

Westonka Library

Address	2079 Commerce Blvd. Mound, M.N
Architect	Roger Johnson Associates
Groundbreaking	October 7, 1971 From Excelsior Deephaven Minnetonka Sun, 10/7/71
Square Feet:	8500
Cost	\$383,000 including land, construction, furnishings, collection
Open to Public	August, 1972 From Westonka welcome brochure
Dedication	Sunday, November 5, 1972.

Overview of the Community

Mound was named for its mounds, generally believed to be of Indian origin. There are three groups within the area of the town, having respectively four, nine and eighteen mounds, while westward stretch a series of sixty-nine. [From The county Line, spring, 1950](#)

History

The first public library was not connected with the school. Located in Koehler's General Store, it was established through donations from the Women's Club. Members of the Koehler family served as librarians. In 1916 the Women's Club took over direction of the library which was now housed in the new school [From The county Line, spring, 1950](#) As early as 1921 it appears that Hennepin County Library cooperated with the Mound Public School District in offering library services to the public in the school library. Supplies and books and other expenses were paid by the county fund through Minneapolis Public Library. [From letter to Mrs. Pearson from Gratia Countryman dated 12/30/21](#) The School district and the county shared the head librarian's salary. [From Minnetonka Pilot 9/17/59](#)

In September, 1962 Independent School District #277 resolved that by the opening of the 63-64 school year ..all public library functions would be removed from the present school facility. [From letter to Raymond Williams, County Librarian by Kenneth Iverson. Superintendent of \(Mound\) Schools 9/11/62](#) On September 26, 1962 Hennepin County Library requested that Mound provide a building suitable for public library use. [From letter to Leonard Kopp \(Mound Village Manager\) by Helen Young](#)

On April 6, 1964 the Mueller building was made available for a public library in Mound. [From letter to Gordon Tulberg by Helen Young](#)

On October 7, 1971 ground was broken for the new Westonka Library. [From Excelsior Deephaven Minnetonka Sun 10/7/71](#)

The dedication of the new building on Sunday, November 5, 1972 was attended by Robert Rohlf, director, Mr. Kotula, Mayor of Mound, Mr. Hubbard, Mayor of Minnetrista and Mr. Schmidt, Mayor of Spring Park. The Dedication address was given by E. F. Robb, Jr, Commissioner 5th District, Hennepin County Board of Commissioners.

Renovations

Although no major renovations have occurred, a librarian's office was added in 1986-87. A building modification in 2007 involved extensive changes; including new carpeting, computer workstation furniture, removal of walls in a former media/computer room, and rearrangement of the collection to provide a more open environment.

Collection

30,000 volumes [From Mound Westonka Sun 8/12/71](#) including books periodicals, film (8mm and 16mm) recordings pamphlets and art reproductions [From Westonka opening brochure](#)

Friends of the Library

A group of interested citizens from the Mound-Minnetrista-Spring Park communities formed Friends of Westonka library in order to represent and support community interest in their library.

Early Staff

Mrs. Frank Pearson 1918-1922

Mrs. Star White Bryant 1922-1941

Irene Helland 1941-1943

Margaret Cutler 1943-1947 [From Minnetonka Record 10-26-43](#)

Nora Casey 1947-1949

Estella Johnson 1949-

(1967- Staff information from HCL Tables of Organization)

Irene Thomson ?-1971

Janet Kinney 1971-1972

New Building Staff

(1967- Staff information from HCL Tables of Organization)

Barbara Frink, Senior Librarian 1972-1976

Barbara Keiser, Senior Librarian 1976-
1978

Vicki Oeljen, Senior Librarian 1979-1982

Eileen Cavanagh, Senior Librarian 1982-
1986 Jeanne Gelinis, Principal Librarian
1986- 1994

Bill Erickson. Senior Librarian 1994-2005

Ben Trapskin Senior Librarian 2005-2008

Marcia Wattson, Senior Librarian 2008-

Judith Adams, Youth Services Librarian 1972-1986

Lois Langer, Youth Services Librarian 1988-1992

Wendy Woodfill, Youth Services Librarian 1993-1994

Kim Fautot, Youth Services Librarian 1995-1996

Martha Flotten, Youth Services Librarian 1997-1999

Ericka Miller, Youth Services Librarian 1999-2001

Holly Rakocy, Youth Services Librarian 2002-2008

Mary Skow, Library Assistant ?-1986

Sally Edstrom, Library Assistant 1986-2000

Pat Hasse, Associate Librarian 2000-

Ellen Mostofi (Olson), Senior Clerk 1972-1978

William Erickson, Senior Clerk 1978-1979

Geri Gillis, Senior Clerk 1979-1980

Mary Sassen, Senior Clerk/SSSS 1980-2003

Nancy Hirdler, Senior Support Services Supervisor 2003-

Compiled by Linda Engberg and Eileen Cavanagh

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