Palm Walk – Research Notes

- The palms are Mexican Fan Palms (*Washingtonia Robusta*) native to Mexico. (Rubio, Roisan 131.29 R826 1995 FOLIO)
- Published references to 1916 plantings are not confirmed.
- Tempe Normal School financial records (1916-1918) show purchases:
  - March, 1917: $38.45 for “trees” from H. B. Skinner
  - April, 1917: $227.99 for “trees, plants, etc.” from Armstrong Nurseries
  - May, 1918: $7.00 for “palm trees” from Blasingame Nurseries
  - UM MSS-149: Box 3, Folder 8/vol; Box 7, Folders 2-4/vol
- Areas near new Infirmary “lately beautified” by “good cement walks and grass” (“Our campus”, *Tempe Normal Student*, 3/19/17, p.1 (131.10 St29 Folio)
- 1919 campus aerial photo shows seedlings/shrubs in foreground.
- General Catalog photographs were captioned “The College Palms” (1926) and “The Palms, Normal Avenue” (1932). [http://hdl.handle.net/2286/R.C.138](http://hdl.handle.net/2286/R.C.138)
- There were 215 *Washingtonia Robusta* planted on the campus by March, 1946. (Svob list, UE ASU 39.3 C2 18 (1949)
- Normal Street was a through street:
  - From Eighth to just south of Tyler until about 1960
  - From Apache to Orange until about 1957 or 1958
  - Campus Maps: **UE EPH 354-355 & 357**
- “Beautiful Environment for Higher Learning” pamphlet appears to be first use of the name “palm walk”. (ca. 1967) **UE EPH-357**
- Palm Walk was extended from Orange to the Student Recreation Center ca. 1989. “Recreation Complex opens doors to ASU”, *State Press*, August 10, 1989, Page 1

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