

# O. U.'s Research Resort

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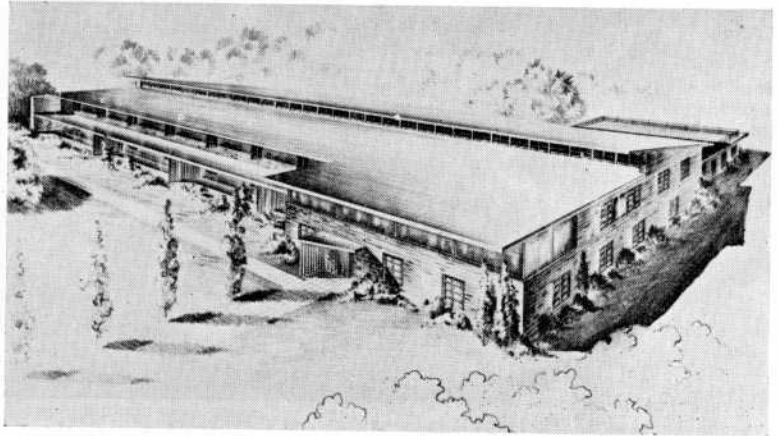
It started as a tourist resort but has blossomed into a  
first rate research laboratory for University biologists.

Bustling, building O.U. has expanded its campus to the shores of Lake Texoma.

Located on the north side of the Red River arm of the lake, the University's new biological field station will open for the first time this summer. The 8-week course, which will be held at the station June 3 to August 26, has attracted many Oklahoma biology students and several from other states.

"Opportunities for botanical and zoological study and research in the area are unlimited," Carl D. Riggs, field station director, explains.

Facilities which will be used by students in-



*University of Oklahoma Biological Station, Lake Texoma*



*Fishery Research Barge*

vestigating the region's flora and fauna were acquired and developed by the University last year.

Early in 1949 Norman Brillhart, '17ba, of Madill offered to give the University two and a half acres of land on the north shore of the lake. Included in the offer was a partially completed cement block building. Brillhart thought the University might be able to complete the building and use it for summer courses in field biology.

The partially completed building had been planned as a summer resort. Its 24 bedrooms and apartments could be converted into student living quarters, and the lobby could be changed to a laboratory. The potentialities were great.

Late in March, 1949, Brillhart gave the land and building to the University. Then the state legislature appropriated \$110,000 to complete the development of the station.

Architects went to work on the concrete block walls. What they turned out is the equivalent of a campus biology building with eating and living facilities included.

"The station has running water, electricity and

heat, so we won't be roughing it this summer," Riggs assures.

The dormitory for women is divided into bedroom units. Men will return to army-style housing and live in a large single unit.

Meals will be served in the station's cafeteria, and lunches will be provided for field trips.

"We're going to serve good food, because we know people are happier and work better when they're well fed," Riggs said.

And the summer at Texoma isn't going to be all work and no play. Outdoor recreation such as fishing, boating, swimming, softball, hiking and picnicking is planned. Architects who revamped the building retained some of the resort features. There's a sundeck and a lounge.

"The station's location is ideal," Riggs explains. It's on one of the most beautiful parts of the lake, near Madill. And even if the scenery weren't there, it would be a biologist's dream. There has been little biological investigation in the area, and it offers all sorts of research opportunities.

The Texoma station is the only one of its type



*Field Techniques' Class at Caney Creek*



*Exposed Limestone Shoreline Near Rock Creek*

located on a man-made lake. That makes it even more attractive to researchers. Several large, well-isolated islands offer opportunities for population studies. And since the lake is primarily for flood control its shores are alternately exposed and flooded. The constantly changing environment created by these alterations gives the biologist a hatfull of problems to work on.

To assist the biologists in their study, equipment has been installed at the station. Three large laboratories and an aquarium are located in the building. Other equipment includes nets, traps and power boats for work on the lake.

"Our station laboratory will be one of the best equipped in the country," Riggs said.

Undergraduate and graduate students and persons wishing to do advanced research can enrol for the summer term at the station. Regular classes will be held, but research will be encouraged.



*Fishery Biology Class at Cold Spring Beach*



*The Islands*

Courses will be taught in both plant sciences and zoological sciences this summer.

Some of the research problems scheduled for study this summer will be valuable to the state and nation. They include the study of economic possibilities for utilization of rough fish, preparation of fish, parasites of fish and their effects on humans, study of the fish population of the lake and how to improve fishing and keep it good.

Riggs, a specialist in fishery biology, is particularly interested in finding uses for rough fish.

"All lakes become infested with rough fish—carp, sucker and buffalo—which crowd out the game fish," Riggs explained. He wants to investigate the possibilities of using these fish for fertilizer, vitamin concentrates and oil.

The problems which will be analyzed at Texoma will benefit the nation as well as Oklahoma. What is learned there can be applied to lakes all over the nation.

Being biologists, the people at Lake Texoma

this summer won't limit their study to fish. The staff has planned a course in ornithology, the study of birds. And the botany staff will have representatives to conduct courses in plant life.

The station offers O.U. students the opportunity to study organisms in their natural habitats. Field trips have been used in the past to show students natural habitats, but the method was not satisfactory. Much time was wasted in transit and the travel expense was large. The station will correct this situation.

Extending an outstretched palm to budding biologists, the station has opened its doors to any student in the United States who has good scholastic standing. Cost of the 8-week course is no more than for the regular summer term on the main campus.

The station's one large building has living quarters for 100 students. If the demand increases as much as Riggs thinks it will, an expansion will be in order.