

The three phase construction started in August 2011 and was completed February 2013 at a cost of **\$2,235,500**.

1953 Gramercy Lutchter Paulina Jr Chamber of Commerce, Gramercy Knights of Columbus, and Lutchter PTA passed resolutions asking the police jury to start a parish library.

At the time 58 parishes had operating libraries, the closest was in Norco.

1964 - St. James Fathers' Club, St. James High Mothers Club, and Vacherie Lions Club wrote letters to the police jury supporting a library.

1965 - Library Board first met in September.

1970 - The original building on site was dedicated.

1987 - Additions/expansions.

Mrs. William C. Norris elected president, Harold Waguespack VP, John D. Lambremont Treasurer, Charles Pedescleux, and Riley Boudreaux, Francis Waguespack ex-officio.

State Librarian Sallie Ferrel and Field Consultant Sarah Irwin Jones explained the state library demonstration project, which included opening libraries in St. James and St. John simultaneously and sharing an administrative librarian. That plan did not happen, we opened our own location.

In the beginning, the state library provided **10,000** books, magazines, newspapers; bookmobiles and operational costs; staff; office supplies; travel expenses; rent and utilities; furniture and equipment for **one** year.

We were responsible for shelving, securing buildings, janitorial services, telephones, postage, and signs at a cost of \$1800 for the first year, before taking over operations after the demonstration year.

First started out of the old Vacherie post office and an old Norco Gas and Fuel Building on Main Street in Lutcher (between the Woods property?)

Despite renovations rain storms caused leaks and damaged books along with power outages. The board began looking for alternative spots.

A "book station" was available at the courthouse for employees to check out and return books on the honor system.

Bookmobile toured local businesses on both sides of the river; worked with Head Start. They soon decided to seek donated buildings or build one... 1969/1970

2003 - Vacherie Branch opened in October.

Margaret Simon Job History:

Margaret started:

as a Bookmobile Clerk on 09/19/80,
was promoted to Library Associate 05/01/86,
promoted to Library Manager on 02/09/2004,
lastly promoted to Library Supervisor on 03/10/08