

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Wisconsin
COUNTY: Columbia
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE ...
DEC 27 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Kilbourn Public Library

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
429 Broadway at corner of Cedar Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Wisconsin Dells

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
2nd

STATE: Wisconsin 53965

CODE: 55

COUNTY: Columbia

CODE: 21

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural
 Commercial
 Educational
 Entertainment
 Government
 Industrial
 Military
 Museum
 Park
 Private Residence
 Religious
 Scientific
 Transportation
 Other (Specify)
 Public Library

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
City of Wisconsin Dells

STREET AND NUMBER:
City Hall, 712 Oak Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Wisconsin Dells

STATE: Wisconsin 53965

CODE: 55

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Columbia County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Portage

STATE: Wisconsin 53901

CODE: 55

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Wisconsin's Historic Preservation Plan, The Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1973

Federal
 State
 County
 Local

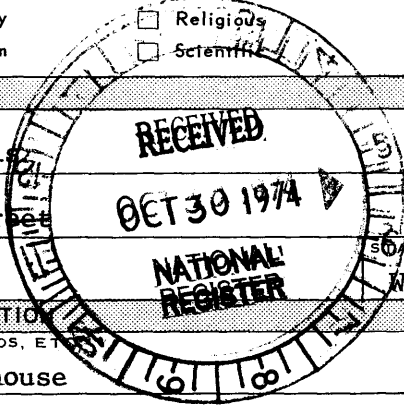
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
State Historical Society of Wisconsin

STREET AND NUMBER:
816 State Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Madison

STATE: Wisconsin 53706

CODE: 55



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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	slightly (Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Kilbourn Public Library was constructed in 1912 and has remained essentially unaltered since then. The alterations that have taken place, however, are ones that do not destroy the architectural excellence or significance of the building.

The general form of the building is a simple rectangle, with the first floor raised about four feet from the grade, covered by a gabled roof with generous overhangs, and a projecting pavilion for the entrance lobby. The building sits on a rough stone base extending up to a cut stone watertable at about the first floor level. The stone masonry joints are neatly beaded indicating a high level of finish for this type of work.

The wall planes are of a rough surface stucco to a level below the wood sill of the high gable end windows. Windows on the front elevation (facing approximately south) extend to within two feet of the floor. All of the windows are wood, and stained a very deep opaque brown color, similar to all of the other woodwork on the exterior, except for the sash unit itself which is painted white.

The roof soffit is constructed of V-joint wood boards and is supported on sawn decorative brackets. The gable ends, over high windows, are of similar materials and a supporting bracket is located between the sash units which develops into a vertical mullion between each sash. The present roof material is an asphalt shingle and represents the only exterior change visible. The original roofing material apparently was wood shingles.

The interior is similarly almost unchanged. The original incandescent fixtures have been removed and replaced with fluorescent fixtures, a concession to improved lighting levels and lower energy consumption. A discreet acoustical tile has been placed on the ceiling, and does not detract from what originally was a plaster ceiling. Wood library shelving, circulation desk and clock are a natural finish oak, all original.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) Constructed 1912, dedicated March 1913.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The Kilbourn Public Library in Wisconsin Dells (formerly Kilbourn) is an excellent example of the small Carnegie library constructed in Wisconsin and possesses considerable architectural merit at a local level. The building was constructed in 1912 and dedicated in March of 1913. It was one of a number of such libraries in Wisconsin designed by the Madison architectural firm of Claude (Louis W.) and Starck (Edward F.).

The style of the building is Prairie School, yet its severe compact lines have been sensitively softened by the introduction of details that reflect a sympathy for the Arts and Crafts movement.

The firm of Claude and Starck is an important one both in the architectural history of the City of Madison, where their office was located, and in the expansion of the library construction program, financed in a large measure by the Carnegie Foundation. Claude and Starck developed a simple, compact and attractive scheme that appealed to the Library Commissions. They received many architectural commissions for libraries throughout Wisconsin and to a lesser degree in neighboring states.

Mr. Claude developed a reputation in this field and he spoke before some Library Clubs and produced a pamphlet on the subject. A surprising variety exists in their palette, with many in the Prairie style. The Kilbourn Public Library appears to be a one-of-a-kind in the exterior form, although its plan is similar to many of these small libraries.

The style is not unlike the William Collins House in Madison, by Claude and Starck, and its fine proportions and careful detailing indicates that the firm was comfortable in its execution of designs of this nature -- a less severe form of the Prairie School.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

On Claude and Starck:
Madison Past and Present, 1852-1902 published by the Wisconsin State Journal. Obituaries of August 11, 1951 in the Capital Times and Wisconsin State Journal for Louis W. Claude, and of October 28, 1947 in the Capital Times for Edward F. Starck.
A Suggestion To State Library Commissions published privately by Claude and Starck, Architects, in 1908.
A Book of Carnegie Libraries, by T. W. Koch, H. W. Wilson Co., New York, 1917. Chap. XIII on Wisconsin and the Middle West.

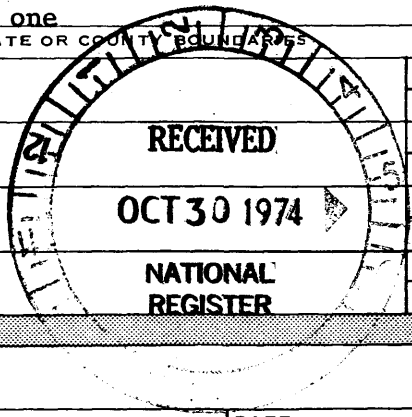
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R D	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY	
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		U.T.M.	Zone
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds			conds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		16	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		276,460 E.	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		4,834,080 N.	
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Gordon D. Orr, Jr., A.I.A., Architect

ORGANIZATION: **Wisconsin Chapter, The American Institute of Architects** DATE: **Sept. 30, 1974**

STREET AND NUMBER:
2729 Mason Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Madison** STATE: **Wisconsin 53705** CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name James Morton Smith
James Morton Smith

Title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Date Oct 23, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 12/27/74

ATTEST:

[Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **DEC 26 1974**