

RENEWED FOR BOOKS



Storybook characters float through a storybook mural (above) in the children's area, complete with mantel.

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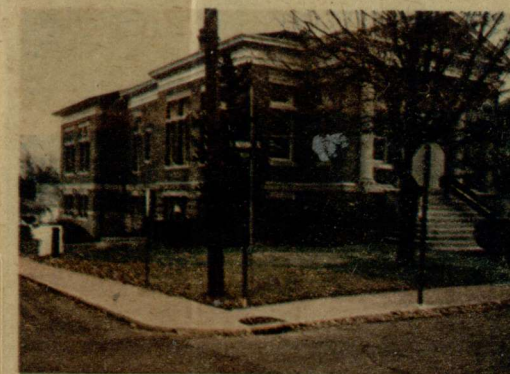
WHEN the Danville library decided to expand while retaining the charm of the past, the plan offered a perfect setting for 100-year-old stained glass windows purchased at an auction.

The windows are part of the Indiana Room, a recently completed addition designed to match the architecture of the rest of the library, which is nearly 80 years old. The windows had been in a Danville church which originally was United Methodist and later held a Baptist congregation.

In keeping with the antique windows, the rest of the room is devoted to Danville area history as told in old newspapers and



The stained glass windows (left) are 100 years old and came from a Danville church. An arched window (above) adds charm to a quiet nook for reading.



Care was taken so that the new addition to the library matches the old.

photographs and collections of literature and mementos.

Transformation of the library in the heart of the Hendricks County seat is the first since it was established through a Carnegie grant of \$10,000 and put in the care of the first librarian, hired at \$5 a week in 1902. When expansion became necessary in 1976, the library board considered the options of razing the existing structure, finding a new location or adding to the existing library.

The latter course was chosen and modern architecture was rejected in favor of retaining an historical flavor in the addition. A total of 18 types of brick were reviewed in choosing one to match the old; woodwork and moldings inside and out were matched with the old. An original fireplace mantel was refinished in the adult section and a mantelpiece was used in the new children's room.

Head librarian Mary Ellen Schmidt and children's librarian Carol Flynn are guardians of books in the place which has successfully fused the old and the new, and Betty Bartley is historical librarian.

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An old stereoscope is part of treasures in the history room.

