

A Finding Aid for
Architectural Records of the
Library of the University of Pennsylvania Building,
1888-1991
in
The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania

Archival Description

Descriptive Summary

Title: Architectural Records of the Library of the University of Pennsylvania Building, 1888-1991.

Coll. ID: 195

Origin: Furness, Evans & Co., architect.

Extent: Architectural drawings 73 originals; 288 prints;
Photographs 146 photoprints; 182 photonegatives;
Additional material 2 folders

Repository: The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania
102 Meyerson Hall
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-6311
(215) 898-8323

Abstract: This collection comprises architectural drawings, photoprints and papers documenting the architecture of the Library of the University of Pennsylvania, designed in 1888 by Frank Furness (Furness, Evans, and Co.). Materials include original drawings and prints from 1888, originals and prints for subsequent alterations and additions by Furness, Evans, and Co. (1903-1923) and by Robert Rodes McGoodwin (1931), and limited documentation of a renovation/restoration (1985-1991) by Venturi, Rauch and Scott Brown.

Indexes: This collection is included in the Philadelphia Architects and Buildings Project, a searchable database of architectural research materials related to architects and architecture in Philadelphia and surrounding regions:
<http://www.philadelphiabuildings.org>

Cataloging: Collection-level records for materials in the Architectural Archives may be found in RLIN Eureka, the union catalogue of members of the Research Libraries Group. The record number for this collection is PAUP01-A14.

Biographical/Historical Sketch

The Library of the University of Pennsylvania was designed in 1888 by Frank Furness, in consultation with Melvil Dewey and the librarian of Harvard University, Justin Winsor. The building was constructed 1889-1890 and dedicated 1891. In the following years and decades the library was repeatedly expanded. A gallery was added in the reading room (1903-1905). After Frank Furness died in 1912, his firm, Furness, Evans & Co., added the Duhring Memorial Stacks (1914-1915) to the south of the existing stacks. Further proposed additions and alterations by Furness, Evans & Co. beginning in 1918 resulted in two major expansions. The vaulted main reading/reference room was divided by the insertion of a floor (1922-1923) which doubled its capacity at the sacrifice of much of its original grandeur. And in 1923 the Henry Charles Lea Library and Reading Room filled the space between the library and 34th Street.

The next major addition to the Furness Building was designed by Robert Rodes McGoodwin. He proposed an expansion of the library building which would have constructed a larger Collegiate Gothic building around Furness's original library. Remaining exterior walls would have been re-clad to match the new construction. The Horace Howard Furness Memorial (1930-1931) was the only part of McGoodwin's larger design to be built.

In 1962 the University built a new library building for the School of Arts and Sciences, designed by Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson; and the Furness Building became the home of the Fine Arts Library. The Furness Building (excluding the Duhring Memorial Stacks) underwent a major renovation/restoration by Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown 1985-1991. It was rededicated in 1991 as the Jerome and Anne Fisher Fine Arts Library.

Scope and Content Note

This collection comprises architectural drawings, photoprints and papers documenting the architecture of the Library of the University of Pennsylvania, designed in 1888 by Frank Furness (Furness, Evans, and Co.). Materials include original drawings and prints from 1888, originals and prints for subsequent alterations and additions by Furness, Evans, and Co., original drawings and prints for Robert Rodes McGoodwin's addition, and limited documentation of the 1985-1991 renovation.

The collection contains an exceptionally fine perspective rendering in ink and wash, as well as oversized, hand-colored prints on linen of the plans, sections and elevations for the original design by Furness, Evans and Co. Also notable are drawings for Robert Rodes McGoodwin's proposal to enlarge and re-clad the library in Collegiate Gothic style.

Holdings for the renovation and restoration begun in 1985 comprise two presentation renderings by Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown and the entire office file for the Historic Structure Report by the Clio Group (George E. Thomas). The Clio Group file is rich in photographic documentation, including copies of historic photographs as well as photo-documentation of the building (before, during and after restoration). The collection contains no design, construction or shop drawings related to the restoration and no office files of Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown.

Series Overview

I. Architectural Drawings.

A. Oversized drawings

B. Standard sized and smaller drawings

1. Furness, Evans & Co.

a. Library of the University of Pennsylvania

b. Gallery in Reference Reading Room

c. Duhring Addition

d. Miscellaneous Alterations

e. Second Floor Reading Room Addition (Penniman Library)

f. Henry Charles Lea Library Addition

2. Robert Rodes McGoodwin

3. Alterations after 1935

4. Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown Renovation and Restoration

II. Clio Group Office File.

A full index to projects represented in this collection is found in Appendix A.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: This collection is available for research by appointment only.

Preferred citation: Library of the University of Pennsylvania Building Collection, The Architectural Archives, University of Pennsylvania.

Acquisition: Internal transfer before 1983. Gift: Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown, 1987.
Gift: George Thomas, 1991.

Processing: The collection was processed and the finding aid prepared by William Whitaker, Nancy Thorne and Emily Cooperman with the research assistance of Andrew Coldren and Jennifer Webb. Processing was substantially completed in 2001, with additions and corrections in 2005.

Container list

Series I. Architectural Drawings.

A. Oversized drawings

Call#	Descriptive Title
195.1	Library of the University of Pennsylvania, 10 architectural drawings (originals)
195.2	Library of the University of Pennsylvania, 5 architectural drawings (prints)
195.3	Duhring Addition, 18 architectural drawings Fragile (4 prints)

B. Standard sized and smaller drawings

1. Furness, Evans & Co.

a. Library of the University of Pennsylvania.

Call#	Descriptive Title
195.4	Library of the University of Pennsylvania, 1 architectural drawing (original, framed)
195.5	Section Through Entrance Hall, 1 architectural drawing (original)
195.6	Plans, Sections, and Elevations, Library Building, 10 architectural drawings (prints)
195.7	Historic Images of the Furness Library, 2 Recent Photographs, Harper's Weekly (Photographs)

b. Gallery in Reference Reading Room.

195.8	Gallery for Books Racks in Reading Room,. 6 architectural drawings (6 prints)
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c. Duhring Addition.

195.9	Duhring Addition, 9 architectural drawings, (3 originals, 6 prints); 21 photographs
195.10	Duhring Addition, 60 architectural drawings (4 originals, 56 prints)
195.11	Duhring Addition, 17 architectural drawings (3 originals, 15 prints)
195.12	Duhring Addition, 30 architectural drawings (5 originals, 25 prints)
195.13	Shop Drawings, Duhring Addition, 49 architectural drawings (8 originals, 41 prints)

d. Miscellaneous Alterations and Proposed Alterations.

- 195.14 Alterations 1918-1919, 15 architectural drawings (6 originals, 7 prints); 2 photographs.
195.15 Alterations 1920 and after, 36 architectural drawings (3 originals, 33 prints);
3 photographs.

e. Second Floor Reading Room Addition.

- 195.16 Furness Library Second Floor Addition, Penniman Library, 10 architectural drawings (5 originals, 5 prints); 4 photographs.
195.17 Furness Library Second Floor Addition, Penniman Library, 21 architectural drawings (2 originals, 19 prints); 4 photographs.

f. Henry Charles Lea Library Addition, Furness Building

- 195.18 Henry Charles Lea Library and Reading Room, 27 architectural drawings (27 prints); 12 photographs (12 mirror prints, 3 reduced direct prints with some photographic reproduction methods).

2. Robert Rodes McGoodwin Renovations, Furness Building

- 195.19 Proposed Alterations to Furness Library Building, 11 architectural drawings (9 original, 2 prints), 3 photographs.
195.20 Proposed Additions, Horace Howard Furness Memorial, 15 architectural drawings (9 originals, 6 prints); 4 photographs.
195.21 Horace Howard Furness Memorial, 8 architectural drawings (2 originals, 6 prints).

3. Alterations after 1935

- 195.22 Alterations, 2 architectural drawings (1 original, 1 print).

4. Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown, Renovation and Restoration of the Furness Building as the Anne and Jerome Fisher Fine Arts Library

- 195.23 Furness Building Reading Room looking south, 1 photo-mechanical print
195.24 Furness Building Reading Room looking north, 1 hand colored photo-mechanical print

Series II. Clio Group Office File.

- 195.25 Historic Structure Report, Furness Building
- 195.26 Illustrations for Historic Structure Report, Furness Building, 37 photoprints.
- 195.27 Renovation and Restoration Brochure, Furness Building
- 195.28a Historic/Pre-Renovation Photograph Copies held by the University Archives, Furness Building, 47 photoprints.
- 195.28b Construction Photos during Renovations, Furness Building, 14 photoprints.
- 195.29 Post Renovation/on-site photographs [c.1980-90s onwards], Furness Building, 17 photoprints.
- 195.30 Existing conditions before construction, 95 photonegatives.
- 195.31 Conditions during construction and at the end of construction, 30 photonegatives.
- 195.32 Conditions after renovation/restoration, 6 photonegatives.
- 195.33 Negatives of photographs taken by George Thomas, 53 photonegatives.
- 195.34 Plans, Furness Building, Photoprints.

Series III. Jeannette Flamm Marketing & Fundraiser.

- 195.35 Colored Copies of Furness Building Photographs (21 photoprints; Venturi).
- 195.36 Publications, Furness Building.
- 195.37 Donor Materials and Correspondence.

Series IV. 3-Dimensional Items.

- 195.38 Door hinges reclaimed from 2015 interior renovation.

Appendix A: Project Index

Library of the University of Pennsylvania

University of Pennsylvania
220 S. 34th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

holdings dates: 1888-1963.

note/s: Built, 1889-1890, Furness, Evans & Co., architects. Subsequent alterations by Furness, Evans & Co.: Gallery in Reference Room (1903-1905), Duhring Memorial Stacks (1914-1915), proposed alterations (1918-ca.1920), Second Floor Addition, Penniman Library (1922-1923), and the Henry Charles Lea Library and Reading Room (1923). Includes 1963 lantern design by unknown designer.

holdings:

Library. 1888.

- [195.1] 10 architectural drawings (originals).
- [195.2] 5 architectural drawings (prints).
- [195.4] 1 architectural drawing (original, framed).
- [195.5] 1 architectural drawing (original).
- [195.6] 10 architectural drawings (prints).
- [195.7] 2 photoprints.

Gallery in Reference Reading Room. 1903-1905.

- [195.8] 6 architectural drawings (prints).

Duhring Memorial Stacks addition. 1914-1915

- [195.3] 18 architectural drawings (prints).
- [195.9] 9 architectural drawings (3 originals, 6 prints).
- [195.10] 60 architectural drawings (4 originals, 56 prints).
- [195.11] 17 architectural drawings (3 originals, 15 prints).
- [195.12] 30 architectural drawings (5 originals, 25 prints).
- [195.13] 49 architectural drawings (8 originals, 41 prints).
- [195.9] 21 photoprints.

Miscellaneous Alterations and Proposed Alterations to Furness Building. 1918-ca. 1920

- [195.14] 15 architectural drawings (6 originals, 7 prints).
- [195.15] 36 architectural drawings (3 originals, 33 prints).
- [195.14] 2 photoprints.
- [195.15] 3 photoprints.

Second Floor Addition, Penniman Library. 1922-1923

- [195.16] 10 architectural drawings (5 originals, 5 prints).
- [195.17] 21 architectural drawings (2 originals, 19 prints).
- [195.16] 4 photoprints.
- [195.17] 4 photoprints.

Henry Charles Lea Library and Reading Room. 1923.

- [195.18] 27 architectural drawings (prints).
- [195.18] 12 photoprints.

Lantern Design, 1963.

[195.22] 2 architectural drawings (1 original, 1 print).

University Library, alterations and additions

University of Pennsylvania

220 S. 34th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

holdings dates: 1930-1931.

note/s: Horace Howard Furness Memorial addition, built 1931, Robert Rodes McGoodwin, architect.

Includes drawings for McGoodwin's proposed extensive additions and alterations to the University Library building. The larger project was never executed.

holdings:

Horace Howard Furness Memorial Library. 1931

[195.20] 15 architectural drawings (9 originals, 6 prints).

[195.21] 8 architectural drawings (2 originals, 6 prints).

[195.20] 4 photoprints.

Proposed alterations. 1930-1931.

[195.19] 11 architectural drawings (9 originals, 2 prints).

[195.19] 3 photoprints.

Anne and Jerome Fisher Fine Arts Library, renovation/restoration

University of Pennsylvania

220 S. 34th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

holdings dates: 1986-1991.

note/s: Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown, architects. Clio Group, consultants. Includes 2 presentation renderings of the reading room by Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown, dated March 7th, 1986 and

January 1987. Both are photomechanical prints mounted on foam core board; one is hand colored.

The office file for the Clio Group's Historic Structure Report includes copies of historic photographs as well as photo-documentation of the building (before, during and after construction). Contains original photography by George E. Thomas.

holdings:

Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown. 1986-1987.

[195.23] 1 photomechanical print.

[195.24] 1 photomechanical print, hand-colored.

Clio Group, consultants. 1986-1991

[195.26] 37 photoprints.

[195.28a] 47 photoprints.

[195.28b] 14 photoprints.

[195.29] 17 photoprints.

[195.30] 95 photonegatives.

[195.31] 30 photonegatives.

[195.32] 6 photonegatives.

[195.33] 53 photonegatives.

[195.25] 1 file.

[195.27] 6 files.

Jeannette Flamm.

[195.34] 15 photoprints.

[195.35] 21 colored photoprints

[195.36] 4 files.

[195.37] 15 files.