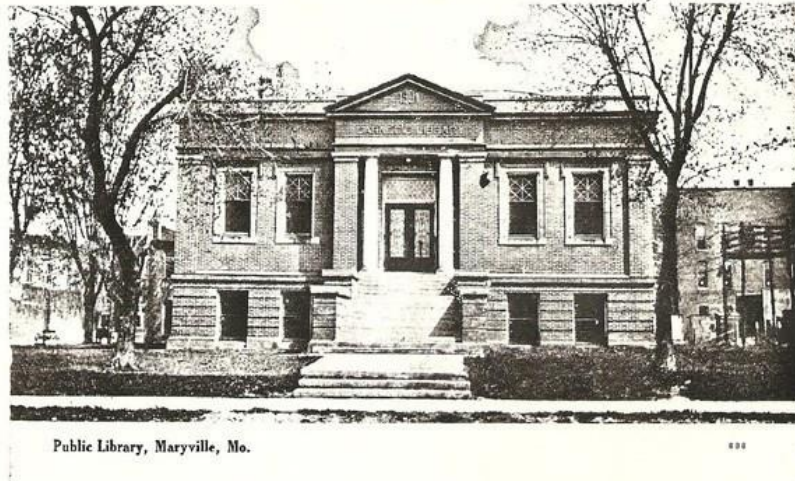


A Brief History of Maryville Public Library



The Maryville Public Library opened its doors to the public on July 1, 1905 at its original location at the corner of Buchanan and Second Streets. The building, constructed of red pressed brick, was funded with a \$15,000 gift from the American Industrial Leader and famed philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. An annual property tax was levied by the citizens of Maryville for the purpose of maintaining the library and furnishing resources.

(Source: *Past and Present of Nodaway County Missouri*, B.F. Bowen & Company, 1910)

In 1962, the Library Board of Trustees took possession of the 1912 limestone structure that formerly housed the Maryville Post Office at the corner of Fifth and Main Streets. In 2022, that building was added to the National Register of Historic Places as a rare and excellent example of Beaux-Arts Architecture in Maryville.

A major expansion and renovation funded by private donations and grant income began in 1999 and was completed in 2001.

In 1962, 1993, and again in 2015, the Maryville Public Library asked county residents to join Maryville residents in paying a tax to support a countywide library. The proposal was defeated by out-of-town voters each time.

In 2017, Maryville voters approved the first tax increase for the library since 1962.