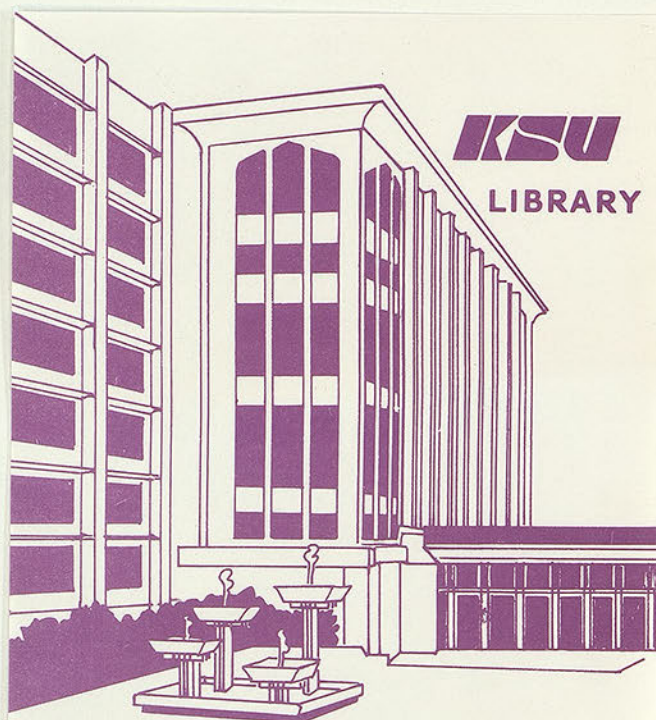




MOSAIC CLASS LEGACY

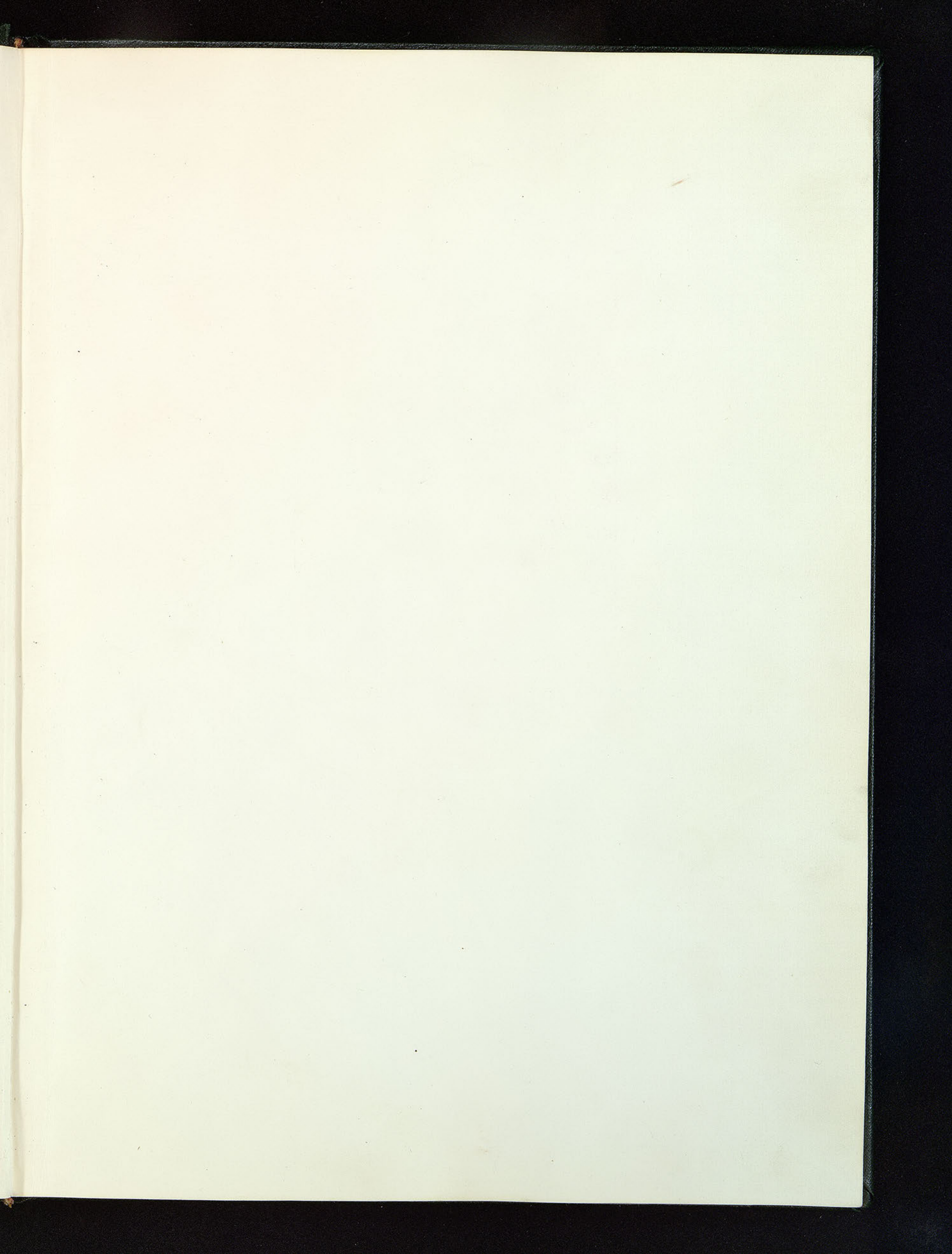


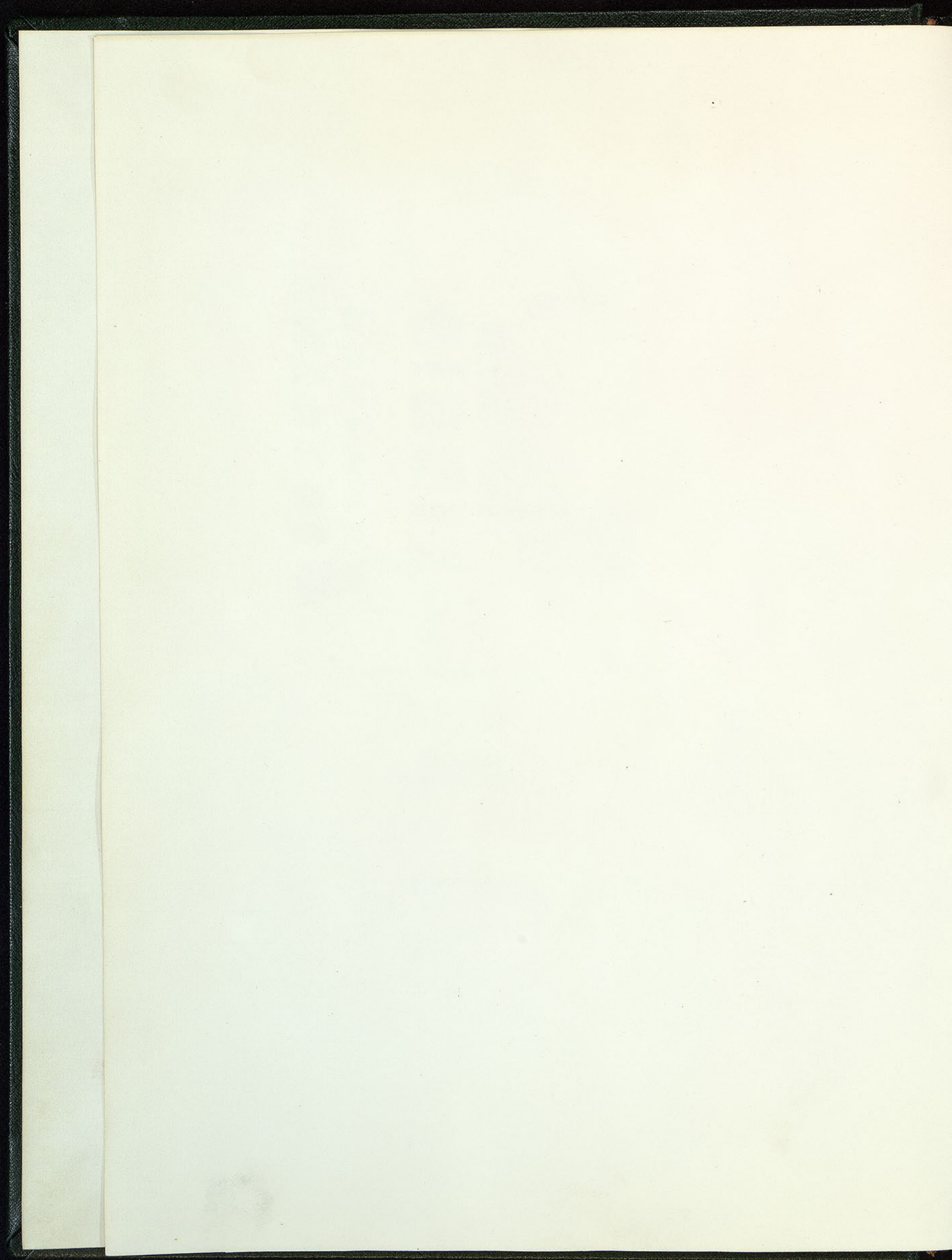
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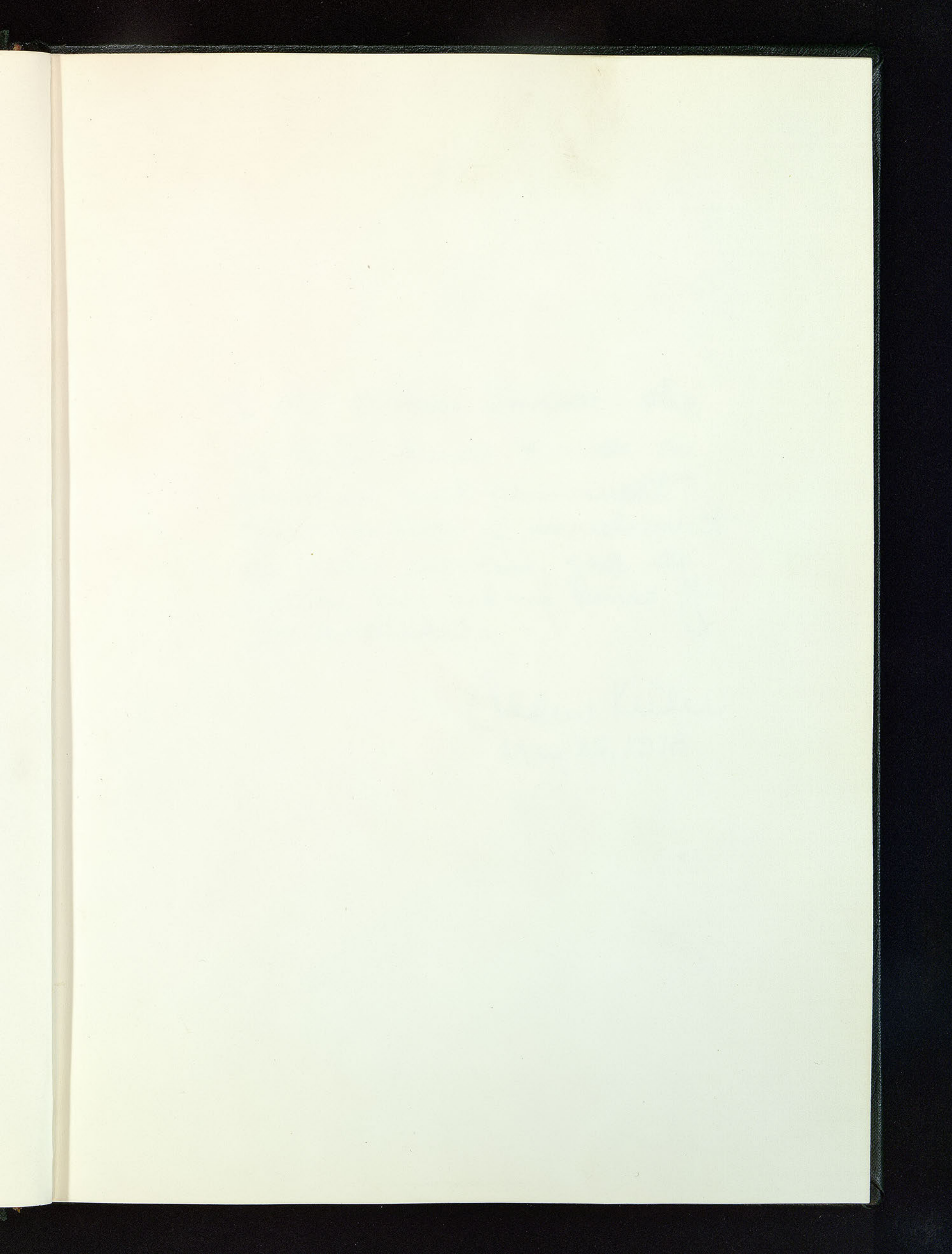
Gift of
Margaret and Alden Krider
1978

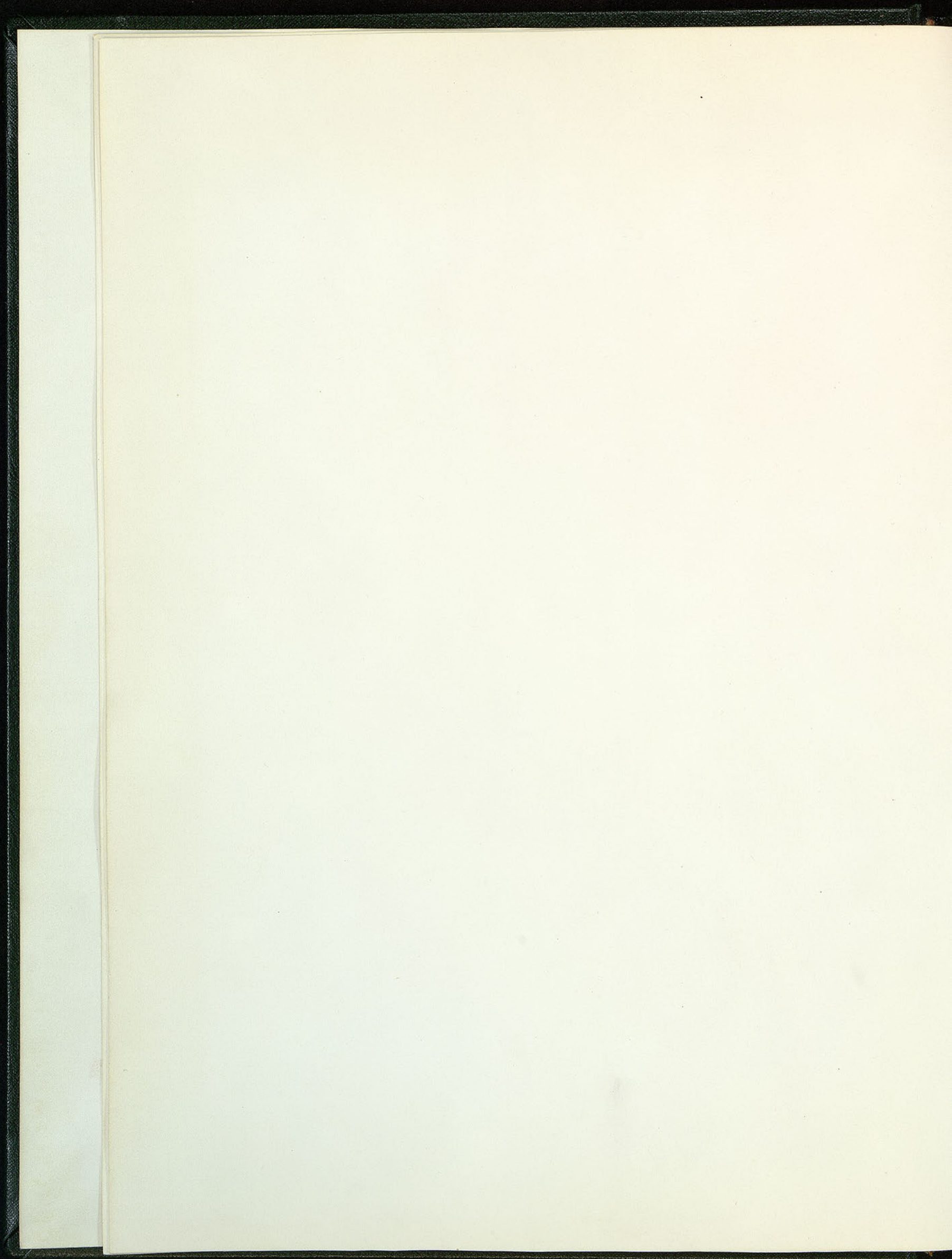
KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



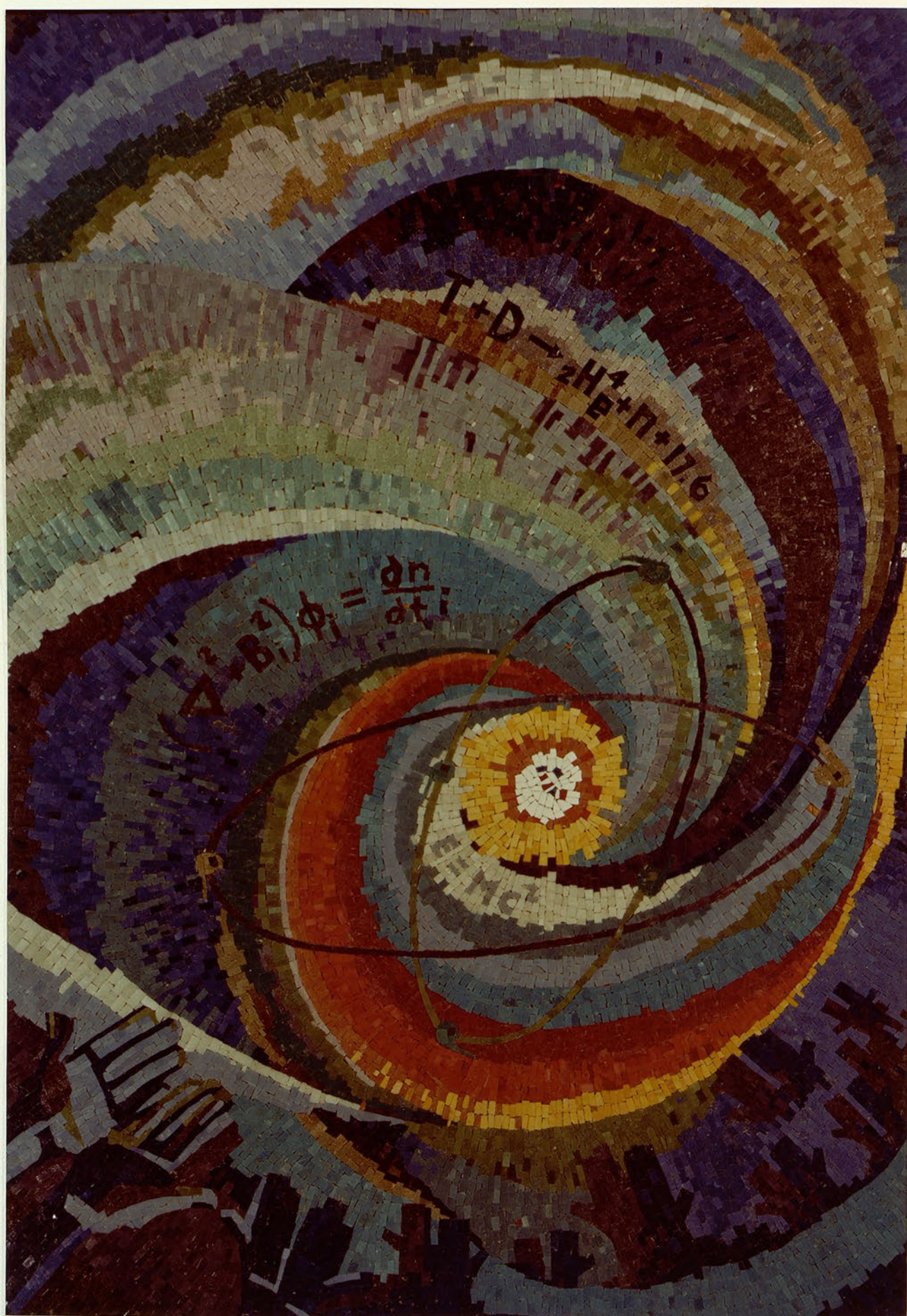


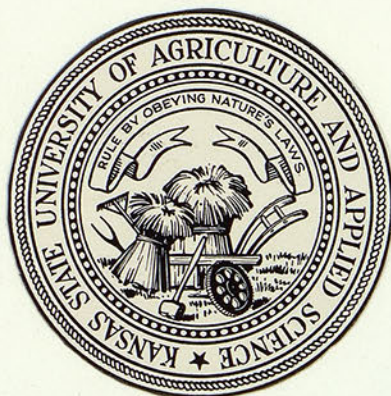




To the K-State Students who,
in their desire to make a
personal and permanent
contribution of enrichment
of their campus, gave so
freely the many hours of
work needed.

Allen Kider
May 25, 1978





MOSAIC CLASS LEGACY





Installation of the boat house mosaic.

Frontispiece: Nuclear Engineering mosaic.

Cover: Agricultural Engineering mosaic.

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INTRODUCTION

Professor Alden Krider began teaching a mosaic class in 1958. A mezzanine overlooking the former coal-bin in Seaton Hall provided space in which, despite its small size, many large mosaics were fabricated. In 1968 the sculpture class that had occupied the coal-bin was moved to West Stadium and the mosaic class took over the large room shown in the photograph on the opposite page. It was no longer necessary to do much of the work out-of-doors as the ceiling height was now adequate for full sized cartoons to be made and studied vertically, in the position the finished work would be viewed. Students are shown working on a two panel mosaic for the Environmental Research Institute. Those at the table are fitting glass pieces to one panel while others work from a scaffold to complete the drawing for the second panel.

This class was conceived as a means of giving architectural students the experience of building a project with their own hands. Each student made an individual piece for himself as well as working on an all-class project.

After a design was chosen and drawn full-size in colored chalk, it was laid on a table, covered with transparent plastic, and then with nylon net. Glass, tile or

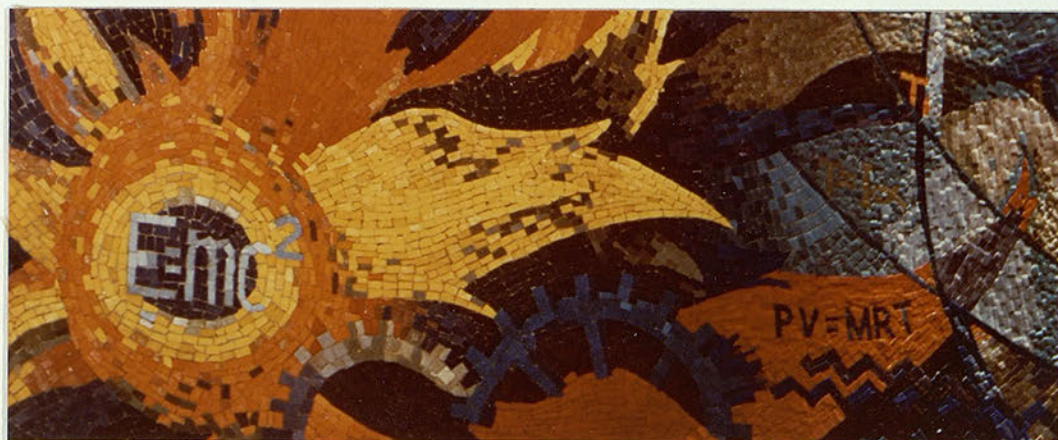


stone tesserae were glued to the net following the colors and pattern underneath. The net, with the tesserae in place, was cut along lines of the design into pieces that could be easily handled. These sections were then glued to plywood or concrete panels with plastic or cement grout. Large exterior projects incorporating sand were done directly in the sand. After the stones, tiles or glass pieces were arranged in the sand, concrete was poured over them. These slabs are later fastened to the wall.

Not only were students given valuable experience of working on a tangible and lasting thing, but also the University has been enriched by these art pieces. During the twenty years the class was taught, sixteen large mosaics, two fountains, two campus seating areas, and many sand sculptures were made. All but five are on the Kansas State University campus.

Campus and public building mosaics not attributed to specific persons were designed by Professor Krider.

ON CAMPUS MOSAICS





THE K-STATE UNION MOSAIC

The first mosaic to be installed in a university building is shown as it was being hoisted into place in the north stairwell of the K-State Union building. This work, symbolizing the then six colleges of the University in the center panel with activities of the K-State Union portrayed on either side, was designed by Linnea Brown in 1958 and completed by the class in 1959.

THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING MOSAIC

The second all-class endeavor, requested by Dr. Ralph Nevins, head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, is shown below. Here basic equations of energy and mechanics were incorporated into the design with the sun symbolizing earth's prime energy source. The class of 1960 made the five-by-ten-foot panel and it was installed in the entry of the old part of Seaton Hall.





THE WATERS HALL POOL MOSAIC

In 1961 landscape students in the College of Agriculture designed and built a garden to be viewed from the fourth floor of Waters Hall. The mosaic class joined them in the design and fabrication of a small pool. The design was done by Yvonne Warner, a member of the mosaic class. Ceramic tile in earth tones were used as shown above.

THE BACTERIOLOGY MOSAIC

The 1961 class also made the glass mosaic shown below for Dr. Alfred Borg, head of the Department of Bacteriology. Running diagonally, the double helix of DNA is crossed in the design by motifs which suggest the role of man's eye and brain in the exploration of both the micro- and the macro-universe. Symbols and formulae with special meaning to bacteriologists complete the panel.



THE NUCLEAR ENGINEERING MOSAIC

The mosaic shown on the opposite page and on the frontispiece has received more national publicity than any other on the Kansas State University campus. After its completion in 1963, it was reproduced in color on the cover of many 1964 telephone books. For years it was used on the covers of many of the publications of the federal Atomic Energy Commission. A physics text book published by Allyn and Bacon used it as a frontispiece. In 1966 Senator Pearson of Kansas introduced a bill in the United States Senate asking that it be used on a postage stamp to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first controlled nuclear reaction produced by man. The stamp was not issued, but the mosaic became well known. In August, 1973, the magazine Forests, a publication of the American Forestry Association, used a full color reproduction of the mosaic on the cover of an issue devoted to nuclear energy and the environment.

The five-by-seven-foot glass mosaic portrays the tremendous energy inside the atom with human hands stretched in supplication that this awesome force be used for the benefit of mankind rather than for its destruction.

Dr. William Kimel, head of the Department of Nuclear Engineering at the time the mosaic was done, has said, "This mosaic is one of the most successful and unique art form presentations yet rendered of the concept of nuclear energy in the service of mankind."



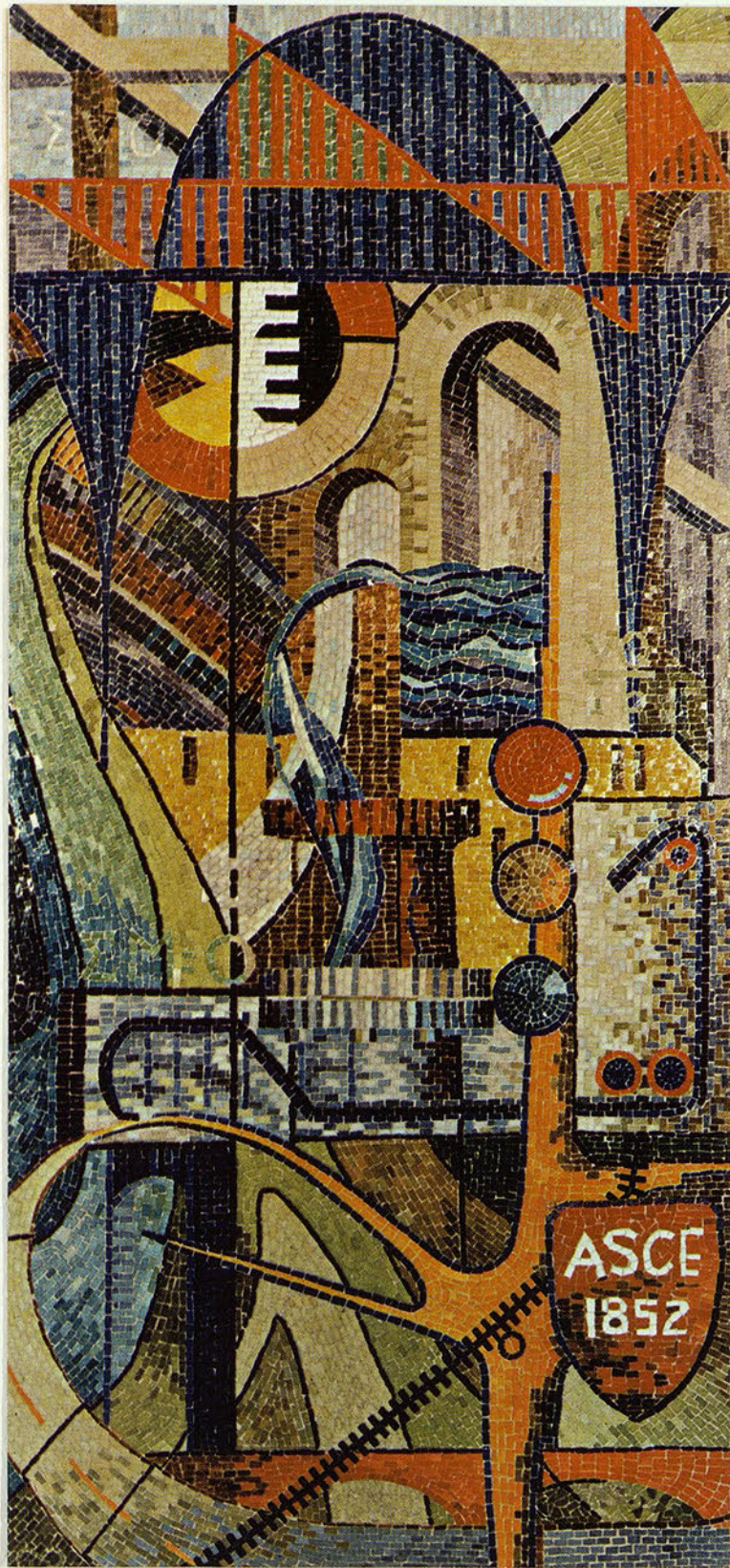
THE VETERINARY MEDICINE MOSAIC

The senior class of 1964 of the College of Veterinary Medicine commissioned the veterinary caduceus mosaic as a gift to Dr. Eldon Leasure at the time of his retirement as dean of the college. It was installed on the south facade of Dykstra Veterinary Hospital and became the first mosaic to be placed on the exterior of a University building.



THE CIVIL ENGINEERING MOSAIC

The center lobby of the west wing of Seaton Hall is the location of the four-by-eight-foot glass mosaic pictured on the opposite page. More than thirteen thousand pieces of glass were used to depict the activities of the oldest of all engineering professions, civil engineering. Here are shown elements of engineering structures, water supply, and transportation--bridges, aquaducts, railroads, and traffic lights. The piece was dedicated to the American Society of Civil Engineers and to the Department of Civil Engineering. The ASCE used a full color reproduction in a nationally distributed career bulletin for several years. The class of 1966 built and installed this work.



THE AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING MOSAIC

The eight-by-nine-foot mosaic shown on the opposite page above, was installed in the north lobby of Seaton Hall in 1968. The design, by John T. Meyer, was chosen by Dr. George Larson and a committee of faculty and students as best representing the activities of the agricultural engineer. It incorporates the insignia of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and depicts the four basic areas of agricultural engineering--soil and water conservation, farm structures, farm power and machinery, and electric power and processing. Sun, rainfall, irrigation, strip cropping, processing of crops, and animal feeding are also expressed in the mural. More than twenty thousand pieces of glass were used.

THE INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING COURTYARD SCULPTURE

The free-standing sculpture shown opposite below, was designed by Walter Smith and built for the Department of Industrial Engineering in 1969. Mosaic of stone and tile covers shapes derived from production graphs and computer cards.



THE CHEMISTRY MOSAIC

Two mosaics measuring approximately four-by-twelve feet each were done for the Department of Chemistry during 1969 and 1970. They were hung in the main stairwell, between the first and second floors and between the second and third floors of King Laboratory, making a photograph almost impossible. The lower panel is shown in place (opposite below) as seen through the glass of the main entrance. In the upper photograph, students are drawing the design in colored chalk on the full-sized cartoon of the upper panel which will be used as a guide for placing the glass.

Both panels were designed by John F. Renner. The symbols of alchemy and of the ancient elements--earth, air, fire and water, used in the lower panel, express the history and evolution of chemical knowledge. The design of the upper panel features the periodic table of the modern elements with other models of today's chemistry.



THE BOAT HOUSE MOSAIC

In 1969, rowing coach, Don Rose, wanted a large mosaic to be seen from the water for the west wall of the boat house that was under construction at Tuttle Creek lake. A design by Robert Marx and Thomas Kongs was chosen and executed in natural stone, tile and sand. Class members gathered stones in the desired colors and placed them in the sand beds to be covered with concrete. Over twenty sections, divided on lines of the design, were made in order that the eight-by-sixteen-foot mural could be lifted and attached to the wall. Classes of 1969 and 1970 worked on the project and students assisted with the final setting of the heavy slabs as shown in the photograph on the page opposite the table of contents. A detail shows the variety of texture resulting from different sizes of stones.



THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH MOSAIC

The last of the six mosaics to be made for the College of Engineering was designed to identify the Environmental Research Institute which is in the center wing to the north of Seaton Hall. The eight-by-twelve-foot mural wraps around the corner at the second floor level. The design, by Stanley Davenport, Richard Petrick, and Dwight Quiring, shows the human figure warmed by the sun on the right hand side with the instrumentation of the environmental laboratory symbolized on the left. The work was done in 1971.

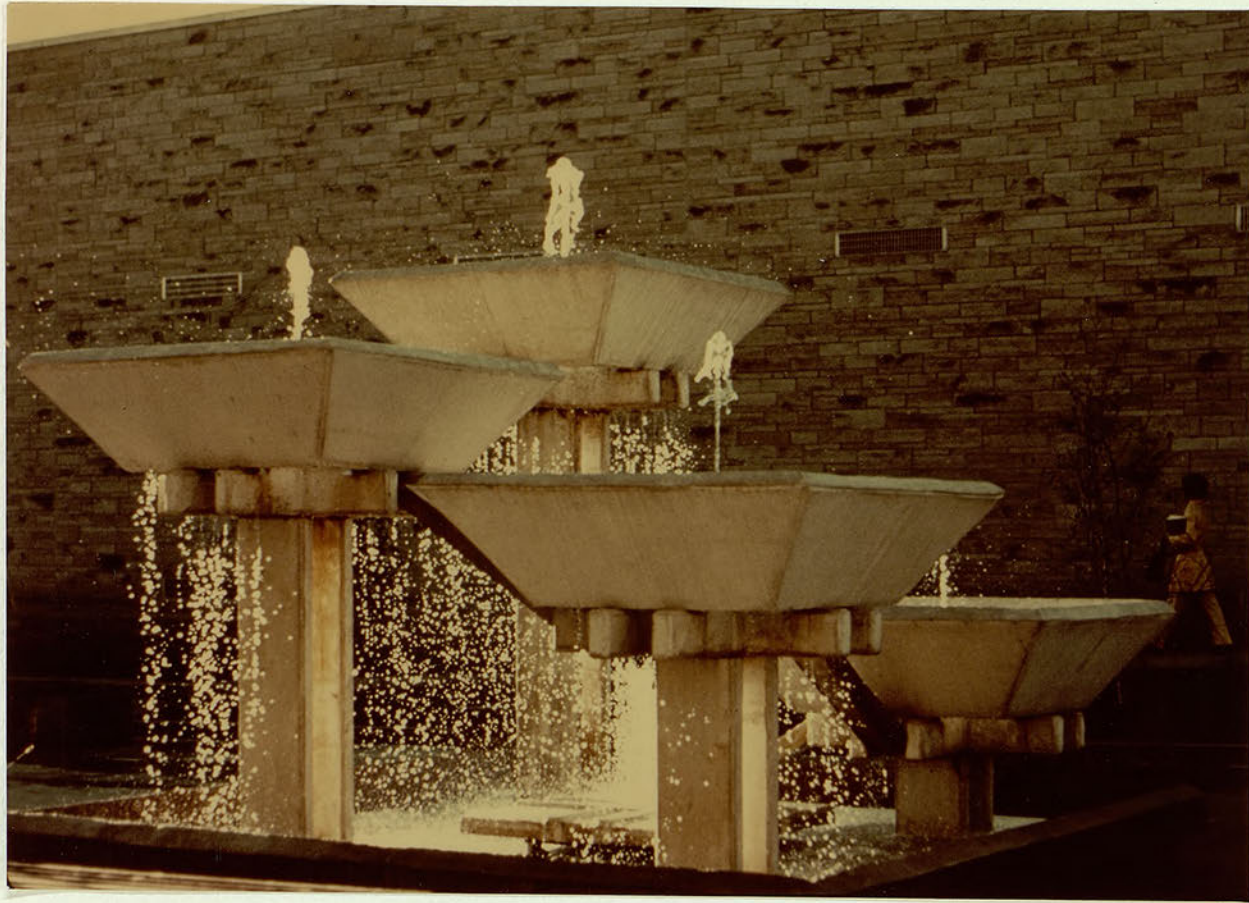


THE FARRELL LIBRARY FOUNTAIN

During the 1971 session of the "Art in Situation" program, offered during the summers of 1969, 1970, and 1971, Prachaya Chakajsonsak's design for a fountain was chosen to be built. Prachaya was an architectural student from Bangkok, Thailand and a member of the mosaic class. Although there was no mosaic, the work involved in casting the large elements was much the same as that required in making concrete mosaic slabs. The four bowls are five feet square and weigh nine hundred pounds each.

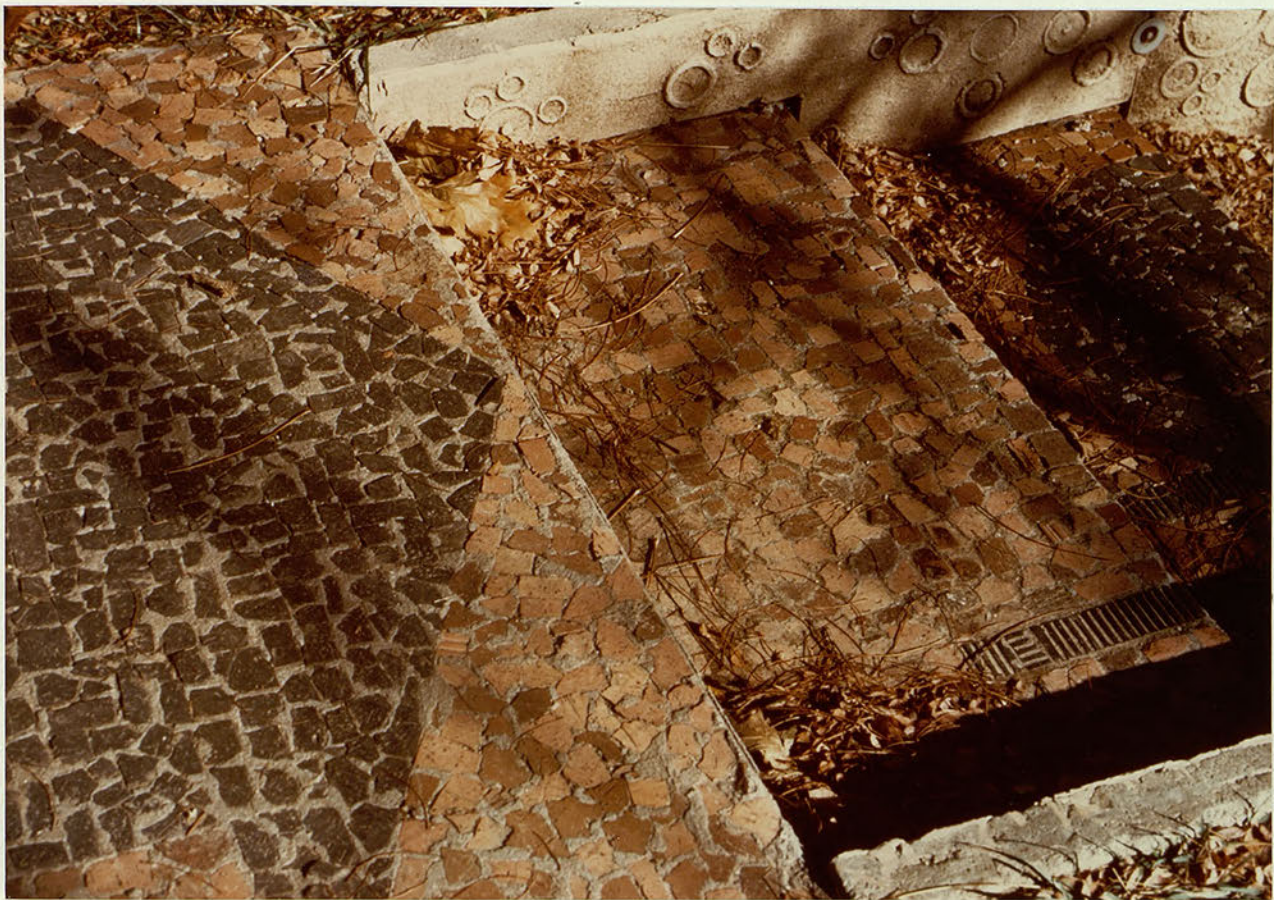
THE SUNKEN SEATING SPACE

Also near Farrell Library, a sunken space lined with sand and mosaic sculpture and fitted with benches, was built in 1972. Mark Beisel designed the space as a semi-enclosed outdoor area for classes or for just sitting on a summer day.



THE CAMPUS SIDEWALKS

There are several sidewalks on campus which were made and installed by the mosaic class. The one shown opposite above, leads into the sunken plaza near Farrell Library and the lower one is near the seating area built by "Art in Situation" between Waters Hall and Willard Hall.



THE RADIO MEMORIAL

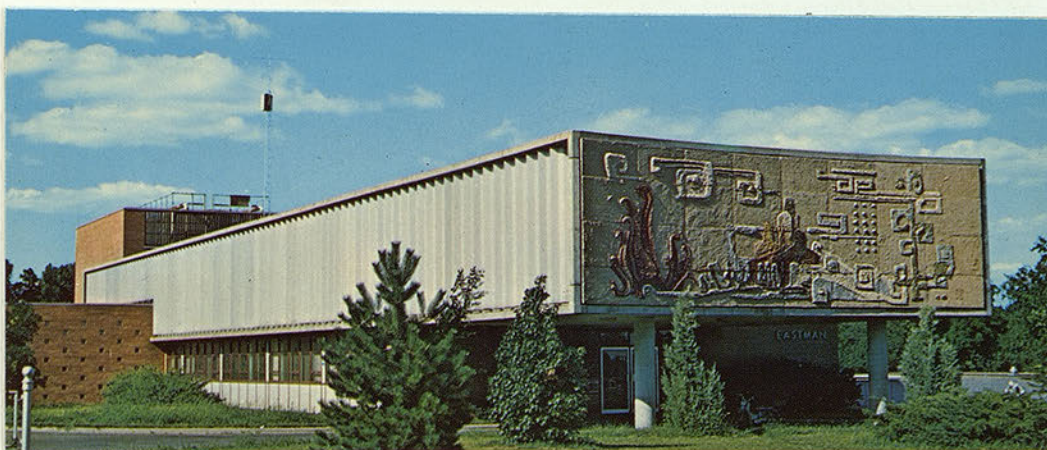
The Kansas Association of Radio Broadcasters commissioned the mosaic class to build a memorial to pioneer radio which would incorporate one of the self-supported radio towers near Calvin Hall. These towers are believed to be the only radio towers of their kind still standing. Call letters of Kansas radio stations were used as elements in the design of the ceramic tile floor that surrounds a bubbling fountain. Concrete seats were built on three sides with the entrance to the space on the fourth side. The plaza was dedicated to Grover C. Cobb in November, 1975.

THE BOILER, PHYSICAL PLANT

In 1976 members of the class painted a large boiler that had been installed outside while a building was being readied. The design, depicting the power within the boiler, was done by Harold Weathers and Francis McCabe. After the boiler was painted, it was decided to leave it outside. A dull campus area was brightened as the mosaic class completed its last campus project.



OFF CAMPUS MOSAICS



THE BLUEMONT SCHOOL MOSAIC

The Bluemont School Parent Teachers Association commissioned a mosaic for the exterior wall of the kindergarten wing as a gift to the school. Shown below, a design featuring dancing children by Carol Kasselder was chosen and built by the class in 1964.





THE STATE HOSPITAL FACADE

The largest and most ambitious work undertaken by the mosaic class was the facade of the Eastman Administration Building of the State Hospital in Topeka, Kansas. Fourteen feet high and forty feet long, this mosaic was made in thirty-two, four-by-five-foot panels each weighing more than six hundred pounds. The natural colors of stones and ceramic materials were used to show the races of man surrounded by the ancient elements of earth, air, water and fire. The class completed the work in the spring of 1967 and it was installed by a professional contractor.

THE UNIVERSITY TERRACE SCULPTURE

A sand sculpture screen was built for the first apartment built at University Terrace in 1959. Shown below, the sculpture depicts the four seasons.





When the second building was built in 1962, students fabricated the pierced screen shown above.

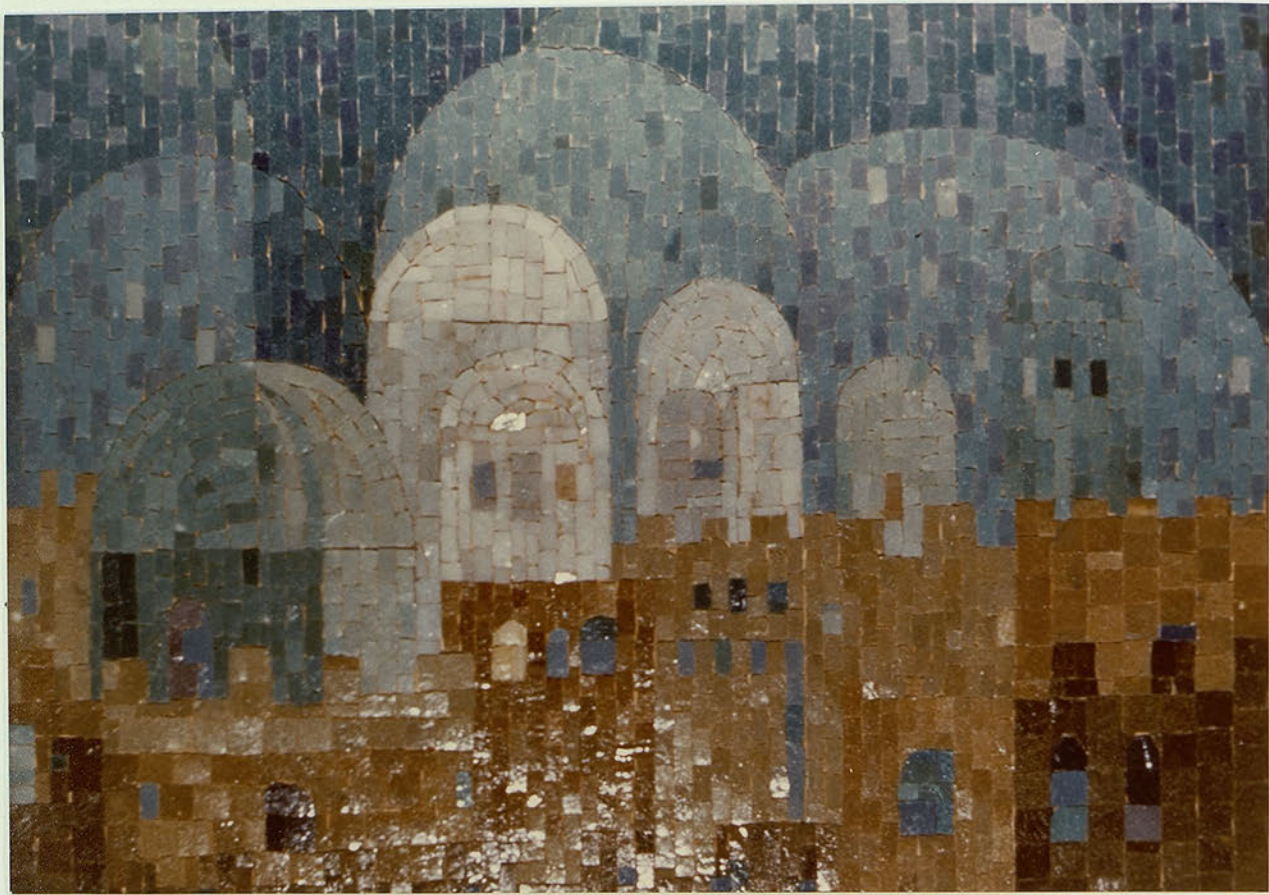
THE UNIVERSITY TERRACE SEATING AREA

Twelve discs with symbols for the hours of the day were designed by Gregory Allen and installed on a paved area between two of the apartment buildings at University Terrace in 1974.



STUDENTS' PERSONAL WORK

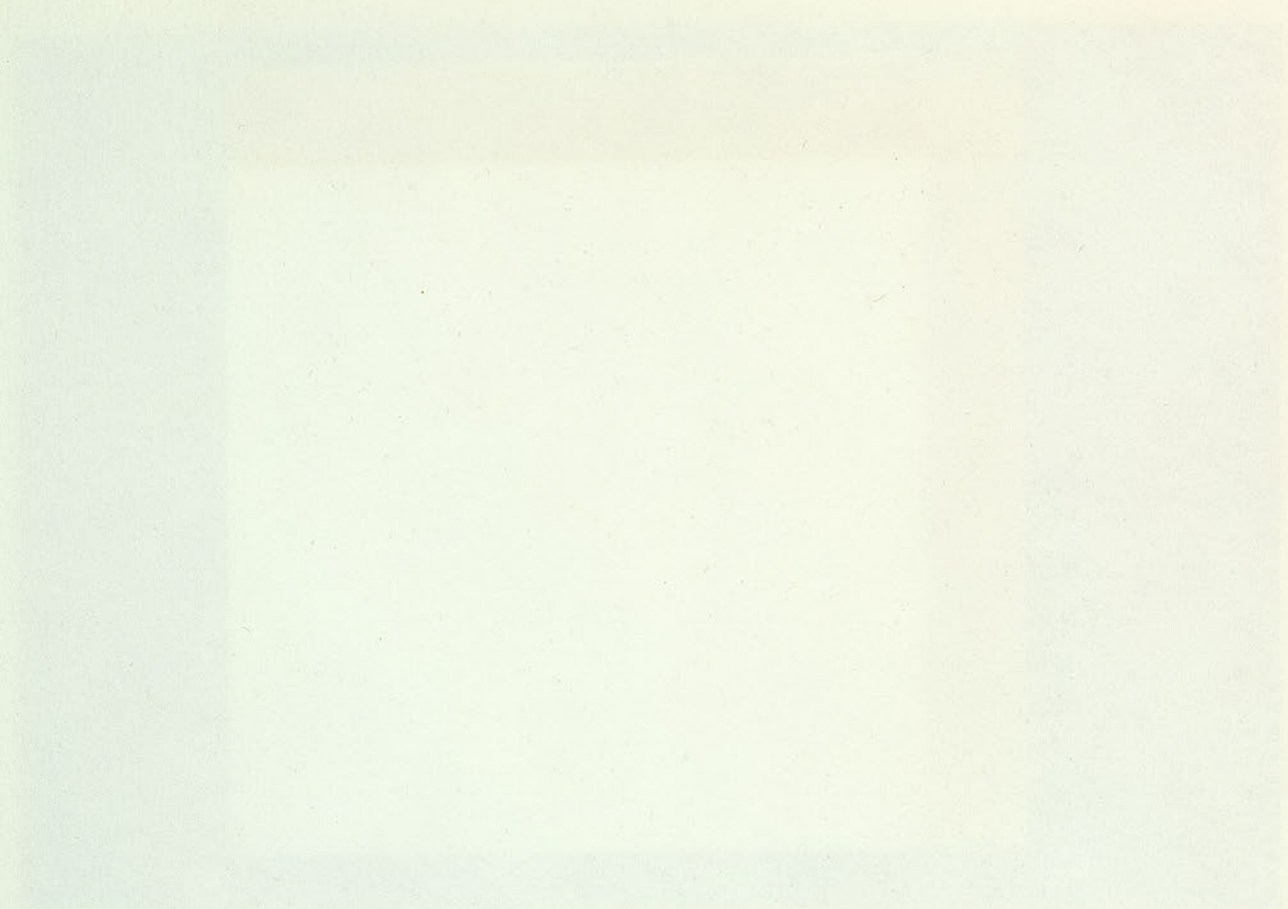




The wall plaques illustrated above are two of the many made by students for themselves.



Table tops were a popular item and some students also made the tables. Two examples are shown above.



The natural stone and ceramic tile fireplace front,
shown on the opposite page, was done by a student for a
faculty member.



An all-stone, student piece that illustrates the richness of color occurring in natural materials such as roadside stone and gravel.



