

# Sabra Maretta Thrall

## *Middletown Thrall Library's Benefactress*

Sadly, not much is known about Sabra.

What we little we *do* know is that she was a **charitable** and **community-minded person** born in 1830.

Sabra also recognized **the value of a public library** and acted to ensure **Middletown citizens** would have a most excellent one of their own.

And so she bequeathed an impressive sum of **\$30,000** (approximately valued at **\$1,140,000** in 2025) to establish a library right in the heart of **Middletown, New York**.



This original **Thrall Library Building** was constructed on **Orchard Street** and opened in **1901**. Reinvesting her wealth in her community, Sabra established not only our library but also **Thrall Hospital** and **Thrall Park**.

Her contributions would significantly improve the **cultural, educational, and general wellness** of our community for many years to come.

Though Sabra passed away in 1897, her **generosity** and **love of community** live on in our library on **11 Depot Street**, which opened in 1995 in the renovated and expanded **Erie Railroad Station**. Our library's chartered service district grew to include the **Town of Wallkill, New York** in 2002.

We remain grateful for Sabra's historic and lasting gift as we continue to celebrate and build upon that foundational legacy over **125** years later.