

NORTH LITTLE ROCK PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
INTRODUCTION
CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION HISTORY

- 1962 The 10,000 square foot William F. Laman Public Library opens at its new location at 2801 Orange Street. Cost = \$177,479
- 1967 Lecture room remodeling was completed. Cost = \$9,890
- 1969 A 15,000 square foot addition to the library's southside. Cost = \$320,000
- 1970 A 40-foot clock tower, covered walkway, and new doors were constructed on the west side of building. A parking lot was later constructed between the Health Department and the Library. The Library Board received a 99-year lease for \$1 on land south of the Library to be designated "Laman Plaza."
- 1971 Plaza was landscaped. Cost = \$20,000
- 1972 Gazebo designed by Fay Jones and constructed by Roberts & Co. Cost = \$16,579
- 1990 10,000 square foot renovation of the Children's Library, administration and public computing areas. Cost = \$216,000
- 2003 25,000 square foot expansion and interior renovation of 25,000 square foot of existing space of the William F. Laman Public Library, including the construction of an auditorium and doubling size of the Children's Library. Cost = \$3.2 million
- 2006 Renovation of Laman Plaza, repairing the pond, fountain, and gazebo with new landscaping, lighting, fencing, and seating. Cost = \$500,000
- 2006 2,550 square foot renovation of the 1895 historic structure that once served as City Hall and fire station for the city of Argenta. This renovation housed the Argenta Branch of the William F. Laman Public Library. Cost = \$500,000
- 2008 6,000 square foot addition to the William F. Laman Public Library and renovation to the first-floor ceiling to include energy efficient air conditioning, lighting, and additional insulation. The addition housed a new public computing facility of 50 computers, main server room, an exhibit gallery and coffee shop. Cost = \$2.4 million
- 2010 Teen Center was built on Mezzanine of the William F. Laman Public Library. Cost = \$682,263

- 2012 The historic Argenta Post Office, at 420 Main Street was purchased for \$775,000.
- 2014 The \$2.8 million renovation resulted in a new home for the Argenta Library with 15,300 square feet of public space. Cost = \$2.8 million
- 2021 The Laman Library Plaza evolved again with the opening of the inclusive Laman Plaza Playground, built on the site of the former pond and fountain and maintained by the City of North Little Rock's Parks and Recreation Department.
- 2025 New roof installed over Children's Library at the Laman location. Cost = \$418,950