

Crystal Library

Address	Crystal Shopping Center, 255 Willow Bend, (Bass Lake Road & West Broadway)
Square Feet	126' x 22' total space; 96' x 22' library working area
Cost	Rental at \$6350/yr. (First year free)
Open to public	April 7, 1960 From North Hennepin Post, 4/7/60
Dedication	July 25, 1960 From North Hennepin Post, 7/28/60
Closed	May 22, 1972

Overview of Community and Library

Crystal's first library opened April 7, 1960, replacing the bookmobile stop. Located in a business block of the Crystal Shopping Center among regular retail stores, it was an experiment in this type location. [From HCL Annual Report 1960](#)

History

In 1958 the Village of Crystal showed interest in a branch library. Population at that time was 15,000. Helen Young met with the village council early that year to explain the type of building and general location necessary for library quarters. [From HCL Annual Report 1958](#)

On November 17, 1959 the Crystal council resolved to provide housing for a free public library in the Crystal Shopping Center. Property was leased for a six-year term. [From local newspaper, source not noted](#)

The Crystal Library closed May 22, 1972. Services to the Crystal and New Hope communities resumed when the new Rockford Road Library opened June 5, 1972. [From Rockford Road Montly Report, June 1972](#)

Dedication

The library's dedication was part of the Crystal Village Centennial (July 25-31, 1960) Raymond Williams, MPL Librarian gave the dedication address. Other speakers were:

Governor Orville Freeman
Hannis S. Smith, Director, State Library Division
Mrs. John Rood, President of MPL Board
Helen Young, Director, HCL
John Grogan, Mayor of Crystal

[From North Hennepin Post 7/28/60](#)

Collection

The Opening Collection housed 12,000 volumes. [From Crystal Annual Report, 1960](#)

Staff [Information from Crystal monthly reports](#)

(Opening Staff)

Maureen Sullivan, Librarian 1960-1966

Jeannette Deich, Assistant Librarian 1960-

Helen Sullivan, Clerk 1960-

Mrs. Bernard Deick, Librarian 1963-

Minerva Blixt, Youth Services Librarian 1963-1972

Marie Doherty, Clerk 1963-1972

Maxine Lilja, Clerk 1964-1972

Dorothy Dunn, Senior Librarian 1967- [From North Hennepin Post, 3/2/67](#)

Janet Wilson, Librarian 1967

Janet Wilson, Senior Librarian 1968-1969

Linda Jones Hall, Youth Services Librarian 1968-

Mary Jo Talbot, Librarian 1969-

Beverly Nelson, Librarian 1969-1972

Carol Babben Goudy, Librarian 1969-1972

Eileen Cavanagh

Phyllis Mattill

7/24/08

Revised 4/06/2009