

# West Jordan Library

## - a short history -

**In 1939 when Salt Lake County** began providing library service, Jordan School District joined the County to make books available for public checkout from a West Jordan junior high, and later, from an elementary school library.



In 1977 the first West Jordan Library was opened in a small leased space of the Briarwood Shopping Center.

The south portion of the Salt Lake Valley, including West Jordan, experienced remarkable growth in the 1970s and 80s. In 1986 a new 12,500 sq. ft. free standing West Jordan Library opened to serve all the new families that had moved to the area.



West Jordan Elementary School was built in 1925.

Unfortunately, the unusual shape of the building has inhibited collection growth and flexibility. In addition, vehicle entry and exit from the library onto a busy highway is a serious safety concern.



Groundbreaking for the present West Jordan in 1985 at 1970 West 7800 South.



West Jordan Library circulated over 725,000 items in 2008.



The design phase for a new West Jordan Library building began in 2008. The planned facility will house a 20,000 sq. ft. library, a large community meeting room and the new central headquarters for Salt Lake County Library Services. The administrative area that includes management, customer support and information technology will replace the limited space that these offices currently occupy in the basement of the Whitmore Library.

The library will have a capacity of 150,000 items and will occupy the first level of the structure with administrative offices on a second level.



Source: City of West Jordan  
The Salt Lake Tribune



Of particular interest to residents will be a 15,000 sq. ft. community meeting room with access to an outdoor area that will accommodate large library and community events.

Estimated at a cost of \$17,900,000 the “green” building will endeavor to meet Gold LEED (Leadership in Energy Efficient Design) program requirements.

The new library will become a destination hub for the West Jordan Community and will offer the most current topics and titles available while providing the latest technology to access information.