

Bangor Public Library - Bangor, PA



Artist: Becky Solon

The former Merchants National Bank was constructed in 1890 for a cost of \$6,400. In 1940, after they had outgrown the building, it was donated to the Borough of Bangor to be used as a public library. The eclectic Victorian Romanesque style of the Bangor Public Library is distinguished by the rock-faced textured stone used to give relief to the walls, window trim, arches, quoins and belt courses. Another character defining feature is the use of stepped gables, which are of European derivation from Holland. Also noteworthy are the spherical stone finials that cap the stone gable and attached piers. The use of "battered" or leaning stone piers and foundations gives this masonry bearing wall building a wider stance, for a stronger more monumental appearance. This in turn would have given the townsfolk who once did their banking here greater confidence in the security of their deposits.