



Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

October 20, 2025

Charles Stambaugh
North Eastern York County History in Preservation
76 S Third St
Mt Wolf, PA 17347

RE: # 2025PR03418, DOE request for York Haven Library, York Haven Borough, York

Dear Charles Stambaugh:

Thank you for submitting information about this property. It is our staff opinion that the resource is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This decision is conditional based on the information available to date. During future review of the nomination drafts or receipt of new details about the property, our office may find that the resource does not meet National Register criteria and the eligibility status will be changed. An eligibility evaluation is enclosed.

The next step in the nomination process, if listing is your goal, is the submission of a complete National Register nomination to our office. The latest versions of the nomination forms and instructions are now available at the National Park Service's website: www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/national-register-forms.htm. The research, writing, and typing of the form are responsibilities of the applicant. It is essential that the information is accurate and includes all required material. Once an acceptable National Register nomination form has been submitted, we will schedule the property for review by the Historic Preservation Board, a committee of professionals and citizens-at-large from across the Commonwealth. The nomination will then be sent to the National Park Service for their consideration for listing in the National Register.

If you have any questions about the nomination process or preparing the National Register form, please contact Jennifer Thornton at 717-214-3770 or jethornton@pa.gov. Thank you again for your interest in Pennsylvania's history and commitment to this property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Rairigh'.

Elizabeth Rairigh, Chief
Preservation Services Division

ER/jt

enc.



Eligibility Evaluation and Nomination Guidance

Date: October 20, 2025

Name: York Haven Free Library

Resource ID#: 1999RE01467

Location: 5 N Front St., York Haven PA 17370

National Register Criteria/Area(s) of Significance: The York Haven Free Library is eligible with local significance under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The building, designed by Mantle Fielding, is an important example of a Colonial Revival style municipal building within its local context. While there have been some changes over time, including the infill of basement windows, addition of a covered loading dock, and the loss of the gable medallion, overall the building maintains integrity. Character-defining architectural features include original arched windows on the first floor and eight-over-twelve, double-hung windows on the second floor; door surrounds with Classical details; gabled dormers; and two-story pilasters on the front façade. The interior retains its original fireplace, wainscoting, window and door trim, staircase and banister, interior columns, and its open assembly room with exposed roof trusses.

Period of Significance: 1920

Boundary: The National Register Boundary is the same as the tax parcel, and includes all associated resources.

Specific Comments and Guidance:

1. In Section 8, please include a summary of the Colonial Revival Style and its important design elements. Then, explain how the York Haven Free Library exhibits these design elements, and is a good example of the architectural style. You can find an overview of the style and its character-defining elements here:
<https://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/architecture/styles/colonial-revival.html>
2. Also in Section 8 of the Nomination, you will need to include comparisons to similar historic buildings in the area. Other historic libraries or municipal buildings, particularly those designed in the Colonial Revival Style, are most appropriate to include for these comparisons.
3. Also in Section 8, include a professional biography of the architect, Mantle Fielding, and a discussion of his important works. Explain how the York Haven Free Library fits into his body of work, and how it compares to his other buildings, especially his non-residential work like the Germantown Academy in Philadelphia. Explain how the building is characteristic of his designs. A good place to start this research is the Philadelphia Architects and Buildings Database: https://www.philadelphiabuildings.org/pab/app/ar_display.cfm/26050
4. The DOE Committee did not feel that the historic context provided supported an argument for significance under Criterion A. However, it is possible that additional research could support the future development of other area/s of significance in Education or Social History. Please remember, however, that only one area of significance is needed for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.



In addition to these comments, please ensure that your nomination includes the following:

- Provide a complete draft nomination in Word format and submit it to the PA SHPO through PA-SHARE as a new National Register Nomination project. The draft nomination should include photographs (try to keep under 30) within Section 7, in order to illustrate the areas of the building being described. Section 8 should have a summary of the property's significance, along with supporting contextual information on the history and development of the property, and comparisons to other similar properties.
- Do not submit individual images via PA-SHARE with the first draft of your nomination. You will receive updated guidance for submitting individual photos following our review of the first draft of your nomination.
- Incorporate current and historic images and maps or other figures directly into the nomination as they are referenced in the narratives.
- Please include mapping showing the location of the property, along with maps that show the locations of photographs taken and the direction the camera was facing when the photographs were taken, and any necessary site plans that illustrate the current appearance of the property.
- Make sure that all site plans and maps include a north arrow.