BELMONT — The Belmont Public Library reached a landmark date on Feb. 3, when they celebrated a 90-year milestone.

The library director, Eileen Gilbert (left) and Children’s Librarian Katherine Bollenbach (right) showed some of the historic documents on display last Saturday, when Belmont Public Library celebrated their 90th anniversary of their building, which was donated to the town on Feb. 4, 1928.

The library building was donated by the Duffy’s family, who owned the property where the library is located. The library building was built by the town on the condition that the library also became a temporary classroom for some of the children.

After the school was closed, the library building became a temporary classroom for some of the children.

The library has been a vital part of the community in service to the community in the late town history of its own. The library building has been built, the library has been added, at the cost of $25,000, the library building he and his family also provided.

According to the findings of the late town historian Wallace Rhodes, the Town Report on Feb. 15, 1894 stated that the library lent out 4,249 volumes that year, a record for the time.

That space, too, was soon outgrown by the needs of a growing community, but on Feb. 4, 1928, the owners of the Belmont Mill stepped up to help Walter Duffy presented the town with a new building to house the library, the building that was donated to the town.

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In her research for the anniversary, Gilbert also found a 1982 facilities report stating that the library had outgrown it’s latest facility. Gilbert said, as she paged through an historic ledger, “It’s really interesting to look back and see how many books people borrowed way back then.”

In the past, the library has also been listed on the National Register of Historic Places for being one of the “finest examples of Colonial Revival architecture in the Lakes Region.”

Last Saturday, Feb. 4, 2018, the 90th anniversary of the generous donation made by the Duffy family was celebrated through an open house at the library. As part of that day, old photos, town library reports and lending records were placed on display that the library celebrates its historic past.

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