

Cast Iron Library Stacks

Angus Snead Macdonald

ca 1880

cast iron

American

These historic cast iron library stacks were originally a functional part of the James Blackstone Memorial Library located at 758 Main Street, Branford, CT. The significance of these particular pieces is their original, innovative design. The shelf design is part of the first modular book stacking system ever created. The system was designed by Angus Snead Macdonald, and built by his company; Snead & Co. Ironworks. Snead's stack system had a tremendous impact on the design and layout of the notable library collections in the United States and abroad. Some major contacts included the Library of Congress and the Vatican. Later, Snead won a contract for the stacks at the National Archives in Washington. This allowed Snead to move the main factory of Snead & Co. Ironworks from Jersey City, NJ to Orange County. Snead's company later devoted itself to military contracts during World War II, but found itself stuck with money-losing fixed-price contracts after the war. Snead eventually sold the business to Phoenix Iron Co. in 1946, which changed the company name to Orange Metal Products. The stacks were fabricated just after the turn of the century, in the 1920's, and can be seen on display in both our Franklin Street and Bridgehampton showrooms.

They are available in a variety of sizes and configurations. As each stack is original, dimensions shown are specific to the piece on display in our Franklin Street showroom only.

7'-6" h x 3' w x 19" d [single section]

Item# UA0006-2 SV \$45,000 [six-bay]

Item# UA0006-3 SV \$22,500 [three-bay]

For more information contact 212 431 4646

