

## Selected Librarians of NoweverThen

(Assembled by PL)

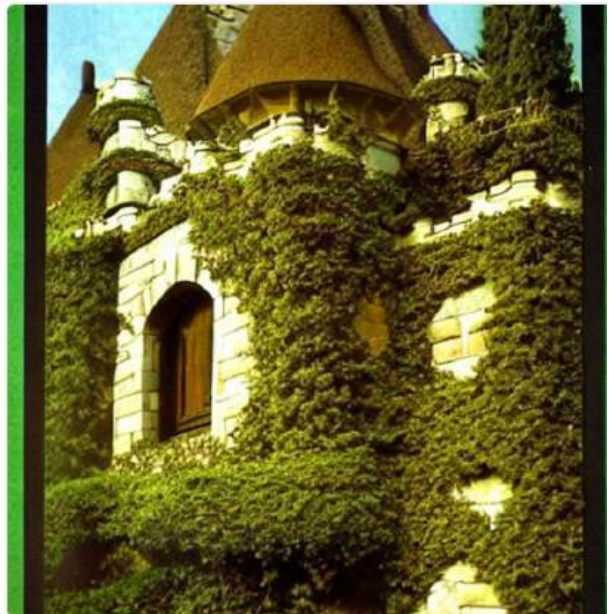
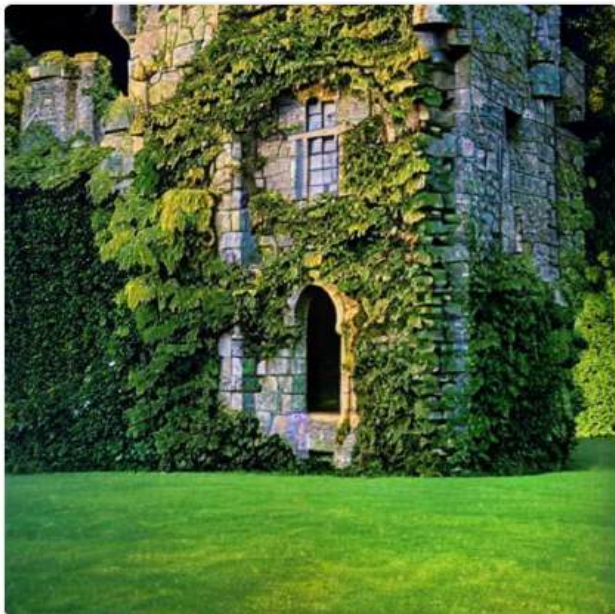
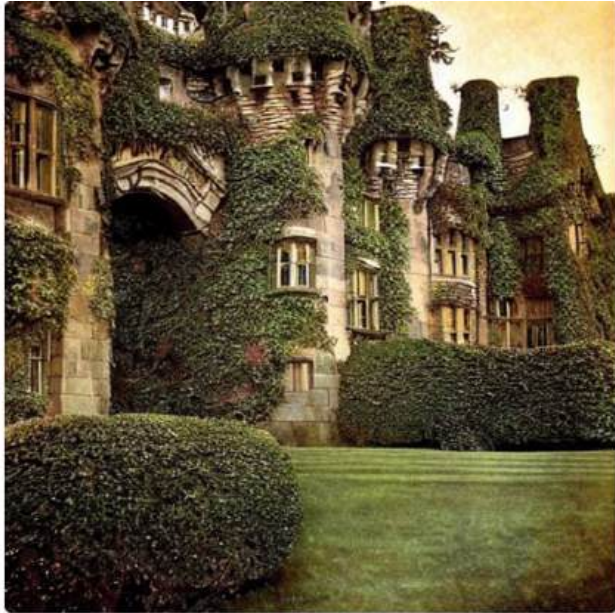
*[Use your browser's BACK button to return]*

For a town comprising a mere mile and half square, NoweverThen boasts over 500 libraries. Before introducing some of our most esteemed employees, we include below a few samples of our impressive edifices.

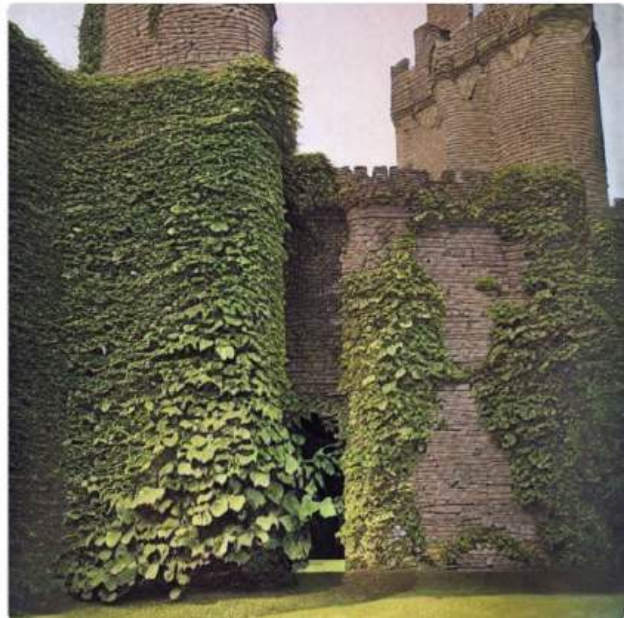
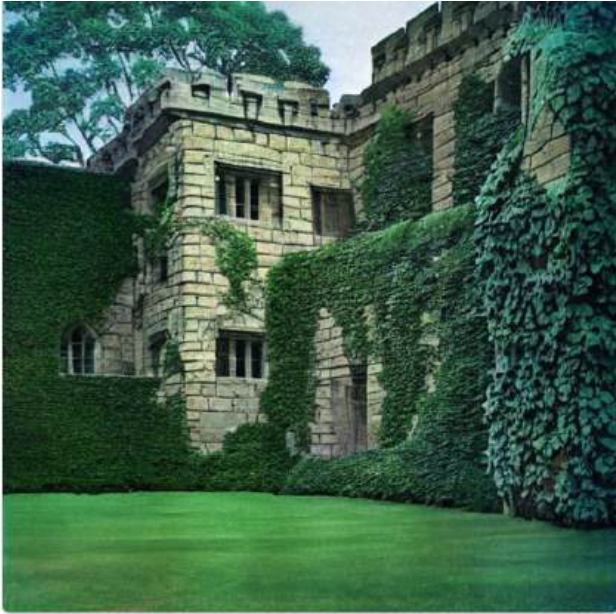
The NT library system contains 775 million 475 thousand and a half books. (Half of one is missing. We are still conducting a search for it.)



The Central NoweverThen Library, with 87 floors of “stacks” below



Some Branch and Specialty Libraries (1)



Some Branch and Specialty Libraries (2)

**A Message from Willamina Witherspoon**

**First President of the NoweverThen Library Association  
( Served 1880 - 1899)**



**“Pipe down.”**

**— Willamina Witherspoon**

## Selected Librarians

(Not Chronological)



**Miss Abigail Scrump:** Specialty: The Presocratics. Following Heraclitus, she believed you could not step twice into the same river, which is why she recommended calling the river by a different name each day. Later she said we should change the name every minute. Then she changed it to every half second. Then quarter second. She eventually had some kind breakdown and took up granite sculpting.



**Miss Georgina Schooch:** Specialty: Plato and the Sophists. She believed that our reality is only a reflection of the Real Thing; and she always dreamed of what Real Tea-and-Toast would taste like. Hated the Sophists because Plato hated them. She displayed a “stinky face” (her own words) whenever anyone checked out a book by René Descartes. She was fond of saying that if empiricist David Hume came back to life she would poke his eyes out.



**Miss Georgina Spiff:** Specialty: A strong believer in the “Degrees of Perfection” idea (which found expression in the Forth of the *Summa Theologiae* as an ontological argument). She used her tidy house as a metaphor, which became successively neater day after day until she experienced a rapture in front of a spotless breadbox. (Mathew Wobblehut, the late resident sculptor, created a small figurine of this experience modeled after Bernini’s “Saint Teresa in Ecstasy.”)



**Miss Eleanor Gooseworth:** Poor Eleanor read so much in her short life that she became partially blind and re-read everything in braille thereafter “to capture the divergences.” A genuinely happy person, she was upset later in life only by people who say “I feel badly” when the expression should be “I feel bad” because (she said) “blind people who are having a bad braille day can say ‘feel badly’ but few others can.”



**Miss Roberta “Tippy” Frugsmacker:** Specialty: Ancient Roman Literature From the Time of Virgil. Came to her religious faith by reading Virgil’s “Messianic Eclogue” and spent many hours after work in the fields looking for goats to herd and hoping for the return of a Golden Age. When she realized that the town of NoweverThen (as opposed to the website) was close to being in a Golden Age she experienced (what she called) a “Reverse Epiphany” and lived happily ever after with “Georgics,” a three-legged goat she taught to understand Latin commands.



**Miss Harriet Morford:** Specialty: Crime Novels. Harriet is still working on a dictionary of every method of murder used in nearly every crime novel ever written. First two entries: Adler and Ajax Cleanser.



**Miss Wilma Stent:** Specialty: Savonarola. Shocking as it sounds, she almost left the town of NoweverThen when she saw a few of PL's more bizarre and risqué art pieces on the website (even if he keeps some well hidden) and also when she heard about Dr. Zeno Clamp's questionable biological experiments. Her tiny bag packed, the first thing she saw in the outside world was a woman with a small butterfly tattoo on her ankle, which sight caused her to foam at the mouth and nearly to faint. She quickly returned to the fold. (Some say her faint was merely a feint)



**Miss Florence Stent** (younger sister of the above Wilma): Noted for her scathing analysis of Freud's theories of infantile sexuality. Her one published book is titled "Freud is Fraud by Flo, You Fools." Her assessment of NoweverThen's head scientist Dr. Zeno Clamp is not favorable, as Dr. Clamp's greatest inspiration is Dr. Freud, who we believe was transported ("epiphanized") into NoweverThen in the late 19th Century. (We may do a photographic essay on the subject.)



**Martha Floonbottom:** Specialty: Ramsey and the later Wittgenstein as they relate to Russell's Correspondence Theory. She was always stuck between the give-and-take between belief and fact, which caused her never to make up her mind about what to do (or which book to read next). After five years, she is still deciding whether to read "War and Peace" or a copy of a vintage Sears and Roebuck catalog.



**Miss Georgina Primplin.** Speciality: How-to Books and Practical Manuals. People came to her to unclog drains, polish silverware as well as accomplish an extraordinary number esoteric practices, e.g., how to worm a weasel or sedate an unruly sloth. Her favorite personal accomplishment was to train an ameba to maneuver a microscopic ball into a microscopic hoop. (This action was verified by Dr. V. Danforth Oggle, chairman of the biology department at NT University.) The practical utility of this achievement has never been sufficiently explained.



**Miss Betty Skank.** Specialty: Informal Logic. This subject was her own discovery and involved two disciplines: classical mathematics and the surrealist painters. She believed that Salvador Dali painted his wife with pork chops on her shoulder because he loved both his wife and pork chops. She was able to express this in a written calculus that no one has yet to understand.



Gwen-Llewellyn Languedoc: Specialty: The Arthurian Romances with a concentration in the Pre-Raphaelite painters. Gwen tried hard to make her person conform a certain type of Pre-Raphaelite woman of the Celtic variety, going so far as to dye her hair an orange-red; and for awhile she sat on the solid marble bench outside the library in a flowing white toga. The hair dye resulted in a severe scalp disorder which temporarily paralyzed her feet (no one knows why); and the latter sitting-habit brought on a “Problème de cul” (to use her words). She is now quite well and has settled into the Matter of France (Southern France). She is currently writing a book titled “What’s the Matter With Britain?”.



**Miss Nancy Fiddleflick:** Nancy was not much of a librarian. Mostly, she sat in a corner read the very books people had requested, saying “I’m sorry that has been checked out.” She really feared that she would miss something that others found important. When a person asked for Proust’s seven volume “Remembrance of Things Past,” she sat in her corner for months. A new librarian was hired who was instructed to tell visitors to whisper extra quietly which books they wanted to see.



**Miss Zoe Pittleship:** Specialty: Beatrix Potter books (temporary). At ten, she was the youngest librarian we have ever had, but only for a short while due to the temporary “fugue state” of Miss Stent (the elder). Now in her seventies, Miss Pittleship considers the new Harry Potter books “an expression of rank paganism.” She still reads “Goodnight Moon” every evening before bed.



**Totie Og.** Specialty: The Lilliputian series of books. Our only midget librarian, Totie switched from heavier volumes only after injuring herself in carrying the two-volume reduced-print copy of the *Oxford English Dictionary*. She fell backwards and was nearly crushed. The magnifying glass (included in the boxed set) lodged in her throat but the janitor successfully performed the Heinrich maneuver on her. The magnifier soared out and broke a stain glass window depicting Saint George and the Dragon. It destroyed the Dragon and left Saint George unscathed, a result which Totie considered the only redeeming aspect of her accident.



**Miss Bertha Rockport.** Specialty: The Stoics, especially Seneca, for logic. Though she appears demure, she is passionless and true to one extreme (though somewhat inaccurate) aspect of her subject; let us say that she possessed a favorite chair into which over fifty inverted carpet tacks had been embedded. She claimed to whistle in the wind under the right conditions. (This phenomenon was never proved.)



**Pifgjt Skupw.** Specialty: None. She is a “trainee.” Our only anorexic albino employee. She belongs to a recently discovered race that lives in the high crags of the NoweverThen mountains. We call them the Alborexics, a very cute and strangely attractive people, very gentle. She does not read, write or speak English. Mostly she just sits around quietly. We are all very fond of her. She just wanted to see the world outside the mountains. We applaud her unique spirit and plan to do a special feature on the Alborexics, if they acquiesce to being photographed.



**“Fanny d’O”** (her self-given name). Specialty: Banned books. We know nothing of her past and little about her rumored subject-cataloging methods, as we suspect it would be embarrassing to ask.

