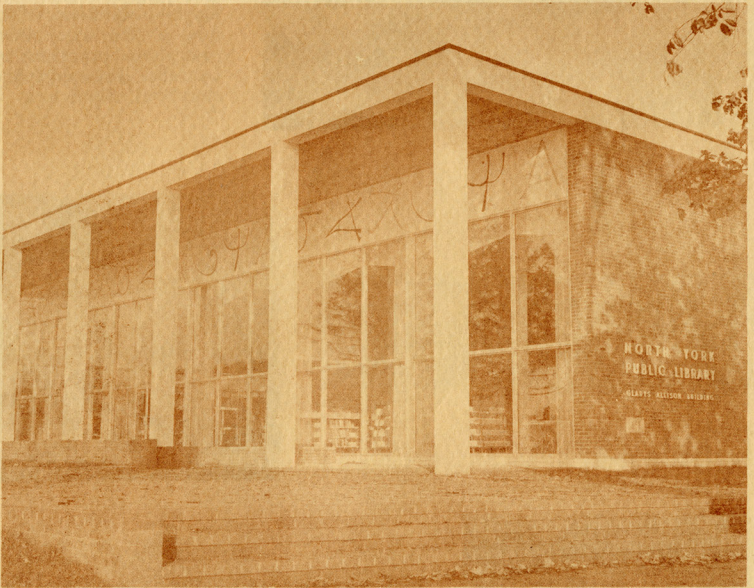


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NY Libraries

A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

...TODAY



The North York Public Library
1959

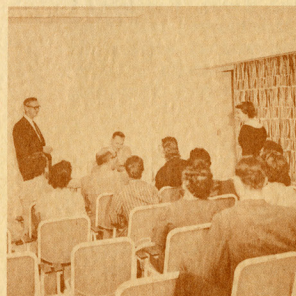
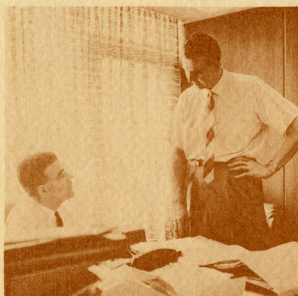


More and more children are enjoying group activities such as the story hour and puppet shows, as well as a fine choice of books. A friendly, experienced staff is on hand at all times to help in the selection of children's books. This year 5,406 children are main library members. Feature of the story hour room is a lino mural by Lauretta Rix depicting storybook characters.

The spacious layout of the Adult Division offers a restful area for relaxed reading or quiet browsing. Adjustable A-frame shelves provide for attractive display, ease of selection. Adult membership in 1959 reached 9,122. The reference section includes not only reference books, but periodicals, pamphlets, government documents and other materials.



Shown at right are Chief Librarian William Graff and assistant Keith Crouch in conference. The second floor of the new building includes executive offices, board room, staff room, overdue department, professional library and poster display department.

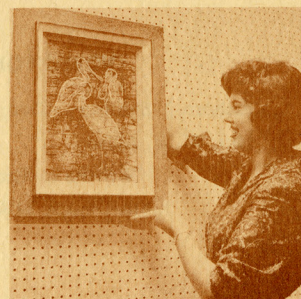


The lower floor of the building was designed with community activity in mind. Rooms are provided for group discussions and meetings. An auditorium accommodating 110 persons has been provided for recitals, drama groups, meetings, special children's programs and art exhibits.



That important group of young adults, the teenagers, have their own reading area in the adult department on the main floor of the new building. A large selection of books for teenagers has been made available and the section is increasing in popularity. Teenagers also use the growing reference section to assist them in their studies.

More and more, communities look to their public libraries for the facilities to satisfy their increasing catholic tastes for music, painting and other cultural activities. In its new Gladys Allison Building North York Public Library has provided a much-needed record, art and film section, including a special room for the previewing of film.



"A BRIGHTER TOMORROW — TODAY" is the story of the North York Public Library over the past nine years.

	Budget	Book Circulation	Available Books	Borrowers
1950	\$ 2,155.00	5,792	2,470	441
1959	\$500,000.00	1,000,000	118,000	over 42,000

With the sixth largest book circulation in Ontario, North York Public Library faces the urgent need for development of permanent branch libraries throughout the township and a community activities and adult education program with something for everyone. Three bookmobiles are currently serving 37 stops in the township.

Biggest step forward to date is the newly completed main library building, built at a cost of \$558,000 or \$12.79 per square foot. Furnished, equipped and with its initial stock of books it cost a total \$708,000 or \$16.24 a square foot complete. The 43,600 square foot building is of modern design by James A. Murray and Henry Fliess. Construction is of precast reinforced concrete beams and columns supporting steel joists. Brick panels are reddish brown. Features include recessed fluorescent lighting, sealed double glazing and aluminum doors and frames. Symbolizing world-wide reading, writing and communication of ideas is the frieze of letters from many different alphabets designed and prepared by Harold Towne and decorating the front and south walls.

GLADYS ALLISON BUILDING

So named in honour of Mrs. Gladys Allison to whose untiring efforts on behalf of North York library services for more than 20 years all North York gives heartfelt thanks.

NORTH YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

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