



# **THE GREYBULL PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**1907**

**Our library began with the  
Organization of the  
Fortnightly Club**

**The club's original purpose was the study  
of literature**

**Club Motto:**

**In essentials, unity**

**In non-essentials, liberty**

**In all things, charity**



## **The Fortnightly Club**

**left to right: Mrs Wyant, Mrs Inez Alderdice, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Fenton, Mrs Herron, Mrs W W Shaver, Mrs Husted, Mrs Merriot, Mrs Engle, Mrs Connelly, Mrs Z U Knode, Mrs Andy Hurst, Mrs John White boys: Gerald Williams & Merriot boy**

**1912**

**The Fortnightly Club started a library of 76 books  
in Miss Carson's millinery store**

**1914**

**Miss Carson's store closed and the library moved to  
Wiley's Book Store, 3 doors east of the Alamo Hotel**

**Dr. Bertha Hamilton arranged for book donations  
from the East & insisted the library be free to all**

**The library, as well as Wiley's store would be moved  
several times in the future**

# Lizabeth Wiley

**First Woman Mayor  
of Greybull**



**Mary Wiley (Grandma  
Wiley) and her daughter,  
Lizabeth Wiley**

# **“Wanted- A Public Library for Greybull”**

**Liz Wiley**

**Lizabeth Wiley had,  
in her own words,  
“not only a Library  
Bee in her bonnet –  
but a whole hive of  
them”**

**She dreamed of a  
fine Greybull Public  
Library and worked  
hard to make that  
dream come true**





**Photo circa 1918**

**You can see a sign reading  
“Wiley's Book Shop” at the  
front edge of the sidewalk,  
just past the barber pole**

**Area shown is  
before the down-  
town fire in 1922  
which burned all  
the frame buildings  
west of the present  
Greybull Standard**

**Wiley's Book Store  
(containing Greybull's  
Public Library) was no  
more than a tiny shed  
about 4 foot wide, stuffed  
between the present  
Greybull Standard building  
(then the Golden Rule) and  
the Crescent Barber Shop**

**“Looks to me that there  
would have been a real  
traffic jam if two patrons  
came in at the same time”**

**Tom Davis**



**Close-up of  
Wiley's book  
store**



# Alamo Hotel

Note the  
“Public  
Library”  
sign behind  
the person  
at the  
left of  
the photo



The Greybull Library  
was in the Alamo Hotel  
for a short time

# Public Library in the Alamo



Before prohibition started in 1919, people looking to **IMPROVE** their minds went to the Alamo Hotel to check out a book

After prohibition began, many people went to the Alamo looking for illegal refreshments to **SOOTH** their minds.....

**Tom Davis**

**1908**

**Construction of the  
First National Bank**



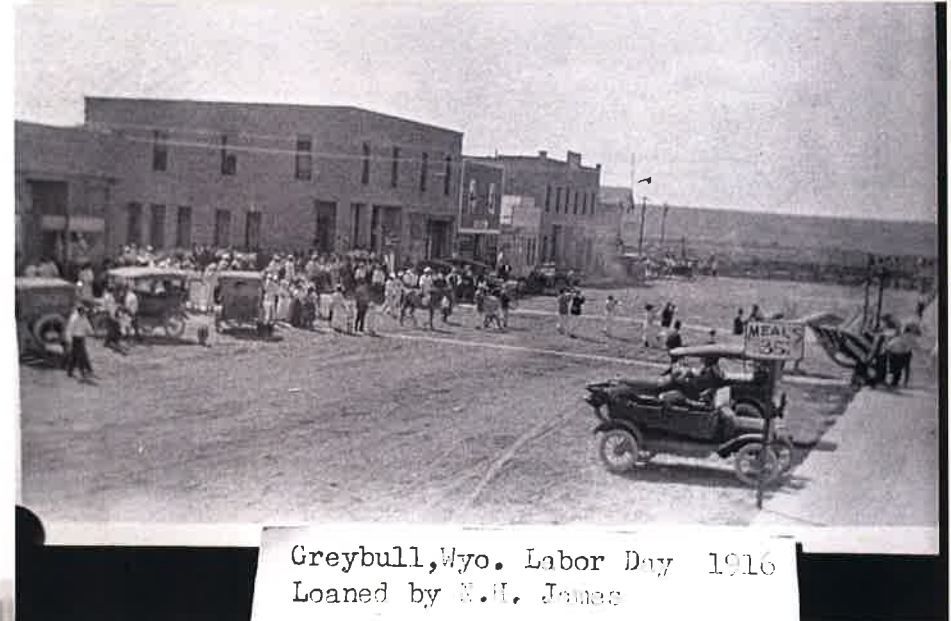
**1915**

**The Fortnightly Club  
joined the  
Wyoming Federation  
of Women's Clubs and  
became the Greybull  
Women's Club**

**1919**

**The Women's Club  
moved the library  
to the basement  
of the 1<sup>st</sup> National  
Bank building**

**The outside stairway (not shown here) to the basement & library in the 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank building was located on the east side**



Greybull, Wyo. Labor Day 1916  
Loaned by N.H. James

**1916**  
**Labor Day parade**  
**passing east side of**  
**bank**

**1919 - 1921**

**Florence Williamson was the first paid librarian  
Liz Wiley reported new books were Little Men,  
Girl of the Limberlost & White Indian Boy**

**Mrs Curran & Maud King were on staff**

**1923**

**Greybull flood caused some book damage in the  
basement of the bank**

**1929**

**Another flood and books were moved from bank  
basement to lobby, avoiding damage**

**Mrs Dorothy Whitten was librarian**

**1930** The library moved into a 2 room building, then on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N (formerly the Marshall Law Office) which was purchased by the Women's Club



**Former  
Library  
and  
Women's  
Club  
Building**

**1933**

**The library moved again, to this area near  
2<sup>nd</sup> ave south & 6<sup>th</sup> street**

**Mrs George Clark was librarian**

**Miss Melba Turner was assistant**



**Photo  
from the  
1929  
Greybull  
Flood**

**1933**

**The library was close to the  
fire station seen in the  
distance**



**Photo  
taken by  
the  
east side  
of the  
bank  
during  
the 1929  
flood**



**1934**

**The Greybull Library joined the Big Horn County Library system in 1929, but withdrew briefly from the system in 1934**

**Funds were low & it was hoped local people would be more supportive of an independent library**

**Later the Greybull Library Board expanded & the larger group became the Friends of the Library**

**1937**

**Library moved into the  
NE room  
of the community hall**



**Greybull Community  
Hall**

**1951**

**Greybull Women's Club  
dissolved and the  
remaining club funds  
and other donations  
enabled the library to  
be improved and  
expanded**

**Mrs Clifford Holm was  
librarian until 1955**

**She was succeeded by  
Madeline Brewer**

**Library Assistants during  
those years: Grace Voss,  
Myrtle Wheeler, Ivy Maxon,  
Marjorie Douglass**



**Ivy Maxon  
Library  
Assistant**



**1966 – 1967**

**Mr and Mrs Earl Reilly donated property  
on Greybull Avenue for a  
new library & museum building**

**A bond issue was approved and planning began**

**Planning Committee:**

**Oscar Shoemaker, Grace Voss, Earl Reilly,  
Bill Greene, Bruce Kennedy & Herb Asp**

**Library Board Members : Ivy Maxon, Stella Kearns,  
Mary Shelledy, Madeline Brewer, Carroll Durkee &  
Jack Williams**

**1968**

**Greybull Library & Museum  
Building Completed**

**Dedication of the  
new building was  
held June 16, 1968**



Librarian's check out desk and the children's books.

**Following the  
cornerstone laying  
ceremonies, an  
open house was  
held with area  
citizens, state &  
local officials  
attending**

**Inside the New  
Library**

**1968**

**Ivy Maxon  
President of Library Board  
& Library Assistant**

**Madeline Brewer  
Greybull Librarian**



**Arranging  
books  
in the  
new  
library  
building**

# Interior of New Library



**Entrance  
is at right-center  
of picture**

**Looking towards  
the children's  
section**

