GEOLOGIC NOTES

GILD—A Source of Geologic Data

JAMES A. GIBBS

Knowledge of sources of available data is a matter of great interest to geologists. For this reason, some information about the Geological Information Library of Dallas (GILD) will be useful to those not already familiar with the library.

GILD is a nonprofit corporation, ruled a public foundation by the Internal Revenue Service. It is open to the general public as well as to geologists, geophysicists, oil and gas operators, students, and faculties of universities. It is supported by funds received as membership fees, monthly dues, contributions, daily-use fees, and service charges. Although membership is not required for access to GILD, checkout and mail order service is restricted to members. Nonmembers are charged a daily-use fee of $10.

Unlike most other geologic data libraries, GILD's materials are not limited to a specific area. Accessible material covers every state and 25 foreign countries. More than 2 million logs, 4 million completion cards, 1.5 million scout tickets, many volumes of production statistics, and a large collection of maps, charts, books, and journals make GILD the largest library of its kind in the world. Its assets currently are valued at more than $10 million.

GILD is the outgrowth of a feasibility study conducted by the Dallas Geological Society in 1969. The report of the Study Committee was that a need existed for a library of geologic information in the Dallas area, and that its scope should be worldwide. The library was chartered in December 1969, was incorporated, and soon divested itself of any legal or financial attachment to the Dallas Geological Society. One of the early decisions of GILD's Board of Directors was to make it a public foundation and to offer its contents to The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD). In September 1971, the IRS ruled GILD as a public foundation, and in the same year the Board of Regents of The University of Texas system accepted GILD's contents for UTD. Today, GILD is an entirely self-administered library of The University of Texas System. From modest beginnings it has grown to occupy nearly 20,000 sq ft of office, warehouse, and library space.

Most of GILD's contents are contributions of material of more than 400 major oil companies, independent companies, individuals, and trust accounts. GILD has become a willing and convenient recipient for files of geologic data from persons who wish to have the material inventoried, preserved, and administered in a manner of benefit to the public.

GILD subscribes currently to well-drilling, scouting, and completion services, and to numerous publications. Many operators and investors in drilling programs regularly contribute current electric logs. At present it is impractical to subscribe to all commercially available electric logs that may be released in the United States. However, for people who need to review a broad range of information in a geologic province, or who are attempting to locate or confirm a detail about an old well, GILD may be the best source of data.

Information regarding membership in GILD, use of its contents, or contribution of material or funds may be obtained by contacting G. Frederick Shepherd, Director. GILD is located in Suite 100, One Energy Square, 4925 Greenville Ave., Dallas, Texas 75206. The telephone number is (214) 363-1078. Visitors are welcome. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

© Copyright 1978. The American Association of Petroleum Geologists. All rights reserved.

AAPG grants permission for a single photocopy of this article for research purposes. Other photocopying not allowed by the 1978 Copyright Law is prohibited. For more than one photocopy of this article, users should send request, article identification number (see below), and $3.00 per copy to Copyright Clearance Center, Inc., One Park Ave., New York, NY 10006.

#1Manuscript received, August 10, 1977; accepted, August 19, 1977.
#2Consulting Geologist, Dallas, Texas 75206.

Article Identification Number
0149-1423/78/B004-0055$3.00/0