



The Wilmette Public Library

WILMETTE, ILLINOIS

Out of determined effort by many interested people, from 1880 until today, our Public Library has grown from a shelf of books and a few periodicals kept in the rear of a grocery store to an outstanding collection now housed in one of the most modern and functional buildings in the country.

The combined leadership of able librarians and the devoted service of citizens upon the board has directed the progress, but the greatest resource has been the loyal and enthusiastic support of patrons of all ages.

In 1948, \$400,000 was voted by referendum for the purchase of land, construction of a building and the razing of the old Carengie grant building which had served since 1904. Work was begun in February, 1950.

We are dedicating this building in a time when ideas are recognized as being of vast and crucial importance. The freedom to formulate, weigh and discuss them is both precious and imperative. We dedicate this building to that purpose. May its services and its content be used for the growth and enjoyment of all. Through this, we believe, we will become a wiser people, better able to enrich and sustain the inheritance which is ours.