



NOW!

695 Main Street

The original location of the Second Center Schoolhouse was on the site where Boylston's Public Library now stands. The students attended the Center school from the 1850's to 1904 at which time they moved to the Consolidated School for their education. As was typical in New England schools of the mid to late 1800's, each student carried his own school book which had been provided by his parents, and there was no concern about the subject or author or how old or out-of-date it was, as long as it was a school book. It was quite the challenge for the teacher!

The library cornerstone was laid Memorial Day 1904 and the Sawyer Memorial Library was officially presented to the Town of Boylston by William White on behalf of Salome White on 10 November 1904. This unique fieldstone building was designed by Worcester architects Fuller & Delano. The main part of the building is 22 feet deep and 60 feet wide. At the front is a large vestibule. On either side of the entrance are two rooms with fireplaces serving as a reference room and a reading room. The library contains a circular room towards the back. In addition to donating the building, Salome, furnished the interior with everything required for a state-of-the-art library. The gift of the Sawyer Memorial Library by Salome Elizabeth White was in memory of her mother, Harriet Sawyer White, the daughter of Oliver Sawyer and Harriet Goulding of Sawyers Mills, Boylston, Massachusetts. The library continues to service the townspeople of Boylston to this day through books, programs and digital collections.