

PWPL HEAD LIBRARIANS / DIRECTORS

1886-87 – No librarian; “Library on loan of a private citizen” (we know this to have been Peter White)

1894 – Library and Reading Room at 134-136 W. Washington with 7,000 volumes; no librarian listed.

1895-96 – Library and Reading Room at 134-136 W. Washington - Rose E. Patenaude as librarian.

1897-98 – listed as a Library and Reading Room at 134-136 W. Washington with 10,000 volumes; Patenaude as librarian. Peter White was on the Library Board as a trustee.

1905-1906 – listed as a library located on the “s w corner of Ridge and Front Streets.” Established on April 8, 1872 and reorganized by act of the legislature on March 27, 1891. Patenaude served as librarian of 14,370 volumes of books.

March 13, 1906 – Rose Patenaude resigns. Miss Lucy M. Westlake appointed as acting librarian.

1908 Jan – Lydia Olson is Librarian.

1908 Sep – Olson resigns to go to Northern Michigan College Library.

1908-1909 – Library and Reading Room on sw corner of Front and Ridge Streets with 20,000 volumes. Mae B. Hewitt listed as Acting Librarian.

1910 – contains 20,000 volumes with Miss Anne Stuart Duncan as Librarian.

1912 – listed Miss Alma A. Olson as Librarian of 25,500 volumes.

1923 Dec 23—Miss Alma A. Olson resigns Librarian position.

1924 Nov -- Donna E. Sullivan as Librarian

1925-1926 – listed Donna E. Sullivan as librarian; Miss Hannah Bennett as assistant of 32,281 volumes.

1928 – Miss Margaret Smith as librarian; Miss Hannah Bennett as Assistant of 47,000 volumes.

1932-1933 – Miss Agnes Hanson, Acting Librarian.

1935 Sep – Miss Margaret Smith resigns.

1936 – Miss Elizabeth L. Ellison is acting librarian.

1937 – Miss Elizabeth L. Ellison is Librarian and Miss Hannah Bennett is Assistant.

July 1943 – Phyllis Spencer Rankin appointed Librarian for 56,560 volumes of books

Jan 2, 1962 – Rankin resigns as librarian after 16 years of service)

Jan 1962 -- Mrs. Ruth Kell becomes the Library Director for 27 years.

1987-1988 – Cheryl Hirschi is Acting Director

1988 Sep - Ed Mandell, Library Director

1989 Dec 19 – Ed Mandell resigns as Library Director

1990 – Katharine A. Brown, Interim Director

1991 to present – Pamela Christensen, Director

Researched by Vicki J. Mann, Reference Department
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Info from Polk Directories, PWPL historical files and Directors' plaque on wall near west entrance.