The Corvinian Library History And Stock

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while the importance of writing has often been recognized the role of books and especially that of libraries has just as often been slighted knowledge once generated has to be communicated preserved and accessible books in their varying formats from clay tablets to scrolls and manuscripts to pixels have been instrumental in spreading knowledge although relatively little attention has been given to the story of books themselves a social history of books and libraries from cuneiform to bytes traces the roles of books and libraries throughout recorded history and explores their social and cultural importance within differing societies and changing times it presents the history of books from clay tablets to e books and the history of libraries whether built of bricks or bytes following an introduction that sets the theoretical basis for the historical importance of books and libraries chapters alternate between the history of the book and the history of libraries included within the chapters are short excursions on some particular development such as book emblems or cataloging case studies are given as thematic illustrations of libraries everywhere patrick m valentine argues that social and cultural forces have been more influential in determining the nature and status of information books and libraries than has technology but a social history of books and

libraries is far from a jeremiad against technology rather it presents history within the subtle yet shifting context of time and place although written primarily for librarians and library students it will also be of interest to a wider audience of scholars and those interested in books libraries and cultural history

first published in 1994 routledge is an imprint of taylor francis an informa company

tracing what the library has meant since its beginning examining how its significance has shifted and pondering its importance in the twenty first century significant contributors including the librarian of the congress and the former executive director of the hathitrust present a cultural history of the library dust jacket flap

perfect for book lovers this is a fascinating exploration of the history of libraries and the people who built them from the ancient world to the digital age famed across the known world jealously guarded by private collectors built up over centuries destroyed in a single day ornamented with gold leaf and frescoes or filled with bean bags and children's drawings the history of the library is rich varied and stuffed full of incident in the library historians andrew pettegree and arthur der weduwen introduce us to the antiquarians and philanthropists who shaped the world's great collections trace the rise and fall of literary tastes and reveal the high crimes and misdemeanors committed in pursuit of rare manuscripts in doing so they reveal that while collections themselves are fragile often falling into ruin within a few decades the idea of the library has been remarkably resilient as each generation makes and remakes the institution anew beautifully written and deeply researched the library is essential reading for booklovers collectors and anyone who has ever gotten blissfully lost in the stacks

despite dire predictions in the late twentieth century that public libraries would not survive the turn of the millennium their numbers have only increased two of three americans frequent a public library at least once a year and nearly that many are registered borrowers although library authorities have argued that the public library functions primarily as a civic institution necessary for maintaining democracy generations of library patrons tell a different story in part of our lives wayne a wiegand delves into the heart of why americans love their libraries the book traces the history of the public library featuring records and testimonies from as early as 1850 rather than analyzing the words of library founders and managers wiegand listens to the voices of everyday patrons who cherished libraries drawing on newspaper articles memoirs and biographies part of our lives paints a clear and engaging picture of americans who value libraries not only as civic institutions but also as public places that promote and maintain community whether as a public space a place for accessing information or a home for reading material that helps patrons make sense of the world around them the public library has a rich history of meaning for millions of americans from colonial times through the recent technological revolution libraries have continuously adapted to better serve the needs of their communities wiegand demonstrates that although cultural authorities including some librarians have often disparaged reading books considered not serious the commonplace reading materials users obtained from public libraries have had a transformative effect for many including people such as ronald reagan bill moyers edgwina danticat philip roth toni morrison sonia sotomayor and oprah winfrey a bold challenge to

conventional thinking about the american public library part of our lives is an insightful look into one of america's most beloved cultural institutions

a new visual history of the library of congress from its creation in 1800 to the present day

this volume contributes to the reader s understanding of the historical development of libraries and librarianship in america from the colonial period to the early 20th century an understanding of library history illustrates clearly that american librarians have faced and solved major crises over the years

examines the social economic and political conditions that gave rise to libraries throughout history looking at libraries in the ancient world medieval libraries and modern library development in the western world

this work is the first in an important five volume series addressing the unique role libraries have played in building and preserving western culture mr staikos has become one of our foremost scholars on library history writing such books as this as well as works like the great libraries a classic in its field this first volume reveals the rich history of the early archive libraries from crete to the famous library of the ptolemies in alexandria through well researched text and many full color illustrations the author guides his readers over 1800 years of mankind s struggle to preserve his knowledge by the written word

this spectacular book is the first single volume to tell the story of the library as a distinct building type all around the world throughout the ages book collections have served to symbolize their owners culture and learning and the wealthy and powerful have spent lavishly on buildings to house them in its highest form the library became a total work of art combining painting sculpture furniture and architecture into seamless dramatic spaces the finest libraries are repositories not just of books but of learning creativity and contemplation they embody some of the highest achievements of humankind this book recounts that history in text and images of truly outstanding quality

libraries as a component of cultural space are ubiquitous to almost every society during almost every time period however as places of cultural and symbolic and intellectual meaning they have varied greatly to capture both aspects this collection of 14 original papers covers library spaces old and new real and imagined large and small public and private contributions range from a consideration of the garrison library in the british empire to the carnegie library as a social institution to the imagined library in buffy the vampire slayer the result is a fascinating look at the library as a physical social and intellectual place within the hearts and minds of its clientele and the public at large

a leaping departure in comprehensiveness organizational format and accessibility through indexing a magnificent contribution to the study of american library history libraries culture a work of enormous and painstaking scholarship library association record uk

from the founding of the first public libraries in the united states to the modern digital age this

comprehensive history of american libraries is an essential resource for librarians historians and anyone interested in the role of libraries in society combining extensive research with first hand accounts from prominent librarians and scholars this book is a fascinating exploration of the evolution of library science in america this work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it this work is in the public domain in the united states of america and possibly other nations within the united states you may freely copy and distribute this work as no entity individual or corporate has a copyright on the body of the work scholars believe and we concur that this work is important enough to be preserved reproduced and made generally available to the public we appreciate your support of the preservation process and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant

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