



Old Library (Today's Reid Centennial Hall) New Library

LCSC HERITAGE

Library

Date Constructed: 1991

Completed in 1991 at a cost of about \$6 million, the new library provided 55,000 square feet of efficient working space for its users, who are primarily students, faculty, and staff. In the first year of the new library's operation alone, however, the number of library users jumped from 146,000 to 213,000—an increase of 67,000. What is more, in 1991 and for the first time in years, the library now had room to significantly increase its acquisitions.

As Keith Peterson wrote in *Educating in the American West: One Hundred Years at Lewis-Clark State College*, the library was designed and built with “a double archway over the entrance. The massive keystones of the lower arch clone the entryway across campus on the original administration building, constructed in 1895. Rising high above the library's graceful arch is a sharply pitched roofline, backed with glass, more futuristic than any other architectural detail on campus. The new atop the old; Lewis-Clark State College planning for the future while anchoring to its past.”

“On the coldest day of the year in January 1991, nearly four hundred community residents, faculty, staff, and students turned out” to form a human book brigade that “curled up the stairs from the basement of the old library, out the door, across the side expanse of lawn, under the rounded archway of the new facility, around the corner, and up the stairs to bookshelves on the second floor. Thousands of books went hand to hand to hand while volunteers served chili and LCSC nursing faculty made certain that no one got too cold.” In addition to library services, the building houses a telecommunications classroom, an Information Commons classroom, a video recording studio, a conference room, and office space for support operations.