Central Library
Lincoln, Nebraska

Historical Photographs from the archives of Lincoln City Libraries

September 6, 2017
“Old Main” – Nebraska’s first Carnegie Library

Donations from public were used to purchase the land on the Northeast corner of South 14th & N Streets, with construction funded by industrialist Andrew Carnegie. Dedicated May 27, 1902.
“Old Main” – Sidewalk Art Show

View from across intersection of South 14th Street and N Street of a sidewalk art show at the “Old Main” Library. (No date listed)
1956 Proposed Library – Model

Model of proposed Central Library in 1956 for south side of N Street between South 14th and South 15th (now Centennial Mall) – a half block site. Presented view would be looking from Northeast corner of Centennial Mall and N Street, looking to Southwest.
“Old Main” - 1961

Photograph looking across intersection of South 14th and N Streets prior to start of demolition.
“Old Main” – Demolition – 1961

Photograph looking across intersection of South 14th and N Streets during demolition of “Old Main” building. Northern portion of building and dome section are still standing.
Bennett Martin Public Library - 1961

Low angle photograph looking across intersection of South 14th and N Streets. Framework of “Unit I” – portions of Library nearest N Street and South 14th Street
Bennett Martin Public Library -1962

Aerial photograph looking across intersection of South 14th and N Streets showing completed Unit I.
Bennett Martin Public Library – 1967

Framework of “Unit II” – portions of Library nearest alleyway and the former YWCA building.
Bennett Martin Public Library – March 1971

1st Floor, Portion of building nearest N Street.
Foreground: service desk; Middle: book displays; right-back: card catalog
Photo Credit: Woody Hovland
Bennett Martin Public Library – 1976

Aerial photograph looking across intersection of South 14th and N Streets showing Library (Units I and II).
Bennett Martin Public Library – 1977
Low angle photograph looking across intersection of South 14th and N Streets showing Library (Units I and II).
Bennett Martin Public Library – April 11, 1977

Mayor Helen Boosalis and Paul Ess (Library Board President) at the “Brickbreaking” Ceremony to begin work on construction of “Unit III” (Northeast portions of Library that include 3rd and 4th floors).
Bennett Martin Public Library – August 1977

Low angle photograph looking across intersection of South 14\textsuperscript{th} and N Streets showing Library during construction of Unit III (Northeast section with 3\textsuperscript{rd} & 4\textsuperscript{th} floors).
Bennett Martin Public Library – 1978

Low angle photograph looking across intersection of South 14th and N Streets showing Library after completion of Unit III (Northeast section of Library with 3rd and 4th floors added).