

THE
ETOBICOKE PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD



Announces the opening of the
HUMBER BAY BRANCH LIBRARY
200 Park Lawn Road
JANUARY 6th, 1951

History of Humber Bay Public Library

The Humber Bay Public Library is due largely to a group of residents of the area who in 1925 formed a Library Association under the Ontario Public Library Act. This was at first located in an upper room of the old High Street School. After two years it was moved to a small basement room of the new school. At first there were two cases of books of which some were bought and some were donated. The officers of the first Library Association Board were, Chairman, Mr. R. Brown; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. J. Simm; Librarian, Mr. M. G. Green. One of the most enthusiastic of the early supporters of the Library was our late Reeve, W. A. Armstrong. From this time the Library grew in membership and circulation and more books were added although for a time two cases of books were borrowed each year from the Travelling Libraries.

In 1930 a site for a small Library was donated by the late Dr. Davidson. This was located on the south side of the Queensway, opposite Aldgate Avenue. Plans for the building were drawn by Dr. Davidson's son, an architect. The building would have cost about two thousand dollars, labour being donated. To raise this amount a canvas of the district would have been necessary. Due to the financial conditions throughout the world at that time it was thought best to defer the erection of the building. In 1946 the site was sold for the Produce Market.

In 1942 Mrs. McDonald took over the office of Librarian. With the assistance of some teen age girls she brought the Library successfully through the War years.

Early in 1946 the Library was moved to the lower room in the old school. At this time the Library Board received a grant from the Etobicoke Council to buy more books and equipment. Books up to this time had been bought largely with money raised from membership fees and activities of the members.

In the summer of 1946, with the assistance of Mr. Angus Mowat, Inspector of Public Libraries for the Province of Ontario, the Association was made into a School Section Public Library. In August 1946, the Association transferred all assets to the Public Library, consisting of about two thousand dollars in cash and about three thousand dollars in books and equipment.

After weeks of work by the new board appointed by the School Trustees, Mr. Angus Mowat officially opened the Humber Bay S. S. 11 Public Library on November 13, 1946. The Library was now situated in an upper room in the old High Street School. In October 1947, a branch was opened in Grand Avenue School for one night each week. In July 1948, the Library Board received one weeks' notice to move the Library from the old school which was to be torn down. Arrangements were made to locate the Library in the hall of the new school. About half of the books and equipment had to be stored in the homes of the Board members due to lack of space in the new location. The Library was also forced to close for several weeks while alterations were being made in the school.

In September 1948, the Library Board purchased a Library site sixty feet by one hundred and forty feet from the Anglican Synod on Park Lawn Road. The Board decided to proceed with the Library building as the Library was now really without a home. In May 1949, the Board visited the Public Libraries in Burlington, Grimsby and the new Hamilton Mountain Library in order to obtain ideas and information.

In July and August of 1949, the Library was again forced to move from the school hall while alterations were being made to the school. Again the Library was closed for some weeks.

In December 1949, the electors of Etobicoke Township voted in favour of a Township Public Library.

In January 1950, plans for the Library building were completed. When the new Township Library Board was formed, the Humber Bay School Section Library Board transferred all assets and plans for the building to the new Board. The new building, therefore, is the Humber Bay branch of the Etobicoke Public Library. Plans were changed slightly to allow increased office space for the needs of the Etobicoke Public Library, but the library itself represents a proud achievement on the part of the Humber Bay library board, a culmination of many years' work in providing library service to the residents of Humber Bay.



HUMBER BAY SCHOOL SECTION LIBRARY BOARD

1949

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ETOBICOKE PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

1950

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LIBRARIAN

MISS B. D. HARDIE



HUMBER BAY BRANCH

HOURS

Monday	3.00 P.M. - 6.00 P.M.	7.00 P.M. - 9.00 P.M.
Tuesday	3.00 P.M. - 6.00 P.M.	7.00 P.M. - 9.00 P.M.
Thursday	3.00 P.M. - 6.00 P.M.	7.00 P.M. - 9.00 P.M.
Friday	3.00 P.M. - 6.00 P.M.	7.00 P.M. - 9.00 P.M.
Saturday	10.00 A.M. - 12.00 A.M.	2.00 P.M. - 5.00 P.M.
