



*In Association with the Smithsonian Institution*

## **Mercer Museum Library Fact Sheet**

### **Purpose**

The Library is open to the public and devoted to the collection and preservation of historic documents and materials to be used for genealogical and scholarly research. The Library's collections are focused in three main areas: the history and culture of Bucks County; the history of trades, crafts, and artifacts of everyday life before c. 1850; and the life of Henry C. Mercer (1856-1930), his accomplishments, and his place in the American Arts and Crafts Movement. The Library continues to actively collect in all of its areas of interest.

### **Facts and Figures**

- The Library is located on the third level of the Mercer Museum, Doylestown, Pennsylvania.
- Additions to the Library were made in 1934, 1937 and 1997 to accommodate the growing collection of the Society.
- The Library houses over 15,000 volumes of books; periodicals, newspapers, pamphlets, maps, and prints; over 12,000 photographs and postcards, and a wide variety of ephemera such as trade and greeting cards as well as social invitations.
- The Library serves as the archival repository for historical records of several Bucks County offices.
- Orphans Court records occupy 198 cubic feet.
- Tax records occupy 413 linear feet.
- The largest single manuscript collection is the papers of the Mercer Museum's founder, Henry C. Mercer.
- The Library houses over 100 pieces of Pennsylvania German Fraktur art as well as hundreds of schoolchildren's hand decorated exercise books.
- The Library staff and volunteers provide reference service to more than 2,000 researchers a year, as well as telephone and mail requests from around the world.