



History of the Winter Haven Public Library



Dr. Samuel Harrison Woods' drugstore on 5th Street

1907
Dr. and Mrs. Samuel
Harrison Woods
start a lending
library in their drug
store.



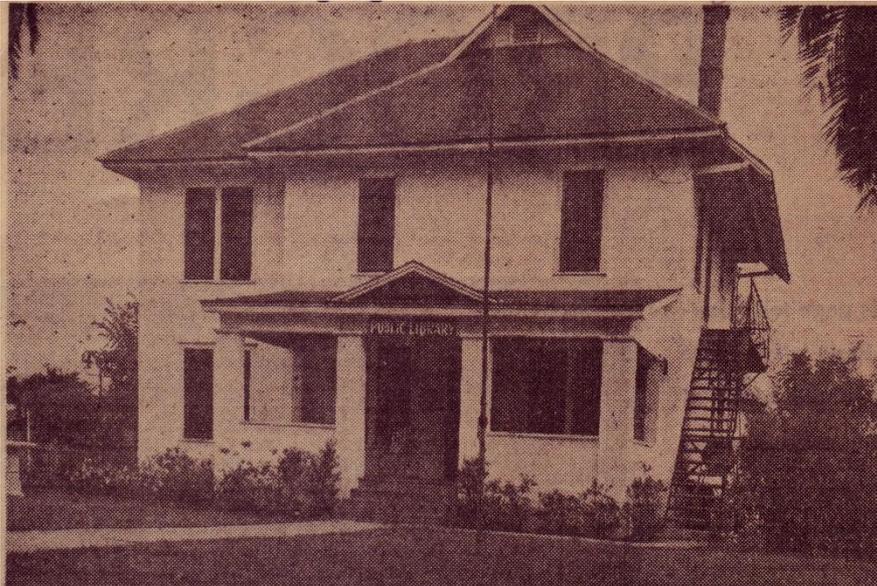
J.D. Cameron

1910
Four gentlemen
(Ed Harper, J.D.
Cameron, I.M.
Johnson, and Walter
Sikes) start their
own small library.



Dr. Mary B. Jewett, founder of the Women's Civic League

1915
Women's Civic
League assumes
sponsorship of the
library.



Winter Haven Public Library, 1924-1955

1918

The library was moved into the old W.W. Mann house.

The house was originally built on Central Avenue near First Baptist Church, but was moved several blocks east when it became the library.



City Seal

1952
Civic League
relinquishes control
of the library to the
City.



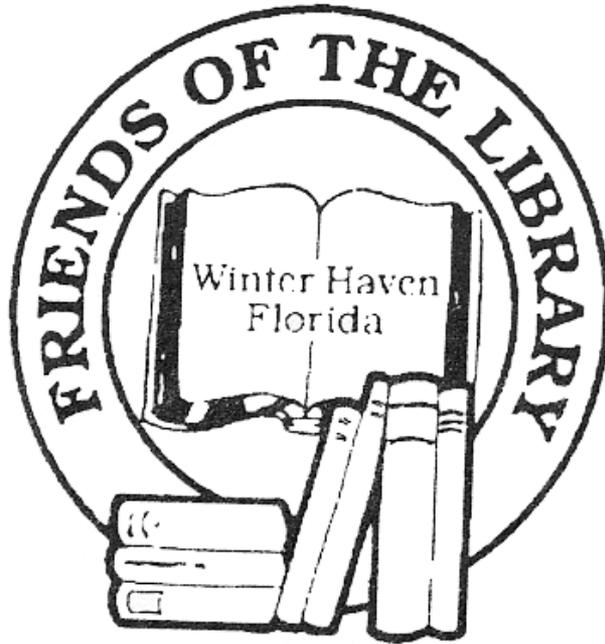
1955
**The City builds the
library a new brick
building.**

Winter Haven Public Library circa 1955



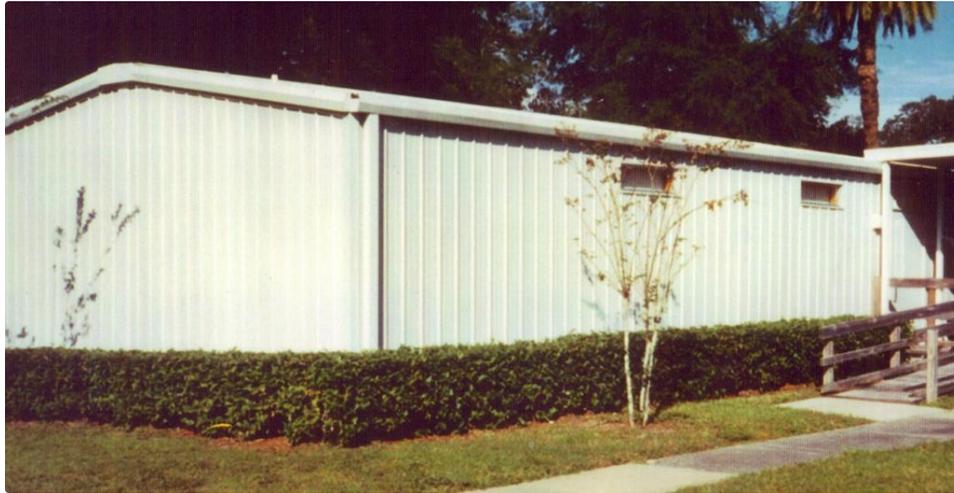
New Entrance on Library Lane

1975
Winter Haven
architect, Gene
Thompson, designs
an addition to the
library and changes
the entrance from
Central Avenue to
the alleyway in the
back.



Friends of the Library Logo

1976
Carl Strang,
Kathryn Smith, and
June Kuntz organize
the Friends of the
Winter Haven
Public Library, Inc.



Our Portable

1991
The City adds a
portable to the
library site.



Polk
County
Library
Cooperative

"Encounter New Ideas"

Polk County Library Cooperative Logo

1997

**The library joins the
newly created Polk
County Library
Cooperative.**

A.R. Klemm Residence, 1940s



A.R. Klemm Residence

Polk County Branch Courthouse, 2001



2002

The City selects the site for the new library.



January 26, 2004

**2003
Construction for
the new library
begins.**



2004
The new library opens.

Our Librarians

Margaret Chase
1925-1926

No Picture
Available



Blanche Griffin
1926-1930



Our Librarians

Clara Abel
1930-1940s



Grace Jones
1940s-1971



Our Librarians

Peggy Harwick
1971-1973

No Picture
Available



Kathryn (Kitty) Smith
1973-2006

