Housed Library 1991–1994
Classes began at the University of Arizona October 1, 1991. The library was located in the basement of Old Main. By 1990, the collection had grown to 6,000 volumes and 70 periodicals. With limited space Old Main could no longer serve as the campus library.

ARIZONA STATE MUSEUM OPENED 1927
Modeled after the Boston Public Library and adorned with the University’s familiar red-brick-and-tile architecture, the University’s largest library is now the Arizona State Museum. The building is now the Arizona State Museum - North.

MAIN LIBRARY OPENED 1977
With more than 7 million volumes and state-of-the-art technology, library users have access to information and resources worldwide. The building is now the Arizona State Museum - North.

HOW MANY VOLUMES DOES THE LIBRARY HAVE?

6,800,038
Print volumes

1,759,433
Electronic books

97,844
Electronic journals

These numbers are for the UA Libraries only: Main, Science-Engineering, Fine Arts, and Special Collections. It does not include the Health Sciences Library.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA LIBRARIES TIMELINE & TRIVIA

OLD MAIN CONSTRUCTED 1891
The library was located on the second floor, created to “serve all needs for all times to come.” In 1904, Estelle Lutrell was hired as the first full-time librarian, and by the time she arrived, a new Library and Museum building (now called Douglas) was being constructed. She oversaw the move into this facility during 1904–05.

DOUGLASS BUILT 1904

ARIZONA STATE MUSEUM OPENED 1927

MAIN LIBRARY OPENED 1977

FINE ARTS LIBRARY Established branch in 1959

SCIENCE-ENGINEERING LIBRARY Opened in 1963

HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY Established branch in 2013

The University of Arizona Libraries host a number of technology-rich collaborative spaces, including group study rooms, the University’s first collaborative learning classroom located in the Science-Engineering Library, and a makerspace with 3D printing.

With more than 7 million volumes and state-of-the-art technology, library users have access to information resources worldwide.

In 2002, the Information Commons on the 1st floor (extending underground into the new Integrated Learning Center) and an addition to the 5th floor were opened.

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