

Who is Grace Stuart Orcutt?

In September, 1964, Elbert E. Orcutt '02 (Trustee 1961-1969) dedicated the Grace Stuart Orcutt Library in honor of his belated wife desiring to commemorate her "love for the Alma Mater and his own admiration for this distinguished institution [the St. Johnsbury Academy]." For the Orcutts, who spent their working lives as teachers of secondary school students, the library was the "the most important adjunct to this seat of education."



From 1964 until 2002, the Grace Stuart Orcutt Library was located in Severance Hall, adjacent to the Academy's main auditorium, Fuller Hall. Here, Elbert dedicated the Library in its original location.



In 2003, the Grace Stuart Orcutt Library moved across the street to the Mayo Center, a multi-million dollar expansion of the school. Although the new library looks nothing like its original form (see photos below), the Library still serves the Academy and its surrounding community with the same spirit as before.



Grace Stuart Orcutt '1898 (1879-1962): Grace Stuart Orcutt taught school in the St Johnsbury area after her graduation from the Academy. In addition to working as a typesetter and a proofreader (both acceptable women's work for the time), she spent her life after marriage (to Elbert in 1901) studying, writing, and publishing poetry. Much of her poetry reflects her Vermont connections. The Academy Archive houses a copy of [Circler of Remembrance](#), a posthumous publication of her poetry.

