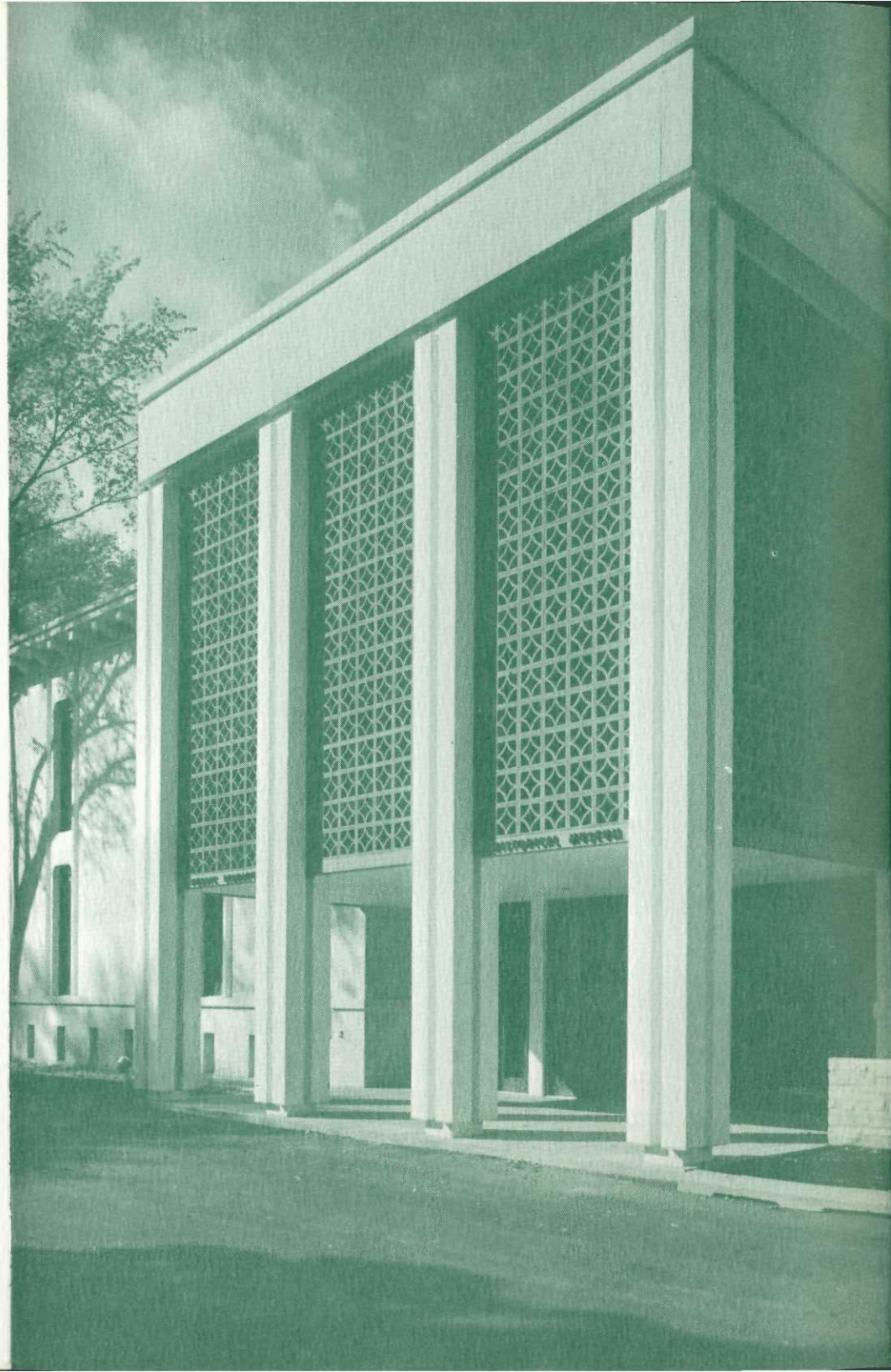


*the  
Elmhurst  
Public  
Library*



## *In Tribute . . .*

to the People of Elmhurst  
for their understanding  
of the needs of the  
community for a Modern  
Day Library and for  
their generosity in  
making possible these  
important steps toward  
EXCELLENCE.



*Center Level*

The public library is your treasure-house of knowledge . . . of entertainment . . . of spiritual refreshment. Gathered within its walls are the accumulated wisdom and lore of the ages.

In this point of the twentieth century, the public library is taking on new, important added functions. In the new philosophy, the public library must be much more than a repository of materials . . . it must, be also, an aggressive, outgoing educational institution. It must serve as an important arm of our schools . . . providing them with the supplementary book collections required for serving education's accelerated pace . . . with reading lists . . . with consultation opportunities . . . and with the environment for after-school-hour study. It seeks to equip for cooperation with all groups seeking adult education . . . cultural development . . . civic planning and social orientation.

So it has been well said that the excellence of a community's public library is the measure of that community's educational and cultural attainments and ambitions.

**Dedicated  
to the  
Achievement of  
Excellence**

**To Better Serve TODAY  
The Citizens and Youth  
of Elmhurst  
and to prepare them  
for tomorrow's challenges**



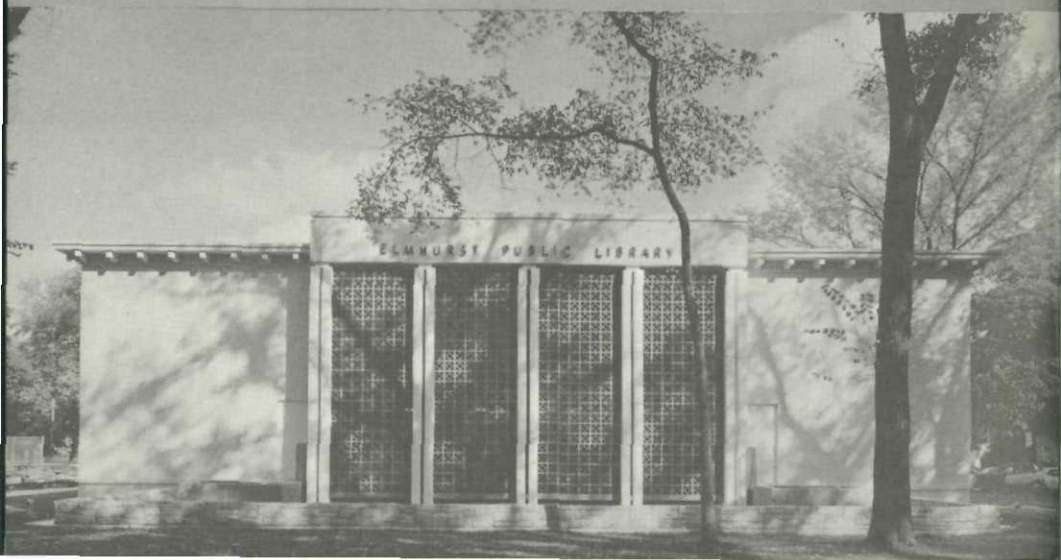
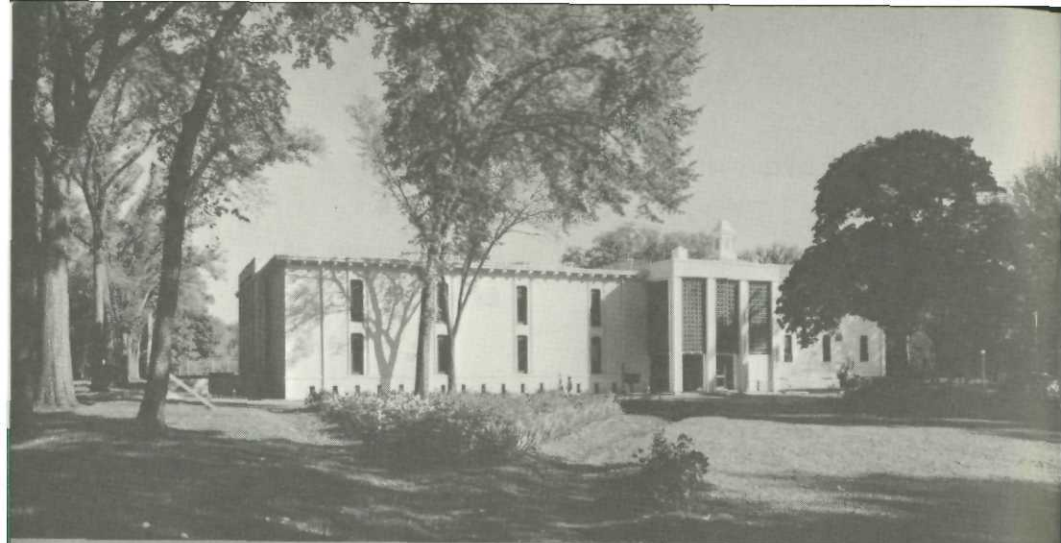
## The Main Lobby

As you enter the Library from either the north or south entrances . . . you ascend the stairway into the MAIN LOBBY.

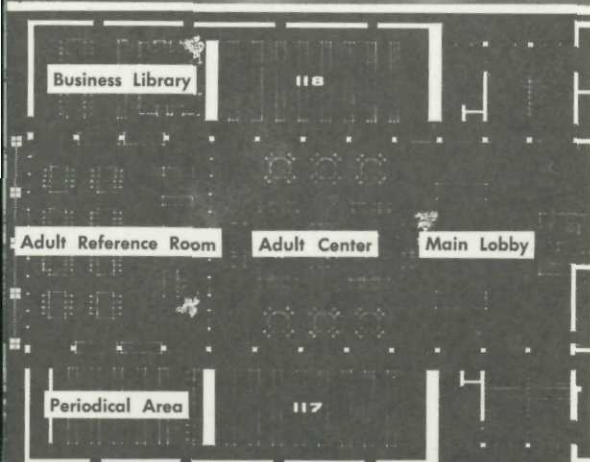
Here AT THE CIRCULATION DESK you find a warm welcome . . . the friendly help of the librarians. This is a center equipped with the newest instruments of library science to make your use of the library . . . pleasurable . . . effective . . . efficient. Here, your requested materials are checked out and your returns checked in . . . your registration card issued or renewed . . . information cheerfully given.

The CARD CATALOG INDEX is found close to the Circulation Desk, where ready assistance is quickly available to you when required. These Card Catalog Indexes put the entire library at your fingertips.

Here, too, you will find located our shelves of CURRENT FICTION . . . the BULLETIN BOARD . . . the EXHIBIT CASES . . . all scientifically illuminated for easy, effortless viewing . . . with an acoustical tile ceiling and carpeted floor creating an atmosphere of quiet, a freedom from distracting sound.







*The GLOS Room furnishings are a gift of Mrs. Iona Glos in memory of her husband Albert H. Glos.*

*The BATES Room furnishings are the gift of Mr. Alben Bates in honor of his wife Clara Glos Bates.*

*In the Business Area is also provided complete XEROX Service. Patrons may use this machine to copy any of the library material . . . or the user's own notes or copy.*

*At the south end of the Reference Room is the Periodical Area . . . its racks house a complete selection of magazines and publications required for reference use.*

Here in the ADULT LIBRARY CENTER everything has been designed to provide an atmosphere conducive to the pursuit of knowledge . . . or reading for pleasure.

On both sides of the room are the stacks which house the adult non-fiction books . . . for easy access by the library patron.

To the west is the glass wall partition through which may be seen the REFERENCE ROOM area.

The ADULT REFERENCE ROOM is the information center of the library. Here is the Reference Librarian's desk . . . the shelving area for the reference book collection and the back issues of periodicals.

An aid to the efficient use of this collection is the shelving, especially designed and built to hold the large indexes and guides . . . the custom-built filing cabinets, which house the pamphlet file, and the atlas drawers.

To the north of the Reference Room is an area devoted to the service of those interested in Commerce and Industry. Here is to be found a collection of books for the businessman and the investor. Included are materials on technology, economics, business methods, personnel, banking, insurance, advertising and investments.

This rapidly growing business collection contains business services such as Moody's, Thomas Register, Manufacturing Directories, Telephone Directories of all major cities, Business Periodicals and Newspapers, and U.S. Department of Commerce Publications.

**The Gloss Room  
The Adult Library  
Center**

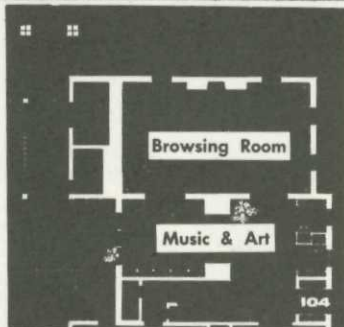
**The Clara Glos Bates  
Reference Room**

**The Business Library**



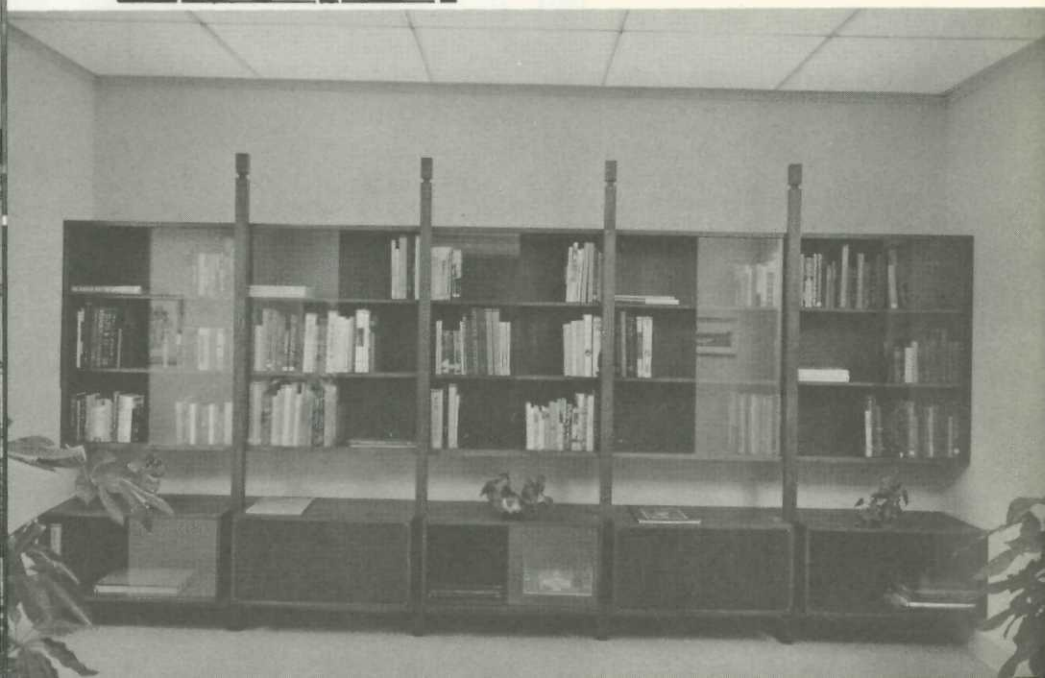
### The Wilder Room for Browsing

Keeping to the tradition that was "Old Elmhurst," this lovely room reminds us of the past, while providing the most modern of facilities required by book lovers who would find joy and satisfaction in browsing through book and magazine collections. The room is a delight to the eye with its decor of gold damask draperies, carpeting in Wedgewood blue and Chippendale furniture upholstered in gold and rose. Here are the current issues of periodicals and books on art, painting, sculpture, music and photography.



*The Wilder Room furnishings are the gift of Mrs. W. H. Emery in memory of her parents Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Wilder.*

*The Genevieve Gavin Room furnishings are the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Gavin in memory of their daughter Genevieve.*



### The Genevieve Gavin Room for Music and Art

To the south of the Wilder Room is the music and art center of our library . . . a room epitomizing the new concepts in library service . . . containing much to delight the music and art lover. In this room are collections of recordings of music, recordings of plays and poetry, foreign languages, folk songs, etc.—all housed on shelves and in beautiful cabinets. There is a listening booth — special cabinets with books on art.



### The Librarian's Office

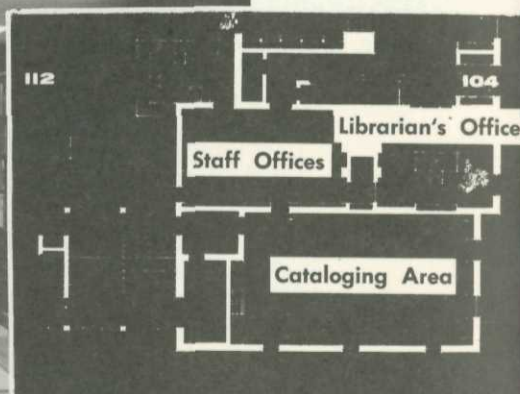
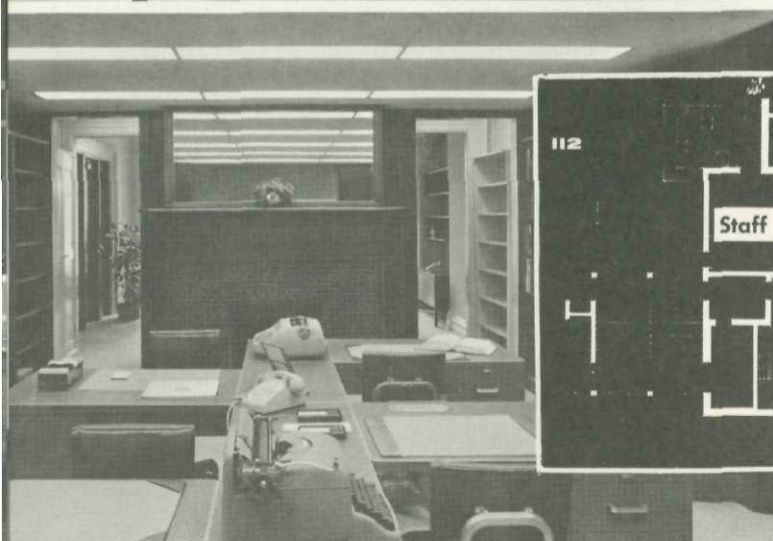
The efficient operation of any library centers on its Librarian and staff, and the tools and environment with which they are provided. Beginning with the **Office of the Librarian** through the **Staff Administrative Offices** (the Sturges Room) and through to the **Work Areas** located in many parts of the building, no effort has been spared to make them fully adequate for the tasks at hand and those to come.

Here in this office . . . the patrons of our library will ever find a warm and friendly welcome . . . an eagerness to serve . . . to answer your questions . . . attend your requests. The open doorway is symbolic of the open door policy of our library . . . for this is your library.

### The Cataloging Area

This pine panelled room that for so many years served as our children's library . . . is now devoted to the cataloging of newly received books, and preparation of them for placement on the library's shelves. In a steady stream these books come to the library each month . . . to enrich the collection . . . to keep it up-to-date . . . to replace the books beyond repair.

Here are specially built-in cabinets . . . tables and chairs for use of the staff . . . a complete stainless steel sink required in book preparation.





## The Ruth Strand Room The Children's Library Facilities



### The Ruth Strand Room

*Furnishings in this room were given by the Friends of the Library through some 200 individual and organization gifts. They were given to honor Miss Ruth Strand and to recognize her long years of devoted and outstanding service as Librarian of The Elmhurst Public Library.*

### The Library Garden

*Looking through the decorative grill is to be seen the lovely Library Garden, gift of the Elmhurst Garden Club . . . gift that brings the beauty of nature to the eye of the child to add to their delight with the Children's Room.*

As one descends to the lower level from either the north or south entrances to the Children's Library, a lovely vista of color meets the eye. Here is an invitation to children whose message cannot be mistaken

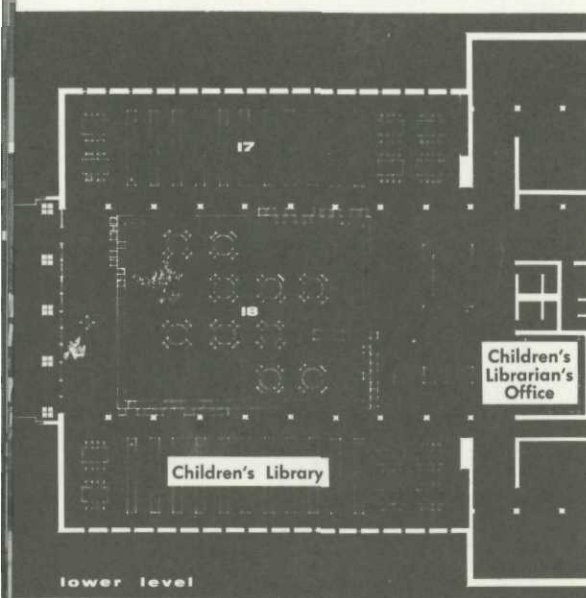
"Here is an area especially designed with you, the children, in mind."

Here on either side, are the stacks . . . containing the children's book collections . . . with an ultimate capacity of 30,000 volumes. In this collection are books for study and pleasure. The collection includes the great classics, excellent modern children's books in attractive format, encyclopedias and other reference materials needed to answer the uncountable and unaccountable questions of the inquiring young mind.

Here the CIRCULATION DESK is ideally located and equipped with all the appurtenances required for modern library service to children. Here too, is their CATALOG FILE which every child soon learns to use so as to enjoy to the full their library's treasures.

Adjacent and conveniently close at hand at the east end is the Children's Librarian's office with its open door . . . its complete visibility from every point in the children's area.

In this room are housed, also, the picture collection of some 10,000 subjects . . . a work of dedication by Mrs. Steve Gavin who has given years of effort to this project without compensation of any kind, save that . . . the satisfaction of having served well, one's fellowman.





### The Alice Seton Berens Room

Through the passageway from the Children's Room one goes to the Meeting Room of the library. This pine panelled room, seating fifty comfortably, is equipped with picture projection equipment, chairs and tables. A modern kitchen is adjacent. These facilities are intended for the use of outside cultural and civic organizations, as well as meetings for library purposes and story hours for children.

### The Work Areas

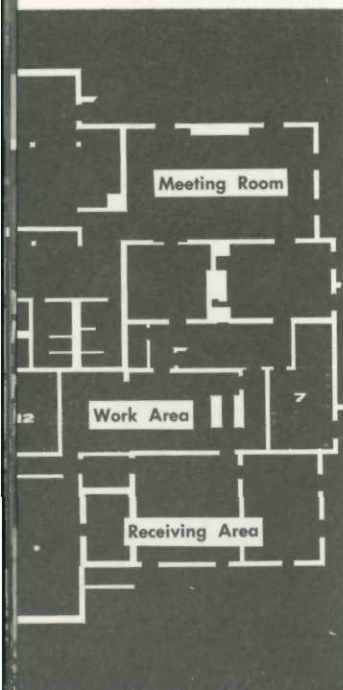
Important to every library are the rooms back of the scenes . . . the areas where the books are prepared for the shelves . . . where you, as our patrons, see them displayed as finished products of hours of work.

It is the genius of our planning that the new building areas could be devoted exclusively to public use . . . that much space ordinarily required of a new building for work areas . . . in our new building was not required because some of the rooms in the original building lent themselves perfectly to this purpose.

In this area are . . . the work room for repairing books . . . for preparing collections for school loan . . . the storeroom for supplies . . . the receiving rooms for the delivery of materials.



**Alice Seton Berens Room**  
*So named by action of the Board of Directors in recognition of her 35 years of outstanding service as a Board Member and President.*





## The Student Study Center

On the west section of the mezzanine floor is situated an area designated for student study purposes. This center is intended to encourage study . . . provide a quiet, comfortable atmosphere with lighting of highest quality for easy seeing.

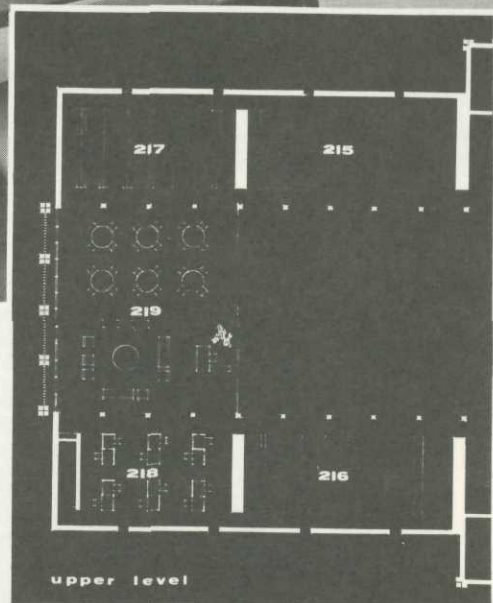
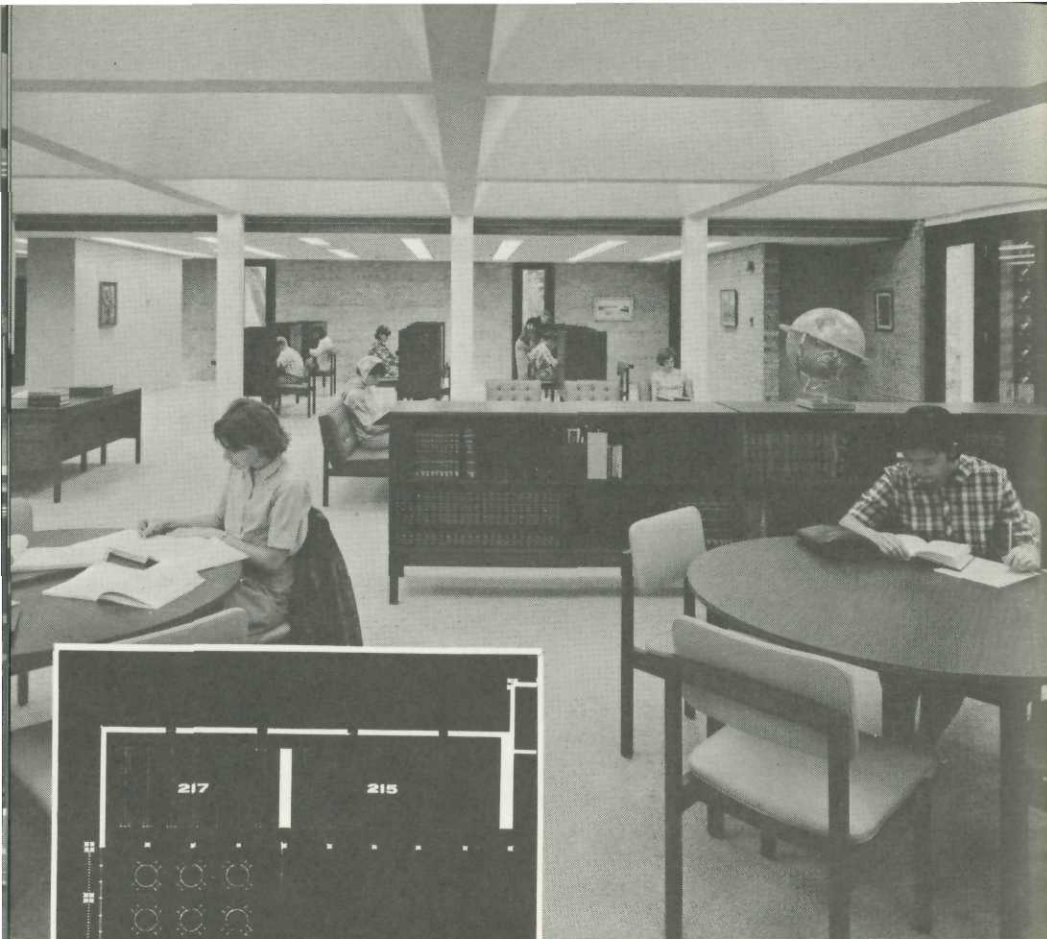
The Student Study Center represents the utmost in planning and equipment for we, with our late President, J. F. Kennedy, believe: "Our young people constitute the greatest resource our country has . . . and books are the nurishment essential to their intellectual growth into thoughtful and informed citizens."

The Study Carrels are designed to facilitate the use of the area for study purposes . . . the typewriter equipment . . . the chairs, study tables and other furniture are all designed with the comfort and convenience of our young people in mind.

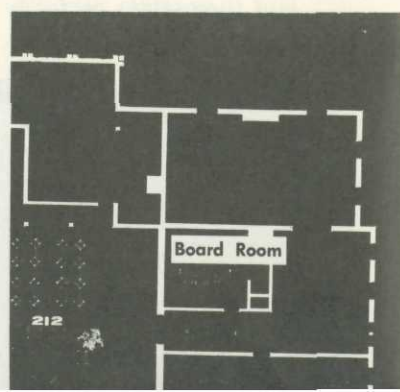
Not shown here is the conference and typing room. This glass enclosed area makes group study possible without disturbing other patrons.

## The Board Room

The visual arts are another medium of communication available at the library. In addition to more study area, the Harry A. Mundt room also houses the collection of framed reproductions of famous paintings. They are for circulation and, for a small fee, library patrons may enjoy them in their own homes.



*The MAY REED WILSON CENTER for student study in the southwest area and is the gift of Mr. Ervin Wilson, Sr. in memory of his wife.*





## The Elmhurst Historical Museum

Two rooms of the original library building have been given over to the Elmhurst Historical Commission for use as museum areas. These rooms were originally furnished in honor of two of Elmhurst's pioneer families . . . the Emery Room by Edward Emery . . . and the Cruger Room by Mrs. Harold J. Cruger. It seems fitting, therefore, that they now be given over to the housing of the historical artifacts of our early history as a village and city.

The Historical Commission was established in 1952 by the City Council of the City of Elmhurst, and until now, the Elmhurst Historical Museum has been quartered in the Elmhurst City Hall. It now comes to the library where it will serve to advance further the modern day concepts of expanded library service.

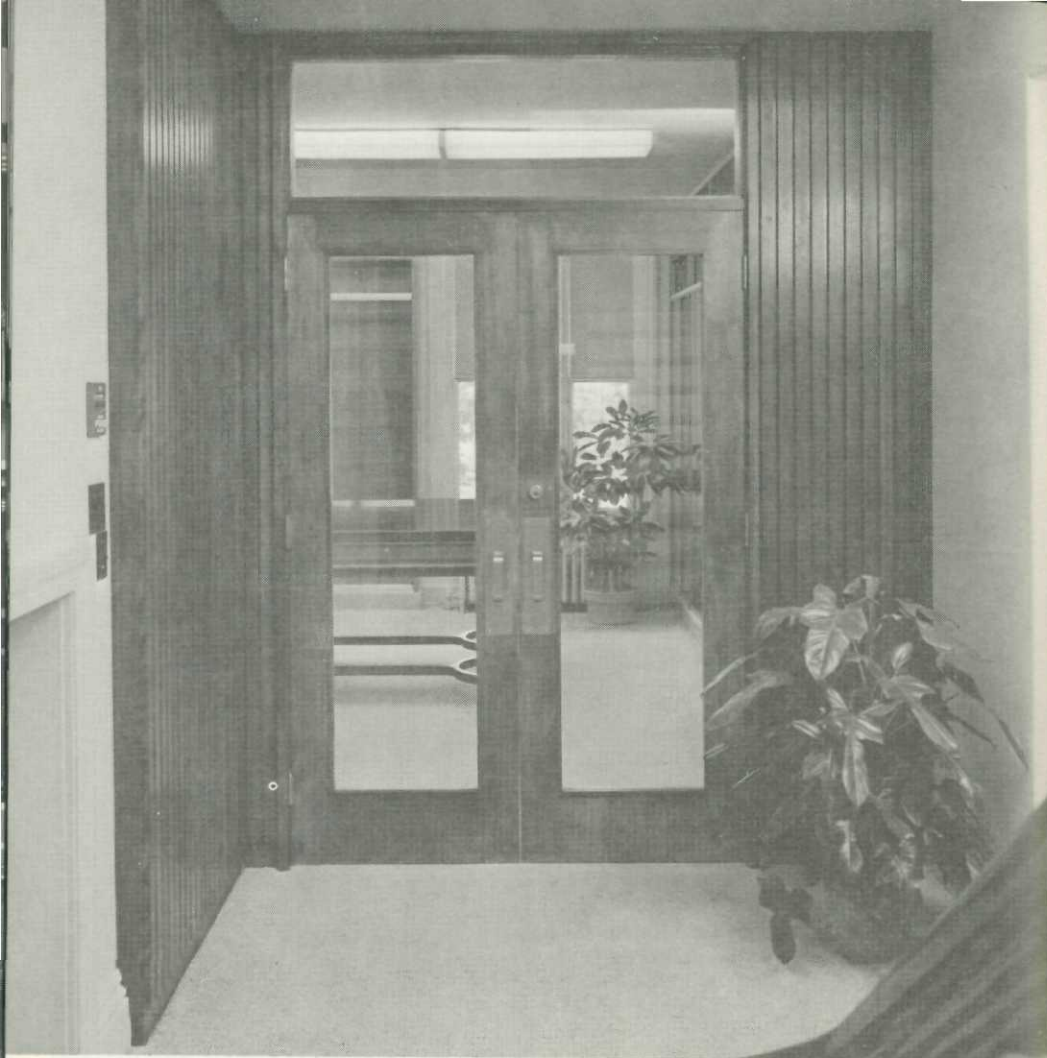
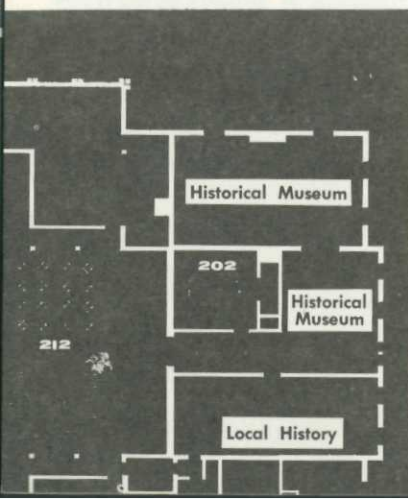
Through the support of the Mayor and City Council, these rooms have been completely remodeled, air conditioned and furnished in harmonious manner. The display and preservation of items of historical interest to Elmhurst will attract much interest and serve to remind all of us of our priceless heritage.

Appropriately adjacent to the quarters of the Elmhurst Historical Museum is the King Room of Local History. Designed for study and display of such items as books, clippings, biographies and photographs relating to Elmhurst and this immediate area. These materials are not for circulation but are available on request to interested patrons. Included in the collection are microfilm copies of the Elmhurst Press since 1948.

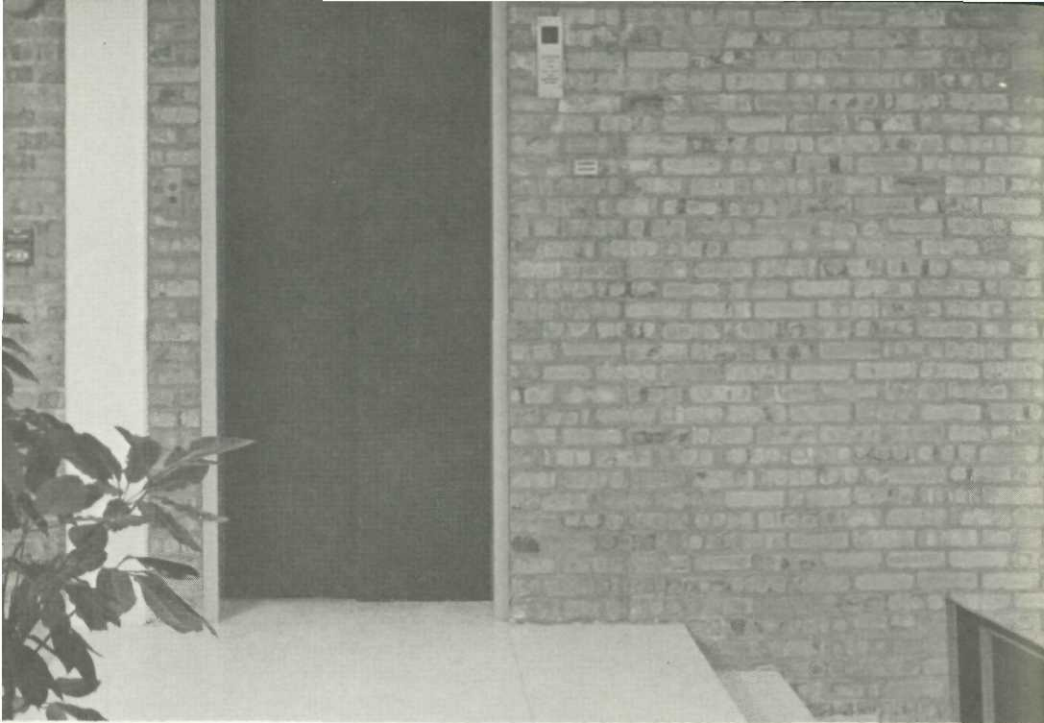
## The Local History Room

### The Cruger Room

*Through this entrance to the Historical Museum one enters The Cruger Room now completely refurbished in honor of her husband, Mr. Harold J. Cruger, by Mrs. Harold J. Cruger.*







**The Elevator  
for the Handicapped  
and our Senior Citizens**

*provides easy access to all floors . . . conforms to the best accepted standards for public buildings for the comfort of those to whom stairs might deprive them of the benefits of our library . . . and while serving these needs, serves also to increase the efficiency . . . and reduces the cost of our library operation—doubling in service as a work-saving instrument for the staff.*



**Quick Facts About The Elmhurst Public Library**

Since 1916, the Elmhurst Public Library has been serving the people of Elmhurst. Housed originally in a small room in the rear of the old Glos Building (on the site of the present Elmhurst National Bank), the Library was opened to the public on March 22, 1916. Mrs. H. L. Breitenbach, as the first librarian, aimed at Excellence . . . and that tradition has been our goal in every development since that time.

\* \* \* \*

The original section of the Elmhurst Public Library was built by Seth Wadhams, a Chicago merchant, in 1868. Since that time, the building has had an interesting history:

- 1887-1902 Owned by Henry W. King
- 1906-21 Owned by T. E. Wilder
- 1922 Elmhurst Public Library moves to building
- 1936 Extensive remodeling completed
- 1965 New Building Expansion completed

\* \* \* \*

<b>NEW BUILDING Statistics</b>	Existing Area .... 10,750 sq. ft.
New Building is 120 ft x 88 ft.; has original section 40 ft. x 88 ft.; overall 160 ft. x 88 ft.; has three levels with a total floor area of 42,750 sq. ft., made up as follows:	New Area ..... 32,000 sq. ft.
	<hr/>
	Total Area ..... 42,750 sq. ft.
	Existing Volume 144,000 cu. ft.
	New Volume ... 372,000 cu. ft.
	<hr/>
	Total Volume .. 516,000 cu. ft.

\* \* \* \*

<b>IMMEDIATE SEATING 180</b>	<b>IMMEDIATE VOLUMES 60,000</b>
<b>ULTIMATE SEATING 360</b>	<b>ULTIMATE VOLUMES 120,000</b>

\* \* \* \*

**TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION**

Glazed brick and pre-cast concrete exterior. Style—modified colonial.

**FURNISHINGS**

\$65,000.00 immediate  
\$105,000.00 ultimate

**CONSTRUCTION COST**

\$546,275.70 — including renovation, parking, etc.

**TOTAL UNIT COST (New Area)**

\$20.00/sq. ft. (Combined Area)  
\$15.00/sq. ft.

**ARCHITECTS & INTERIOR DESIGN**

Charles T. Cedarholm

**CONSULTANTS**

Donald C. Ward and Associates

**LIBRARY CONSULTANTS**

Dr. Harold Lancour & Dr. Harold Goldstein University of Illinois Library School

**UNIT COST (new area only)**

\$17.00/sq. ft. \$1.46/cu. ft.

**UNIT COST (Combined area)**

\$12.80/sq. ft. \$ .94/cu. ft.

**LIGHTING LEVEL**

75 foot candles maintained

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR**

A. H. Viren and Sons



## GIFTS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Elmhurst Public Library is grateful for gifts and its collection has been enriched by many fine donations of books, prints, paintings, periodicals, phonograph records, and other materials which it would otherwise not have been able to afford or acquire.

However, in accepting gifts, the library reserves the privilege of deciding whether the material should be added to its collection. Acceptance depends on the following considerations: library standards of selection, the physical condition, and the library need of the title or added copies of titles in its collection.

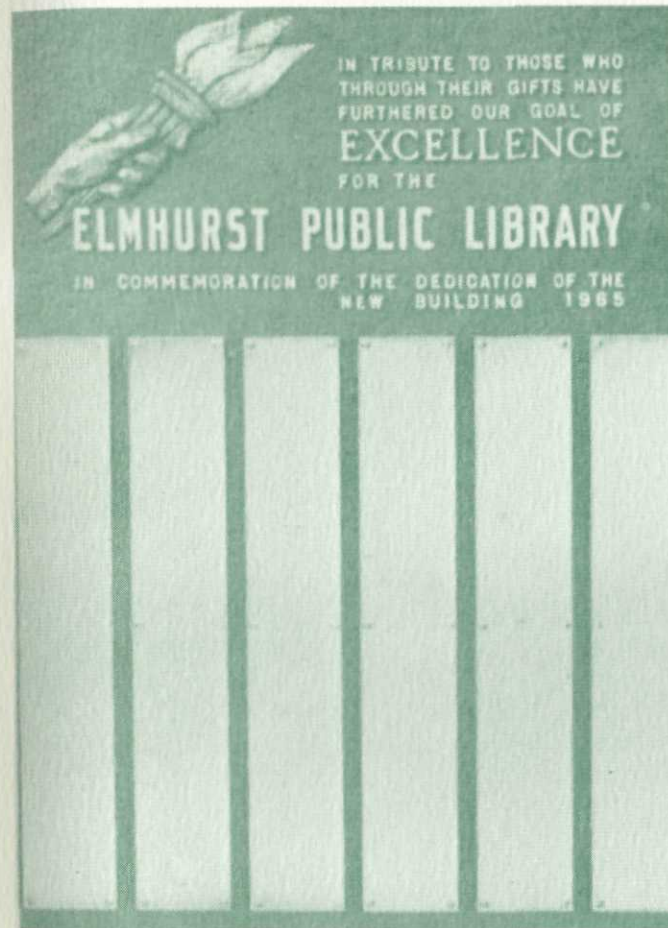
The library makes every effort to dispose of all gift material that it does not add to its collection by offering it as gifts, to the very best advantage, to other libraries and institutions.

Some items are accepted as gifts although they would not ordinarily be purchased. These include: denominational literature, privately printed poetry, highly technical materials, or very expensive items of limited interest.

When the library receives a cash gift for purchase of a memorial or tribute, the selection will be made by the librarian, with the approval of the donor. The general nature of the books or its subject area will be based upon the interests of the deceased, the wishes of the donor, and the needs of the library.

It is the policy of the library not to accept special collections of books to be kept together as a separate physical entity. Gift collections may be accepted with the understanding that they be integrated into the general collection, the only form of donor identification being a bookplate.

The library cannot accept as a gift any printed or manuscript items if the condition of acceptance requires permanent exhibit of the item, since the library believes all exhibits should be changed from time to time to maintain interest.



*This plaque in the main lobby honors the more than 800 citizens children and groups whose free will contributions gave such important support to our quest for excellence...*

*The paintings throughout the buildings are gifts of the members of the Elmhurst Artist' Guild.*

*Maps, globes and much other equipment and furnishings are gifts of our community's citizens.*

