

The Walter Royal Davis Library

Designed by two award-winning architects, the Walter Royal Davis Library is the largest educational building in North Carolina.

This \$22.9 million library, which is often considered a more serious place to study than the Undergraduate "Zoo," has 10 acres of floor space over nine levels on a three-acre site.

Davis has a total seating capacity of 3,013 and a capacity of 1.8 million volumes.

The library includes several ingenious design features. One of the most striking features is a large main gallery hung with colorful banners, showing historic printer's marks represented in the Rare Book Collection.

The building was named for Walter Royal Davis, a Texas businessman with family roots in Elizabeth City, N.C. He was a member of the Board of Trustees for eight years and he fought in the state legislature to claim for Chapel Hill the major portion of funds received from the sale of University utilities.



DTH file photo



Tar Heel/Steve Matteson

The William C. Coker Arboretum

Located at the corner of Cameron Avenue and Raleigh Street, the Coker Arboretum is a popular place for students who want to escape from the hassles of exams and term papers.

Over 400 varieties of plants and shrubs flourish in this five-acre naturalistic garden. The area was once a swampy pasture for animals such as former UNC President David Swain's white mule, Old Cuddy.

The idea for a naturalistic garden was conceived by UNC President Francis P. Venable in 1903. The arboretum was named after botanist William C. Coker.

Of the plants and trees in the arboretum, the most famous are the Marshall thorn — a red haw that is almost never seen in gardens — and a 200-foot wisteria arbor.