

ETNA LIBRARY MATERIALS

The circulation period is three weeks for all materials. Everything may be checked out including the current issues of magazines and the encyclopedias, The World Book and the New Book of Knowledge.

Community groups are welcome to hold meetings at the library, although seating is limited.

Suggestions for materials (books, magazines and records) are welcomed. The library collection reflects the interests of its patrons. An effort is made to fulfill reasonable requests.

The focal point of the library is the children's collection. There are many paperbacks as well as hardcover editions. Records, puzzles, a few educational toys, and book-and-cassette sets are available.

There has been an effort in recent years to build up the selection of cookbooks and materials pertaining to New England history and geography. There are some taped interviews of area citizens ("old timers") and their reminiscences of life in an earlier age in this area. The Grafton County Extension Service has provided the Library with an extensive set of government publications dealing with nutrition and foods, gardening and topics pertinent to the small farm. There is an extensive collection of Scientific American (a gift of Dr. George Stibitz) and of National Geographics.

Currently the Library subscribes to the following magazines:

Better Homes and Gardens	McCall's
Bon Appetit	National Geographic
Changing Times	Newsweek
Colonial Homes	1001 Decorating Ideas
Consumer Reports	Outdoor Life
Country Journal	Popular Mechanics
Cuisine	Popular Science
Decorating and Craft Ideas	New Hampshire Profiles
Family Circle	Redbook
Good Housekeeping	Scientific American
Gourmet	Sunset
House and Garden	Vermont Life
House Beautiful	Woman's Day
Ladies Home Journal	Yankee
Energy Age	Weight Watchers

and for children: Cricket and National Geographic World

Films are available from the State Library (for the cost of postage) for library programs and for loan to groups. It is advisable to order them far in advance of the date desired.

The Etna Library is indebted to the Etna Ladies Aid for their continuing support and generous contributions of books and materials. In the past few years they have provided funds for a tape recorder and a paperback book rack.

HANOVER TOWN LIBRARY, ETNA, N.H.

A History (taken from Hanover, New Hampshire: A Bicentennial Book
edited by Francis Lane Childs)

The first town library was incorporated in Mill Village or Etna by special state charter on June 12, 1801. Little is known of this First Social Library of Hanover, but, by inference, membership was through subscription and the book collection moved from house to house as different members took charge.

During the same period, with even less records, was what Prof. John Lord in his History of Hanover refers to as "an infidel library" at Mill Village. It is not clear whether those two libraries ever merged, but something developed that was referred to as the "first union library" and members who owned a share in this were considered for membership in the Second Social Library Association in Hanover, chartered June 29, 1819. The library was open the last Saturday of each month and from 1840 to 1874 it was housed in Hayes Hall. The Second Social Library disbanded in 1874.

In December 1883 the Etna Library and Debating Society was formed. It met weekly from Christmas to Mud Season and numbered 77 members at the peak of its popularity. The 300 books in the library collection were kept at the home of a member who served as librarian and who was eventually paid \$5 a year for this service. The meetings of the Society consisted of debates on academic subjects, dialogues, readings, songs by the younger members and the reading of "The Etna Enterprise," a hand-written paper edited by a member. The books of this Society were given to the Hanover Free Library which opened to the public on February 4, 1899.

In addition to the books given by the Etna Library and Debating Society, the State of New Hampshire provided 100 books through the New Hampshire Library Act of 1891, and the Dartmouth Bookstore donated books. The library was housed in Hayes Hall over the store.

In 1903 a lot for building a new library was purchased for \$50 from A. N. Merrill. The building and fireproof vault were completed in 1905 at a cost of \$2822.11. The one-room building, 25 x 33 feet, was finished in varnished hazelwood. Constructed on a solid granite foundation, the double walls are brick and the steps and portico are cut granite.