

Learning Places Summer 2016

SITE REPORT #2

New York Public Library



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INTRODUCTION

On May of 1895 the New York Public Library became the second largest building in the United States. Joseph Cogswell, John Jacob Astor were responsible for the creation of the Public Library. In the 1870s the library was known as a research resource and major reference and later the Lenox Libraries were incorporated.

SITE DOCUMENTATION (photos/sketches/notes)



This was the Dorot Jewish Division; this room was dedicated to Jewish studies in the world. According to the New York Public Library; This division was responsible for administering, developing and promoting the world's

greatest collections of Hebraica and Judaica. After two years the New York Public library was built the jewish division was funded by Jacob Schiff in 1897. The Library's foundations on jewish collections on jewish subjects in Hebrew and other languages was provided in the Lenox and Astor Libraries.



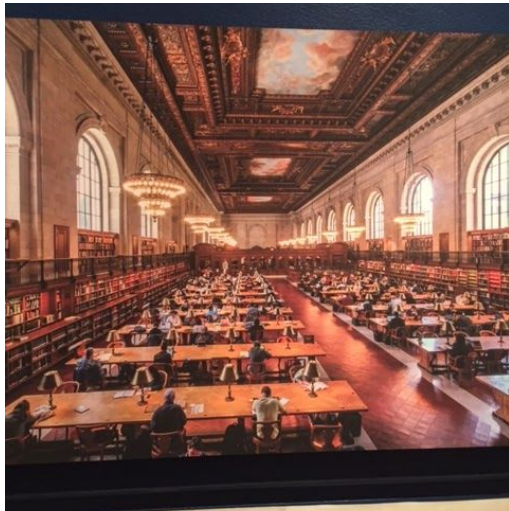
The Dwight Wallace Reading room serves current issues of popular periodicals and foreign and domestic newspapers. Dwight Wallace was the founder of the Reader's Digest Magazine and he had spent hours putting his magazine together in the periodical room. The periodical readings rooms in the library are important because the importance of the periodicals in the history of daily cultural and social life of New York are acknowledged on the wall murals that depicts publishers of newspapers, books and periodicals.



In the McGraw Rotunda it is a space where it is set beneath walnut pilasters over 17-feet high and the murals of Edward Laning murals. This photo is important because the McGraw Rotunda was designed to lift you up from the hustle and bustle of the city physically and intellectually. Edward Laning painted the ceiling and the murals around it. The WPA; depression era program that provided work for many American artists in the 1930s and 40's. The ceiling painting tells a mythical story and his wall painting tells a human story.



These large murals are what Edward Laning painted; it illustrates the history of the western world of the recorded word on a stone carving to manuscript to today's writing and printing. In addition, the Gutenberg printed bible was printed in 1455. It was the first substantial book. These images are important because it is the human story of history.



These images are important because these are important rooms where researchers conduct their research. The Pforzheimer collection and Bergs contains materials such as pamphlets, manuscripts, biographies, dictionaries and etc. The Pforzheimer collection contained about 400 manuscripts and had a wide range range of biographies, dictionaries, and etc. In addition, the collection had the writings of Shelly his first wife and Wollstonecraft his second wife. Because his second wife was a

pioneer of feminist thought; materials concerning women has always been an important component in that collection.

According to the Berg collection which contains 35,000 pamphlets, volumes and broadsides; in addition manuscripts and archives and a collection of prints and drawings and books that represented many authors. The Rose main reading room was an important photo because it was the heart of the library also known as the care of the people's palace. The reading room is currently closed due to restoration of the ceiling. The reading room had a message space as a football field and their painting's over head were 50ft. The ceiling murals were inspired by original paintings and gives the impression of looking up to the sky.

DISCOVERIES

My experience at New York Public Library is that it took nine years to build the second largest building in america. This building was inspired by the Beaux- Arts design and the two young and least experienced architects were John Marvin Care and Thomas Hastings. What i discovered entering the building is the welcoming space entirely made out of marble. I also discovered the design of the windows reminds me the way Grand Central

Terminal windows are designed. Also the Iconic symbols of the library are the lions in which sculptures and even designed on the ceiling next to the paintings. The lions symbolizes patience and fortitude. The library has adopted these figures as mascots and trademarked by the library which stands for its popularity.

KEYWORDS

Niche - A recess in a wall, often used to hold a statue or other ornament.

Capitals- of a column or pilaster, set on top of the shaft. Capitals act as a transition between the shaft and the element...

Cyma - Architectural moulding consisting of a double curve.

Pilasters- Shallow pier or rectangular column projecting from a wall. Pilasters are distinct from engaged columns: they are not structural.

Fluting - Decoration consisting of parallel concave channels (flutes).

References

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<http://www.oxfordartonline.com.citytech.ezproxy.cuny.edu:2048/subscriber/page/resources>

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