

What will it look like?

The new library will reflect Goshen's architectural heritage and complement its park-like setting. The library's architect is currently developing a plan for the new building. Drawings will be presented to the public for comment.

How much will it cost?

Each year that passes increases the total project cost as labor and material costs raise. When we began a building program in 1994, the projected cost was about \$90 per square foot. At today's rates, we are projecting \$350 per square foot (furnished and equipped). We hope to lock in a plan and bring a referendum to vote in 2007.

Cost will be a determinate in the size of the proposed building.

What is the Goshen Public Library and Historical Society?

The Goshen Public Library and Historical Society was first chartered by the State of New York as an association (private) library in 1894.

As a result of a public vote of the residents of the Goshen Central School District in March 1984, it subsequently received an absolute charter as a school district public library in June 1990.



Goshen Public Library
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Our mission

The Goshen Public Library and Historical Society provides free and open access to information, ideas and resources to enrich our community.

Our vision

The Goshen Public Library and Historical Society will be the community's gathering place, a destination that has something for everyone.

Our goals

- Create a destination library
- Reach out to the whole community
- Expand access to information technology
- Build community awareness about the library
- Secure funding (public and private) for the new library

Visit our website at
<http://goshenpubliclibrary.org>
for more information on our plans



Building Facts 2006

Why does the Goshen Public Library and Historical Society need to expand?

- **We have added new materials and services by eliminating others.**

In the past 5 years we have eliminated: seats, to accommodate shelving and computers; browsing of the artifact and local history collections, to accommodate growing youth services; displays, group computer instruction, and community use of the meeting room, to accommodate library programs.

- **The four-fifths of our patrons who drive to the library cannot find parking.**
- **We can no longer add services in response to your needs.**

In addition to the services curtailed or eliminated, you have continually asked for other services - top on the list are quiet study space, video games, separate shelving for various materials to make browsing easier, and more of everything we do.

GPLHS BUILDING FACTS WINTER 2006

- **Growth in the community results in growth in the demand for service.**

In the near future, 1,614 more housing units will be constructed in the Village and Town of Goshen, resulting in a projected population increase of 4,842 (28% of our counted service population). This does not account for the rest of the school district. *In a growing community the library cannot grow.*

- **Our 2005 strategic plan outlines service goals determined by a 30 member Community Advisory Committee. Fulfilling the plan is contingent on having the space to meet the needs defined.**

How big a building do you need?

A 2003 evaluation of our space needs, based on 10 years worth of statistical data, indicated that we need a 28,000-30,000 square foot building, with parking for 100 cars. In 2005, population growth is projected at 3.5% annually. We therefore need *at least* a 28,000 - 30,000 square foot to achieve our service goals.

Why don't you add on to the present building?

This 1918 building is 5,610 square feet including 2100 square feet of basement. Expanding the present building into the parking lot and using all available land along Hill Street for parking would give us 8,620 square feet and parking for 11 cars.

What's so unique about a library building?

Library stacks are heavy. They require a floor load capacity of 150 - 200 lb. per sq. ft. The average office building may have a capacity of 30 - 60 lb. per sq. ft. A library needs to be flexible so that it can be rearranged to accommodate future growth and changes in service needs. The main areas must be open and able to bear this weight. It is generally less costly to build a new library from the ground up than to retrofit an existing building for library use.

What will happen to our lovely old building?

In 2003, this building was appraised at \$693,909. Most practically for the benefit of the taxpayers, it will be sold and the income from the sale be used to defray some of the costs of the new building. The added financial benefit would be the return of this property to the tax rolls.

You can't take the library out of the village!

A Site Committee of five residents of the GCSD met from October 1994 - July 1995. The committee determined that the library should remain in the village, the population center of the school district and the location of all of the schools. Evaluated sites include: the Erie St. Park, the Main St. school building, school district properties adjacent to C.J. Hooker and Scotchtown Avenue schools, the Salesian property and a privately owned parcel at 28 Scotchtown Ave. Subsequently, the Library Board revisited the Main St. school, and the privately owned parcel (twice). The Library Board has also investigated the former Lippincott House, the jail site, and two other privately owned parcels.

Where will the Library be located?

The Library has purchased a 5 acre privately owned parcel on Main Street, between the VFW Hall and the Salesian Park. It is the last undeveloped piece of the former Salesian land. This location is highly visible, and accessible by bicycle and on foot. The lot is of sufficient size to accommodate future growth.

The library will accommodate some of the uses specified by the community for the Salesian park: meeting spaces, community center, youth center, cultural center, gallery space, visitor information. Locating the library at the park will eliminate duplication of services.

