EDEN LIBRARY HISTORY

The Eden Library has a long tradition of community involvement. In 1911 a group of public-spirited Eden women organized this library and sought contributions to fund it. Many of those women were members of Eden's Up To Date Club, a women's study club which is still in existence. The original group of women raised $155 and rented space in a small photograph gallery to start a library; the rent was $4 per month. The collection consisted of 726 volumes, which had been donated for the lending library, and it was staffed by volunteers. There was no heat in this first library building and the volunteer librarians worked in their coats and gloves during the winter months.

During the next few years, the association continued to solicit donors and by 1922 they had raised $3000, which was pooled with Town funds to help build a Town Hall. Upon completion, the library moved to a room in that building which was located on the site of the current fire department.

In 1947 the Eden Library became the first library outside the City of Buffalo to join the newly formed Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System so that Eden residents could benefit from expanded services that became available through this larger network of libraries. The library moved again in 1955 to space in what is the current Town Hall.

A capital campaign, along with Town funding and a donation of the land, made a new building possible and the library moved to its present site on East Church Street in 1991.