

Library and Cultural Services

Collection Summary

Title: Library and Cultural Services

Collection Group: City of Aurora Departments

Dates: 1965-2005

Location: *Archives BA4, ephemera file*

Quantity: 1 Clamshell

Abstract: This collection focuses mainly on the library department and branches. It consists of internal departmental documents, official correspondence with outside agencies, public relations materials, and secondary-source histories produced by department members. Main events covered in the primary source documents include the funding, construction and opening of the library branch at 1298 Peoria St. in 1964 and the subsequent addition in 1968, and the opening of the current Central Aurora Library at 1949 E Alameda Ave in 1982. Annual reports cover developments in both the library and parks and recreation departments.

Arrangement: The collection was accumulated from several different sources in 2014. Original order has been lost. A subject-specific folder on building the Main Library (now the North Library branch) is stored in the ephemera file. The remaining contents are divided into two series, one for the library department and the other for Cultural Services. Within the library series, documents are organized into subseries by intended audience (internal departmental, for external agencies, intended for the general public, or general history).

Contents

Series and Subseries

Box 1 of 1

Series 1: Library

Subseries 1: 1298 Peoria (Main Library) Construction

Folder 1: Dates: 1964-1968. This subseries covers the construction and inauguration of the Main Library in 1964, the application process for state grants in 1965-66, and the construction and inauguration of the branch expansion in 1968. Contains correspondence between City Manager Robert O. Wright and the Office of the State Library, contractor information, news clippings, and official inauguration materials. Also includes technical drawings (floor plans, etc) and black and white positives.

Stored in the ephemera file due to oversize items. Search City of Aurora: Library Construction.

Subseries 2: Internal departmental documents

Folder 2: Dates: 1978-1978. Aurora Public Library Statement of Policy, 1977
Continuation budget, statement of departmental duties, purchasing policies, fire escape procedures, two different classification systems (undated) and procedures for materials handling and selection, opening and closing procedures for staff. It also includes internal guidelines on interlibrary loans and fines, check-outs to temporary residents, and time-off. Library Director at this time was David Price.

Folder 3: Dates: 1982-2005. Annual reports from 1982, 1994, 2000, 2005. Reports contain letters from directors as well as statistics on collections, users, finances, and branch programs. The 2000 packet consists more of job postings, managerial tips, and responses to users. Most information is on library services, but also includes parks and recreation and cultural services.

Subseries 3: News Clippings and Brochures

Folder 4: Dates: 1954-2010. Inaugural brochure for 1968 library addition, Aurora Public Library (APL) Highlights publications from the 1970's, clippings and brochure from 1982 opening of Central Aurora Library branch at 14949 E. Alameda Ave, and newspaper special and bookmark celebrating the 70th anniversary of city library service in 1999. From the 2000's are brochures from the Friends of the Library, maps of the branches, and newsclippings on Internet filtering. Of interest is a typed speech from a Cheyenne librarian in 1965 who uses the branch construction in Aurora as an introduction to a talk on the "Library Services and Construction Act of 1964."

Subseries 4: General Histories

Folder 5: Dates: 1961-2001. Contains three distinct histories of city library services. First, a photocopy of a history submitted by Emma Jean Goulding, Chair of the Library Committee (1961) which contains a complete list of the 1929 library collection. Second, "The Aurora Public Library: A History 1929-1987," compiled by Yvonne D. Harding at the Central Library. Third, "History of the Aurora Public Library 1929-2004." Also, printed copy of a short blurb on the Elmira Street Library on the department website in 2005.

Series 2: Cultural Services

Folder 6: Dates: 1993-2013. Mostly class brochures and programs to dance events sponsored by the division of cultural services. Also contains the 1993 Aurora's Community Arts Plan which provided goals and objectives for the city, and questionnaires for organizations and members of the general public to provide feedback.

Additional Library and Cultural Services items in other collections:

Books in Aurora History Museum Library:

Books in Aurora Public Library: