

by Lloyd T. and Hazel Wilson

building THE NEW LIBRARY IN MEYERSDALE - SCRIPT 5-30-85
VISUALS AUDIO

LL07D

1. Library sign

(silent. Count several seconds. BEEP)

2. New Library, outside

Visitors to Meyersdale stop to admire the beautiful colonial style multi-colored brick building at the corner of Main and Center Streets and wonder what it is.

3. Sign, Library

On closer examination, they can see that it is the home of the Meyersdale Public Library, built in 1984.

4. Library, outside

They note that it is located at the most important street intersection in town, Main Street, and in the middle of town, on Center Street, ^{at} the only intersection which has electrically operated traffic lights in the community. ~~This signifies that~~ it is an important building in the community.

HAZER

5. SIGN: "Building the New Library"

How it got that way is a fascinating story which we shall try to show you.

6. Stack of books in store

Writing materials have undergone development in history, from clay tablets, papyrus scrolls, parchment and paper. The first printing press came ⁱⁿ to America ⁱⁿ Cambridge, Mass., in 1638. Today, books are being printed by the thousands.

7. Old Library

A library is a place where books, manuscripts, musical scores, newspapers, magazines, films, and other medium of communication are kept for use but not for sale.

8. OLD LIBRARY

A library is a storehouse where information can be found when needed. A library is a fountain where those who are thirsty can find water.

9. SIGN: Founded May 16, 1939

The first public tax-supported library in the United States was started in 1833 in Peterborough, New Hampshire. After that, the public library movement spread. Over a century later, it came to Meyersdale.

10. REPUBLIC BBDG.

Meyersdale's public library opened its doors on May 16, ~~19~~ 1939 in rented quarters on the second floor of the Meyersdale Republic newspaper building.

11. Republic bldg.

The Meyersdale Women's club started it. Volunteers staffed it. 1,533 books were catalogued the first year. In 1963 it was incorporated as the Meyersdale Public Library. It remained at this location for 26 years, leaving in 1965.

LL07D

LL07D

12. Vacant lot

The Second building of the library no longer is in existence. It was the former Lucente building, across Center Street from Baker Chevrolet. It remained there for 13 years, leaving in 1978.

13. Old Borough Bldg. *HAZEL* In 1978 the library moved to its third location, on the first floor of the former Meyersdale Elementary School on Main Street, at the invitation of the Borough Council.
14. Old Library inside Its collection expanded. In 1983, residents borrowed 35,000 books, 1,500 magazines, and listened to 720 record albums.
15. Interior Librarian Marguerrete Cockley and four part-time librarians were kept busy.
16. Library interior The library contained 21,000 catalogued items for use by the 7,600 residents of the Meyersdale Area School District. Everything seemed to be going along smoothly.
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17. GALLATIN *LLD* But then a crisis came up. The former Galatin Bank Building was donated to the borough. The borough council decided to move its offices there and to vacate ~~the~~ the school building.
18. Old Library hallway Now what was the library supposed to ~~do~~ do? It had several alternatives. One possibility was to stay where it was. It would have an immense building to take care of, ~~considering the maintenance expense~~, and a big heating bill. Another alternative was to find another building suitable to its needs.
19. Wagon in parade After much deliberation, the Library Board of Directors decided to build its own new building. To the left of the horses is the Stephens Lot, at the corner of Main and Center Streets, which was ~~used~~ purchased. *the Stephens lot*
20. SKETCH Architect Robert Shallop of Duncansville was commissioned to design a building. He submitted this sketch.
21. ~~Herman Bashore~~ Hungry Bookworm
22. Herman Bashore Another big question: Where was the money to come from. A campaign to ~~raise~~ raise \$150,000 was started. Herman Bashore was named general chairman. He recruited a staff of energetic workers.
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23. ALL-America sign *HAZEL* Mr. Bashore spoke to many civic organizations. He reminded them ~~that~~ their excellent volunteer efforts in the past had resulted in Meyersdale being named an All-America city in 1982.
24. FAIR This volunteer spirit is seen in many community activities, such as the Somerset County Fair now in its 85th year.
25. Hospital The ~~community~~ community built a hospital in 1948.
26. Summerfest It has an active hospital auxiliary, which sponsors a summerfest in June of each year.
27. Maple Park The Pennsylvania Maple Festival is in its 38th year.
28. Swimmingpool Maple Valley park is an ongoing project of the Lions Club.
29. Fire hall The local volunteer fire company is well-equipped.

52. Ceiling insulation Ceiling insulation was fastened above the rafters. 4
53. Baseboard heating Baseboard heating was installed.
54. nSeams on walls sealed Seams on the walls were sealed and sanded.
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55. Main entrance *LL070* November 16th, working on the main entrance.
56. Back door Fastening the back door hardware.
57. Furnace9 Getting the furnace ready for a cold ~~winter~~ winter.
58. Painting Painting the walls. It beats a paint brush.
59. Ceiling November 21st the metal support rods were put up for the ceiling.
60. Entrance The doorway being prepared for patrons.
61. Ceiling November 23rd the ceiling panels were put in place.
62. Porch light. The outside light for the front porch. Contributions had risen to \$65,500.
63. Rug laying After Thanksgiving, the rug was laid.
64. Sidewalks poured Additional sidewalks were poured.
65. Roof above dormer Roofing was put on above the dormer window facing Main St.
66. Furnace The furnace was ready for winter. Contributions took a hot spurt, soaring to \$95,000, almost two-thirds of the goal.
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- ~~67.~~ 67. Old doors *Hazel* December 5th, doors were closed at the old library.
68. Old library Moving all of this was a big job.
69. Old Library The books had to be packed, shelves taken apart.
- ~~69x~~ 70. Books Books were tied in bundles, with the classification number on the top.
- 1
70. Books Some wondered if the library would ever be the same again.
- 71.2. Wash windows December 12 the weather was ideal for these wonderful ~~for~~ volunteer helpers.
73. Lights The ceiling lights had been delayed in shipment and were now installed.
74. Shelves Shelves were put together.
75. Assemble books Books were put back on the shelves in their proper order.
76. Carpenter December 17 carpenters were finishing up odd jobs outside.

- 5 ~~z~~
77. Open sign LL040 The long-awaited day arrived. December 26 doors were opened to the public. At the same time, receipts had reached \$105,700, more than two-thirds of the goal.
78. Front desk Librarian Elizabeth Milled welcomed young patrons who were home for the Christmas holidays.
79. Mayor Mayor Paul Fuller and Sallie Fike, reporter for the Somerset Daily American, stopped in.
80. Students A High School student searching for a book.
81. Records One inspected the shelf of long-play records.
82. Youth tables Some took time to browse.
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83. Outside, winter HAZE January was a cold and snowy ~~one~~ ^{month}. January 9 Mr. B. Ashore offered a meal at the local White House restaurant to the person who guessed the day and hour when the goal of \$150,000 would be met.
84. Outside, winter February 7th, cash and pledges totaled \$141,500, just \$8,500 short of the goal. Not much came in during March and April.
85. Cockley at desk Librarian Marguerette Cockley said that borrowing of books and magazines had increased 15 percent in January over the year before. 3,204 borrowings were recorded in January of 1985. 62 new members were enrolled, including 16 non-residents.
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86. ~~Cornerstone~~ Overall. LL070 In May the grounds around the building were landscaped and shrubbery was planted. May 11 the Dedication ceremony was held.
87. Mayor Fuller ~~Mr~~ Mayor Paul Fuller read a proclamation announcing the week of May 12-18 as Library Week in Meyersdale.
88. B. Ashore Fund drive chairman Herman Bashore thanked all those who fiddled and tooted in the orchestra to make it possible for the ~~the~~ conductor to produce the symphony. The financial campaign exceeded the \$150,000 by \$1,400.00
89. Cockley ~~Librarian~~ Marguerette Cockley, librarian for over 40 years, thanked the people for their support.
90. Lloyd State Representative William Lloyd was glad to be back.
90. Perry Yoder Perry Yoder, contractor, presented Board President Esther Bashore with a gold key, explaining that the library is the key to learning.
92. Judge Coffroth President Judge Charles Coffroth, the principal speaker, said that Exercise is to the body as reading is ~~the~~ to the mind. Both must be used or we become limited or weakened.
- 92.3 Band The Meyersdale Community Band played musical selections.
94. Cornerstone laying The Board of Directors at the Cornerstone laying ceremony.
95. Stone THE CORNERSTONE - 45 YEARS THE FOURTH BUILDING IN THE HISTORY OF MEYERSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY.
96. Ribbon Judge Coffroth cut the ribbon at the door to open it for the public.

967 Harper

The Rev. Charles Harper of the Methodist Church offered the closing prayer of thanksgiving for the new library facilities.

978 Refreshments

Refreshments were served by the Board of Directors.

989 Visitors

Visitors looked over the ~~check~~ children's section.

99 Visitors

100

It was hard to realize that only nine months ago this place was a vacant lot.

100x101 Bulletin board

HAZE

Well, now that the new Library has been opened, what does it have to offer? Will it be worth the time and money spent on it?

102 Pile of books

Today, books are being printed by the thousands. Most homes have a few laying around. But an assortment of books is not a library.

103 ~~File cards~~ Books

Books become part of a library only when they are put into some type of orderly arrangement.

104 File card

Books in the Meyersdale library are catalogued with the Dewey Decimal system, devised in 1876. Books may be located by title, author or subject.

105 Card catalog

The card catalog is the heart, the center of the library.

106 Librarian

The librarians spend much of their time helping people to use the library. They will be glad to help you.

107 Reference

LLOYD

The library is divided into various working areas. This is the reference section.

108 History room

One room is called the history room.

109 Books

Especially history of our community and county.

110 Pa. Archives

A partial set of the Pennsylvania Archives

111 Microfilm

A lot of historical information has been filmed on microfilm. This viewer makes it possible to look at old records.

112 Meyersdale Republic

newspaper
Meyersdale Republic/ issues for the past ten years have been bound.

113 Magazine boxes

Past issues of magazines are also filed.

114 Newspapers

HAZE

Another section of the library provides tables for reading the current newspapers and books.

115 Current magazines

Current magazines of interest to the local area are received.

116 Copier

for research

Remember when it was necessary to make handwritten notes of magazine articles? No need to do that today. Use the photocopier. Saves a lot of time and is more accurate.

117 Children section

Another section ~~isxxxxxx~~ has been arranged with the children and youth in mind.

118 Overall

Use this splendid facility to find reading for your own enjoyment, to find the answer to a question, or do do some extended research.

119 Elementary *LL040*

~~Ex~~ Library use is being taught in the public schools these days, beginning with the elementary grade.

120 Film Strip

They watched a film strip helping them to use an almanac.

121 HS Library

The high School library is well equipped.

122 Music

They listen to music or foreign languages.

123 Computers

Computers and word processors are available fo some areas of study.

124 Graduation

Then our youth leave the confines of the high school.

125 W VA sign

A few will enroll at a college or university.
become skilled in the use of a

126 Library

There they will ~~have the use of a~~ large library

127 Library desk *MA2a*

But the educational aspiratinnns of those who stay home need not be neglected. They can ~~develop their~~ continue to educate themselves at the local library.

128 Magazines

Naturally, a library in a small town can't have everything. It's materials must be selected to be most helpful to local people.

129 shelves

OUR LIBRARIANS WILL ORDER
What you can't find here/~~may be borrowed~~ ^{or} from other libraries. All that is needed is an inquiring mind.

130 All-America sign *LL040*

Completion of the new library project may be one more rung in the ladder of volunteer achievements of the community
~~It all happened so fast.~~

131 Ground-break.

We gathreed for groundbreaking on Sept. 1, 1984

132 Digging foundation

The fonnation went down and down and down.

133 Raising arusses

The roof went up in a few days.

134 Petitions

The insides took shape.

135 Books in piles.

Moving took place in orderly confusion.

136 ~~Get books~~ doorway

Now it is all ready for you to come in.

137 GET books

Exercise your mind.

138 Rotary Club

The Meyerdale Rotary Club thought you might like to see the various stages of this project and is happy to bring it to you.

139 Photos by LTW

..... BEEP