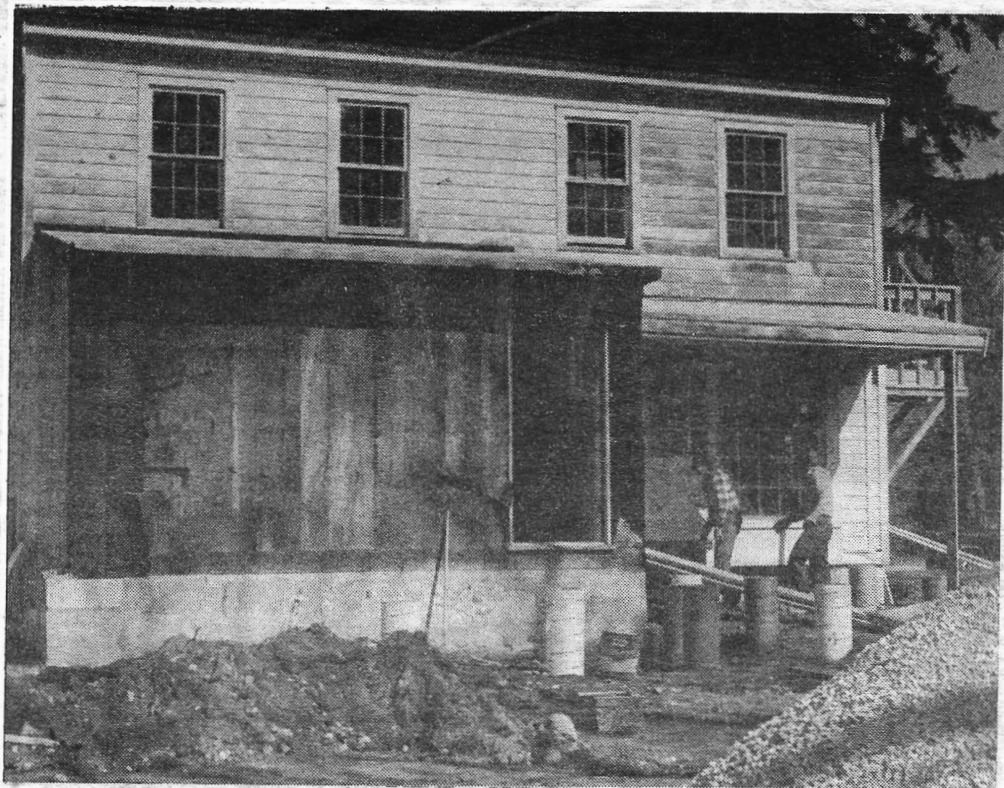




Partridge House

Renovation of the new Alice Baker Memorial Library

by Virginia Kranz

EAGLE— Construction began February 27 on the renovation of the new Alice Baker Memorial Library.

Don Van Acker, resident of Eagle, was awarded the contract for \$55,000. The Village Board and Eagle Town Board have each

appropriated \$25,000 for the construction. The remainder will be derived through donations of labor and cash.

Village Trustee Ralph Raduechel stated that painting done by volunteers could trim approximately \$3900 from the \$55,000

figure.

The old Partridge House was donated to the library by Carl Zepprich. The library has been located in the Methodist church. Growth in membership of the congregation created need for the additional space.

Freeman 4/11/84

Eagle Town OKs money for library

EAGLE TOWN — At the annual town meeting Monday, the townspeople voted in favor of the Town Board borrowing \$25,000 for its share of costs for a new town-village joint library, Town Chairman John Auburger said today.

Several months ago, the village agreed to pay half of the \$50,000 construction costs. Town Supervisor Louise Hedrick said the library will be in what is now known as the Partridge House on Main Street in the village near the town-village hall.

She said a Chicago man recently donated the house, which she said was about 100 years old, to the village to be used as a library. The only library now in the area is in a room in a village church.

The \$50,000 covers only the remodeling costs of the house, she said.

"The remodeling has already started," she said. "They're going at it with great guns." She said the remodeling is expected to be completed by June.

Hedrick said money to buy books and supplies has been raised through donations and gifts from community groups and neighbors.

"Everybody is sort of pitching in," she said. "It's more or less a neighborhood project."



— Journal Photo by George Cassidy

Librarian Kathy Wendorf packed books in the cramped quarters of Eagle's one-room library

Eagle library to get larger quarters

By Laura Sumner Coon
of The Journal Staff

Eagle — Books stacked higher than librarians, squeezed onto short shelves and stored in brown shopping bags fill a one-room library in the Eagle United Methodist Church on Main St.

A beaten path through the church lawn leads to an old gray door and the Alice Baker Memorial Library, which will be 10 years old in June.

It would be an understatement to say the library is cramped. It houses 10,000 books in a rented room where two visitors create a crowd.

There are no chairs or tables at which to study or lounge with an interesting book. Movable shelves that don't fit into the tiny room are faithfully wheeled in and out of the hallway each day and card

catalogs list addresses of neighbors' attics and garages where more books await shelf space.

But all that is expected to change this summer when the library will move into a new building three houses away from its present site.

Carl Zipprich, a former Eagle resident now living in Illinois, gave his Main St. house to the library.

Workers are renovating the white clapboard home, which will provide two floors of library space.

Book shelves will fill the first story, while office and storage space will be located on the second. For the first time, the library will be accessible to the handicapped and will have a copy machine.

A handful of reading buffs started the library in 1974 in a rented corner of a

Sunday school classroom. It was stocked with four shelves of donated materials that grew weekly.

Private grants and acquisitions from a Waukesha school closing helped boost the number of references available to library visitors.

Four volunteers ran the reading room for its first eight years of operation.

Now, the Eagle town and village boards appropriate funds for the library.

Head Librarian Betty Isleb said people had held back their donations until there was more room.

"When we finally move, we will probably find things that have been packed away and that we have been searching for for months," Isleb said. "And we'll all have more space for our own things in our own attics."

Eagle library will take ride to new location

Eagle — Reading enthusiasts here will be forming a book caravan of sorts, as they move the 12,000-volume Alice Baker Memorial Library to its new location.

On Saturday, volunteers will begin the monthlong process of moving the contents of the one-room library at the Eagle United Methodist Church on Main St. to a house half a block away.

The house was donated to the Library Board in 1982 by Carl Zipprich, a former Eagle resident who had moved to Illinois. The renovation of the two-story, white clapboard house into a library has taken almost two years.

The library was formed by a group of reading buffs in 1974 in a rented corner of a Sunday school classroom at the church.

Library planners expect to celebrate the opening of the new building in early September.

But Library Board Chairman Lance Fanshaw said that progress would depend on volunteers. Those interested in helping can contact Betty Isleb, head librarian, at 594-2439.

Eagle readies library

By Julie Sneider

EAGLE — With renovation nearly completed, the town and village library is to open in a few weeks.

The inside of the building is "pretty well finished," but the outside needs a final coat of paint and shutters, Eagle Town Supervisor Louise Hedrick said.

The 100-year-old building, known as the old Partridge House, is on Main Street near the village-town hall. A Chicago man who once used the building as an antique shop donated it to the library, which now is just a room in a village church.

The town and village are sharing the \$50,000 renovation

cost. The village has received a \$25,000 state trust fund loan. The town's loan has been approved, although the town doesn't have the money yet, Hedrick said.

Hedrick said that the new library will be named the Alice Baker Memorial Library. Baker, who was born in Eagle, died in 1974 and willed money to build an Eagle library.

Baker was a teacher who taught around the country. She also spent two years teaching in China.

"But Eagle was her home," Library Board member Mabel Thomas said. "She was always interested in anything about Eagle. She hoped that someday the village would have its own library."

WAUKESHA-FREEMAN-June 25-1984



The Partridge House, the new home of the Alice Baker Memorial Public Library, is located at 117 East Main Street.

Milwaukee Journal Jan. July 20-1984

MUK. CHIEF. 8/15/87



Librarian Betty Isleb (left) and library secretary Barb Warriner continue to stock the shelves and get the library books settled into their new home.

Eagle Library settles into new home

Chief, August 15, 1984, Page 5

Renovations began in early spring, and the library celebrated July 30 as the first day in the new location. The library board is also planning an open house in the fall.

The library in Eagle has been an important factor in the community for over the past ten years. It initially made its home in an area of the Eagle United Methodist Church, where it began in June of 1974.

About 12 years ago, Alice Baker, a resident of the area, tried to get people together to start a library. She approached Lance Fanshaw, who is now Superintendent of the Palmyra/Eagle Schools, and suggested setting up a meeting to determine interest in a library. About 40 people attended this first meeting.

But as meetings were held, fewer and fewer people attended. Fanshaw, Isleb, and Lillian Rundquist and her daughter Wendy saw that the plans of the library promoters were put into action. Fanshaw spoke with Dexter Badinger at the church, and they agreed to the rental of a portion of the Sunday school room for a library. Immediately the library began growing, and soon was beyond its capacity within the church.

Many books are still in storage, and continue to be brought over slowly. The second floor of the building will hold office space, a reference area, and storage.

The computer on the second floor is used in conjunction with the Waukesha County Federated Library System. It is used in interlibrary loans. Items can now be obtained quickly through other libraries in the system, says Isleb. Libraries are now establishing special collections. In this way, small libraries do not have to offer all items as they can quickly obtain them through other libraries in the system.

The Alice Baker Memorial Public Library is also planning a book sale, to eliminate duplicates of books. The Eagle Lions Club has donated a new sign, which will soon be erected in front of the library.

The new phone number at the library is 594-2800. The library is open Mondays from 2-4:30 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m.; Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m.; Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturdays from 9-12 noon. Isleb and her assistants have plans for new services.

A number of dedicated volunteers began moving over 10 years of acquired books and materials into the new Alice Baker Memorial Public Library recently. The library is now making its home in the renovated Partridge house at 117 East Main Street in the Village of Eagle. These volunteers painted, stained, and worked to help make the new library possible.

Head Librarian Betty Isleb, with assistant librarian Barb Jateczak, library clerks Joanne Batzler and Kathy Wendorf, and library secretary Barb Warriner, welcome readers of all ages into their new quarters.

The Partridge House, which was constructed in 1864, had been vacant for some time. The building was donated by Carl Zipprich, who now lives in Illinois. Zipprich owned some property within the area, and still visits quite often. "He really cared about Eagle," says Isleb, and wanted the buildings in the village to be renovated so the village could retain part of the flavor of the past.

Alice Baker passed away just shortly before the library opened in the church. She had lived her entire life in Eagle. She was interested in the community and wrote about it. She also wrote poems and had them published.

The library was named the Alice Baker Memorial Public Library. Fanshaw was the first Library Board President, and continues to serve on the board. John Daggett, until he passed away last fall, was a member of the library board. "He was tireless in his efforts to get the new building," says Isleb.

The first Library Board was made of Fanshaw, Isleb, Lillian Rundquist, Dorothy Sherman, and Mabel Finney. The current board is made of Finney, Fanshaw, Mabel Thomas, Lois Zipp, and Newell Meyer. The Eagle Village Board representative is Ralph Raduechel. The Eagle Town representative is Louise Hedrick. These people meet monthly.

The new library offers about four times as much room as the previous location.

*The Board of Trustees
of the Alice Baker Memorial Public Library
takes pleasure in inviting you and your guest
to an open house
and dedication of the new library
Sunday, September 16, 1934
from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the
Alice Baker Memorial Public Library
217 Main Street
Eagle, Wisconsin*

Joint efforts made in library problems

by Maribeth Patterson

EAGLE — The Town and Village of Eagle held a joint meeting December 13 to discuss how to handle the problem of Social Security, workman's compensation, and unemployment benefits for the library employees.

Until October, social security taxes were being paid by the library to the Kansas City office. However, the library has no social security number of its own and should have filed under either the

town or village number at the Madison office.

A refund can be applied for; but first, all back payments must be paid to the Madison office under a social security problem number.

Both the Town and Village were at a loss as to how to do all the paper work concerning unemployment and workman's compensation for library employees. Employees of the library are

employed by both the Town and Village. It would be nearly impossible to break down amounts due in taxes from the Town or Village (depending on who did not have the library listed under their social security number), board members agreed.

There is the possibility the library can become a separate entity and would have its own number to file under. This is to be discussed with the Library Corporation Attorney Steve Steinhoff. Both the

Village and Town would prefer the Library have control over all matters concerning it. However, Village Clerk Gerry Von Rueden volunteered to research the back taxes and correct the situation if it was not possible for the library to become a separate entity.

The matter will be discussed further in another joint meeting to be held January 3 at the regular Village Board meeting. Town Chairman, John Auberger, suggested meeting every six months to discuss mutual problems.