

PH 0300152

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
 RECEIVED **OCT 8 1975**
 DATE ENTERED **DEC 5 1975**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Western Colored Branch, Louisville Free Public Library
AND/OR COMMON
Louisville Free Public Library Western Branch

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
604 South Tenth Street, Tenth Street and West Chestnut
CITY, TOWN
Louisville
STATE
Kentucky
VICINITY OF
021
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
03
COUNTY
Jefferson
CODE
111

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: library

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Louisville Free Public Library Board
City of Louisville
STREET & NUMBER
601 W. Jefferson Street
CITY, TOWN
Louisville
STATE
Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Jefferson County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Jefferson Street
CITY, TOWN
Louisville
STATE
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky (Supplement)
DATE
1975
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Kentucky Heritage Commission
CITY, TOWN
Frankfort
STATE
Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A handsome specimen of the Carnegie-endowed libraries, the Western Branch occupies a relatively small, rectangular site at the southwest corner of Tenth and Chestnut Streets. What was once a largely residential street has been swept clear by Urban Renewal, leaving the Library exposed except for the complex of structures housing the Home for the Aged conducted by the Little Sisters of the Poor to the south. Nearby are only a public housing project and a shopping center. Nevertheless, the Branch Library, although having only the usual single story above a half-basement, retains a sense of dignity and presence and is still a focal point of what remains of the area.

Although the wall surfaces of the rectangular block (seventy-five feet long by forty-five feet wide) are, strictly speaking, of Roman brick, the stone trim is so elaborate and extensive as wholly to subordinate the brick. The main story walls are contained between a wide water-table above stone-banded foundations, prominent quoins, and a more refined but emphatic modillion cornice. The front has five bays, with the central entrance only slightly wider than the others and differentiated mainly by a scrolled console as the highlight of the triple keystones shared by all the front and side first-floor openings. The broad stone frames of all the upper openings have "Gibbs surrounds" matching the quoins. These surrounds seem to descend through the water-table to flank the basement openings and connect just above ground level with those of the adjacent openings. Although the overall effect of all this masonry is bold, if not overwhelming, there are subtle recessions and panels within the surface. A low hipped roof (now standard shingles, perhaps originally red-orange or green tiles) unifies the entire composition.

The entrance is approached by stairs in two flights between stone pedestals that retain handsome light standards. The end-walls have three closely-spaced bays like those of the principal facade; the rear windows vary in size and are unadorned. The blank entablature that surrounds the building carries the chiselled inscription "LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY" centered over the main entrance.

Probably because of the restricted site, the plan of the Library is unusually compact, lacking the semicircular tribune of many of the smaller Carnegie libraries. The main floor has an almost square circulation or "Delivery Room" flanked by children's and adults' reading rooms reached through shallow arches which define the spaces while permitting a view the full length of the structure. At opposite corners are the usual enclosed librarian's room and Women's Room with toilet. Only the last avoids the repeated fenestration of broad triple windows (in execution slightly different from the published plan). The interior is apparently essentially intact, although whitewashed throughout.

The half-basement has the usual lecture room, reached through wells flanking the entrance stairs (which seem to have been simplified in execution). Classrooms at one side of the lecture room had movable panels permitting flexible arrangements. The interior, although convenient and efficient in layout, lacks both the mannered quality and the monumentality of the exterior.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Black history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1907-08

BUILDER/ARCHITECT McDonald and Dodd

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Carnegie Library at Tenth and Chestnut, designed by the local firm of McDonald and Dodd and dedicated in October 1908, remains a handsome if mannered example of its type, as well as a viable contribution to the West Louisville neighborhood. Additionally, it presents a pioneering architectural and historical statement of the dual humanitarian spirit at the turn of the century -- one which allowed for a free lending library system for all classes while extending, for the first time in this nation's history, such privileges to the black community. In its early years the building also housed an innovative library science training program.

The Western Colored Branch, as it was then called, actually began its history in 1905 -- the same year in which construction of the Main Library building of the Louisville Free Public Library on York Street between Third and Fourth Streets was started. Sensing the tremendous advantage to be gained by instituting a free library program and faced with the steadfast denial of library rights to black citizens, members of the West End community sought then to lay the groundwork for a permanent branch. On 23 September 1905, a library, free and open to anyone regardless of race, was opened in rented quarters; this is believed to be the first such occurrence in the United States. The site was three rooms of a home belonging to William M. Andrews, a waiter at the famous Galt House Hotel. The house stood, until recently, at 1125 West Chestnut Street in Western Louisville. This remarkable endeavor resulted in securing hitherto unknown reading rights for blacks in addition to collecting a surprising 1400 volumes. An effort to supply West Louisville with a more complete system and to remedy the obvious inequalities of the past, however, would involve not only the general Louisville citizenry, but also the charitable participation of Andrew Carnegie.

For years Louisville had been served by a number of privately operated library societies. Insolvency and the lack of a community-wide approach hindered any real progress. It was not until Carnegie -- steel magnate, archetypical nineteenth-century industrialist, and magnanimous philanthropist -- initiated a national funding program for the construction of library buildings that the existing system was organized. The gift was a conditional one; yet no other single element contributed more to the success of the total venture. In order to qualify for a construction allowance, the recipient was required to give proof that the remainder of the initial costs and all annual fiscal obligations were accommodated by law. The state of Indiana, one may infer, had allowed for such a possibility since Jeffersonville and New Albany can claim Carnegie-endowed facilities dating from 1903 and 1902-04, respectively. It was not until a popular vote and enabling legislation at about that same time, however, that Kentucky -- and Louisville in particular -- was able to commit public funds for library purposes, thus ensuring a comprehensive system.

(Continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Library Association. Papers and Proceedings of the Louisville Conference. Chicago: N. p., 1917.

Board of Directors of the Louisville Free Public Library. "Carnegie Centenary Program." Louisville, 1935. (Typewritten.)

(Continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM OK - WNW
12 22-75

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	6 0,7 8,04	4,2 3,4 0,04	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Property Evaluation Administrator's City District 3,
Block 13-H, Lot 168 as recorded June 2, 1905, in the Jefferson County
Clerk's Deed Book 622, page 539.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Douglas L. Stern, Research Assistant

(WEL)

ORGANIZATION

Louisville Landmarks Commission Staff

DATE

11 April 1975

STREET & NUMBER

530 West Jefferson Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 589-4230

CITY OR TOWN

Louisville

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

SIGNATURE

Cedred W. Melton

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

9/29/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Active

Larry R. Rogers

DATE

12/4/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles [Signature]

DATE

12-1-75

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Active

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 8 1975
DATE ENTERED	DEC 6 1975

Western Colored Branch, Louisville Free Public Library

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

Equipped, therefore, with sufficient funds and public support, the Library Board commenced its plans for a Western Branch. The second of eight Carnegie branches envisioned originally for Louisville, construction of the branch began on March 13, 1907. The site, a 69x120-foot tract, was secured by the Board for \$3,105. The principal contractor was Lortz and Frey Planing Mill Company. The edifice, which cost \$32,681.96 to erect, was dedicated for public use on October 29, 1908, with an impressive inauguration program.

The solemn remarks heard at the opening night celebration reflect its social and historical importance. Presided over by Louisville mayor James F. Grinstead, the meeting attracted in excess of four hundred people, thus signaling the facility's status as a community center. Gathered in the library's downstairs lecture room, the crowd listened to "addresses made by professional men of the race," according to The Courier-Journal of October 30. The mayor's opening message referred to the new "opportunities afforded the colored people of the city to secure knowledge and wisdom" and further "felicitated the race on their progress." A brief address on the importance of the library to the school was given by Professor A. E. Meyzee, then principal of the Eastern Colored School. This was followed with some remarks by the pastor of nearby Quinn's Chapel, A.M.E. Church, the Reverend J. C. Anderson, stressing its importance to the church. Next, Professor James E. Simpson of the Central High School succinctly "urged his hearers to remember that the library was for the benefit of the poor man, the workman as well as the professional man; in fact, that it was the people's library." Comments by the Reverend Leroy Ferguson, of the Church of the Merciful Saviour, businessman William H. Steward, and the president of Eckstein-Norton University, Dr. C.H. Parrish, concluded the program along with an original poem, quartet, and a number of musical selections by Professor Joseph S. Cotter, then principal of the S. Coleridge Taylor School.

The importance of the library to the black community continued to be recognized. In 1915, ten years after the opening of the Western Branch's temporary quarters, the director of the Library averred retrospectively that "the first free public library in America exclusively for colored readers . . . marked an epoch in the development of the race." A similar assessment was shared by Quinn's Chapel, A.M.E. Church's J.R. Harvey: "The value of the Public Library as a factor in the race's uplift cannot be overestimated." Dr. P.R. Peters, editor of The Colored Herald, maintained that "the Colored Library in Louisville as a public institution is not only profitable but indispensable to our people." In summary, Lucie N. DuValle, principal of the Phyllis Wheatley Colored School, was quoted as saying that the Western Branch, along with an eastern one opened in January 1914, "are potent factors in making intelligent, cultured and useful citizens."

(Continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 8 1975
DATE ENTERED	DEC 6 1975

Western Colored Branch, Louisville Free Public Library

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

It was then clear that the role performed by the branch in the advancement of black Louisvillians -- in fact, blacks everywhere -- would be of critical importance. Much credit for the success here and elsewhere must go to the first head of the Western Branch, Thomas F. Blue. A theologian by training, Blue joined the branch in 1908 as its librarian. With programs in other cities arising which intended to duplicate Louisville's provision, it was clear that a major need would be the training of qualified blacks for library positions, yet no apprentice process existed anywhere. Blue, through a librarian training course for blacks of his own design and held at the Western Branch, introduced library science to trainees from Evansville, Houston, Memphis, Cincinnati, and a number of other cities.

In addition, the branch, functioning as a community center, supplied a significant force in the promotion of cultural awareness during this formative period. Signs such as "KNOWLEDGE IS POWER" were daily reminders while monthly activities such as the Douglass Debating Club brought topics of special interest to library users. Suggestive of the great meaning the branch as a forum for the free exchange of ideas, some club discussions posed that "the right of suffrage should be extended to women" and "that the influence of women has contributed more to civilization than that of men."

Architecturally, the Western Branch represents a remarkable pedigree. Coinciding neatly with the classicist urge promoted by the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition Fair at Chicago, the edifice retrieves the ancient origins of the public library in its Beaux-Arts vocabulary. Furthermore, its architects, Kenneth McDonald and William J. Dodd, may be considered practitioners of a high order and responsible, together or with others, for the design of some of Louisville's finest buildings.

McDonald (1852-1940) was the younger of two brothers who formed an eminent regional practice covering the entire Gilded Age. Active from about 1878 to 1914, he cooperated in a number of projects in Louisville, including brother Harry's (1848-1904) 1893 American National Bank (Vaughn Building; 300 Building), under the firm name of McDonald Brothers. The earliest known surviving example of work is Rossmore Apartments (Berkeley Hotel) of 1894. His partner in the venture was J. F. Sheblessy. Together they also supervised the construction of the 1903-09 Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (Jefferson Community College). One of the most distinguished buildings in Louisville, the educational complex was probably the result of a 1902 competition design by Dodd, who had joined the McDonald Brothers-Sheblessy firm in about 1900.

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 8 1975
DATE ENTERED	DEC 6 1975

Western Colored Branch, Louisville Free Public Library

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 4

Educated in Chicago, Dodd (1862-1930) was an important design force in Louisville's turn-of-the-century architectural scene. His early training in the cradle of the Chicago School could not have occurred under more propitious circumstances. Working there in the early 1880s, he was trained under Major William LeBaron Jenney, often regarded as inventor of the structural steel skyscraper, and Solon S. Beman, with whom Dodd is said to have participated in the design of the planned industrial city of Pullman, Illinois. Arriving in Louisville in about 1884, Dodd worked first in partnership with O.C. Wehle. In 1889 he began a joint venture with Mason Maury which lasted until about 1896.

Maury (1846-1919), one of Louisville's most prolific architects, collaborated with Dodd in several projects significant in delivering the revolutionary Chicago Style to this city. One of this team's earliest buildings was the 1889-91 Louisville Trust Bank Building. In it, they captured successfully the spirit of the modern message for the first time locally in a Richardsonian skyscraper. Together they also produced a host of magnificent dwellings in fashionable Old Louisville and in the burgeoning suburb of the Cherokee Triangle. True to the national trend, many of the dwellings were executed in the immensely popular Romanesque revival mode; yet some, such as their 1893 American Colonial revival home for George T. Wood on Cherokee Road, reveal a fascinating propensity that the two had for embracing the most novel features of the quickly changing reservoir of historic styles and modeling them to this region's particular likes and dislikes.

Indeed, this period, crucial in the evolution of a modern order, marked a departure in architectural practice which was echoed in a split between Maury and Dodd. While Maury was attracted to the new world of Midwesterners Sullivan and Wright, Dodd opted instead for the popular classical style invoked by architects from the East and planted, ironically, in Chicago during its Columbian Exposition of 1893. It was Dodd who was responsible for Kentucky's building at the fair. Unquestionably, its Beaux-Arts conformity acted as a precedent for his remaining endeavors. From 1896 and lasting until about 1905 (apparently an association simultaneous with the McDonalds), Dodd worked with Arthur Cobb in producing some of Louisville's most lavish and, admittedly, beautiful pre-war era residences. In this Dodd and Cobb partnership (notice that Dodd's name is first in the firm title, a unique occurrence in his Louisville career), his Beaux-Arts expertise blossomed in homes for a number of the city's most influential citizens, including his own on St. James Court. Their quintessential effort was a mansion for cottonseed oil king Edwin Hite Ferguson (Pearson's Funeral Home) erected in 1901-03 nearby on Third Avenue. Dodd eventually traveled to Los Angeles where he practiced with William S. Richards until his death.

(Continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 8 1975
DATE ENTERED DEC 6 1975

Western Colored Branch, Louisville Free Public Library

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 5

It was during Dodd's association with McDonald until about 1913, however, that both architects achieved many of their major works. Perhaps best known for several important churches -- most notably their 1905-06 Temple Adath Israel (placed on the National Register December 31, 1974) and 1910-11 First Christian Church -- the firm also received high praise for their domestic projects. Homes for hotelier Louis Seelbach, Memphis' Hunter Raine, and John C. Caperton in suburban Crescent Hill attest to their prominence. Additionally, projects such as the 1906 Y. M. C. A. on Broadway, Lincoln Bank Building also of 1906 (Washington Building, demolished 1973), Starks Building (first section), Tyler Hotel (Milner Hotel), and Weissinger-Gaulbert Apartments at Third and Broadway -- all three of about 1912 -- established their success in the commercial adaptation of Beaux-Arts design.

Their relatively small work for the Library Board was regarded, nevertheless, as a major commission. In securing architectural services for their first facilities, the board chose a range of the city's major firms. It was, for example, the prominent firm of George Tachau (a Louisville native) and Lewis F. Pilcher of New York and Philadelphia which was selected to design and supervise the system's superb 1905-08 Main Library--a tradition of quality employed, happily in its recent addition. Another sample of this high design-consciousness was the board's choice of Arthur Loomis as architect for its Shelby Carnegie Branch in Germantown of 1910-11. In both instances, the board was especially farsighted in acquiring the landscape services of the renowned Olmsted Brothers of Brookline, Massachusetts. Loomis (1857-1934) was the partner, at one time, of Charles J. Clarke (1836-1908). Together they produced the superb Romanesque Louisville Medical College (University of Louisville School of Medicine listed on the National Register July 30, 1975) in 1891-93 and the two aforementioned Carnegie branches in Indiana's Floyd and Clark Counties.

McDonald and Dodd's Western Colored Branch holds its own in such distinguished company. Although smaller and more compact than many of the Carnegie branch libraries, lacking either the characteristic dome or rear tribune, here the rectangular block has been given a rich and monumental surface by means of architectural devices perhaps as much English Baroque as Roman Imperial in character. It is possible that in the use of lavish quoins, Gibbs surrounds, and prominent keystones Dodd (the designing partner of the firm) may have intended a subtle reference to the recently completed mansion of the donor, Andrew Carnegie, in New York, designed by Babb, Cook, and Willard. In any case, the black population of western Louisville acquired a design worthy of the institution's humanitarian significance.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED OCT 8 1975
DEC 6 1975
DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Western Colored Branch, Louisville Free Public Library

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 2

_____. Colored Branches of the Louisville Free Public Library: An Illustrated Description of the Buildings Together with Some Interesting Figures Concerning Their Cost, Equipment and Use; Issued to Mark the Tenth Anniversary of the Opening of the First Free Public Library in America Exclusively for Colored Readers. Louisville: Louisville Free Public Library, 1915.

_____. Fifth Annual Report. Louisville: Louisville Free Public Library, 1910.

_____. Louisville Free Public Library. Louisville: N.p., 1914.

_____. Second Annual Report. Louisville: Louisville Free Public Library, 1907.

"Colored Library." The (Louisville) Courier-Journal, 30 October 1908, p. 8.

Invitation to the American Library Association. Louisville: John P. Morton Press, 1913.

Johnson, Lyman T. Louisville Free Public Library Western Branch, Louisville, Kentucky. Interview, 4 March 1975.

Langsam, Walter E., and others., Metropolitan Preservation Plan. Washington, D.C.: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Falls of the Ohio Metropolitan Council of Governments, 1973.

Latham, Tooba K. "Mason Maury and the Influence of the Chicago School." Master's thesis, University of Louisville, 1975.

Withey, Henry F., and Withey, E. R. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects. Los Angeles: New Age Publishing Company, 1956.

Wright, Lillian T. "Thomas Fountain Blue, Pioneer Librarian, 1866-1935." Master's thesis, Atlanta University, 1955.