### The History and Formation of Departmental Libraries at the University of Illinois

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Main</th>
<th>University Hall</th>
<th>Library Building/Altgeld Hall</th>
<th>Main Library</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1867-1873</td>
<td>1873-1897</td>
<td>1897-1928</td>
<td>1928-Present</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **1873 Architecture Library** begins in Nathan Ricker’s Office and spreads to 4th floor of Engineering Hall
- **1878 Harker Hall** opens and the Chemistry Library begins
- **1885 State Laboratory of Natural History Library** moves into the Natural History Building, the library began in Normal, IL in 1861
- **1901 Pedagogical Library** begins in University Hall
- **1907 Agriculture Library** opens in the Farm Mechanics Building, soon renamed Agricultural Engineering building
- **1909 Collections in Modern Language, English, Classics, Economics & Sociology, History & Political Science** housed in departmental offices move to Lincoln Hall
- **1917 renamed Ricker Library**
- **1917 renamed Illinois Natural History Survey**
- **1928 Ricker Library moves into current Architecture Building**
- **1928/29 moves into Altgeld Hall**
- **1928/29 moves to Main Library**
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- **1928/29 All move to Main Library**

### A few recurring themes...

- Departmental libraries often form in faculty offices, for example the Mathematics and Architecture Libraries
- Other collections separate due to overcrowding and a need for space of their own, such as Classics and Modern Languages
- Still others are moved to make it more convenient to laboratory spaces, like Chemistry
- While some libraries move back into the main library when the new building is complete, a few libraries remain completely independent during their entire history, such as the Law Library

This list represents a portion of all departmental libraries at the time. Please see the full report for complete list of departmental libraries and references.

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