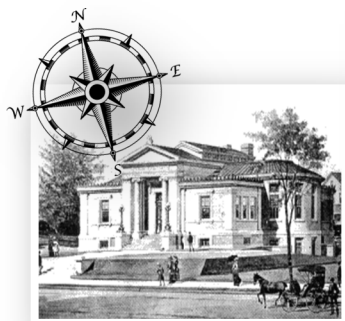


1972 - Establishment of Literacy Volunteers of America in the Mount Vernon Public Library, a voluntary tutoring program on a one to one basis to teach adults how to read.

1976 - Institution of the Local History Room with the combined collections of the Mount Vernon Landmark and Historical Association and the Mount Vernon Public Library.

Of the five Carnegie libraries built in Westchester County through the generosity of Andrew Carnegie, the Mount Vernon Public Library has the sole distinction of being the only one still operating in the footprint of the original building.

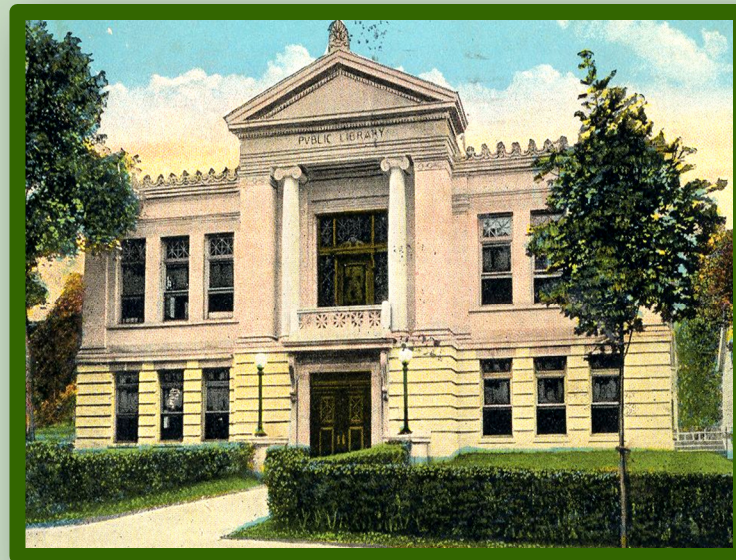
The Mount Vernon Public Library is the largest library in Westchester County, the 6th largest in New York State and the 2nd largest in the region, second only to the New York Public Library on Fifth Avenue.



MOUNT VERNON
PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Central Library for Westchester

The MOUNT VERNON, NY PUBLIC LIBRARY



A BRIEF HISTORY

28 South First Avenue, Mount Vernon, NY



Important Dates in the History of the MOUNT VERNON PUBLIC LIBRARY

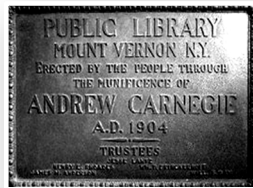
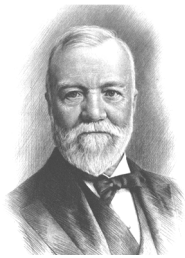


1854 - First school district library opened with a collection of 200 books. (School district libraries were community libraries, serving everyone, and were housed in schools as a matter of convenience.)

1896 - March 19 - Public library chartered by the University of the State of New York.

1896 - May 9 - Library officially opened in three rented rooms at 9 East Third Street with a collection of 5,000 volumes from the school district library.

1898 - Library moved to new quarters in new high school building on 4th Avenue.



1901 - Andrew Carnegie offered \$35,000 for library building. Gift increased to \$50,000. Library site - to be contributed by the city - was known as the Jones - Van Arsdale properties and purchased for \$16,000.



1903 - Ground broken for building. Architect was Edward L. Tilton.



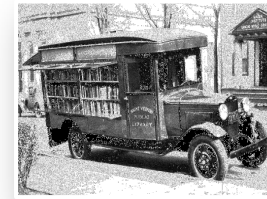
1904 - November - Formal opening of library which was built in the neo-classical style.



1905 - Children's Department opened in the south rotunda.

1909 - First addition completed on 1st Avenue side of building with another gift from Carnegie.

1925 - 2nd Avenue addition completed.



1932 - Bookmobile service begun (with 11 stops).

1937 - Major addition complete to the south side of the building with funding from a federal grant.



1937 - Louise Brann paints fresco on rotunda walls. Largest project of its kind.

1938 - Mills Law Collection established, the gift of the late Leroy Mills.