



[THOMSON HALL] FAR EASTERN LIBRARY

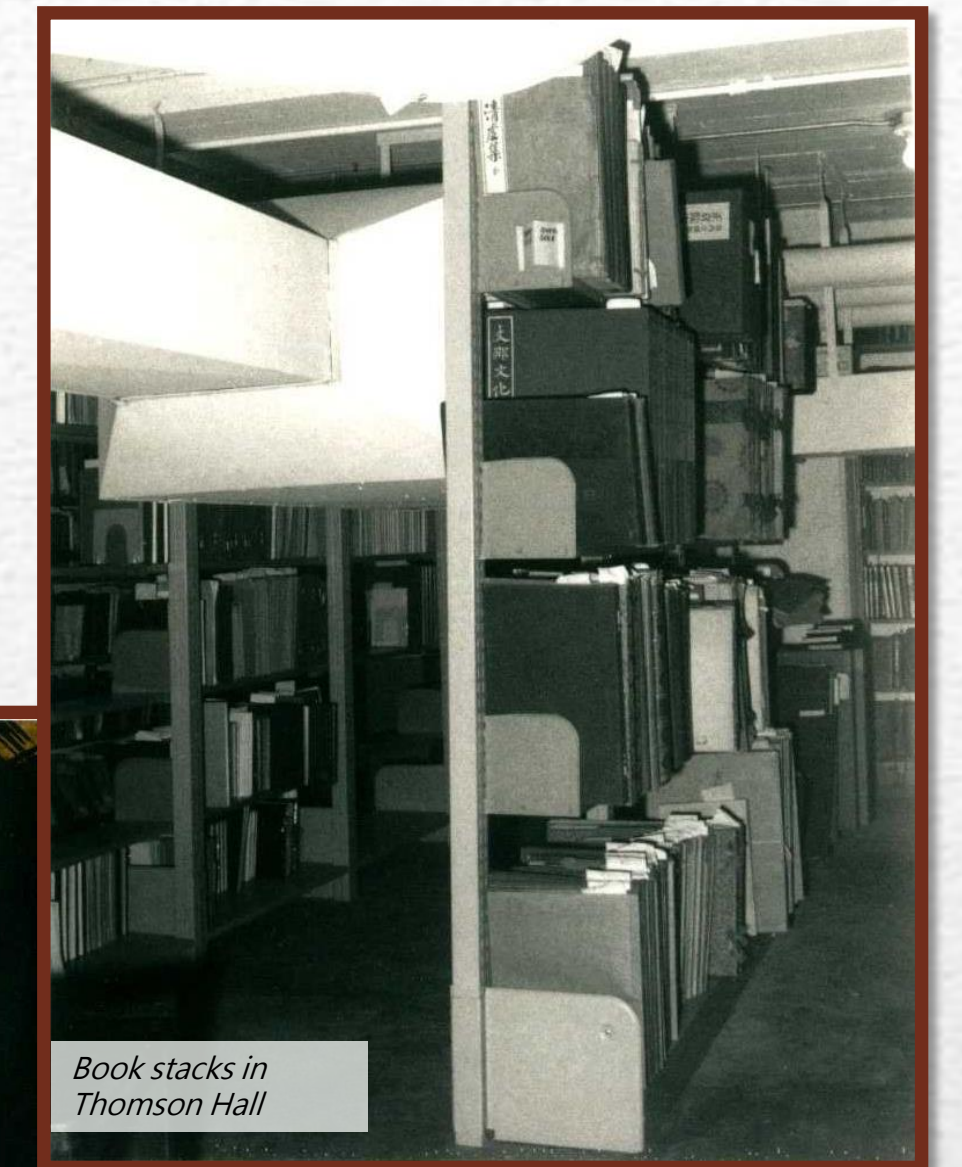
As the *Far Eastern Library* and the Department of Far Eastern Studies continued to grow throughout the 1940s, the need for better facilities for both increasingly became a topic of serious discussion.

In 1950, after months of effort by George Taylor, Director of the Far Eastern and Russian Institute, and Ruth Krader, Curator of the Far Eastern Library, the department and the library moved into new quarters in *Thomson Hall*. The Department of Far Eastern Studies (now known as the Department of Far Eastern and Slavic Languages and Literature) occupied the upper floors of Thomson Hall and the Library was given space in a portion of the basement.

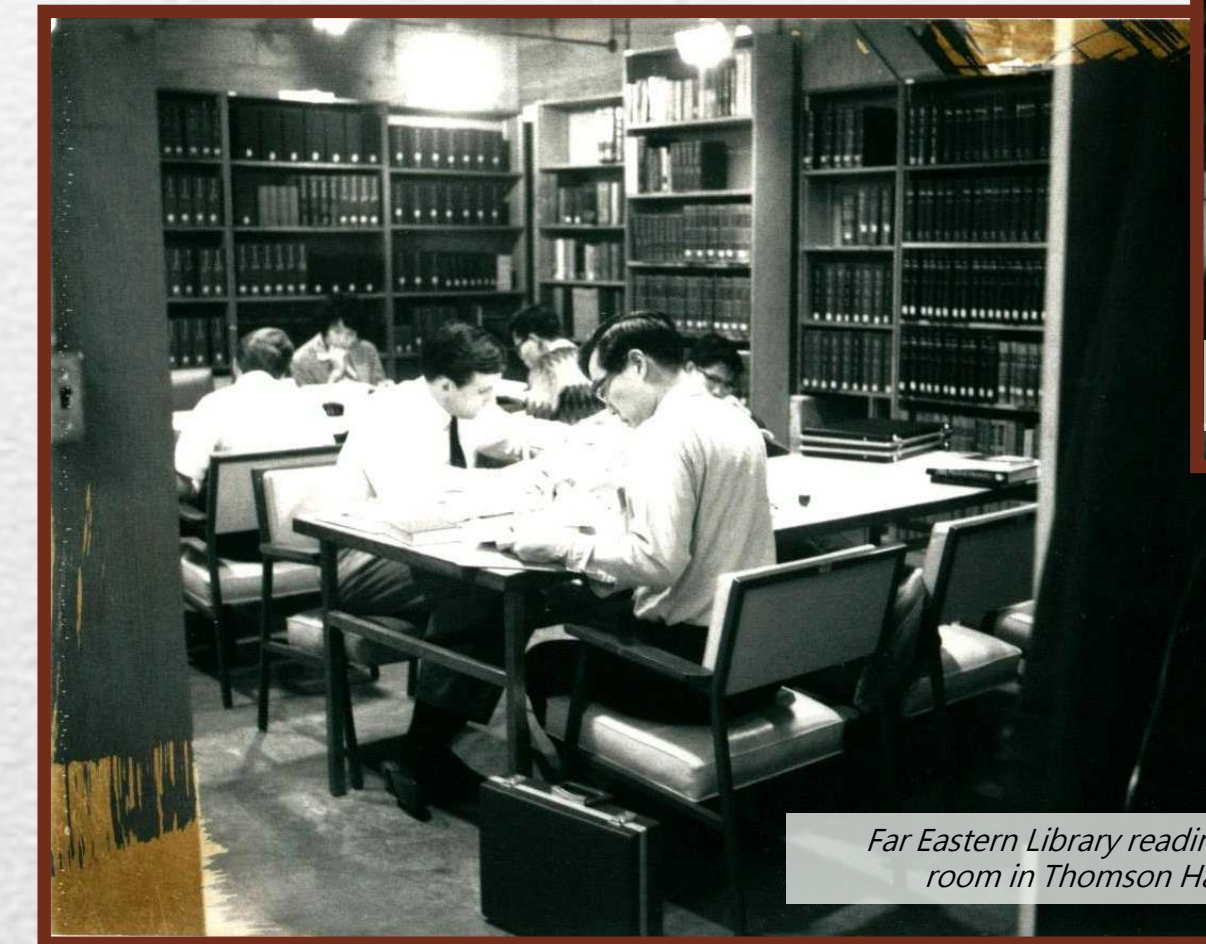
It was not the most luxurious location, but was a vast improvement over the old “unheated shack,” providing greatly expanded shelving and storage capacity, not to mention heated work and study areas.

The space received a major remodel in 1961, with the library taking over more of the building’s basement. In the decade since the move to Thomson Hall, the library had once again outgrown its shelving and storage capabilities, and books began to be stored in various locations around campus. The increased space resulting from the remodel—for book stacks, study areas, and library staff offices—helped relieve the overcrowding. The remodel also improved the basement’s lighting and air circulation.

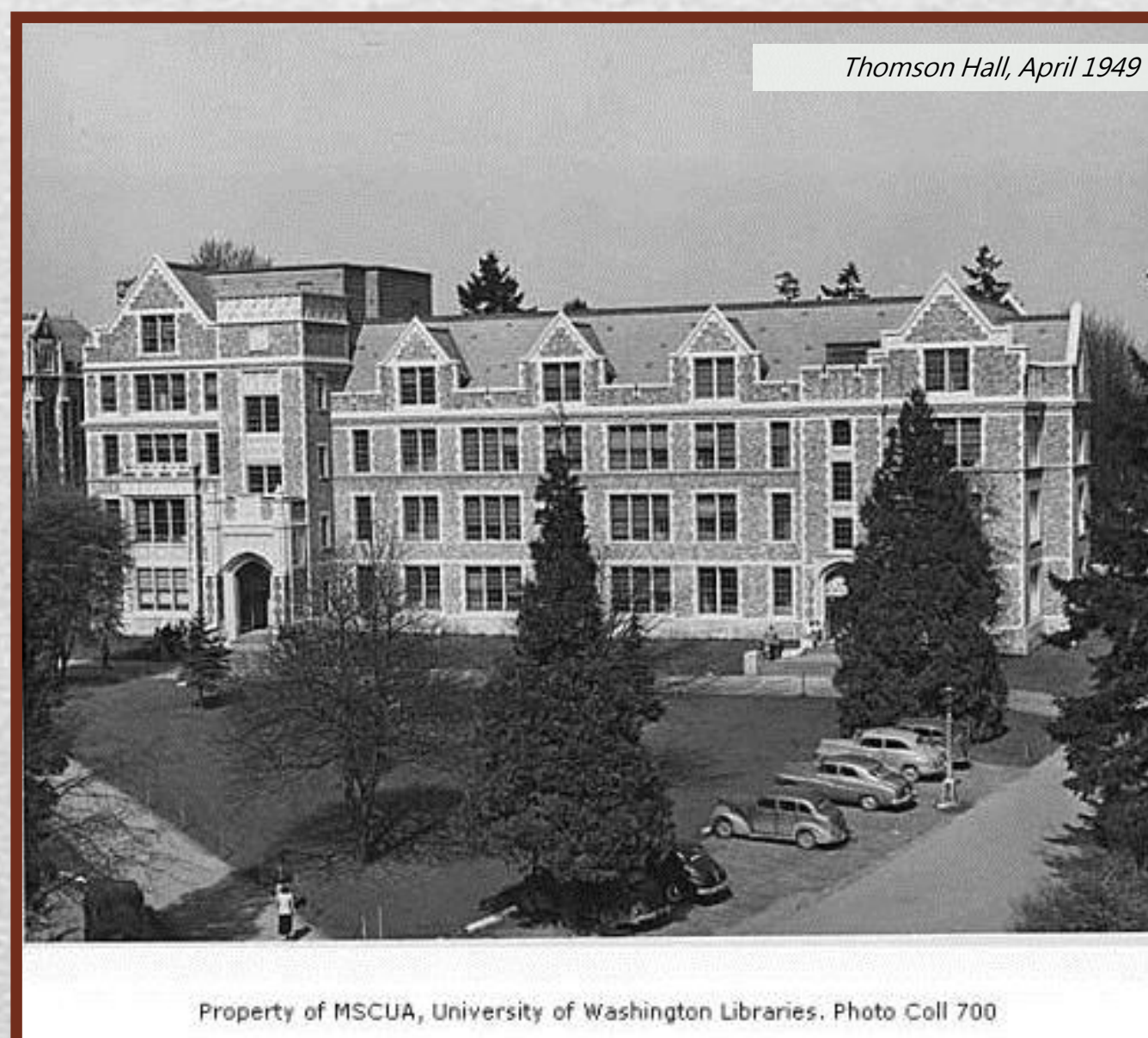
In 1968 another remodeling project created some extra space for readers, but did not provide extra stack space, which was still greatly needed. Also in this year Ruth Krader retired from the position of curator and was replaced by Karl K. Lo.



Book stacks in Thomson Hall



Far Eastern Library reading room in Thomson Hall



Thomson Hall, April 1949

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Yeen-mei Wu (Senior Bibliographer at FEL), Tom Kaasa (Subject Specialist, Japanese), Tsuyoshi Nakamori (visiting librarian from the National Diet Library in Japan), and Karl Lo (Head of FEL) standing outside Thomson Hall near the Far Eastern Library entrance, 1971

