

Hopkinton Public Library
Hopkinton, MA

Building Program

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Building Program Hopkinton Public Library

Executive Summary

Hopkinton is located in Middlesex County, 26 miles west of Boston. Its area is hilly and includes more than 27 square miles. Main highways are State Routes 135, 85 and Interstates 90 and 495.

The population of Hopkinton in 2008 is 14,980. According to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) the population in 2030 will be 15,602. However, this projection does not take into account the development of “Legacy Farms”. The 940 units of mixed residential housing will generate a significant population increase. For this Study, the consensus of the members of the Building Committee and the Library Board of Trustees is that the population figure of 20,000 for the year 2030 should be used.

The current library was completed in 1895 and in 1967 the former St. Paul’s Episcopal Church next door was purchased. A gallery was built to connect the two buildings and the church was remodeled. The combined buildings have about 5,000 square feet. The primary problems are that there is no space left for the growing collection, no space for study, no work space, no space for public meetings. There are no meeting rooms for programs. There are seventeen steps to reach the Children’s Room on the second floor and is totally inaccessible to the handicapped. The building infrastructure needs renovation. The parking lot has six spaces for staff and handicapped only. Patrons must park on the street.

There are seventeen “Special Concerns”.

1. Renovation/Addition or a New Facility. The recommendation of this Study is to undertake the construction of a new building at another suitable site.
2. A Single Level Building is the most cost effective use of space.
3. Library as a Town Common, or, Community Place. The Hopkinton Public Library is the only place in Town for people of all ages to gather, either informally or in a public meeting. The Library can truly be a Community Place.
4. A “Green” Library cost less to operate and maintain than conventionally constructed buildings. They are more comfortable and are more attractive to its users. The Library can be a model for the Town, creating a sustainable building for the community.
5. Everything is movable, portable so that the Library can always be prepared for change.
6. The Multipurpose Meeting Room/Exhibit Space/Kitchen will seat 150 and be available for lectures, presentations, book discussion groups. Community groups could use this room as well.
7. The Conference Room seats 15 around a table with room for 25. This room has multi-uses as a group study room, conference room and is a space for the Board of Trustees.

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Building Program Hopkinton Public Library

I. Introduction

The objective of this document is to present detailed architectural building requirements for the proposed expansion of the Hopkinton Public Library. The Program also details the problems to be solved by an architectural design.

The programming process has included consultations and meetings with the following groups and individuals: the Director, Board of Trustees, Staff, Building Committee, Friends of the Library, Volunteers, Community Leaders, and the public. (See Appendix A.)

Data from the Staff and the Director have been incorporated into the Program.

The result is a statement of space requirements, relationships between areas and concepts of overall uses of the Hopkinton Public Library.

II. The Town of Hopkinton, Massachusetts

Description and History

The Town of Hopkinton is located in “eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Upton on the southwest, Westborough on the northwest, Southborough on the north, Ashland on the northeast, Holliston on the southeast, and Milford on the south. Hopkinton is 17 miles east of Worcester, 26 miles west of Boston, and 195 miles from New York City.” (*DHCD, Community Profiles*, www.magnet.state.ma.us)

“Hopkinton is a small Massachusetts town located in the hills of the southwestern part of Middlesex County....The Town was incorporated in 1715, and its area includes more than 27 square miles. The highest point in Middlesex County is located within Hopkinton’s boundaries. In 1909 the population was approximately 2,600 people.... A group of three mineral springs were used for healthful purposes about 150 years ago.” (*Images of America, Hopkinton* by Gordon E. Hopper, Arcadia Publishing, 1997. p. 7.)

“The settlement of Hopkinton, called Quansigomog by the Indians, owes its beginning to a bequest of money made to Harvard College by an English gentleman, Edward Hopkins.” (*A Brief History of Hopkinton* by Mrs. Frances A. Safford, 1915, p.3.)

Hopkinton was the birthplace of Captain Daniel Shay, the leader of Shay’s Rebellion, and of John Young, the father of the noted Mormon leader, Brigham Young.... There have been three major fires in the downtown section of Hopkinton.” (*Images of America, Hopkinton* by Gordon E. Hopper, Arcadia Publishing, 1997, p. 7.) The first was in 1876, the second in 1882, and the third in 1900. They included factories, the business section and other major buildings. The growth of the Town was hurt by these fires.

Transportation for residents is provided by LIFT buses offering hourly service between Hopkinton, Ashland and Framingham, and private automobiles. Hopkinton is in the Greater Boston Area/MetroWest, which has rail, air, and highway facilities. Main highways are State Routes 135, 85 and Interstates 90 and 495.

The Town “gains widespread media attention each year in April when the internationally known Boston Marathon is run. Runners from all over the world gather on Main Street to begin their 26-mile run in what is always a colorful and exciting event....

Recreational facilities include Hopkinton State Park, Whitehall State Park, the Town Beach on Lake Maspenock, fishing, tennis courts, playgrounds, the Hopkinton Country Club and the YMCA. Cultural events include the Hopkinton Polyarts Festival, Fourth of July parade, and the summer concert series on the Town Common.” (www.magnet.state.ma.us)

III. Hopkinton Public Library

History

The Young Men's Christian Association established the first library in Hopkinton in 1820. Later, the library was located in the Highland Hotel. In 1890, seven men met to organize a corporation and to adopt by-laws to govern the library. A Library building was funded by a \$4,000 donation by John Quincy Adams, a former resident of Hopkinton. He said he would donate the money if \$10,000 was raised within two years. The money was raised and the new Library at the corner of Church and Main Streets was dedicated on Jan. 1, 1895. The architect was Sanford Phipps, and H.R. Cummings was the builder. The cost of the building was \$14,035.

The Library remained as it was until 1967 when the former St. Paul's Episcopal Church was purchased. "A gallery was built to connect the two buildings and the church was remodeled. The building is a two-story gothic structure 30x50 built of local granite. The roof is orange Dutch unglazed tile. The first floor...is finished in quartered oak. The large clock against the wall was donated in 1901 by Mr. F.O. Thompson and Mr. Abram Crooks. The second floor was formerly used as a lecture hall. It is now a children's room that was remodeled by the Kiwanis Club." (*Hopkinton Public Library*, 13 Main Street, Hopkinton, MA 01748, pamphlet.)

The Library's collections have grown to over 39,000 items, including electronic formats.

Description

The Library is located on the corner of Main and Church Streets in the center of Town. The entry, 110 sq. ft., from Church St. leads into the display area, 390 sq. ft., containing the old Grandfather's Clock, a bench and chair, the copy machine and an OPAC. There is a nook (16 sq. ft.) with shelving for pamphlets and a community bulletin board. The Circulation Desk, 132 sq. ft., has two work stations and faces the entry. The fiction collection, large print, and paperbacks are in wall shelving and nooks on the first floor of the rest of the old library building (500 sq. ft.). There is a basement, 500 sq. ft. used for storage of Friends book sale items and some library items.

A small ramp leads into the *Gallery*, 348 sq. ft., which connects the library to the former church. Windows lining the Gallery let in plenty of light, but limits shelving opportunities. The Gallery houses the Young Adult Collection, adult and children's videos and DVDs, and the 970s (History) volumes.

After extensive renovations, the former church was dedicated on Nov. 5, 1967 and was named the Betty Strong Reading Room. A special feature is the stained glass window designed by Carl Paulsen of Upton. The "*Treasure Room*", 50 sq. ft., houses local history, genealogy, a microfiche machine and printer. The combination *Staff Room and Technical Services Area*, 240 sq. ft., and *Director's Work Space*, 64 sq. ft.,

