

1: Project MUSE - The Literature of American Library History, "â€"

Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy () Martin, Lowell A. *Enrichment: A History of the Public Library in the United States in the Twentieth Century* () Martin, Lowell Arthur, et al. *Library response to urban change: a study of the Chicago Public Library* (Chicago: American Library Association,) McMullen, Haynes. *American Libraries before* (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press,) Mickelson, Peter.

BY Jill Harness October 29, We already looked at libraries in all the major continents , but there were so many great ones in the United States that the article featuring libraries in North America had to leave many beautiful buildings out. This building is absolutely stunning, and with good reasonâ€”Dr. The end result was a 3-story, Italian Renaissance-styled masterpiece adorned with 62 stained glass windows, massive marble columns, intricate ceiling designs and other wonderful details. Since the original donation to the city, the library has expanded greatly, and now the three different buildings that make up the library take up half of a New York city block. Talk about old school: The Boston Public library, established in , was the first municipal library in all of the U. Its first location was a small schoolhouse, but it had to expand almost immediately. In , the building was expanded, and it now contains over 8. It even has first edition folios from Shakespeare and original music scores by Mozart. The first Carnegie library in the U. Only 5 years later, it received a Romanesque-styled addition, doubling the size of the building. When it was first constructed, it featured a variety of entertainment options, including billiards tables on the first floor, a music hall, a gymnasium, and a swimming pool. Additionally, it held a bathhouse in the basement so mill workers could take a shower before accessing the facilities. These days, the bathhouse is now a pottery studio, but the tiled floors and walls remain. Amazingly, this gorgeous landmark was almost demolished in the late seventies. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in , but was closed in because it desperately needed repairs, particularly on the roof. Fortunately, a group of library lovers stepped forward to protect and repair the building; later, it was named a Historic Landmark. This library manages to balance old and new influences in a refreshingly unique manner. The original building, completed in , is located in the front of the complex, while a massive, modernized addition from sits in the background. The first building was designed in the Greek Doric style and is often called one of the most outstanding architectural libraries in the U. The addition is just about as modern as can be, with glass and wood paneling throughout the building. More importantly, the 6-story, , square foot tower provides even more space for books and reading rooms! Like the Indianapolis Public Library, the Central library of Los Angeles features a striking balance between old and new architecture. The original library building was completed in and featured influences from ancient Egyptian and Mediterranean Revival architecture, including pyramids and mosaics. Unfortunately, two successive fires in left the building in desperate need of a renovation. During the renovation, a new wing was added with Modernist and Beaux-Arts influences. These days, the library is the third largest public library in the U. Hearst Castle is one of the most famous buildings in California, but most tour groups miss the opportunity to explore the second story of the building, which includes a massive guest library and a cozier gothic library and study. If you ever happen to get access to Skywalker Ranch, make sure you get a chance to look at the library, which is crowned with a foot stained glass dome that allows employees and guests of Lucas Studios to enjoy their reading in natural light. This Collegiate Gothic building was completed in and among its many impressive details are 18 terra-cotta figures set atop the buttresses featuring academic heroes such as Louis Pasteur, Dante, Shakespeare, Plato, Benjamin Franklin, Sir Isaac Newton, Leonardo da Vinci, Galileo, Gutenberg, Beethoven, Darwin, and more. Inside, a series of shields depict the coat of arms from many top universities around the world, including Yale, Oxford, Stanford and Uppsala. Library staff turn the pages about once a month so interested viewers can slowly enjoy the entire work from front to backâ€”assuming they visit regularly. In , most architects were focused on Romanesque styles built with marble and granite. Of course, with all the thousands of libraries in the U.

2: America's Public Libraries: A Democratizing, Positive Product of our Communities

Libraries in United States List of United States Public Libraries, National Libraries, Academic Libraries, School Libraries and Special Libraries in America Academic Libraries.

Books, in early America, were rare and expensive. There were no public libraries. Only the very wealthy and the clergy had access to large numbers of books. Even men of moderate means could not readily afford books. On July 1, 1731, Franklin and a group of members from the Junto, a philosophical association, drew up "Articles of Agreement" to form a library. The Junto was interested in a wide range of ideas, from economics to solving social woes to politics to science. But they could not turn to books to increase their knowledge or settle disputes, as between them they owned few tomes. So it was that 50 subscribers invested 40 shillings each to start a library. Members also promised to invest 10 shillings more every year to buy additional books and to help maintain the library. They chose as their motto a Latin phrase which roughly translates as "To support the common good is divine. James Logan, secretary to William Penn, assisted in picking the books. He was considered "the best Judge of Books in these Parts. Franklin also donated his copy of Merchants Mappe of Commerce to the company. Early Members The first librarian was named Louis Timothee. But he soon left the post to become a printer in Charleston, one of the many franchise partners Franklin had in the printing business. He was succeeded briefly by Franklin himself who was in turn was succeeded by a shoemaker named William Parsons. In 1732, Parsons gave way to Robert Greenway. A crucial figure in the early history of the company was Peter Collinson, a learned Londoner, who was also a letter-writing acquaintance of Benjamin Franklin. Another important position within the Library was Company Secretary. Secretaries kept meeting minutes, corresponded with Peter Collinson and ordered books from him. The first secretary was Joseph Breintnall. Franklin also served in the position of secretary, though he was not a very organized note taker. After a departure abroad, his meeting notes were found stuffed in a Library Company box which Franklin had left with his wife Deborah. A stellar cast of characters comprised the early membership of the Company. Presbyterian schoolmaster Francis Alison was a member as was Dr. Thomas Cadwalader, both names familiar to Philadelphians. Library Hours In 1732, Proprietor William Penn donated a print of an "orrery," a device showing the relative position of the bodies in the solar system by means of clockwork, to the Company. While Penn was not as initially generous as hoped, others, some from abroad, chipped in quite liberally, impressed with the establishment of a library in America. There were books on history, geography, poetry, exploration, and science. The library was open Saturday afternoons from 12 to 4. Members could borrow books freely; non-members could also borrow books "if they put up a surety, something of value that could be sold if the book was not returned. Franklin felt that "these Libraries have improved the general Conversation of Americans, made the common Tradesman and Farmers as intelligent as most Gentlemen from other Countries, and perhaps have contributed in some Degree to the Standso generally made throughout the Colonies in Defence of their Privileges. In 1733, the Union merged with the Library Company. On the Move In addition to books, the Company also built up an impressive collection of curiosities and antiques which included: Coins, fossils, geological specimens, flora and fauna, as well as scientific instruments. In 1734, John Penn sent an air pump to the Company and a cabinet was commissioned to hold the pump. In 1735, the group moved into the newly finished rooms on the second floor of the west wing of the State House, the building today known as Independence Hall. Gifts from abroad came in too, including Roman coins from Tory member of Parliament Charles Gray and some Eskimo parkas and tools, artifacts from a Philadelphia-financed exhibition to find the Northwest Passage. Benjamin West, the renowned artist and Swarthmore native sent over a mummified Egyptian Princess from London. Many scientific and electrical instruments made their way to the scientifically interested group. The Companies telescopes and microscopes were frequently used. The books were numbered by size "a practice which continues to this day. By 1736, the Library had run out of space, and again started casting about for a new headquarters. They petitioned the Pennsylvania Assembly for permission to build on the State-House Square, but they were turned down. In 1737, while Franklin was in London, he received the following lines: Responding to the hardships caused by the Intolerable Acts, this was the first time that all the Colonies, save for Georgia, met

to determine a unified course of action. John Adams recorded that the site selection committee had taken "a View of the Room, and of the Chamber where is an excellent Library. Congress formally expressed its thanks to the Library Company for its use of the books. When the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia in May of 1776, the Library again offered use of its books to the august body. The Second Continental Congress would go on to author its own most remarkable work – the Declaration of Independence. Nine signers of the Declaration of Independence were also members of the Library Company: In 1776, the Library Company offered delegates to the Constitutional Convention use of the library. William Thornton, an amateur architect won the design competition. His Federal building featured white pilasters and a balustrade surmounted by urns. Leading into the building was a curving double stairway. Over the door, in the second story space, was a niche with a pediment. Fittingly the pediment was filled by a statue of Franklin. William Bingham, a wealthy merchant donated the elaborate marble piece which was made out of Italian marble by Francesco Lazzarini. Today the Library Company is located at Locust Street.

3: Public Libraries in the United States

University libraries get all the glory for their donor-funded grandiosity, but from coast to coast, public libraries offer memorable stop-off spots ranging from quaint to historic to monumental.

Comments I admit that with pipe bombs delivered all over my home city, a murderous anti-Semitic lunatic rampaging in Pittsburgh, and a president who complains that terrorism is a distraction from his campaign message, I spent the weekend looking for something positive to think about and reflect on. It was difficult, because as an American Jew I took the attack in Pittsburgh personally. I am deeply and profoundly saddened and horrified by the attack on an American place of worship on what should have been a peaceful Shabbos morning. Perhaps I was thinking of quiet places of reflection and open community spaces; perhaps it was the Pittsburgh connection to Andrew Carnegie and his pathbreaking philanthropy to libraries. There are a couple of branches of the New York Public Library within a mile of my apartment. And I remembered the old Mill Basin Branch of the library around the corner from my childhood home in Brooklyn. It was a small library, but it was very special. Sometimes, a few of us would climb on the bus and ride down Flatbush Avenue to explore what we thought of as the biggest library in the world, the main branch of the Brooklyn Public Library at Grand Army Plaza. I guess country kids explore the woods and city kids explore the stacks in some libraries. But rain or shine, all over America libraries provide books, internet access, and free passage across the digital divide. They are precious, if sometimes vulnerable, local resources. Libraries, like all government-funded institutions, are facing challenges during this anti-government era, but because they provide a tangible and visible service, they seem to be holding their own. Earlier this year the Trump Administration sought to eliminate the relatively small amount of federal funding provided to libraries, but Congress rejected those cuts. The conference committee has recommended increasing funding levels for many programs. Library use and funding grew during the period from, but both use and funding fell victim to the Great Recession of Library funding varies widely by state, according to the Humanities Indicator Project. In Long Beach, New York, the small city that I spend much of my summer in, the library budget is smaller than the school budget, but receives more votes from local citizens. The library in Long Beach is packed with free events, computers, and movies and books for loan. It is always a busy, lively center of community life, a phenomenon that seems increasingly common in communities across America. A , Mile Journey into the Heart of America, local libraries were often one of their first stops when exploring small American towns and cities. Writing about their observations in the Atlantic this past May, James Fallows observed: By most measures of use—classes and programs offered, daily attendance, visits to the website, everything except calls to reference librarians for the research people can now do on Google—libraries are becoming more rather than less popular and central to civic life. The soft measures of impact are powerful: According to a recent Pew survey, Millennials use libraries more than their Gen X or Boomer elders do. In a digital age, using scarce apartment space for a book collection seems to make less sense than borrowing books and returning them after you read them. Last week I wrote about the need for lifelong learning for survival in the modern economy. Libraries are places where entry to learning resources is free and open to all. In a society where income inequality is growing, free resources like schools, parks and libraries continue to grow in importance. There are no rope lines or VIP lounges at public libraries. Tourists, citizens, and even illegal immigrants are allowed to enter and use the resources on offer. And libraries are not passive resources. They are staffed by professional librarians. You also come to appreciate the role that libraries play as a gateway to the wider world that many of us take for granted. Literacy, information and knowledge are prerequisites to participation in a work world where manual labor is increasingly replaced by machines. Religious institutions, schools, community organizations and libraries all have a critical role to play in ensuring that people can earn entry to that world. We all have a vested interest in democratizing participation. A permanent underclass is not simply unethical and unjust, it is a breeding ground for crime and anti-social behavior. As I mourn the dead worshippers in Pittsburgh and the sickness of an American political system that insists on allowing people to legally possess automatic weapons, I refuse to be defined by the dysfunction that has infected our politics.

There is evil in the world and we need to protect ourselves, our families and our communities from that evil. But there is far more good in the world than evil, from first responders racing to the sounds of gunfire to everyday librarians helping a child find information for a term paper. In American neighborhoods we help each other and public service is an expected norm. America is a nation of immigrants and our diversity is a great strength. We always do better when we build bridges instead of walls, when we build libraries and schools instead of prisons. I find the search for a positive symbol or message of particular importance right now.

4: The 10 Most Beautiful Libraries in the United States | Mental Floss

Additional questions about libraries in the United States might be answered on one of these fact sheets: ALA Library Fact Sheet 2 - Number Employed in Libraries, ALA Library Fact Sheet 3 - Lists of Libraries, ALA Library Fact Sheet 5 - Marketing to Libraries, and ALA Library Fact Sheet 13 - The Nation's Largest Public Libraries: Top 25 Rankings.

It is the first lending library in America. It is the first tax supported free public library in the world. It later becomes the Wisconsin State Law Library. It is the predecessor of the Milwaukee Public Library. The Lawrence University Library in Appleton is founded. It is the first large public library and the model for public libraries that follow. In Cassville it is the Ladies Library Association. The library of the Platteville Academy is given to the library of the Normal School. It is based on a similar law passed in the same year in Illinois. The Fond du Lac Public Library is established. It claims to be the first library in America to have open shelves. Summer training sessions for librarians are initiated under the auspices of the WFLC. These training sessions are the precursors of what is to be the the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Charles McCarthy is its first librarian. The Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library served as a prototype of such libraries in other states and also was the model for the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress. Seven communities in Wisconsin receive grants from Andrew Carnegie for public library buildings. Eventually 60 communities in Wisconsin will receive funding for 63 public library buildings from Carnegie. Two colleges also receive grants from Carnegie for library buildings. The collections of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission are heavily damaged, however. Matthew Dudgeon, Secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, working in cooperation with the major libraries in Madison, establishes a books-by-mail program which provides the resources of these libraries to the rural residents of the state. The American Library Association takes a leadership role in providing library service to soldiers and sailors at home and abroad. Libraries throughout Wisconsin join in the national effort to raise funds for books and library service for the armed forces. Janice Kee resigns from the Free Library Commission.

5: State of America's Libraries Report | News and Press Center

Credit: This exhibition was created as part of the DPLA's Public Library Partnerships Project in collaboration with partners and participants from Digital Commonwealth, Digital Library of Georgia, Minnesota Digital Library, Montana Memory Project, and Mountain West Digital Library. Exhibition organizers: Hillary Brady and Franky Abbott.

Special Libraries Special libraries offer services within a specialized environment, such as corporations, hospitals, the military, museums, private businesses, and the government. Special libraries can serve particular populations, such as the blind and physically handicapped, while others are dedicated to special collections, such as the Library of Congress or a presidential library. In a pharmaceutical company, for example, the library will need to offer materials to support the research that is done so that scientists have a comprehensive view of what has already been established in their area of interest. New products should not replicate existing products and findings of studies on side-effects and toxicity would be vital for further research. In every case, the library service is tailored to a very specific area and supports that special interest. Special libraries are funded by their parent institutions. Some special libraries make material available through inter-library loan, and some allow usage and borrowing. In most cases, special library materials are available only to specific users, and borrowing and usage are governed strictly by individual policies. Learn more about special libraries at the Special Library Association web site, www.sla.org.

Joint-Use Libraries In many communities seeking to provide library resources for more than one segment of the population, it has become prudent to explore combining resources and services into a joint-use facility. Many joint-use libraries exist today, and there is a great deal of information about them—case studies, articles that discuss the considerations of combining services, implementation, perceptions, evaluations, advice, etc. Some have been successful while others have been challenging. As a result, communities considering this option are well advised to read and benefit from this large amount of relevant information. The two most common types of joint-use facilities combine public libraries with school library media centers and public libraries with academic libraries.

The Library of Congress The mission of the Library of Congress is to make its resources available and useful to the Congress and the American people and to sustain and preserve a universal collection of knowledge and creativity for future generations. The Library was founded in 1800, making it the oldest federal cultural institution in the nation. On Christmas Eve 1851, another fire destroyed two-thirds of the collection. Many of the volumes have since been replaced, but nearly 10% are missing. The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world, with more than 29 million items on approximately 100 miles of bookshelves. The collections include more than 29 million books and other printed materials, 2. The Library receives some 22,000 items each working day and adds approximately 10,000 items to the collections daily. The majority of the collections are received through the copyright registration process, since the Library is home to the U.S. Copyright Office. Materials are also acquired through gift, purchase, other government agencies federal, state and local, Cataloging in Publication a pre-publication arrangement with publishers and exchange with libraries in the United States and abroad. Through these exchanges the Library acquires material that would not be available otherwise. The remaining items are made available to other federal agencies and are then available for donation to educational institutions, public bodies and nonprofit tax-exempt organizations in the United States. Its mission is "to provide leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all. Headquartered in Chicago, its operations are directed by an executive director and implemented by staff through a structure of programmatic offices and support units. ALA is home to 11 membership divisions, each focused on a type of library or a type of library function. It also includes round tables, which are groups of members "interested in the same field of librarianship not within the scope of any division. ALA is not a library, although it has a library. The ALA Library and its librarians are available to help with questions relevant to the Association and its mission. The Association focuses on the governance and policies of the Association, on the committees and discussion groups and other opportunities for active member participation, and on the services and products available to members. To learn more about the American Library Association, visit <http://www.ala.org>

6: Wisconsin Library Heritage Center - History

The item The history of public library access for African Americans in the South, or, Leaving behind the plow, David M. Battles represents a specific, individual, material embodiment of a distinct intellectual or artistic creation found in Ramapo Catskill Library System.

United States[edit] Street sign commonly used to point the way to a public library As the United States developed from the 18th century to today, growing more populous and wealthier, factors such as a push for education and desire to share knowledge led to broad public support for free libraries. In addition, money donations by private philanthropists provided the seed capital to get many libraries started. In some instances, collectors donated large book collections. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts , founded in , subsidized libraries as a regular part of their missionary activity whenever they sent a priest to an Anglican mission or church that did not have a library already. Libraries often display exhibits inside and outside the structures, as this sculpture of a little girl reading at the public library in Trinidad , Colorado. Thomas Bennet, dated June 15, , Checkley wrote: There is evidence of other and possibly earlier public libraries. John Sharpe, who had traveled as a missionary priest over the colonies from Maryland to Connecticut, thought the parish library in New York inadequate. He devised an advanced plan for a public library in New York City open to all. In a letter on March 11, he notes there were already at least four public libraries in the colonies including the one in Boston: Some books have been formerly sent to New York but as parochial they remain in the hands of the Incumbent. His advanced dream of a library open every day was not to be accomplished in New York until It was started with a donation of books from the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The Collection of Dr. Millington was presented for the library. Most but not all works were in relation to religion. Today, the Library Company continues to exist as a nonprofit , independent research library. A town in Massachusetts named itself Franklin after the famous Pennsylvanian. For this honor, Franklin donated books to the town in lieu of a requested church bell. The social library operated under a suggested user fee and was open to any youth between the ages of twelve and twenty-one. In , Torrey published *The Intellectual Torch*, a treatise advocating for a national system of free public libraries. The Boston Public Library opened on March 20, Tilden bequeathed millions to build the New York Public Library. He believed Americans should have access to books and a free education if desired. In , one account suggested "the village library is growing more and more an indispensable adjunct to American village life. Votes related to library governance and funding, as well as the collection of levied taxes, are administered by the school district. The library in Darby, Pennsylvania , found expenses were greater than revenues from local property taxes, state funds, and investment income; it was on the risk of closing, according to a newspaper report. In many towns and small cities before , local boosters operated social libraries, which were open by subscription. The middle classes patronized them, borrowed bestsellers and old classics, and came to know the other book lovers in town. These libraries became the forerunners of the public library. City boosters opened a public library in However the design of the idealized free library was at the center of a prolonged and heated debate. On one hand, wealthy philanthropists favored grandiose monuments that reinforced the paternalistic metaphor and enhanced civic pride. Librarians considered that grand design inefficient, and too expensive to maintain. The idea spread rapidly in the North. By there were over a hundred traveling libraries in Wisconsin alone, in New York. Carnegie library Andrew Carnegie , born to poverty taught himself and became a leading industrialist and philanthropist. Among his many philanthropies was the public libraryâ€”he built and furnished a library if the city agreed to maintain and staff it. By , half the American public libraries had been built by Carnegie. Carnegie systematically funded 2, libraries throughout the English-speaking world. The Carnegie buildings typically followed a standardized style called "Carnegie Classic": Academic libraries were built for colleges. Usually there was no charge to read or borrow; in New Zealand, however, local taxes were too low to support libraries and most charged subscription fees to their users. The arrangements were always the same: Carnegie would provide the funds for the building but only after the municipal government had provided a site for the building and had passed an ordinance for the purchase of books and future maintenance

of the library through taxation.

7: Home - Number of Libraries in the United States - LibGuides at American Library Association

"The story of African Americans' long struggle to attain civil rights, particularly in the South, is well documented. The story of the public library movement in America is also well documented.

8: NPR Choice page

The American Library Association maintains a list of the largest libraries in the United States by volumes held. The ALA's list was last updated in October , although much of the most recent data is from report by the Association of Research Libraries (academic institutions) and the Statistical Report of the Public Library Data Service.

9: Franklin's Philadelphia: The Library Company

America's public libraries are a democratizing, positive product of our communities. I find the search for a positive symbol or message of particular importance right now. Get our newsletter.

Victoriana 2nd edition core rulebook 11. The hitting probabilities of a finite set How to Make a Mudpie (Fun and Fantasy) International journal remote sensing Allometry of growth and reproduction The gay metropolis, 1940-1996 Metallica hardwired tab book Zombie science more icons of evolution Word study for derivational constancy spellers. Just Tell the Truth Create a homegroup A Transvaal view of the South African question. By F. V. Engelenburg. Journey Beyond Life 9. The Ascension 106 Pleyel as music publisher The Classical Electromagnetic Field Michael Prendergast Epigraphic evidence Between Health and Beauty : Food Advertised as Medication Juan Rey, University of Seville, School of Comm Sources of the making of the west fourth edition Catering to Fallujah Hp g71-340us service manual Where i edit title Multiplicity in Alwin Nikolais dance theater Nonprofit Organizations Business Forms 1995 Disk Edition Rockets and rodeos and other American spectacles Sanitized History Essential Lincoln. Stories of how the world began : The legend of Nu Kua Global books in print Nuclear batteries Wandering knights: romance at court Habit And Its Importance In Education Vanders human physiology 11th edition test bank The reef back home. Lipids and related compounds Dragonlance campaign setting Lets be safe with Macken Tosh Apple The lies made Mrs. Brown even more furious with them and she began to confront them head on. Criminal aggression: by whom committed?