



# FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

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## WHAT WILL THE FISKE LIBRARY BE LIKE IN 2013?

On August 14, 2008, President Gary Zimmerman led the Board in a goal-setting exercise to envision what the Fiske Library will be like five years from now. Board Members Carolyn Blount, Dave Brazier, Lou Daly, Karl Kumm, Ann Owens, and Mary Peters were asked to write an application letter for the National Genealogical Society's "Distinguished Family History Library Award to be awarded in January 2014. They were to envision the accomplishments Fiske Library had made in eight important areas.

After each person wrote a list of ideas, the Board brainstormed and then prioritized items in each area.

Following are the envisioned accomplishments (goals in 2008) for each of the eight areas:

### In the Community:

We are nationally recognized

We are a primary regional genealogical resource

We have a program to help people have long-distance access to the Fiske Collection

### In Personnel:

We have 50- 80 active volunteers

Our volunteers are well-trained and cross-trained.

Our volunteers immediately begin training their replacements.

### In Library Operations:

All of our holdings are in OCLC.

Our unique holdings are digitized.

We reach out to special societies for cooperative use of the Fiske Library.

### In Educational Services:

All syllabi are on line.

We have a "Help Directory" whereby a genealogist writes to a blind email and is answered by a Fiske volunteer who has expertise in that area.

The Fiske Lecture series is widely advertised.

We have good media publicity for Wednesday seminars.

### In Publications:

The Arthur Fiske Index is on-line and published.

A Fiske pamphlet is sent to all west coast libraries.

We are a definitive place for northwest genealogy.

### In Technology:

Several persons are knowledgeable about our technology and contacts are available.

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An index is available to all genealogies in the Fiske collection.

We maintain current paid subscriptions to key Gen-Web services.

**In Physical Facilities**

We have expanded our use of the building with cooperation of all organizations in the building.

We work with the Pioneer Association for use of the first floor and remodel of the back room.

There is adequate storage for all donations.

We have a meeting space for 80 participants.

**In Financial Aspects**

We have substantially increased our endowments.

We have researched the possibility of writing grants for meeting goals in certain areas such as digitization or facilities.

There is an accounting system in place.

We have institutional subscriptions for support of regional libraries.

The Board realizes that these 2008 goals are ambitious, but feels that, with the help of friends, patrons and volunteers in the Fiske community, the goals are attainable. The legacy of Arthur Fiske deserves no less.

“frequently asked questions” page are available. At the Fiske Board Planning Retreat, the Board also decided that the Fiske Genealogy Foundation should have a new logo to be used on letterhead stationery, the newsletter, and our web page. The new logo will also be used for new bookplates to recognize the donors of books to the library.

We are asking Library patrons and friends of Library patrons to help design this new logo representing our value and contribution to genealogists and genealogy research. (See page 10 “Announcements”)

**USCIS Genealogy Program  
Provides Access to Immigration and  
Naturalization Records**

The US Citizenship and Immigration Services have begun a new fee-for-service program to assist family history researchers in gaining access to immigration and naturalization records. It begins with a \$20.00 “index search” that generates a list or record citations on the documents found relative to the biographical information submitted with that initial request. If you wish to request copies of valid record citations, a second fee of \$20 to \$35 is required (depending on the record type).

The records that are available include:

- Naturalization Certificate files (C-Files) 1906—1956
- Alien Registration Forms 1940—1944
- Visa files 1924—1944
- Registry files 1929—1944
- Alien Files (A-Files) numbered below 8 million (A8000000) and documents therein dated prior to 01 May 1951

You can explore the new site at <http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy> and the connecting pages. Details about costs, submitting requests, and an extensive

**FISKE BOARD  
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## Washington State Digital Archives Greatly Enhanced

The recent upgrade of the Digital Archives website managed by the Washington State Archives and Washington Secretary of State has expanded the information available to family historians with ties to the Evergreen State. Start with the home page at <http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov>. The lower section of the page will inform you of the most recent additions to the databases that can be searched. In mid August, there were over 61 million records in “searchable” mode and another 12 million have been digitized and are being prepared for searching.

You can search all record series for people, keywords, or in a detailed search mode. I usually use the detailed search option. Pick the appropriate record series of interest to you. If you select “marriage records” a new search form comes up. You can select a specific county, where the marriage took place (not necessarily where the participants had their formal addresses at the time), or you can search all counties that have been entered into this database. As of this time, there are records from 31 of the 39 counties in Washington state. Be sure to click on the link to the right of the title that says “what does this include?”

You now have a list of each county for which records are searchable. The documents used to construct this database include marriage license records, marriage return records, and marriage certificates. (Originally, a marriage return was to be returned to the court in the county where the wedding was performed within three months of the wedding ceremony. By the 1920’s, the time for return was reduced to just a few days. It was usually the obligation of the presiding minister to submit the return or a copy of the marriage certificate to the court or registering office.) Marriage licenses might be issued in one county, but the marriage service might be in another county – so the return goes to the county where the marriage actually took place. For example, the Fiske-Maxwell wedding in 1914 has a Snohomish County marriage license that was used for a wedding in Island County and the return is recorded in Island County.

The statewide database is very convenient when researching a happy couple that goes to another county for their wedding! The Goulette – Benedict wedding in the spring of 1926 was performed in Bellingham, but each participant had been a Seattle resident at the time of their application for a license.

The State Archives are constructing this database in Cheney with staff from the Eastern Washington Regional Branch of the State Archives and with volunteers from local genealogical societies and university student bodies.

The last issue of the Fiske Newsletter explored the Washington State Death Index searches on the pilot website at [www.pilot.familysearch.org](http://www.pilot.familysearch.org) and a related search possible at [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) and noted how the results were complementary to each other. Now try the Washington State Death records in the digital archives – and enjoy a different experience. The variety of sources of death information is much larger here. You are searching the 1860, 1870, and 1880 mortality schedules for Washington from the US Federal Censuses for those years, county death returns, county death registers that have been digitized, cemetery records where available, as well as the Social Security Death Index. Names from the Washington Department of Labor & Industries file of fatal accident cards from 1915-1928 also are included. Some records are available only as textual summaries of the records, but when digital copies are on line you can download a crisp, clear image that is easy to read.

While the birth records database tends to include only records up to 1907 when state registration of births was required, there are some records after that date from late registrations of births. For those counties that are currently available, the images are very clear and contain useful genealogical information – especially when requiring the mother’s maiden name.

By Gary Zimmerman

## FISKE LIBRARY—RECENT ACQUISITIONS THROUGH AUGUST 2008

The following materials have been processed since the previous newsletter and are available for research (except for items marked with an \* which are being rebound or repaired before being placed on the shelf or are still undergoing original cataloging. Ask a volunteer for the status of these items.) Materials appear on these lists as they are added to the WorldCat catalog.

### NEW ENGLAND

- Customs and fashions in Old New England
- Great Migration Newsletter (Jan 2002-Dec 2006 complete)
- History of Reading, Windsor county (VT) Vol II only
- Illustrated history of Kennebec County 1625-1799-1892 (ME) Vol I only
- Mayflower Quarterly (19 issues Jun 2003 to - Jun 2007)
- \*New Hampshire Genealogical Record (1905-1909 in facsimile copy)
- Publishments, marriages, births and deaths – early records Gorham ME
- Rhode Island Genealogical Register Vols 10-19 (1987-1995)
- \*Westport, Connecticut: the making of a Yankee township
- \*History of Gardiner, Pittston and West Gardiner (ME)
- \*History of Marshfield (VT)

### MIDDLE ATLANTIC

- Early Settlers of New York State (9 vols in 2)
- Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Frederick County (MD) parish registers 1767-1889
- History of Schoharie County 1713-1882 (NY) 2 vols
- History of First Presbyterian Church in Germantown (PA)



- \*History of Tioga County (PA)
- History of Union County (NJ) 2 vols
- Index to obituaries in Pottsville Republican for the year 1991 (PA)
- Twentieth Century History of Erie County (PA)
- Washington County (PA) Fallowfield Twp map of original patents and dates of issue
  - Washington County (PA) Somerset Twp map of original patents and dates of issue

### SOUTH

- Amite County 1699-1865 (MS)
- Data on Some Virginia Families
- Davidson County (TN) deed book H 1809-1821
- Diary of Court House Square, Warrenton Warrenton (VA)
- Early Quaker records in Virginia
  - Edgefield District (SC) 1817 map (in map drawers)
  - North Carolina -1781: history of the invasion by the British army under Lord Cornwallis
  - \*Records of the Virginia Company of London 1607-1622 Volume III
  - Shenandoah County – a study of the 1860 census (VA) Vol 4
- Tennessee Family Histories and Genealogies: a bibliography
  - TN Genealogical Records and Abstracts, Vol 1: 1787-1829
  - Virginia Carolorum: the colony under the rule of Charles I and II 1625-1685, based upon manuscripts and documents of the period
  - White servitude in the colony of Virginia

(Continued on page 5)

## FISKE LIBRARY—RECENT ACQUISITIONS

(Continued from page 4)

### MIDWEST

- 1890 Tax List Randolph County (IL)
- Centennial History of Akron (OH)
- Clermont County (OH) marriages 1850-1874
- \*Family Maps of Johnson County (IN)
- Family Maps of Morgan County (IL)
- Farmland to Freeways: history of Waukesha County (WI)
- History of Laclede, Camden, Dallas, Webster, Wright, Texas, Pulaski, Phelps and Dent Counties (MO) (Goodspeed)
- History of Page County (IA)
- Indiana 1870 Federal Census – Orange Co.nty
- Missouri genealogical gleanings 1840 and beyond
- Randolph County births 1792-1879 (IL)

### CALIFORNIA

- Look at the Little Hills: Early Petaluma
- Gold Rush Country: California's Mother Lode and northern mines
- Heritage Homes of Petaluma
- History of Petaluma: a California river town
- Pacific: yesterday and the day before that
- Portuguese Immigrants (centennial of Portuguese Union of CA)
- Stockton: sunrise port on the San Joaquin

### CANADA

- Contributions to the history of the Eastern Townships (Quebec)
- Exploring Family History in Saskatchewan

- The Cariboo Gold Rush Story (British Columbia)
- The Immigrant years: from Europe and Britain to Canada 1945-1967

### EUROPE

- Guide to Gower (Wales)
- History of Maidenhead (ENG)
- America's Britain 1776-1976 (ENG)
- Genealogists Guide to the Essex Record Office (ENG)
- History of Wales
- Ireland – householders' index and Griffith's evaluation
- Lower Swansea Valley – legacy and future (ENG)
  - \*Parish Church of St Mary and St Gabriel – Harting (ENG)
- Ripples on the Pond (Lincolnshire ENG)
- Sussex (ENG)
- The Book of Irish Families (IRE)
- The Cotswolds (ENG)
- The Lives and Times of our English Ancestors vol II
- The Medieval Estate of the Cathedral Priory of Ely (ENG)
- GENEALOGIES AND FAMILY HISTORY
- Descendants of Robert Greene of Wales (MA)
  - \*Bouck of Schoharie and Ontario (also Mattice family)
  - Butler family of northwestern New Jersey
  - \*Descendants of Capt Samuel Church of Churchville
  - Descendants of the first John Folsom
  - \*Descendants of Gershom Flagg of Lancaster (MA)
  - \*Finnell family records 1629-2004



## FISKE LIBRARY—RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- McFarland Family in Early Kentucky and since
- Robert Seely(e)-Seeley of Connecticut (books 1 and 2 of 4)
- Samuel Newell of the Shenandoah Valley and his descendants
- Surname card file for Linebaugh family (working manuscript notes)
- The Eugley Genealogy (Bavaria and Maine) 1752-1992
- The Wards and the Knapps: a fragment of history
- Thomas Jones, Fort Neck, Long Island 1695 and his descendants

### REFERENCE

- Azores Islands: a history (Africa)
- Black Sheep & Kissing Cousins: how our family stories shape us
- Family History: a legacy for your grandchildren
- Genealogical Societies and Historical societies with genealogical interests
- Genealogists' Virtual Library: full text books on the WWW
- Short articles on Primitive Baptist Faith and Practice
- \*The Primitive Preacher and selected articles by Elder G M Thompson
- The Story of America (National Geographic Society 1984)

### BOOK DONORS

Our special thanks to the following people who have donated books or archival material since the last newsletter. If the donation represents a duplicate to our collection, the better copy is retained for Fiske use and the other is placed in the surplus listing on line.

Kathy Abendroff  
 Helen Barton  
 Carolyn Blount  
 Lou Daly  
 Mildred Eaton  
 Family History Library  
 Friends of the Fiske Foundation  
 Ray T Hanson  
 Bill Horder  
 Karl Kumm  
 Lisa Marker  
 Arlene Marks  
 Stephanie Miller  
 Janice Pankratz  
 Mary Peters  
 Alvy Ray Smith  
 Carlidine Van Allen



The books on this list have the red-and-white August New Book Tag at the top of their spine.

New

Look for  
 this Book Tag  
 on the  
 Fiske Library Shelves!

## DICTIONARY OF THE SCOTS LANGUAGE

If you are looking at Scottish documents there is a good chance you will encounter a word that will be new to you. There is an on-line resource that will help you understand the meaning of the word and give examples of how it has been used in various contexts. The Dictionary of the Scots Language is found at <http://www.dsl.ac.uk>.

This website has electronic editions of two separate dictionary projects: the Dictionary of the Older Scottish Tongue (DOST) covers words in use from the 12th to the end of the 17th Century, while the Scottish National Dictionary (SND) defines words in use from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century to the present.

The dictionary is accompanied by two maps that show the areas of Scotland and northern England where different variations of Scottish usage are found. Be sure to look at the maps in the DjVu format, because you can control the magnification and legibility of the text within the maps. (The plug-in is not too large and easy to install and use.)

The SND Introduction gives a good description of the Scottish language and dialects in the areas of the Scottish lowlands, the Orkney and Shetland islands, and the parts of Ulster where Scottish settlers immigrated after 1606.

The website also includes a History of Scots to 1700, which explains how the Scots language developed and the difficulties in following how usage spread to different areas.

By Gary Zimmerman

## DEATH RECORDS ONLINE

Digitization of death records is progressing rapidly in jurisdictions across the United States. In addition to the work of Washington and Texas, there are a number of other states that are making their records widely available in free access points on line. Tim Gruber is part of a movement to get the State of Pennsylvania to join that trend. Look at his website, last updated on 19 July 2008, at <http://users.rcn.com/timarg/PaHR-Access-states.htm>. There you will find a nice assortment of counties and states that have death record images available for on-line searching. Note that some of the links in the previous article on Page 3 about the State of Washington's recent images were published after Gruber's page was modified in July.

By Gary Zimmerman

## Washington State Marriages Online

Marriage records at WA Digital Archives for selected counties are available online. Some counties have digitized only part of the records; the broader range in parentheses can still be search in transcribed format. Search the website for the details of the county of interest to you. The website distinguishes which years present the certificate images and which show the marriage return images.

Adams 1884-1996

Asotin 1900-2003

Benton 1905-1930

Chelan 1900-1920 (1900-2003)

Clark 1889-1977 (images only visible pre 1951)

Columbia 1882-2002

Ferry 1900-1999

Franklin 1910-1930 (1890-2003)

Island 1855-1972

Skagit 1884-1948 (1884-2000)

Snohomish 1878-1985

There is nothing available yet from King County.

By Gary Zimmerman



There are two exciting new directions for Fiske Wednesday Seminar Series registrants in the Fall Education Program. This autumn, the Fiske Genealogical Library Foundation and the Seattle Genealogical Society have

joined to give you four hours of instruction called "Introduction to Genealogy I and II." It will offered at the Fiske on two successive Wednesdays from ten to noon on September 17th and the 24th. These classes are free to those who are registered for the full Fiske series of thirty classes or the fee is \$5 per class for those who are not.

The two classes will be team taught by: Mary Peters from the Fiske, Ginny Sommarstrom from SGS, John Wise from East Side Genealogical Society, SGS, Senior Net and Fiske and Karl Kumm from SGS and Fiske and will cover:

- Record keeping with Family Group Sheets and Pedigree Charts;
- Research logs;
- Organizing and documenting your research;
- Five pillars of modern Genealogy: Census, Vital Records, Probate, Land Records and Newspapers;
- Computer Genealogy.

Even if you are an intermediate genealogist, you may want to review the basics. These two classes will be followed by three other Fiske classes that focus on kinds of records with classes on the census, church records and cemetery records.

In October, John Wise will summarize the kinds of software available to genealogists today and speculate about what will be the hottest computer software five years in the future.

You will find much to think about in the two scheduled presentations by outside speaker Karen Steely, a professional genealogist from Vancouver, Washington. Visit her web site <http://www.thepastmatters.com> and come hear the two presentations she will give in Seattle on Wednesday, October 15th. At 10 a.m. she will talk about photographs at the Fiske Library. That evening at 7 p.m. she is sponsored by the Seattle Genealogy Society to talk about clothing and genealogy.

The education program will also have six hours emphasizing genealogical research about place: Long Island, in the New York Colony and state, and Norway. Evelyn Roehl will introduce the initial steps in searching Norwegian Records. The final class will help you plan your visit to places where Norwegian Records are housed in the Puget Sound Region — the Nordic Heritage Museum Library, Pacific Lutheran University Library, Seattle Genealogical Library and the Fiske. Please register for the final class at the Fiske or send an email to Karl Kumm, [k.kumm@comcast.net](mailto:k.kumm@comcast.net)

In addition to these Fiske classes, you can find more information and instruction at the following: Fiske website – <http://www.fiskelibrary.org> .

Courses offered at the National Archives – <http://www.achives.gov> .

The SGS website– <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waseags/>

Of course, friends who mentor you and share your research interests are important. Then there are books to read. And if you are stuck on your computer, go to Roots Television at <http://www.rootstelevision.com/> .

There are hundred of hours of shows and interviews that range from the census, church and cemetery records; through DNA and genealogy; to vital records.





## 2008 — FALL CLASSES AT FISKE

*All classes will be held from 10:00 am to 12 Noon in the Library at 1644 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue E. in Seattle (in the Madison Park neighborhood).*

*Tuition is \$5 per class or \$30 per quarter. Annual library use with educational privileges is \$75.*

Fall 2007	Topic	Instructor
17 September	Basic Genealogy: (New to early intermediate genealogists)	Panel: Ginny Sommarstrom, Mary Peters, & Karl Kumm
24 September	Basic Genealogy: (New to early intermediate genealogists)	Panel: Ginny Sommarstrom, Karl Kumm & John Wise
1 October	Computer Software: Today & Tomorrow	John Wise
8 October	Advanced Census	Karen Sipe
15 October	Photographs	Karen Steely
22 October	Why Search Church records?	Karl Kumm
29 October	Norwegian Research	Evelyn Roehl
5 November	Cemetery Records	Karen Sipe
12 November	Long Island Research	Karl Kumm
19 November	Norwegian Field Trip	Please register and we will help you plan your research

William M Darlington (1815-1889) collected books – lots of books with a primary interest of American history with a focus on anything to do with western Pennsylvania and the Ohio Valley. He bought, read and saved everything he could find on the settlement of colonial America, the American Indians, local histories, and the movement west. His collection is especially strong in looking at the movement across the Alleghenies, the French and Indian War and the new settlements in the Ohio Valley. His children broadened the collection to include westward expansion clear to the Pacific, including material on Washington Territory at the time of statehood.

From 1918 to 1925, the Darlington family began transferring the collection to the University of Pittsburgh. The university library at Pitt is now digitizing the Darlington collection and publishing it on-line. You can access these materials at <http://digital.library.pitt.edu/d/darlington/index.html>. It is easy to browse the collection by author, by title, or by subject. You can search the entire collection or you can search within a specific book. The search results show the actual sentence or context in which the search term appears in each book that it appears.

A search for “Haddonfield” returned 11 different books in the collection that contained a reference to the New Jersey community by that name. Some of those books contained multiple entries, each with the appropriate sentence giving a clear sense of how the word was used.

By August 2008 they offered 1624 books, 276 maps, 5 atlases, 1825 images, and 41 broadsides. The digital images are clear and easily magnified for easy reading. The on-line collection will continue to expand as the Library has committed to a multi-year effort.

By Gary A. Zimmerman

Despite the unfortunate relationship between the proverbial cat and its curiosity, I believe that family history research is enhanced by an active, inquiring mind. Curiosity can lead to big dividends to the genealogist.

People get bogged down at their “brick wall” and flail around looking in the usual places for an additional piece of information that let them pass their hurdle. One needs to look at the little clues that crop up in many places as the research results are being assembled. It takes time to “research” these small references, but the outcome is often very positive.

Delving into the social history of the time and place where the roadblock arose, learning about the customs of the day, reading about the changing legal requirements of the time, paying attention to the abbreviations found in old records --- any of these “opportunities” will be fodder for the curious mind.

Why did great-grandfather’s obituary mention a society to which he had belonged? Why did the cemetery have initials like I.O.O.F.? Why was grandmother connected with Theta Rho? The answers led to interesting new sources of records about these ancestors. Why do land records seem to use the term “arpent” as both a unit of length and a unit of area? This is frequently found in French Canada, in Louisiana, and in Missouri records. The curious investigator will soon find how the term was used in each area, by the French, the Spanish, the American and the Canadian governments and each has defined the term in a unique way.

A word of caution to the newly curious: not everything is on the internet. Not everything that is on the internet is the correct answer. Be sure to be curious about the source of the new information that you find and remain curious when new data becomes available. Your curiosity may not solve your immediate roadblock, but you will come into contact with new approaches to problems that you will remember when solving a subsequent roadblock in the future!

By Gary A. Zimmerman

## FISKE LIBRARY HOURS

<b>Monday</b>	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Noon to 8:00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	3:00 pm to 8:00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Reserved for research groups (greater than 8 persons) from outside the greater Seattle Area. Contact the Library to make reservations.
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	2nd and 4th Sunday of every month

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Volunteer At Fiske

As you have read in the front page article, we have a very ambitious set of goals. **Is there an area where you would like to help in reaching these goals?** Some goals need lots of volunteers. Some require more expertise than others and some just require a willing pair of hands. Some require lots of money and all require time and energy. Remember that it is so much fun to work with others who enjoy our hobby to create a place where genealogists find answers and enjoy the experience.

### Design A New Logo

We need a new logo to be used on letterhead stationery, the newsletter, and our web page as well as for new bookplates to recognize the donors of books to the library.

Help design this new logo representing our value and contribution to genealogists and genealogy research.

Please submit your logo to Mary Peters at [mary.peters@fiskelibrary.org](mailto:mary.peters@fiskelibrary.org) by October 15, 2008. Send it as an attachment in a jpg, tiff, pdf or even publisher file format.

## FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation is a non-profit service organization that provides genealogical training and resource materials.

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation Newsletter is published four times per year by the Fiske Genealogical Foundation, 1644 43rd Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112; phone (206) 328-2716

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**FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION FEES**

Daily Use Fee \$5.  
 Annual Library Pass \$40.  
 Annual Family Pass \$60.

Wednesday Seminar Series  
 (10 sessions) \$30.

Annual Library Pass  
 plus Full Year Seminar Series  
 (30 sessions) \$75

Newsletter—Mail Subscription  
 \$6 for 4 Issues



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## HOW TO FIND US!



**Fiske Library is located  
on the lower level of the  
Washington Pioneer Hall.**

- Drive east on E Madison Street to the third crosswalk after reduced speed zone of 25mph. The crosswalk has a yellow blinking light. A one-way street sign is on your right.
- Turn right and follow E Blaine Street to the end of the street.
- The Washington Pioneer Hall faces onto 43rd Ave. E. The Fiske Genealogical Library is located on the lower level of the building.