

WATERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

73 Elm Street ~ Map #42



Waterville benefited from the generosity of Andrew Carnegie who in 1902 donated \$20,000 for a free public library. There was a condition that “the City of Waterville should provide the site and the sum of \$2,000 annually for the library’s upkeep.”

The architectural style is Richardsonian Romanesque,

created by Henry Richardson in the late 19th century. Characteristics include a Norman Tower, dramatic semicircular arches, a rugged appearance, granite and copper materials, and Flemish bond brick work (alternate long and short sides of brick).



This building typifies this style with its rounded arches distinctive roofline and fancy stonework. The building was renovated in 1960 after a fire. The 1976 addition has bigger windows and no granite, but its horizontal lines blend with those of the original building.



In 2011, the library completed a multi-million dollar rehabilitation project that included the creation of a new entrance to face the Concourse parking lot, the installation of an elevator, and significant interior renovations.