

Reading Public Library - Reading, PA



Artist: Timothy G. Cock, Assoc. AIA

The Library first occupied part of a building at Fifth and Franklin Streets in 1868. That library hall was offered to the City of Reading in 1898 and became free to the public from that time forward. The Library continued to grow and eventually occupied the entire building at Fifth and Franklin. Due to overcrowding and unsafe conditions, the Library was moved to an old school house on Franklin near Third from 1910 to 1913 while a completely new facility--the now familiar Main Library--was built at the original site through the generosity of philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.