

NEW LIBRARY BUILDINGS

FARMVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Farmville Public Library reopened to the public in its new building on Monday, March 15th. The building is the gift of Miss Elizabeth Davis of Farmville, in memory of her parents and uncles. It is a T-shaped structure of brick in Colonial style. Entrance is made directly into the main reading room area which is 60 by 30 feet. On either side of the circulation desk, which faces the entrance, are passageways about 10 feet long to the browsing room. The browsing room is approximately 40 by 20 feet and is provided with lock doors and a separate outside entrance so that it may be used for meetings when the remainder of the library is not open. The office-workroom opens off of the browsing room. The furnace and utility room entrance is at the rear of the building.

The stairway to the upstairs, the public toilets and a storage closet open from the passageways between the reading and browsing room.

The interior finish is plaster and wood. The main reading room has light green walls and the recessed shelving and all woodwork in a birch finish to match the Library Efficiency Corporation furnishings. The floor is rubber tile in white flecked with green. The browsing room is a beautiful room with grey walls and with recessed shelving and woodwork painted grey to match. The wall-to-wall carpeting and the draperies are also grey. The furnishings here are leather and mahogany. The inviting aspect of this room is enhanced by a fireplace. The upstairs is completely finished with walls and shelving of natural pine. There are five large dormer windows and easy access to a large amount of well arranged storage space. The floor is the same rubber tile as the reading room. The workroom is finished in grey with built-in bookshelves, counters and a sink.

Lighting in the main reading room, the upstairs room and the workroom is fluorescent. In the browsing room it is incandescent, with a large central chandelier and table lamps.

The building cost approximately \$75,000 and has a total capacity with present shelving of approximately 10,000 volumes. It is centrally located, a block from the main business district, on a corner lot with an inviting entrance of three low steps immediately from the sidewalk. The architect was George Watts Carr of Durham.

VALDESE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The new Valdese Public Library building was opened on Friday, January 29, 1954. The building is of brick and tile in Colonial style architecture. The front door opens into a small vestibule with a second door opening into the main room of the library. An outside book drop makes it possible for patrons to return books at other than library hours.

The main library room stretching across the entire width of the building has built-in maple bookshelves, magazine shelves, a newspaper rack, and some storage space, above which are tall, wide windows supplying adequate light during most daylight hours. The walls are white, at present, and the floor is a brown and cream plastic tile to blend with the maple woodwork. Incandescent lighting is used throughout.

Back of the main room is a stack area with lighting already installed. Shelving for this area will be purchased at a later date when the book collection outgrows the main room. To the left of the stack area are rest rooms, a service closet and the library work room. Behind the work room is the boiler room and the rear entrance.

Total cost of the building was \$30,895. Coffey and Olson, of Lenoir, were the architects; and the Brinkley Lumber Company was the general contractor. The site was given by Mr. and Mrs. John A. Pons, of Morganton.

The Valdese Library was started as a branch of the Morganton-Burke Library in 1943. Since that time interest in the Library has steadily grown resulting in the construction of a beautiful new home.