

WORKING DOCUMENT/CHRONOLOGY ON NORTH LAMBETH LIBRARY

Prime sources were Lambeth Archives, Waterloo Action Centre with visits also to London Metropolitan and Southwark Archives and information received from Taplow History Society. Archives.

1783 Surrey Chapel built. First Sunday School in London + Ragged Schools

1787 Nobles and Hoare established 1 - 3 Cornwall Rd. By the time the Library is built it owns land on the other side of Waterloo Rd. Pear St. and quite possibly were the purchasers of Timber yard according to 1991 history found in Waterloo Action Centre/

John Noble 1813 - 1890 strong on temperance, education and free Libraries and Reading Rooms.

“John Noble was an earnest supporter of three great questions of the day, viz.: Temperance, Education, and Free Public Libraries and Reading Rooms. He was received at the last meeting of the Vestry was considered. Looked at proposals of London and South Western Railway in respect of developments at Waterloo Station.

01.11.1890 John Noble Obituary Taplow Newspaper. Age at death 77 years.
Leonard Noble (son) would have been 30 yrs old.

02.12.1893 Princess Christian opens Library at 74 Lower March/previously 114 Oakley St/now 14 Baylis Rd. The Library had a capacity for 25,000 books. A 191 Report suggests it was open from 1992. There was £4000 from John Noblers Estate plus £500 from Mr Hoare and Mr Roberts. The site was bought for £7000 at some stage by John Noble

25.11.1897 Full report on library maintenance issues from Mr Townsend

30.05.1899 Case of disorderly conduct in reading room reported in press.

26.10.1899 Letter from Mr James Greenock, resident librarian following death of daughter from diptheria and other family illness/sickness requesting that he might live out of the building.. There was also discussion about the sale of North Lambeth Cottages. Seemed to be issues over sale as vacant land. £1000 received from LCC toward Library.

1900 Lambeth Old Town Hall replaced by virtue of becoming a Metropolitan Borough.

28.03.1900 Extension Agreement entered into and additional deposit of £250 in ignorance on both sides of the negotiation then pending between London and South Western Railway Co. and the LCC for the diversion of the original road provided by parliament at the south side of the Concourse. Waterloo Station which diverted road avoided Messrs Noble and

Hoare's to withdraw.....their notice to take the premises of Messrs Noble and Hoare.....

18.05.1900 Change of deed with London and South Western Railway (LSWR) in respect of adjoining land

01.10.1900 Reference LCC/Vestry re Sale of Library and special meeting to be called on 11th October and commissioners advised.

29.11.1900 The recently elected Council of Borough have appointed a Library Committee.....at first meeting the condition of library discussed building concerns

01.01.1901 Report on further survey of building: issues on foundations and cracks

12.02. 1901 Commissioners discuss the details of sale of North Lambeth Library. This is related to the situation noted in 28.03.1900 and agrees cancellation.

23.04.1901 Letter reporting building in bad state and listing repairs. Refers to movement of building which will not be addressed by repairs. No intention to touch foundations.

26.08.1901 Land exchange between the Mayor of Lambeth and LSWR Board Railtrack Letter 1994 + plans

08.04.1902 Mr Mead 74 Lower Marsh/Wall attachment/matter of concern in hand. Considered an encroachment on library property.

Libraries in the Twentieth Century

The Public Libraries Act 1919 reformed the old system, taking responsibility for libraries away from the boroughs and giving it to county councils, which would now have the power to establish libraries without a referendum. This, and the abolition of the penny rate under the Act paved the way for the library Act places upper tier local authorities under a different check detail;.

17.11.1958 Lambeth considered a new venue for the library - one an extension of Fire Station and another below flats on what is now Ambulance Station.

30.05.60 Case of disorderly conduct in library reported in press.
Details noted re transfer of facilities from Reading Room to Library.

1972 Social services have use of building from Amenity Services Committee

14.12.1973 Settlement signed by Jim Radford (Blackfriars Settlement) regarding entire building with accommodation provided for Market Inspectors and Pear Place Group.

1986 Lambeth registered Libraries with Land Registry but this did not include Waterloo Action Centre.