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# 19th-century academic library buildings

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*A checklist and request for an update.*

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As far as this writer has been able to determine, no inventory has ever been compiled of academic library buildings constructed in the United States in the nineteenth century. Some data on the period 1870–1900 were gathered as part of the ALA survey in 1926, “with the hope of obtaining information, some of which might be interesting historically, as illustrating tendencies prevailing at different periods.”<sup>1</sup> Regrettably, however, the buildings reported were not identified but rather only grouped by decade and state and reported as follows:

#### 1871–1880

New York, 1  
Pennsylvania, 1  
Virginia, 1

#### 1881–1890

Indiana, 1  
Kansas, 1  
Michigan, 1  
New Hampshire, 1  
New York, 1  
Pennsylvania, 1  
Vermont, 1

#### 1891–1900

Colorado, 1  
Illinois, 3  
Kentucky, 1  
Minnesota, 1  
New York, 2  
Ohio, 3  
Pennsylvania, 1  
Vermont, 1

As the balance of this brief note will indicate, the numbers reported in that volume were very incomplete.

For purposes of preparing a monograph on the evolution of the American academic library building, as complete a list as possible is now needed of such buildings constructed in the nation before the turn of the century. The preliminary checklist below enumerates all that have thus far been identified. Readers are invited to report others that are known to them. Only free-standing buildings erected with the intention that they would be used solely or primarily for library purposes will be included on the final list. The years given indicate when buildings were actually opened for public use.

#### 19th-century American academic library buildings

1840 University of South Carolina  
1841 Harvard University

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<sup>1</sup>American Library Association, *Survey of Libraries in the United States* (Chicago: American Library Association, 1927), vol. 4, pp.186–87.



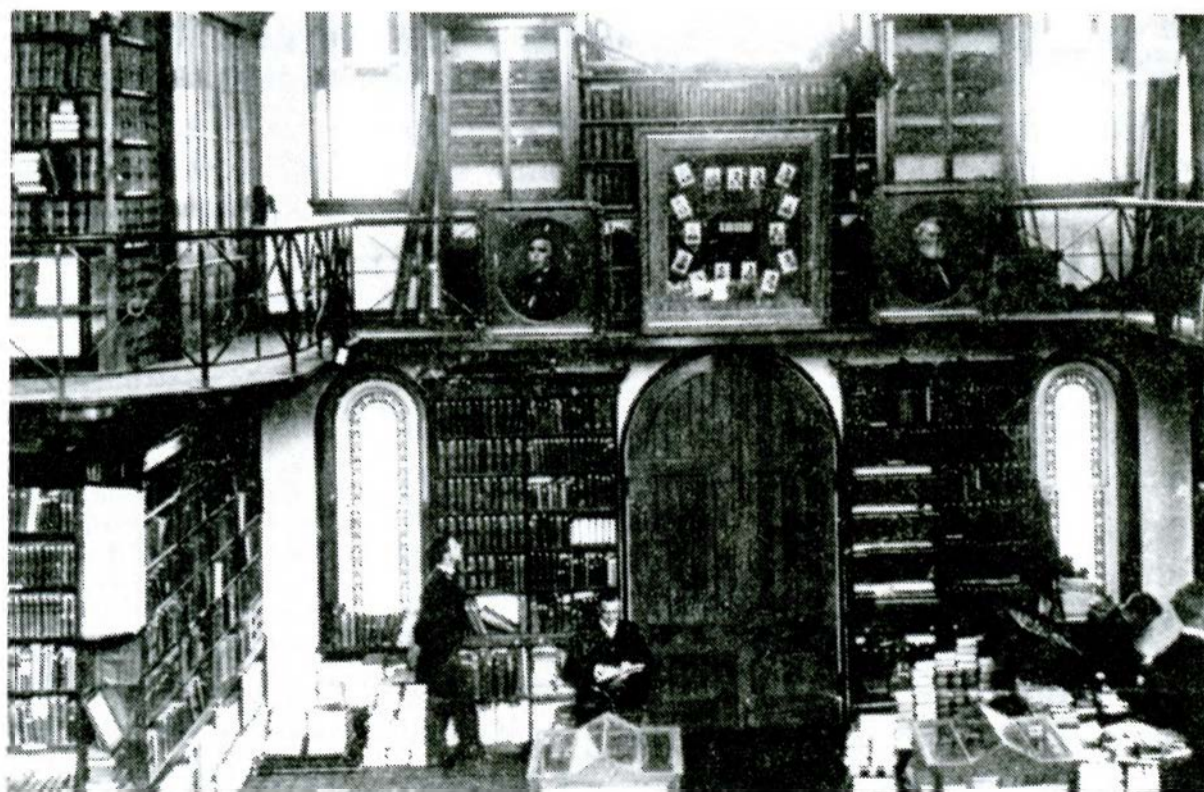
*Left: College of Charleston Library, Charleston, S.C., 1856.*

*Right: Centre College Library, Danville, Ky., 1862.*

*Below: St. Stephens College Library (now Bard College), Annadale-on-Hudson, N.Y., 1893.*



*Right: Denison University Library, Granville, Ohio, 1878.*



1846 Yale University  
1847 Williams College  
1851 University of North Carolina  
1853 Amherst College  
1856 College of Charleston  
1856 St. Louis University  
1856 Ohio Wesleyan University  
1862 Centre College  
1868 Wesleyan University  
1870 Marietta College  
1870 Mount Holyoke College  
1871 St. Lawrence University  
1872 Hamilton College  
1873 Princeton University  
1876 Lehigh University  
1876 University of Rochester  
1878 Denison University  
1878 Brown University  
1879 Roanoke College  
1881 University of California  
1882 Washington & Lee  
1883 Centre College  
1883 University of Michigan  
1885 Oberlin College  
1885 Dartmouth University  
1886 Dickinson College  
1886 University of Vermont  
1887 Grinnell College  
1887 Kenyon College  
1888 Drew University  
1889 Syracuse University  
1890 Indiana University

1890 Olivet College  
1890 Colgate University  
1890 University of Pennsylvania  
1890 Peru State College  
1891 Cornell University  
1891 Wabash College  
1892 Wittenberg College  
1893 Baldwin-Wallace College  
1893 Ohio State University  
1893 Bard College (St. Stephens)  
1894 Colorado College  
1894 University of Kansas  
1894 Northwestern University  
1894 Doane College  
1895 Indiana State University  
1895 University of Nebraska  
1896 Western Reserve University  
1896 Carleton College  
1897 University of Illinois  
1897 Columbia University  
1897 University of Northern Iowa  
1898 Ohio Wesleyan University  
1898 Franklin & Marshall College  
1898 Lincoln University (Pa.)  
1898 Emory University  
1898 University of Virginia  
1899 New York University

Additions to this checklist, information as to whether or not buildings are still standing, pictures, and other comments will be welcomed by the author at the School of Library & Information Science, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405. ■■

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## ACRL courses at Northern Illinois University

ACRL, in conjunction with Northern Illinois University's Department of Library and Information Studies and the College of Continuing Education, will cosponsor two one-day courses: "Your Paper: Its Preparation and Presentation," and "Writing the Journal Article and Getting It Published," October 5-6, 1987, 9:00-5:00 p.m. Both courses will be offered in the Burill Room, St. James Episcopal Cathedral, 65 E. Huron St., Chicago. The fee is \$75 for one day or \$125 for both days.

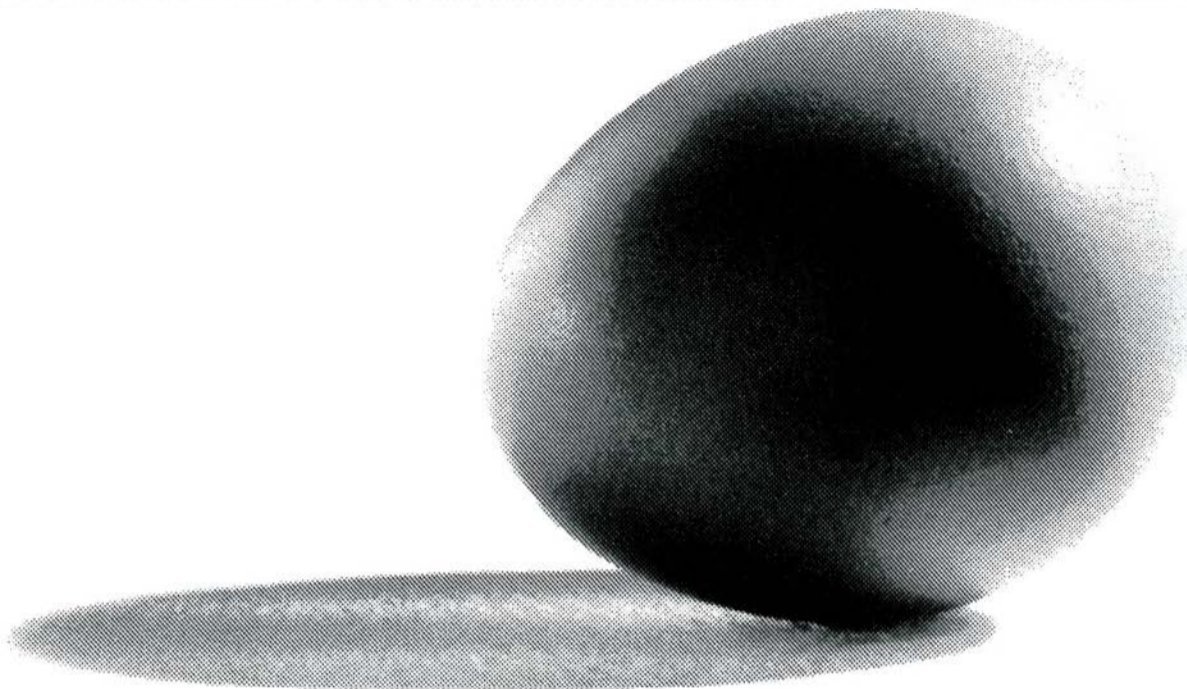
The October 5 course, "Your Paper: Its Preparation and Presentation," will be conducted by Suzanne Dodson of the University of British Columbia. Top-notch presenters are developed, not born. Do you want to learn new writing and presentation skills or improve those you already have? Gain confidence and increase your ability to reach an audience and hold their attention by writing clear, concise, well-organized material. Effective presentation enhances the content of a paper.

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The October 6 course, "Writing the Journal Article and Getting It Published," will be presented by Richard D. Johnson, director of libraries at the State University College, Oneonta, New York. Do you want to publish but don't know how to get started? Find out what editors look for, how to choose a subject, whether you can write a research article if you're not hot on statistics, what you can expect from an editor, whether you can send a paper you presented to a journal, and how to become a book reviewer.

To register by phone, call (815) 753-0277; for additional information, contact Linda S. Johnson, College of Continuing Education, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115-2860; or call (815) 753-1454. ■■

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