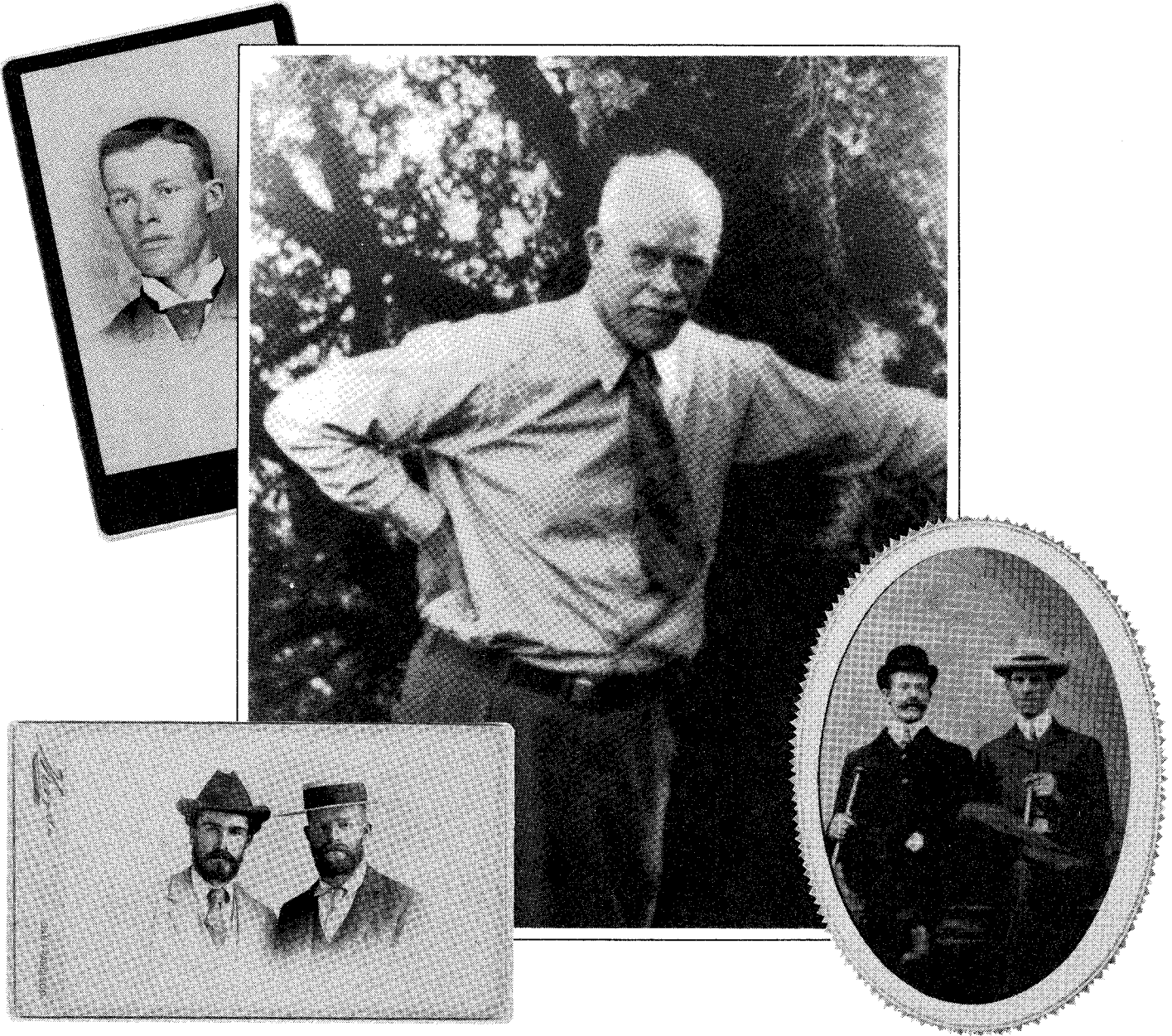


Sandstone and Tile



Dr. Tom Williams, '97
Early P.A. physician, Stanford supporter

COVER: (Center) Early Palo Alto physician Dr. Tom Williams, '97, photographed at his cabin on the Williams family ranch overlooking La Honda. (Clockwise from bottom right) Williams poses for a funny portrait with his good friend Ray Lyman Wilbur (right) during a visit at Coney Island in 1901; Williams and friend Norman B. Scofield (right), a member of the Class of '95; portrait of Williams as a teenager, taken in 1890 or 1891

FACING PAGE: Dr. Williams in his Autocar, which replaced the bicycle and horse and buggy he earlier used to visit patients

Photos courtesy Rhona Williams

Thomas M. Williams, M.D. *A Man of Many Firsts*

by Frederic O. Glover



Thomas Marion Williams, Stanford Class of '97, was a man of many firsts.

He was Stanford's first roving center of the Walter Camp-coached football team, which was undefeated in 1895.

He was one of Palo Alto's first physicians and was the first to construct a building for his private practice.

He was the first and longtime chairman of the Stanford Athletic Board in days when that organization did a good deal to change the face of the campus.

The first man he met at Stanford was David Starr Jordan, the University's first president, whom he met under unusual circumstances.

Starting to walk down Palm Drive on his first visit to the campus, young Williams was picked up by a genial, husky man who was driving a surrey.

On arrival at the Quad, Williams offered the driver a dime as a tip, only to learn that his benefactor was President Jordan. This was the beginning of a long friendship.

Williams arrived at Stanford almost by accident and not without difficulty.

Born July 16, 1871, in Duo, West Virginia, son of Albert G. and Elizabeth Donnally Williams, he grew up

on the family homestead. This was a large and isolated piece of land. The house was nine miles from the entrance gate.

The biography of Dr. Williams in the Palo Alto Community Book reports that: "As a husky boy, he could survey, throw a bull by the horns, break a team of oxen, and accompanied only by his horse and dog, drive a hundred head of cattle 30 miles through the forests to Ronceverte, the nearest railway station."

Williams was educated by teachers brought into the home. His first formal schooling was at the Greenbriar Male Academy in Lewisburg, and then later at the University of West Virginia, in Morgantown.

At the university he had a roommate who broke up with his girlfriend and because of this rift decided to go west to Stanford. He wanted Williams to go with him and Williams decided to do so.

After they were both accepted at Stanford by correspondence, the roommate made up with his girl and decided to stay at Morgantown. Williams decided to go to Stanford anyway.

There is a family mystery about his arrival in Palo Alto. He lost all his money on the trip, and that was all he would tell the family about this misadventure, although

his daughter, Rhona Williams, recalls that there was always a twinkle in his eye when he mentioned the mishap.

Williams was fortunate that the banker he went to for help, George Parkinson, cashier of the Bank of Palo Alto, was a fellow West Virginian. He soon made arrangements for the young student to have some money in his pocket.

At Stanford, Williams found himself rebuffed by the fraternity he had joined at Morgantown because they considered him "a rube, didn't play football, and didn't spark the girls," as Rhona Williams recalls.

These were defects he set out to rectify, although he never joined a Stanford fraternity.

A 5-foot-11, 200-pounder, Williams is remembered in Don Liebendorfer's *The Color of Life Is Red* as the player who recovered a fumble on the U.C. 8-yard line. This led to the lone Stanford score in the 6-6 tie that was the only blemish on the 1897 football team's record.

President Jordan, in *Days of a Man*, recalls Williams' physical prowess in his account of a zoological expedition that President and Mrs. Jordan undertook to Mazatlan late in 1894. Young Williams was one of five Stanford students who went along as volunteer helpers.

Jordan wrote:

"One day as we were drawing a seine on the beach, idlers crowded around and began to grab the fish. Tom Williams, redheaded, muscular football center, seized a young fellow by the shoulders and swung him about in every direction, thus effectually dispersing the mob. From that time forward, hangers-on had a wholesome fear of our gringo colorado, 'red yankee.'"

Williams was known to his fellow football players as "Heff," a reference to Heffelfinger, the great Yale All-American.

On the Mazatlan trip a pudding laced with liquor was served at dinner. Mrs. Jordan, a teetotaler like her husband, pushed her dessert aside. Williams was late for dinner, but the four other students pushed their desserts aside, too, not wishing to offend Mrs. Jordan.

When Williams arrived belatedly, he noticed the discarded desserts and ate all of them himself.

Mrs. Jordan's explanation to the other students was along these lines: "He's from the country, where that sort of dessert is not unusual."

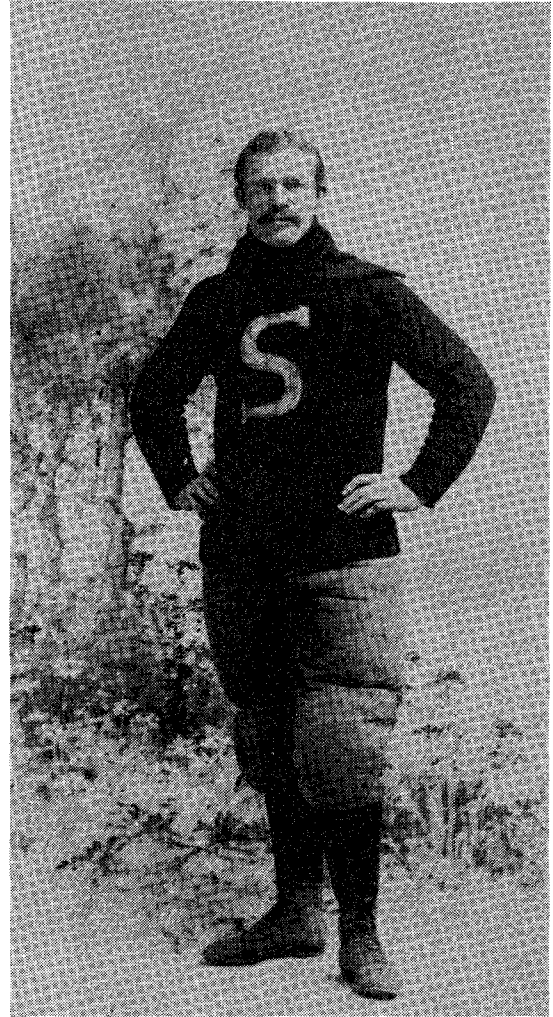
Probably as a result of the scientific ties established with Jordan during the Mazatlan expedition, Williams spent the summer of 1895 on a fisheries project at Payette Lake in Idaho.

During Easter break of 1896, Williams rode by bicycle to Pasadena to visit his classmate, Dora Estey Moody, in whom he had long been interested.

She was born in 1874 in Brattleboro, Vermont. Her mother died when she was a baby, and her grandmother came to live with her father to raise the child.

The family moved to Pasadena and Dora attended the University of the Pacific in San Jose, and then transferred to Stanford, where she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. She met her future husband during a Zoology Club outing to the La Honda area.

On graduation from Stanford, Williams decided to do his medical work at Columbia University in New York.



Williams was roving center on the '96 and '97 football teams

Although his mind was on medicine, his athletic prowess led to his being "kidnapped" to play football for Columbia. So he won a Block C to keep his Block S company.

While at Columbia, he earned still another nickname: "Ma." This was bestowed on him by fellow medical students who saw a young black child hold up his arms to the young Californian and call out, "Ma!"

Williams earned his doctorate in medicine at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1901 and served his internship for the next two years at the New York Post-Graduate Hospital.

President Ray Lyman Wilbur in his memoirs mentions: "My old friend, Dr. Thomas Marion Williams ('Heff' as we used to call him during his football days at Stanford) was an intern in New York and went around the city with me for two solid days showing me all over the hospitals and the city."

In 1901, during his residency, Dr. Williams was married to Dora Moody in Columbus, Ohio, in the home of Dora's aunt.

On their return to the Bay Area, Dr. Williams practiced for a few months in San Francisco. They moved to Palo Alto in 1904.



Dora Estey Moody Williams in her wedding dress, 1901

The couple's first investment that year was to purchase 35 acres on the west side of the Coast Range overlooking La Honda and the Pacific. There, next to a redwood grove, they built a simple cabin where they began a lifelong practice of entertaining numerous friends, including many Stanford faculty members.

Dr. Williams began his Palo Alto medical practice from his first home, located on Bryant Street. Later he opened an office upstairs on Ramona Street. In 1914 he built an office building on the corner of Hamilton and Bryant streets.

Following World War I, Dr. Williams took in as a partner Dr. Charles Barnett, who had served with Williams as a member of a Stanford volunteer Navy unit during the war. When Dr. Barnett decided to return to San Francisco to teach, Dr. Russel V.A. Lee joined as a partner.

Later, Dr. Williams and Dr. Lee were joined by Dr. E.F. Roth, a surgeon; Dr. Esther Clark, a pediatrician, Dr. Blake Wilbur, surgeon son of Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur; Dr. Lee Niebel, general practitioner; Dr. Milton Saier and Dr. Harold Sox, internists; and Dr. Robert Dunn, obstetrics/gynecology. This was the nucleus of what later became the Palo Alto Clinic.

While Dr. Williams was not a partner in the Palo Alto Clinic when it was organized and established in a building erected at 300 Homer Avenue, it was the practice he developed with his partners that was the basis of the Palo Alto Clinic.

When he began his practice in Palo Alto, Dr. Williams visited his patients by bicycle. Later, as his practice grew, he used a horse and buggy. And then, when automobiles became available, he purchased an Autocar.

In 1908, Dr. and Mrs. Williams took their two daughters, Elizabeth (Betty) and Rhona, to Europe to visit hospitals and doctors in England and Germany.

On his return, Dr. Williams stopped in New York City for several months to revisit hospitals, medical schools, and doctors.

He left his practice in the hands of Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, and Dr. Williams returned the favor when Dr. Wilbur took his family to Europe.

During the Wilburs 1909 trip to Europe, Dr. Williams and his family moved into the Wilbur campus home, which was then located on Lasuen, next to the old Post Office. Later Dean of Women Mary Yost lived in this duplex.

Rhona Williams recalls being wrapped up in a comforter and taken out on the Wilbur house balcony to view Halley's Comet. However, she could not distinguish it from other heavenly bodies, she now admits.

She also remembers that a yellow string, tied around the trunk of a redwood tree that stood between the Wilbur house and the Post Office, marked how high the children were allowed to climb.

In Dr. Wilbur's memoirs, he recalls how Dr. Williams worked with him on an outbreak of botulism in a Stanford sorority. It turned out that the women's illness stemmed from two cans of home-cooked beans that had been sent to one of the women by her mother.

Dr. Williams treated seven of the patients and reported his observations at the annual meeting of the California State Medical Society in 1914.

His pioneering work on botulism is mentioned at some length in articles by Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur and Dr. William Ophuls in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, October 1914, and by Dr. Ernest C. Dickson, also of the Stanford Medical School faculty, in an article on botulism published in 1918 by the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York.

Dr. Williams did research on polio as well and read a paper on his research before the April 1912 meeting of the California Medical Society.

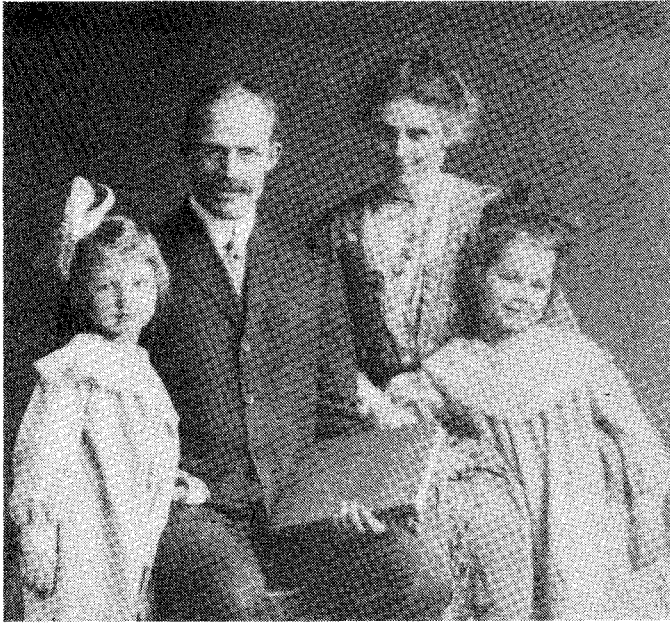
Dr. Williams' and Dr. Wilbur's association went far beyond medical collaboration.

Between 1913 and 1941, with the exception of the 1917-18 war years, they took vacations together in what became known as the Wooley Camp Association.

Dr. Williams maintained a log of these summer trips, which are also reported in some detail in the chapter "Casting Upstream" in Dr. Wilbur's memoirs.

Initially the fishing and hunting party was composed of Dr. Wilbur, Dr. Williams, and Timothy Hopkins, then a Stanford trustee.

Rhona Williams recalls her father telling her that Mr. Hopkins was dressed in a rather elegant sports outfit on



The Williams family, from left, Rhona, Dr. Williams, wife Dora, and Elizabeth

the first trip, but soon learned to wear clothes better adapted to roughing it.

Later the group was expanded to include Fred H. Smith, Palo Alto businessman (Smith's on the Circle) who was an expert mechanic, a skill that was very useful in auto trips on rough roads. Smith became the long-standing president of the Wooley Camp Association after its incorporation and was a central figure in its operation.

Dr. Wilbur traditionally did the cooking. Fred Smith was "second girl."

Dr. Wilbur, in his memoirs, comments that some of the campers "complained about the long and arduous exercise they had to put in on the woodpile — particularly Tom Williams and Timothy Hopkins."

Rhona Williams recalls her father telling her that Timothy Hopkins was fond of telling off-color stories.

When such a story was in the offing, Dr. Wilbur would ask the young boys in the party — often Wilbur, Hoover, or Mitchell offspring — to go get something, so they wouldn't hear the story.

But they had heard enough, because Rhona's father reported that Dwight Wilbur sometimes returned to ask Hopkins about the end of the story.

Liquor was served in post-Prohibition days, but discreetly. Dr. Wilbur didn't want the young people to see any drinking, which was done behind a big tree.

Rhona remembers her father reporting that Dr. Wilbur would signal the drinking time by saying, "Men, it's time to go behind the tree."

The camp was located on a homestead in the Siskiyou Mountains, out of Somes Bar and not far from Sawyer's Bar. Herbert Hoover did the engineering work on the camp's log cabin.

Dr. Williams' log of the camp trips shows the close ties between the Williams, Hoover, and J. Pearce Mitchell

families, but it also includes the names of many other distinguished Stanford personalities: 1922, Dr. Alonzo Taylor, director of the Food Research Institute; 1928, Profs. Guido and Charles "Daddy" Marx, engineers; 1930, George Culver, longtime dean of men; 1931, Dr. Robert Eckles Swain, professor of chemistry and acting president of the University when Dr. Wilbur was in Washington, D.C., as secretary of the interior; and in 1938, Paul H. Davis, general secretary of the University.

This is just a sampling of the camp participants listed in the log, but it is clear that the camp played an important if informal part in Stanford history, a sort of low-key, non-luxury camp where important men met yearly to fish and hunt and, one suspects, to talk sometimes about education and the future of Stanford University and the country.

Dr. Williams' life touched Stanford in many ways other than through his close ties to President Wilbur.

On March 24, 1905, he was one of the honorary pallbearers, representing the Stanford Alumni Association, at Jane Stanford's funeral.

He served as president of the Alumni Association in 1909-10.

He was the first chairman of the newly organized Board of Athletic Control, which President Wilbur set up in 1917, and after war service, Dr. Williams continued in the chairmanship from 1918 to 1928. These were years in which the Department of Athletics made a major imprint on the campus.

In J. Pearce Mitchell's book, *Stanford University — 1916-41*, he points out that in 1920-21, the Board of Athletic Control "began to look ahead. Some expansion could be undertaken."

While the results of the long-range planning cannot be attributed solely to Dr. Williams, it was under his leadership that the board constructed a new basketball pavilion, seating 3,000; a football stadium, seating 60,000; Branner Hall, a men's dormitory, which it was until World War II when women used it temporarily (the dorm has since served both men and women); a baseball stadium that remains one of the best college diamonds in



Dr. Williams at his desk

the country; a new gymnasium for men and one for women; and new tennis courts.

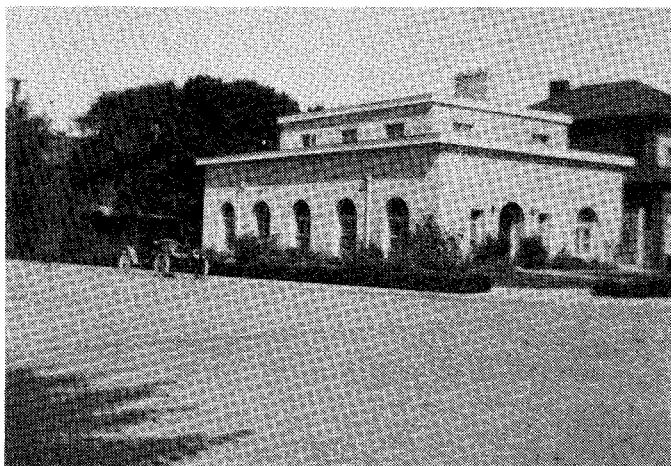
In all, \$2 million in Athletic Department revenues during this period were used for permanent University improvements.

Dr. Williams was board chairman when arrangements were made for Gaetano Merola to put on grand opera in the football stadium in June 1922. The stadium was rented to Merola, who served as producer and manager and emerged with a large financial deficit that fell on him and his backers.

Perhaps the loss was due to the charitable nature of the First Annual Music Festival and Grand Opera, as the event was named. Charitable beneficiaries were listed as the Fund for Enlargement of Organ in Memorial Church, Home for Convalescent Children on Stanford Campus, Stanford University Endowment Fund, and Stanford Clinic in San Francisco.

The festival included a presentation of *Pagliacci* and of *Faust*, and two performances of *Carmen*, as well as a Sunday afternoon orchestral and vocal concert of 100 musicians. The College of the Pacific *A Cappella* Choir was a feature of the concert.

The Board of Athletic Control had to pay a prima donna's salary when she refused to appear for the last act unless she was paid. The board was not reimbursed. This no doubt established the board as being the only organization of its kind to lose money on a real prima donna — the singing kind.



Dr. Williams' medical office building on the corner of Hamilton and Bryant streets in Palo Alto

Rhona Williams remembers seeing Merola conduct *Faust* in the Stadium on a spectacular moonlit night.

It was Dr. Williams who first conceived of the Indian as a symbol for the Stanford football teams.

In *Stanford University, 1916-41*, Mitchell recounts how Dr. Williams had sculptor A. Phimister Proctor design an Indian head to be put on the teams' blankets. Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Proctor embroidered the design and helped to get it sewn on the blankets. This was done in 1923.

As Mitchell wrote, "The symbol, however, did not 'take' at that time. It was revived in 1930 and officially adopted by the student body."



Williams wears a Scottish uniform while serving at the Stanford Naval Base Hospital in Strathpeffer, Scotland, in 1917-1918

The fate of the Indian symbol, now officially discarded by the University, is recent history.

Dr. Williams' service on the Board of Athletic Control was interrupted by World War I.

In 1917 he was commissioned as a lieutenant in the medical corps of the U.S. Naval Reserve and served with the Stanford Naval Base Hospital in Strathpeffer, Scotland. This was a base staffed entirely by Stanford volunteers, doctors, and nurses.

It was one of these volunteers, Dr. Barnett, who returned to practice briefly with Dr. Williams before re-joining the Medical School faculty in San Francisco.

Dr. A. Walter Hewlett, later Dr. Wilbur's successor as dean of the Medical School, was another of the volunteers. (Dr. Hewlett was the father of William Hewlett, co-founder of Hewlett-Packard.)

Dr. Williams served as medical adviser for Stanford from 1909 to 1930 and as a special consultant in surgery to the Men's Health Service until 1941.

He described his service as follows: "My practice was limited to corns, ingrowing toe nails, falling hair, and every ailment of the human body, internal and external."

Besides his practice, he found time for much public service.

He served on the Palo Alto City Council from 1923 to 1925, when he resigned to go with his family to Europe for a year.

He was active with President Wilbur and many other local citizens in constructing the Palo Alto City Hospital, which stood on Embarcadero Road between Waverley and Cowper streets (the site now of a lawn bowling green). This facility later was replaced by a hospital in the Stanford arboretum near El Camino Real.

Dr. Williams also was active in presidential campaigns.

He was a strong supporter of Theodore Roosevelt and, of course, of Herbert Hoover throughout many years. He was a delegate to the Republican convention that nominated Alf Landon.

Dr. Williams was an active member of the Bohemian Club and with Dr. Mitchell and University Comptroller Almon E. Roth founded the Sempervirens Camp, which had a strong Stanford tinge in its early membership, a characteristic the camp maintains to this day.

Rhona Williams still lives in Palo Alto in the family home built in 1907. The house is full of memorabilia of West Virginia, Vermont, and Stanford days, and of European trips, the records of a vigorous and active family with a keen interest in history.

Rhona, A.B. in biological sciences in 1929, is the last of this Stanford-centered family.

Her sister, Elizabeth, A.B. in graphic arts, also in 1929, died in 1971.

Dora Williams died in 1948. Dr. Williams predeceased his wife by one year.

In his closing years, Dr. Williams wrote the following:

"And when I am gone to join my Maker, don't picture me as garbed in white wearing golden slippers and walking on golden streets. Just dress me in khaki and overalls, surrounded by all my family, the redwoods, and a group of old pals on the brow of the Sierra Morena, looking westward to the sea and all eternity; have the broiler going and a big, juicy, pre-war beef steak ready for serving.

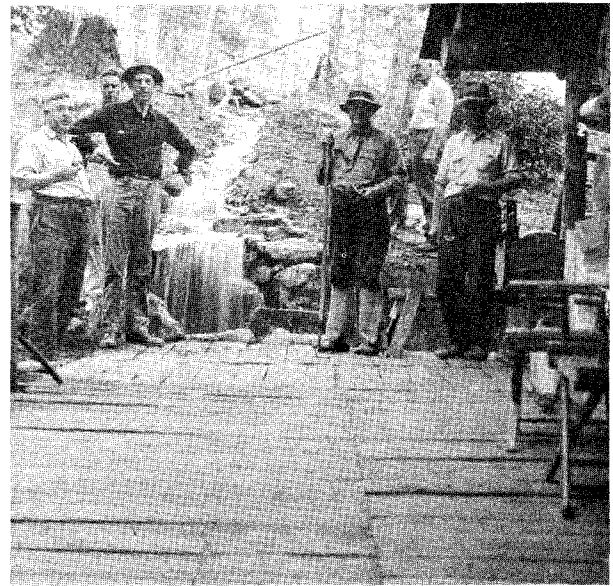
"Picture me as enjoying life as always here on earth to the limit and to the end, accepting things as they came and feeling that I was having more than my share of health and friends.

"If the hereafter can mean as much, I ask for no more."

Ellen Coit Elliott, wife of Orrin Leslie Elliott, the University's first secretary and registrar, wrote a very perceptive eulogy after Dr. Williams' death March 20, 1947:

"The account of his life and activities during his long connection with this community left out something — his charm, the delightful half-drawl of his deliberate speech, his humor, the warmth and generosity of his temperament which somehow seemed to go with his big frame and ruddy vitality.

"We knew him not as athlete or administrator, but as the physician whose skill and care brought the family happily through its trials for many years. He put on no 'bedside manner' but came to us with a sympathetic and responsive strength expressed in the cheerful, friendly way natural to him. . . ."



Wooley Camp, located in the Siskiyou mountains, where many celebrated Stanford and Palo Alto figures spent summer vacations. Here, from left, J. Pearce Mitchell, Ray Wilbur Jr., Ray Lyman Wilbur, Herbert Hoover, Tom Williams, and Fred Smith pose for the camera in 1934, at the conclusion of Hoover's project to divert part of a creek by the cabin

Fish chowder — Wooley camp style

Any good fish, preferably steelhead, trout, or striped bass, cooked by boiling or in steam chamber until the skin and bones can be removed easily. Divide into pieces about the size of a finger joint and set to one side.

Cut up an onion into small pieces, about the size of a thumbnail, and cook in the frying pan with a handful of bacon cut the size of a knuckle joint. Cover up the onion with a pot lid while cooking so that it will not take too long or lose too much of the flavor.

Cut up several potatoes, varying in size and number with the size of the fish, into pieces about the size of an ordinary toe joint. Put the potatoes on to boil, add the cooked onion and bacon, together with a small amount of butter if available, salt to taste, cook until the potatoes are soft; then add the fish and a small amount of condensed milk.

Finish in a double boiler and serve hot when everybody is ready. If you can have everything cooked complete just at the time the meal is served, the flavor is much better.

If a little color is desired, add ½ can of tomatoes.

—Recipe from a compilation of documents about Wooley Camp prepared by Ray Lyman Wilbur Jr. in 1983



Bronze sculpture of the Stanford family briefly resided in the middle of the Inner Quad before being moved to Memorial Court in 1901

Society, others debate future of family sculpture

What to do with the bronze Victorian monument of the Stanford family?

Citing history, some want it retrieved from storage and placed on a tall pedestal at the center of Memorial Court, the spot it occupied from 1901 until University trustees ordered it moved in 1915.

The Stanford Historical Society, citing earlier precedent, opposes that location and instead suggests installing the statue along the west side of Memorial Court so it will not interrupt the view from Palm Drive to Memorial Church.

The vista was a unique and important element of Frederick Law Olmsted's original design for the University, which has been described as "one of the most brilliant creations of American campus planning" by art Prof. Paul Turner, an expert on the subject.

Although rarely cited as a great Victorian sculpture, most agree the representation of Leland and Jane Stanford and their son, Leland Jr., should be rescued from the Ryan Laboratory Building, where it has been safely stored since vandals sawed off one of Leland Jr.'s thumbs in 1978. (The thumb was repaired by a sculptor as a project of the Historical Society.)

Discussion of its future location is generating controversy, but not to the extent it did in 1915 when students started a petition drive opposing the trustee decision to move the bronze from Memorial Court to the Museum.

In 1915, the *Daily Palo Alto* editorialized that the statue should remain where Jane Stanford put it, but *The Stanford Alumnus*, official organ of the Alumni Association, supported a return to the "uninterrupted vista . . . to the Memorial Church, which was the central point of the University design."

Several months before removing the monument, trustees lifted the ban that had kept automobiles — from the time

they were introduced — off University Avenue, now called Palm Drive. With the main drive open to all traffic, "the church once more becomes the central object in the first view of the University," the *Alumnus* reported in December 1914.

Trustees also improved the vista in late 1914, according to the *Alumnus*, by removing the 30-foot-tall statue of Faith that stood in the center of the Oval. The removal had been recommended in spring 1914 by Olmsted Brothers, successors to Frederick Law Olmsted.

The recent debate goes back more than 15 years and is now gaining momentum because of interest in the monument sparked by the University's centennial.

In addition to Memorial Court, suggested locations include the Oval, the In-

ner Quad courtyard, the front of the Quad, the front of Meyer Library (replacing Balzac, a Rodin bronze, when it returns to Southern California), any of the small Quad courtyards, and the large lawn near McCullough Building.

The family monument dates from 1900, when American artist Larkin G. Mead executed it in Italy on commission from Jane Stanford.

The bronze monument depicts Leland Jr. holding a half-open scroll that reads: "Dedicated to science and the good of humanity." At his right stands Sen. Stanford, with one arm resting on the boy's back. Mrs. Stanford kneels on the other side of her son, with a hand on his shoulder. The figures are a bit larger than life-size, with Leland Jr. measuring about 6 feet.

Mead's tribute to the Stanfords initially was installed on a medium-height marble pedestal in the middle of the Inner Quad Courtyard in November 1900, apparently while Mrs. Stanford was traveling in Europe. As the story goes, she disliked the location when she saw it. After several months, officials moved the monument to the middle of the then-unfinished Memorial Court.

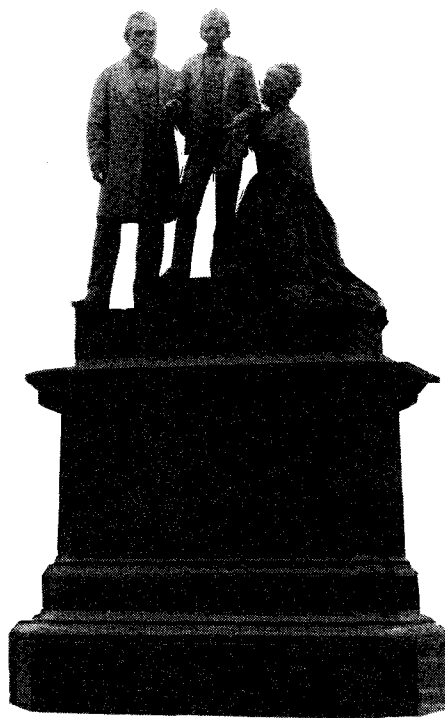
In fall 1902, an 8-foot-tall pedestal of polished granite atop three steps was substituted for the shorter marble base.

Then in February 1915 — a decade after Mrs. Stanford's death — University trustees decided to move the work to the Museum's main rotunda. Later it resided in an alcove off the Museum lobby.

Around 1967, Museum officials moved it to the porch of the Art Gallery, where it stayed until the 1978 vandalism.

Panel on Outdoor Art

Last spring, potential sites again were discussed by the Panel on Outdoor Art, a subcommittee of the University Committee on Land and Building Development

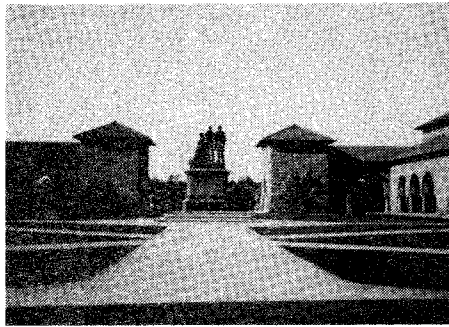


(UCLBD), appointed annually by President Donald Kennedy to make recommendations about statuary and other outdoor art.

Representing the panel, art Prof. Albert Elsen in June sent a memorandum to the committee asking it to select from two alternatives.

One option, Elsen said, was to replace the Stanford monument on a tall pedestal in the center of Memorial Court. The Rodin sculptures now in the court — two of the Burghers of Calais — then would be withdrawn to the Rodin Sculpture Garden.

The other option was a spot in the Inner Quad courtyard not far from the planted circle near Building 1 (the first circle to the left as one enters the Inner Quad from Memorial Court). Elsen suggested placing the group on a pedestal about 10 to 15 feet west of the circle, with the figures facing west toward Physics Lecture Hall.



If this were done, the two Rodin sculptures would remain in Memorial Court and three additional Burghers of Calais now sited around the Quad would join them in a symmetrical pattern.

Under this plan, Elsen would place the Burgher now near History Corner at the center of the court, he said.

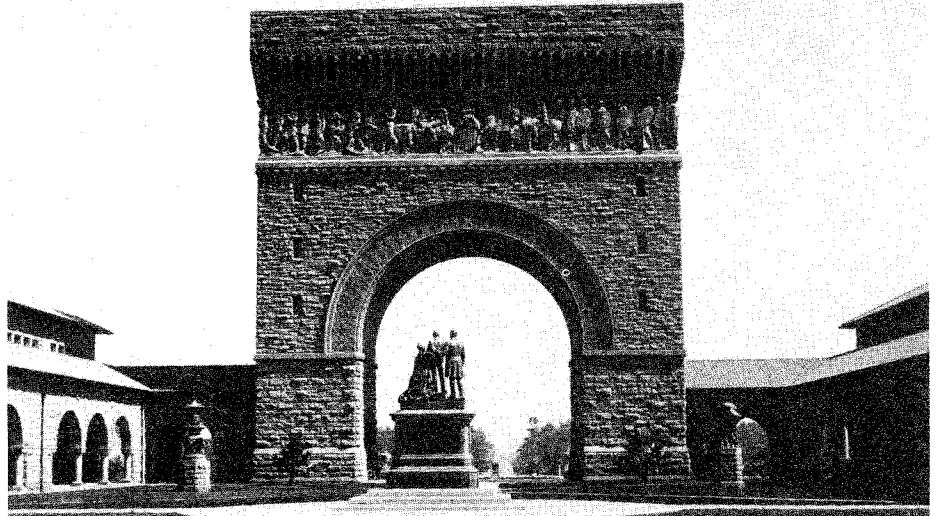
In either case, a pedestal for the family group should be about 7 feet high, Elsen said in an interview.

As early as 1975, Elsen tried to persuade University officials to move the monument from the Art Gallery porch to the center of Memorial Court.

Before leaving campus in September for a six-month European sabbatical, Elsen criticized the Historical Society for not supporting the Memorial Court center site. He told Stanford News Service that the Society's preference for a side location in the court "is a bad idea," and he called the group "antihistorical."

But he also said he now prefers the Inner Quad plan. "Now that I have the Burghers of Calais, I favor that solution," while most members of the panel "tend to favor putting it in Memorial Court," he added.

Other members of Outdoor Art last



(Above) Before the 1906 earthquake, Memorial Arch dominates Memorial Court and the Stanford family monument. But without the arch after the quake, the sculpture's scale seems very different (left)

spring were Profs. Nathan Oliveira, Wanda Corn, Carl Djerassi, and Ted Geballe. The panel is staffed by John Hughes of the Provost's Office. University Planning Director Phil Williams serves ex officio.

In July, UCLBD strongly backed the idea of displaying the statue but declined to endorse either of the recommendations. It referred the matter back to Outdoor Art, requesting that the panel seek opinion from the Historical Society, then submit a new proposal.

Whatever proposal is made by Outdoor Art or endorsed by UCLBD is advisory only. The final site decision will be made by President Donald Kennedy.

Historical Society's position

The 1987-88 Panel on Outdoor Art has yet to convene and consider the issue. The Historical Society, on the other hand, prepared its position during late summer, reaffirming the position it took in the early 1980s. The Society recommends:

- That Memorial Court is the sculpture's most appropriate location;
- That the sculpture be sited at the middle of the western side of the court, facing eastward, under the section of arcade on which is carved the words "Memorial Court";
- That the pedestal's height be governed by aesthetic considerations and be determined by use of a mockup of the statue; and
- That a prickly hedge be planted around the base of the pedestal to discourage vandalism.

Among other sites considered by the Society were the narrow spaces on each side of Memorial Church, the center of the Oval, the Inner Quad planted circle near Building 1, and the lawn in Lomita Mall east of McCullough Building.

The statement goes on to say that the Society's board of directors "recognized the cogency of arguments for accuracy in historical restoration as well as the claim that in this narrow context the statue should occupy a central position of honor."

However, the Society "feels strongly that aesthetic and practical reasons dictate" the side location in Memorial Court, "where it [the monument] will not interfere with the view through the central Inner Quad arch to the Church facade — a view that is one of the favorites of artists and photographers; of tourists; and of those of us who, like the Historical Society Board, treasure the beauty of Memorial Court and its surroundings."

The central location "may have been appropriate when there was a massive arch at the entrance of Memorial Court," but it would now "block a memorable vista, a stunning one at night when the front of the church is lighted," the statement says.

Whatever location ultimately is chosen, two questions remain: How much will it cost to build a pedestal and install the monument and who will pay for it?

—Karen Bartholomew

Dining center honors Christine Ricker

Approximately 100 oldtimers, including several former hashers and a number of Historical Society members, gathered July 9 to celebrate the naming of the Christine Ricker Dining and Performance Center.

The dining hall and performance center at Sterling Quadrangle in Governor's Corner was named for the woman who directed the work of about 10,000 student hashers during her nearly 30 years as director of the Food Service.

Ricker was a charter member of the Historical Society.

Governor's Corner opened as an 800-bed dormitory complex for undergraduates in 1982. Its component houses were named for deceased faculty and staff who made significant contributions to undergraduate education dating back to the beginning of the University.

Officials left the dining facility unnamed so it later could honor the legendary Miss Ricker. When she died Jan. 19, 1986, at the age of 90, she left the majority of her estate to the University as a scholarship fund with a preference to hashers.

Maxine Anderson, who worked for Ricker and later succeeded her as Food Service director, told those attending the celebration that hasher is a "term of endearment" unique to Stanford describing

student workers in the Food Service.

By the time Ricker retired in 1958, she directed the efforts of 400 hashers serving a total of more than 2.3 million meals annually.

Ricker came to Stanford in 1922, Historical Society board member Rosamond Bacon explained, after becoming friends with a California woman she met on a steamer to France. Ricker grew up in Boston and attended Simmons College.

In 1930, she was named director of the Food Service, operating the Old Union dining facilities and numerous other dining halls scattered around campus.

In the early 1930s, she became a close friend of future president J.E. Wallace Sterling and his wife, Ann. Sterling was studying for his doctorate in history and his wife worked for Ricker as director of the Roble dining room.

Norm Robinson, acting dean of student affairs, said Ricker's early connection with the Sterlings made it "particularly appropriate" that the center, which is in the Sterling Quadrangle, be named in her honor.

Historical Society Vice President Bob Butler recounted that Ricker employed many athletes as hashers, including the "whole backfield of the modern T-formation."

Landmark status for Sacramento House

When Leland Stanford purchased the Shelton C. Fogus mansion on Sacramento's Eighth and N streets for \$8,000 in 1861, newspapers called it "the most perfect specimen of a residence in this state" and "the handsomest house in Sacramento."

Last June, the U.S. Department of the Interior listened — and designated the Stanford House a National Historical Landmark, citing its colorful history and architectural characteristics that make it "exceptional for its era in the pioneer West."

For Dorothy Regnery, a founding member of the Historical Society who voluntarily prepared the papers for the nomination, the act was another milestone in her 14-year quest to preserve and restore the stately mansion.

"The Stanford house in Sacramento — a stone's throw from the State Capitol and shouldered by modern, high-rise state office buildings — remains a symbolic bridge to an old and elegant era," she writes in *An American Treasure: The Stanford House in Sacramento*, published by the Historical Society and

mailed to members during the summer.

After Leland Stanford's death in Palo Alto in 1891, Mrs. Stanford gave the house to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Sacramento, stipulating that it be used to temporarily shelter orphans and abandoned children, regardless of sex, creed, or color. In 1978 the state of California purchased the house and its remaining furnishings for \$1.3 million and allowed the Sisters of Mercy to continue living there.

Efforts to restore the house and open it to the public have been hampered by lack of state funding and continued extension of the lease. A first step was taken in the summer of 1986, when three graduate students spent 12 weeks inspecting every inch of the Stanford house to produce accurate architectural drawings.

The Historical Society contributed \$5,000 toward the cost of preparing the drawings.

The Stanford House in Sacramento was edited by Peter Allen and designed by Bob McCann. A copy was sent President Ronald Reagan, who, as governor of California, took an interest in the house.

Outside Stanford, Ricker's activities included extensive world travels and a major role in founding two professional associations, the National Association of College and University Food Services and the Association of College and University Housing Officers, according to Anderson.

Alice Supton, assistant dean of residential education, told celebrants that the Christine Ricker Dining and Performance Center is an "incredibly versatile space." The main floor includes a platform that doubles as a stage and the stairs to the balcony seating area could serve as a backdrop for *Romeo and Juliet*, she said.

In addition to dining, the facility is regularly used for recitals, movies, talent shows, speeches, theatrical productions, and panel discussions, she added.

Organ lecture and demonstration set

The Society's first program for academic year 1987-88 will offer members and guests a close-up look at the Fisk and Harris organs in Memorial Church.

Associate University Organist Robert F. Bates will explain and demonstrate the intricacies of each organ and discuss how each is used. Much of the program will take place in the choir loft.

The program will begin at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4, at — obviously — Memorial Church.

The Fisk Baroque instrument was installed in early 1984 to supplement the Romantic organ built by Murray H. Harris in 1901. The Harris organ survived the 1906 earthquake virtually unscathed although the wall behind it was severely damaged.

The new organ was built by Charles Fisk, a former student of University Organist Emeritus Herbert Nanney. Fisk, who also designed the new Baroque-style instrument, died shortly before the organ was installed.

Other programs for the year are still tentative, according to Program Chairman George Knoles, but may include:

- A reception at Hanna House;
- A talk by Eric Hutchinson on the history of the Chemistry Department;
- The traditional Founders' Day celebration;
- A chartered bus tour of historic San Jose conducted by Rixford Snyder;
- A talk by historian George Nash, biographer of Herbert Hoover; and
- A chartered bus tour to Sacramento, including stops at the California State Railroad Museum and the Sacramento house of Leland and Jane Stanford.

Details will be mailed to members several weeks before each event.

Snyder seeks remedy for sandstone deterioration

Seeking solutions to the deteriorating condition of sandstone in the Main Quadrangle is one of his chief goals as Historical Society president, Rixford Snyder told board members at their July meeting.

With strong board support, Snyder sent Stanford President Donald Kennedy a letter July 31 expressing concern about the deterioration of sandstone columns that support the Main Quad arcades. Even those "in front of the President's Office are not immune," he wrote Kennedy.

Snyder also expressed the Society's concern about the condition of the balustrade across the front of the Outer Quad and the urns that sit atop the balustrade. Pavers in the arcades also are chipping and buckling, he said.

Responding to Snyder on Kennedy's behalf, William F. Massy, vice president for business and finance, agreed with Snyder's assessment. He has allocated money to this year's General Plant Improvement program to study the situation, he said in an Aug. 14 letter to Snyder.

The study is to include an "inventory and assessment of conditions, design techniques for restoration, and selection of items for replacement. That, in turn, will permit us to develop a plan, obtain funding and get on with the job," he said.

Massy noted that items needing replacement may include the balustrades and urns, columns, arcade pavers, arcade lights, granite curbs, and west entry gate pavers.

Massy's letter was read to board members at their August meeting. Bruce Wiggins then told the board that a project manager was to be selected soon for the study.

Wiggins, who is a past president of the Society and serves the University as assistant director of operations and maintenance, also said that he has been informally studying the problem with an ad hoc committee that includes Judy Chan of the Planning Office and Michael McKnight, manager of the General Plant Improvement program.

The board asked Snyder to request that University officials keep the Society informed of the study's progress.

In other business:

- In July the board approved a contribution of \$10,000 toward publication costs of the *Stanford Album*. The book, to

be published in 1988 by the Stanford University Press, will include a compilation of photographs from the University Archives, along with extensive captions.

It is being written by University Archivist Roxanne Nilan, with photographic research and preparation by Margo Davis. Total cost of the project is \$100,000.

- In August the board was told that Stanford alumnus John Gardner had forwarded a letter to the U.S. Postal Service suggesting issuing a stamp in honor of Leland and Jane Stanford. The letter was drafted by former Society President Ray Wilbur Jr.

President Kennedy also has sent letters supporting the cause to the Postal Service and to California Senators Alan Cranston and Peter Wilson.

- Deliberations are continuing on possible names for houses in the new graduate student housing project. The Society was asked to help develop a list of names of faculty and others whose contributions to graduate education are deemed outstanding.

Ros Bacon heads the committee. In the early 1980s, a Society committee suggested many of the names that later were attached to houses in the Governor's Corner undergraduate complex.



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