

**Detail from the Main Reading Room, Library Company of the  
Baltimore Bar  
The Clarence Mitchell Courthouse**

The reading room is one of the great public spaces of Baltimore, and measures 35' x 125', with a barrel vault ceiling, 15 foot wainscoting of English oak, and elaborate plaster work including historic printers' marks. The Library Company was founded in 1840 by George William Brown and others and along with the Social Law Library of Boston and the Jenkins Library of Philadelphia is one of three surviving private subscription law libraries in the United States.

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