



FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION

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Winter 2016 VOLUME 23 NUMBER 2

MINNESOTA PIONEER SKETCHES

Contributed by Gary Zimmerman



Frank G O'Brien was born in Calais, Maine in May, 1843. When he was six years old, the family moved to Michigan. Six years later, he moved again – with his father and three brothers – arriving in St. Anthony, Minnesota in 1855. His family established the first pharmacy in that town and Frank was part of that establishment for most of his working life.

O'Brien had a keen interest in the settlement of Minnesota Territory and he collected stories about many of the early settlers. He began publishing them in columns appearing in local newspapers, often with a humorous twist that won him a wide following. He collected these (and expanded some of the early stories) and published them in 1904 under the title "Minnesota Pioneer Sketches."

The tales covered a host of facts about pioneer life – relating to the local Indians, life in the lumber camps, farming on the frontier, the development of politics in small towns, local transportation between small settlements, and even the variety of church options available to the settlers. If you have ancestry that pioneered in the upper Midwest or the Pacific Northwest, you might find this a useful picture of what life was like in the last half of the 19th Century.

If you go to the home page of the Fiske Library at www.fiskelibrary.org and insert "Minnesota Pioneer Sketches" you will quickly find that a digital copy of the 1904 edition of the book is available on line at the HathiTrust Digital Library at <https://www.hathitrust.org/home>.

In fact, the HathiTrust has two separate digital sources for the book – one from the University of Minnesota and one from Cornell University. Unless you are going to the HathiTrust from the campus of a member university, however, you can only read the book on line.

If you go to www.familysearch.org and look for the drop-down menu under "Search" and select "Books" you can quickly get a full copy of the "Sketches" as a .pdf file that can be read in your internet browser (or downloaded as a .pdf if you are using Adobe Reader 9).

I was interested in learning more about the author so I went to the Minnesota Historical Society at www.mnhs.org and under the dropdown menu for research I selected "digital newspapers." I started with the newly published database

MINNESOTA PIONEER SKETCHES

YOUR GENEALOGICAL LEGACY

Continued from page 1

“Historical Minneapolis Tribune (1867-1922) and searched for [Frank G O’Brien]. The search yielded 190 returns, including many of the columns written by O’Brien and several stories that appeared at the time of his death. When you do the search in the Historical Minneapolis Tribune there are several “collections” merged into one search – each collection holds the newspaper under a specific name, which changed from time to time. You can search for “All” or you can select a specific title and a more limited timeframe for the search. In this case, the 190 hits reflect all of the Minneapolis Tribune collections with an O’Brien story.

There is a related goldmine at the Minnesota Historical Society. If you go back to the home page at www.mnhs.org/newspapers you will find the link to the Minnesota Digital Newspaper Hub, which is a large collection of digitized newspapers from all over the state from 1856 to 1922. Click on the link that says “explore the Newspaper Hub” and you will find a wealth of digital images in an easily read format from counties across the state.



Caledonia Argus, Caledonia, Minnesota
November 24, 1888

As avid genealogists begin to downsize their living arrangements after many years of research effort, they consider how best to share their bountiful results from those endless hours of searching. One of those options is to bequeath their papers to a genealogical library. The Fiske Library has been the grateful recipient of many such “legacy genealogy” collections. In fact, the pace at which collections are being offered to the Fiske has accelerated in the past year and we must place some limitations on what we can receive in the future.

These contributions are often a mix of books and journals accompanied by many boxes of manuscript materials. The books and journals are easy to process; they add new titles to the catalog or provide duplicate books for resale. The manuscript materials require much more effort to make them useable for other workers.

Well-organized collections with thoughtful organization of evidence to support a family history over multiple generations are very desirable. Library volunteers can review the collection and prepare a “finding aid” for posting on our website and researchers from afar can learn what is available in the Fiske collection. In November, a researcher in California spied a reference in one of our finding aids and sent a relative to Seattle to explore the legacy collection. The collection had been in the library for over 20 years, but finally it was of value to a currently active searcher. The “finding aid” did its intended job!

On the other hand, many collections arrive at our doorstep without a clear organization and it takes hours of subsequent volunteer help to sort, cull, and reorganize a collection to create a useful finding. During the extensive period of “reorganization” of the gifted collection, the library must find space to store and work with the donation. In the past year, the library has had to rent outside space for this purpose.

Continued on page 3

YOUR GENEALOGICAL LEGACY

Returning Volunteer Spotlight

Continued from page 2

The process for making a gift of your collection, either now or as part of an estate, will be as follows:

Contact the library and indicate your intention to donate your work.

Request an evaluation of your proposed donation.

If accepted, arrange for transfer of the collection to the library. (The Foundation will request financial support if off-site storage is required for a temporary period of time.)

Sign a transfer of title agreement that will be clear that the collection becomes the property of the Fiske Genealogical Foundation. This will assist if familial regrets about loss of the collection are voiced by future generations.

The Fiske Library does welcome good research and will strive to make your donated collection available to future researchers in a useful, productive environment. Past contributions have greatly enhanced our holdings and visibility in the genealogical community. We appreciate those gifts and we value their content. We respect the dedication and effort that created those collections. Don't hesitate to contact the library about your own legacy!

Gary A Zimmerman
November 2015

Marge, as she prefers to be called, was a volunteer at Fiske Genealogical Library over a decade ago. A good friend of Carolyn Blount, the two volunteered time together. Employed at St. Mark's Cathedral and then Christ Episcopal Church in the University District, she had experience in website and newsletter production, so did some of the early work on the Fiske site and online newsletter. Work cut into her volunteer time and she had to leave, but she retired in June of this year, and immediately contacted Carolyn about resuming volunteer work at Fiske. Currently, she's taken over review of surplus books and the posting of new entries on the Surplus Books webpage.

Marge has been pursuing her own genealogical research for many years. A history buff (with a B.A. in History from the U.W.), she likes to merge her family story with an understanding of the historical context. Her interests range from Scotland to Washington, Oregon, Maine and more recently, New Orleans, Louisiana, France and Germany. She spent several summers in Scotland doing research at various archives and libraries, but now enjoys seeing how much is available online. "I'm good at doing the research, but terrible at maintaining organized records and producing a final report. My retirement years are going to be largely devoted to getting my records in order." Marge also enjoys needlework. She volunteers on Thursday afternoons. Be sure to say, "Hi." if you drop by.



HERALDRY--WHAT IS IT AND DO MY ANCESTORS HAVE A CREST?

Contributed by Mary Peters

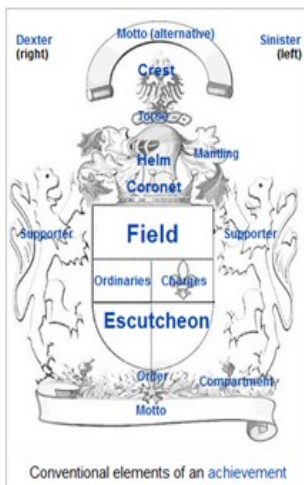
This summer I was at Balmoral Castle in Scotland and saw a booth about "your family name." So I had to check it out. The clerk told me about one of my family names, where it was from, and what it meant. That made me start wondering about these crests. When did they start? Who had them? How did people keep track of them? Did we use crests or coats of arms in America? The first place I checked was the Fiske Library to see what is there and found over 50 titles related to Heraldry. Then Cindy asked me to write an article for the Fiske newsletter on Heraldry. Coincidence!!!

What is Heraldry? According to Wikipedia, it "is the profession, study or art of creating, granting, and blazoning arms and ruling on questions of rank or protocol, as exercised by an officer of arms. When men went to battle, there was a need to tell one participant from another when helmets covered their faces. That made me think they were avoiding "friendly fire." In 1066, the warriors did not have emblems on their shields. In 1157, Henry I of England gave his son-in-law a blue shield with gold lions on it to be worn around his neck. By 1200, the practice of identifying families with the symbols on the shield was used throughout many countries in Europe.

There became a need to distinguish identical coats of arms belonging to the members of the same family. There are rules about a son using the coat of arms while the father is still alive. The coat of arms could be similar, but not the same. Add to that the fact that other sons and branches of the family could also use some form of the coat of arms. Thus, the need arose to develop a system to categorize and register these coats of arms. To describe a coat of arms is called blazon. Blazon requires the use of specific words and rules governing word order. There are even rules about the color on the coat of arms.

The early duties of a herald included the regulation of all combats, tournaments, funeral ceremonies and state pageants. They also acted as couriers for royalty. According to Sir James Balfour Paul in his book *An Ordinary of Arms: contained in the public register of all arms and bearings in Scotland* (CR1658 .P3 1991), King Lyon of Scotland may have been the first to keep any official register, which was kept by his herald. In 1592 an Act in Scottish Parliament authorized King Lyon and his Heralds to hold visitations throughout the realm in order to distinguish the arms of various noblemen and gentlemen and 'thaireftir to matriculat thame in thair buikis and regesteris.' (Paul. p. x)

Some Terms Used in Heraldry



This picture is copied from Wikipedia and gives a description of the parts of a coat of arms, which are categorized by a Herald. For a good definitions of terms used in heraldry, look at "A Glossary of Terms Used in Heraldry" by James Parker (CR1618 .P3 1970). Here you can learn what it means to use lions for the supporter or eagles on the crest. or what a hook means on the arms. An example is the use of "martlet" which was common in both French and English arms. The fourth son could use the martlet to differentiate his status from the first son. The book also tells who used this symbol--Sire Roger de Watervill, Roger de Merley, Monsire Tempest and Monsire de Fenwike. The index lists names of families listed in the glossary. Who knows you might find your family. I found my Stapleton, Taylor, and Lambert names.

Continued on page 5

HERALDRY--WHAT IS IT AND DO MY ANCESTORS HAVE A CREST?

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Even though women did not go into battle, they could have a coat of arms. It was shown on a lozenge, which women wore on a charge. It would be in an elongated diamond shape. Check out Pippa Middleton's coat of arms on Wikipedia under "Lozenge (Heraldry)."

Tinctures are the colors used on coats of arms and usually use the French terms. Azure for blue, sable for black, purpure for purple. It made me think that back in the 1300s that there were only natural dyes to create the various colors. Therefore, they were limited in color choices.

Marshalling is melding two or more coats of arms together. This shows a person's heritage, property, or perhaps offices held. This could look very complicated if one chose to show many ancestral lines.

Some books at Fiske

The Heraldic Journal: recording the Armorial Bearings and Genealogies of American Families is a reprint of a journal published in England about 1865 (CS42 .H422). One chapter tells about monumental inscriptions, which had coats of arms on the tombstones, in Boston and Salem.

A Complete Guide to Heraldry by Arthur Charles Fox-Davies (CR492 .F723 1978) I just looked at the chapter on *Heraldic Lions*. Interestingly, there was a controversy over whether some coats of arms had lions or leopards on them. Heraldic rules stated that there could only be one lion on a shield. Since there were two lions on Royal Arms of England, they must be leopards.

Heraldry Ancestry and Titles: questions and answers by L. G. Pine. (CR1612 .P5 1965).

Heraldry for the local historian and genealogist by Stephen Friar (CR21 .F75 1997)

Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry journal. (CS435.M53 M53)

The general armory of England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales : comprising a registry of armorial bearings from the earliest to the present time by Bernard Burke (CR1619 .B73 1884) This book has sections on heraldry, dictionary of terms, abbreviations, Royal Armory and orders of knighthood.

Heraldic scroll of England and Wales : a decorative scroll of county, and English and Welsh personal arms by Dick Kelly (G5751 .E623 1980z)

Fairbairn's crests of the families of Great Britain and Ireland by James Fairbarin and Laurence Butters (CR57.G7 F2 1992)

Have fun looking up your family.



WINTER 2016 EDUCATION

All classes are scheduled from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

2016	TOPIC	INSTRUCTOR	LOCATION
Wednesday, January 20	Best Repositories in Massachusetts	Gary Zimmerman	Pioneer Hall 1642 43rd Ave. E. Seattle, WA 98112
Wednesday, January 27	Exploring the new Ancestry	Gary Zimmerman	Pioneer Hall
Thursday , February 4	The big picture: weaving history into family narratives	Claire Gebben	Pioneer Hall
Wednesday, February 10	Best Repositories in Connecticut and Rhode Island	Gary Zimmerman	Pioneer Hall
Wednesday, February 17	Field Trip to Bellevue Regional Library Genealogical Resources	Darcy Briskey	Room 1 1111 110th Ave NE Bellevue, WA 98004
Wednesday, February 24	What's new at the Fiske	Gary Zimmerman	Pioneer Hall
Wednesday, March 2	New England Land Records	Karl Kumm	Pioneer Hall
Wednesday, March 9	Best Repositories in Northern New England States	Gary Zimmerman	Pioneer Hall
Thursday , March 17	Writing your life stories	Delores Davis	Pioneer Hall
Wednesday, March 23	Spring Cleaning your genealogy	Claire Smith	Pioneer Hall

Classes sponsored by the Fiske Genealogical Foundation are open to all. Most classes are held in the street-level room of Pioneer Hall, located in Seattle's Madison Park neighborhood. Tuition for all classes is \$5 individually. Annual passes to the Fiske Library are \$50, and can be enhanced to \$85/year, which includes all three quarters of Wednesday classes (30 classes), plus full use of the library and a subscription to the quarterly newsletter.

Please call the Fiske Genealogical Library at 206-328-2716 or visit www.fiskelibrary.org for further information.

Elements of Genealogical Analysis

Robert Charles Anderson, FASG

Contributed by Karen V. Sipe

BOOK REVIEW

Are you a collector of records? On a good day do you process your findings into a genealogical computer program?

What about analyzing your findings. Do you lay out, look at and compile charts to analyze the records and information provided in each source?

These are powerful questions, the kinds that can help you solve brick walls and further your lineage. *Elements of Genealogical Analysis* is one of the best books genealogists could ask for. The author takes you through analyzing sources, probably an exercise most of us don't pay enough attention too. Only then does he move on to analyzing the records followed by drilling down to the information contained in the record.

From the information contained in two or more records, can you link the person in one record to the person of the same name in another record? Linkage Analysis will teach you how to arrive at a conclusion.

Linkage Bundle is a term I was not familiar with that describes linking two or more records through analysis and allows you to tie the bundle to one individual. Through case studies, Anderson demonstrates the process of Linkage Bundling and its application to research. Everything in the first several chapters prepares you for a five step problem solving sequence.

- Problem Selection
- Problem Analysis
- Data Collection
- Synthesis
- Problem Resolution

Without slowing down the way we process data, and truly looking at each tidbit of information, good research coupled with the lack of application skills will get in the way of our success. Until now the genealogical world has been in need for a very detailed book outlining and teaching the process by which we can use our findings to communicate all information contained in each record in a very

analytical way.

Robert Charles Anderson, FASG was the project manager and compiler of the "Great Migration" and the techniques he used are herein set out for all genealogists.

This book is not for the faint of heart and while I just recommended it for a beginner, it is probably better suited for an intermediate level researcher. However, do not wait too long to learn, understand and apply the methodology of this book. By not utilizing the skills taught by Anderson, you could be stalemating your whole research project or worse yet coming to conclusions that are incorrect.

A must have reference book for genealogist and genealogical libraries. If you teach genealogy or help others, this book definitely needs to be on your book shelf.

Available from the New England Historic Genealogical Society.

Karen V. Sipe

NOTE: You can also find *Elements of Genealogical Analysis – how to maximize your research using the Great Migration Study Project Method*, at the Fiske, (CS9 .A53 2014).

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FISKE LIBRARY WINTER ACQUISITIONS

Newly acquired books are processed by cataloging, entering the Fiske Library holding information into WorldCat, affixing ownership barcodes to bound books (on the back cover and on the title page).

Once they are finally on the shelving in the library, they appear in our "Recent Acquisitions" list in the Newsletter. Library of Congress call numbers [in square brackets below] will quickly lead you to the material on the shelf at the Fiske Library.

If the LC number is followed by PAWA, the book must be retrieved from other library collections within the building. Ask a volunteer for assistance.

NEW ENGLAND

Genealogical and family history of the state of Vermont [F48 .C28 1998x]

History of Rutland County, Vermont / with illustrations and biographical sketches of some of its prominent men and pioneers 2 vols [F57.R9 H57 1993]

Guide to Massachusetts cemeteries [F63 .L42 2002]

Berkshire – the first three hundred years 1676-1976 revised edition [F72.B5 B47 1976]

Genealogies of Hadley families, embracing early families of the towns of Hatfield, South Hadley, Amherst and Granby (MA) [F74.H14 B6 1993]

NEW YORK AND MIDDLE ATLANTIC STATES

British invasion of Maryland 1812-1815 [E186.5 .B25 1997]

Ontario County NY 1800 Federal Population Census Schedule transcript and index [F116 .T88 1963]

Early New York Naturalizations [F118 .S363 1981]

Centennial History of the town of Dryden (NY) 1797-1897 [F129.D79 G65 1975]

THE SOUTH

Hopewell Friends history 1734-1934 / Frederick County VA [BX7780.H6 J64 1975]

Revolutionary War Records – Virginia [E255 .B85 1995x]

Virginia soldiers of 1776 [E263.V8 B92]

Index to obituary notices in the Richmond Enquirer from May 9, 1804 through 1828 and the Richmond Whig from January, 1824 through 1838 [F225 .V83 1994]

Annals of Augusta County, Virginia, from 1726 to 1871 [F232.A9 W2 1972]

1815 Tax List of Tazewell County, Virginia [F232.T2 S36 1971]

The Scintillating Seventies (Limestone Co, AL) [F332.L6 A94]

Early History of Limestone County (AL) [F332.L6 M34]

MIDWEST

Tombstone inscriptions in Steuben County, Indiana [F532.S8 L4 1967]

FISKE LIBRARY WINTER ACQUISITIONS

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AMERICAN WEST

Land of Giants: the drive to the Pacific Northwest 1750-1950 [F851 .L4 (PAWA)]

Oregon Historical Quarterly (15 issues 1900-1948) [F871 .O47]

PUBLISHED AMERICAN GENEALOGIES

Pocahontas' descendants / a revision, enlargement, and extension of the list set out by Wyndham Robertson in his book "Pocahontas and her descendants (1887) ... combined with two volumes of corrections and additions [CS71.R747 1994]

Tethrow's and related Brown, Reece, Robert's and connecting families [CS71.T3365 1984]

LINEAGE SOCIETY RESOURCES

Index of Revolutionary War pension applications in the National Archives [CS42 .N43 no 40]

History of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America from 1891 to 1933 [E186.4 .A8 L3 1934]

Ancestral Records and Portraits: a compilation from the archives of Chapter 1, Colonial Dames of America vols 1 and 2 [E186.5 .B25 1997]

Founders and Patriots of America Index [E186.8 .A55 1989]

Some of the earliest oaths of allegiance to the United States of America [E209 .W3 1993]

America's Women in the Revolutionary Era: a history through bibliography 3 volumes [E276 .G78 2011]

HERALDRY

Oxford Guide to Heraldry [CR492 .W66 1990]

An ordinary of arms contained in the public register of all arms and bearings in Scotland 2nd edition [CR1658 .P3 1991]

The Heraldic journal: recording the armorial bearings and genealogies of American families [CS42 .H422]

EUROPE

Emigrants to America / Indentured servants recruited in London 1718-1733 [CS59 .W37 1985]

English Estates of American Settlers - American Wills and Administrations in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 1800-1858 [CS68 .C54 1981]

Militia lists and musters 1757-1876 – a directory of holdings in the British Isles (Second edition) [CS414 .G528 1990]

Handy Book to English Genealogy Third Edition [CS414 .M45 1990]

REFERENCE WORKS

Elements of Genealogical Analysis – how to maximize your research using the Great Migration Study Project Method [CS9 .A53 2014]

FISKE LIBRARY WINTER ACQUISITIONS

FISKE LIBRARY WINTER 2016 CLASSES

Continued from page 9

Three hundred colonial ancestors and war service
[CS61 .R51 1991]

History of surnames in the British Isles – a concise
account of their origin, evolution, etymology and
legal status [CS2505 .E8 1993]

Summer soldiers: a survey and index of
Revolutionary War courts-martial [E255 .N5 1986]

"To Lochaber Na Mair": southerners view the Civil
War [E605 .T6 1986]

American migration patterns [HB1965 .A53x 1974]

Digested summary and alphabetical list of private
claims ... presented to the House of Representatives
from the 1st to the 31st Congresses 3 vols.
[KF4932 .A25 1970]

Guide to Diaries in the R. Stanton Avery Special
Collections (at New England Historic Genealogical
Society) [Z5305.U5 G85 2008]



The class schedule at the Fiske Foundation will review the best repositories in New England with a focus on their current holdings and newer resources for your research. Gary Zimmerman will lead us on this topic in three sessions. Karl Kumm will look at New England land records.

Author Claire Gebben will return with a presentation entitled, "The Big Picture: weaving history into family narratives." She will define unique "portals" into the past and offer writing tips for making history come alive.

Delores Davis will present a different view on "Writing your live story" by exploring the steps you will go through in telling your own story to others. A widow and mother of six children, she also has 19 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. She has written ten books for and about her family.

Jean Roth is currently president of the Greater Seattle chapter of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia. She will describe resources currently available for accessing genealogical records of Germans from Russia, including sources in Russia itself that have recently become available.

A field trip is planned for February 17th to explore the genealogical resources at the Bellevue Regional Library. We'll meet in Classroom 1 at 10:00 am for a presentation by Darcy Briskey and then she will show us where the collection is housed. None of these great resources leave the building, so you need to become familiar with this material at the library.

Finally, we end the winter quarter by listening to Claire Smith's presentation on "Spring Cleaning your genealogy."

FISKE LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wednesday	12:00 noon to 6:00 pm
Thursday	1:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Friday	Reserved for research groups (greater than 8 persons) from outside the greater Seattle Area. Contact the Library to make reservations.
Saturday	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month

OUR APPRECIATION FOR BOOK DONATIONS

We appreciate the contributions by the following supporters of the Fiske Library. Since the last newsletter, donations have been catalogued and added to the collections on the shelves. There often is a lag between the date of the actual donation and the completion of the cataloguing, book repair, and placement in the active collection. Each of these titles may be located through the WorldCat catalog, available from the home page of the Fiske Library website.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|----------------------|
| Carolyn Blount | Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington, Chapter #1 | Eastside Genealogical Society | Margaret Ernest |
| Everett Family History Center | Linda Fogarty | Genealogical Society of South Whidbey Island | Judith Gunderson |
| Lenox Family | Ann Owens | Jim Sipe | Mary Fields Stoebuck |
| Tillicum Chapter, WSDAR | Jimi Vernie | Gary A Zimmerman | |

FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION PATRON AND NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation is a nonprofit 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 \$50.

Annual Family Pass \$70.

Wednesday Seminar Series

(10 sessions) \$35.

Annual Library Pass

plus Full Year Seminar Series

(30 sessions) \$85

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.