

Krannerts had already gotten started on these feasibility studies with me, and so Carl Weinhardt, the new director, just inherited me really. When he came on board, he began to push this thing more strongly. I don't know whether it's true, but I suppose he was instrumental in getting the Eli Lilly family to give them an estate out on the northwest edge of town where the actual building was finally built. Well, then things began to warm up, and we weren't just doing feasibility studies. We were doing actual studies for a building. By this time, the program had enlarged considerably. We never had a real program. We'd sit down with Carl Weinhardt and others and say, "What do you think you need?" You know, it just sort of grew that way. By the time we got the building designed, of course, we had a very good idea of spaces and the needs of collections and all that. But even when we got that site, we made several feasibility studies as to the actual location of the building itself. We still had no approvals. We had occasional meetings with the building committee or something. They had no money. They had the site, but they needed money and so on. I made study after study and all sorts of things. We met with these people over a long, long period. The youngest man on the committee was seventy years old. So, it was a hard row. They were all very wealthy. They were all very opinionated. Their big argument was whether the column caps were going to be Corinthian and whether it was going to be purple marble or whether it was going to be green marble. It was that kind of thing—what kind of urns were going to be on top of the building and so forth.

Blum: Didn't you also have that kind of interaction with a university committee?

Richardson: I didn't have that much trouble with the university committee because, you see, of my university experience. Certainly here, I was involved with the faculty. It's true, I met with faculty committees, but I had enough experience as a former faculty member not to get too upset over that. So, I could handle it.