

Spurgin Park Little Free Library (36553)

Repair Report 12-14-2023

Repair on this library began on Saturday December 9, 2023 and was completed on Thursday December 14, 2023.

Repairs as directed:

- Split corner damage (see repair notes below)
- Paint (Exterior latex stain)

Repairs not directed:

- Faced the entire exterior with Western Red Cedar with stainless steel fasteners (see notes below)
- Replaced the window frame on the door (see notes below)
- Removed and replaced plaques on right side – replaced rusted screws with stainless steel screws
- Installed new mounting hardware to avoid screws in floor of library (see notes below)
- Replaced handle with exterior rated material and stainless steel screws

NOTES:

1. The post was leaning to the west and south so I corrected this and tamped it like I did to the post at Trinity. Since this post was preciously painted it needs to be painted. I will wait with this until it is warm enough in the spring. I will return then to paint it a matching smoke gray color to make it uniform with the new siding color.
2. This library was built with 5/8 sheeting grade plywood which does have exterior glue but is intended to be covered with shingles or siding. This exposure and the fact that it is a softwood product the glue began to fail. Instead of trying to glue the plywood and then paint or stain I opted to apply 3/8" thick western red cedar over the entire exterior surface. Cedar is naturally rot resistance and will hold stain very well. The siding is vertical strips to mimic siding on a house. Paint or stain on the plywood would have lasted about a year (south side not more than 6 months). Stain on the cedar has about a 5 to 7 year life and then needs to be freshened up.
3. New mounting hardware was used to secure the library to the post support. The stylish supports look nice but were not adequate for full support. So I added a new structural member and kept the original supports. There are four exterior rated construction supports that are fastened to the post with exterior rated construction screws (not sheetrock screws). Stainless steel screws were used to attach the library to the metal angles so there is no risk of rust. This library was previously mounted to the post with sheetrock style screws and terribly rusted from contact with the pressure treated post support. Interior screws should never be used in an exterior setting.
4. The door itself is in good shape but the window frame had failed and was not substantial enough to support the Plexiglas in this down-swing style door. I fabricated a new frame using cedar and fastened it with stainless steel screws so the plex can be replaced if needed in the future.
5. I maintained the original swinging wood latch for the door but replaced the rusty screw with a stainless steel screw and stainless steel finish washer.
6. The books were replaced in the library and it is ready for use.

All work described here was completed by Dan Breyfogle, Brey's on Seventh.



