

16. HALLWAY

This hallway (and the parallel hallways on all floors) is home to two important spaces in the building: restrooms and the official “Areas of Refuge.” The latter are safe places to wait for emergency personnel if you are unable to exit the building during an emergency.

[Turn around and continue straight down the hallway, headed towards the front of the building. As the hallway ends, take a left into the Women in Ministry Room.]

17. WOMEN IN MINISTRY ROOM

The Women in Ministry Room honors women associated with PTS in varied capacities such as alumnae, faculty, administrators, trustees.

Eco Note: The small tables have marble inserts recycled from the walls of Speer library.

[As you exit, make a slight left and go in a straight line down the hallway. As you go through the hallway, pass several rooms that are passkey protected, not publicly accessible, including the Faculty Room and Ph.D. Suite. Also note the Multipurpose Rooms along this wall.]

18. MULTIPURPOSE ROOMS

These small group meeting rooms are available for public use on a first come basis.

[At the end of the hallway, turn right, walk past the stacks and carrels, and across the bridge to the North Wing of the library. Turn left as you leave the bridge and then immediately turn right. Straight ahead is the Center for Barth Studies.]

19. CENTER FOR BARTH STUDIES

The Center for Barth Studies sponsors conferences, research opportunities, discussion groups, and publications related to the works of theologian Karl Barth (1886-1968).

[As you exit the Center for Barth Studies, walk straight ahead and take the stairs (before you

reach the bridge) or the elevator (back toward the atrium) down to the 2nd floor. Continue straight ahead to the William H. Scheide Special Collections & Archives Suite]

20. SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Special Collections at Princeton Theological Seminary houses more than 75,000 printed works and over 5,175 linear feet of archival and manuscript material. Major collections include the Seminary archives, rare books and pamphlets, personal papers, records of organizations, research collections, and non-textual materials related to the history of the Presbyterian and Reformed traditions and ecumenical Christianity.

[As you leave Special Collections, make a slight left and walk straight ahead across the bridge over the atrium. The Alumni Room is in front of you past the desks.]

21. ALUMNI ROOM

The Alumni Room is, for most of the year, an open study space available to alums as well as the rest of the Seminary community. Occasional alumni events or other meetings may take place in this room throughout the year.

[Exiting the Alumni Room, turn right and walk ahead about 15 feet before turning right again into the South Gallery.]

22. SOUTH GALLERY

The South Gallery is the largest open public space in the building, offering a variety of desks and soft seating options, two small group meeting rooms, and a seminar room in the center that is used for classes. The South Gallery offers a spectacular view across Mercer Street to the Seminary campus and ample window seating, perfect for reading and reflection.

[Walk through the South Gallery heading to the end of the building. The room on the end of the South Gallery is the Korean Room.]

23. KOREAN ROOM

This room is available for open study and reading. There may be times throughout the year when events like readings may be scheduled here.

Historical note: The Presbyterians have a long history in mission to Korea, and the Presbyterian tradition in Korea is a very strong one. This room is dedicated to the longstanding relationship between our Seminary and Korean Christians.

[Walk through the Korean Room and straight down the hallway to your left. Pass by the microform collection and the equipment available for reading/printing microform, as well as more compact shelving holding Reigner material.]

24. REIGNER COLLECTION

The Christian Education Library, or Reigner Collection, holds materials for the practice and understanding of the educational ministry of the Church and is designed to provide a wide and current range of Christian formation resources.

[As you come to the end of the hall, turn left. As you enter the open gallery area, take the hallway to your right toward the North Wing elevator. Take the stairs (straight ahead) or the elevator to the 1st floor.]

[As you walk straight from the stairs toward the front of the building, to your right you will see journals arranged on display cases.]

25. PERIODICAL READING ROOM

Current issues of journal titles beginning with A-J are located on the periodical display shelves on the first floor of the North Wing. Accompanied by tables and soft seating, these journals are arranged by title for ease of browsing. (See also #11 in this guide)

[Cross the bridge over the Iain R. Torrance Atrium to return to the Concourse.]

Thank you for visiting the PTS Library! We hope to see you again soon!

Self-Guided Library Tour

Welcome to the Princeton Theological Seminary Library.

This self-guided tour will acquaint you with the major public spaces in the new building (approx. 130,933 sq. ft.)

For more information, please visit us online: <https://library.ptsem.edu>

This self-guided tour begins in the lobby, assuming you have just walked into the library.

[Immediately inside the front door in the lobby, turn right and walk into the café.]

1. BRICK CAFÉ

The Brick Café features fresh brewed coffee, lattes, iced coffee, frozen drinks, salads, sandwiches and other tasty items available for purchase, café style seating, and serves as an informal gathering spot for the PTS community, with nice windows looking out on Mercer Street.

Eco Note: The long table was fashioned out of trees felled from in front of the old Speer Library and the small tables are inlaid with marble from the walls of Speer Library.

[Walk out of café and straight ahead, noting the following features.]

2. SIGNAGE

Wall-mounted, digital signs feature campus events and scenes.

3. BOOK DROP

There is a slot on the outside of the building to the left of the entrance for returning books when the library is closed. When the library is open, please return materials at the Circulation Desk.

4. RESTROOMS

Down the hall and to the right are restrooms and water fountains.

5. MEETING ROOM and DANIEL J. THERON ASSEMBLY ROOM

The Meeting Room and Daniel J. Theron Assembly Room, like many of the public rooms in the Library, can be reserved by members of the PTS community through the Master Calendar. These rooms are for meetings, Continuing Education events, and other occasions.

Historical note: The Theron Room is named for Daniel J. Theron, who was born in the Orange Free State, Union of South Africa. He came to Princeton Seminary, where he earned his doctorate in New Testament and served as a Teaching Fellow, Instructor and Assistant Professor in New Testament from 1946 until 1958. Theron established several endowments for church purposes, including scholarships for black African theological students and church workers at four theological seminaries in the Republic of South Africa. He also donated the funds for this room in the new library.

[Walk back to the lobby, pass through the gates, noting the Circulation Desk on the right.]

6. CIRCULATION DESK

The Circulation Desk is a primary service point for Library assistance in the building. This is where patrons apply for cards, check out books, and make general inquiries.

Just beyond the Circulation Desk, note the COPY CENTER and NEW BOOKS display area.

[Walk through the Concourse, noting the following features as you pass them. Head across the Concourse toward the large green Reference sign.]

7. CONCOURSE

Display cases in the “drum” and along the far wall feature exhibits; columns support computer terminals for quick access to the library catalog and research databases. Low shelving features new books, atlases, newspapers, and ready reference materials.

8. REFERENCE

Reference Desk, Reference Librarian and Discovery & Web Services Librarian offices

[Walk through to glass doors to Reference Balcony.]

Note the reference tables and soft seating, offering great study spots.

[Take the Reference stairs down into the main body of the Reference Reading Room.]

9. REFERENCE READING ROOM

The main body of the Reference Reading Room is a major study space in the library. The shelving down here continues from the collection upstairs.

[Exit through the glass doors. Glance to the right and note the computer workstations. Glance straight ahead and note the vast compact shelving on this floor.]

10. COMPUTER WORKSTATIONS

Patrons with a PTS network ID can use the workstations on these desks, which feature both the Mac and PC operating systems. The 2nd and 3rd floor feature workstations in the same area. There are printers on every floor.

11. COMPACT SHELVING

The compact shelving on the **Lower Level** houses several important resources: **Circulating Collection C–Z**; **Reference 2 A–Z** (secondary reference collection); **Periodicals** (current issues of journals beginning with K-Z*, shelved by title; older, bound together issues of journals A-Z, shelved by call number); and **Folios** (all folios: reference, periodical, circulating).

*Current issues of journal titles beginning with A-J are located on the periodical display shelves on the first floor of the North Wing.

Why use compact shelving? The hand-crank compact shelving throughout the building makes maximum use of space, enabling the library to keep its entire collection on-site—a major benefit to researchers.

Check to make sure the rows are unoccupied before moving the shelves.

[Turn around and head toward the large Iain R. Torrance Atrium. Continue to walk through the Atrium in the direction of staircase.]

12. IAIN R. TORRANCE ATRIUM

The Seminary uses the Iain R. Torrance Atrium for a variety of events throughout the year. Sir Iain Torrance was Princeton Theological Seminary President from 2004-2012.

[Head toward the staircase but on the way peer into the glass windows on your left and notice the room that is located beneath the large atrium sign. This is the Theodore Sedgwick Wright Room. If you would like to see inside, entrance is via the hallway around the corner.]

13. THEODORE SEDGWICK WRIGHT ROOM

The Theodore Sedgwick Wright Room celebrates the life and ministry of Theodore Sedgwick Wright, African American abolitionist and first African American graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, Class of 1828.

Art note: Note the sculpture featured in the Iain R. Torrance Atrium. The title of the stainless steel, aluminum, neon and oil paint work is "Unending Love" and it was created by New York based Korean artist Hyong Nam Ahn. Its presence here was made possible through the generosity of Seminary Trustee Jinsoo Kim and Mrs. Kim.

[Take the elevator or the stairs up to the 3rd floor. As you exit the elevator on the third floor, turn to your immediate right.]

14. SEMINAR ROOMS/SMART CLASSROOMS

There are four seminar rooms/“smart” classrooms in the building, one on each floor in this area. These rooms feature document projectors, Smart Boards, and other tools, and are reserved through the Registrar.

[Turn back towards the elevator, note the iPad posted on the wall.]

15. WALL-MOUNTED iPADS

Throughout the building and amongst the stacks, you will note mounted iPads linked to the library’s catalog and other resources, allowing for quick browsing.

[Turn left and proceed down the hall, taking an immediate left.]

Updated March 2, 2020