



CLARENDON PARISH LIBRARY

The public library service for Clarendon began in 1951 when a small library was established at the back of the stands of the Muir Park Pavilion in May Pen, the chief town or capital. This small building erected at the cost of six hundred dollars (\$600.00), was a fine example of community initiative and effort. The Parish Library Committee planned and constructed the building and many residents contributed gifts of materials and cash. There were one thousand three hundred and thirty (1,330) books and six hundred and twenty (620) readers.

In 1957 the Parish Library moved into a new building erected on lands donated by the Hon. A.M. Pawsey, Custos of the Parish. By April 1958 when the building was officially opened there were nine thousand seven hundred (9,700) books, three thousand six hundred (3,600) readers and its loan of thirty-nine thousand (39,000) books were on increase of more than 100% over the loans of the previous year. There were Fourteen (14) service points in the parish comprising the parish library at May Pen, seven (7) branch libraries and six (6) book centres in secondary towns and villages in the rural areas.