

# Pomfret Public Library...



exterior rendering of the West Elevation

Public libraries now provide services, resources and technology that didn't exist when Pomfret Public Library was built! Lending books is still the stock-in-trade, but there is a new emphasis on group learning experiences, creativity, and community events that necessitates meeting room spaces, equipment and furnishings.

...a little bit bigger, a little bit better!

The planned addition includes about 2000 sq. ft of meeting room space for groups of 8 to 60 people. This space will be available for programs and events sponsored by the library and by other community organizations.



# A brief account of a long history



Pomfret Hall Library and Pomfret Casino, 1882



Pomfret Library, 1911



## the beginning

The United English Library for the Propagation of Christian and Useful Knowledge (that's a mouthful!) was in the home of Rev. Ebenezer Williams.

1739

## a new building

The present building was constructed by Mrs. George Bradley in memory of her husband on land donated by Benjamin Grosvenor.

1911

## young readers

An endowment from Abilene C. Averill was used to add the Children's Room and staff office.

1976

1882

## Pomfret Hall Library

Discards from the original collection were used to create the Pomfret Hall Library. Readers could join for \$1, which would be about \$25 now. The library was in the Pomfret Casino.

1928

## going public

The Pomfret Hall subscription library becomes a public library, supported by town tax revenue.

1994

## Aicher Memorial Garden

The Aicher family installs the garden and deck in memory of their daughter, Sarah.

# Imagine the space...



interior rendering of the Great Room and Activity Room



**Lounge & café:** space to relax or have a quiet conversation

**Conference Room & Archives:** business & board meetings, research historic documents

**Great Room:** meetings, concerts, classes, movies, lectures, poetry, workshops

**Activity Space:** FUN stuff for all ages, Maker Space equipped for art, crafts, games, STEAM

**Restrooms:** private, accessible, unisex family restrooms

**Art gallery:** current and retrospective exhibits of local talent

**Patio:** extending the Great Room outside to the existing deck, gardens, and walking trail

**Rooms for booking after-hours:** meeting space for local organizations, boards and clubs

**Technology:** fully equipped with computers, fiber internet, wifi, projection and sound

...with 2000 square feet of community space,  
designed and furnished for flexible use.



*See the plans at [pomfretlibrary.org](http://pomfretlibrary.org)*

# Our library users...





Our library users are: spinning in a cloud of Story Time bubbles... painting at a Bob Ross date night... talking food over a shared meal... meeting friends for play time... researching ancestors or homes... printing homework... checking email... making music in the Sound Garden... crafting with the Cricut Maker... trying out computer coding... getting face-time with a python... writing... sending a fax... and reading!—always reading and talking about books!

...are all ages and from all walks of life,  
learning and creating together.

Pomfret Public Library has 1800 cardholders and about 10,000 visitors annually. In 2019 there were 186 programs attended by 2100 people, and a circulation of 16,400 items. The library's collection has over 20,000 books and DVDs, and hundreds of thousands more available online.



There are 3 public computer stations and an additional 8 laptops available on request, copy/print/fax, and fiber internet with wifi. The library is open 32 hours/week, every week of the year.



# Our library supporters...



Our library supporters include: Pomfret taxpayers and residents... Friends of Pomfret Public Library... past benefactors... Scouts... Lions... Quiet Corner Garden Club... Pomfret Historical Society... local civic & business leaders... Pomfret Proprietors... Pomfret School, Rectory School and Pomfret Community School... Quiet Corner Reads... neighboring libraries... CT State Library... and of course our many regular readers and program attendees!

**...are friends, neighbors and  
local community members.**

The library's annual budget is \$115,000. Town taxes provides roughly 90% of that; the balance is from donations, investment income, and grants. Other support comes in the form of: used books and DVDs... felt and glue sticks... landscaping and book-moving brawn... music and poetry... the sharing of time, knowledge, skill and creativity... and library users who love to talk about what the library means to them!

