special story-telling/puppet theater are also located on the ground level. The second level houses the core of Adult Services, including the bulk of Northland's adult book collection, a business section, a career area, pamphlet and magazine file, and circulating art. Adult Services and Circulation offices are found on the upper level, as well. Copy machines, typewriters, and special equipment are also available for the public at Northland.

Northland Library is more than a building, however. It is a combination of facilities and services which reflect the pride of its community residents.

Northland operates on the basis of several goals created when the new building opened and services expanded. Northland Library provides, on equal terms, free library services to all individuals and groups in its service area; Ross Township, the Town of McCandless, and the boroughs of Franklin Park and Bradford Woods. These four municipalities provide annual appropriations for support of the library. Northland serves this community as a source of materials for educational, cultural, and informational purposes, as well as for the creative use of leisure time. Since financial limitations prevent equal emphasis on all aspects of these goals, the library recognizes that its primary concern must be on positive contributions toward the development of the individual as a citizen through the provision of educational and informational materials.

In accordance with the American Libray Association's "Library Bill of Rights", Northland has attempted to build a wide and varied collection of books and other library materials. Northland pursues an active program of cooperation with other libraries in Pennsylvania including participation in a statewide district center library program which provides increased resources. It also accepts responsibility for the direct communication of ideas, seeking thereby to direct the individual toward a continuous learning process through use of books and related materials. It has become a cultural community resource center. With few agencies available in the North Hills capable of addressing the many and diverse demands of the community, the library has become a focal point. The director and the staff are constantly assessing the needs of its users and adjusting services accordingly.

Library programming has increased over the years, offering Art Festivals cosponsored with the North Hills and the North Allegheny school districts, microcomputer fairs, annual book sales, art classes, music recitals, garden and flower shows, town meetings with state and federal officials, a community career fair, chess and game tournaments, fitness programs, cooking and craft demonstrations, investment programs, income tax assistance for the elderly, dance and theater programs, a writer's guild, and book discussion groups. The Children's Department increased preschool programming, afterschool programs, summer reading clubs, and specialized programming to meet the public demands. Over 3,000 children and young people participate in the children's programs each year.

Local agencies and organizations reserve the library meeting rooms to offer community services and information. Some of the organizations include: The American Cancer Society, League of Women's Voters, Central Blood Bank, Western Pennsylvania Heart Association, Allegheny County Chapter of the Red Cross, Environmental Allergy Group, Northway Coin Club, American Association of University Women, Pittsburgh Miniature Society, North Hills Toastmistress Unit, Association for Research and Enlightenment, Inc., North Pittsburghers' Quilters Guild, Christmas Seal League, Longvue Garden Club, Ingomar Garden Club, Northern Area Chemical People Task Force, North Hills Area Chamber of Commerce, "Kids on the Block", and the North Allegheny Horseman's Association.

The period of time between the opening in 1978 and the present has been another one of growing, and not without some pains. Consider the following statistics:

	1968	1973	1978	1983	1984
POPULATION SERVED	59,000	62,000	67,000	68,000	68,851
REGISTERED BORROWERS	11,479 (Sept./Dec.)	34,977	*15,589	41,830	46,500
SIZE OF BUILDING	10,000	10,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
SIZE OF COLLECTION	16,000	50,716	75,000	94,104	103,000
HOURS OPENED	47	47 (51 in 1974)	66	66	66
CIRCULATION	44,070	250,000	355,798	574,968	618,000
STAFF (F.T.E.'S)	9.7	16.2	30.6	28.3	32.5

*This figure and the figures for the following year reflect patrons who have **ACTIVE** library cards. It is important to note that cards are renewed annually. Registrations continue to increase at a 9% annual rate.

The state of Pennsylvania's Library Association ranked Northland as follows:

BY POPULATION:	24th of 404 libraries in 1977 26th 442 libraries in 1982
BY COLLECTION:	36th of 403 libraries in 1977 33rd of 442 libraries in 1982
BY CIRCULATION:	15th of 403 libraries in 1977 9th of 442 libraries in 1982
BY TOTAL EXPENDITURE	26th of 407 libraries in 1977 22nd of 442 libraries in 1982

Projections show that Northland Library's:

Square footage had increased from 1977 to 1984:	300%
Hours opened to the public from 1977 to 1984	20%
Patrons actively using the library from 1977 to 1984:	199%
Collection development reaching from 1977 to 1984:	35%
Staff increase just barely from 1977 to 1984:	33%
Circulation soars from 1977 to 1984:	42%

It is evident that Northland Library's growth has outpaced the ability of its funding bodies to respond to its financial requirements. The director and library staff have organized several creative fundraising efforts to supplement its income in the past several years. At least eight applications have been submitted for L.S.C.A. grants. Five were selected.

A. $57,320 and in kind conversion services in two grants to form, establish, and enhance a multitype library data base network between Northland Public Library, the North Allegheny School District and potentially North Hills Passavant Hospital and LaRoche college.

B. $10,000 for assistance in the implementation of a collection management and development plan drawn up by the Northland Library staff.

C. $16,628 to establish a microcomputer resource center which would teach basic computer skills to those in our community who have no other access to micro's.

D. $20,000 for three public libraries--Northland, Shaler/North Hills, and Sewickley--to cooperatively develop a rotating VCR collection.

For additional revenue, areas in the library are now being leased to the Pennsylvania Job Service and to the Pennsylvania Photo ID Center. Meeting rooms can now be rented for a small service charge.

Additional fund-raisers which create additional publicity for the library but small return on time and expenditures include: semi-annual book sales, autograph auctions, community library and craft fairs, and most recently, co-operative venture with the League of Women Voters; the publication of INVO V, a community resource directory.

The income from these endeavors is desperately needed in order to

allow the library to continue its expected high level of service, to increase the size of its collection, to meet community d emands, and to maintain a $1.8 million dollar building so that major repairs and renovations do not become necessary. Yet the time and effort expended by staff members on these projects takes them away from their primary service functions, creating a paradoxical decrease in overall library effectiveness in the eyes of community residents.

The board and director of the library constantly search for ways to alleviate this strain. They have started the establishment of a reserve fund for continuous building and equipment maintenance.

The need for additional support has now become apparent to outside community agencies. In 1984, ZONTA, a business and professional women's organization offered to start a fund drive for new materials in the library. This has resulted in the ZONTA North Library Foundation which in only a few months received more than $2,500 in donations. In 1985 The Northland Public Library Foundation was begun. It will continue Zonta's efforts and it is hoped increase them.

A community is reflected in its library and a good public library reflects its community. Fifteen years of experience shows that this is so. Following is a quote from The North Hills News Record editorial column on Northland Library's fifteenth anniversary. **"CONGRATULATIONS NORTHLAND LIBRARY!** When it comes to community cooperation, there may be no finer example than that of Northland Library. Northland, 300 Cumberland Road, McCandless is the only library in the state which is proportionately funded by four communities, Ross, McCandless, Bradford Woods, and Franklin Park. During the library's 15 years of existence there have been times when budgets have been disputed and the shares due from each community have been debated. That is to be expected. But Northland has grown to its 93,000 volume, 30,000 square-foot size because the problems can be worked out." And so starting as"The most important library in the state with no building and no books" Northland has become a struggle and an inspiration well worth the fight.

Currently, the board, director, and staff are excited about the formation of a citizen's support group The Advocates. This group is being organized to become an active voice within the community. This group will say that they do care about their library, they do wish its continuous growth, and that they will support this growth through experience, financial efforts and the belief that Northland Public Library is a vital organ in continuous community growth.

The twentieth anniversay for the library is not that far away. The library's future rests in the hands of the community, its staff, and its leaders. We all trust that we will not be disappointed.

NOTE: The library is owned and operated by the Northland Public Library Authority, a municipal authority chartered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The NPLA and the library are governed by a Board of Directors consisting of six unpaid members, who are appointed to five-year terms by the elected officials of the four supporting municipalities. The board is the policy-making body of the institution.

As stated in the Authority's bylaws, the board's primary responsibilities include selection and appointment of the director of the library; promotion of library interest; securing of funds adequate for a progressive, expanding program, and control of library funds, property and equipment. Subject to existing statutes and ordinancesm, it has the power to determine the rules and regulations governing library service and personnel.

Regular meetings of the board are public and are held on the second Tuesday of each month. the board functions under a formula for voting which gives each municipality a vote for each 5,000 population or part thereof. Thus Ross' two representatives each cast four votes or a total of eight for Ross since its population is over 35,000. Bradford Woods' one representative casts one vote for its portion of 5,000.

The board operates the library under a contractual agreement among the four municipalities. This contract calls for the board to submit annual budget requests based upon a per capita figure for the library's general operating budget. This allocation is then paid to the library on a quarterly basis.