Dedicated in 1882, the Richardson Building, the original part of this library, was designed by America’s first celebrity architect: Henry Hobson Richardson. Harpers Weekly Magazine called it “the best Village library in the United States.” Architectural historian Henry-Russell Hitchcock called it “an advanced step away from traditional design.” Richardson considered the Crane Memorial Library among the most successful and simple of all his civic buildings.

The people of Quincy just plain love it.

Today, three additions and more than 125 years later, the Thomas Crane Public Library’s Richardson Building is still considered one of the country’s finest examples not only of Romanesque architecture, but of design principles that helped transform building styles across the entire American landscape. Now listed in GreatBuildingsOnline, the Crane Memorial Library has been voted one of America’s 150 favorite works of architecture.

The Thomas Crane Public Library was constructed in four parts:
- the 1882 Richardson building
- the 1908 Aiken addition
- the 1939 Coletti addition
- the 2001 CBT addition, which nearly doubles the size of the previous three parts.

To learn more about the Library’s architecture, visit thomascranelibrary.org/about/main-library