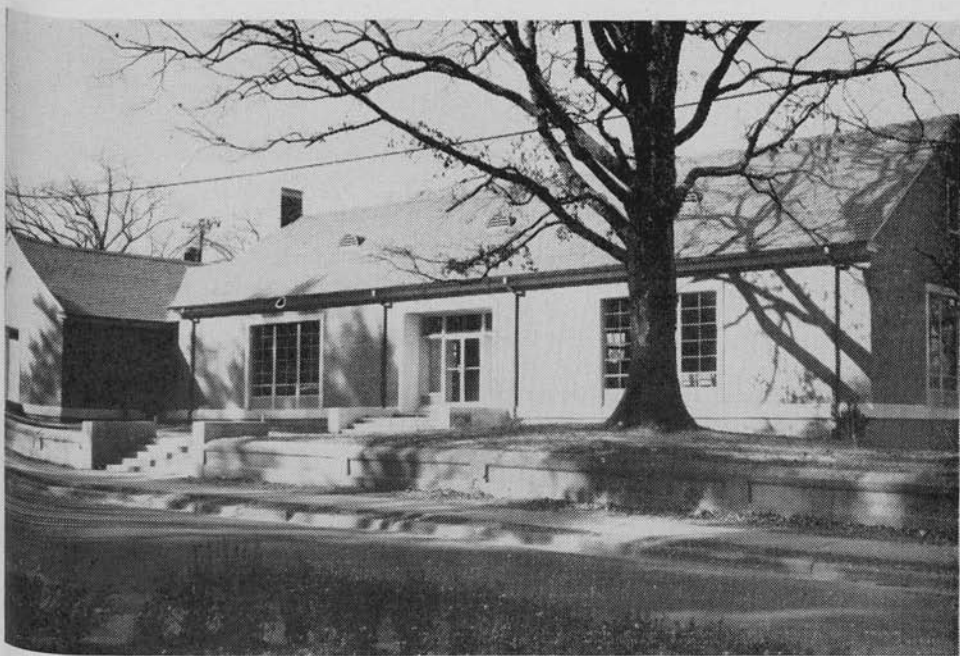


NEW LIBRARY BUILDINGS

The following brief descriptions and pictures are of library buildings which have been completed in North Carolina within the past three years. In some cases where funds were limited the generosity and initiative of local citizens have made the buildings possible. This is not a complete record. It omits buildings used for headquarters for a region or county library system which do not keep regular hours for public service. Remodeled buildings which have been adapted for public library use are not included. New library buildings in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County have been omitted because *North Carolina Libraries* for March and May, 1957, Volume 15, Numbers 3 and 4 carried feature articles about them.

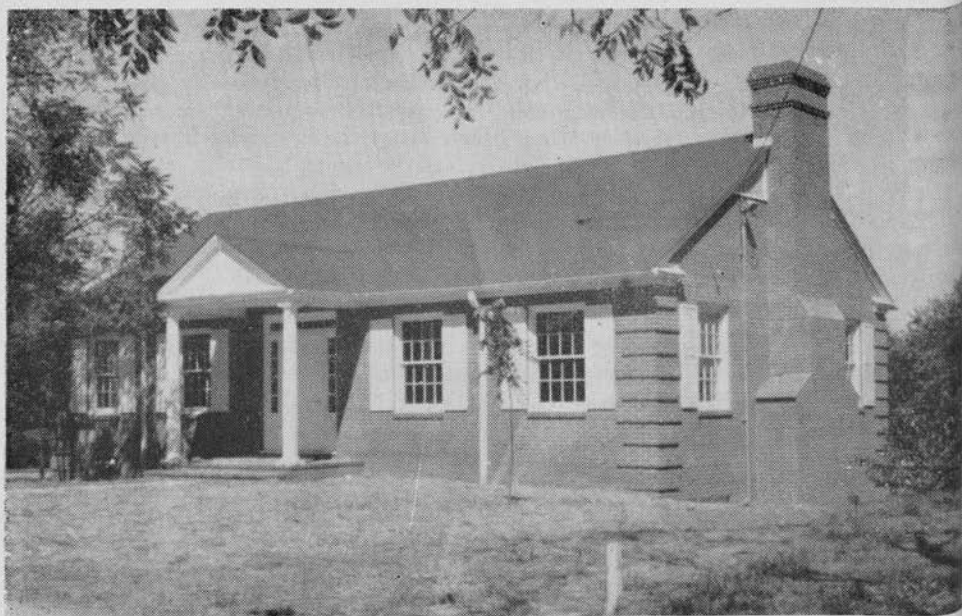
The Caldwell County Public Library, a \$130,000 colonial brick building in Lenoir, was dedicated in January 1958. The site of the building was donated by Mrs. George H. Bernhardt, sponsor of the Lenoir Service League, the organization which spearheaded the drive for the library. Mrs. Bernhardt's gift and the League's



Caldwell County Public Library

\$5,000 contribution launched the project on March 15, 1956, under the direction of Claude Armfield, Jr. and Joe Steele, co-chairmen of the drive. Manufacturers, merchants and individuals made contributions to the building fund.

The library is a one story structure on a sloping lot which provides a basement in the rear for a bookmobile garage, stack and storage areas. On the main floor there is an auditorium with a separate front entrance, adult, children and teen-age reading areas, office, workroom, circulation desk, and stacks. The building has 7,400 square feet and was designed by Lashmit, James, Brown and Pollock of Winston-Salem.



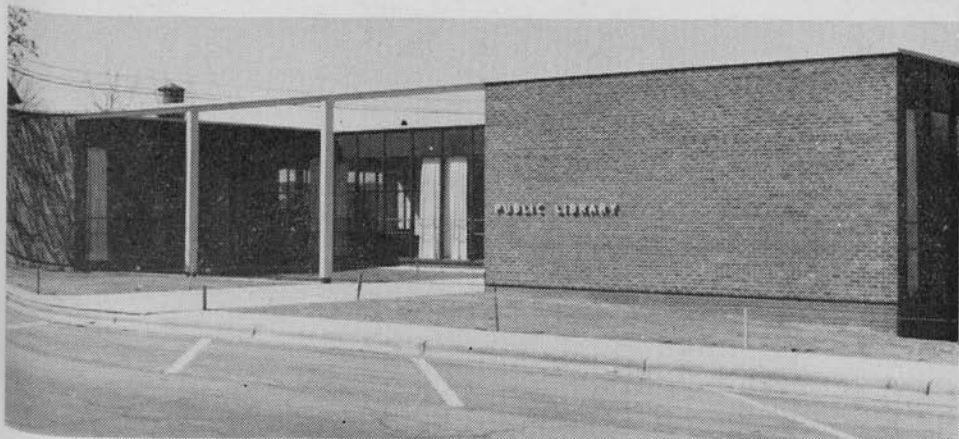
Pilot Mountain and Community Free Public Library

The Pilot Mountain and Community Free Public Library, a brick building of traditional design, is a combination library and community center. It was dedicated on October 13, 1957 and is a gift of Mr. Charles Haywood Stone to the town. The lot was donated by the Community Club. The library occupies the first floor and has an adult reading area, a reading area for children and a combination office and work alcove. Steps lead from the library to the community center on the ground floor with its outside entrance at the rear of the building. The architect was Mr. Fred W. Butner, Jr. of Winston-Salem.

The new Thomasville Public Library of contemporary design with approximately 6,000 square feet of floor area was dedicated on April 20, 1958. The architect, Mr. Luther Lashmit of Lashmit, James, Brown and Pollock of Winston-Salem, designed the brick and glass building around a courtyard. Including equipment and furnishings the library cost \$120,000 or more. One wing is used for children's books, tables and activities. It has one entire glass wall looking out on the central courtyard. At the rear of the wing is a general purpose room which will seat sixty persons. The right wing is devoted to adult functions. It contains lounge areas with informal furniture, study chairs and tables, book shelves and racks for periodicals. The teen-age lounge is located in the front portion of the center section. The back portion contains the circulation desk, workroom, office, periodical room and staff room. The basement is used for storage of magazines and newspapers.

Mrs. Lewis K. Mobley and her son, Mr. Tom A. Finch, donated \$75,000 toward the building. The county commissioners allocated \$45,000.

The new Lincoln Heights Community Library in Laurinburg is a branch of the Scotland County Memorial Library. The cement block building with brick veneer is of colonial style and was designed by W. E. Matthews Company, Laurinburg. The library has 1,064 square feet and has reading areas for adults and children separated by counter-height shelves. There is a large supply closet with shelving and



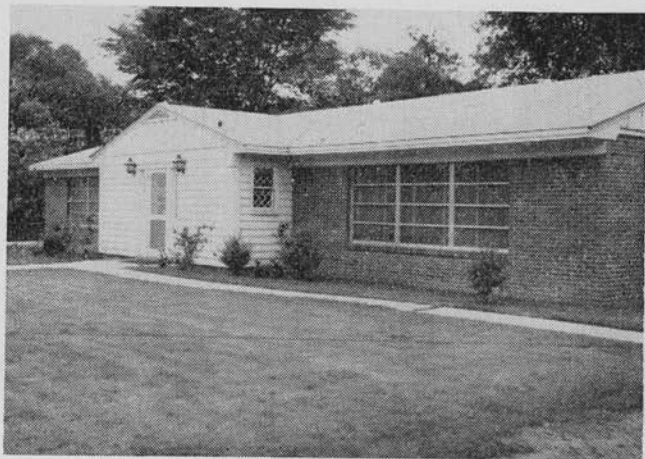
Thomasville Public Library



Lincoln Heights Community Library, Laurinburg

an office which is separated from the reading areas by a circulation counter and swinging door. Cost of the building was \$6,000. Funds for the library were raised by a group of Negro citizens headed by Mr. James B. Wall of Wagram and Mr. I. Ellis Johnson of Laurinburg. Local Negroes served as contractors and builders. Plans were donated by the architect.

The Washington County Library in Plymouth, which serves as headquarters for the Pettigrew Regional Library serving Washington, Chowan and Tyrrell counties, was completed in May 1956. The building of traditional design is cement block with brick veneer. It is 2,100 square feet and consists of one large room with reading and stack areas for adults and children and a combination office and workroom. The lot was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Z. V. Norman. The county commissioners appropriated \$10,000 for the building. The library board realized that this amount would not provide for wiring, light fixtures, interior painting, installation of shelves, floor



Washington County Library

covering, or furniture, so they asked various clubs and industries in the town and county to share in the completion of the library. Donations of money, materials, and labor enabled the library board to complete the building. Ambrose Construction Company was the contractor.

The Bridger Memorial Public Library of brick construction and contemporary design has recently been completed in Bladenboro. It is a gift to the city from the families of the late H. C. Bridger and R. L. Bridger, the two men who founded Bladenboro. The library, approximately 1400 square feet of floor area, has a large room with reading areas and book shelves for adults and children and a combination office and workroom. An entrance at the rear provides space for the county library bookmobile to park while it makes regular visits for an exchange of books from the county library collection.

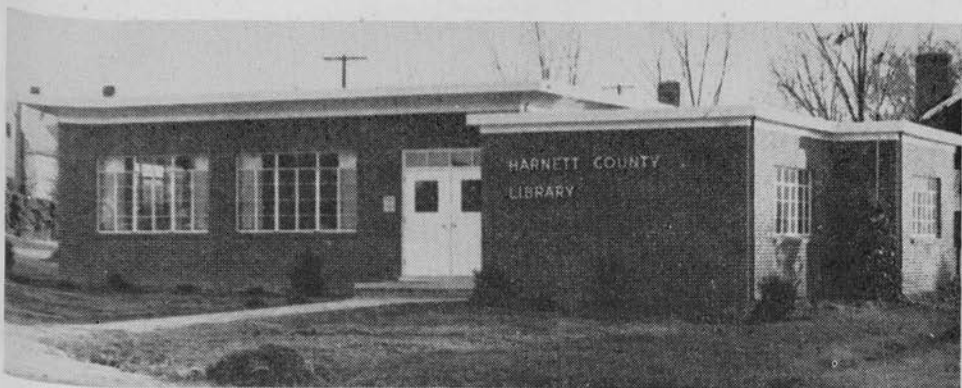
The Harnett County Library in Lillington completed during the summer of 1956 is a brick building of contemporary design planned for future expansion. The building which has approximately 1,500 square feet of floor area was designed by architect Mr. Arthur C. Jenkins of Fayetteville. It has stack and reading areas for adults and children and a combination workroom and office. The County Commissioners appropriated \$17,500 which covered the cost of the building and most of the furnishings.

The Gillespie Street Library in Fayetteville, a branch of the Cumberland County Public Library, was completed late in 1955. The building, of contemporary design, has 6,114 feet and was built at a cost of \$75,377. There is an adult reading room which opens on a patio, a children's room, stack area, multipurpose room, librarian's office workroom and staff room, and a mezzanine for stack expansion.

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARIES



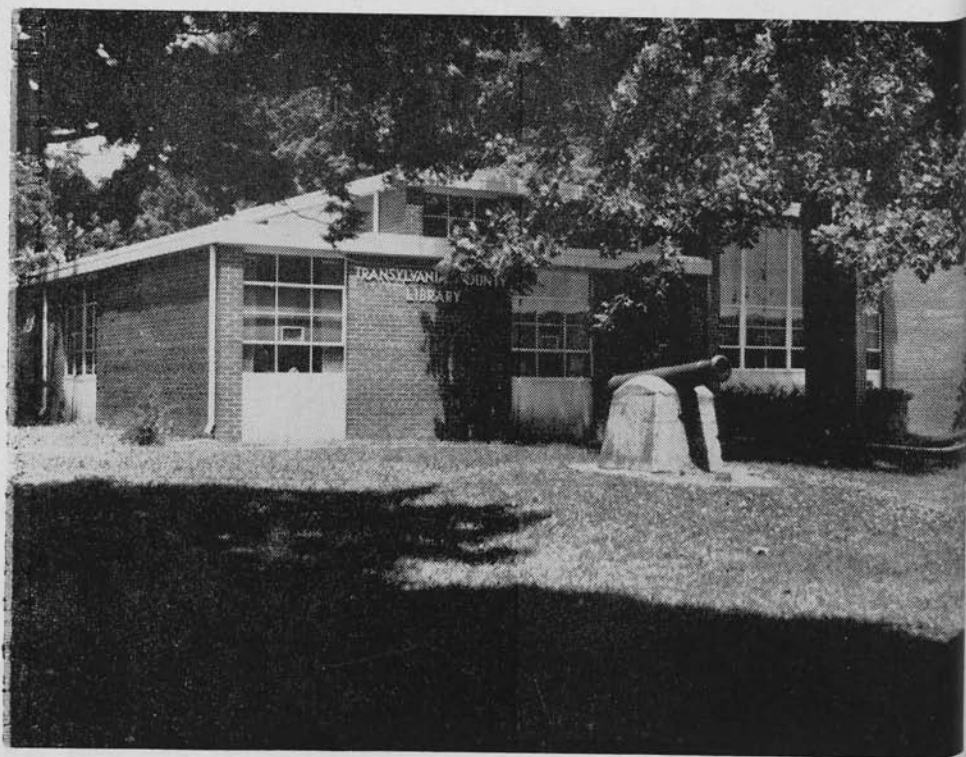
Harry C. Bridger Memorial Library, Bladenboro



Harnett County Library



Gillespie Street Library of the Cumberland County Library, Fayetteville



The Transylvania County Library

The Transylvania County Library in Brevard was dedicated on January, 1957. It is a brick structure of contemporary design which cost approximately \$18,000. It includes a large adult reading room, a children's room and a combination office and work alcove. The building of the library was a community project. Late in 1955 a citizens committee headed by Mr. Ralph H. Ramsey, Jr., launched a campaign to raise \$20,000. Hundreds of people contributed to the fund. Contributions in talent and service were made by McDonald and Daniels, architects, and the Canter Woodworks.

The manner in which the Lucama and the Statonsburg branch libraries were formed is interesting in that each followed a somewhat different pattern of organization, yet both are now operating successfully with the full support of the communities involved. When Federal funds became available, Miss Nancy Gray, county librarian, spoke to groups in the areas, informing them of the possibilities of branch library service and promising them the full cooperation of the Wilson County Public Library. She then wrote letters to the Mayors of each town, inviting them to participate. The towns of Lucama (township population 2,934) and Stantonburg (township population 2,050) were most enthusiastic, and with the support of key persons there the dream of branch libraries in Wilson County became a reality in a very short time.

Stantonburg Branch was formed first. A Library Committee was selected which was made up of representatives from the three civic clubs of the town. This committee is composed of nine members and has adopted a constitution. That the committee is most conscientious and efficient is shown in the prompt manner in which

it was able to secure suitable quarters for the library and to build up support for it in the town.

The building which was chosen for the Stantonsburg Branch was one which was formerly used as a grocery store and a cafe. It was in a sad state of disrepair, but it is located in a most advantageous spot, in the center of the business district, and the owner made it available rent free upon the cancellation of city taxes. The Town Board voted \$350 to be used for repairs and furnishings. Shelving was supplied at cost by a local mill, and furniture, a desk, table and five chairs, was acquired through war surplus. The cement floor had no covering, so inlaid linoleum was purchased at cost from a local furniture store. White venetian blinds were obtained through the same source. The attractive green figured curtains, complementing the green walls, were made by a member of the Library Committee. Heat, a gas heater, was secured by another member of the committee, as was a large peg board for displays. Last to be installed was a white sign, projecting over the front door, which proudly proclaims the words "Stantonsburg Library" in bold black letters.

The library now presents a most attractive appearance, as is evidenced by the pleased comments of the townspeople who had formerly known the building as a dismal, empty shell.

Service was inaugurated on October 17, 1957. An open house was held, with the Library Committee serving as host. The branch is open on Mondays and Thursdays from two until five in the afternoon. Two story hours have been held and another one is being planned for the near future.

The Lucama Branch came into being chiefly through the efforts of one man, Mayor Richard Harn. He persuaded the Town Board to make available a spacious, beautifully appointed room in the new Municipal Building for the library quarters. He, also, secured expensive, custom-built shelving, and he donated the mayor's own desk and chair for the use of the librarian. Mayor Harn, at the suggestion of Miss Gray, has appointed a Library Committee of five persons. These people have made themselves available for help when the need arises and are doing much to promote community interest in the library. The Lucama Parent Teachers Association has also expressed vital interest in the project.

The Lucama Branch opened on November 20, 1957. The Lucama Home Demonstration Club served as hostess, and a very delightful open house was held to mark the occasion. The branch is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from two until five. A Christmas story hour was held on December 17.

Federal funds amounting to \$1,500 for each branch are being used to purchase books. The book collections have been supplemented liberally by books from the shelves of the main library. There are at present about 1,200 books at each branch, and a regular exchange of books from the county library collection to the two branches is maintained by visits of the bookmobile to the branches.

All ordering, cataloging and processing is done by the Wilson County Public Library which also furnishes supplies. A trained librarian, whose salary is paid with Federal funds, mans both branches. This librarian was also made available by the Wilson County Public Library.

The pride which the people of Stantonsburg and Lucama hold in their new libraries is summed up in the comment of a small boy who visited the Stantonsburg Branch on opening day. With shining eyes he said, "When I heard that there was going to be a library here, I just couldn't believe it, and I am so glad it is true."