

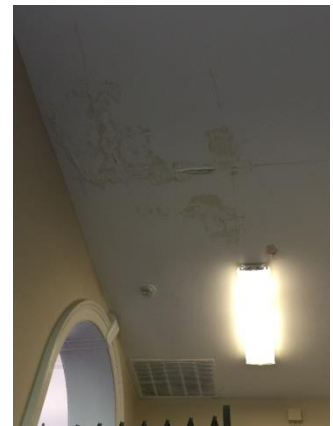
**Lower-level Basement Rehabilitation/Renovation (3,000 sq. ft.)** [click for architectural design](#)

- Includes demolition and construction to improve structural condition
- Improve use of space for meetings, office work and provide a well-organized storage area while making the lower level ADA compliant
- Upgrade HVAC and network infrastructure
- Deterioration in basement has led to inadequate working conditions for library staff and is a threat to the structure and foundation of the building



The building was constructed in 1936 and for a very long period the basement has suffered from lack of proper maintenance and upkeep, resulting in inadequate working conditions for staff and a threat to the building structure and foundation:

- Flooding has occurred on numerous occasions
- Walls and ceiling are crumbling in places
- Old-fashioned, unsecure windows
- Poor lighting and old HVAC system



The basement is heavily used by Friends of the Library and Metuchen-Edison Historical Society, with the latter's collection having been housed in the basement for years. Renovation will provide better community meeting space, more functional work areas for various groups and the library staff, a modernized employee restroom and break room, and better storage area.

