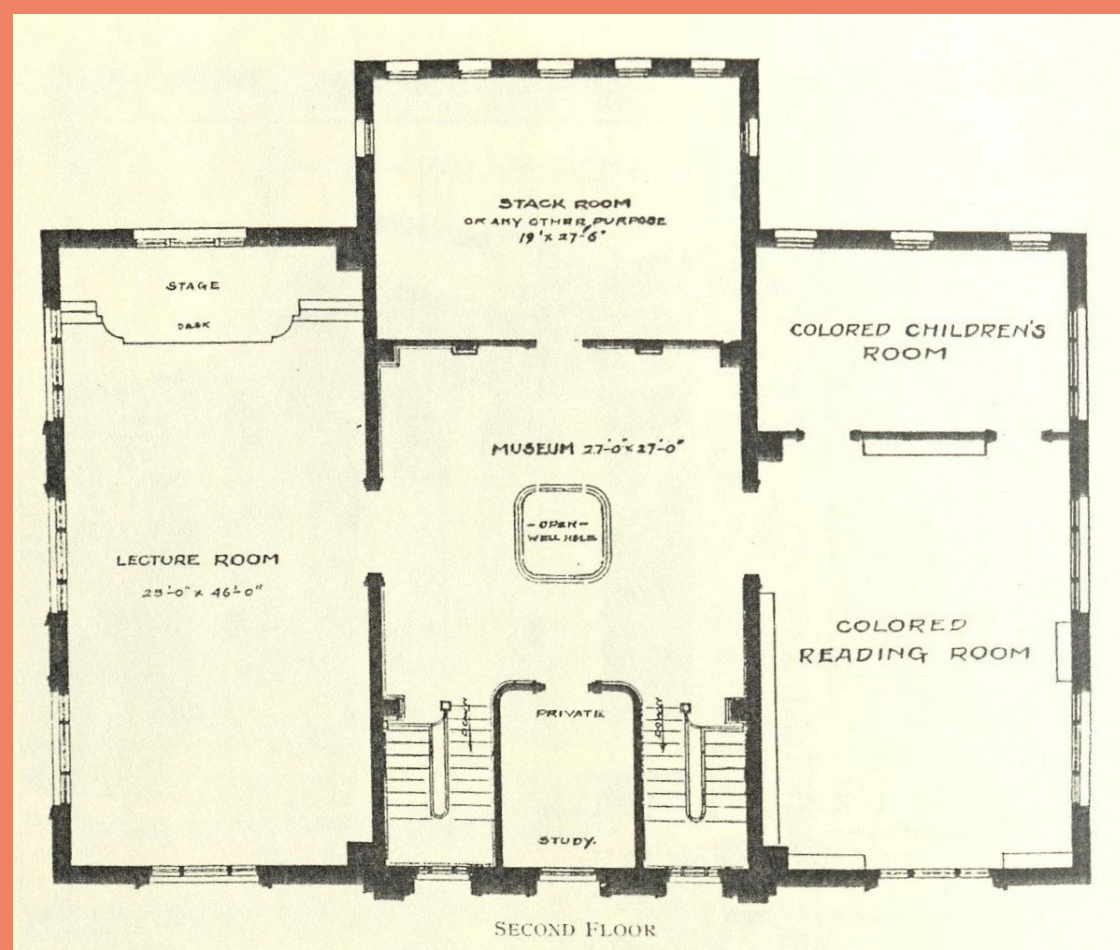


## Research Problem:

Although libraries have long served as more than book repositories, their social and musical lives have been lost at the disciplinary margins of library & Carnegie history, current library journalism, & historical musicology. This project seeks to restore the image of the library as a historically significant musical-cultural center in American concert life.

### Libraries & Access: Music concert offerings were impacted by and aligned with physical spaces

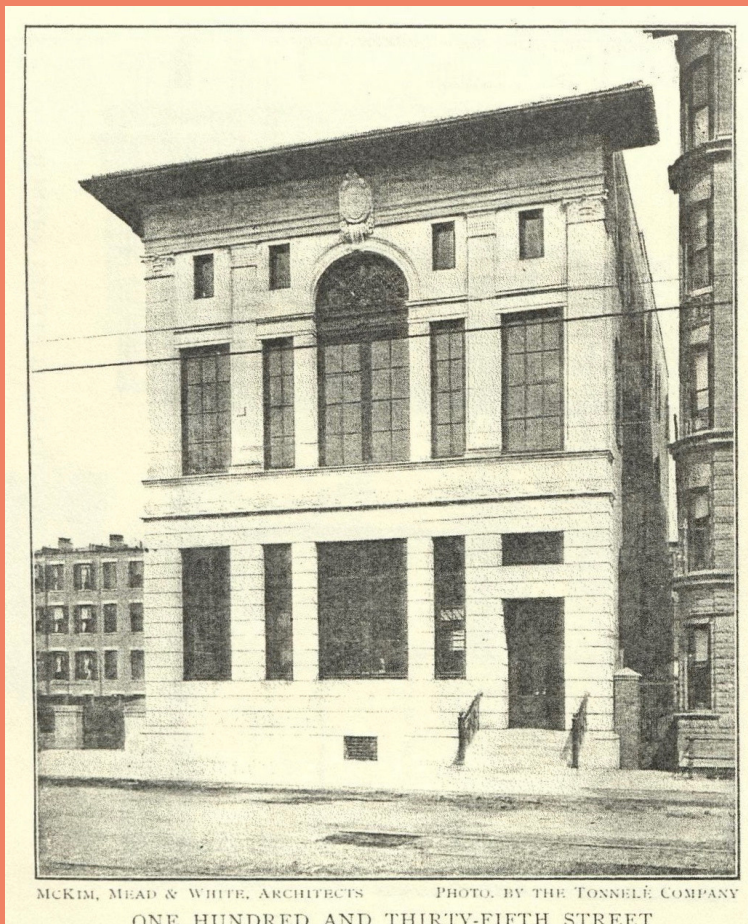
- Large central libraries located near and serving elite communities (bottom, left)
- Segregation in public libraries and library spaces (top)
- Local branch libraries serving communities of a variety of races, ethnicities, and social classes (right)



Above: The Jacksonville, FL Carnegie Library Second Floor Plan with segregated spaces



Above: The imposing Homestead (Pittsburgh/Munhall, PA) Carnegie Library, whose 1,000-seat music hall hosted many music concerts, was surrounded by steel factory superintendents' mansions (Miner, 110-111).



Left: The NYPL's smaller 135th Street (Harlem) Branch Carnegie Library, which hosted a number of local concerts



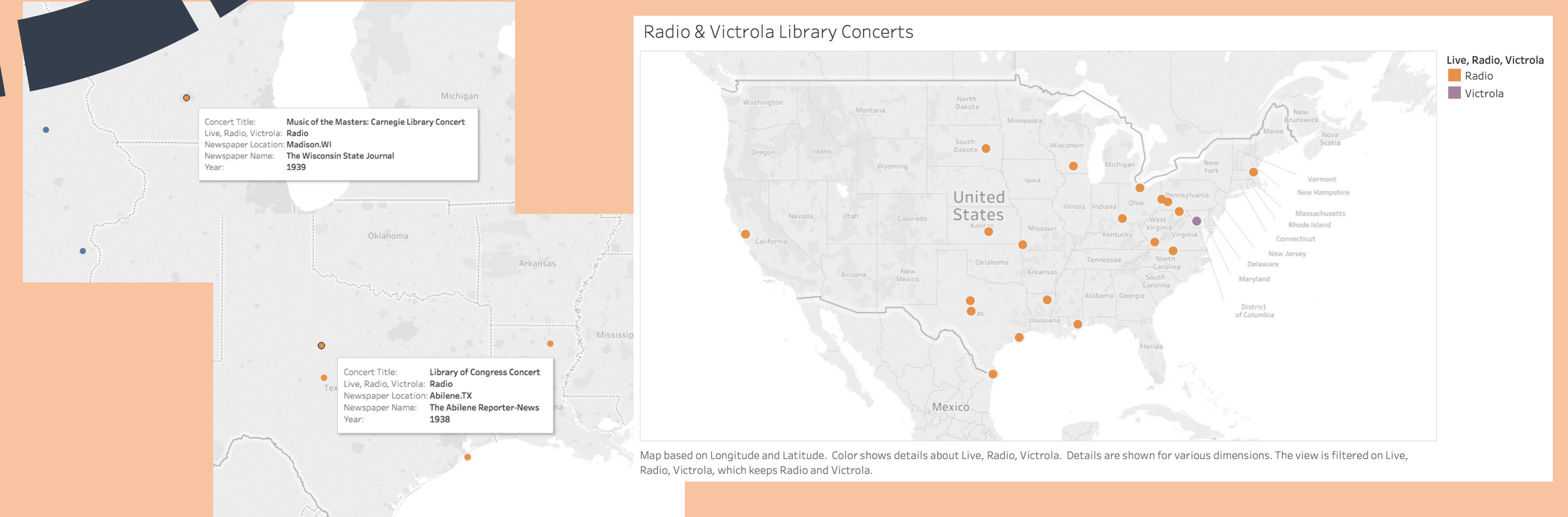
### Progressive-Era Libraries & the Victrola Industry



- Libraries: Providing moral uplift
- Victrola: Providing "good" European Art Music to all Americans (Katz)
- Data findings: Victrola concerts featured large orchestras performing the canon of Western Art Music ("classical" music in popular usage)

### Libraries on the Radio

My data mappings: Cities whose newspapers advertised radio (& Victrola) library concerts

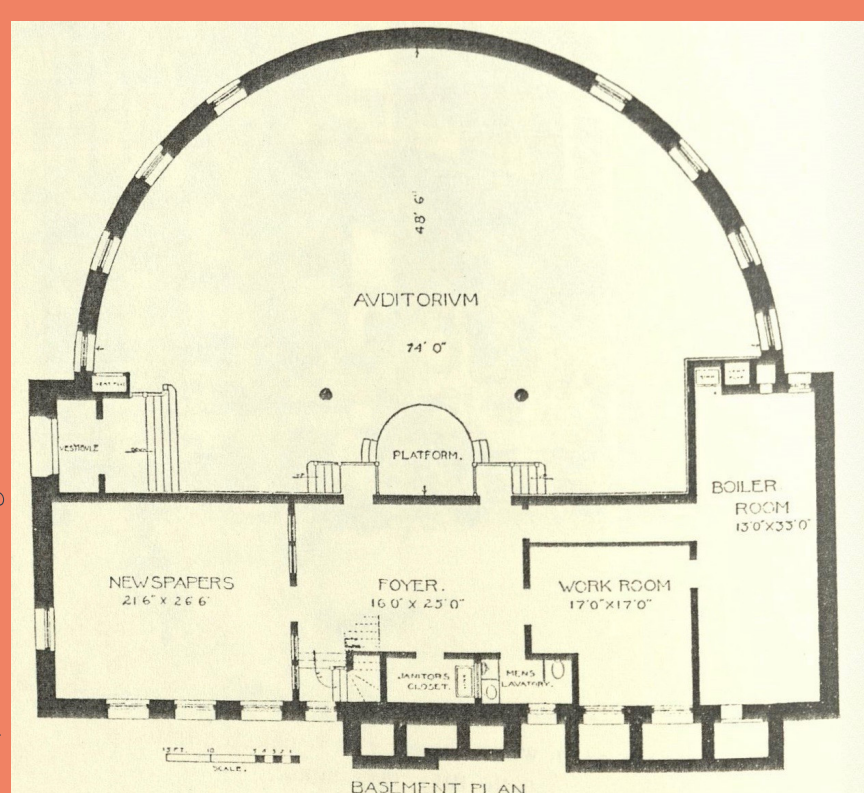


### Spotlight: Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge

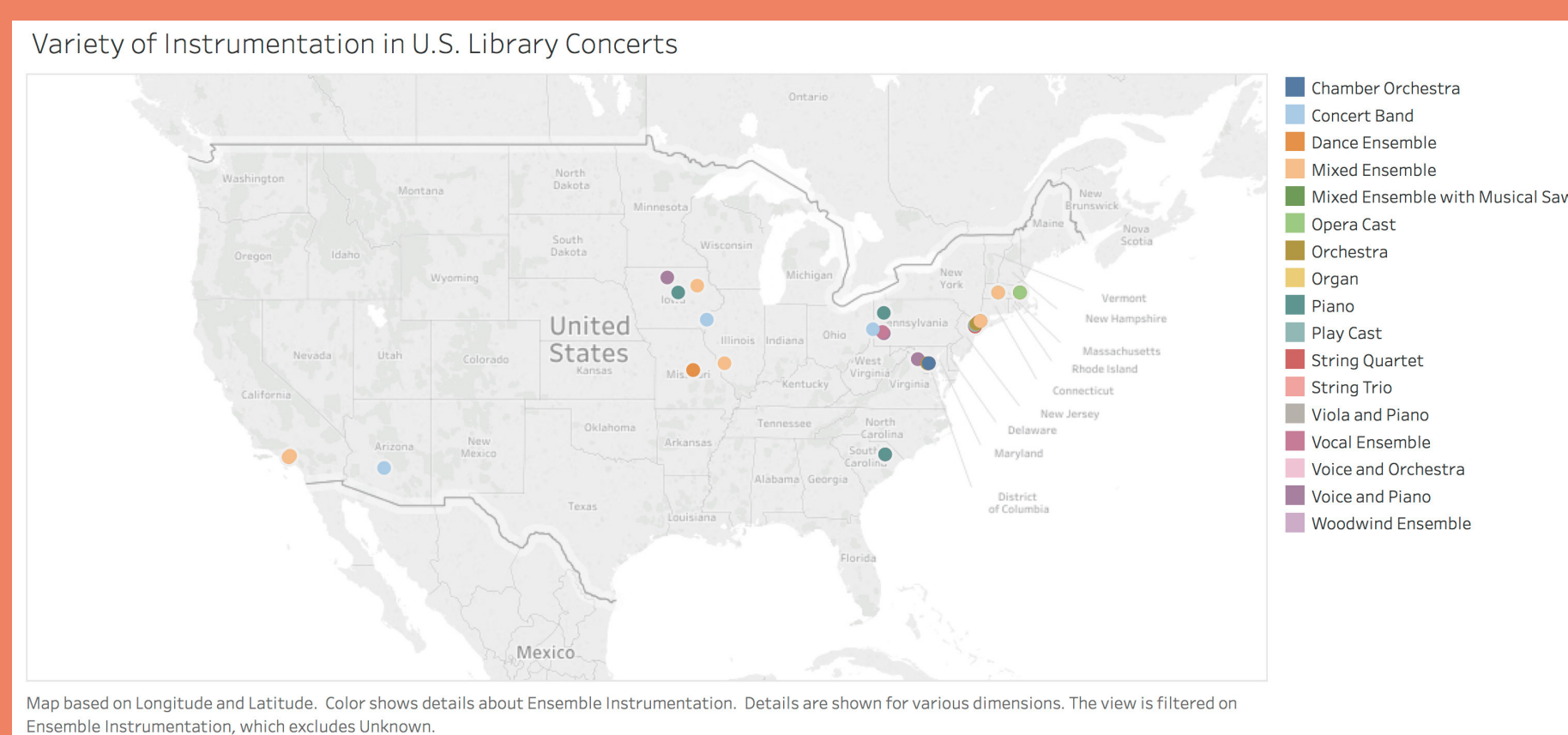
- Philanthropist and supporter of the arts
- Collaborator with the Library of Congress (LOC)
- Supported the arts for everyone
- Required her LOC auditorium (built 1925) be outfitted with radio equipment to broadcast music to all

### Libraries, Music, & Physical Space

- Great variety of music ensemble sizes and types (below)
- Many Carnegie libraries were designed with auditoriums (left)

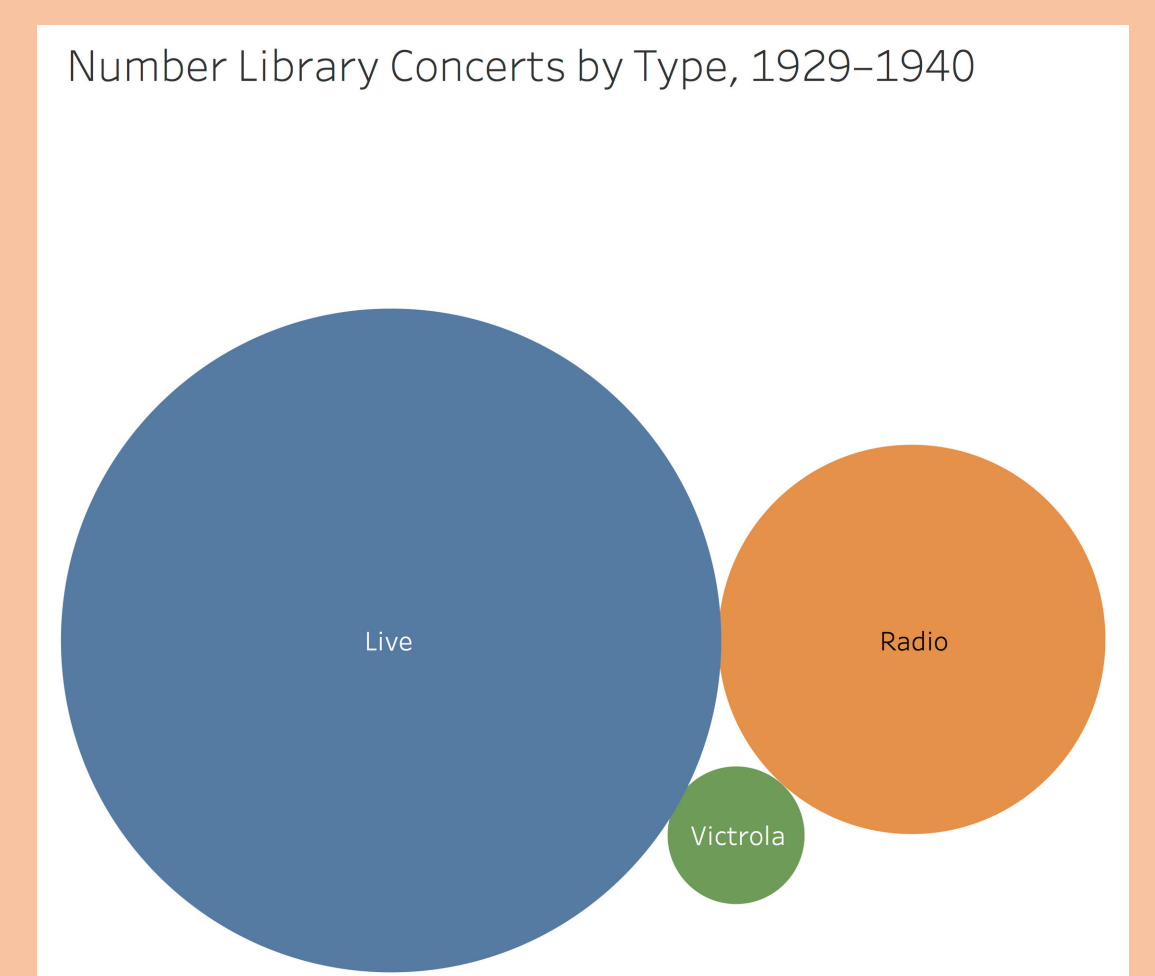


Above: The Lawrenceville Branch (Pittsburgh, PA) Carnegie Library Basement Floor Plan, including an auditorium



### Ways of Listening & Library Programming

As modes of musical listening diversified beyond the live concert in twentieth-century America, librarians expanded their offerings in the way of radio and Victrola concerts (right).



## Library Philosophies & Performance Space

## Libraries & Alternative Music Programming

#### Methodology & Sources:

- U.S. Newspaper Articles, 1929-1940
- Library & Carnegie history
- Musicological history of music and space/place
- Histories of the arts and New Deal government programs

#### Data Set:

- 130 library concerts
- Library Name & Location
- Library Type
- Room
- Time of Concert
- Weekday of Concert
- Date & Year of Concert
- Performer & Employment
- Repertoire Type
- Ensemble Size & Instrumentation
- Live, Victrola, or Radio Concert
- Sponsoring Entity & Type
- Newspaper Name & Location

### References

"Foundations for Music," *Library of Congress: An Illustrated Guide*. Last modified November 15, 2010. <http://tinyurl.com/mgfgde5>.

Katz, Mark. *Capturing Sound: How Technology Has Changed Music*, revised edition. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 2010.

Koch, Theodore Wesley. *A Book of Carnegie Libraries*. New York: The H.W. Wilson Company, 1917.

Longfellow, Alden And Harlow, Architect. [Carnegie library of Homestead, Munhall, Pennsylvania]. Munhall Pennsylvania, ca. 1900. Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress. <http://tinyurl.com/18c44ty>.

Miner, Curtis. "The Deserted Parthenon": Class, Culture, and the Carnegie Library of Homestead, 1898-1937." *Pennsylvania History* 57, no. 2 (1990): 107-135.

*United Watch and Jewelry Company Gifts*. Toronto: United Watch & Jewelry Company, 1911. <http://tinyurl.com/kzwz8ey>.



Full Abstract & Bibliography  
<http://tinyurl.com/k49tdxz>

