

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
PRAIRIE VIEW A&M UNIVERSITY
P.O. BOX 2777 (409) 857-2314
PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS 77446

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 24, 1987

TO: Mrs. Joyce Thornton
Interim Director of Library Services

FROM: Thomas J. Cleaver *TJC*

RE: Cultural History Archives

ATTACHMENTS: Packet from Mr. Paul Rutledge Jr.

COPY TO: Dr. Percy A. Pierre ATTACHMENTS: Packet Copy
Dr. Elaine Adams

Over the past two years, I have received several packets of information of the type enclosed from Mr. Rutledge. His family and the community of "Green Bay" near Palestine, Texas have a long connection with Prairie View A&M and deep roots in the cultural history of Blacks in East Texas. Because I share his interest in preserving that history and the racial pride it engenders, I have encouraged him to share these with me; but I believe there should be a more substantive relationship developed with such persons and communities in order to move some of their original artifacts of that history to our library archives.

Mr. Rutledge is an exceptional person, without a doubt. But there are many others around the state who could be encouraged to generate such materials as we would be interested in collecting. I hope that you will contact him, and encourage him to work directly with our library to place some of his materials in a "living and growing" exhibit. His example could then be used to encourage others to contribute from their communities.

I know that you will share my letter and suggestion with the new director of library services when that person comes

Mrs. Joyce Thornton
From Thomas J. Cleaver

Cultural History Archives
August 24, 1987, Page 2

on board. Please let me know if my suggestions are contrary to what you view as a promising opportunity for our library.