

## Library History

### Previous East Branch was Dedicated on February 13, 1930 East Branch Library, the Breaden Family Branch, Dedicated on February 16, 2009

Youngstown has enjoyed a branch library on the East side since 1928, when a temporary location was set up at the corner of Himrod and Loveless avenues while a new branch was being constructed on North Jackson Street.

Thanks to the generosity of the Breaden Family, a new branch was constructed at 6 North Jackson Street and dedicated on February 13, 1930. The branch was named the Breaden Family Branch to honor their contribution. In 1968, the branch began to be called the East Branch Library, but despite that, this library remained designated as the Breaden Family Branch, a designation which follows tradition and now applies to the Early Road location.



1930 East Branch Library  
located at 6 North Jackson Street

This new East Branch Library, located at 430 Early Road, has also been designated as the Breaden Family Branch honoring Dr. William Breaden (1821-1876) and his wife, Nancy Mackey Breaden (1827-1901), and their family.

Portraits of Dr. William Breaden and Nancy Mackey Breaden, previously in the North Jackson Street branch, have been preserved and restored and are now on display in the meeting room of this new library.

The portrait of Nancy Mackey Breaden was painted in 1845 when she was 18 years old. This portrait was in place for the 1930 dedication of the East Branch on North Jackson Street. The portrait of Dr. William Breaden was later acquired and placed on the wall beside his wife.

The Breadens were a dedicated, community-minded Youngstown family. Their daughter, Nancy M. Breaden, in her 1921 will, left to the Library a generous bequest which continues to provide a source of income for this branch today.

The Library is grateful to the Breaden Family for their generosity and proudly designates this East Branch as the Breaden Family Branch Library.

It is an interesting synchronicity that in 1930, the North Jackson Street branch was dedicated on February 13 and this newest East Branch, opened in 2009, was dedicated on February 16.

The Library is pleased that East Branch traditions are carried on in yet another way: Library patron Edward Orlando, first person to enter the doors of the N. Jackson Street branch library in 1930, has been watching the construction of this new library with enthusiasm and is able to enjoy this new branch 79 years later.

## Architects and Contractors

Architect..... The 4M Company Architects and Planners  
General Trades Contractor ..... Brock Builders, Inc.  
Plumbing Trades ..... Ellyson Plumbing and Heating Co., Inc.  
Electrical Trades ..... "Joe" Dickey Electric, Inc.  
Windows and Exterior Doors ..... Gunton Corporation  
Mechanical ..... York Mahoning Mechanical Contractors  
Casework ..... Interior Products, Inc.  
Landscape/Pavers ..... Landscape by Design  
Flooring ..... Patella Carpet & Tile

## Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning Co.

305 Wick Ave., Youngstown, Ohio 44503-1079

Phone: 330-744-8636

### Library Director:

Carlton A. Sears

### Architect:

The 4M Company Architects & Planners  
Robert Mastriana, Paul Mastriana, James Yoder

### General Contractor:

Brock Builders, Inc.

### Library Building Committee:

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In Memory - R. Frank Huntley

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For information, contact the Communications and  
Public Relations Department 330-744-8636, ext. 110  
2-16-2009



# THE EAST BRANCH LIBRARY

430 Early Road, Youngstown, OH 44505

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF YOUNGSTOWN & MAHONING COUNTY

Opened January 24, 2009  
Dedicated February 16, 2009



Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County, 305 Wick Ave., Youngstown, OH 44503

[www.LibraryVisit.org](http://www.LibraryVisit.org)

# Libraries

*“Libraries continue to be a place where the love of reading and learning throughout life is celebrated.”*  
– Carlton A. Sears, Library Director

## Heart of the Community: New East Branch Library

The East Branch Library opened its doors on January 24, 2009, bringing to fruition a project that began more than six years prior with research and planning by Library administration and the Library Board of Trustees.

The site at the corner of East High Avenue and Early Road was ideal. It reflected the changing demographic and shifting population of this part of the City. It was ultimately selected because it provided suitable land and positioned the library in a highly visible location on a highly traveled road. The fact that this location complimented and reinforced the Youngstown 2010 land use plan, which was being completed at that time, further strengthened this choice.

The property is a composite of several parcels of land. Two parcels were transferred to the Library from the Youngstown City land bank. Additional property was purchased with the assistance of Councilman Rufus Hudson who arranged a contact with property owner Mrs. Florine King. Mrs. King generously offered property she owned to the Library at a much-reduced price.

The resulting six acres provides a beautiful natural setting which enhances the view from within the library through its wall of windows, as well as from the courtyard where library users can enjoy the scenery with a book or a treat from the café.

This new \$2.8 million library represents a sizeable investment in the neighborhood and the City of Youngstown by the Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County. At 9,000 square feet, this branch is six times larger than the former East Library located on North Jackson Street. The population service area has a significant role in determining the size of a library branch, as well as the size of its collection, and was an important piece of the research and planning process. This new library replaces the 1930 East Branch, which offered only 1,500 square feet of usable library space. In 1930, the former East Branch was built at a cost of just under \$24,000.

“We believe this new library will reflect the wants and needs of the community, from its up-to-date technology and Internet access, to a community meeting room, to the classic but contemporary look and feel of both the building and its furnishings. Input from the community played a big part in the planning of this new branch. We held several meetings to gather community input and we were able to incorporate many of the fine suggestions into the finished plans,” notes Library Director Carlton A. Sears.

“We are also pleased that this branch is energy efficient and includes green architecture materials and designs which will help the environment, while cutting costs. The building is constructed of a highly energy efficient and environmentally friendly product known as SIP or Structural Integrated Panels. Though more costly to construct, these panels have a dramatic effect on a building’s energy efficiency ratings and are expected to result in very low utility costs. As an example, the heating/cooling systems for the building only had to be half as large as typically necessary for a building of this size.

“Much of the shelving in the building is actually recycled, as it was for the Springfield Branch. The Library used surplus steel shelving from other branch libraries and had them electrostatically painted, giving the shelving a new life rather than throwing it away,” says the Director.



## Project Overview from Architect Robert Mastriana

### The 4M Company Architects and Planners

We designed the new East Library to take on the civic role as a community center much like the Poland, Austintown and Springfield branches, also designed by The 4M Company, have become to their respective communities.

Along with the new East High School, which is just down the street, the new East Branch library is designed to be a highly visible center of civic life and a catalyst to the revitalization of the area.



The exterior design relates to several other libraries within the Mahoning County library system designed by The 4M Company Architects, while also reflecting on the intrinsic uniqueness of each community.

For the East Library, a stucco exterior was chosen. This branch features lively gathering places such as a meeting room with a lively outdoor courtyard, study room, a café, a space for teens and reading areas.



This branch library also features an expansive amount of glass window walls, allowing the interior of the library to explode with natural lighting.

Distinctive circular clerestory windows daylight the cathedral ceilings and draw your eye upward to the ornamental ironwork supporting the roof structure. The library's interior is accented by attractive circular columns.

The interior furnishings are a stylish classical contemporary reflecting community input. These give the branch its own distinct look. In fact, the design of all the exterior and interior elements of the project, though contemporary in nature are also traditional, so that the building and its furnishings never become dated. That goal is reflected in the use of gable roofs, as well as other timeless building forms.

The library has a strong connection to the community, an inviting entry with a beautifully landscaped plaza and parking areas, and heavy use of glass which will make the building transparent, allowing the community to see the activity within.

The East Library is at the cutting edge of sustainable architecture, keeping the Mahoning County library system at the forefront of environmental consciousness.

This design provides the Library with significant benefits such as energy, water and operational cost savings; improved air quality; increased productivity; but more importantly, it shows the community the Library's commitment to a better, brighter future for our forthcoming generations.



These goals are achieved through attention to proper site selection, building form, glass properties and location, material selection, heating, cooling, ventilation, daylighting and water conservation strategies.

Another sustainable feature is the saving of most all the trees on the site. Additional trees have been planted adjacent to the building to naturally cool and buffer while producing enough oxygen to counterbalance the energy usage of the building.

All of these sustainable features should provide an annual savings of thousands of dollars in utility costs realizing an ongoing substantial financial benefit to the Library.

