

c/c all members

ALLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

SITES CONSIDERED FOR THE ALLENDALE LIBRARY

A number of sites were examined by this surveyor as possible library locations. It is possible that there are potential locations in Allendale which are not discussed in this report.

The requisite size of the plot will have a direct bearing on the selection of any site. If there is to be vehicular access to the plot from the street, there should be a minimum of 150 to 200 feet frontage on the thoroughfare, with a gross size of about 40,000 square feet, or an acre.

This would break down approximately as follows:

Building Area (ground floor)	7,500 sq. ft.
Set Backs	4,000 sq. ft.
Access Roads	2,000 sq. ft.
Parking (40 cars)	16,000 sq. ft.
Future expansion	<u>10,000</u> sq. ft.
Total	39,500 sq. ft.

Following are the sites evaluated in this study:

1. The Telephone Company Building on #4 West Allendale

The site is well located geographically and West Allendale Avenue has a moderate traffic volume. There is a two-story brick building on the property which measures 128 feet on Allendale and is 204 feet deep. It did not appear that the building on the property was suitable for conversion to a library. There would

ALLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Site evaluation

therefore be the expense of paying for a building which would have to be torn down in order to utilize the property for a library.

The area of the lot measures approximately 26,000 sq. ft., which is small. Second choice site.

2. The Crestwood Lake Swimming Club

This is a large piece of property on West Crescent Avenue, between West Maple Avenue and the Erie Railroad tracks. West Crescent has a moderate traffic volume and as the pool is well back from the street, there is ample property for present and foreseeable library needs. It is also unlikely that locating a library on the property would impair its use as a Swim Club or other purposes. First choice site.

3. The Allendale Public School

Near the corner of West Crescent and Brookside Avenues there is about 2.0 acres of property which is part of the Allendale Public School grounds belonging to the Board of Education. Contiguous to the northern boundary of the school property is some 12.0 acres of property belonging to the Borough and being used as a Recreation park. Should the use of an acre of the school grounds for library purposes reduce the size of the school grounds below state standards, the Borough might wish to consider a trade of an acre of park property for the school acreage. Being on a corner, the location would have good exposure. The size of the property needed by the library should not result in its being any closer to the school than either the Library Board or the Board of Education might wish. First choice site.

ALLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Site Evaluation

4. Municipal Memorial Park

At the corner of Brookside and Park Avenues bounded by Mallison and Third Streets is a Memorial Park which consists of 1.5 acres. The size of the plot is adequate and geographically central. Traffic past the site is primarily that of residents living in the area. Use of the park is also quite limited. Second choice site.

5. Memorial Drive near A & P

There are some 2.0 acres next to the A & P fronting on Memorial Drive. At the rear of this property are the Erie Railroad tracks. Although railroad traffic is infrequent, the proximity of the tracks to a library building and the use of the library by small children will have to be weighed in making a choice. The closeness of the A & P should result in better use of the library by Allendale residents. The library patrons might also be able to share the A & P parking lot with a resulting saving in construction costs. First choice site.

6. Franklin Turnpike and West Orchard Street

Opposite the municipal building on Franklin Turnpike are 2.63 acres. This property is at the southern end of the same block in which the present library is located. Franklin Turnpike is a well-travelled street. The location is central and the size of the property most adequate. This is a first choice site.

ALLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Site evaluation

CRITERIA FOR SITE SELECTION

A library is nothing if it is not used. The operation of a library becomes progressively more economical the larger the number of readers it serves and the greater the number of books it circulates. Location of the library is described as the single most important factor determining use.

Those factors that contribute heavily to the ideal library site are:

1. Location in the center of major pedestrian traffic and shopping areas.
2. A location where people go, not necessarily where they live.
3. Street level entrance to attract people with its colorful interior and interesting activities.
4. Adequate parking for library patrons.
5. Location where people are not afraid to send their children or to come alone at night.
6. Proximity to schools important to children.
7. Proximity to residential areas so that people may walk to the library as well as come to it by car.
8. Location convenient to business and industry.
9. The building should stand out and be noticed.
10. The site should be large enough to contain adequate building, proper landscaping and future additions.

ALLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY - Site evaluation

Experience has shown that the following concepts affect library use adversely:

1. Location in a quiet retreat, such as a park.
2. Location in a cultural complex.
3. Location at the geographic or population center of a community, unless other criteria aforementioned are met.
4. Location in a school, college or other cultural agency.
5. Location in a remote spot merely to provide parking.

Experience in other communities has been that placing the library in these five locations will adversely affect its frequency of use and therefore its economy of operation.

ALLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY - SITE EVALUATION SUMMARY
 CRITERIA FOR SITE SELECTION AND SITE EVALUATION

Site	Criteria								Evaluation		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	No. Score	% Score	Rank
A	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8	100	1
B	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8	100	2
C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8	100	3
D	X	X	X	X	X	X	1/2	X	7 1/2	94	4
E	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	7	87.5	5
F	1/2	1/2	1/2	X	X	X	1/2	X	6	75	6

X = Site will meet criteria to high degree

1/2 = Site will meet criteria to fair degree

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Site</u>
1. Located where people go	A. Franklin Turnpike
2. Near pedestrian or traffic center	B. Allendale Public School
3. Accessible for greatest use - attract	C. Crestwood Lake Club
4. Adequate parking	D. Memorial Drive A & P
5. People not afraid to go at night	E. Telephone Company property
6. Close to Schools	F. Memorial Park
7. Building will stand out	
8. Sizeable residential area near	