations and group studies. Innovative technology supports these characteristics. This might be a model for new library solutions.³⁸

³³ “Tech Gets \$1.4 Million For Library, Space Unit” *Atlanta Constitution*, April 10, 1965

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ “Ground is Broken for New Graduate Addition to Tech Library” *Campus*, Volume 5, No 10, November 21, 1966.

³⁶ “Ground is Broken for New Graduate Addition to Tech Library” *Campus*, Volume 5, No 10, November 21, 1966.

³⁷ Invitation to the dedication of the Graduate Addition to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library, Friday, November 21, 1969 at two o’clock in the afternoon. Building Grounds file, Georgia Institute of technology Library and Information Center.

³⁸ “Georgia Tech, Crosland Library” Case study.

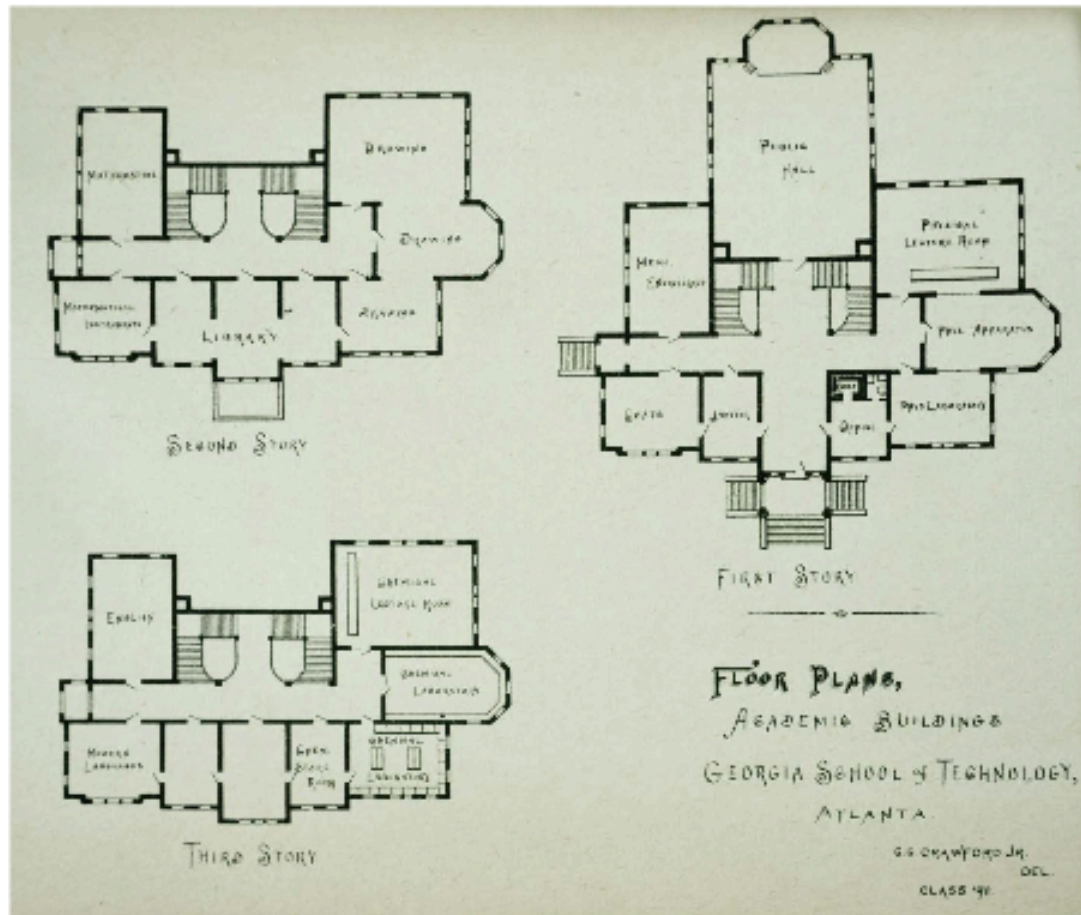
Figures

Figure 2-1: Floor Plan, Academic Building, G. G. Crawford, Jr. delineator; from the *Annual Catalogue of the Georgia School of Technology, Announcements for 1888-1889*. *Georgia Tech Archives*.

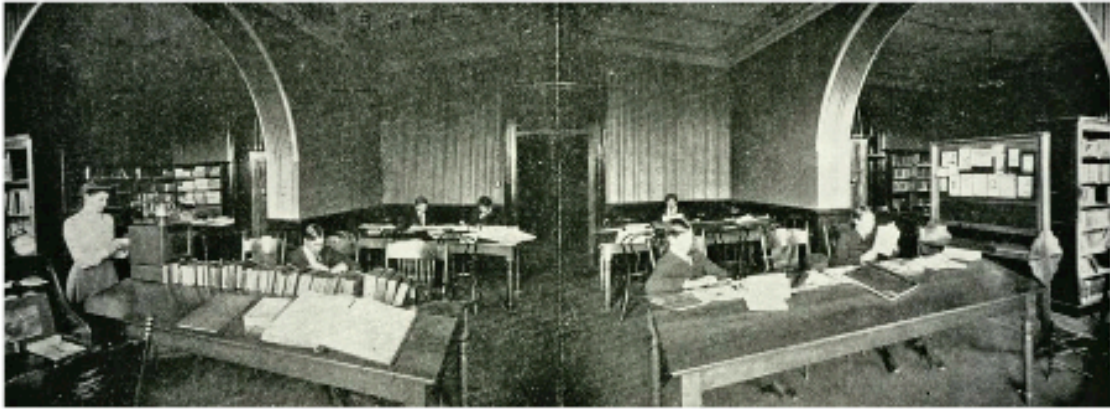


Figure 2-2: "The Library", Annual Announcements of Georgia School of Technology, 1902-1903. *Georgia Tech Archives, GT ID number gtanno 190203-100a.*

Note: Although this picture first appears in the Annual Announcements for 1902-1903 it appears to be much earlier, earlier even than the photograph below from the 1900-1901 Annual Announcements. Note the lack of light fixtures. The only electric light is just visible in the reading room to the right and there appears to be a corresponding fixture in the room to the left; a similar light was probably in the center room as well. Also note that the back wall of the center room is lined with wood paneling, floor to ceiling, painted white above the wainscot.



Figure 2-3: "In the Library," Annual Announcements of Georgia School of Technology, 1900-1901; note that the wainscot has been removed. *Georgia Tech Archives, GT ID number gtanno190001-26a.*



Figure 2-4: Carnegie Library, 1908; from *Annual Catalogue and Announcements, 1907-1908*. *Georgia Tech Archives*.



Figure 2-5: Carnegie Library with the Academic Building in the background, ca. 1913. *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 25, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/1424>.

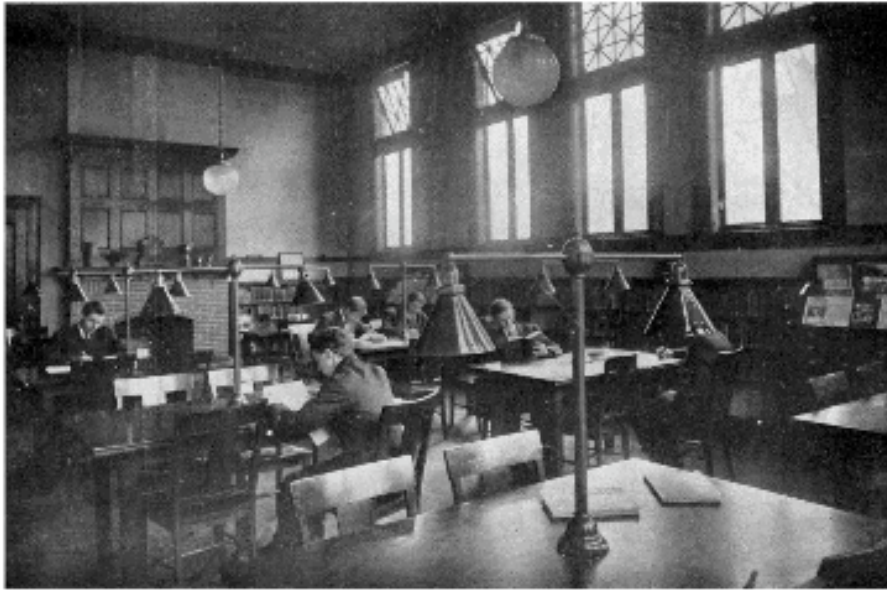


Figure 2-6: Carnegie Library, main reading room, ca. 1908; *Georgia Tech Archives*.



Figure 2-7: Carnegie Building, date unknown; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed October 27, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/916>.



Figure 2-8: Carnegie Library, Main Reading Room, main floor, ca. 1950; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 25, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/1446>.



Figure 2-9: Carnegie Library, Periodical Reading Room, ground floor, ca. 1950; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 25, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/1447>.



Figure 2-10: Carnegie Library, ca. 1948; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 25, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/1444>.



Figure 2-11: Carnegie Library, reading room, ca. 1948; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 25, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/1441>.



Figure 2-12: Carnegie Library, stacks, ca. 1948; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 25, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/1443>.



Figure2-13: Carnegie Library, work room, ca. 1950; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 27, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/1439>.



Figure 2-14: Carnegie Library, work room, ca. 1948; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 27, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/3902>.



Figure 2-15: Collections storage, probably in the basement of the Knowles Building, ca. 1948; *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed November 27, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/1435>.

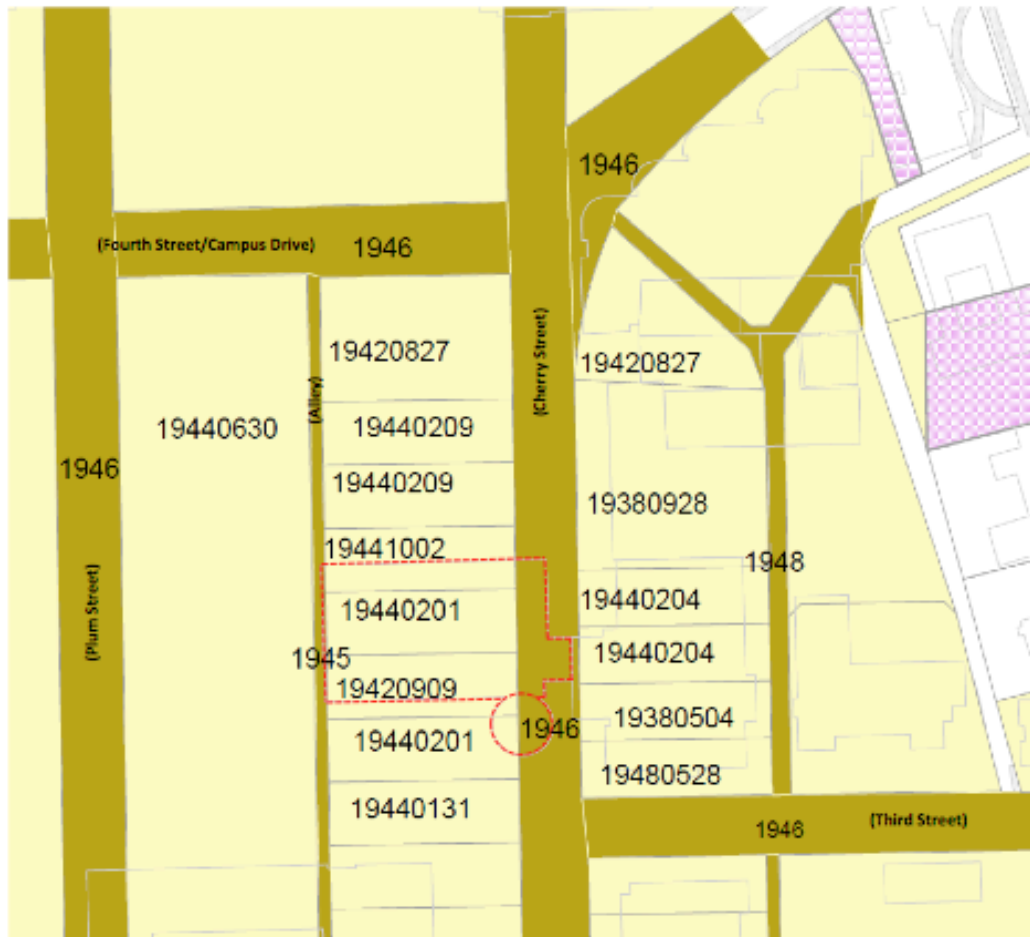


Figure 2-16: Parcel Map; Price Gilbert Library footprint shown with dashed red line; individual parcels are delineated with gray lines; 19420909 indicates parcel purchased by Georgia Tech on September 9, 1942; *Georgia Tech Office of Real Estate Development.*

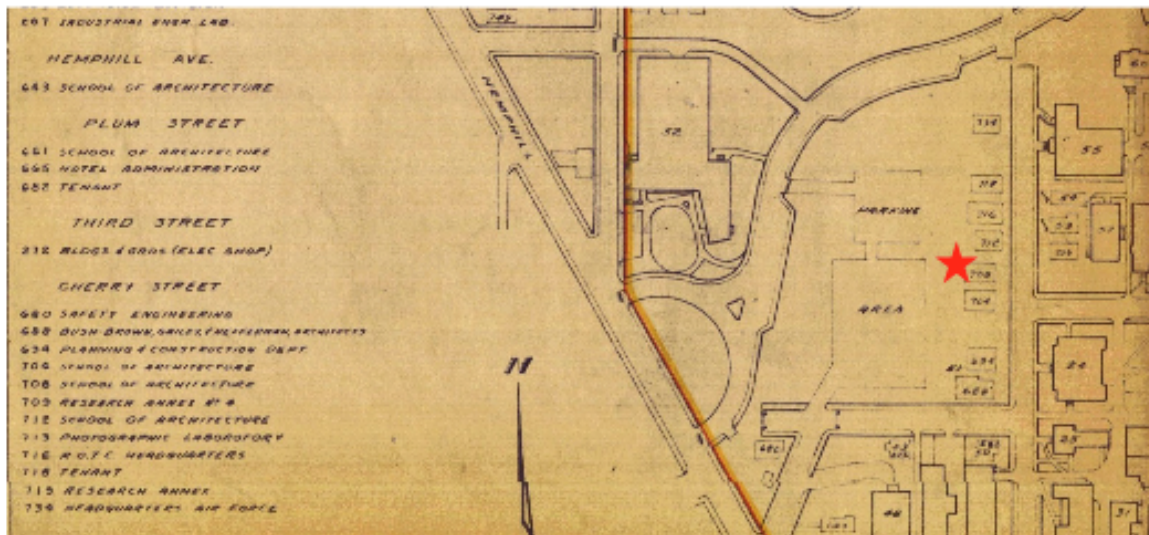


Figure 2-17: Detail, 1949 campus map; red star marks site of Price Gilbert Memorial Library; *Georgia Tech Capital Planning and Space Management*, http://www.space.gatech.edu/digital_archive/maps/index.php?i=6, accessed November 26, 2013.



Figure 2-18: Price Gilbert Memorial Library site looking south, 1949; *Georgia Tech Archives, UAC 375, VA-0190a.*

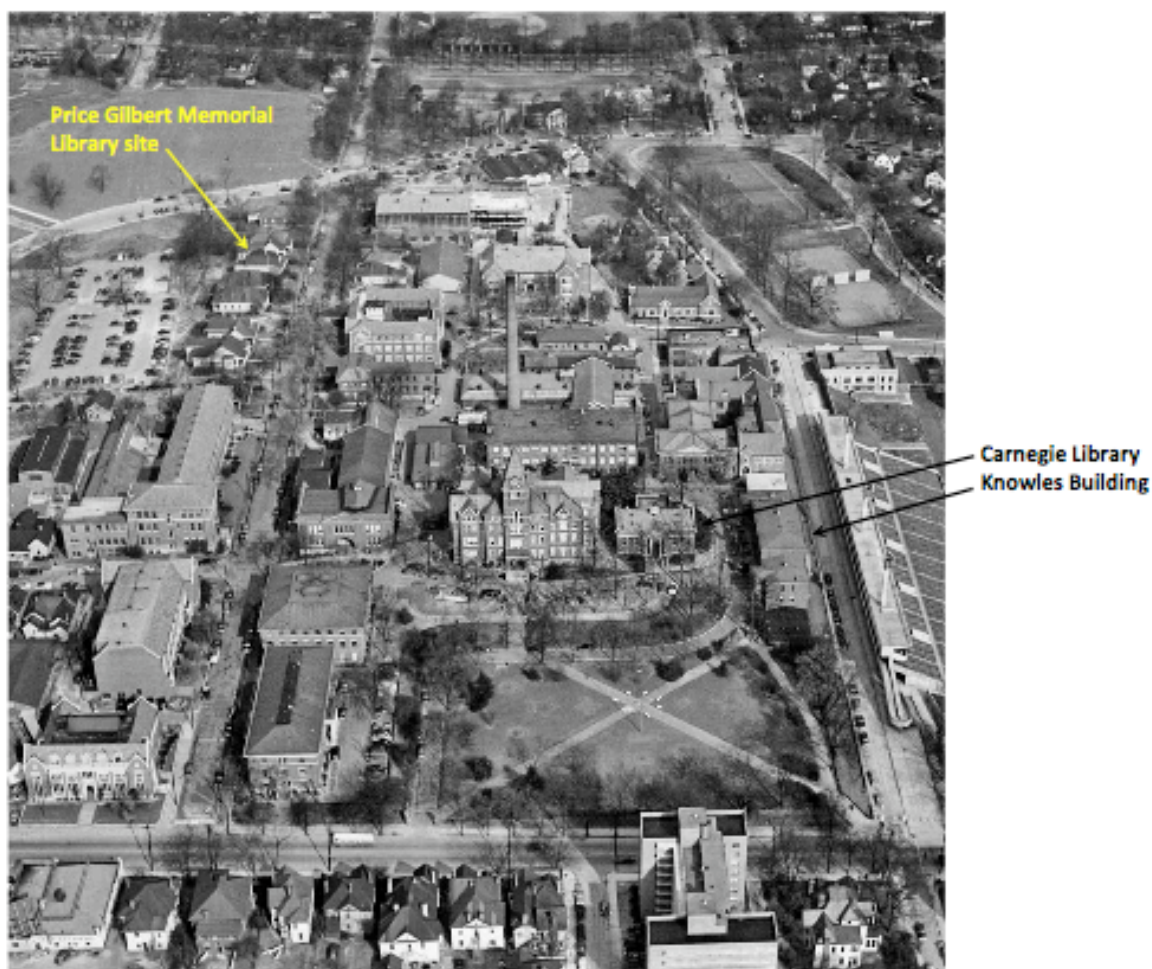


Figure 2-19: Georgia Tech campus looking north, 1949; *Georgia Tech Archives, UAC 375, VA-0195f*.

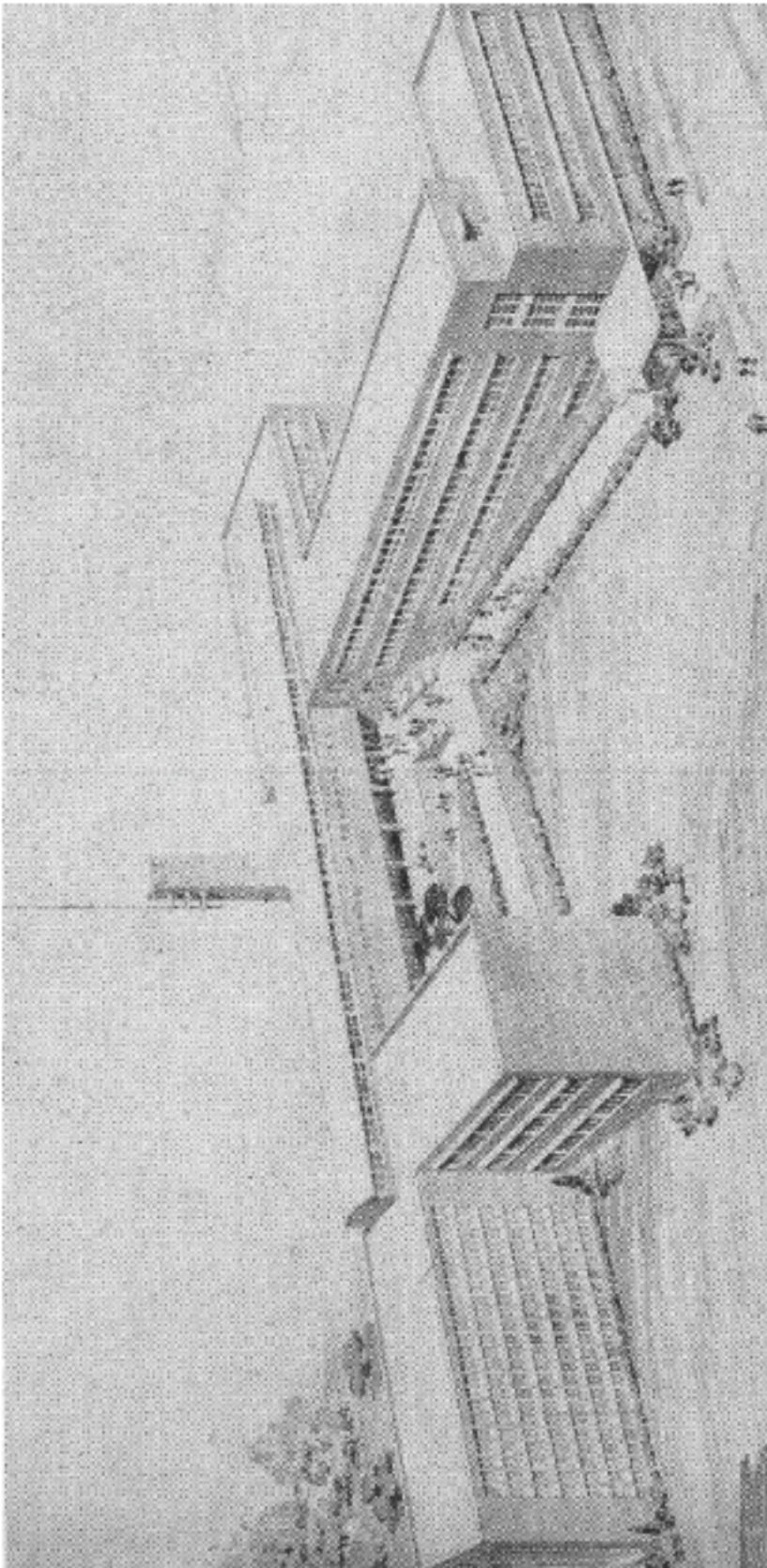


Figure 2-20: "Proposed Central Group of Post-War Campus," looking east. *The Technique*, August 4, 1944, p. 1; the two buildings at left forming an "L-shape" are the library, the administration building is the long center building in the back with the tower, the classroom building is on the right.



Figure 2-21: Rendering of the Crosland Tower Addition. VA423, Georgia Tech History Digital Portal, accessed October 28, 2013.

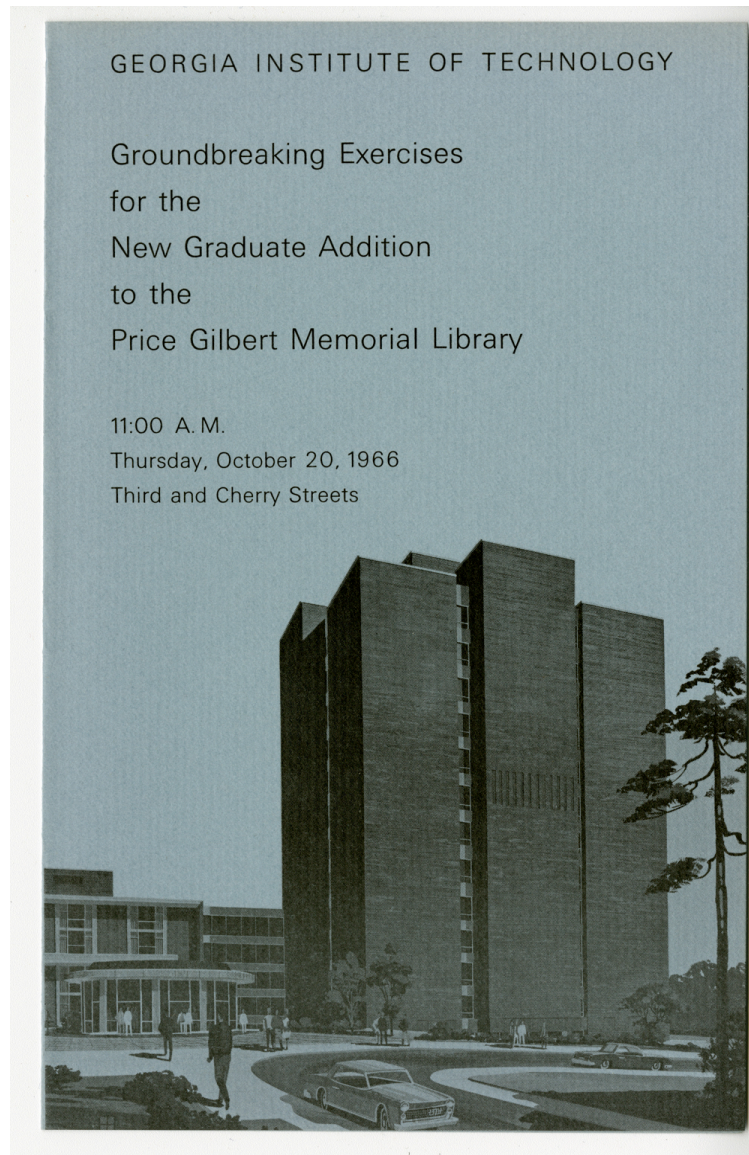


Figure 2-22: Invitation to the Groundbreaking Exercise for the Crosland Tower Addition. VA296, Georgia Tech History Digital Portal, accessed October 28, 2013.



Figure 2-23: Photo taken during the Groundbreaking Exercise. VA425j, Georgia Tech History Digital Portal, accessed October 28, 2013.



Figure 2-24: Construction photo, September 12, 1967, VA405. "Gilbert Memorial Library" *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 2-25: 1972 slide of completed Crosland Tower, bridge and new entrance rotunda. “Gilbert Memorial Library” *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.

3.0 Dorothy M. Crosland: The Significance of the Building's Name

Introduction

“Dorothy Murray Crosland served as librarian of Georgia Tech from 1927 until 1953, when she assumed the title of Director of Libraries, the position she held until her retirement in 1971. Her principal achievements during her long tenure were the tremendous expansion of library materials resulting in construction of the Price Gilbert Memorial Library in 1953 and subsequently the Graduate Addition in 1968 (officially named Crosland Tower in 1985). She also played an instrumental role in the admission of Women in Georgia Tech and in the development of a graduate program in information science.”³⁹

Bibliographical Note

Dorothy Murray Crosland was born in September 13, 1903 in Stone Mountain, Georgia, the daughter of Robert and Lena Jones Murray. She graduated from Girl's High School in Atlanta and earned her library degree in 1923 from the Library School of the Carnegie Library of Atlanta (later Emory University School of Library Science).⁴⁰ She married James Henley Crosland, who worked for Norfolk Southern Railway, on August 18, 1928. They had one daughter, Dorothy Evelyn Crosland, born September 13, 1934. Dorothy Evelyn Crosland married Ben Daugherty in November 1955, and they had four children. Dorothy Murray Crosland died on March 24, 1983 in Monroe, Georgia.⁴¹

Career Path

After completing her education in 1923, she worked as an assistant cataloger and branch librarian at the Carnegie Library (now Atlanta-Fulton Public Library). In 1925 she became assistant librarian at the Georgia Institute of Technology, serving as active librarian during Frances Newman's leaves of absence. She was appointed librarian in 1927, a position she held until 1953, when her title was changed to Director of Libraries. She retired from Georgia Tech in 1971.⁴²

Crosland assumed responsibility for building the library collection and determined that it should rival those of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other leading technological institutes.⁴³ In 1927 when she was appointed librarian, the entire library collection numbered about 16,000 bound volumes, 100 periodical subscriptions, and a staff between three and four people with an annual budget of \$8,000. In 1945, after Crosland successfully lobbied for a grant of \$30,000 from the General Education Board, the numbers had grown to 73,000 volumes and more than 1,150 journals.⁴⁴ By 1967, when construction of the Crosland Tower began, the annual appropriation had grown to \$891,000. The library now had 460,000 bound volumes, over 290,000 units of micro text and over 10,000 periodicals. At this time there were 57 full-time staff members.⁴⁵ The Georgia Tech Library received national recognition for its leadership among technological and scientific libraries.⁴⁶

However, success could not only be measured in numbers. She strived for the library to also support graduate work and stated in an interview for an article in the *Atlanta Journal* in 1946, “the Library can

³⁹ Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, Abstract. MS001, Archives & Records Management, Library and information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

⁴⁰ Ibid

⁴¹ Ibid

⁴² Ibid

⁴³ Ibid

⁴⁴ Franklin, Rebecca. “Mrs. J.H. Crosland Named Woman of Year.” *Atlanta Journal*, 1945. Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, Abstract. MS001, Archives & Records Management, Library and information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

⁴⁵ Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, Box 1, Folder 1. MS001, Archives & Records Management, Library and Information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

⁴⁶ Press release, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, dated October 19, 1962

now support graduate work in all fields of engineering, chemistry and physics.” In the same year she was awarded “Education Women” of the Year, a selection made by seven prominent Atlanta businessmen. The chairman of the committee Mitchell declared, “She is a woman not simply respected but loved by thousands of Tech men.”⁴⁷ Probably equally important to her was an honor bestowed by colleagues and friends, when in 1962 she was presented with a portrait painted by a distinguished American Artist, Henry Nordhausen.⁴⁸

Due to her involvements in the library community at Georgia Tech as well as outside of the University she earned a national reputation in her field. She was involved and acted as officer frequently in the local and national library associations. She was President of the Georgia Library Association from 1949 to 1951. She served as executive secretary from 1950 to 1952 and President from 1952 to 1954 of the Southeastern Library Association. As a member of the Association of College and Research Libraries, she served the following committees: program planning, serial, nominating, organizing, organization and management, engineering section, building, and grants, acting as chair of the latter three committees. She was also a trustee for local organizations, including the Atlanta Historical Society, Atlanta Art Association, and the Atlanta Library Club.⁴⁹

Admission of Woman to Georgia Tech

As stated in the *Georgia Librarian* in 1986, “the 1940s and 1950s Mrs. Crosland played an important role in the public relations efforts of the Institute as a whole. Her commitment was to the Institute, not just to the Library. Frequent reports of library and campus activities also appeared in local and state publications and heightened community awareness of the library's services.”⁵⁰

Until 1952 only one woman had ever attended Georgia Tech. She was enrolled in the School of Commerce and after this School was moved to the University of Georgia women were no longer accepted. Both Crosland and President Van Leer were instrumental in pushing an agenda, allowing woman into Tech. For Van Leer, the quest to admit women was highly personal. His wife, Ella Wall Van Leer, earned a degree in Architecture from the University of California. However, because of Tech's restrictions on the admission of women, his daughter, Maryly, had to attend Vanderbilt in order to pursue her degree in Chemical Engineering. In 1947, President Van Leer proposed a change in this policy to the Board of Regents. The Regents rejected President Van Leer's co-ed proposal. But Georgia Tech and the women of Atlanta persisted. Van Leer enlisted Dorothy Crosland to spearhead this effort, and together with his wife, Ella, they started a campaign, which in part mobilized local women's groups. The Atlanta Women's Chamber of Commerce formally petitioned the Regents, a petition that was supported by a resolution from Tech's undergraduate student council. On April 9, 1952, the regents voted 7-5 to admit women on a full-time basis, but limited admission to programs not offered at other units within the University System of Georgia, such as engineering or architecture. It was not until 1968 that the Board of Regents voted to allow women into all programs.

Development of A Graduate Program in Information Sciences

Again Crosland had an ally in President Van Leer, this time campaigning to build a stronger master's program. Part of this effort was a name change from the Georgia School of Technology to Georgia Institute of Technology, which became final in 1948 and according to Van Leer, reflected the growing focus of the school on advanced technology and scientific research. Along with this effort Crosland pushed very hard to establish a program for information science and admitted to having

⁴⁷ Franklin, Rebecca. “Mrs. J.H. Crosland Named, Woman of Year.” *Atlanta Journal*, 1946. Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, Abstract. MS001, Archives & Records Management, Library and information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

⁴⁸ “Georgia Institute of Technology Honors Mrs. Dorothy M. Crossland” *The Library Binder*, Volume X, No.2, November 1962

⁴⁹ Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, Abstract. MS001, Archives & Records Management, Library and information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

⁵⁰ Price, Jean. Kinman, Virginia. Vidor, Ann. “A History of the Georgia Tech Library” *The Georgia Librarian*, November 1986

made enemies of many librarians along the way. In 1971 she states in a letter “information science has a place on an academic campus and is the second largest Graduate School.”⁵¹

On this subject, a paper on Crosland published by the *Georgian Librarian* in 1886 quoted: “The role of the library varied during the first three decades of the Crosland era. A major event occurred in September 1961, when the library received a National Science Foundation grant entitled ‘Programs for Training Personnel for Scientific and Technical Libraries.’ Scientists, engineers, information specialists and librarians from all over the United States and Europe participated in two conferences conducted by Mrs. Crosland and other faculty members from Tech. The end result of these investigations was the formation of the School of Information Science in 1963.”⁵²

Efforts Towards a New Library Buildings on the Georgia Tech Campus

In addition to growing the library collection, she also was instrumental in assuring the Georgia Tech campus had adequate library buildings. When she first arrived at Tech in 1927 the Carnegie donated library building was probably still adequate; however due to Crosland’s aggressive expansion plan, it soon became too small. In 1946 the stacks spilled over into one wing of the Knowles Dormitory for a lack of space in the main library.⁵³ Crosland’s started lobbying for a new Library building and toured several European Technical Universities during a book finding tour to Europe in 1946.⁵⁴ It was not until 1953 that Price Gilbert Memorial Library was opened, an achievement attributed largely to Crosland.⁵⁵ In the mid sixties it became apparent that another addition was needed. The ground breaking ceremony took place October 20, 1966 (Figures 3-5, 3-7). The building was completed in 1968 and was officially dedicated November 21, 1969 (Figure 3-1).⁵⁶ It was always Crosland’s intent to create a true marriage between these two buildings and according to the dedication brochure, she was accredited with achieving this due to skillfully remodeling and redecorating the older unit to harmonize with the new. Further the brochure states these two buildings are a memorial to Dorothy M. Crosland.

The Interior Decorator

Dorothy M. Crosland was also a licensed interior decorator, which earned her valuable discounts at retail establishments. This was a degree she only used as part of her employment at Georgia Tech. She was essential in picking furniture, fabrics and finishes for both the original Library and the Graduate Addition during and after the construction. This clearly demonstrates how deeply Crosland was involved into all aspects, including the interior design of the library buildings.

Many special events took place in the early years of the Price Gilbert Memorial Library. Among these were a major exhibit of hand-woven special fabrics of natural raw materials by the Weavers of Rabun and a loaned exhibition of valuable contemporary paintings and drawings from the Guggenheim Museum. The library also served as the cultural and educational center for the campus due to a lack of other suitable facilities and because of Mrs. Crosland's determination to involve the library in the Institute's activities”.⁵⁷

⁵¹ Letter from Mrs. Henley Crosland, Director of Libraries, to Dr. Mary Lee Bundy, School of Library and information Science, University of Maryland, dated March 15, 1971

⁵² Price, Jean. Kinman, Virginia. Vidor, Ann. “A History of the Georgia Tech Library” *The Georgia Librarian*, November 1986

⁵³ “Slightly Cramped” *Atlanta Constitution*, July 30, 1946.

⁵⁴ “Tech Librarian Combs Europe for Books” *Atlanta Journal*, December 15, 1946.

⁵⁵ “Program: Presentation of the Portrait of Mrs. Dorothy M. Crosland, October 1962.

⁵⁶ Invitation to the dedication of the Graduate Addition to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library, Friday, November 21, 1969 at two o’clock in the afternoon. Building Grounds file, Georgia Institute of technology Library and Information Center.

⁵⁷ Price, Jean. Kinman, Virginia. Vidor, Ann. “A History of the Georgia Tech Library” *The Georgia Librarian*, November 1986

The Paper on Dorothy Crosland in the *Georgian Librarian* states: "For several years, the new library was cited in many publications including *International Lighting Review* and *Architectural Forum*, as an outstanding example of the use of space and materials. These publications and the many visitors to the new building greatly increased the library's visibility

Conclusion

The time Dorothy M. Crosland was employed at Georgia Tech became known as the "Crosland Era". The growth rate of the library materials, the new library buildings, and the newly established master's program in Libraries Science, as well as securing specialty libraries for Patent, Aeronautical, Engineering and Architecture, were all accredited to her efforts. She personally was involved in every detail of these endeavors from book buying trips nationally and internationally to her detailed involvement of design, planning and fundraising down to small details of interior design. This quote from the Paper on Dorothy Crosland in the *Georgian Librarian* sums up her tremendous importance and achievements: "Because of her outstanding leadership, this period has become known as the Crosland era. Her influence and personality permeate the years under her direction, especially the period after World War II when the Institute's reputation began to grow. She was ahead of her time in many ways, including being one of the few female head librarians in academic libraries from the 1930s through the 1960s". As noted in the January/February 1970 issue of *The Georgia Tech Alumnus*, Dorothy Crosland's "clarion call of 'for Tech and the library' and the campus-wide respect for her ability made her the one indispensable woman on the campus for over 40 years."

The Georgia Tech Library's goal has always been to fulfill the research needs of students, faculty, industry, and the community. During her first years as library director, Crosland concentrated on raising the reputation of the library and cultivating monetary donations from alumni groups and the community. Growth and change were slow but steady, laying the foundation for the library's post-war boom. In the 1940s and 1950s, Mrs. Crosland played an important role in the public relations efforts of the Institute as a whole. Her commitment was to the Institute, not just to the Library. Frequent reports of library and campus activities also appeared in local and state publications and heightened community awareness of the library's services (Figures 3-2, 3-3, 3-4, 3-6).

3.0 FIGURES



Figure 3-1: 1969 photo of Dorothy M. Crosland and Dr. Weber at the dedication ceremony for the Crosland Tower. "Gilbert Memorial Library graduate addition," Georgia Tech History Digital Portal, accessed October 28, 2013. VA419

Crosland, Dorothy M.

WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN EDUCATION—Mrs. James Henley Crosland has been selected as Atlanta's Woman of the Year in Education for her work in making Georgia Tech's Library the best in the South.—Journal Photo.

WANTED TO BE ENGINEER

Mrs. J. H. Crosland Named Education Woman of Year

By REBECCA FRANKLIN

Mrs. James Henley Crosland would give anything to have an engineering degree from Georgia Tech, but Tech is strictly against women (as students); so Mrs. Crosland has done the next best thing. She has worked like all get-out to make Tech's library the best in the South.

Recognition of her endeavors came Monday, when she was named Atlanta's Woman of the Year in Education by a committee of seven men. W. L. Mitchell, president of the Georgia Power Company, is chairman of the committee.

Mrs. Crosland has been librarian at the Georgia School of Technology since 1927. Last year she obtained a contribution of \$30,000 to the library from the General Education Board, a John D. Rockefeller endowment. Mr. Mitchell notes that she got this money through "her own personal initiative and efforts."

In 1925, when she went to Tech as assistant librarian, the library had only 16,000 volumes and was receiving less than 100 journals. Today the library has approximately 73,000 volumes and is on the subscription list of more than 1,150 journals.

Best Library in South

All of which means that Tech now has the best engineering, aeronautical and textile library in the South. And Mrs. Crosland

sadder. "The library can now support graduate work in all fields of engineering, chemistry, mathematics and physics."

The road to these greener pastures has not been easy. Technological books and journals are expensive, and back in 1925, the state was appropriating only \$1,200 annually to the Tech library for books and periodicals. This figure has been increased year by year, through Mrs. Crosland's constant pleas, so that the 1945-1946 appropriation from the State Board of Regents is \$25,000.

At the same time, the salary appropriation for the library has been increased from \$5,640 in 1923 to \$13,100 in 1946.

Now even better things are in prospect. A library building costing \$800,000 is part of the new academic center planned by Tech. Mrs. Crosland fairly glows when she looks at drawings of this building, which is to be air-conditioned and will house 500,000 volumes. She is assisting architects in planning it.

Figure 3-2: 1946 Article naming Dorothy M. Crosland "Women of the year in education" Franklin, Rebecca. "Mrs. J.H. Crosland Named, Woman of Year." *Atlanta Journal*, 1946.

Crosland, Dorothy M

8-A The Atlanta Journal SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1946

**TECH LIBRARIAN BUSY WITH UNBOUND BOOKS—**

Mrs. J. M. Crosland, librarian at Georgia Tech, who returned recently from a book-buying spree in Europe, checks some of the unbound volumes which will be bound by the library.—Journal Photo.

JACKETS'LL JACKET THEM

Tech Librarian Combs Europe for Books

By MARY BLEW

Strictly for business, Mrs. James Henley Crosland, librarian at Georgia Tech, went to Europe to collect technical books to complete the library's files.

And tending strictly to business, Mrs. Crosland went to Paris and bought just one hat and more books than she can count.

Gone ten weeks, Mrs. Crosland arrived in Atlanta last week after traveling more than 13,000 miles. She is expecting 17 cases of books from England, and more cases of books from Paris, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Zurich and Brussels. Beyond that, she has no way of counting just how many books she did buy, because so many of them are in sets.

The highest price paid for one set was \$4,000 for the "Journal de Mathematique pures et appliquees" dating from 1836 to 1945.

To Be Bound Here

All the books will come in unbound form when they finally reach Atlanta and must be bound by the library for use by Georgia Tech's students.

Georgia Tech's library already has bulged over from the main building to storage space in one of the dormitories. Built to house 25,000 books, the library now has 80,000 volumes, not counting the ones that Mrs. Crosland has just bought.

"All these books from Europe are needed as background for research work," Mrs. Crosland said, "and we have to have them to support our courses leading to the degree of doctor of philosophy in engineering which Georgia Tech has just been authorized to grant." In her travels, Mrs. Crosland went to England, Denmark, Holland, France and Germany.

Parisian publishers are using microfilm to a greater extent than our own publishers, according to the librarian. She obtained the first edition of the "Journal Pathology" printed only on microfilm from Herman et Cie, in Paris.

Materia Medica

"I'm planning to give this one to Emory university," Mrs. Crosland said. "It was given to me and concerns a medical subject."

Mrs. Crosland found that schools were over-crowded and understaffed in Europe just as they are in America. All the engineering schools are filled to capacity and are looking desperately for teachers—just like Georgia Tech. But the technical libraries are superb, according to Mrs. Crosland.

"The Technische Hochschule in Zurich, Germany, is one of the most complete and most wonderful technical libraries I've ever seen," she said.

Subjects of the books bought by Mrs. Crosland range from electricity to chemistry.

Figure 3-3: Article about Dorothy Crosland on a Book finding tour. "Tech Librarian Combs Europe for Books" *Atlanta Journal*, December 15, 1946.

Crosland, Dorothy M.

*10-14-50
Constitution*



Constitution Staff Photo—Hugh Stovall

NEWLY ELECTED LIBRARY OFFICERS

Left to right: Mrs. J. Henley Crosland, Dr. Robert Alvarez,
Dr. Louis Shores

FSU, Tech, Nashville Librarians Honored

Dr. Louis Shores of Florida State University was elected president of the Southeastern Library Association in a general session here Friday. Mrs. J. Henley Crosland, of Georgia Tech, was elected vice-president and Dr. Robert Alvarez, Nashville Public Library, secretary-treasurer.

Earlier Friday the SELA, representing 2,600 professional librarians in nine Southeastern states, adopted a new constitution to reorganize itself to promote the development of library resources and services on a regional basis. "One of this nation's strongest defenses is an informed people," said Dr. Shores in commenting on the reorganization. "Our aim is to provide the population of the nine Southeastern states with every opportunity to become informed of public issues."

Samuel Gaillard Stone, of Charleston, S. C., was principal speaker at a Friday night banquet. The conference, the association's 14th, will close after a 10 a. m. business session Saturday.

Figure 3-4: Article about Dorothy Crosland. "FSU, Tech, Nashville Librarians Honored" *Atlanta Constitution*, October 15, 1950.



Figure 3-5: July 5, 1951 photo of Dorothy M. Crosland with Governor Herman Talmadge, and Judge Price Gilbert at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Price Gilbert Memorial Library. Georgia Tech History Digital Portal, accessed October 28, 2013. VA299



Figure 3-6: Portrait of Dorothy M. Crosland, painted by American Artist Henry Northausen. Portrait was officially presented October 18, 1962. "Crosland, Dorothy," Georgia Tech History Digital Portal, accessed October 28, 2013. VA1949



Figure 3-7: October 20, 1966, Dorothy M. Crosland at the groundbreaking ceremony for the graduate addition. "Crosland, Dorothy," Georgia Tech History Digital Portal, accessed October 28, 2013. VA425j.

4.0 The Architects: Robert and Company and Ed Moulthrop (1916 – 2003)

Selection of Architects

Robert and Company with E. A. Moulthrop as chief designer, was selected to design the Graduate Addition to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library. Three architectural firms were short-listed in 1964 by President Harrison: (1) Robert and Company, (2) Aeck Associates, and (3) Bodin and Lamberson. The architects for the Price Gilbert Memorial Library were Bush-Brown, Gailey & Heffernan, a firm no longer in existence at the time the addition was planned. The reason for this short-list and its order was E. A. Moulthrop, formerly part of Bush-Brown, Gailey and Heffernan who had a major role in the design and construction oversight for the library. Richard Aeck also worked on the library, but apparently had a smaller role than Moulthrop. Heffernan occasionally consulted with the firm of Bodin and Lamberson.⁵⁸

Robert and Company

Robert and Company is internationally known and is recognized as one of the top engineering and architecture firms in the United States, doing much of its work in Georgia and the Southeast. The company's projects on the Georgia Tech campus include the Van Leer Electrical Engineering Building (1962) and the Neely Nuclear Reactor (1965). Chip Robert founded Robert and Company in 1917 (Figure 4-1).

Lawrence Wood "Chip" Robert, Jr., was born in 1887 in Monticello, Georgia. He attended the four-year program at the Georgia Institute of Technology beginning in 1904 and graduated with a degree in civil engineering. He was involved in athletics and was the captain of the football and baseball teams in 1907. After a fifth year at Georgia Tech, he graduated with an additional degree in experimental/textile engineering in 1909. While at Georgia Tech, Robert worked in railroad construction, which he had been doing before going to college. After graduation, he took a job with an industrial engineering firm in Atlanta.

In 1911, Robert formed the Dallis-Robert Company and later in 1917 he organized Robert and Company Architects and Engineers.⁵⁹ Robert became a strong force in the industrial growth of Atlanta and the southeast region and lobbied constantly to entice northern businesses to the south. Prior to World War II, Robert and Company had projects in over 250 cities and towns in 37 states, with construction budgets totaling over \$350,000,000. The work included several textile mills that had relocated from New England to the south, power plants, prisons, hospitals, schools, stadiums and hotels.

In 1933, Robert was appointed to the post of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in charge of public works under President Franklin Roosevelt's administration. This included overseeing the design and construction of post offices and other public buildings. During World War II, Robert and Company continued to grow and was involved in a wide range of military projects for the U. S. armed forces. Some of their military projects included: the naval training station at Corpus Christi, Texas; the naval training base at Jacksonville, Florida; the Bermuda Naval Station; and the Patrol Station at San Juan, Puerto Rico. In 1943, Robert and Company was one of three firms to receive a citation from the U. S. Navy for outstanding service in the Navy war construction program. Another major wartime project of Robert and Company was the design of an aircraft assembly plant (Lockheed) in Marietta, Georgia, where the company provided engineering services as well as construction management and supervision in coordination with the U. S. Army Cops Engineers.

⁵⁸ Letter Edwin D. Harrison, President, Georgia Institute of Technology to Mr. J. H. Dewberry, Plant and Business Operations, University Systems of Georgia, dated May 4, 1964. Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, Box 7, Folder 2. MS001, Archives & Records Management, Library and Information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

⁵⁹ Architectural Survey, Georgia Institute of Technology, 1943-1965

By the end of World War II, Robert and Company had become nationally known for their design and engineering services. The company served a wide range of clients, including General Electric, B. F. Goodrich Tire and Rubber Company, The Coca-Cola Company, and Westinghouse. Well-known projects in the Atlanta area included work at the Hartsfield International Airport, the Atlanta Civic Center, Callaway Gardens, Grady Memorial Hospital, and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Robert was always involved in civic issues and held many local and national public positions. He was elected Director for both the First National Bank of Atlanta and the Seaboard Air Line Railway. For eight years, Robert was Treasurer of the Democratic National Committee. From 1938 to 1948, he served as a member of the President's Cabinet Council, the Public Works Administration, and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. After World War II, he held a post in the Marshall Plan in Europe and China.

At Georgia Tech, Robert organized and served as second President of the Alumni Association. He also was a long-time member of Tech's Athletic Board. Before the establishment of the University System of Georgia, he was a member of the Georgia Tech Board of Trustees. Later he was a member of the Board of Regents of Georgia from 1937 to 1943. In 1963, Robert gave a large grant to Georgia Tech, which remains the largest undesignated grant given to the Institute to this date. Robert died on June 6, 1976.

Robert's grandson, Lawrence W. Robert, IV (also called "Chip"), became the head of the company until his retirement in 2005. Today, under the leadership and direction of CEO Mike Kluttz, Robert and Company continues to serve clients locally in Atlanta, as well as nationally and internationally – still providing engineering, architecture and planning, as well as expanding their services to now include aviation, landscape architecture, historic preservation and green design.

Ed Moulthrop(1916 -2003}

As a member of Robert and Company Moulthrop served from the late 1950s through the 1960s and was the chief designer for the Crosland Tower. Moulthrop, a noted architect and former Georgia Tech professor, is best known today for the rounded art objects he created as a nationally recognized wood turner after leaving the field of architecture in the 1970s.

Ed Moulthrop was born on May 22, 1916, in Rochester, New York, and was raised in Cleveland, Ohio. He received an undergraduate degree from Western Reserve University (now Case Western Reserve University) in Ohio in 1939 and a graduate degree in architecture from Princeton University in 1941. After graduate school, Moulthrop came to Atlanta to teach architecture at Georgia Tech. In 1948, Moulthrop left Georgia Tech and worked for the architectural firm of Richard Aeck. In the late 1950's he took a job as chief designer at Robert and Company. According to Moulthrop, Robert and Company "was, perhaps, more engineering, but I supplied the non-engineering things that they needed, like design, and modern look, and so forth." In addition to the Van Leer Building at Georgia Tech, Moulthrop's most notable designs included: an addition to the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C.; the Atlanta Civic Center; the Carillon Tower at Stone Mountain; and the Callaway Memorial Chapel at Callaway Gardens. Company telephone directories indicate that Moulthrop was working at Robert and Company from the late 1950s until 1972, when he left to pursue his own private practice in architecture and to devote more time to his passion for woodworking.⁶⁰

During the years that followed, Moulthrop devoted all of his time to woodworking and achieved critical acclaim and national recognition as an artist. He is considered by many to be the "father of

⁶⁰ Robert and Company, 1959 through 1972 telephone directories. Robert and Company subject file, Atlanta History Center.

modern woodturning” because he brought the craft of turned and sculpted wood into the sphere of contemporary art. According to the New Georgia Encyclopedia, “his turned wood bowls are characterized by their large sizes, typically spherical or elliptical forms, and highly polished, clear finishes.” Moulthrop’s work is represented in the collections of many major museums, including the Museum of Modern Art in New York City and the Smithsonian’s Renwick Gallery in Washington, D.C. Moulthrop died on September 24, 2003, in Atlanta. Ed Moulthrop’s passion for woodturning was shared with his son, Philip, and grandson, Matt, who have continued his legacy and have made their own successful careers as wood turners. The three generations of wood turners have been documented in a book, *Moulthrop: A Legacy in Wood*.

4.0 FIGURES



Figure 4-1: Photograph of Chip Robert, Jr. (from http://history.library.gatech.edu/files/original/uac375_va-2983_6b48e3514b.jpg)



Figure 4-2: Photograph of Ed Moulthrop (from http://www.pbs.org/craftinamerica/artists_family.php.)



Figure 4-3: Photograph of Moulthrop bowl (from <http://www.liveauctioneers.com/item/7770630>.)

5.0 Architectural Description of the Crosland Tower

Building History

The Crosland Tower is located at 241 Bobby Dodd Way on the campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology (Figure 5-1). Completed in 1968 as the “Graduate Addition” to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library, the structure is named for Dorothy Murray Crosland, who served as librarian and later as director of Libraries from 1927 until her retirement from Georgia Tech in 1971. Robert and Company with Ed Moulthrop was chief designer of the building. In addition to the main tower, he also designed the connector bridges between the existing and new library buildings as well as a new round glass entrance pavilion to the main library. Other architects working as part of the Robert and Company team were H. A. Montague and R. B. Tippet.⁶¹ Beers Construction Company were the contractors and the total construction costs were \$3,393,000. The Georgia Education Authority, the federal government and private sources provided funds.⁶² The building has 130,464 total square feet and 91,445 assignable square feet. The Crosland Tower is one of several structures built between 1957 and 1969 in a period of campus expansion during Edwin D. Harrison’s tenure as President.⁶³ Currently the building still houses the Graduate Library and is assigned Building Number 100 in Area IV – South Campus.⁶⁴

A contract between the Regents of the University System of Georgia (owner) and Robert and Company (architects) was signed May 12, 1965.⁶⁵ A sealed bid proposal for the construction of the addition to the library with Project Number 0-50, job number 64077 was released January 25, 1966.⁶⁶ On October 20, 1966 President Edwin D. Harrison presided over the Ground Breaking Ceremony. Among the attendees were Dorothy M. Crosland, Governor Sanders, Price Gilbert, Junior, son of the man for whom the original library was named, and Dr. George L. Simpson, Chancellor of the University System of Georgia. Construction was expected to take about 15 ½ months with another two month to install equipment and complete the interior decorating (Figure 5-2). It was closer to the end of 1968 that construction was completed and the building put into service. The dedication ceremony of the completed building was held November 21, 1969. In 1985 the Graduate Addition was named the ‘Crosland Tower’.^{67 68}

According to an article in the Atlanta Journal dated, Oct 19, 1966, the new library was equipped with 396 small desks, 1,800 graduate and faculty lockers, 20 typing areas and four seminar rooms. In addition, the building had technical processing equipment, copying service, conference rooms, staff offices, general seating space and storage. The library also housed 84,000 square feet of stacks.⁶⁹ Equipment and furnishings were provided by the following companies: Stacks – Royal Metal Company; Tables and Carrels – John E. Sjostrom Company; Chairs – Gunlocke Chair Company; Lounge Chair – Jens Risom Company; Turnstiles – Perey Turnstiles; Chandelier in Rotunda – Georgia Lighting Company; Carpets – Rich’s Inc.⁷⁰ Also, the conference room on the 7th floor, later

⁶¹ “Schedule For Vinyl Wall Coverings For Addition To Library Georgia Institute of Technology” Job 64077, April 1968

⁶² “Tech Gets Library Addition” *Atlanta Constitution*, November 21 1969

⁶³ Historic Structure Report “Van Leer Building” Ray & Ellis Consulting, June 30, 2013

⁶⁴ Georgia Institute of Technology, Capital Planning and Space Management, Crosland, Dorothy M. Tower

⁶⁵ Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, MS001, oversized folder 2006.031 Archives & Records Management, Library and information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

⁶⁶ Bid proposal, Dorothy M. Crosland Papers, 1922-1983, Box 8, Folder 6. MS001, Archives & Records Management, Library and information Center, Georgia Institute of Technology.

⁶⁷ Invitation to the dedication of the Graduate Addition to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library, Friday, November 21, 1969 at two o’clock in the afternoon. Building Grounds file, Georgia Institute of technology Library and Information Center.

⁶⁸ “Ground is Broken for New Graduate Addition to Tech Library” *Campus*, Volume 5, No 10, November 21, 1966.

⁶⁹ “Tech Library Start Planned Thursday” *Atlanta Journal*, October 19, 1966

⁷⁰ Invitation to the dedication of the Graduate Addition to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library, Friday, November 21, 1969 at two o’clock in the afternoon. Building and Grounds file, Georgia Institute of Technology Library and Information Center.

named the Ferst Room, was elegantly finished and furnished with dark wood paneling and Italian furniture donated Ferst's wife in memory of her husband.⁷¹ A plaque located in this conference room reads "Monie Alan Ferst, 1891-1965. Eminent engineer, industrialist and philanthropist ...Unwavering patron of research and its application to medicine and modern industry...Outstanding supporter of higher education... Active participant in numerous professional associations". Ferst graduated from Tech in 1911 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He founded Scripto, Inc., and retired as chairman of the board. He also was a director at Fulton National Bank.⁷²

Physical Description

The design of the building has been described as "late modern style." The building's massing is very geometrical: essentially a large square footprint with one bump out centrally located on each façade. Bridges on floors 1-4 connect the original library to the Crosland Tower. The structural system is a steel post and beam construction with poured concrete column wrappings and poured concrete floors/ceilings. Exterior walls are built from concrete masonry units (CMU) outfitted with brick tie-ins and are covered with pre-fabricated red brick panels (Figures 5-3, 5-4, 5-5, 5-6, 5-7).

The tower is a nine-floor structure with a square footprint. The ninth floor is only a partial floor, originally planed to house air conditioning equipment. However, when Georgia Tech built a central chiller plant, this space became available and was re-designated as a conference room. Visually the tower appears as nine individual towers. This effect is achieved by separation of each façade into three sections. The center section is taller than the section on either side and also juts out further. Each of the four center sections varies in heights from the three others. A vertical ribbon of windows on either side of each center section creates an additional visual separation between center and sides. Each window ribbon consists of fairly narrow aluminum windows separated by travertine marble spandrels. Each of these aluminum windows is divided into two sections: a small operable section on the bottom and a larger fixed glass panel above. The exterior masonry is red brick: clean, contemporary and mostly unadorned. As an exception the top of each center section of the tower has 18 rectangles filled with matching recessed bricks on three sides and filled with glass panels on the north façade (this side houses the conference room). The roof is flat and has limestone coping.

The main entrance to the Crosland Tower occurs through a round glass entrance pavilion leading into the original Price Gilbert Memorial Library (Figures 5-8, 5-9). The building has seven secondary entrances. One entrance is located on the west side the first floor. Five are located on the ground floor level, three on the south façade, one on the east façade and one on the west facade. One entrance leads into the basement level, on the west side of the building. With the exception of the entrance to the basement level all doors are double doors with metal frames and glass panels. These doors appear original to the building. The door to the basement level is solid metal.

In addition to an underground connection on the Ground Level, four bridges on floors 1-4 provide passage between the two libraries. The south facade has a horizontal band of six equally-sized metal-framed glass panels with travertine marble spandrels on each floor. On the north façade the window band has only five glass panels, also with travertine marble spandrels. The remaining façade of the bridge is red brick. The interior in addition to providing passage, also houses a staircase and reading rooms on each floor. The floors are covered with linoleum tiles and ceilings have suspended square acoustical ceiling tiles. Walls are a combination of sheetrock and travertine marble cladding. The stairs are terrazzo with wooden handrails.

On the interior, the building has a fairly consistent layout throughout all floors. In concurrence with the original drawings, floors will be referred to Basement, Ground Floor and Floors 1-7. Floor 7 is also referred to as penthouse, since it only covers part of the footprint. Centrally located on each

⁷¹ Price, Jean. Kinman, Virginia. Vidor, Ann. "A History of The Georgia Tech Library." *The Georgia Librarian*, November 1986.

⁷² Unknown, "Monie A. Ferst," *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed October 29, 2013, <http://history.library.gatech.edu/items/show/12234>.

floor is a circulation core housing a bank of two elevators, two identical staircases, two bathrooms and a janitor's closet. The original drawings had three elevators, but a later discussion between Crosland and Robert and Company resulted in two elevators with the possibility of later expansion to three. The stairs are painted concrete and have metal handrails. On the two lowest floors, the Basement and Ground Floor, corridors and wall partitions subdivide spaces. On floors 1 through 6 spaces generally are open, divided by the column grid. Floors 1 through 6 have a few office or meeting room partitions. On the Seventh Floor a corridor surrounds the circulation core. A conference room, originally known as the First Room (named for a Tech benefactor) is located directly across from the elevator lobby (Figures 5-13, 5-14). Remaining spaces on this floor are windowless and house mechanical equipment or provide storage space. The wall finishes throughout the building vary. With the exception of the Basement and the 7th Floor all four sides of the circulation core are clad with polished travertine marble. A telephone niche is incorporated on the west side of the core on Floors 1-6. Most plaster and gypsum wallboard surfaces are covered with vinyl. This vinyl wall covering was produced by L. E. Carpenter Company and is original to the building.⁷³ Office partitions, original as well as later additions, are a combination of wood paneling and glass. Floors are mostly covered with linoleum, carpeting in some areas, and tiled in the bathrooms. Ceilings vary. Around the circulation core the ceiling is plastered, coved from the core and ends at the first column line adjacent to the core. Remaining ceilings are square, acoustical tiles, original to the building in most areas. Some areas have replacement tiles. A wood light rail runs around the circulation core above the travertine marble wall covering and appears original to the building. Also the plastered ceiling area has round recessed lights. Remaining lights are rectangular light panels incorporated into the acoustical ceiling tiles. Several additional light fixtures have been added throughout the building to accommodate modern use. Doors are typically wood. Special features for the Graduate Addition include individual study spaces and private lockers for graduate students. These are located on the perimeter walls of all four facades of most floors, utilizing floor space of the bump-outs. Some of the bump-outs house mechanical equipment.

Original Use

The flawless functionality of the Graduate Addition as well as the flow between the new addition and the existing library was a major concern of Crosland and the fact that the joining of the two occurred without having to close Price Gilbert Memorial Library is attributed to Crosland planning and management skills. As so well stated in the Dedication Brochure: "...Widely different in basic concept – one designed as an undergraduate facility featuring huge airy reading rooms and large expanses of glass walls, the other as a graduate facility emphasizing individual study in a dramatic highrise structure in which the red brick walls dominate, the two seem perfectly matched with entrance rotunda serving as a sparkly band and the bridges as a brilliant tiara."⁷⁴

The Crosland Tower was reserved for graduate studies and housed the following functions on these floors.

Basement: Photo studios and labs, Mechanical rooms

Ground Floor: Technical Processing Operation (acquisition, cataloging, binding, and data processing)(Figure 5-10)

Floor 1: information reference, graduate bibliographic collection, seminar room in the northwest corner

Floors 2-5: Technical Collections

⁷³ "Schedule for Vinyl Wall Coverings for Addition to Library Georgia Institute of Technology" Robert and Company Associates, Architect and Engineers, Atlanta, April 19, 1968.

⁷⁴ Invitation to the dedication of the Graduate Addition to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library, Friday, November 21, 1969 at two o'clock in the afternoon. Building and Grounds file, Georgia Institute of Technology Library and Information Center.

Floor 6 Special Collection, Government documents and technical reports, Patents and maps (Figure 5-12).

Floor 7 (Penthouse): Monie First Conference Room (Figures 5-13, 5-14)

The Graduate Addition did not have large reading rooms, but there were 92 built-in and 174 free-standing carrels, and more than fifty percent were single-seat study units (Figure 5-11). Around the walls were 1,290 book lockers, so that each graduate student would have a locker available to store materials needed on a long-term basis (Figure 5-11). Each floor had a typing room and the fifth floor had two seminar rooms. All woodwork in the offices, carrels, typing rooms and furniture was finished in walnut. The stacks were grey metal. All offices as well as the entire first floor were carpeted.⁷⁵ The four bridges provided an additional seven hundred square feet of library space on each floor and had small, intimate graduate student reading rooms on Floors 2 – 4.

Changes to the Building

According to the Campus Historic Preservation Plan Update (2009), there have been limited renovations and alterations to the building since it was completed in 1968. Mostly changes are limited to the interior and are minimal and reversible. The first floor elevator lobby and cafeteria space have curved counters as well as decorative geometrical multi-colored flooring, which are probably not original to the building. The first floor was originally carpeted. Floors 1 to 6 were originally open spaces with a few partitions for offices and seminar rooms, mostly in the northwest corner. It seems some of these office partitions have been enlarged or changed, but kept in similar style, mostly glass and wood partition walls. Some office partitions have been added. These changes and additions seem sensitive to the historic fabric and compliment the original design. Also, currently there are no window covering on the windows, but a rail, with operable mechanism still exist and appears to be an integral part of the original window design.

Overall, the building retains essentially all of its original architectural and historic character. The integrity of both the exterior and interior has been preserved. Almost all of the original, character-defining architectural elements remain, such as: the exterior features and finishes, including travertine marble elements, brickwork, metal windows and doors; and the interior features and finishes including linoleum floors, acoustical tile ceilings, wood doors, window seats, study cubicles, office cubes, stairs and railings. Also most of the private and free standing carrels as well as the metal lockers and stacks are still existing.

Significance and Recommendation for Future Treatment

The Campus Historic Preservation Plan Update (2009) categorizes the Crosland Tower as “Institutional Value Category 2 (out of four)– Consideration for Long-Term Preservation,” the second highest category of significance, indicating the building is worthy of consideration for long-term preservation and investment. According to the Plan, a “Category 2” building: “possess architectural or aesthetic value but are not central to defining or maintaining the character of the institution; are good but not outstanding examples of architectural styles, engineering methods, artistic values or landscape architecture; can contribute to the interpretation of the history, development, or tradition of the institution but are not necessary to that interpretation: Have some potential for continued or adaptive use and are valued by the institution in defining the historic, architectural or cultural character of the Institution” and “can be adaptively used to meet the Institute’s educational mission.”⁷⁶

⁷⁵ Section 4, Facility Plan. Invitation to the dedication of the Graduate Addition to the Price Gilbert Memorial Library, Friday, November 21, 1969 at two o’clock in the afternoon. Building and Grounds file, Georgia Institute of Technology Library and Information Center.

⁷⁶ Lord Aeck Sargent. The Jaeger Company. New South Associates. “Campus Historic Preservation Plan Update, 2009.” Prepared for Georgia Institute of Technology.

The Crosland Tower is significant in the context of architecture. The library addition was designed by the well known Atlanta architect Ed Moulthrop, who was chief designer of the Atlanta architectural firm Robert and Company. This firm designed several buildings on the campus of Georgia Tech. The Crosland Tower is important in the context of Robert and Company as well as Ed Moulthrop's body of architectural work, given their national reputation as architects.

In 2009, the Campus Historic Preservation Plan Update rated the condition of the Crosland Tower as "B – Minor Defect," which indicated, "The building is intact and structurally sound, with few or no cosmetic imperfections, and needs no repair or only minor repair and/or routine maintenance." A subsequent **Facilities Condition Assessment** commissioned by Georgia Tech in 2011 gives a more comprehensive up to date accounting of the current condition of the building.

Given the significance of the building – both historically and architecturally – it is recommended that any future rehabilitation work should be consistent with the recommendations described in "Part 3: Treatment and Use of Historic Resources" of the Campus Historic Preservation Plan Update. The anticipated treatment for the Crosland tower building is categorized as "Extensive Rehabilitation". As defined in the Campus Historic Preservation plan, "rehabilitation" acknowledges the need to alter and add to a historic property to meet continuing or changing uses while retaining the property's historic character. This should include retaining original materials and design elements to the greatest extent possible.

Figures 5.0

Figure 5-1: Georgia Institute of Technology Campus map: Crosland Tower, 241 Bobby Dodd Way, Map Grid E6, Building 100.



Figure 5-2: November 4, 1966 “Site of new addition, dirt lot” VA412. “Gilbert Memorial Library” *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-3: Construction photo, February 1, 1967, VA397. “Gilbert Memorial Library” *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-4: Construction photo, April 24, 1967. "Gilbert Memorial Graduate Addition" VA410. "Gilbert Memorial Library" *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-5: Construction photo, August 2, 1967, VA400. "Gilbert Memorial Library" *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-6: Construction photo, August 26, 1967, VA402. "Gilbert Memorial Library" *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 2-7: Construction Photo, November 12, 1967, VA404



Figure 5-8: Ca 1970, Completed Crosland Tower, VA295. “Gilbert Memorial Library” *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.

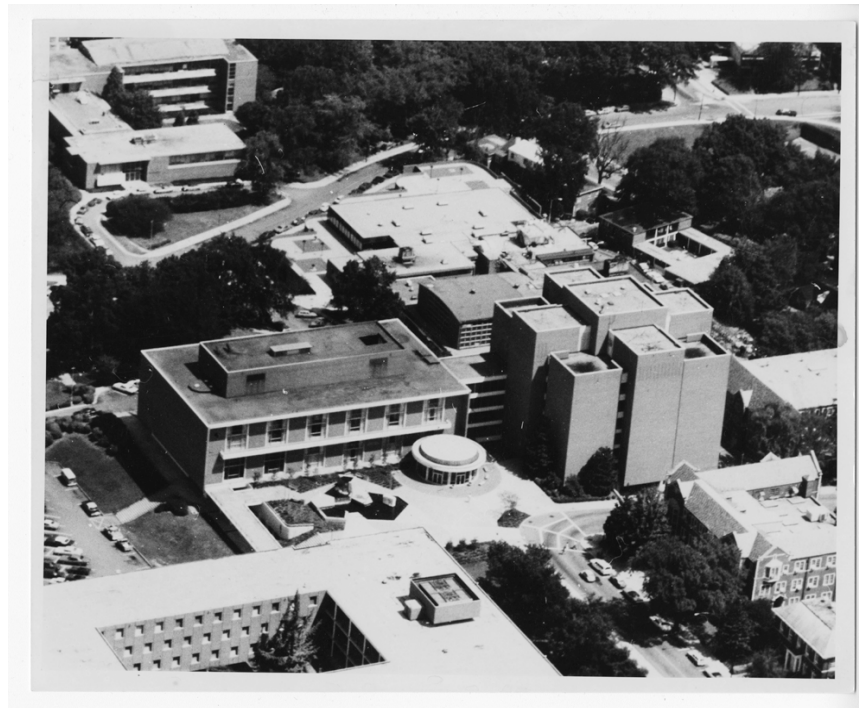


Figure 5-9: Aerial photo, VA277. “Gilbert Memorial Library” *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-10: "Technical processing room, ground floor, with employees, ca 1968." VA409-117 "Gilbert Memorial Library" *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-11: "Students studying at carrels, lockers visible, ca 1968. VAu409-134. "Gilbert Memorial Library" *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-12: “6th floor, technical reports collection, ca. 1968.” VAU409-135. “Gilbert Memorial Library” *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-13: “The Ferst Room, VA 438.” “Gilbert Memorial Library” *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.



Figure 5-14: “The Ferst Room”, VA 439. “Gilbert Memorial Library” *Georgia Tech History Digital Portal*, accessed Oct 29, 2013.