

PETOSKEY CARNEGIE LIBRARY

The Petoskey Record
June 26, 1907

LIBRARY SITES

The committee having in charge the matter of a library site has received the following offers of lots alleged to be suitable for a site for the city library which Mr. Carnegie offers to build and present to the city provided the city will furnish a proper site and will maintain the library at a cost annually of one-tenth of the cost of building:

From Miss Fochtman, lot on Mitchell Street, price \$2,500.

M.F. Guinon, tract on Mitchell Street, \$5,000

John R. Davis, two lots on Mitchell Street, \$5,000.

M.E. Church, free gift of tract on Mitchell Street.

Mrs. Kirkland, lot opposite city hall on Lake and Divisions Streets, \$3,500.

H.C. Trask, lot on Lake Street, known as Pierview, \$4,200.

C.C. Hamill, lots on Lake Street, \$4,200.

W.R. Kilborn, lot corner of Waukazoo Avenue and Michigan Street, \$1,800.

John S. Shaw, lot on Bay Street, 50x150, rear of Perry Hotel, \$1,200.

L.S. Benham, free gift of site, on West Side.

Henry Fochtman, free gift of site, near hospital.

Chapman property, on Petoskey Street, \$2,200.



The Petoskey Evening News
Monday, March 30, 1908

Geo. McCabe informs us that the library board has disposed of the building known as the Wingate barn to Henry Fochtman, who will tear down part of it and move the rest off the property. This step will be the first actual move toward the building of the new Carnegie library. Several bids were taken for the building, the successful one being \$50.--

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PUBLIC LIBRARY SITE

Special election, Monday, July 1,
in High School Building, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

EVERY CITIZEN & TAXPAYER

Should Attend and Vote Intelligently on this
Very Important Public Question

The matter of the special election to decide whether the city shall take a lot of land from the high school grounds to use as a site for the proposed Carnegie public library building deserves something more than a careless notice by citizens and taxpayers. This special election will be part of the annual school meeting to be held on Monday, July 1, between the hours of 7:00 and 9:30 p.m., in the high school building.

The RECORD remarks that the location of this proposed site is within convenient proximity to the business heart of the city, and is also central as to population; and that the ground offered may be sufficient, or more may be obtained if found necessary.

But there are objections to the site. The high school grounds are and always must be less quiet than is desirable for a public library. The close proximity of a public school will spoil a reading room, or a consulting library, where absolute quiet is essential. At present the location is surrounded by noisy industries, with more certain to cover that neighborhood in the future. Among the rest of the disturbing factors will be a noisy railroad freight station, ground for which was purchased by the G.R. & I.Ry. company several years ago, besides several factories and shops.

The near vicinity of the great Catholic Church, schools, monastery, and parochial buildings is not at all a recommendation for a library site, which experience has proved in all cities had better be a little aloof from all schools and churches, as well as from factories and shops, and especially from railroad stations and noisy traffic.