

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 28 1979
DATE ENTERED FEB 20 1980

**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

AND/OR COMMON

Durand Free Library

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

315 Second Avenue West

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Durand

VICINITY OF

Third

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Wisconsin

CODE

55

COUNTY

Pepin

CODE

091

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Durand

STREET & NUMBER

112 East Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Durand,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Wisconsin

54736

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

Pepin County Courthouse, 307 West Madison

CITY, TOWN

Durand

STATE

Wisconsin

54736

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

1973

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historical Society of Wisconsin

CITY, TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin

53706

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DÉTERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Durand Free Library is a modest building measuring approximately 61 feet 6 inches long by 23 feet deep with an entrance wing 19 feet deep and projecting 12 feet centered on the main (northeast) facade. A small wing projecting 11 feet and 19 feet wide, extends to the rear containing a reference alcove. The first floor is raised above grade to enable the basement level to receive natural light through generous windows, in a design type referred to as an "English" basement. The style of the building has been referred to by its designer, Claude and Starck, architects, as both "English Gothic" and "English Collegiate Style."¹ Contemporary stylistic definition might define the style as "American Gothic" (Andrews) or "Gothic Revival" (Whiffen).

The building exterior is constructed of a base of broken range rusticated ashlar limestone, locally quarried from the Dunn County Quarry at Colfax, and capped by a dressed stone watertable with a steeply pitched surface. The watertable surrounds the building at the height of the first floor window sills. The balance of the vertical wall surfaces are constructed of a red brick obtained from the Durand Brickyard and laid with a natural sand colored mortar. The wall sections above the windows and entrance door and continuing to the gable peaks are of stucco, natural cement colored, with a rough textured surface, and contain white painted wood trim placed vertically in the stucco panels. The steeply pitched roof is clad in French red clay roofing tiles, from Ludowici-Celandon Company.

The steep slope of the roof eaves extends low on the long walls requiring dormer gables over the two windows on each long wall breaking through the eave line. Windows are white painted wood double hung, one over one. Basement level windows have a stone lintel. Those on the first floor have a fixed light above. The front entrance doors are of oak, with white painted frames. Both doors and frame are flat pointed arch in design. The front doors are set in a recess created by extending water table and brick wall to create a pilaster, supporting the stucco panel above and brackets on the front supporting the gable ends. All of the gable ends for entrance, main roof and dormers are carried on brackets, and the bargeboards are heavy and strong. Rafters extend beneath the eaves and are decoratively cut.

Much of the interior remains as originally designed with the main circulation desk (delivery room) located in the center of the first floor and collection shelving on all walls. A fireplace is located in the reference alcove to rear and contains a plaster replication of the Chariot Races found in the ruins of Herculaneum, Italy.² Local controversy was stilled by adding a cast fig leaf to the nude male figure.

The lower floor contained several rooms for library and community activities.

The building is in good repair, is in steady use within the community and a source of pride to the residents.

¹Bibliography No. 1

²Correspondence at Library from Claude and Starck of December 8, 1906

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1907¹

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Claude & Starck, Architects²
William Lister, Builder³

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Durand Free Library represents the work of a regionally important architectural firm, that of Claude (Louis W.) and Starck (Edward F.) of Madison, Wisconsin, and possesses artistic merit as an example of public architecture in an "English Gothic" style. The library must number among the most significant examples of any architectural style in Durand.

As early as 1886 the Durand Library Association was formed to establish a local library. The Library was first housed over the Huntington Feed Store until 1898 when it was relocated to the Hutchinson Drug Store and adopted the name of the Durand Free Library Association. The City of Durand assumed the financial responsibility for the library in 1900, moved the collection to the Durand State Bank Building, adopted the name of Durand Free Library and hired Mrs. E. M. Dunlap as a librarian. Correspondence commencing in 1902 resulted in a grant of \$7,500 from Andrew Carnegie in 1906 to construct a new library. The design was completed on June 7, 1906 and the building dedicated on February 19, 1907.⁴

Three architectural firms were considered by the Library Board and the selection of Claude and Starck was made. Thirty-nine examples of small public libraries have been identified as the work of the firm in the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan and Washington. Several of these are already listed on the National Register; the T. B. Scott Free Library, Merrill, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1974); the Tomah Public Library, Tomah, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1976); the Kilbourn Public Library, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1974); the Flagg Township Library, Rochell, Illinois (NRHP-IL-1973); Eager Free Library, Evansville, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1977); and the Detroit Lakes Library, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota (NRHP-MN-1976).

The William Collins House (NRHP-WI-1974) and the George A. Lougee House (NRHP-WI-1978), both in Madison, Wisconsin, demonstrate the competence of this firm in residential designs.

Claude and Starck developed a strong interest and reputation in the small public library. They received commissions from 1903 until 1925 designing these buildings, often financed with grants from the Carnegie Foundation. While their most innovative architectural design was in several variations of the Prairie School, they were still most adept at small classical libraries and variations on an "English Collegiate Style" or "English Gothic Style" and "California Mission Style." The Durand Library, a design of 1906, represents one of their earlier library designs, and one of four known to be in the "English Gothic" or "English Collegiate Style," as they were so described by their designers.⁵ Others exist today in Darlington, Richland Center and Kaukauna, Wisconsin.⁶

(continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.275

UTM REFERENCES Quadrangle Name: Durand North, Wis. Scale: 1:24000

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

A	<u>1, 5</u>	<u>5, 8, 1, 9, 8, 0</u>	<u>4, 9, 4, 1, 9, 2, 0</u>	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The easterly seventy-five (75) feet of Lots No. Three (3) and Four (4) and a piece or parcel of land Twenty-Eight (28) feet wide on Wilson Street and Seventy-Five (75) feet deep out of the south east corner of Lot No. Two (2) all in Block No. Two (2) Range No. Three (3) West of Base Line, in City of Durand all of above description covering a piece or parcel of land with frontage of One Hundred and Sixty (160) feet on Wilson Street by Seventy-Five (75) deep on Wells Street.
(Wilson Street is now Second Avenue West)

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

Gordon D. Orr, Jr., FAIA, Architect

ORGANIZATION

American Institute of Architects

DATE

August 3, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

2729 Mason Street

TELEPHONE

(608) 238-1683

CITY OR TOWN

Madison

STATE

Wisconsin 53705

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Richard Mezey

TITLE

Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

DATE

10/16/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. Ray Luce
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST: *Kurtin O'Connell*
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 2/20/80
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DATE 2/19/80

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Durand Free Library, Durand, Pepin County, Wisconsin

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Few non-residential buildings exist in Durand that exhibit such fine design characteristics that they become a focus of community interest. While not located in the center of the city, the library occupies a generous site and remains without detracting additions or debasing alterations. The building stands as a testament to good taste and a community concern to express its public image in distinguished architecture, though of a very modest scale.

Mr. Claude was quite proud of the design of this library and said of it, "We think you will have the prettiest library of its size in the state."⁷

¹Drawings in the Louis W. Claude Collection and at the Durand Free Library, dated June 7, 1906.

²Drawings and Bibliography (1), and (2).

³Correspondence at the Durand Free Library.

⁴Records at Durand Free Library - Unpublished Manuscript listing of Library.

⁵Bibliography (1)

⁶Bibliography (2)

⁷Letter of Louis W. Claude to Mr. S. B. Tarrant, Durand, Wisconsin, June 10, 1906.

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Durand Free Library, Durand, Pepin County, Wisconsin

CONTINUATION SHEET

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BIBLIOGRAPHY:

1. A Suggestion to State Library Commissions, by Claude and Starck, Architects, Madison, Wisconsin, privately published about 1908.
2. A Partial List of Buildings both Public and Private designed by Claude and Starck, Architects, Madison, Wisconsin published privately about 1920.
3. New Types of Small Library Buildings, Wisconsin Free Library Commission, Madison, Wisconsin 1913.
4. Obituaries of Louis W. Claude in the Wisconsin State Journal and the Capital Times, edition of August 11, 1951, and of Edward F. Starck, in the Capital Times, edition of October 28, 1947.
5. Orr, Gordon D., Jr., "The Progressive Movement in American Architecture", unpublished manuscript of August 1966.
6. Orr, Gordon D., Jr., "Prairie Architecture in Madison, Wisconsin, Influences, Forms and Form-Givers", unpublished Master's Thesis, University of Wisconsin, 1971.
7. Orr, Gordon D., Jr., "Claude and Starck, Architects", paper delivered at symposium on "American Architecture; Its Roots, Growth and Horizon", Milwaukee Art Center (the Prairie Archives), October 30, 1977.
8. Correspondence at the Durand Free Library with architects and builder.
9. Drawings from the Louis W. Claude Collection and at the Durand Free Library.