

## Librarians V: Buildings



Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center  
The Newark Public Library  
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**Location:** Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Safe

**Size:** 19 boxes, 8 linear feet

**Processed:** William A. Peniston, Ph.D., 2015

**Formats:** Textual Materials, Architectural Drawings, etc...

**Subjects:** Newark Public Library – Administration; Libraries – Administration; Newark Public Library – Buildings; Libraries – Buildings; Newark Public Library – Architecture; Libraries -- Architecture

**Time Periods:** 19th Century; 20th Century; 21st Century

**Language:** English

**Access policy:** Open for research

### Restrictions on Access

#### Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions on this collection.

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#### Preferred Citation

Librarians V: Buildings, Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center, Newark Public Library.

### Scope and Content

#### Collection Description:

Fundamentally, libraries are institutions that develop collections and provide services. In order to store those collections and to accommodate the clients of those services, libraries are also physical places – buildings that required construction, renovation, and maintenance.

This collection of materials documents the activities that the Newark Public Library undertook to build, adapt, maintain, and otherwise take care of the physical places under its administration, including the Main Library on Washington Street and the various branches throughout the city.

**Collection Contents:**

The papers dealing the construction of the Main Library on Washington Street in the 1890s are included in the Frank P. Hill Papers (see separate finding aid for Librarians VI.a). The papers dealing with the Main Library since its opening in 1902 are included here. Its renovation (or ‘modernization’) in the late 1940s makes up a large part of these materials. Additional information on this renovation is also contained in the James E. “Ned” Bryan Papers (see separate finding aid for Librarians VI.e), who was in charge of it during his tenure as Assistant Director.

During the 1960s, many of the branches were “rehabilitated.” Records pertaining to these changes, such as roof and gutter repairs, installation of air conditioning systems, etc..., are included here. Additional information on the branch buildings can be found in the series, Librarians VII: Departmental Records, under the section on the Branches.

The final boxes contain building appraisals and other contracts.

**Container List:**

**Box**

1	Branch Brook – Contractor Payment Sheets – 1965-1966 Branch Brook – Lighting – Valenic Electric – 1966 Branch Brook – Wood Library Equipment – 1966 Branch Brook – Wood Library Tables and Chairs – 1966 NPL Branches – Asphalt Tile Flooring – 1953 NPL Branches – Modernization – 1974 [general information] Electrical (4 folders) General Construction (2 folders) Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HAVC) (6 folders)
2	NPL Branches – Modernization – 1974 (continued) Plumbing (4 folders) NPL Branches – Renovation – 1974 [general information] Contracts (4 folders) Adessa & Son Dennis & Co. Peterson Construction Salas Electric NPL Branches – Renovation – 1975 Business Library – Construction Costs – 1926-1927 Business Library and Van Buren Branch – Asphalt Tile Flooring – 1951 Business Library – Elevator Rehabilitation – 1963 Business Library – Contracts – 1965 (2 folders) (#1 & #2)
3	Business Library – Acoustical Ceilings – Bids – 1965 (#3) Business Library – Electrical Work – Bids – 1965 (#4) Business Library – Drawings (blueprints) – 1965 (#5) Clinton Branch – Construction, Original Contracts, Costs – ca.1920s Clinton – Roof and Gutters – 1957 Clinton – Electrical and Acoustical Work – 1960
4	Main Library – Roof – 1905, 1923 Main Library – Iron Work for New Walls – 1906

	<p>Main Library – Stone Work for New Walls – 1906  Main Library – Cubic Feet – ca.1930s  Main Library – Addition – 1922  Main Library – Addition – 1930  Main Library – Additions – Misc. Notes – ca.1930s  Main Library – WPA Proposed Addition – ca.1930s  Main Library – Replacement Tile Sewer – 1948  Main Library – Alterations – Specifications – 1950</p>
<b>5</b>	<p>Main Library – Modernization and Alterations – Successful Bids – 1950 (12 folders)  Folders #1-9</p>
<b>6</b>	<p>Main Library – Modernization and Alterations – Successful Bids – 1950 (12 folders)  Folders #10-12  Main Library – Modernization and Alterations – Unsuccessful Bids – 1950 (7 folders)  (#2 is missing)</p>
<b>7</b>	<p>Main Library – Furniture, Equipment, and Drapes – 1951  Main Library – Boiler – 1959  Main Library – Boiler – 1961  Main Library – Floor Tile – 1963  Main Library – Air Conditioning System – Bids Rejected – 1964  Main Library – Air Conditioning System – Contract – 1964  Main Library – Boiler – 1964  Main Library – New Condenser Water Cooling Tower – 1968-1969</p>
<b>8</b>	<p>Main Library – Air Conditioning – 1973 (3 folders)  Main Library – Air Conditioning – Sentry Security Corp. – 1973  Main Library – Elevator Modernization – Specifications – 1974 (2 copies)  Main Library – Elevator Modernization – 1974 (Burlington Elevators, Inc.)  Main Library – Elevator Modernization – 1974 (N. Yeager, Inc.)  Main Library – Floor Plans Proposed – ca.2000s</p>
<b>9</b>	<p>Maintenance Service Building – Blueprints – 1947  Maintenance Service Building – Correspondence and Contracts – Successful Bidders – 1948  Maintenance Service Building – 1948  General Construction Work (E.M. Waldron &amp; Co., Inc.)  Structural Steel and Miscellaneous Iron (Hudson Structural Iron Works, Inc.)  Elevator Work (Burwak Elevator Co.)  Plumbing Work (Max Cohen)  Electrical Work (Lighting Electric Service Co.)  Heating and Ventilating Work (Frank P. Farrell, Inc.)  Maintenance Service Building – Specifications – 1948</p>
<b>10</b>	<p>Maintenance Service Building – Bids and Correspondence – Unsuccessful – 1948  (6 folders)  Maintenance Service Building – Waterproofing – 1963</p>
<b>11</b>	<p>North End – Construction, Costs, etc... – ca.1920s &amp; 1930s  North End – Roof and Gutters – 1961  North End – Acoustical Work – 1962  North End – Electrical and Acoustical – Blueprints – 1962  North End and Van Buren – Electrical and Acoustical – Specifications – 1962  North End – Electrical Work – 1962  North End – Sidewalk Repairs – 1964  Roseville – Roof and Gutters – 1959  Roseville – Electrical and Acoustical – 1960</p>
<b>12</b>	<p>Roseville and Springfield – Rehabilitation – 1974  Roseville and Springfield – Rehabilitation – 1975 (2 folders)  Roseville – Rehabilitation – 1976</p>

	<p>Springfield – Construction and Furnishing – 1923                  Springfield – Alterations and Repairs – 1956                  Springfield – Boiler Conversion – 1956                  Springfield – Roofing, etc... – 1957                  Springfield – Floor Covering – 1958                  Springfield – Specifications – 1988</p>
<b>13</b>	<p>Vailsburg – 1958-1962                  Vailsburg and Weequahic – Electrical and Acoustical – 1962 (2 folders)                  Vailsburg – Electrical and Acoustical – Blueprints – 1962                  Van Buren – Waterproofing, etc... – 1961-1963                  Van Buren – Electrical and Acoustical – 1962</p>
<b>14 (half-box):</b>	<p>Waverly Avenue – 1975                  Weequahic – Proposed Addition – Budget Estimate – 1956                  Weequahic – Flooring – 1961                  Weequahic – Electrical and Acoustical – Blueprints – 1962                  Weequahic – Steel Book Shelving – 1964</p>
<b>15 (legal-size):</b>	<p>Branch Brook – Drawings and Specifications – 1965                  Branch Brook – Specifications – 1965                  Branch Brook – Specifications – Correspondence, etc... – 1965                  Branch Brook – 1966 (3 folders)                  Branch Brook – Electrical – 1966</p>
<b>16 (legal-size):</b>	<p>Branch Brook – General Construction – 1966                  Branch Brook – Heating and Ventilating – 1966                  Branch Brook – Plumbing – 1966                  Branch Brook – Structural Steel – 1966                  Clinton – Blueprints – 1960                  Main Building – Painting Specifications – no date                  Main Building – Painting – Pfiel Brothers – 1906                  Main Building – Painting – Pfiel Brothers – Correspondence – 1906                  Main Building – Specifications for mason, iron, stone, etc.. – 1906                  Main Building – Filling, grading, seeding – A. H. Clark’s Sons – 1906                  Main Building – Painting – Alonzo E. Brower – 1907                  Main Building – Otis Elevator Co. – 1912                  Main Building – Painting – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Museum – H. King Conklin – 1919                  Main Building – Roof heating – 1975</p>
<b>17 (legal-size):</b>	<p>NPL – Pre-fabricated Library Bids – 1974                  NPL – Window Cleaning Contract – 1967-1975 (9 folders)                  North End – Schurman Construction – Agreement – 1929                  Vailsburg – 1959-1960</p>
<b>18 (legal-size):</b>	<p>Legal contracts, leases, etc..., 1904-1920</p> <p>L1904-05-L1917-20: Leases (12 contacts)                  L1907: Liverpool, London, Globe – Lease of Building on Broad Street (#800, 802, 804)                  L1907: Phillip W. Peaty – Lease of 422 Lafayette Street                  L1913: Evening News Publishing Co. – Lease – Branch at Beaver Street and Essex Court                  L1914: Alfred Lacmann – Lease of 198 Ferry Street                  L1914-15: Travelers Insurance Co.                  L1914-15: Travelers Insurance Co.                  L1915-16: Travelers Insurance Co.                  L1915-16: Travelers Insurance Co.                  L1916-17: Travelers Insurance Co.                  L1916-17: Travelers Insurance Co.                  L1917-18: Travelers Insurance Co.                  L1918-19: Travelers Insurance Co.</p>

	L1918-19: Travelers Insurance Co. L1919-20: Travelers Insurance Co.
<b>19 (letter-size):</b>	Building Appraisals Building examination, 1981 (1 of 2) Building examination, 1981 (2 of 2) Building re-examination, 1982 Buildings – Appraisals – 1990 (3 copies)
	Oversize folders: Roseville – Electrical and Acoustical – Blueprints – 1960 Weequahic – Blueprints – 1956