



GRAND RE-OPENING ENSLEY BRANCH LIBRARY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2005
3:00 P.M.

PRESIDING **Mrs. Alma P. Dennis,**
President, Library Board

INVOCATION

WELCOME **Mrs. Magnolia Cook,**
Ensley Community President

OFFICIAL GREETINGS **Bernard Kincaid,** *Mayor*
Gwendolyn Sykes,
Birmingham City Council,
Chair, Education Committee

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS **Mrs. Barbara C. Sirmans,**
Library Director

INTRODUCTION OF LIBRARY STAFF **Mrs. Renee Blalock,**
Associate Library Director

CLOSING COMMENTS **Mrs. Alma P. Dennis,**
President, Library Board

RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Hon. Bernard Kincaid, *Mayor of Birmingham*

THE BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Lee Wendell Loder, *President*
Mrs. Carole Smitherman, *President Pro-Tem*
Mr. Joel Montgomery
Ms. Carol Reynolds
Ms. Valerie A. Abbott
Mrs. Gwen Pouncy Sykes
Mr. Elias Hendricks, Jr.
Mr. Bertram D. Miller
Mr. Roderick Royal

THE BIRMINGHAM LIBRARY BOARD

Mrs. Alma P. Dennis, *President*
Mrs. Lillie M. H. Fincher, *Vice-President*
Mrs. Margaret Serra, *Parliamentarian*
Mrs. Nell Allen
Mrs. Georgia Morgan Blair
Mrs. Marie C. Bracy
Ms. Minnie Cannon Booker
Mrs. Gwendolyn Welch
Representative from the Mayor's Office:
Ms. Vickie Reynolds
Mrs. Barbara C. Sirmans, *Library Director*
Mrs. Renee Blalock, *Associate Library Director*
Mrs. Pamela O. Lyons, *Associate Library Director*

ENSLEY LIBRARY STAFF

Mrs. Maxine Matthews, *Librarian*
Mary M. Merchant
April W. Spence

CONTRACTORS

Battle Miller Construction, Jordan Construction

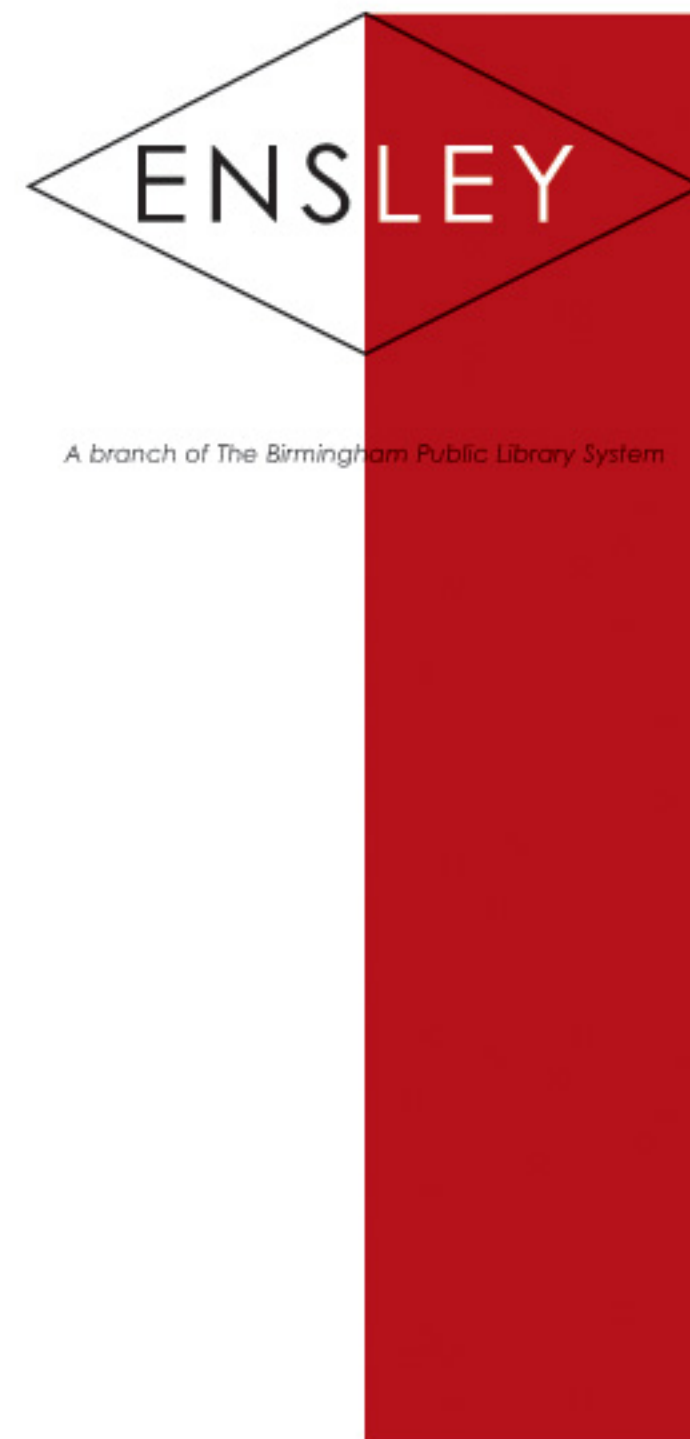
ARCHITECT

Richard Upton, *Department of Planning,*
Engineering and Permits, City of Birmingham

The diamond motif on this publication is drawn from the design found on historic Ensley brick.

The Ensley Branch Library

1201 25th Street, Ensley
Birmingham, Alabama 35218
205-785-2625



ENSLEY BRANCH LIBRARY

GRAND RE-OPENING

October 9, 2005

ENSLEY

<http://www.bplonline.org/locations/branches/Ensley.asp>

1906

- Ensley established the first free public library in Jefferson County, Alabama and offered free library services to the public more than three years before Birmingham.

- More than 2000 people attended the first grand opening in 1906.

- TCI donated technical books, and the Ensley Land Company gave subscriptions to magazines and newspapers.



July 12, 1906 - The Carnegie Library of Ensley opened on the corner of Avenue H and 18th Street.

1911

- The Ensley Library became a branch of the Birmingham Public Library.

1955

- The design of the new building won first honor of the Alabama Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

2005



June 26, 1955 - The new Ensley Branch opened at 25th Street and Avenue L in a corner of Ensley Park. The ultra-modern building offered air conditioning, a meeting room, and a children's area.

2005

- Ensley Branch Library reopened freshly painted and carpeted with a new heating and air conditioning system.
- Ensley is now fully able to accommodate patrons with disabilities.
- Expanded and fully new restrooms were made possible by enclosing a portion of the breezeway adjacent to the reading room.
- Patrons will have access to an expanded and renovated meeting room.
- New double paned windows will keep patrons and staff comfortable.