

Stokesay Castle - George B. Heister Residence Reading, PA

On August 22, 1931, a businessman by the name of George Baer Hiester hired Frederick A. Muhlenberg, FAIA of Muhlenberg Yerkes Muhlenberg Architects to design a honeymoon cottage for his bride at the time. Mr. Hiester was impressed by Stokesay Castle located in Shropshire, England that was built in A.D. 1285 and wanted to incorporate this castle into his residence.



Many features of the original English Manor were adopted for the design of the residence. These include extensive use of hand cut stone throughout the home, rough hewn exposed wood beams in the main living spaces, and cathedral ceilings. Construction of the home was completed in 1932. It served as a private residence until 1956 when it was converted to a restaurant which is still in operation today.



Original sketches completed by Frederick A. Muhlenberg, FAIA in 1931