

PIERPONT MORGAN'S 1906 LIBRARY RESTORATION
PROJECT FACT SHEET

Project Description	The major renovation and refurbishment of Pierpont Morgan's 1906 library, the oldest exhibition building in the museum complex, extends to all of the interior spaces, including new lighting throughout; opening of the North Room to visitors for the first time; installation of new exhibition cases to house rotating displays of the Morgan's collections; restoration of period furniture and fixtures; and cleaning of the walls and applied ornamentation. The entire building's electrical system was replaced and upgraded.
Location	225 Madison Avenue at 36th Street New York City
Exhibition Designer	Stephen Saitas, Stephen Saitas Designs
Lighting Design	Richard Renfro, Renfro Design Group, Inc.
Architect of Record	Beyer Blinder Belle Architects & Planners LLP Frank Prial, AIA and Cleary Larkin, AIA
Original Architect	Charles McKim of McKim, Mead & White
Lighting Fixture Restoration	Aurora Lamp Works
Exhibition Cases	Casewerks
Key Dates	
<i>1902-1906</i>	McKim building constructed
<i>June 1, 2010</i>	McKim building closed to the public for restoration <i>(All other areas of the Morgan, including main exhibition galleries, remain open to the public)</i>
<i>October 30, 2010</i>	McKim building reopens to the public
Total Campaign	\$4.5 million
Morgan Project Leadership	William M. Griswold, Director Brian Regan, Deputy Director Jennifer Tonkovich, Curator, Drawings and Prints
Restoration Highlights & Features	
<i>Total Objects on View</i>	29 Pre-Restoration More than 300 Post-Restoration through a series of rotating exhibitions

Mr. Morgan's Library (East Room)

A complete modernized lighting system; a newly installed, late-nineteenth-century Persian rug of the type originally in the room; and newly designed, internally illuminated display cases used to exhibit some of the Morgan's most valued objects from its medieval holdings and renowned collections of rare books and literary, historical, and music manuscripts. The bookshelves have been enhanced with non-reflective Plexiglas. An original pendant chandelier, removed over 70 years ago, was restored and re-hung at the entrance to the library. New uplights were installed behind the stained glass skylight, and lighting was also placed in the fireplace. A new safety rail was installed on the second tier to match the existing rail on the third tier. The floor was sanded, restrained, and resealed.

Pre-Restoration
Post-Restoration

Limited permanent items on view/periodic small exhibitions
Approximately 100 objects on display per year

Mr. Morgan's Study (West Room)

New lighting fixtures were installed and the fireplace was also illuminated. Additional works of sculpture are exhibited and the furnishings have been reupholstered to evoke the atmosphere of the original study. The curtain that hung at the entrance of the vault has been removed and the formerly empty shelves of the vault are now filled with original storage boxes as well as books and small works of art. The floor was sanded, restrained, and resealed.

Pre-Restoration
Post-Restoration

12 objects, 14 paintings on display
22 objects and 15 paintings on display, some for the first time

The North Room

The original office of the Morgan's first director, Belle da Costa Greene, is open to the public for the first time and has been transformed into a gallery. Some of the oldest works in the Morgan's collection are on view, including objects from the ancient Near East, Egypt, Greece, and Rome, as well as artifacts from the early medieval period. The original chandeliers, removed about 50 years ago, were refinished and reinstalled. Two Egyptian basalt votive figures are now on new pedestals flanking the room's fireplace. A brass safety rail was installed on the second tier. The ceiling murals were cleaned and the floor sanded and treated.

Pre-Restoration
Post-Restoration

Not accessible to the public
214 objects on permanent view

Rotunda

The oculus and its superstructure were repaired and new glass and lighting installed in the superstructure to make it possible to exhibit collection items in the Rotunda. The marble surfaces and mosaic panels were cleaned. New uplights were installed to better illuminate the ceiling mural. The space has been enriched by a series of new display cases housing the Morgan's collection of Americana, including such great works as autograph letters by Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln, the Morgan's life mask of George Washington, and a copy of the Declaration of Independence. The floor was honed, polished, and a new anti-slip coating applied.

Pre-Restoration
Post-Restoration

Used occasionally as a temporary exhibition space
The first ongoing permanent display of the Museum's outstanding holdings of Americana. More than 20 works on display per year.