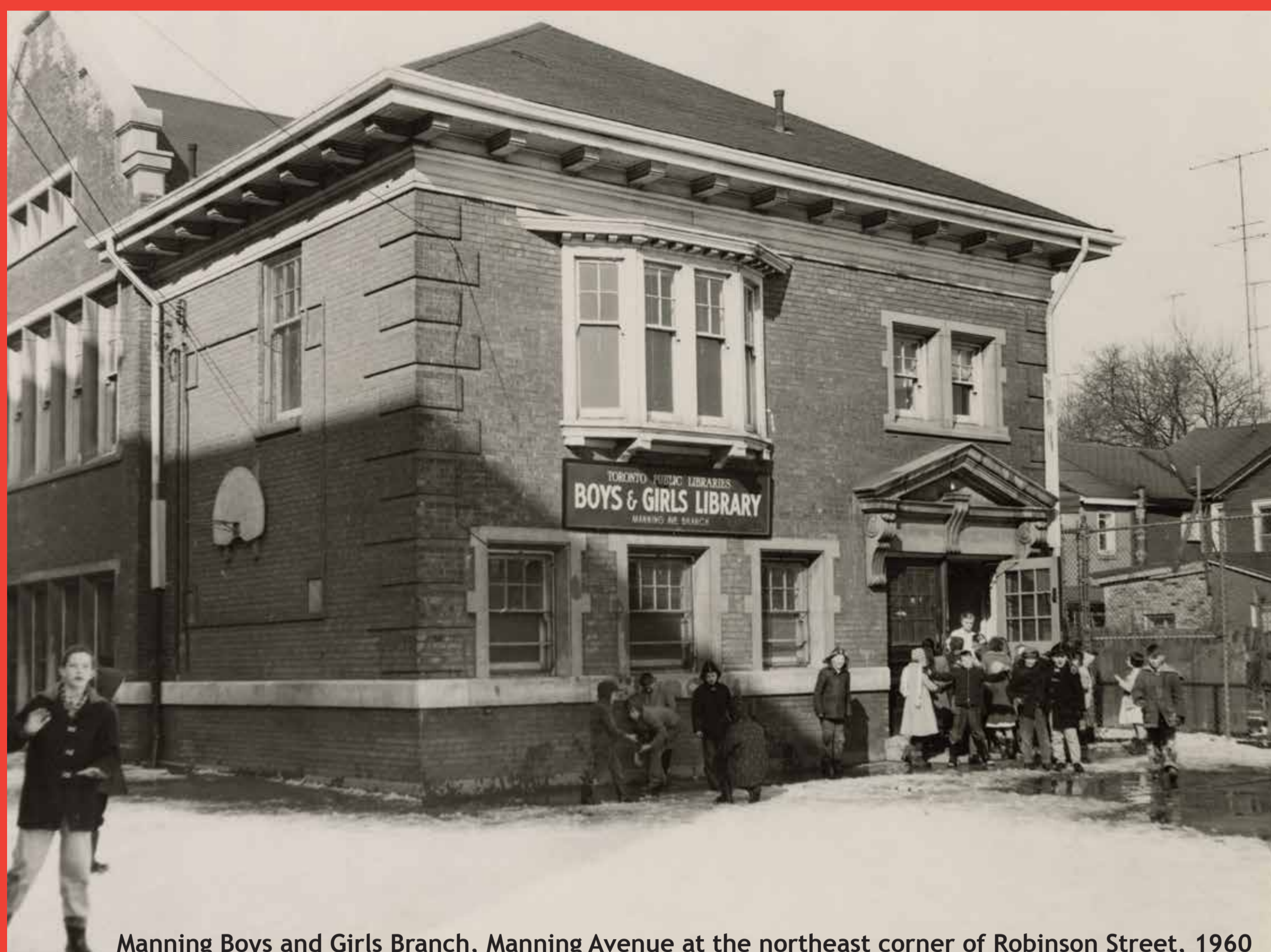


TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

CHARLES R. SANDERSON BRANCH - 1968 TO 2018



Manning Boys and Girls Branch, Manning Avenue at the northeast corner of Robinson Street, 1960

Local Library Service, 1960-1968

In September 1959, three weeks after fire destroyed the books in the Children's Room at the Queen and Lisgar Branch, the Toronto Public Library Board opened the Manning Boys and Girls Branch in a two-storey building provided by the Toronto Board of Education on the grounds of Charles G. Fraser School. The new branch replaced the children's libraries at Queen and Lisgar Branch, St. Christopher House and Niagara Street and St. Mary's schools. It closed when Sanderson Branch opened in September 1968.

Planning Charles R. Sanderson Branch, 1967-1968

In 1967, the Toronto Public Library Board began to plan for a new branch to serve residents in the area around Bathurst and Dundas Street West. It was to be named in memory of Charles R. Sanderson, who worked at Toronto Public Library for 27 years, from 1929 until shortly before his death in 1956. He is shown here at the opening of East York children's libraries in 1944.



Charles R. Sanderson, Toronto Public Library's chief librarian, 1937-1956, for whom the new branch was named



Architectural rendering of Charles R. Sanderson Memorial Library, 1967; Pentland, Baker & Polson Architects

The new branch was designed to house collections for children and young people, with the potential for a future second floor expansion for adult services, should the Central Library (then at College and St. George) be relocated in the future. It was built on land made available through the downtown urban renewal project at Alexandra Park.

Early years at Sanderson Branch, 1968-1977

PROGRAMME
for the
OFFICIAL OPENING
of the
CHARLES R. SANDERSON BRANCH
TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Friday, September 27, 1968 - 3:00 P. M.

School Choir	Ryerson School
Mr. J. Sydney Midnick, Chairman of the Toronto Public Library Board	Words of Welcome
Mr. Henry C. Campbell, Chief Librarian	Tribute to C. R. Sanderson
Mr. Baker	Architect
Mr. Ostvik	Contractor
Mrs. Mary Freeman	Introduce Sanderson Staff
His Worship, the Mayor of Toronto, William Dennison	Address and Official Opening of the Branch
School Choir	Ryerson School

Program for the official opening, September 27, 1968



Exterior view, 1968



Fort for Children sculpture by Peter Sager, 1968



Mary Freeman, Sanderson's first branch head, assists teens in the lower level study/reading room, 1970

When it opened, Sanderson Branch had a collection of over 19,000 volumes, and included such features as a fireplace and one of Toronto Public Library's first colour televisions.



Expansion under construction, January 1978

Branch expansion, 1977-1979

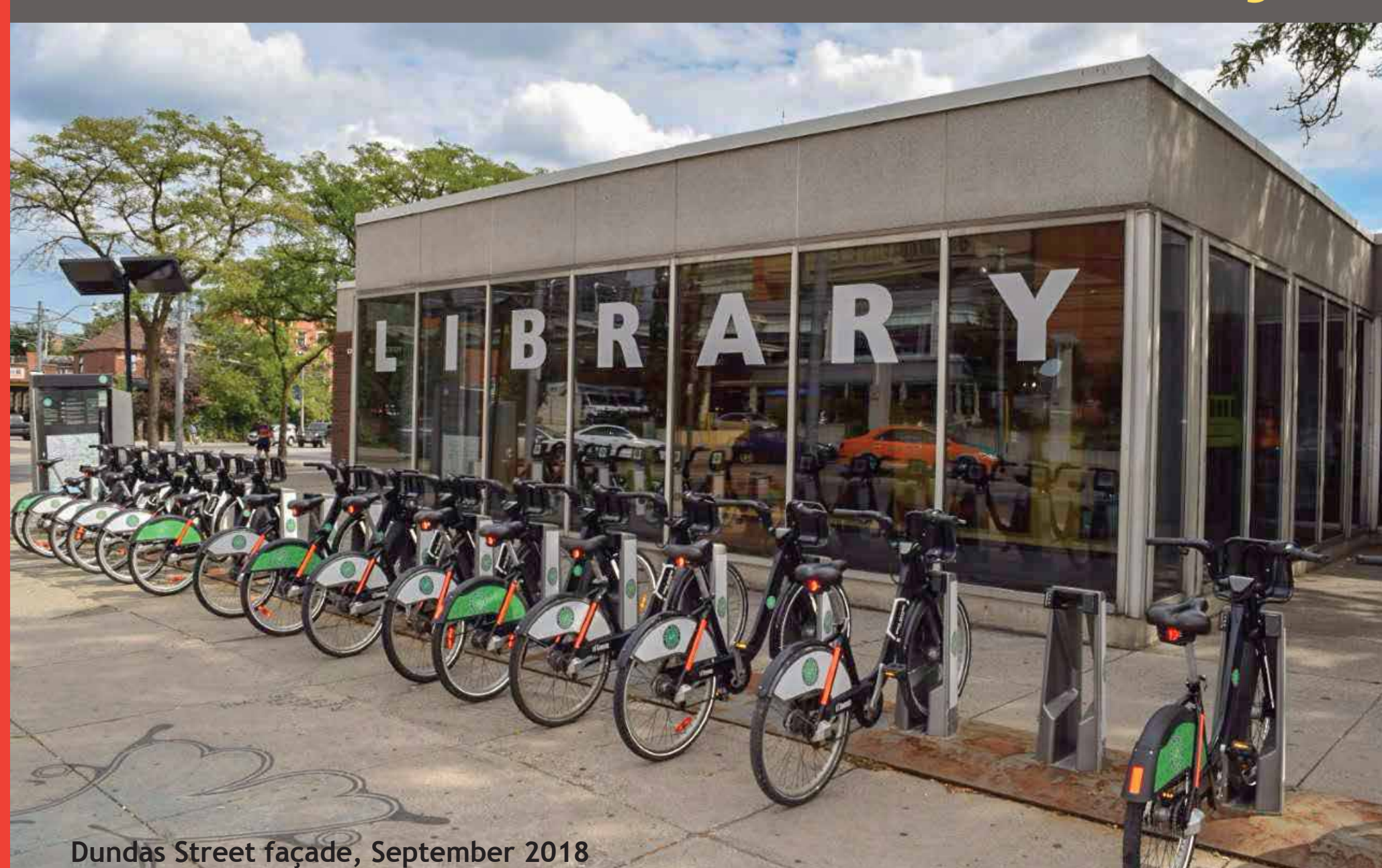
In 1977, construction began for a 3,800 square foot expansion as a part of the Scadding Court Community Centre project. The two-million-dollar project was a joint initiative between the Toronto Board of Education, the City's Department of Parks and Recreation and the Toronto Public Library Board.



Expanded and renovated branch, part of the Scadding Court Community Centre, 1979

With the relocation of the entrance to the south side of the building, the branch address was changed to 327 Bathurst Street. The expansion added adult services and collections to the branch for the first time.

Sanderson Branch, 2018 - 50 years of library service



Dundas Street façade, September 2018

Sanderson Branch is now one of the busiest in Toronto Public Library, and continues to be a cornerstone of a diverse and growing downtown neighbourhood.

Prepared by Toronto Public Library staff for the 50th anniversary of Charles R. Sanderson Branch, September 2018



Children's area, September 2018