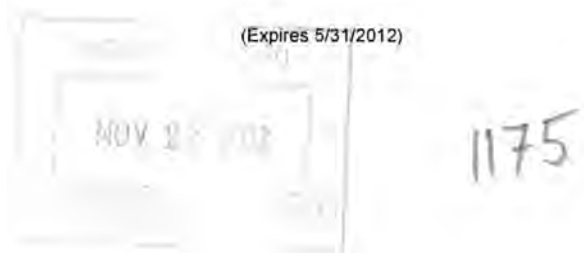


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

historic name Lincoln Branch Library
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 2229 West Second Street

NA	not for publication
NA	vicinity

city or town Duluth
state Minnesota code MN county St. Louis code 137 zip code 55806

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:
 national statewide local

Barbara Howard November 20, 2012
Signature of certifying official/Title Barbara Mitchell Howard, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official _____ Date _____

Title _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

John Edson H. Beall 1.14.13
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
(Check only one box.)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/library

EDUCATION/school

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
REVIVALS/Late Gothic Revival (Collegiate Gothic)

foundation: STONE
walls: BRICK; STONE: Limestone

roof: ASPHALT
other: Windows – Leaded Zinc

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The former Lincoln Branch Library (called the West End Branch Library prior to construction of the building) is located in the west central area of Duluth, Minnesota, in what was known as the West End neighborhood (now called the Lincoln Park neighborhood). Duluth's West End/Lincoln Park is a residential neighborhood with tree-lined streets, predominantly vernacular architecture, sidewalks and alleys. The library was built in 1915-1917 on two 50'x140' lots at the corner of 2nd Street and 23rd Avenue West in the heart of the neighborhood. The third, and last, Carnegie library in Duluth, it opened to the public on September 1, 1917. It is a modest, single-story, rectangular building designed in the Late Gothic Revival (Collegiate Revival) style with original dimensions of 69'x51'. Its exterior is brown and dark red Flemish bond brick with contrasting limestone trim in an asymmetrical pattern. It has a steep cross gable and is pierced by large, multi-paned, leaded zinc Gothic arched windows on the southwest and northeast gable ends. A 32'x36' garage was added to the rear of the building in 1966 to house two bookmobile vehicles. The library closed in 1990 when a new library was built to serve all of western Duluth. In 1992, the building was purchased by the Duluth Art Institute to house its arts education programs. Although it has undergone some renovations for use as an arts education center, the Lincoln Branch Library building retains its historical and architectural integrity.

Narrative Description

The Lincoln Branch (Carnegie) Library is one of 65 Minnesota libraries built with Carnegie Corporation funds. Between 1899 and 1917, the Carnegie Corporation gave close to \$1 million to library construction in Minnesota, making it the 8th ranking state in the country in the amount of Carnegie library funds received.

Work on establishing a branch library in Duluth's West End (re-named Lincoln Park in 1996) began in 1891 when a committee representing citizens from the neighborhood met with the Duluth Library Board with their request. In the spring of 1893, the first West End Branch Library opened in a room in the Irwin-Sloan Block at 1926-32 West Superior Street. The library moved a number of times to various temporary locations until April 1915 when the Duluth City Council appropriated \$4,300 to purchase two lots in the heart of the neighborhood on the southwest corner of 23rd Avenue West and 2nd Street (Lots 365 and 367 in Block 89, Duluth Proper, Second Division). The lots, with 100' of frontage on 2nd Street and 140' of frontage 23rd Avenue West, were purchased in May of that year. The next step, as Mayor William I. Prince said, was to approach Andrew Carnegie, the benefactor also of the Duluth Public Library and the West Duluth Branch Library, with a request for \$30,000 to build the Lincoln branch. The request included the required "guarantee by resolution" of 10% of the value, \$3,000 per year, for "expenses and maintenance of the branch" (Carnegie Collection, June 7, 1915). The Carnegie Corporation approved the request and architects Abraham Holstead and William J. Sullivan were chosen to design the 69'x51' building. Jos. Hanson was the building contractor.

Beginning with its symmetrical southeast façade facing 2nd Street, the building's distinguishing feature is its prominent main entrance. A flight of concrete steps with one landing, enclosed by a brick and limestone railing, leads to the double wood, glass-paned doors set in limestone. Above the entrance, the eave line is broken by a raised pediment with intricately carved limestone in an acanthus leaf design. The initials "DPL," representing Duluth Public Library, highlight a central shield motif while "Lincoln Branch Library" is carved just above the entrance door. Original multi-pane square lanterns remain in place on either side of the front entrance. Located at the ground level are two sets of five 10/15 double-hung windows with wood sashes and concrete sills. A beveled limestone belt course separates the ground and first floor levels. Carved stone shields featuring armorial and geometric patterns are symmetrically located above the limestone course. A band of seven multi-pane windows span the first floor on either side of the door and are positioned adjacent to the roof eave. A gutter and downspout system is positioned on each side of the entrance.

The southwest façade features a basement level entrance on the western section under the flat portion of the roof. The entrance is characterized by a flight of stairs enclosed by a brick and limestone railing leading to a wooden double door with single pane, arched glass panels. A pediment above the entrance bears the carved inscription "Club Room." A simple lantern is located over the entrance. Located at the ground level are a series of 10/15 double-hung windows. Above the windows a beveled limestone belt course separates the first floor and basement level. Featured near the west corner of the building and above the "Club Room" door is a pentagonal two-story bay which is accentuated by a band of multi-paned windows on three sides. Situated to the west, and adjacent to this series of windows, are three windows of identical

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configuration and design. A continuous limestone course, parallel to the roof, and aligned with the window head, extends across the western portion of the façade. The gable on the eastern portion of the façade features the predominant architectural design characteristic of the building – Gothic three-tiered multi-paned windows configured with zinc segments and cased in limestone. The upper tier consists of ten sets of narrow, vertical openings. The two lower tiers consist of five sets of multi-paned (35 – light sash) windows. Two carved stone shields, similar to those situated on the southeast façade, flank each side of the window. An I-shaped limestone band is positioned above the window near the peak of the gable.

The northeast façade is obstructed by the garage addition. Original blueprints indicate the garage addition obstructs or has caused the removal of original window openings and possibly a rear entrance. The lower level of the original building displays evidence of four window openings which have been bricked in. A beveled limestone belt course separates the ground and first floor levels. At the western portion of the building, located under the flat portion of the roof, is a series of three multi-paned, limestone-cased windows. A continuous limestone course, parallel to the roof, extends across the window head to the gabled section of that façade. The exposed area of the gable features two rows of three windows with 16-light sash on the main level. The upper gable has three narrow, vertical windows each supported by a single stone sill. The middle window is configured with a metal ventilator.

The northeast façade is characterized by the same large Gothic window, limestone I-shaped band, and carved stone shields as located on the southwest gable described above. A configuration of six 10/15 double-hung windows cased in wood are positioned along the ground level. A limestone belt course separates the ground and first floor levels. The north corner features a series of five windows situated under the flat portion of the roof. A continuous limestone course, parallel to the roof, extends across the window head to the gabled portion of that façade. A large brick chimney, capped in stone and featuring four stone quoins, one at each corner, is positioned at the north corner of the building.

The interior of the building consists of the main floor and a lower level. The interior walls are wood lath and plaster with cement and wood floors. The ceiling is plaster except for sheet rock where it was repaired in the boiler room per fire code. The main floor has vaulted ceilings and is an open plan. A restroom and a small storage space are located in the north corner behind the area containing the original circulation desk. The original bookshelves have been removed, however their placement can be surmised by observing outlines on the floor. The placement of the shelves is consistent with recommendations made by James Bertram, a personal secretary to Andrew Carnegie. The room remains an open space and is currently used for arts education classes. The main floor retains its architectural integrity as the introduction of replacement furniture or fixtures has not occurred. The split-entrance located in the west corner provides access to the upper and lower levels by a narrow stairway. The lower level consists of the boiler room, two restrooms, a coat room, two studio spaces, and a larger work/study space. The work space is used as a weaving studio and is outfitted with original shelves from the library and several weaving looms. The stairway at the north corner of the building has undergone alterations to meet building code and fire safety codes. An enclosed hallway and fire doors have been installed. The replacement trim surrounding the stairs has been installed to be compatible with the original materials. The integrity of the lower level space has not been compromised by the stairway alteration or use as a studio space.

Interior and exterior building repairs include the following: the original tile roof was replaced with asphalt shingles (the contractor name and year are unknown), Kelso Brothers repaired the roof in 1933, Anderson-Cross Electric installed 16 electrical outlets and 8 light fixtures in 1946, Nyland Electric installed 16 light fixtures on the first floor in 1969 and installed one outlet on the first floor in 1970, Duluth Sheet Metal and Refrigeration installed an exhaust fan in the storage room in 1975, Erling Hanson repaired the roof and installed a fire door in 1978, Commercial Electric installed two ceiling fans in 1983 (Historical Bibliography of 2227-2229 W. 2nd Street). Most of the repairs apparently were undertaken to comply with building code issues and do not adversely affect the integrity of the building. The effect of the repairs has had little or no adverse effect on its architectural integrity.

Recent repairs and renovations of the building include: rebuilt stairway on the southwest façade in 1996 – construction methods, design, and material use is complimentary to the integrity of the building. The original limestone was re-used. The Duluth Art Institute, with careful consideration to preservation standards, repaired the Gothic arched windows on the southwest façade, including tuck pointing, with assistance from a grant from the McKnight Foundation.

In 1966, a bookmobile garage designed by Melander and Fugelso Architects and Engineers and built by Wipson Company was added to the original structure. The 32'x36' garage addition consists of a reinforced concrete slab floor, concrete block walls with brick reveal and a steel joist flat gravel roof with skydomes. The garage addition underwent renovation in 1997. The overhead garage doors on the southwest façade were replaced with a series of windows – a

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renovation that was sensitive to the architectural integrity of the original library building. The replacement of garage doors with windows provides a sense of balance and appropriate scale to the building.

The property has little formal landscaping. A large conifer is located at the southern corner of the building. A deciduous tree is located to the east of the main entrance and garden spaces are located on the southeast façade and on the south portion of the southwest façade. A wire chain-link fence surrounds the area in front of the east portion of the southeast façade. It adjoins the neighboring property fence, continues northwest, and wraps around to enclose the entire northwest portion of the lot. Five coniferous trees are symmetrically located at the northwest property line. A cultivated lawn slopes away from the building toward the southwest and southeast and slightly increases in elevation toward the northwest and northeast.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1917

Significant Dates

1917

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Holstead, Abraham - Architect

Sullivan, William J. - Architect

Hanson, Jos. - Builder

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

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Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance covers the construction of this building as the third and final Carnegie Library in Duluth, Minnesota. It represents the culmination of efforts to bring Carnegie Corporation funds for library development to this urban center in Minnesota. The location and design of the building reflect the philosophy of the Carnegie Corporation at the time.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Lincoln Branch Library is locally significant for Social History under Criterion A. Through its construction in 1917, supported by a gift from the Carnegie Corporation, it is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The City of Duluth received the first Minnesota Carnegie library gift in 1899 for its main library and one of the last Minnesota Carnegie library gifts for the Lincoln Branch Library. Funding of its construction linked it to the Carnegie Corporation pattern of promoting widespread public library service for social betterment of people throughout the United States. As a branch library in Minnesota's third-largest urban center (Urban Centers, 1870-1940), it also was part of branch library expansion supported by Carnegie philanthropy. Its construction added to the city's infrastructure of main and branch libraries and its opening on September 1, 1917, as a municipal, tax-supported institution fulfilled long-standing requests from West End residents for a branch library. The architectural design of the building made it an attractive addition to its neighborhood and its selection of books and services were described during its grand opening ceremony on August 30, 1917, as a positive neighborhood influence. It served as a branch library until 1990 when a new library was built to serve all of western Duluth.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The village of Duluth, Minnesota, northern Minnesota's largest city, was platted in 1856 and incorporated as a town in 1857. Thirteen years later, in 1870, it was incorporated as a city. Its location is geographically striking; it is on the western-most tip of Lake Superior, the western-most of the Great Lakes, and is a linear city, extending along the steep hill overlooking the lake. At about twenty miles long and several miles wide, it is centered on the Twin Ports Harbor. The city stretches west from downtown along the St. Louis River and Bay where it drains into the harbor and east from downtown along the shore of the lake. Its West End/Lincoln Park neighborhood, the home of the Lincoln Branch Library, is immediately to the west of the downtown area.

The last years of the 19th century and the first decades of the 20th century were Duluth's growth years. Discovery of iron ore and the opening of mines on Minnesota's Iron Ranges, north and west of Duluth, and use of the harbor to ship ore across the Great Lakes to eastern steel mills, helped make the city a major transportation hub. Grain shipping from Dakota farms and northern Minnesota white pine logging industry shipping added to the development of the harbor and growth of the city. Business and industrial development boomed. The city had more millionaires than any other of comparable size; its well-defined western neighborhoods housed primarily working class populations.

Between 1910 and 1920, in many ways, Duluth grew to the urban center it is today. Its population expanded from 78,466 in 1910 to 98,917 in 1920 (compared to 86,255 in 2010). Many of its signature buildings either were under construction or were in place by this time. A photograph of a "Bird's Eye View of Duluth" in 1910 shows a city with a well-defined downtown, a new "City Beautiful" movement inspired Civic Center, the Union Depot with its distinctive French chateau-style architecture, Duluth Central High School to the east of downtown, and the city's \$75,000 main public library, built in 1899-1900 with Carnegie Corporation funds, located at 101 W. 2nd Street. (Bird's Eye View of Duluth, 1910, Minnesota Historical Society collections). Just out of the photograph is the Aerial Bridge spanning the Duluth Ship Canal; it would become the Aerial Lift Bridge in 1930. Construction of the Daniel Burnham-designed Alworth Building in downtown Duluth, the tallest commercial building in Minnesota at the time, and the Bertram Goodhue-designed Kitchi Gammi Club east of downtown, were underway. Plans to develop the model community of Morgan Park near the city's new steel mills on its western side would soon begin, as would construction of the West Duluth Branch Library, built with Carnegie funds at a cost of \$20,000. Most of these buildings are still standing and many now are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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The city's West End neighborhood is west of downtown Duluth, bordered by the Point of Rocks (14th/15th Avenues West) on the east (the traditional division between eastern and western Duluth), the Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway iron ore docks at 33rd/35th Avenues West on the west, St. Louis Bay on the south, and Skyline Parkway on the north. In 1996, West End was re-named Lincoln Park after a residential area in the neighborhood developed for people working in West End businesses and industries during Mayor W.I Prince's term in office. At the time the Lincoln Branch Library was built, however, the entire area was commonly referred to as West End.

West End grew out of a series of small settlements founded in the 1850s and, by the mid-1880s, was home to much of the city's industrial development. Grain elevators, with a capacity of 11 million bushels, seven sawmills processing white pine lumber from northern Minnesota logging camps, and, by the early 1890s, the first of the city's ore docks designed to transfer ore from Iron Range railroads to ore boats for shipment to eastern steel mills – all were built along West End's waterfront. Other businesses and industries located in the neighborhood included bakeries, breweries, cigar makers, candy companies, electrical equipment suppliers, clothing companies, iron and steel fabricators, knitting mills, and heavy equipment manufacturers. Many were established during Duluth's boom years – Clyde Iron Works, Diamond Tool & Horseshoe Company, Zinsmaster-Smith Bread Company, The Duluth Brewing and Malting Company, F.A. Patrick Company (clothing manufacturers), The Bridgeman-Russell Company, Duluth Tent and Awning, Inc., and Anderson Furniture among many others. The population of West End was 11,000 in 1900; it increased to 15,000 in 1910 and 19,000 in 1920 (Major Street Plan, 13 and Plate 5). The area was known as a working class neighborhood; most West End residents were employed in its businesses and industries.

Duluth Libraries

Interest in developing a library system in Duluth began in 1869, a year before it was incorporated as a city. An appeal, published in the city's newspaper, the *Minnesotan*, by the Youngmen's Library Association, announced a meeting "for the purpose of organizing a library" (Eubank, 150). As a result of the meeting, a reading room was established with donated books and a librarian was hired. A library board was established in 1890 and a five-year lease was arranged with the Masonic Temple at that time to house the city's library. Looking for help in establishing a permanent library, in 1899 William T. Thompson, Editor of the *Herald*, wrote Andrew Carnegie a three-page letter outlining Duluth's need for a public library building. As he said, he knew that Carnegie took "a deep interest in the subject of public libraries and had been very generous in establishing institutions of this character" in other cities. He reported the city's temporary library contained over 26,000 volumes and added several thousand new volumes a year. Annual circulation was almost 74,000 volumes with an annual visitor rate of almost 100,000. Thompson also mentioned that the West End branch, in its rented quarters, had an annual attendance of almost 19,000 people (Thompson to Carnegie, September 12, 1899). According to Carnegie Corporation Library file records, on October 7, 1899, the corporation promised the city \$50,000 for a new public library; payment was authorized on December 27, 1899. The City Council immediately sent Carnegie a letter thanking him for his generosity and set about the task of building a new main library. Projected costs for the building, however, came in at \$95,000. On July 31, 1900, Henry W. Oliver wrote to Carnegie and, reminding him of their close professional relationship, asked for an increase in the city's library appropriation (Oliver to Carnegie, July 31, 1900). The corporation increased the Duluth appropriation to \$75,000 on August 13, 1900 and the library was built (internal corporate memo). Following that, in 1912, the Carnegie Corporation gave \$20,000 for a branch library in West Duluth, the neighborhood immediately to the west of West End.

Requests from West End residents to the library board for a branch library began in 1891. The board voted to establish a reading room and delivery station in the neighborhood in October of that year; it opened the following spring as a storefront location in the Irwin-Sloan Block at 1926-32 West Superior Street. This first West End Branch Library operated until 1893 when it fell victim to the national recession and funding cutbacks. A petition to re-open, presented to the library board in the spring of 1895 was successful, but the following year the branch was again threatened with closing. At that time, a local benefactor came to the rescue. Mrs. Helen Cody Wetmore (William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody's sister and a prominent western Duluth resident at the time) offered to "furnish heat, lights, janitor service, and a competent librarian for the sum of \$50 per month...for the entire year of 1896" (Nylander, 132). Her gift helped for a time but, in spite of the glowing numbers quoted in the 1899 letter to Andrew Carnegie, the branch closed again in late 1900 or early 1901. The \$60 per month cost of keeping it open was more than the library board was willing to pay (Nylander, 133). It stayed closed until January 1908 when the Twentieth Century Club opened it in a room in a church. Although well received, the library board did not feel it could take on the financial burden of keeping it open until late in 1909. At that time, the board rented space for it at 2432 West Superior Street, the cost of the rent shared with the Twentieth Century Club (Nylander 133-134).

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This time the West End Branch Library stayed open. In May 1912, it moved to 2102 West Superior Street, then to 2022 West Superior Street into what was described as "a large, light room" (Nylander 134). From there, the branch moved to 20 North 20th Avenue West, which is where it was when city officials began contacting the Carnegie Corporation about a building.

Carnegie Corporation Library Program

Between the years 1886 and 1917, Andrew Carnegie, through the Carnegie Corporation, sponsored a program that financially supported construction of libraries as free public institutions. According to Carnegie myth (rooted in reality), his interest in libraries began as a child in Scotland when he was given access to a friend's library. He spent hours there, learning the value of books and beginning to develop ideas about the role they play in achieving knowledge, contributing toward self-improvement, and building character. From this experience he came to believe that, along with schools, churches, hospitals, civic and cultural organizations, libraries were assets to communities and had the power to change lives. (Eubank, 41-51, Van Slyck, 8-9). He often said he owed a part of his wealth to the educational opportunities he received through his visits to his friend's library. When he began developing his philanthropic activities, he put his beliefs into action with financial support of a library program available to cities and towns throughout the United States and other countries (Van Slyck, 8-9, Weaver, 13).

Carnegie's belief that free public libraries played a role in social betterment of the people they served helps explain his interest in both main and branch libraries. The growth of branch libraries, often first located in small storefronts, began in the late 19th century. The movement was somewhat controversial because it represented decentralization of libraries as cultural institutions and a shift in power from the main library to shared authority throughout the system (Van Slyck, 101). But it was of interest to Carnegie because it provided an added opportunity to make libraries accessible to people.

As his interest grew, Carnegie approached support of branch libraries on two fronts – design and free public access. For design, in 1901, he appointed a team of New York City architects to advise him. Understanding that many branches were in working class neighborhoods, they suggested the design, materials, character, and scale of branch libraries should be uniform, consistent with their role as branches, and represent their function to their working class neighbors (Van Slyck, 103, 113). For the exteriors, this included an economical design without extra ornamentation, a formal front entry at the top of a flight of steps, and a lamp or lantern at the front door (Weaver, 13). For interiors, he drew on the "modern library idea." Modern library idea beliefs were characterized by public support, open shelves with access to the books, work with children, cooperation with schools, and support of branch libraries and traveling libraries (Van Slyck, 25). In the spirit of free public access, he stipulated branch libraries should be located in the centers of the areas they served – a tangible sign they were available to everyone (Van Slyck, 112).

Carnegie's public idealism about free public access to working class populations, however, was tinged with some private concerns. He was a veteran of the 1892 Homestead Strike during which working class people stuck and fought against several companies, including his. He thus supported branch library development in working class neighborhoods and the modern library idea of open shelving to make books accessible to all, but he made sure the librarian's desk was circular, all-seeing, and always located near the front entrance for surveillance purposes. Carnegie libraries, thus, came to represent free access and subtle control (Van Slyck, 101, 107). By 1908, Carnegie Corporation gifts began to focus on supporting branch libraries, many in working class neighborhoods, and most with these distinctive Carnegie design and access features (Van Slyck, 79).

In 1911, to help further standardize Carnegie design specifications, James Bertram, Secretary to Andrew Carnegie and administrator of the Carnegie Corporation Library program, wrote a leaflet titled "Notes on the Erection of Library Buildings." According to the leaflet, a Carnegie library should be a rectangular building with a basement and a main floor. The main floor should be between 12' and 15' high to accommodate the stacks (bookshelves). The windows had to be 6'-7' from the floor to allow for continuous shelving along the walls. The floor could be subdivided by strategic placement of shelves, but the circulation desk had to be located near the front entrance to allow for proper library supervision. The leaflet stipulated that Carnegie libraries should not have fancy entrances with excessive use of materials; entrances should be unassuming and lead into a small vestibule. The recommended basement should have 9'-10' ceilings and should be located 4' below the natural grade. It should be used for storage, work rooms, utilities, and facilities. Architects were warned against wasting space on cloak rooms, toilets, and stairways. Overall, according to the "Notes," a library plan should be dignified, plain, and avoid designs that would make practical library administration difficult or impossible (Van

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Slyck, 221-223). Bertram sent the leaflet to all communities receiving Carnegie gifts and he expected the guidelines to be followed.

The process for requesting funds for a library building from the Carnegie Corporation followed a set formula. Beginning in 1908 James Bertram's approval of library plans was required and beginning in 1911, library plans had to conform to the specifications in "Notes on the Erection of Library Buildings." The requesting community had to demonstrate need for a public library through answers to questions about the library location and the population it would serve. The community also had to certify in writing to the Carnegie Corporation it had purchased a site for the library, make a written commitment to allocate 10% of the value of the appropriation annually for ongoing library expenses and maintenance, and pledge it would use the appropriation to complete the building on budget and ready for occupancy. And, of course, the new library had to provide free service to everyone. When all paperwork was in order and the plans were approved, Bertram would contact Robert A. Franks, Carnegie Corporation treasurer, and ask him to release allocated funds in installments based on documentation of completed work. Corporation officials requested a reduced copy of the final blueprints and photographs of the building exterior for their files. This was the process the City of Duluth followed when working with the Carnegie Corporation for the Lincoln Branch Library (Van Slyck, 23, Weaver, 13).

The Lincoln Branch Library

When city officials decided to request funds for a branch library in Duluth's West End, securing a site for it was their first task. On May 26, 1915, the Duluth City Council passed a resolution authorizing payment of \$4,300 to P. George Hanson & Son (real estate and insurance agents) for Lots 365 and 367 on block 89, Duluth Proper, Second Division as the site for the Lincoln Branch Library (Borgren to Voss, May 26, 1916). Following this, on June 2, 1915, the City Council passed a resolution indicating the land had been purchased and the city was committed to allocating \$3,000 per year to maintain the proposed library building. On June 9, Mayor W.I. Prince, acting in lieu of the library board which had been abolished in 1913 and would not be reinstated until 1929, sent a copy of this information to James Bertram along with a letter requesting support for a West End Branch Library. Mayor Prince wrote in the one and one-fourth page request letter that the West End neighborhood was developing rapidly and circulation in the rented West End location had recently surpassed the new Carnegie West Duluth Branch Library even though the West End branch was housed in an "inadequate storeroom" (Prince to Bertram, June 9, 1916).

As expected, an exchange of letters followed Mayor Prince's request. Bertram asked for additional information including a map of Duluth showing the locations of the other two Carnegie libraries in the city. Prince sent all materials and on July 6, 1915, received a letter stating Duluth's request for a branch library in its West End neighborhood would be considered at the next meeting of Carnegie Corporation trustees (Bertram to Prince, July 6, 1915). On September 29, 1915, Mayor Prince received a letter approving the request with the understanding the amount would "cover the cost of the Library bilding, complete, redy for occupancy and for the purpos intended" (Bertram to Prince, September 29, 1915; note Bertram's use of Melville Dewey's Simplified Spelling scheme). On October 11, 1915, the City Council gratefully accepted the gift.

The appropriated amount was a good-sized gift, especially by the standards of the day. It allowed the city to build a large and well-designed building in the center of the West End neighborhood. Architects for the building were Abraham Holstead and William J. Sullivan, chosen in November 1915 from ten firms submitting design proposals (Duluth Public Library Reports, Volume 2, 5). The contractor was Jos. Hanson. The terms of the gift stated the design had to conform to Carnegie Corporation building standards with an eye to function, efficiency, and economical use of space. As a design aid, Bertram sent Mayor Prince his "Notes on the Erection of Library Buildings" (Bertram to Prince, September 29, 1915).

The library building was in good hands. In addition to this building, the firm of Holstead and Sullivan, operating in Duluth between 1912/1914 and 1928, designed many prominent buildings in the area including Denfeld High School, the St. Louis County Jail (in the Civic Center), Naniboujou Lodge north of Grand Marais, and Nopeming Sanitarium. Sullivan, prior to his association with Holstead, had designed the West Duluth Carnegie Branch Library. Holstead, a native of England where he had received his architectural training, also had experience in designing libraries, especially during his time in Chicago before his move to Duluth (Duluth City Directory, 1908-1916, information from the Northwest Architectural Archives).

The building they designed for the Lincoln Branch Library is in the Late Gothic Revival (Collegiate Gothic) style. Late Gothic Revival (Collegiate Gothic) was popular in Duluth during this period. Nationally, it was popularized by Ralph A.

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Cram and Bertram Goodhue and was used in many public buildings; Denfeld High School, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a local example.

By April 1916, the library was designed and the blueprints were ready to be sent to James Bertram. City Librarian Frances E. Earhart, a graduate of the Drexel Institute Library School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, sent them off with a cover letter calling his attention to the librarian's office, the double doors at the foot of the basement stairs, and the lettering over the front door. She also asked for money for "highly necessary alterations" to the Main Library building, built in 1901-1902 "before the modern era of library plans and equipment." She noted the staff had doubled since that building was built and stated the alterations would be for "revamping the present quarters of the staff to suit our needs" (Earhart to Bertram, April 12, 1916). Bertram's reply was swift and critical. He responded only to the branch library blueprints, writing the Carnegie Corporation did not "like the layout" of the West End branch. Specifically, he said, there were questions about the row of roof supports that seemed to divide the building into two sections. He also commented on/questioned the existence of too many interior obstructions in general, the fact that the Delivery Desk was not shown on plans, the children's Story Hour room was of "negligible" size, the need for double door to basement was questionable, the location of little rooms he assumed were men's and women's toilets on the main floor were questionable, the size of proposed Work Room was too small "to be of much practical use," an interior hallway took up space that could better be used in the Work Room, and a little area by Librarians' Room seemed to be of no practical use. Finally, he said, "There should be no Toilet on the Main Floor" (Bertram to Earhart, April 20, 1916). Miss Earhart's reply answered the questions. She wrote she was sending a new set of blueprints. Making no further mention of her request for main library funds, she concentrated on the branch design. She said the basement conformed to city building regulations, the little main floor rooms Bertram thought were men's and women's toilets were in reality a storeroom and a committee room (though one would have a small toilet in it), the Book Room in the basement would have a kitchen to serve refreshments for meetings held in the Auditorium, the small room off the librarian's office would have a small kitchenette in it for use by librarians, and the toilet next to the librarian's office would be for staff only – men's and women's' toilets would be in the basement. She said the designs showed the changed location of a door to accommodate shelving. The Story Hour room could hold 35-40 children, the number library staff considered an optimum-sized group. She also noted the entire main floor would be clear of obstructions and she ended the letter with: "If there are any further criticisms or suggestions about the revised plans, please let us hear from you" (Earhart to Bertram, April 29, 1916).

Spring dragged into summer as the exchange of letters continued. Earhart wrote in early June asking if Bertram would send his approval so contracts could be let, an important step in a city with a short construction season. In a separate letter on the same day, she also acknowledged she was "unwise enough," several months prior, to include a request for additional main public library building funds in a letter about the West End branch, for which she "received a well-merited rebuke" (Earhart to Bertram, June 6, 1916). But Bertram wasn't done yet. He wrote to Alice Gaylord, Superintendent of Branches, complaining about the building clearances. "This is practically a two story, rather than a one story and basement bilding, the only difference being that the stairs ar on the outside instead of inside." He added, the "bilding is practically to be put into a hole." "... who pays the cost of the understructure and filling in?" (Bertram to Gaylord, July 12, 1916). Additional explanations followed, and on August 14, 1916, Bertram notified Franks to "Please make the following payment on account of Library Donations: Duluth, Minnesota. Sums as needed to pay for the erection of Free Public Library Bilding, as work progresses, to the extent of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000). Voted Sep 29 1915" (Bertram to Franks, August 14, 1916). Further supporting the city's management and maintenance commitment, Earhart sent a letter to Bertram in September laying out the existing costs of running the West End branch - \$2,853.10, half of this sum were salaries – to show the city already was spending close to its 10% commitment in the area and would continue to meet its pledge.

With questions from the Carnegie Corporation settled and the design accepted, construction of the newly-named Lincoln Branch Library seems to have gone smoothly. The name reflects its location in the centrally-located Lincoln Park area of Duluth's West End. On August 30, 1917, a crowd of 500 people celebrated its construction during a gala ceremony featuring speeches and music. According to a newspaper account, every available chair on the main floor was taken and about 100 people had to stand. Mayor C. R. Magney spoke first. He thanked former Mayor W.I.Prince for his work on securing the library and encouraged West End citizens to make good use of it. Former Mayor Prince congratulated the architect and contractor and reiterated the call for use of the building. The speeches of both referred to the Carnegie concept of libraries as institutions for education and social betterment:

Mayor Magney: It is our hope that you people will put the building to full use.

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This building is not built only for the beauty. It may stand as a monument to architecture, but to get the best benefits, it must be used.

Former Mayor Prince: It gives me a large measure of satisfaction to know that this building will be put to the use for which it is largely intended, that of becoming a community center where the people of this end of the city can gather in meetings like this to discuss the welfare of the community.

Several others, including Clara Baldwin, Secretary of the State Library Commission, and Frances Earhart spoke. Miss Baldwin said she had been part of many library grand openings but never one as well attended as the Lincoln branch celebration. She then said, "Books in the libraries are here for a purpose. ... They are yours to use." Miss Earhart announced that Maude Grogan would be the branch librarian and the library already had 4,000 books with more to come. The pastors of the Trinity English Lutheran Church and the Zion Norwegian Lutheran Church gave short talks, followed by music performed by Norman Johnson, Mrs. John J. Daniels, and the Orpheus Singing Society. At the end of the program refreshments were served in the building's community room by Miss Earhart, Mrs. O.F. Wennerlund, and Mrs. A.J. McCullough. The library officially opened for business the next day, September 1, 1917. (Duluth Herald, August 30, 1917, 18).

Between 1918 and 1924, Duluth mayors wrote several letters to the Carnegie Corporation requesting funds for branch libraries in the city's eastern neighborhoods of Lakeside-Lester Park and Hunters Park. But corporation trustees, citing uncertainty in economic conditions because of World War I and its aftermath, declined the requests. In reality, they were in the process of ending the library grants program. The appropriation for the Lincoln Branch Library was Duluth's last Carnegie library gift and one of the last Carnegie library gifts in Minnesota.

The Lincoln Branch Library operated until its closing in October 1990 when a new library, located at 5830 Grand Avenue, was built to serve all of western Duluth. In November 1992 the Lincoln Branch Library building was purchased for use as an arts education center by the Duluth Art Institute at a cost of \$9,000. Known today as the Duluth Art Institute's Lincoln Center for Education, or simply as the Lincoln Center, although it is a flourishing arts education center, the building has not lost its character or its distinctive Carnegie branch library design features. It now serves people of all ages and all neighborhoods throughout the City of Duluth.

Significance Summary

The Lincoln Branch Library is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places for its local significance in the area of Social History. The history of its construction illustrates several key elements in the City of Duluth's efforts to build libraries and in the Carnegie Corporation's commitment to providing libraries to people whom Andrew Carnegie felt could benefit from access to them. Its design also met Carnegie Corporation standards for library construction.

The City of Duluth received Minnesota's first Carnegie library gift for its main library building in 1899 and one of the last Carnegie library gifts given in Minnesota for its Lincoln Branch Library. The gifts span an evolution in the Carnegie library giving program, moving from support for main libraries to including development of the relatively new concept of developing branch libraries in urban centers. The local history of the library building represents commitment and effort on the part of West End residents, rewarded when the City of Duluth, led by Mayor W.I. Prince, purchased the lots for the building, made the necessary commitment to support the building when built, successfully requested funds for its construction from the Carnegie Corporation, and hired the architects to design the building and the construction firm to build it. Its grand opening on August 30, 1917, as a city-owned and supported building, is the last Duluth celebration of a Carnegie-sponsored library building. All succeeding city requests for branch libraries, sent as the Carnegie Corporation was winding down its library support program, were unsuccessful; the city later built branch libraries in Duluth neighborhoods such as Hunter's Park and Lakeside-Lester Park without Carnegie support.

Construction of this branch library in Duluth's West End (now known as Lincoln Park) represents Carnegie Corporation commitment to library access. In 1917, the area represented the working class population which Andrew Carnegie felt could benefit from access to a free public library. It was built as a branch library, another area of library development important to Andrew Carnegie and the Carnegie Corporation at the time. And the details of its construction, still evident today, met Carnegie Corporation guidelines, "Notes on Erection of Library Buildings," in effect at the time. Construction of

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County and State

this building added to Duluth city infrastructure during a boom period in its growth and provided neighborhood residents in an area already known for its industrial development access to a free public library and all its possible benefits.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/bitstream/handle/2142/6261/librarytrendsv14i4c_opt.pdf?sequence=1, accessed June 30, 2012.
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Van Slyck, Abigail. *Free to All: Carnegie Libraries & American Culture, 1890-1920*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press. 1995.

Weaver, Will. "Library Revolution" in *Libraries of Minnesota*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Historical Society Press. 2011.

Woodbridge, Dwight E. *History of Duluth and St. Louis County: Past and Present*, 2 volumes. Chicago, IL: C.F. Cooper and Co. 1910.

Photograph - Bird's Eye View of Duluth, 1910. Minnesota Historical Society Collections. ID Number: MS2.9 DU1 pan 3.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): SL-DUL-1404

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>566530</u>	<u>5179400</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Lots 365 and 367, Block 89, DULUTH PROPER, SECOND DIVISION, according to the recorded plat thereof, on file and of record in the Office of the County Recorder, St. Louis County, Minnesota, subject to easements of record.

Lincoln Branch Library
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St. Louis County, MN
County and State

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Lincoln Branch Library.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara W. Sommer, BWS Associates, and Debra Kellner, Debra K. Kellner, Historical Consultant
organization BWS Associates, 583 Maple Park Drive, Mendota Heights, MN 55118 dates 2012
street & number Kellner, Historical Consultant, 2729 Lake Avenue South, Duluth, MN 55802 Telephone 651-492-7924 (Sommer)
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____
e-mail barbsom@aol.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Lincoln Branch Library
City or Vicinity: Duluth
County: St. Louis County State: Minnesota
Photographer: Laura Daugherty
Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Location of Original Digital Files 506 W. Michigan Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photo #1 (MN_St. Louis County_Lincoln Branch Library_0001)
Southwest façade, camera facing northeast

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County and State

- Photo #2 (MN_St. Louis County_Lincoln Branch Library_0002)
Southwest and southeast façade, southeast entrance on right, camera facing northerly
- Photo #3 (MN_St. Louis County_Lincoln Branch Library_0003)
Southeast façade/front of building, camera facing northwest
- Photo #4 (Mn_St. Louis County_Lincoln Branch Library_0004)
Interior, gothic window (newly restored), southwest window, camera facing southwest
- Photo #5 (MN_St. Louis County_Lincoln Branch Library_0005)
Interior, lower level, northwest corner, camera facing northwest
- Photo #6 (MN_St. Louis County_Lincoln Branch Library_0006)
Southwest façade, detail of side entrance, camera facing northwest
- Photo #7 (MN_St. Louis County_Lincoln Branch Library_0007)
Exterior, northwest portion of building, classroom (former garage), camera facing northeast

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Lincoln Branch Library

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MINNESOTA, St. Louis

DATE RECEIVED: 11/28/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/14/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12001175

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 1.14.13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



1887
G. H. R. R. C. O. D.

CAC
Colubary
Institute

MN_St Louis County_Lincoln Branch Library_0001

MN - St. Louis County - Lincoln Branch Library - 0001



CPA
Chartered
Institute

MN - St. Louis County - Lincoln Branch Library - 0002



MN - St. Louis County - Lincoln Branch Library - 0003



MN - St. Louis County - Lincoln Branch Library - 0004



MM - St. Louis County - Lincoln Branch Library - 0005



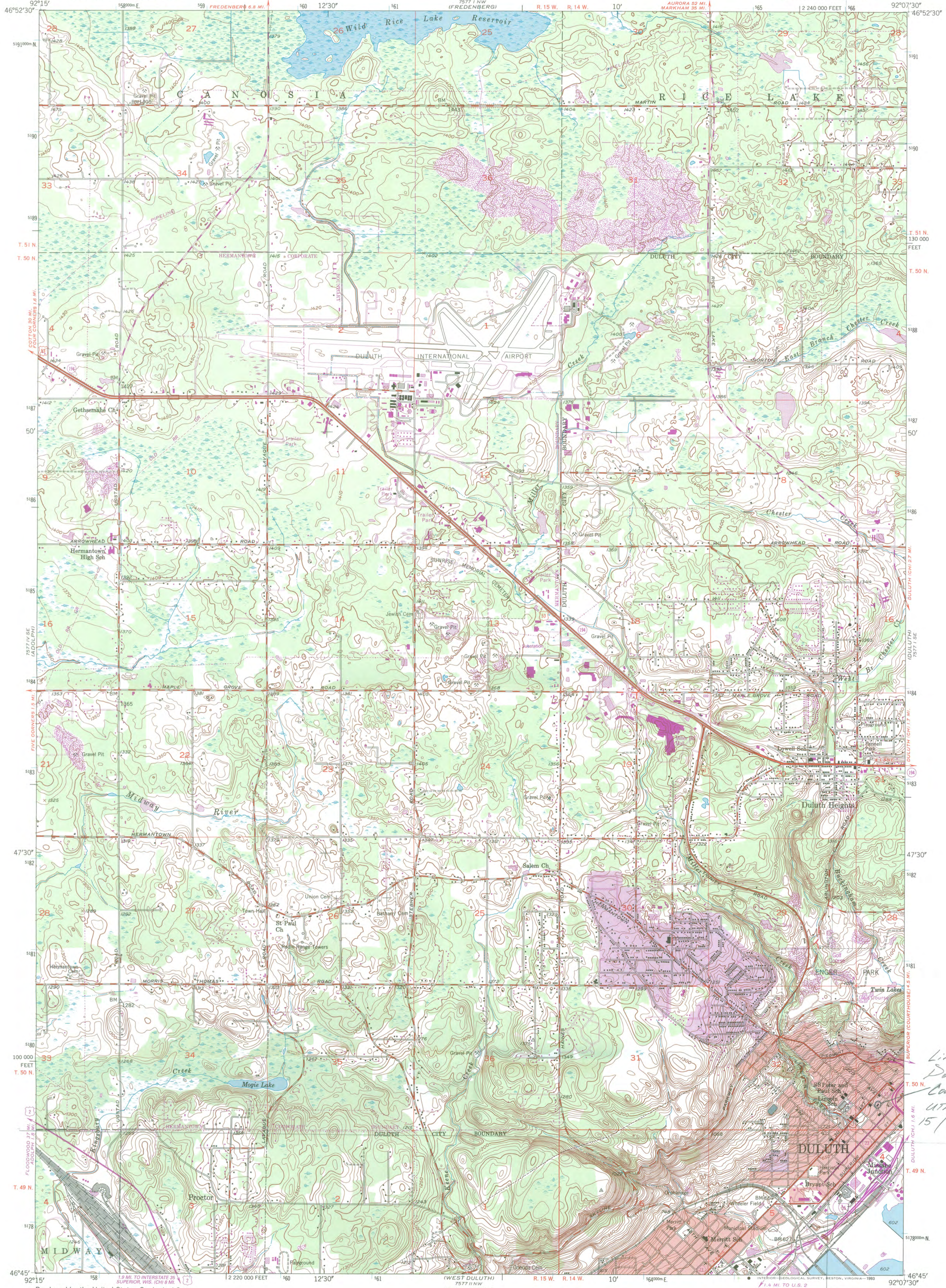
CLOCK ROOM

MN - St. Louis County - Lincoln Branch Library - 0006

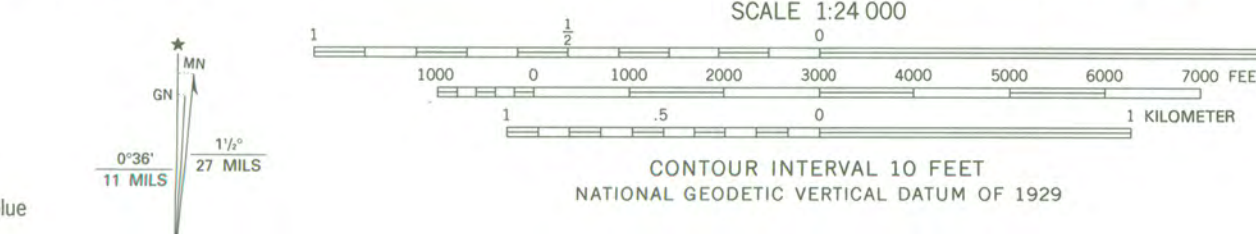
DULUTH ART INSTITUTE



mat. St. Louis County - Lincoln Branch Library - 0007



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1952. Field checked 1953
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Minnesota coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

QUADRANGLE LOCATION
Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of Minnesota agencies from aerial photographs taken 1991 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1993
Information shown in purple may not meet USGS content standards and may conflict with previously mapped contours
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

DULUTH HEIGHTS, MINN.
SW/4 DULUTH 15' QUADRANGLE
46092-G2-TF-024
1953
REVISED 1993
DMA 7577 1 SW - SERIES W872

Lincoln Branch Library,
Duluth, St. Louis
County, Minn
UTM Reference:
15/566530/5779400

Minnesota Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office
345 Kellogg Blvd West, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
651/259-3451



TO: Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Denis P. Gardner

DATE: November 16, 2012

NAME OF PROPERTY: Lincoln Branch Library

COUNTY AND STATE: St. Louis County, Minnesota

SUBJECT: National Register:
 Nomination
 Multiple Property Documentation Form
 Request for determination of eligibility
 Request for removal (Reference No.)
 Nomination resubmission
 Boundary increase/decrease (Reference No.)
 Additional documentation (Reference No.)

DOCUMENTATION:

- Original National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
- Multiple Property Documentation Form
- Continuation Sheets
- Removal Documentation
- Photographs
- CD w/ image files
- Original USGS Map
- Sketch map(s)
- Correspondence
- Owner Objection

The enclosed owner objections
Do Do not constitute a majority of property owners

STAFF COMMENTS: