

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA



The University Archives
and Records Center

A Guide to the
Furness Building Restoration Project
Records, 1885 – 1991

2.5 Cubic ft.

UPG 30F988

Prepared by Theresa R. Snyder
1993

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PROVINANCE

Master plans and gala material transferred from Jeanette Flamm, University of Pennsylvania Library, 1992. Historical files, correspondence, minutes, photographic prints gift of George Thomas, 1993.

HISTORY

The University of Pennsylvania Trustees called for the building of a new library in 1888 and hired Frank Furness, Philadelphia's most important late nineteenth century architect, to design the building. Constructed of red bricks, sandstone, and terra cotta, the new library was dedicated on February 7, 1891. The end design was a functional one in which reading rooms, staff facilities, and book storage were located on the first floor with additional classroom and Museum space on upper floors. The reading room's height rose to sixty feet, with a glass covered stack area forming the second half of the building. The restoration project began with the establishment of the building as a National Landmark in 1985. The architectural firm of Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown, in association with restoration consultants CLIO Group, Inc.,

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and restoration architect Marianna Thomas, was selected to begin the restoration of the building. The restoration project concluded with a celebration gala in 1991.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The records for the restoration project include feasibility studies, proposals, plans, schedules, correspondence, meeting minutes, historical data and research files, and miscellaneous fundraising ephemera. The bulk of the collection is represented by historical research files as well as photographic prints of both interior and exterior details. The collection documents the successful efforts to restore an architectural treasure.

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INVENTORY

Box 1	FF 1	Feasibility Study, 1985
	FF 2	Studio Four Proposal, 1985
	FF 3	John Milner Associates Proposal, 1985
	FF 4	Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown Proposal, 1985
	FF 5	Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown Proposal Request from CLIO, 1985
	FF 6	CLIO Group Resume of selected projects, 1985
	FF 7	Restoration Team/ Project members, 1985
	FF 8	Project descriptions -- Public Relations statements/drafts
	FF 9	Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown -- Master plan, v.1, 1986
	FF 10	Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown -- Master plan, v.2, 1986
	FF 11	Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown -- Master plan, v.3, 1986
	FF 12	Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown -- Master plan, v.3, 1986 (draft)
	FF 13	Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown -- Master plan, v.4, 1988

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Box 1	FF 14	Venturi, Rauch, and Scott Brown -- Project Manual
	FF 15	Phase I -- outline
	FF 16	Stacks Structural Analysis
	FF 17	Schedules
	FF 18	Phase II -- Construction Document Schedules
	FF 19	Phase II -- Project handbook, 1988-1989
	FF 20	Phase II -- Pre-qualification lists, 1989
Box 2	FF 1	Building Analysis information
	FF 2	Construction
	FF 3	Cost estimates
	FF 4	CLIO Group Expenses 1985-1988
	FF 5	Correspondence, 1985
	FF 6	Correspondence, 1986
	FF 7	Correspondence, 1987
	FF 8	Correspondence, 1988
	FF 9	Correspondence, 1989
	FF 10	Correspondence, 1990-1991
	FF 11	Meeting Minutes (Phase IA), 1987-1988
	FF 12	Meeting Minutes (Phase IB), 1988

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Box 2	FF 13	Meeting Minutes (Miscellaneous), 1987-1988
	FF 14	Meeting Minutes (Phase II Start Up), 1989
	FF 15	University of Pennsylvania Building Name Directory
		Historical
	FF 16	Bibliography
	FF 17	University Trustee minutes index
	FF 18	University Trustee minutes, 1910-1965
	FF 19	Individual library histories
	FF 20	Comparable buildings
	FF 21	Floor plans, 1885-1916
	FF 22	Patent search
	FF 23	Subcontractors
	FF 24	Pre 1887
	FF 25	1887-1890
	FF 26	1891
	FF 27	1892-1894
	FF 28	1895-1899
	FF 29	1900
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		Historical (cont.)
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	FF 32	1921-1930
	FF 33	1931-1950
	FF 34	post 1950
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	FF 36	Restoration fundraising, 1990-1991
	FF 37	Restoration Gala -- program and place cards, 1991
	FF 38	National Preservation Honor Awards Application, 1991
		Reproductions
Box 3	FF 1	Shot lists
	FF 2	Elevation (photographic prints)
	FF 3	Interior details, domes and miscellaneous (photographic prints)
	FF 4	Interior details, Reading room (photographic prints)
	FF 5	Interior details, Architectural Archives (photographic prints)
	FF 6	Interior details, Stack areas (photographic prints)
	FF 7	Interior details, Stack areas (photographic prints)
	FF 8	Interior details, Stack areas (negatives and contact sheets)

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Reproductions (cont.)

Box 3	FF 9	Interior details, dumb waiter (photographic prints)
	FF 10	Interior details (negatives)
	FF 11	Interior details (contact sheets with shot lists)
	FF 12	Interior details (contact sheets)
	FF 13	Interior details, plaques (contact sheets)
	FF 14	Exterior (photographic prints)
	FF 15	Exterior details (photographic prints)
	FF 16	Exterior details, roof (photographic prints)
	FF 17	Exterior details, archway (photographic prints)
	FF 18	Exterior details, Duhring Wing (photographic prints)
	FF 19	Exterior details, Class of 1915 lamp (photographic prints and negatives)
	FF 20	Exterior details, Windows and doors (photographic prints)
	FF 21	Exterior details (negatives)
	FF 22	Furness Library Brochure (negatives)
	FF 23	Plans and miscellaneous (negatives)

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