

Clement C. Maxwell Library History

1.

The Libraries:

The Way We Were, The Way We Are

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2.

In the Beginning

Edmund Dwight \$10,000

- 1837 Board of Education founded
- 1838 Board decided to establish three normal schools
- 1839 Two schools established for the education of teachers—one in Lexington July 3 1839 (now Framingham) for females, one in Barre Sept 14 (now Westfield) for both sexes
- 1840 Legislation introduced to

- 1840 disband Board of Education
- 1840 Legislation introduced in March to select Bridgewater over other towns in Plymouth County. On September 9, a “third normal school for both sexes went into operation at Bridgewater under the charge of Colonel Nicholas Tillinghast.”
- 1846 The first state normal school building was erected at Bridgewater in 1846

3.

The Early Years ...

- Education programs expanded

- Library facilities expanded
 - Department libraries
 - General library?

The Early Years 1850s-1900

Marshall Conant, principal of the school (1853-1860)

One year program of study evolved into three 20-week terms

Five department libraries, which seems to be the norm. The fifth area of studies was “miscellaneous”

When Albert G. Boyden became principal in 1860, he started a building program to meet the growing needs of the College. In

1861, the legislature appropriated \$4500 to expand the school’s building. In 1862, \$200 was spent on furniture. In The History of Bridgewater Normal School, by Arthur C. Boyden (1933), he notes that “a large school room made a unified school possible, with appropriate general exercises by the principal, and the new form of gymnastic exercise. Differentiated departmental study was made possible by the five recitation rooms with side rooms for apparatus and with a separate library.” Read the letter from George B. Emerson, Treasure of the Board of Education (Nov. 1862).

4.



Students work under the careful supervision of their instructor in 1890 library scene

5.

Let the 20th century begin ...

□ 1905-1906

- "The School has a large and valuable library of books for reference, with a card catalogue arranged for direct use in the studies of the course. Each department of the school has its own library ..."

Let the 20th century begin ...

Quote is from the 1905-1906 Bridgewater State Normal School catalogue. For terms 146 & 147.

In the description of the History and Civil Government course: A study of the development of English institutions for the purpose of finding the principles on which United States history is based, development of the constitutional government of MA and the US. The work is conducted in the library of history, to teach how to use a library. Preparation of maps and

tables, use of pictures and study of sources of history.

6.



HISTORY LIBRARY.

7.

"New Courses Established"

- The Teacher-Librarian Course
 - Children's literature
 - Methods of directing children's reading
 - The essentials of good books
 - The use of reference books and magazines for professional reading
 - Organization of bibliographies
 - Instruction in library organization

New Courses Established

Any guesses on the year when the Teacher-Librarian Course was established? September 1917.

Library as assembly hall; library club; fire in 1924.

Program was established to supplement the work of the Massachusetts Free Public Library Commission to develop libraries in schools. In 1918, 80 high schools in this state had "distinct" libraries yet only 9 had high-school librarians.

Read from the elementary department course list. The first librarians were responsible for teaching library instruction and managing the general college collection. The first "librarian" was Martha C. Pritchard 1917-1919 and she organized the first unified general library in the basement of Tillinghast hall.

8.



When Tillinghast Hall was erected in 1917, it served several purposes. It had offices for the school administration, a reference library on the first floor, a large dining hall on the second floor, and the dormitory on the third floor. Today Tillinghast Hall is primarily a dormitory, but it still has a large and elegant dining hall and its ground floor houses classrooms and faculty offices. It is one of three women's dormitories on lower campus (Woodward Hall and Pope Hall are the other two).

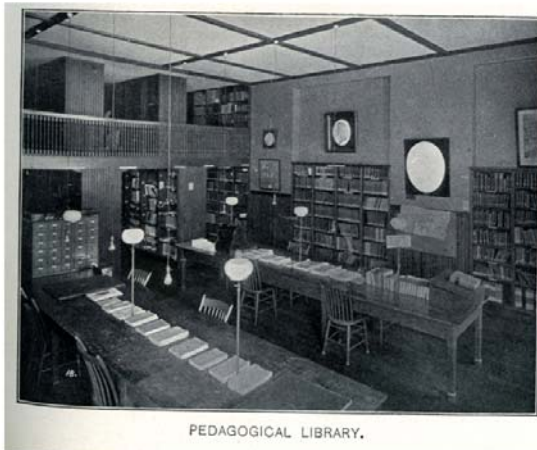
By 1922, 12,000 volumes. Most were "typical" books scattered in the department libraries and used for teaching purposes. 1922 was the year when a specially trained Normal-school librarian was appointed as instructor in library economy and in children's literature. 1922 was the year when the library course was reorganized and developed in accordance with the suggestions laid down by the department in conjunction with the Division of Libraries. The new course stressed the organization and use of a school library according to modern classification; teaching students and children how to use a library, and teaching children in upper grades to use a library in

literature, history and other subjects.

By 1928, a full four-year course for future school librarians was offered as one of the degree courses. According to A.C. Boyden's history of BSC, this program included "school library administration; practice in planning and conducting library hours with classes of children: book

selection; cataloging and classification” among other practical applications. The library science department was established as a unit with the Education Department.

9.



By 1928, the library was in the new Normal School building, Boyden Hall. In that year, the library acquired the Shakespeare variorum set, Pageant of America, Great debates in United States history. A “browsing corner” was established, pottery purchased out of general alumni funds and new furniture purchased from the sale of crackers and milk to school children. During this period of time, the Library Club was very active, staging plays as part of the morning assemblies, which were held in the library, showing films for a small admission fee, and ran a Book of the Month Club. The Club limited membership to 30 students, had its own pledge and initiation

practice, and members volunteered to work in the library.

10.



The Library was housed in Boyden Hall until 1958.

11.

A Move to Remember

□ From Boyden Hall to Boyden Gym

■ January 1958



The old gymnasium had been converted into the new library when these students used it in 1964.

A Move to Remember

January 1958.

When the new gymnasium and indoor pool were completed, plans were developed to convert the old Boyden Gym into a library. The state legislature appropriated \$191,000 for remodeling and new equipment. Furniture, new plumbing, lighting and windows on the east and west ends were installed. A phonograph room, listening booths, stack space, and classrooms were added.

600 students formed two human chains to move the 30,000 volume 400 yards from Boyden Hall to the new library. Men passed cartons of books along one chain and women passed the empty boxes back to be refilled. The move was completed in five hours.

In 1959, a room in the library was dedicated to Miss Julia Carter was a librarian and library science instructor from 1923 until her retirement in 1956. This room housed the local history collection, the MA dept of education annual reports, and books by local authors and advocates.

12.

□ Renamed Clement C. Maxwell Library



A library, 1958 to 1971

In 1963, library is renamed to honor Clement C. Maxwell, College president from 1951 to 1963.

The plaque reads: In honor of Clement C. Maxwell, Professor and President at Bridgewater State College, 1937-1963, commemorating 26 years of inspiration, loyalty and faithful service to the students, present by the alumni association.

In 1964, the first director of the Clement C Maxwell Library was appointed—Dr. Owen McGowan.

This is also the year that the

administration of the library and Department of Library Science was separated. Beatrice I

Bouchard became the LS department chair. There were only 38,000 volumes in the library. 7 library staff members.

13.

In with the new



The Clement C. Maxwell Library, opened in 1971, is the College's newest building. The building has the capacity to house 425,000 volumes within its large and impressive four stories, and can accommodate 2,500 students. Among its features are a host of sophisticated research facilities, including an extensive collection of microfilm and microfiche holdings, a dial-access carrel system which allows students to view and listen to specially prepared films and tapes for selfpaced learning, and a special collections department of rare books.

In with the new

By 1969, the old Maxwell Library was filled to capacity—45,000 volumes—and had seats for about 250 students. The NEASC standards for the time suggested that a college of our size and type should have 160,000 volumes and seating for 800. Bridgewater was given conditional accreditation because of these conditions.

14.



The new Clement C. Maxwell Library, with the capacity to house over 400,000 volumes and accommodate 2,500 students, was opened in 1971. This photograph, taken in the spring of 1976, shows the main reading area on the second floor.

15.

Now



Now

Planning for the new library began in 1966 with site selection. In 1967, Guy Metcalfe was hired as a consultant and plans were soon developed for the new Maxwell Library. It was built at a cost of about \$6.125M, with the capacity to house 425,000 volumes. When it opened it had 40 electronic carrels, a closed circuit television receiver, a wood paneled 200 seat auditorium (L11/ Library lecture hall), and eleven classrooms. At the time of construction, the classrooms were

only temporary and were to be converted to library space as needed, which took a bit longer than anticipated.

First unofficial archivist was Edith Bradford Frost who was on faculty from 1919 until 1955 and taught French. During her last two years at the College, she started to arrange the archives, which were housed in the basement of Tillinghast Hall (aka The Vault). The first official college archivist, Dr. Ralph Bates, was appointed by Clement C. Maxwell. At the time, there were records in the Vault and in the Julia C. Carter Room in the old Maxwell Library. When Ralph Bates retired, Mabell Bates (his wife) was appointed the second college archivist.