

# *Hopkinton Public Library*

## A Brief History

The Library was established by the Young Men's Christian Association in 1867. Seven members served as the Trustees, incorporated the Library and adopted by-laws for the government of the Library in 1890. The current building was built in 1895 with contributions from local and former residents of Hopkinton. The second floor was used as a lecture hall and was remodeled later as a children's room. A gallery was built to connect the Library building with the adjacent Episcopal Church after extensive renovation in 1967. This new section was named after the head librarian at the time, Mrs. Betty Strong. A special feature of the reading room is a stain glass window with a motif of water fountain bubbling water flowing over an open book and the inscription on the page reads "The fountain of wisdom flows through books." The large hall clock that still stands near the circulation desk was presented to the Library by Mrs. F.V. Thompson and Mr. Abram Crooks.

The Library became a land mark for Hopkinton located in the heart of downtown steps away from the Town Common. Until 1955, bequests were the only source of funding for the Library. Since that time the town government has been appropriating public funds for employee salaries, cost of cleaning the Library, utilities and assistance with the purchase of books.

The Library is governed by a board of seven member self-perpetuating trustees, each serving a four year term.