Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 02 1979
DATE ENTERED NOV 27 1979

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
UNION LIBRARY COMPANY ~~OF HATBORO~~

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
243 South York Road — NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN — VICINITY OF — CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Hatboro — 8

STATE — CODE — COUNTY — CODE
Pennsylvania — 42 — Montgomery — 091

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	X MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	X EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Union Library Company

STREET & NUMBER
243 South York Street

CITY, TOWN — VICINITY OF — STATE
Hatboro — Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Montgomery County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Airy and Swede Street

CITY, TOWN — STATE
Norristown — Pennsylvania

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Pennsylvania Inventory of Historic Places

DATE — __FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL
5-8-78

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

CITY, TOWN — STATE
Harrisburg — Pennsylvania

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Union Library Company of Hatboro building is a two and ½ story rectangular structure measuring 48 feet by 68 feet with a colonnaded porch. Its gable roof has plain boxed corni ces and full pediments. The broad frieze is unadorned. The walls of the structure are stone covered with pebble-doshed stucco. The structure itself is 3 bays by 3 bays with a 2½ story rear wing with side porches. The collonade is made up of four Doric columns. The main door is centrally located in the gable end and is flanked by 2 window openings with commemorative plaques. Side windows are llongated nine over nine with panelled shutters.

The building as it stands today has had few alterations and/or additions since it was built in 1851. With the advent of indoor plumbing, a bathroom addition was made over the north porch. In 1974 the south porch was totally enclosed to provide additional stack space and a librarian's work room. At this same time, the entire first floor including the main library area was air-conditioned.

The front portion of the building is a fine example of the Greek Revival Period of architecture in America. The only change to its appearance is the addition of wrought iron railings for the entrance steps; such were installed in 1975.

The main roof truss' over the library area are interesting king pin pined truss'! The large area appears to have been originally heated by a large stove and later replaced by a warm air heating system.

The rear portion of the building appears to have been built at the same time as the front. This portion is a typical local farm house of the period, 2 over 2, with a center stair with winders to the 3rd floor.

With the exception of the frame enclosed porch, the balance of the walls are stone, smooth dashed on the exterior and plastered direct on the stone walls on the interior.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	X EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES *1755 1851*

BUILDER/ARCHITECT *Architect: Edwin Mitchell, John Sloan*
Builder: Joseph B. Yerkes

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Union Library Company of Hatboro building is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style in architecture and thought. The simple, temple-like form of the Greek Revival style was popular during the early 19th century as a symbol of purity, education and antiquity. What better format for an organization founded for the "promotion of Knowledge and Moral Virtue." The Union Library Company is one of the oldest such institutions of learning in Pennsylvania.

Hatboro in the 1750's was a farming village of fifteen homes on Old York Road on the stage coach route between Philadelphia and New York. The Union Library Compnay of Hatboro was founded on the equal shareholder plan of Benjamin Franklin. It is the third oldest library in Pennsylvania and the second oldest Pennsylvania Library operating under its original charter.

During the first thirty years the Union Library company books were moved 11 times, being housed at the Secretary of Company's home, and at a tavern on theOld York Road.

In 1844, Nathan Hold, the director of the company, left 3,000 dollars for the purchase of a one acre lot and the erection of a library building.

The committee of directors selected the Mechantile Library Building of Philadelphia as a model for their building.

The temple-like Mercantile Library, on 5th Street was built in 1845 and demolished in 1925.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ross, Ruth R. Union Library Company of Hatborough: An Account of the First Two Hundred Years., 1955.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY *1 Acre*

UTM REFERENCES

	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
A	18	490920	4447000
B			
C			
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Edwin Winner, Director

ORGANIZATION — DATE

Union Library Company

STREET & NUMBER — TELEPHONE

71 North York Raod

CITY OR TOWN — STATE

Willow Grove — *Pennsylvania*

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *Ed Weintraub*

TITLE *ED WEINTRAUB, Director State Historic Preservation Officer* — DATE *9/25/79*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol D Shull — DATE *11-27-79*

~~DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION~~ KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Lynn M. Beebe* — DATE *Nov. 29, 1979*

~~KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER~~

GPO 892-453

Book 11-419

Robt Radcliff Deed

To

The Union Library Company
of Hatboro

This Indenture made the twenty ninth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty nine Between Robert Radcliff of the Township of Moreland in the County of Montgomery and State of Pennsylvania Farmer and May his wife of the one part, And the Union Library Company of Hatboroughs" in Moreland Township aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth that the said Robert Radcliff and May his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Four hundred dollars Lawful money of the United States to them in hand well and truly paid by the said "Union Library Company of Hatboroughs" at and immediately before the sealing and delivery hereof the receipt and payment whereof they do hereby acknowledge and therefrom and therefrom acquit and forever discharge the said "Union Library Company of Hatboroughs and their assigns" by these presents Have granted bargained sold aliened enfeoffed released conveyed and confirmed and by these presents Do grant bargain sell alein enfeoff release convey and confirm unto the said "Union Library Company of Hatboroughs" and their assigns All that certain Lot or piece of Land Situate in the Village of Hatboroughs in the Township of Moreland aforesaid bounded

bounded and described as follows to wit, Beginning at a stake in the Old Cork (now State Road, thence extending by land of Jacob Fretz Esq South forty eight degrees and thirty minutes East twenty two perches and eight hundredths of a perch to a stake for a corner thence by other land of the said Robert Radcliff South forty degrees and thirty minutes west seven perches and twenty seven hundredths of a perch to a corner and by the same land North forty eight degrees and thirty minutes West twenty two perches and eight hundredths to a stake in the aforesaid Cork thence along the said road North forty four degrees and thirty minutes East seven perches and twenty seven hundredths of a perch to the place of beginning containing one acre of land more or less, It is part of certain premises which Edward K Radcliff and Mary S his wife by Indenture bearing date the first day of April A.D 1848 for the consideration therein mentioned granted and conveyed unto the said Robert Radcliff his heirs and assigns forever as in and by the said Indenture Recorded in the office for Recording of Deeds at Norristown in and for Montgomery County in Deed Book No 73 page 592 &c reference being thereunto had will more fully and at large appears, Together with all and singular the Buildings and Improvements ways woods waters water courses rights liberties privileges hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging or in anywise Appertaining And the reversions and Remainders rents issues and profits thereof And also all the estate right title Interest property claim and demand whatsoever of them the said Robert Radcliff and Mary his wife in law or equity or otherwise howsoever of in to or out of the same or any part thereof To have and to hold the said Lot or piece of One acre of land (more or less) hereditaments and premises hereby granted or mentioned or intended so to be with the appurtenances unto the said "Union Library Company of Hatboroughs" and their assigns To and for the only proper use benefit and behoof of the said "Union Library Company of Hatboroughs" and their assigns forever, and that free and clear and freely and clearly acquitted exonerated and discharged of and from all Mortgages debts Judgments and other Incumbrances whatsoever And the said Robert Radcliff, for himself his heirs executors and Administrators doth covenant promise grant and agree to and with the said "Union Library Company of Hatboroughs" and their assigns by these presents that he the said Robert Radcliff and his heirs the said above mentioned and described lot or piece of One Acre of land (more or less) hereditaments and premises hereby granted or mentioned or intended so to be with the appurtenances unto the said "Union Library Company of Hatboroughs" and their assigns against him the said Robert Radcliff and his heirs and against all and every other person and persons whomsoever Lawfully Claiming or to claim by from or under him them or any of them shall and will Warrant and forever defend by these presents In witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals Dated the day and year first above written

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us [illegible] Robert Radcliff [Seal]

Union Library Company of Hatboro
Montgomery County
Verbal Boundary Description
(copy of deed)

NOV 27 1979

OCT 02 1979

80003579

Property Union Library Company

State PA (Montgomery) Working Number 10-2-79 2294

TECHNICAL

Photos 1

Maps 1, 2

CONTROL

HISTORIAN

1851 Greek Revival building - library (the library company is 2d oldest in Penn.) - very little alteration.

accept for architecture

accept
Patrick Andrus
11.13.79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Intact example of Greek Revival Style — particularly good example of temple form. Despite small scale, the proportions achieve sense of monumentality and massiveness & suggestive of certain Doric prototypes

Accept
L. Beske
11/20/79

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
L. Beske
11/20/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered NOV 27 1979

Federal Register Entry 2-5-80 Re-submit _____

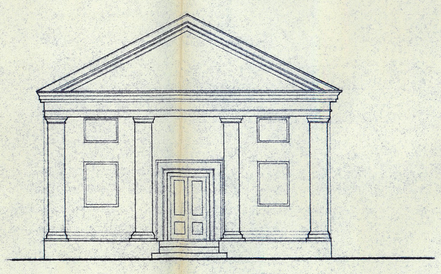
INT:2106-74

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service WASO No. 7

UNION
LIBRARY
HOURS
GEORGE W. EMERY
1830 — 1914
JAMES VANHORN
1832 — 1907

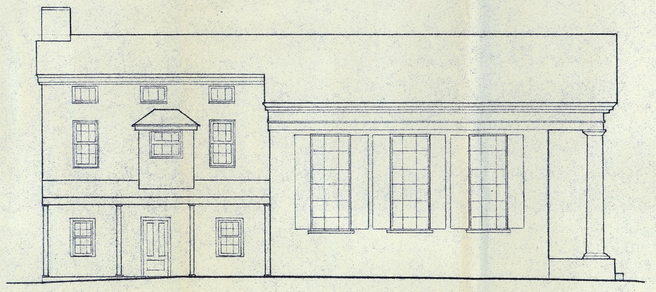
Union Library Company of Hatboro #1
Montgomery County
PD: 1979
PC: E.Winner
PV: front facade

NOV 27 1979
OCT 02 1979



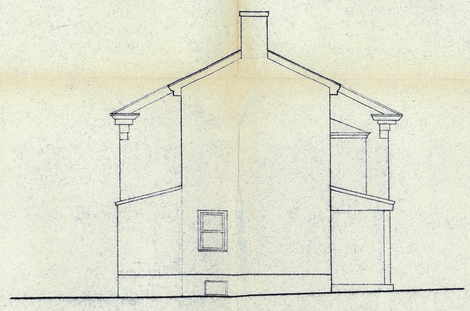
WEST ELEVATION

SCALE : 1/8" = 1'-0"



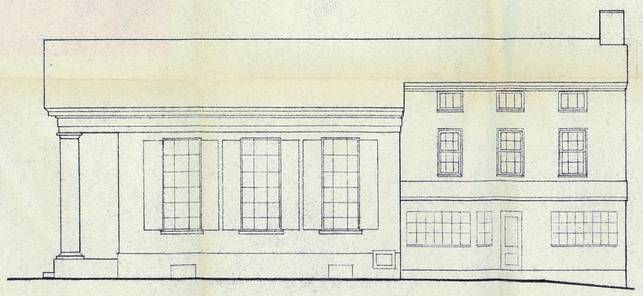
NORTH ELEVATION

SCALE : 1/8" = 1'-0"



EAST ELEVATION

SCALE : 1/8" = 1'-0"



SOUTH ELEVATION

SCALE : 1/8" = 1'-0"

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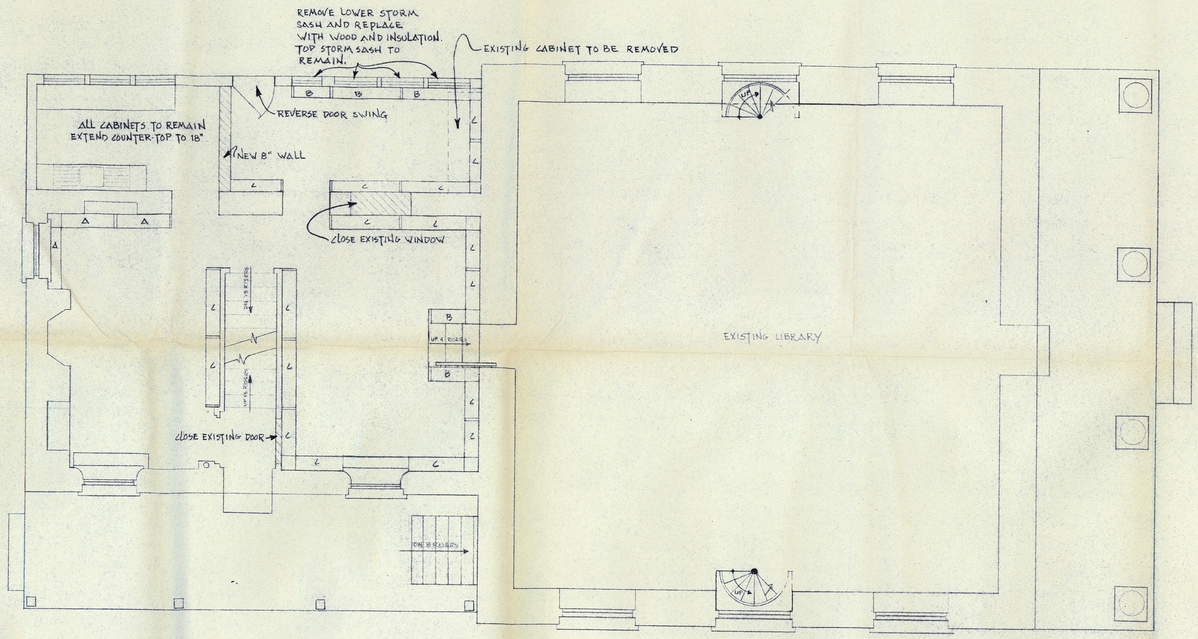
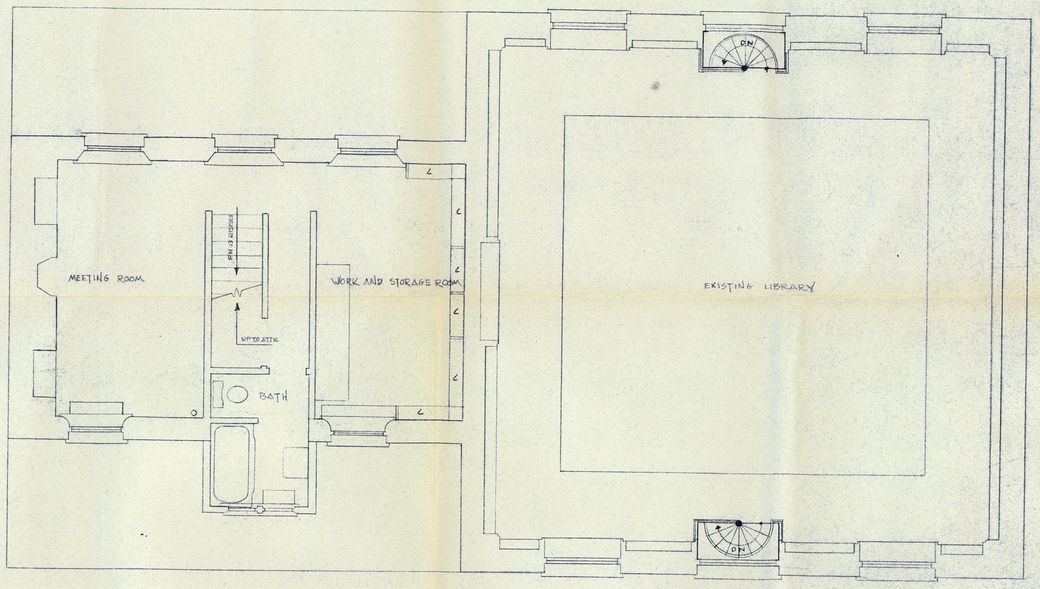
REDRAWN FROM PREVIOUS SURVEYS MADE BY THE ARCHITECT

REVISIONS	ELEVATIONS	DATE 11 JAN 77
	THE UNION LIBRARY OF HATBORO 243 SOUTH YORK ROAD, HATBORO, PA.	DWN. BY CHKD. BY COMPR.
	THE OFFICE OF JOS. LINDEN HEACOCK, JR., R.A. SUITE B2 GARNER HOUSE - HATBORO, PA.	DWG. NO. A-2

Union Library Company of Hatboro
Montgomery County
Drawn elevations
NOV 27 1979 OCT 02 1979

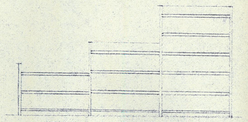


First Floor Plan
Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

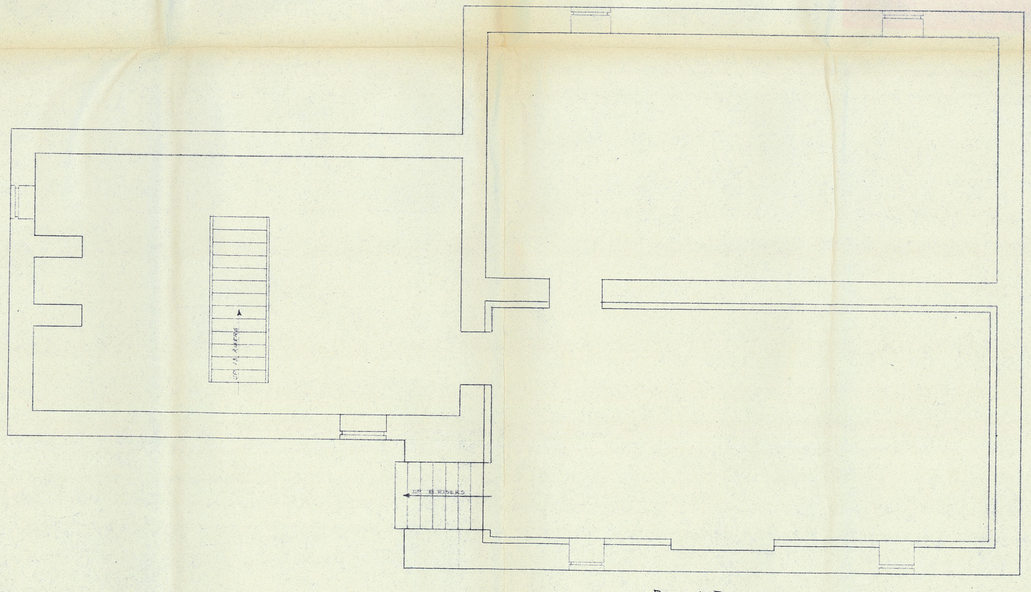


Second Floor Plan
Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

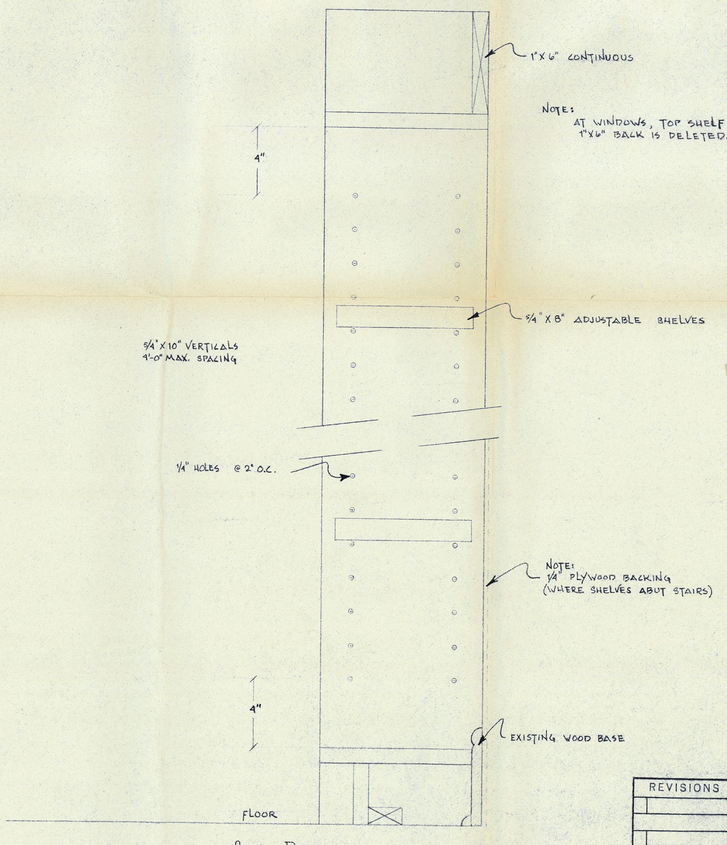
SHELF GUIDE:
A 2 SHELVES PER UNIT
B 4 SHELVES PER UNIT
C 6 SHELVES PER UNIT



HEIGHTS ARE FLOOR TO TOP SHELF



Basement Plan
Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"



Shelf Details
Scale: 3" = 1'-0"

RECEIVED
OCT 02 1979
NATIONAL REGISTER

REVISIONS	Plans, and Details	
	Union Library of Hatboro 243 So. York Road Hatboro, Penna.	DATE 8 MAR 1979 DWN. BY PMR CHKD. BY
	THE OFFICE OF JOS. LINDEN HEACOCK, JR., R.A. SUITE B2 GARNER HOUSE - HATBORO, PA.	COMM. 1339 DWG. NO. A-1

Union Library Company of Hatboro
Montgomery County
Floor Plans

NOV 27 1979

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

HATBORO QUADRANGLE
PENNSYLVANIA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Union Library Company of Hatboro
Montgomery County
Zone 18 E400920 N4447000

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
in cooperation with Pennsylvania Department of
Internal Affairs, Topographic and Geologic Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1950. Field checked 1952. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1966

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

SCALE 1:24 000

1 0 1 MILE
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 .5 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

MN GN
10° 178 MILS 0°02' 1 MIL
UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

PENNSYLVANIA
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty — Light-duty
Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route — U.S. Route — State Route

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1973. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

HATBORO, PA.
N4007.5—W7500/7.5
1966
PHOTOREVISED 1973
AMS 5964 II NE—SERIES V882

RECEIVED
OCT 02 1979
NATIONAL REGISTER

UNION LIBRARY COMPANY OF HATBORO
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

NOV 27 1979

PETER H. KOSTMAYER
8TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

DISTRICT OFFICES:
THE FRANKLIN BUILDING
DOYLESTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 18901
(215) 345-8543

ONE OXFORD VALLEY MALL
ROOM 613
LANGHORNE, PENNSYLVANIA 19047
(215) 757-8181

415 DAVISVILLE ROAD
WILLOW GROVE, PENNSYLVANIA 19090
(215) 782-1700

"OFFICE ON WHEELS"

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

November 9, 1979

Mr. Charles A. Herrington
Acting Keeper of the
National Register
Heritage Conservation &
Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
440 G St., N.W., Pension Building
Washington, D.C. 20243
Attn: NOM

Dear Mr. Herrington:

I am writing to express my strong support for inclusion of the Union Library Building in Hatboro, Pennsylvania on the National Registor of Historic Places.

The prospect of including on the Register one of the oldest library buildings in the United States is a significant one that speaks directly to the rich heritage of our region. The Union Library Company was one of the forerunners of the public library movement in America and certainly deserves national recognition.

After you review this application, I am confident that you will come to the conclusion that it complies with your criteria and is worthy of federal recognition.

Please keep me informed as to the progress of this application. Thank you.

Sincerely,

PETER H. KOSTMAYER
Member of Congress

PHK/sls

cc: Mr. Chris T. Delaporte
Director, Heritage Conservation
& Recreation Service

BoR Mail Control No. PON 7240

PLEASE DIRECT REPLY TO: ☐ WASHINGTON ■ DOYLESTOWN ☐ LANGHORNE ☐ WILLOW GROVE

Listed 11/27/79

Lightner 11-20-79
Beyer 11-20-79
Shull 11-20-79
Rogers 11/21

661

NOV 21 1979

Honorable Peter H. Kostmayer
Member, United States
House of Representatives
The Franklin Building
Doylestown, Pennsylvania 18901

Dear Mr. Kostmayer:

Thank you for your inquiry of November 9, 1979, concerning the nomination of the Union Library Company, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, to the National Register of Historic Places.

This nomination is currently being considered by the National Register staff, and the review has been expedited. We will notify you if the Union Library Company is entered in the National Register.

If we can be of further assistance to you, please let us know. We appreciate your interest in historic preservation.

Sincerely,

CHRIS T. DELAPORTE

Chris Therral Delaporte
Director

cc: Your Washington, D.C. Office

Mr. Ed Weintraub
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum
Commission
P.O. Box 1026
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

bcc: Director's Reading File
Acting Associate Director for Cultural Programs - Rogers
FHR-Lumpkin / FHR-CL / CL / POR - 7740

FHR:S Lightner:lw:343-6401:10-19-79

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN NR

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE PENNSYLVANIA

Date Entered NOV 27 1979

Name	Location
Union Library Company	Hatboro Montgomery County
Sprenger Brewery	Lancaster Lancaster County

Also Notified

Honorable H. John Heinz, III

Honorable Richard S. Schweiker
Honorable Peter H. Kostmayer
Honorable Robert S. Walker

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Ed Weintraub
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
P.O. Box 1026
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

NR Byers/bjr 12/3/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.