

981



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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Wright Library

Other names/site number: Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 1776 Far Hills Avenue

City or town: Dayton State: Ohio County: Montgomery

Not For Publication: NA

Vicinity: NA

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X 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 X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B XC ___D

<u>Barbara Owen</u> DSHPO for Inventory & Registration <u>Nov. 1, 2013</u>	
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society</u>	
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:)

Patricia Andrews

12/24/2013

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

Public – Local

Public – State

Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

District

Site

Structure

Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education/library

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Education/library

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Tudor Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

Foundation:

Walls: Brick

Roof: Slate

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Please see attached continuation sheets

Narrative Description

See attached continuation sheets

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.

Criteria Considerations

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

- 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

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1939

Significant Dates
1939

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Schenck and Williams

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

See attached continuation sheets

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

See attached continuation sheets

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Cornell University Website, Architecture Art Planning <http://aap.cornell.edu/explore/college-history.cfm>

Dayton Daily News, Obituary for Harry I. Schenck v. 79, iss 194 pg 1 col 3.

Gordon, Stephen C. *How to Complete the Ohio Historic Inventory*. Columbus, Ohio: Ohio Historic Preservation Office, 1992.

Katz, Marc. "RIKES ARCHITECT A RETAIL PIONEER - Harry Williams also is credited with designing the first shopping center in California." Dayton Daily News, Thursday, September 30, 1999.

National Register Nomination for the Graphic Arts Building, prepared by Irving S. Moses, Jr.; Managing Director, Urban Metroplex Redevelopment Group L.L.C. 1/30/2009.

National Park Service, Teaching with Historic Places Lesson Plans, *Carnegie Libraries: The Future Made Bright*, Reading 2, Obtaining a Carnegie Library, <http://www.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/50carnegie/50facts3.htm>

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): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.9

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 39.715571 Longitude: -84.170931

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: 16	Easting: 742481	Northing: 4399800
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The verbal boundary for the Wright Memorial Library is known as Parcel ID: Q71 01408 0033 within the City of Oakwood, Montgomery County, Ohio. The library's parcel is bounded by Far Hills Avenue (State Route 48) on the west, Aberdeen Avenue on the north, and Telford Avenue on the south. From the intersection of Far Hills and Aberdeen, the parcel boundary extends 471.68 feet east; the parcel boundary then proceeds in a straight line south to Telford Avenue.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The verbal boundary reflects the urban lot historically and currently associated with Wright Memorial Public Library, Oakwood, Ohio.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Harrison Stamm Gowdy and Leah J. Konicki
organization: Oakwood Historical Society
street & number: 1947 Far Hills Avenue
city or town: Dayton state: Ohio zip code: 45419
e-mail lkonicki@gmail.com
telephone: (937) 430-0836
date: April 30, 2013

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log – please see attached continuation sheets

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 100 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
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library
Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 1

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

Wright Library is a one-story, masonry, Tudor Revival-style library building with a rectangular plan that is sited in the center of a 3-acre block-wide parcel (from north to south) which was originally a city park. Built in 1939, the building sets on a rise facing Far Hills Avenue, a busy main north-south route through Oakwood, an early street car suburb of Dayton. Designed to fit into the gently rolling landscape of the site, the library is approached by curvilinear paths and is surrounded by mature deciduous and evergreen trees, all of which reinforce its park-like setting. The block on which the library sits is in the middle of a residential area, and the east end of the block has a Tudor Revival-style grade school located on a separate parcel. On the exterior, the building is a symmetrical, side-gabled building with a projecting, cross-gabled, central bay on its west-facing front elevation. On the exterior, the gabled dormers, Flemish bond brick work, steeply-pitched slate-covered roof, multi-paned windows, large window bays, and decorative stone surrounds are all prominent elements characteristic of the Tudor Revival style. On the interior, the original reading rooms reflect the Tudor Revival style in the exposed oak cross beams that support the roof, oak woodwork and built in bookcases. Additions dating from 1964, 1972, and 1983 have been added to the rear and end elevations; however, these additions take advantage of the building's sloping site, which falls away behind the building, and are hidden behind the original portion of the structure (see floor plans). It is evident from the exterior finishes and details that the designers of the additions worked hard to ensure that the additions would not be obtrusive or detract from the original design, massing, and character of the library. As a result, from the front, the building looks much as it did when it was originally constructed, and it retains its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting, location, and association.

Description

Wright Memorial Public Library was built in the architectural style commonly known as Tudor Revival, more academically known as Jacobethan Revival. It features many of the hallmarks of this style, including: brick exterior walls laid in a Flemish bond pattern; a steeply pitched, slate-covered roof; prominent, steep-sided cross gables; projecting bays; multi-paned windows and large window bays; and stone decoration at doors, windows and gable ends. Looking west at the main façade, the symmetrical, side-gabled building has a projecting, cross-gabled, central entry bay on its west-facing front elevation, and gabled dormers. Above the front entry is an oriel window with diamond panes and a copper roof. A modest cupola, which includes vents on each of its four sides and a weather vane at its peak, sits at the center of the ridge, above the center bay. The building is one-story high as viewed from the front (Photos 1-8).

The main, public entrance to the library is found in the projecting bay (Photos 2-3). The entrance is recessed into this bay, creating a small porch or vestibule. The entrance is defined by an elaborate, Tudor-arched stone surround above which is an original metal (probably copper) projecting sign reading "Wright Library." An ornate pendant lantern hangs from the sign standard. Above the sign in the gable end is a small oriel window; the lights in this three-sided window are diamond-shaped with metal muntins. The oriel is surmounted by a prominent flared copper roof. The door itself is recessed and is a six-panel oak door, with four vertical lights above two wooden panels, which is contained in an oak surround (Photo 14). The top rail of the door mimics the shape of the Tudor arch, and there is an applied rail that reinforces the design. Above the lintel of the door is a carved oak panel; the linenfold carving resembles a scroll. The walls of the exterior vestibule contain scattered bricks with decorative elements, including a bas relief depiction of the Gutenberg press, some Egyptian hieroglyphics, and an

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property
 Montgomery County, Ohio
 County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 2

unattributed quote, "I am come to the storehouse of knowledge," believed to have been created by the architects.

On either side of the main entrance is a small diamond-paned casement window with stone surrounds (Photos 2, 6). The gable end eaves, which are at the same height as the door and window lintels, are supported by undressed stone blocks. On each side of the projecting bay is a stone water table, below which the walls flare out. The front door is one step above grade level, and this concrete step is accessed by a modest concrete ramp, which provides handicap accessibility without in any way detracting from the façade. The side-gable facades to either side of the projecting gable-front entrance bay are similarly detailed. In the bays closest to the entrance bay is a small casement window consisting of eight rectangular lights with steel muntins. The window opening has a stone sill and a brick soldier coursing lintel which is just below the eaves of the roof. Each of these windows retains its original casement window, but on the interior, has an applied stained glass window. These windows are discussed in more detail below. The center bay of each side has a gable-roof wall dormer with a more elaborately detailed window opening. The opening is defined by a stone sill, quoins, and a stone lintel. The casement window is ten lights tall and the vertical mullion between the windows is a turned spindle. The eaves of the gable-roof wall dormer are supported by undressed stone gable blocks. The end bays of each side have the same type of window found at the interior bays. The walls are of Flemish bond brick, although at the foundation there is a brick soldier course. The steeply-pitched side-gable slate roof is a prominent feature of the building.

The north and south elevations of the original structure are quite similar to one another. On the south elevation, the original portion of the building is dominated by a large window opening defined by a Tudor arch (Photo 13). The arch has a stone keystone and stone blocks; the arch itself is a soldier course of brick, while the sill is stone. The window opening contains three casement windows, with turned spindle mullions between the casement units. The top portion of the window, which most likely was never operable, has six lights in each of the three vertical units. Below a strong horizontal mullion are three ten-light casement windows with steel muntins. These three larger units were operable windows, but are now covered with a fixed, single light storm window over each of the three casements. The Flemish brick walls, the soldier course above the foundation, and the undressed stone springer blocks at the gable end eaves, are repeated here. East of the south gable-end elevation is a one-room brick addition from 1972 (Photo 10); this addition has a steeply pitched slate roof; the ridge of the addition's roof is perpendicular to the roof of the main building. Below the prominent slate roof of the addition are two windows, each with soldier course brick lintels and stone sills. The casement windows with true divided lights feature the turned spindle mullions between the windows. Below each window, metal vents have been added.

The north elevation of the original portion of the building is almost identical to the south. One difference is that the ground slopes away from the building at the north end, and, in addition to the first floor, the ground floor of the building starts to become visible at this end of the structure. This elevation is dominated by the large casement window in the Tudor-arched opening that matches that of the south elevation.

The north elevation has a one room addition east of the main building bay (Photos 5, 7). Built in 1964, this addition has a steeply gabled slate roof that is perpendicular to the main roof and is clad in brick veneer with a Flemish bond pattern. This addition and the one on the south are similar in appearance. Because of the slope of the land at this end of the structure, this elevation is two stories tall. At the first, main, floor level is a tripartite casement window. The window opening has a continuous stone sill and a soldier course lintel just below the eaves of the prominent slate roof. The casements are five lights tall. Below this window opening on the first floor, the ground floor has two casement windows which are similar to those above. Rather than the center casement window, however, there is a wall. East of the windows is a projecting, gabled-roof bay which protects a door. The rectilinear opening in the front of the bay is defined by a soldier course lintel. The slate of the roof is

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library
Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 3

joined to the brick wall by a stepped course of copper flashing. The door itself is a plain metal door, which is likely not original to the addition.

The rear of the building consists of a large addition, built in ca. 1983, which is the full width of the original building section (Photos 8, 9, 11, 12). The ground is lower here than at the front of the building, and as a result, the addition is two stories high, with a ground floor and a main floor at the same level as the original building's main floor. This elevation is also symmetrical, and it borrows from the historic elements of the original building, but repeats their use in a way that is respectful but not derivative of the original. The building is faced with brick in a Flemish bond pattern with soldier coursing at the foundation; it is symmetrical; it features stone details; and the windows are casement type windows. Unlike the rest of the building, however, this rear addition has a flat roof outlined with stone coping. The projecting center bay of the rear, east-facing façade features an entrance in the center of the bay at the ground level. The entrance has a prominent hipped-roof copper hood supported by stone brackets. Below the hood are double doors; these doors are designed to mimic the historic front door; each six panel door has four divided vertical lights, the upper edge of which defines a Tudor arch. This arch shape is further reinforced by a decorative applied decorative wood rail. Planting areas to the north and side of the door are defined by brick walls. North of the projecting center bay, the ground floor wall has no openings, while the wall of the main floor has three rectangular casement type windows; these windows, however, have applied muntins (unlike the original casement windows, which are true-divided light windows). The section south of the projecting center bay of the addition is identical to the north section. The steeply pitched gable roofs of the original building section and the earlier additions are visible above this addition. The south end of this addition is two bays wide, and features similarly detailed casement windows at the same height as those on the rear. The north end of this addition is similarly detailed.

On the interior, the building exhibits a similar pattern; that is, the original portion of the building is more ornamented than the more modern additions. The floor plan shows that the building is made up of a series of rectangles. The original part of the building has a T-shaped plan (see floor plans); at each end, the ell has been completed with a rectangular addition. East of the original building is a rectangular addition from 1972 that is not as long nor as wide as the original building. Further east is an addition from 1983, which is also a modified T-plan, and which is longer and deeper than the original building. Although in plan these additions would appear to dominant the building, in elevation they do not.

The historic front door of the library remains the main access door for the public. The door opens into a vestibule which is clad in oak paneling; inset in each side wall is an original built-in display window, used to promote library programs and community events (Photo 19). The small space, approximately 6' x 6', has an interior door, the design of which is identical to the exterior door, with four divided lights in the top half of the door forming a Tudor arch, which is emphasized by an applied decorative rail panel. This small space opens into the original library, which has vaulted ceilings created by the exterior's steeply pitched gables. Oak trusses, cross beams, and columns with decorative detail provide both structure and ornamentation, and help to define the spaces (Photos 16, 17). Because of the high ceilings, which are painted white, the large windows, and the openness of the interior, the interior of the historic building has the feeling of light and space. The center bay of the original structure contains a circulation desk on the south wall (Photo 15). Each end of the original structure houses a reading room, and these rooms are detailed with built-in oak shelves that line the walls. Each room is dominated by the large Tudor-arched window at its end wall (Photo 18). These rooms also retain some of the original oak tables and chairs. On either side of the entry vestibule is a small paneled niche, also lined with original built-in oak shelves. Modern fluorescent light fixtures have been added, but their placement does not interfere with the sight lines of the original cross members.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library
Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 7 Page 4

On the interior, each end elevation has an applied stained glass window. (Each window was applied over the historic casement windows, which remain visible from the exterior.) In the south end, the window pays tribute to the Wright Brothers, who were significant Daytonians; the Wright family was also an important part of the library's early history. In the north end, the stained glass window is more abstract, but seems to relate to space and flight. The windows were made by the Bonadies Glasstudio in Yellow Springs, Ohio; the date of their installation is not known.

East of the circulation desk area is the reference area of the library, which marks the beginning of the additions on the interior (see floor plan) (Photo 20). It is in this new part of the library that the interior becomes a basic box. The ceilings are acoustical tile, the book shelves and furniture are movable, and decoration is applied. The remainder of the library on both the first and ground floors is simply detailed.

As mentioned above, the building has three additions, dating from 1964, 1972, and 1983. The 1964, designed by Craighead and Cowden, Architects, consists of a room added to the northeast corner which, when it was built, housed the stacks and administrative offices. Air conditioning was also installed at this time. The 1972 addition, designed by Slager and Beachler, Architects, resulted in a doubling of the floor to 13,800 sq. ft. Much of the space was in what was the basement (which previously had largely been administrative space); the additions and renovations in 1972 included a meeting room and enlarged book processing and staff lounge areas.

The 1983 addition, designed by Lecklider/Jay Architects, added an additional 9,850 sq. ft. on the east side (rear) of the building. This addition was at least in part a response to changing demands on libraries at the time. On the interior, these additions are utilitarian and functional. Door openings are simple without detail. Walls are covered with bookshelves, but, unlike the original reading rooms which have built in, ornate wooden shelves, the additions have functional, metal, movable shelving units (Photos 21-25).

These changes are typical of changes occurring in libraries in Ohio at the time. A quick survey of libraries throughout the state shows that several libraries in Ohio either expanded or relocated into new, larger facilities. For example, the Defiance Public Library in Defiance, Ohio, consists of a historic central core (a Romanesque-influenced two-story structure probably dating from the 1890s) flanked by two large additions on each side. The historic Lebanon Public Library, a Carnegie structure, was retained and has had a large addition built to the west; this addition, which dates from 1987, is at least as large as the original library, but was built in such a way that the integrity of the original structure has been preserved. The Marvin Memorial Library in Shelby, Ohio, which was listed in the NRHP in 1987, has a large addition dating from 1981. This addition was built in large part to allow for the expansion of the children's room. The Marvin Memorial Library is housed in a ca. 1867 house, and the addition is on the rear of the original structure.

None of the additions resulted in alterations to the major historic interior spaces, which are the main reading rooms flanking a central bay containing (both historically and now) the library's circulation area. From the front (west), the building appears much as it did when it was originally constructed and open to the public in 1939. As a result, the building retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library
Name of Property
Montgomery, OH
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary Paragraph

Wright Memorial Public Library is being nominated under Criterion C for its architectural distinction as an excellent example of a Tudor or Jacobethan Revival style library designed by the local Dayton, Ohio, architecture firm of Schenck and Williams. Schenck and Williams were responsible for the designs of much of the civic architecture in Oakwood, which, in addition to the library, includes three public schools, the city administration building, and a large-scale apartment building, all in the Tudor or Jacobethan Revival style. They also designed a number of private houses in Oakwood, also in the Tudor style, as well as a number of office and other buildings for businesses and institutions in Dayton. Built in 1939, Wright Memorial Public Library is important as an extant example of the firm's work, and their ability to apply architectural conventions of a style to a variety of building types. A complete inventory of Schenck and Williams buildings does not exist; therefore, it is not known if this is their only library design. What is known is that Wright Memorial Public Library is a well-preserved example of a Tudor-styled library with its half-timbering, casement windows, Flemish bond brick work, a steeply-pitched slate-covered roof, multi-paned windows, large window bays, and stone decoration at doors, windows and gable ends, all prominent elements characteristic of the Tudor Revival style. In 1939, at the time of construction, the Tudor style was still a popular architecture choice. But the choice of Tudor architecture and the firm of Schenck and Williams are also representative of the city of Oakwood's tradition of rewarding civic building designs to this well-respected firm and using their signature style.

Historic Context

Immediately south of the City of Dayton, the city of Oakwood began to develop in the late nineteenth century, and the city is representative of the national movement of suburban expansion. The development of Oakwood as a first-tier suburb started well before the 1913 Flood and, while the flood may have encouraged more families to leave Dayton's devastated downtown, Oakwood would have developed as it has with or without the flood. The city's development is linked much more closely with late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century trends in suburban expansion as outlined in the *National Register Bulletin on Historic Residential Suburbs, An Overview of Suburbanization in the United States 1830-1960*.

Oakwood, an Early Suburb of Dayton

In 1870, Dayton was flourishing with a population of around 30,000, which would increase by 27% in the next decade. The city had access to other major cities through railroad lines, a canal, and toll roads, including the nearby National Road. Dayton manufactured farm implements, railroad materials, paper, carriage wheels, and even cigars. In the late nineteenth century, Dayton was a place of innovations. It received the 5th largest number of patents per capita in 1870, and the most patents per capita in the United States by 1890. The growth of Dayton and its industrial explosion had many advantages; however, with these advantages came disadvantages in the way of city grime, air and water pollution, disease, noise, crime and crowded conditions. As a result, residents began to consider the idea of new type of neighborhood, a residential suburb.

Some of Dayton's first suburbanites were its most wealthy citizens. John H. Patterson, the National Cash Register President, had a home on Ludlow Street, but he considered the family farm, the Patterson Homestead which still stands on modern-day Brown Street, his rural retreat. At least, it was his rural retreat until 1896 when he built his own estate, *The Far Hills*, on Thruston Avenue in what is now the city of Oakwood. Similarly, Adam Schantz lived on River Street across from the family brewery in downtown Dayton, but built a house and horse farm with 180 acres on Schantz Avenue in what is now Oakwood.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library
Name of Property
Montgomery, OH
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 2

During the late nineteenth century, many other Daytonians became familiar with what would become Oakwood and its rural charm, as they would visit the area on weekends and holidays to escape the city. They visited popular places like Woodland Cemetery, the Kramer Winery, and Pleasure Gardens (today's Dayton Country Club). What has become Oakwood was at this time rural, comprised of a few large farms, quarries, and woods. The Patterson Homestead sat at the intersection of two major toll roads that came into Dayton, the Dayton-Lebanon Pike (now State Route 48) and the Cincinnati-Dayton Pike (West Schantz to Dixie Highway). Along these two toll roads, there were a handful of farmsteads, and while some of these farmers worked the land, others dug into the land for gravel and limestone to help build roads and homes.

Four men saw the potential in Oakwood's rural lands and together purchased and platted the first suburb known as the *Town of Oakwood*. In July 1870, Isaac Haas, Patterson Mitchell, William Dixon and Gabriel Harman (HMD&H) purchased 78 acres from a foreclosure on John Stephens. By 1872 they had platted the land, started initial improvements, negotiated with current property owners, and paid for the extension of a streetcar along Brown Street to continue up the hill into the land then known as Van Buren Township. The horse-drawn streetcar would provide service to the corner of Oakwood and Park avenues (near today's Smith Gardens).

In February 1875, the Oakwood Street Railway Company was chartered with Gabriel B. Harman as Treasurer, and Route No. 3 was created. The route, which was instead operated by a mule car, extended from the corner of Main and Third streets, south along Brown Street, up Oakwood Avenue and through the Five Points intersection of Far Hills and Oakwood Avenues to Park Avenue, where it turned around. However, the Oakwood Street Railway Company went bankrupt in 1876 due to poor revenue and lack of improvements. As a result, the lack of transportation directly into the town of Oakwood made it difficult to compete with other suburbs like Dayton View, Grafton Hill, Wayne Avenue, and St. Anne's Hill, which were within the city limits of Dayton. Therefore, after twenty-five years, there were only a handful of homes in the town of Oakwood.

Fortunately, Charles B. Clegg and others purchased the bankrupt street car company shortly, and the success of Oakwood began with Charles Clegg introducing horse-drawn electric streetcars along his lines. In the summer of 1885, the city of Dayton began running its first horse-drawn electric routes. By 1895, the Oakwood Street Railway Company had introduced a completely electric streetcar, which meant that all streetcar lines were fully electrified and horses were no longer needed. And Oakwood boomed.

In 1897 the Houk family platted several acres west of Far Hills Avenue and the Schantz family developed North Oakwood between Irving and Ridgewood Avenues. Oakwood resident John H. Patterson encouraged development around his rural estate. Owning large tracts of land, Schantz and Patterson embraced new twentieth century design principles and hired the nation's leading landscape design firm, the Olmsted Brothers to help them realize their vision. Schantz worked to build a residential community while Patterson worked to build an estate-style natural retreat by limiting Oakwood's size through the establishment of the Olmsted-designed Hills and Dales Park and pushing for Oakwood's incorporation.

Oakwood was incorporated in 1908, and its future as a progressive twentieth-century city was established; for example, Oakwood adopted the city-manager style of government. The city embraced modern conveniences, efficient transportation, and home and landscape design in a natural tree-lined setting. At its time of incorporation, Oakwood had around 100 houses. By 1912 the demand for housing was so strong that Mrs. Fowler Stoddard Smith of the Oakwood Real Estate Agency shared that she had been, "besieged by a small army to buy lots or rent for the summer." She suggested "portable homes be set up on vacant lots" to meet the demand.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library
Name of Property
Montgomery, OH
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 3

After incorporation there was a strong push for a proper school, with the current one-room brick Van Buren Township School not adequate to accommodate the growing number of children and new education principles. A green barn located on Harman Ave in the heart of Oakwood was donated for use as a school; it held two classrooms, four grades, and two full-time teachers. By 1912, however, the district's 96 children were overcrowding the barn. Classes were moved to Katherine Houk Talbott's mansion, Runnymede, while the barn was demolished and the Oakwood School (today's Harman Elementary) was built on the site in 1913 and could house 200 elementary students. Its 1922 expansion, together with the opening of Edwin D. Smith Elementary in 1926, relieved subsequent overcrowding during Oakwood's population boom of the 1920's. However, Oakwood's secondary school students traveled out of the district, many to either Stivers or Steele high schools in Dayton, until the Oakwood High School was built on Far Hills Avenue and the first class graduated in 1924.

From 1900 through the 1910s, shops and offices sprang up along the streetcar line along Brown Street to the streetcar loop at the Five Points intersection at Far Hills and Oakwood Avenues in Oakwood. As the city of Oakwood grew, so did the desire for more amenities. The original town of Oakwood was viewed as the city's center. This is why so many of the city's "firsts" are built here, including the first school, the first church, the first library, the city building, and a shopping district. Today, Oakwood is a small city, occupying only three square miles. Because it is landlocked, it can never grow beyond its current geographic boundaries.

The Development of a Library in Oakwood

Oakwood's first library was located in the house known as Briar Hill, which still stands on Briar Hill Avenue, just off Park Avenue near Oakwood Avenue. This house was the home of the Parrott family, an early prominent and civic-minded family. In 1913, a group of women called on the community to donate one book per family to establish a library.

In 1913, when the first library at Briar Hill was opened, Oakwood was small. The city had been dedicated just five years earlier, when there were only 67 houses in the town. Oakwood was a progressive city, however, and John H. Patterson, president of NCR, donated an additional 100 books to match those donated by the community. However, it was soon apparent that a library housed in a private home was not going to be the best solution for the citizens. Therefore, in 1916 when the newly built Harman School was opened, school officials dedicated a spot for the library. According to an oral history with Catherine Hadelier, one of the city's first librarians, the spot was a bookcase that had glass doors that could be closed. She remembers the library was staffed by teachers at first and open to the public only a few hours a week.

At the same time Oakwood was beginning to grow, there was a huge national campaign to build libraries lead by two men—Melvil Dewey, the founder of the Dewey Decimal System, and Andrew Carnegie, the noted great industrialist. Dewey invented the look and feel of the modern library. In Dewey's view, a modern library would adhere to his slogan "the best reading for the largest numbers at the least cost." He established library reforms that allowed for a standardized and efficient system for cataloging books, a system that all libraries could use and which allowed for easier learning. Known as the Dewey Decimal System, it is the cataloging system still widely used by public libraries in the U.S. Andrew Carnegie, on the other hand, felt libraries should be free and accessible to all; therefore, he started to fund libraries in towns around the world. He helped build over 1600 libraries in the United States. His timing was perfect, since many new communities were being planned in the 1890s-1920s and libraries were becoming more and more popular. The Carnegie libraries were designed to encourage communication between the librarian and the patrons, in large part by locating the librarian's desk in a central location. Carnegie libraries also had open stacks, which encouraged people to browse and choose for themselves, in contrast to earlier libraries, where patrons had to ask for books from closed stacks. Oakwood's

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property

Montgomery, OH

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 4

Wright Memorial Library is representative of this national movement.

Through his philanthropy, Carnegie had an enormous impact on the design of libraries across the U.S. Initially, cities and towns were free to use Carnegie's funds to build their library as they saw fit. However, Carnegie and his secretary James Bertram, who helped administer the program, believed that many of the designs were not practical due to exteriors that were expensive and interiors that were inefficient. Beginning in 1908, Bertram had a great deal of control over the designs of libraries the foundation funded. Initially, grant recipients were required to submit plans before they could begin building. In 1911, however, he wrote guidance for the design of libraries in a book entitled *Notes on Library Buildings [sic]*. The book was sent to every community that received funds from the foundation and it reflected the thinking of leading architects of libraries. It contained minimum standards and six model floor plans that provided the greatest amount of usable space consistent with good taste. The most commonly adopted of the plans called for a main floor with an adult reading area on one side, a children's area on the other, and the librarian's desk between the two. The front door was located in the middle, opposite the librarian.

While Oakwood did not request a Carnegie Grant, they did see the growing need for a separate structure for the community library. In 1922, the school system had to close the library at Harman School, which was the city's public library, due to a lack of funding. In response to this closing, John R. Fletcher, the president of the library board, donated a house he owned at 45 Park Avenue to serve as a library. This building was known as the Oakwood Library Building and opened its doors in 1924 with 1500 books and two librarians.

In 1934, prominent Oakwood resident Orville Wright joined the Library Board of Trustees. Orville Wright was one of the Wright Brothers, natives of Dayton, Ohio, who invented and made the first successful powered flight. After completing their historic flight in 1909, the brothers began to be visited by prominent scientists, aviators, and politicians of the day. Originally receiving these visitors in their West Dayton home, the brothers decided to design and build a more suitable venue. They purchased 17 acres of land in Oakwood in 1912. Orville, his sister Katharine, and their father moved into their new home, Hawthorn Hill, in 1914 (unfortunately, Wilbur died in 1912, before the house was complete). Orville was involved in the community and served on the library board for 12 years beginning in 1934. The historical record does not provide any explanation of why Orville Wright joined the board; however, it is known that he donated \$100 to underwrite the expenses of the campaign in support of the bond issue that funded the library. Orville was an extremely private man and as part of his agreement to join the library board, it is said that it was agreed that he would never preside over a meeting and would never be quoted. Orville was the last surviving Wright, as Wilbur had died in 1912 and Katharine in 1929. Orville remained on the board until 1946.

In 1937, voters approved a bond issue to build a library. The historical record is silent as to how backers were able to pass a bond issue during the Depression, but the effort was successful. The library was to be built in a park which was to be named after Orville and Wilbur's sister Katharine. The land on which the library sits is owned by the city; the library has a 99-year lease on the land. The Oakwood Garden Club suggested that the library itself be named Wright Library to honor the three Wrights; the name was approved by the Board of Trustees. Pictures of Orville, Wilbur, and Katharine, are on display in the south reading room. (As a side note, the historic documents that discuss the development of the library refer to the land surrounding the library as a park named after Katharine Wright. However, the land surrounding the library was never developed as a planned park, and it has never been referred to elsewhere as Katharine Wright Park.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property

Montgomery, OH

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 5

Oakwood's new Tudor Revival library was opened on Valentine's Day 1939. Nearly 200 Oakwood citizens were on hand for a dedication ceremony and tour of the new library. Since its dedication in 1939, the library has been an important and much-loved part of the community. As the city around it, as well as the needs and expectations of the library's patrons, have grown and changed over the decades, so has the building itself. Its floor plan closely resembled the description of the most commonly used Carnegie-sponsored floor plan: a main floor with an adult reading area on one side, a children's area on the other, and the librarian's desk between the two. The front door was located in the middle, opposite the librarian.

Schenck and Williams, Architects

Wright Memorial Public Library was designed by the prominent local architectural firm of Schenck and Williams. This firm's body of work was recognized both locally and nationally. Clients commissioned their designs for a variety of uses, including schools and institutional buildings, commercial and industrial structures, (Graphic Arts Building NR 2009, Webster Station Area NR 2006) churches, (Pleasant Hill United Church NR 2002) and private residences (Hawthorne Hill NR 1975 and NHL 1991). The firm's two principals were Harry I. Schenck and Harry J. Williams. Harry Irvin Schenck was born in Dayton, Ohio, on November 13, 1880. He graduated from Dayton's Steele High School in 1899 and went on to Cornell University, where he graduated in 1903 with a B.A. in Architecture. Harry J. Williams was a native of Ithaca, New York, and was born on November 4, 1880. He graduated from the public schools of Ithaca and enrolled at Cornell University, where he majored in architecture; he graduated in 1903. Schenck and Williams met at Cornell University's School of Architecture, which was one of the first four-year course in architecture at an American university. Before the creation of Cornell's four-year program, architectural training included either an apprenticeship program with an established architect or study in Europe (or both). Cornell's program represented a national shift to formal, architect-designed American architecture.

Schenck and Williams came to Dayton after graduation where both worked in the architectural office of Frank Mills Andrews. Andrews had also graduated from Cornell University in 1888 and had established a well-known practice in Dayton. Andrews is locally known for his design of the Dayton Arcade (built between 1902-1904, NR Listed 1975) and nationally as the designer of several hotels, including a number of Arlington Hotels, and state capitol buildings, notably the Kentucky State Capitol (built 1905, NR 1973) and the eastern and western wings of the Montana State Capitol (built 1909 and 1912, NR 1981).

The two young graduates wanted to establish their own practice, and in January 1906, they partnered to form the firm known as Schenck and Williams, Architects. From the beginning, Schenck and Williams were known as the designers to the Dayton's most prominent businessmen, organizations, and institutions (see the list of Schenck and Williams designed buildings on page 7 of Significance). They were Charter members of The Engineering Society of Dayton at a time when the club helped Dayton become recognized as the leading technological city in the country. The Engineering Society of Dayton had started as a social club called the "Barn Gang" and grew to include famous Daytonians such as Colonial Edward Deeds, Charles F. Kettering, and John H. Patterson. In part because of their association with the Engineering Society, Schenck and Williams became leaders in Dayton's architecture community. The firm won many commissions and was commended for their use of new and creative building materials, including reinforced concrete.

In Oakwood, the firm designed almost all the major institutions in the city, including the Oakwood Junior High and Senior High schools (located on Far Hills Avenue four blocks north of the library), the Oakwood City Building (located at 30 Park Avenue, which is five blocks north and one block west of the library), Edwin Smith Elementary School (located east of the library and sharing the same block), and Wright Memorial Public Library.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property

Montgomery, OH

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 6

All of these buildings are examples of the Tudor or Jacobethan Revival style of architecture, popular during the English Tudor-Stuart period. According to Gordon (1992), the Jacobethan Revival style is a hybrid of two medieval styles, the Jacobean and the Elizabethan. The style was first seen in the mid-nineteenth century, but was not widely used until the early decades of the twentieth century. It was often used for large estates and educational buildings. Many high schools and college buildings in Ohio built in the 1920s were built in the Jacobethan style. Common elements which are seen on the Wright Library include masonry construction with Flemish bond brickwork, steeply pitched slate roofs and wall gables, large window bays with rectangular, multipaned window sash, and smooth stone used for mullions, quoins, coping and finials. The popularity of the style coincided with Oakwood's development, and some 30 houses within the three square mile city are in the Jacobethan or Tudor Revival style. Schenck and Williams were not, as far as we know, involved with the design of the setting of the library, and landscape design was not typically part of their remit. In addition, there are no known records stating that the city had a master plan for a uniform look. However, the use of the same architectural firm and architectural style clearly indicates that a single look was desired. In addition, to being well-connected with the leaders of Oakwood, Harry Schenck also lived in the city. Therefore, his firm was likely a natural fit for civic contracts.

Schenck and Williams continued as partners until 1941 when Williams left Dayton for Palm Springs, California, and continued to work there with his sons. According to a 1991 interview with Williams's son Stewart, the Depression "wiped out" the firm. Before the Depression, the firm of Schenck and Williams had as many as 125 employees. They were prolific in the Miami Valley and well respected for both domestic and commercial designs. After Williams left in 1941, Schenck continued the firm under the same name until his death in 1956. However, these final years were not as important as the years when both architects were involved. In 1957, Harry J. Williams died in Palm Springs, California.

Wright Memorial Public Library is an excellent example of a Tudor or Jacobethan Revival style library designed by Dayton, Ohio, architects Schenck and Williams. As well-known and respected architects, Schenck and Williams were responsible for the designs of many of public buildings in the three-square mile city of Oakwood as well as many prominent buildings in Dayton. Built in 1939, Wright Memorial Public Library is important as an extant example of the firm's work, and their ability to apply architectural conventions of a style to a variety of building types. Wright Memorial Public Library is a intact example of a Tudor-style library that retains all of its character-defining features of the Tudor Revival style on both the exterior and interior as well as its park-like setting and role as a public community library. Although the building has been added onto to enable it to continue to serve the changing needs of the community, the additions are each respectful of the original structure. While they are visible from the sides and rear, from the front, the library appears much as it did when it was originally opened to the public in February 1939. Thus, the building overall retains a high level of architectural integrity and is being nominated under Criterion C for its architectural distinction as an outstanding and intact example of a Tudor Revival style building designed by local architects Schenck and Williams.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property

Montgomery, OH

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number 8 Page 7

Partial List of Buildings Designed by Schenck and Williams

Rike-Kumler Building, Dayton, OH 1912 and 1938 addition (Demolished)
 General Motors Factory Buildings, Dayton, OH (Demolished)
 Frigidaire Factory Buildings, Dayton, OH (1921) (Demolished)
 National Cash Register Headquarters, Dayton OH (Demolished)
 Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, OH various buildings
 YMCA, Dayton, OH (1929) NR listed
 Third National Bank, Dayton OH (1926)
 The Hulman Building, Dayton, OH (1931)
 The Engineer's Club, Dayton, OH (1918)
 The Ohio Bell Telephone Building, Dayton, OH (1931)
 The 25 S. Main Building, Dayton, OH
 Winters Bank Building, Dayton, OH (1921)
 The Gas and Electric Building, Dayton, OH (1926)
 Westminster Presbyterian, Dayton, OH (1926)
 First Baptist, Dayton, OH (1914)
 Grace Methodist, Dayton, OH (1921)
 Second Church of Christ Science, Dayton, OH 1924
 Graphic Arts Building, Dayton, OH (1925)

Schenck and Williams Designed Civic Buildings in Oakwood, OH

Oakwood Junior High School (added to east elevation of the high school) (1931)
 Oakwood Senior High School (1923)
 Oakwood Edwin Smith Elementary School (1926)
 Oakwood City Building (1918)
 Oakwood Wright Memorial Public Library (1939)
 Oakwood Tudor Manor, only large scale apartment building in the city (ca. 1930)
 Various Private Residences including Hawthorne Hill, home of Wilbur and Orville Wright, and Harry I. Schenck personal residence

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

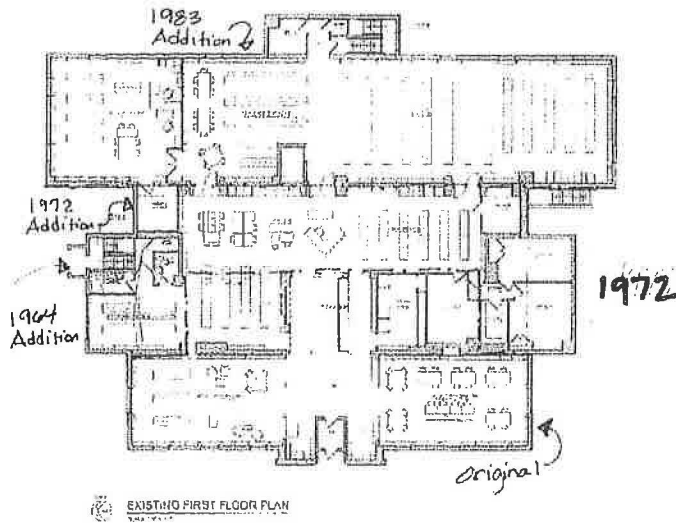
Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio

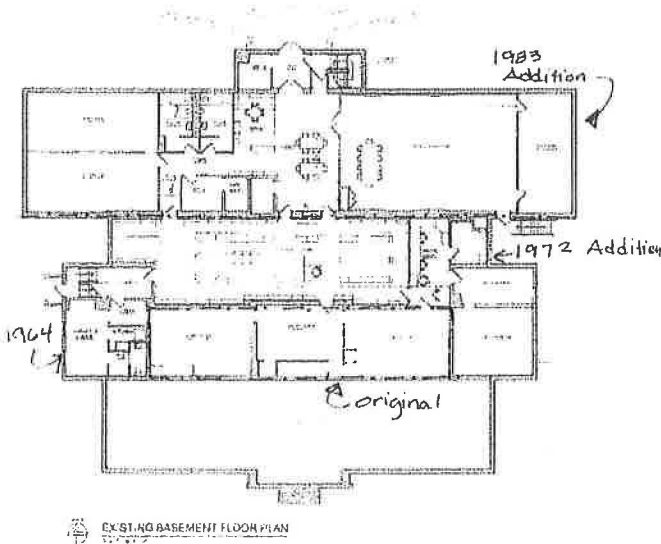
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Additional Documentation



Wright Memorial Public Library
First Floor Plan



Wright Memorial Public Library
Ground Floor Plan

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library

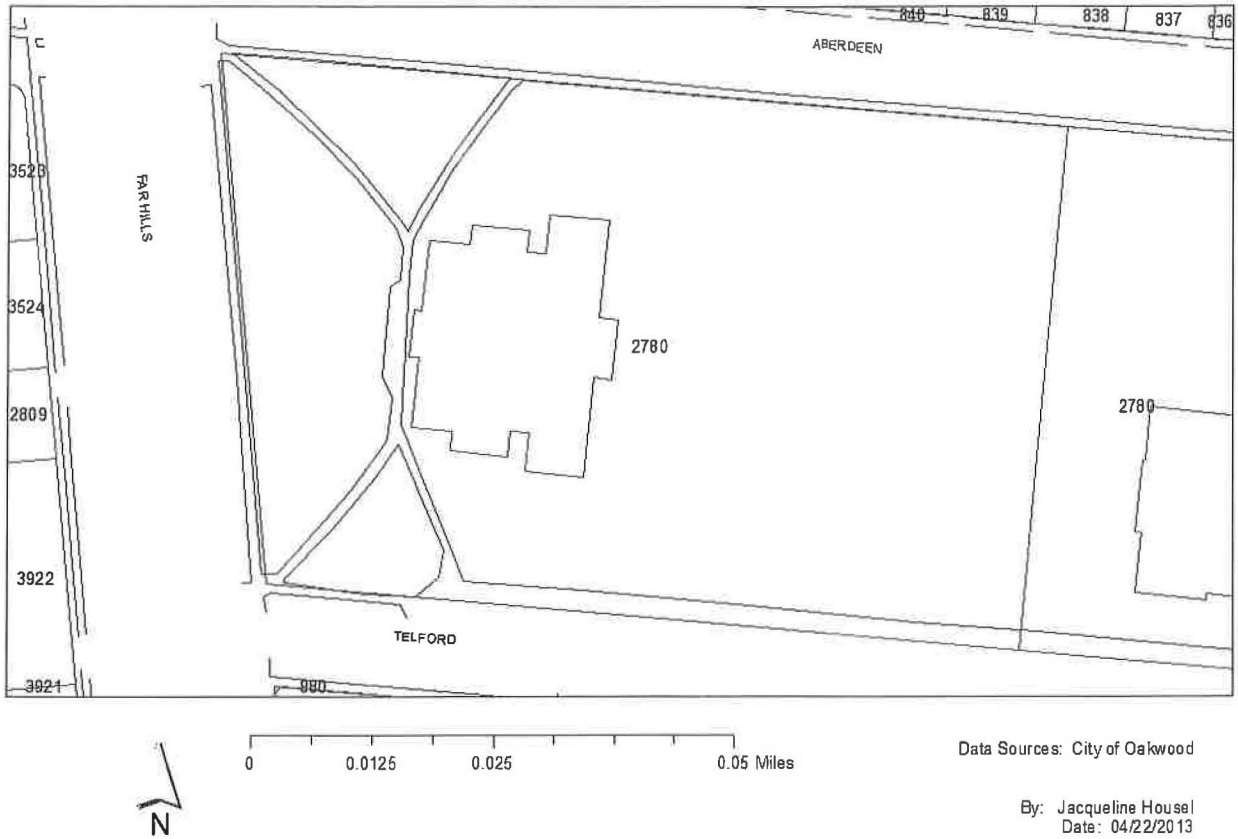
Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Additional Documentation

Sketch of Wright Library
Oakwood, Ohio



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

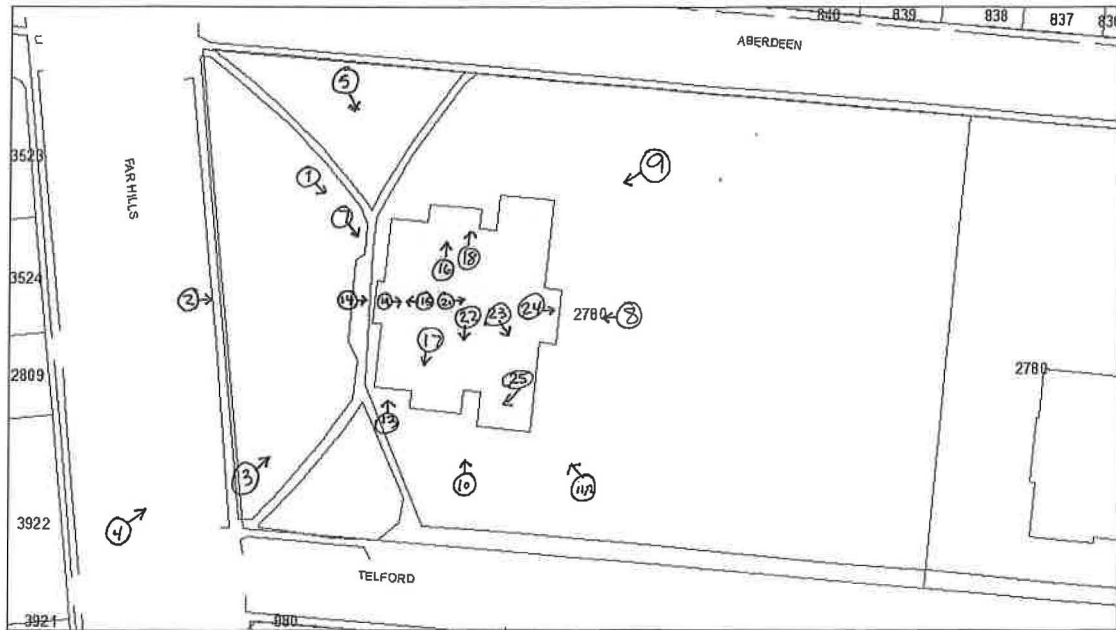
Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Additional Documentation

Sketch of Wright Library
Oakwood, Ohio



Data Sources: City of Oakwood

By: Jacqueline Housel
Date: 04/22/2013

With Photo Key

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library
Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio
County and State
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Additional Documentation

Photo Log

Name of Property: Wright Memorial Library

City or Vicinity: Oakwood (Dayton)

County: Montgomery State: Ohio

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0001

Photographer: Leah J. Konicki

Date Photographed: November 17, 2012

Description: Front (west) and north elevations, looking south southeast, showing original building plus additions

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0002

Photographer: Leah J. Konicki

Date Photographed: November 17, 2012

Description: Front (west) elevation looking east

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0003

Photographer: Leah J. Konicki

Date Photographed: November 17, 2012

Description: Front (west) elevation looking north

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0004

Photographer: Leah J. Konicki

Date Photographed: November 17, 2012

Description: Front (west) elevation looking northeast showing original plus additions

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0005

Photographer: Leah J. Konicki

Date Photographed: November 17, 2012

Description: North elevation looking south - original building with gabled roof at right, 1964 addition in middle and 1983 addition at left

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0006

Photographer: Leah J. Konicki

Date Photographed: November 17, 2012

Description: North end of front (west) elevation looking east

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0007

Photographer: Leah J. Konicki

Date Photographed: November 17, 2012

Description: North end of front (west) elevation, showing 1964 and 1983 additions at extreme left

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Additional Documentation

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0008
Photographer: Leah J. Konicki
Date Photographed: November 17, 2012
Description: Rear (east) elevation looking west showing 1983 Addition

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0009
Photographer: Leah J. Konicki
Date Photographed: November 17, 2012
Description: Rear (east) Elevation with 1983 addition looking south southwest

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0010
Photographer: Leah J. Konicki
Date Photographed: November 17, 2012
Description: South elevation looking north showing 1972 addition (center) with 1983 (right) and original (left) visible

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0011
Photographer: Leah J. Konicki
Date Photographed: November 17, 2012
Description: South elevation looking north northwest showing 1983 addition (right), 1964 addition and original (left)

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0012
Photographer: Leah J. Konicki
Date Photographed: November 17, 2012
Description: South elevation looking north northwest showing 1983 addition

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0013
Photographer: Leah J. Konicki
Date Photographed: July 21, 2012
Description: View of Tudor arch window in south elevation looking north

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0014
Photographer: Leah J. Konicki
Date Photographed: July 21, 2012
Description: View of main entrance showing detail; looking east

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0015
Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy
Date Photographed: July 27, 2012
Description: Looking west toward entrance vestibule, circulation desk front left; entrance to north reading room visible on right

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property
Montgomery County, Ohio
County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Additional Documentation

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0016

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: North Reading Room looking north

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0017

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: South Reading Room looking south from center bay

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0018

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: View of north reading room window, looking north

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0019

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: View through original entrance vestibule, past circulation desk, to reference desk, looking east

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0020

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: Reference Desk from original portion to 1983 addition, looking east

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0021

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: Reference area in 1983 addition, looking north northeast

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0022

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: View of reference desk and stacks in 1983 addition, looking south

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0023

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: View of children's room in 1983 addition, looking north northeast

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wright Memorial Public Library

Name of Property

Montgomery County, Ohio

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Additional Documentation

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0024

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

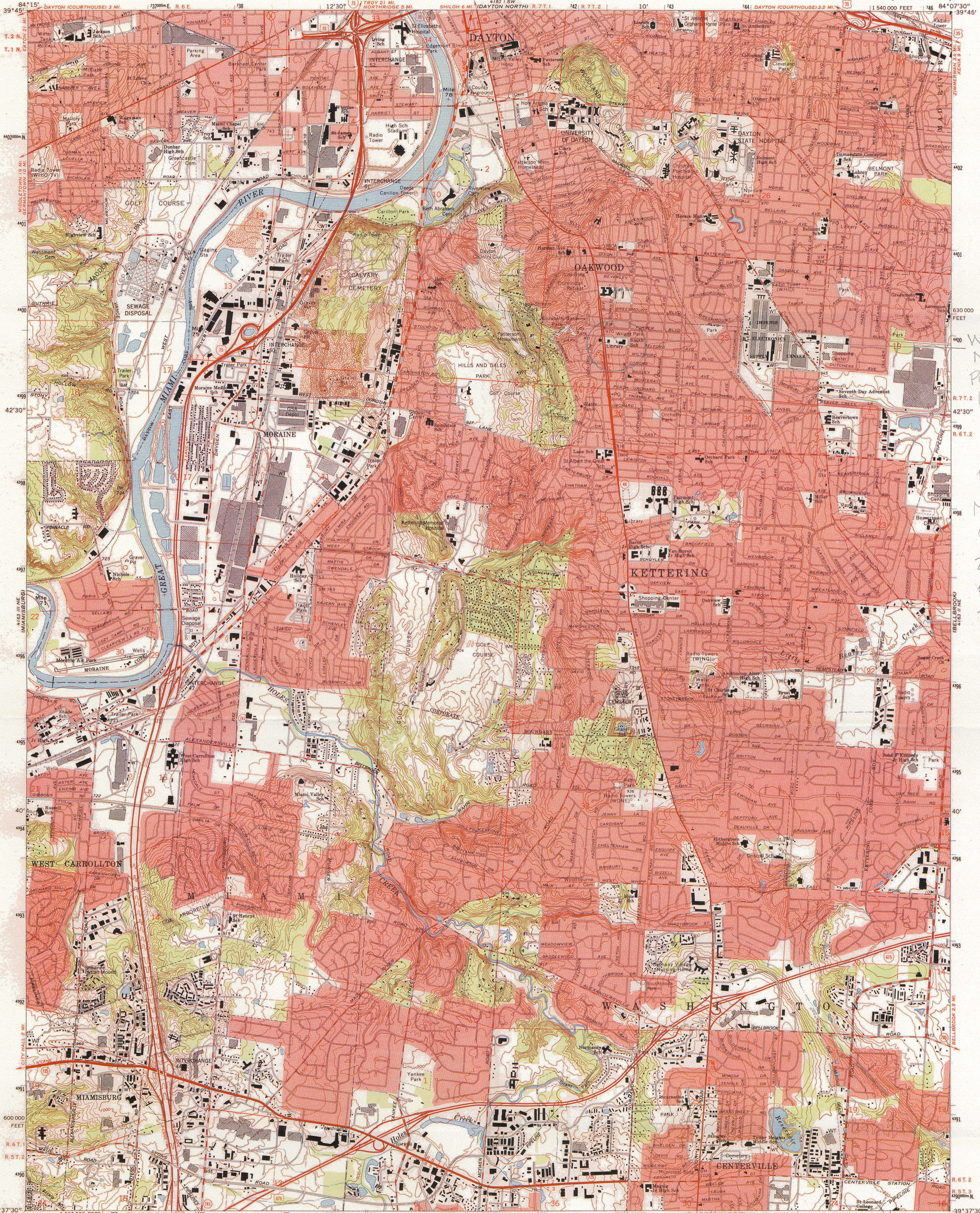
Description: View of exit in lower level of 1983 addition looking east

Photo ID: OH_Montgomery_Wright Memorial Library_0025

Photographer: Harrison Stamm Gowdy

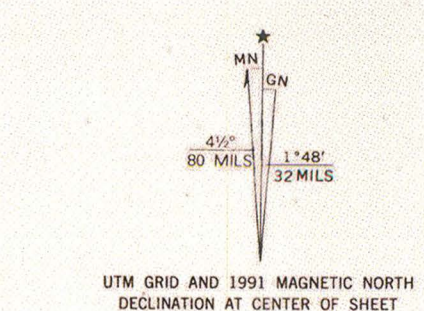
Date Photographed: July 27, 2012

Description: View of meeting room in lower level of 1983 addition looking south southwest



Wright
Memorial
Public
Library
1776
Fair Hills Ave
Dayton, OH
Montgomery
County, OH
Zone 16
Easting
742481
Northing
4399800

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey in cooperation with the Defense Mapping Agency. Revised in cooperation with State of Ohio agencies. Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and USCE. Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1954. Field checked 1955. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1966. Polyconic projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Ohio coordinate system, south zone 16, 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 16, shown in blue. 1927 North American Datum. The difference between 1927 North American Datum and North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5-minute intersections is given in USGS Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by dashed corner ticks. Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked. Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown. Area west of the Great Miami River lies within the Miami River Survey. Area east of the Great Miami River lies within the Between the Miams



SCALE 1:24,000
0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions compiled in cooperation with State of Ohio agencies from aerial photographs taken 1988 and other sources. Contours not revised. This information not field checked. Map edited 1991.

1966
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DAYTON SOUTH, OHIO
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SEP 1992





Watkin
Memorial
Public
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LIBRARY
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←







CAUTION

OURS
MONDAY - THURSDAY 10am - 5pm
FRIDAY 10am - 5pm
SATURDAY - SUNDAY 10am - 5pm

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Returns



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or Assistance?**

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Still Need Assistance? Call Us

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Access Tax Forms and Publications

IRS

Dewey
Deci
Clas



EXIT

NOT A TOY

New Mysteries

FAST VIEW
DVDs

FAST VIEW
DVDs

High School Area
Library Administration
Please do not
Remove Books



Large-Print Books

Large Print

ADS

Large-Print Books

Paperb...

Large-Print Books

FAST READS

NOT A TOY
Please Do Not Use This

ANNA QUINDLEN
ORA IBERN
Daniel Silva
DAVID BALDACC
Portrait of a Spy
THE NOBODY
FAST READS
DANIELLE STEEL
Happy Birthday

LEE CHILD
ANDRA ROWN
Robert B. Parker's
GUILTY WIFE
ANDREW BUCKINGHAM
CHRIS CHAMBERS
DANIELLE STEEL
Happy Birthday





Returns

Reference

New Books

AUTOMATIC
CAUTION
DOOR



Public Library Foundation
Building Strong Foundations for Our Community.
Total: \$14,800
1000 items in our library's collection.

\$14,800

10,877

3 \$9,969

7,978

9 \$5,825

Need Tax Forms or Assistance?



Reference

EXIT

Phone Books

PLEASE INTERRUPT ME!
RESEARCH HELP DESK
We here to help you:
• Use Your Resources
• Find Information on Your Research Topic
• Navigate our Online Catalog



Mysteries (continued)

Science Fiction

Children's Department

Periodicals

Reference

Phone Books



See Which Tax Form Fits

1040	1041
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals Partnerships Trusts Beneficiaries Estates Deceased individuals Nonresident aliens Foreign trusts Foreign estates Foreign beneficiaries Foreign estates Foreign beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships Trusts Beneficiaries Estates Deceased individuals Nonresident aliens Foreign trusts Foreign estates Foreign beneficiaries Foreign estates Foreign beneficiaries

"Where do I mail my tax return?"

IRS

See the location of the nearest IRS office.

1. Find the location of the nearest IRS office.

2. Use the Department of the Treasury's website to find the location of the nearest IRS office.

3. Use the Department of the Treasury's website to find the location of the nearest IRS office.

4. Use the Department of the Treasury's website to find the location of the nearest IRS office.

5. Use the Department of the Treasury's website to find the location of the nearest IRS office.



Picture Books

Picture Books

Picture Books

← Caldecott Holidays →

Holiday Books

Holiday Books

NEW KID COMPUTER!
Try Me!
This computer includes over 40 games and software programs for preschool and elementary children. Let us know what you think!

Through the READ!
2012 Children's Summer Reading Club
Storytime in the Garden
Friday, July 27th
10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Don't Carve

SO MUCH TO READ!
Galaxy





Library rules and regulations poster.

Please turn off cell phones or set ringer to vibrate while in the library. If you must take a call, please do so in the entrance or outside. Thank!

Library rules and regulations poster.



In Case of Fire Do Not Use Stairs

Bookshelves containing various books, including a section for 'OWN THE NIGHT Contests' and a display for 'ROAD TRIPS'.

READ EVERY DAY!

EXIT



EXIT



Stairs →



OWN THE NIGHT





National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Wright Library

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OHIO, Montgomery

DATE RECEIVED: 11/08/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/09/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/24/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/25/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000981

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12/24/2013 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept c
REVIEWER Patrick Andrews DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 12/24/2013

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.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NPS TRANSMITTAL CHECK LIST

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
800 E. 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH 43211
(614)-298-2000

The following materials are submitted on Nov. 4, 2013
For nomination of the Wright Library to the National Register of
Historic Places:

- Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
- Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document
- Multiple Property Nomination form
- Photographs
- CD with electronic images
- Original USGS map(s)
- Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)
- Piece(s) of correspondence
- Other _____

COMMENTS:

- Please provide a substantive review of this nomination
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do _____ do not _____
Constitute a majority of property owners
- Other: _____



November 1, 2013

Ms. Carol D. Shull, Keeper of the
National Register
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find one (1) new National Register nominations for Ohio and new information for one (1) listed property. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nomination submission.

NEW NOMINATION

Wright Library

COUNTY

Montgomery

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Tremont Historic District (Amendment)


COUNTY

Cuyahoga

The additional information expands the period of significance for the historic district.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000.

Sincerely,

for 

Lox A. Logan, Jr.
Executive Director and CEO
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures

OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Ohio Historic Preservation Office

800 East 17th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211 ph: 614.298.2000 fx: 614.298.2037

www.ohiohistory.org



• A DAYTON HISTORY EXPERIENCE •

Susan M. Tietz
 National Register and Survey Manager
 Ohio Historical Society
 800 East 17th Ave.
 Columbus, OH 43211

Dear Ms. Tietz,

As Montgomery County, Ohio's official historical organization, Dayton History enthusiastically supports designation of the Wright Memorial Public Library, at 1776 Far Hills Avenue in Oakwood, on the National Register of Historic Places. The current library building, opened in 1939, is a splendid example of Tudor style architecture, it is a well-maintained local landmark, and it is clearly worthy of inclusion on the Register.

The library, named in honor of siblings Wilbur, Orville and Katharine Wright, is a site on Dayton's Aviation Trail. Orville Wright, pilot of the world's first successful airplane flight in 1903, served as a member of the library board from 1934-1946, including in the role of Vice President for 11 years.

Dayton History owns and operates Orville's success mansion, Hawthorn Hill, approximately one-half mile from the library. Hawthorn Hill is a National Historic Landmark and is a site of Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park. Inclusion of the Wright Memorial Public Library on the National Register will serve to publicly acknowledge the architectural importance of the library's building as a historic and community resource, an acknowledgment that Orville Wright himself would, arguably, appreciate. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Brady Kress
 President/CEO
 Dayton History



City of Oakwood

Government Administration

City Manager

September 19, 2013

Susan M. Tietz
National Register and Survey Manager
Ohio Historic Preservation Office
800 East 17th Avenue
Columbus, Ohio, 43211

Dear Ms. Tietz,

As owner of the property, the city of Oakwood fully supports the application submitted to include Wright Memorial Public Library on the National Register of Historic Places. With its storied past dating back to the opening in 1939, Wright Library is one of Oakwood's historic gems, truly a community treasure. Named after Oakwood's most famous residents, Orville Wright and his sister Katherine, and their brother Wilbur, Wright Library is heavily used and appreciated by Oakwood residents and citizens from all over Montgomery County. The beautiful architecture and quaint setting distinguish Wright Library from most other public libraries in the Dayton area and makes it a perfect addition to the National Register.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William D. Duncan".

William D. Duncan
Mayor of Oakwood

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Norbert S. Klopsch".

Norbert S. Klopsch
City Manager

NSK:sl

THE
WRIGHT
FAMILY

THE
WRIGHT
FAMILY

REC'D BY OHPO SEP 19 2013

112 Monteray Avenue
Dayton, Ohio 45419
(937) 294-7763
Email: orvll@earthlink.net

Stephen Wright

September 17, 2013

800 East 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43211

Dear Ms. Tietz,

I am writing this letter as an endorsement in support of including the Wright Memorial Public Library, at 1776 Far Hills Avenue in Oakwood on the National Register of Historic Places. This classic Tudor style building is an anchor and focal point of our community. It serves as a lasting and prominent tribute to the contribution made to our community, country and the world by my ancestors, Wilbur, Orville and Katherine Wright.

My great grand uncle, Orville personally served on the library board as a member and Vice President from 1934 until 1946, just two years before his passing. Uncle Orv is well documented as a "reluctant administrator", much preferring a secluded workshop to the head end of a conference table. To me, the longevity with which he served this library board is a testimony to his view of this institution's importance and significance in the community he called home for 34 years. Wilbur, Orville and Katherine all grew up in a home where education and self improvement through reading was greatly encouraged as is evidenced by their father's extensive, well rounded, private book and periodical collection. I too have resided in Oakwood for 27 years to date and can personally attest to the value of this building and the purpose it serves in our city.

The building itself, as mentioned above is a Tudor style structure with beautiful vaulted ceilings and stained glass windows among it's many details. It's overall condition is excellent, as another testimony to the important role it plays in the everyday lives of Oakwood citizens as well as patrons from surrounding communities.

I hope you will give this great community fixture your consideration for inclusion to The National Register. I have no doubt that my ancestors would appreciate your effort as do my family and I.

Yours truly,



Stephen Wright, great grand nephew of Wilbur , Orville and Katherine Wright

Stephen Wright
112 Monteray Ave.
Dayton Ohio, 45419
cell: 937-545-6940

THE
WRIGHT
FAMILY

Susan M. Tietz
National Register and Survey Manager
Ohio Historical Society
800 East 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43211

September 17, 2013

Dear Ms. Tietz,

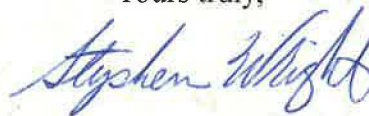
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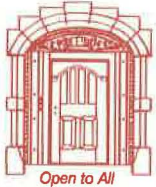
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Yours truly,



Stephen Wright, great grand nephew of Wilbur , Orville and Katherine Wright

Stephen Wright
112 Monteray Ave.
Dayton Ohio, 45419
cell: 937-545-6940



WRIGHT MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

1776 Far Hills Avenue • Dayton (Oakwood), Ohio 45419-2531
(937) 294-7171 Fax (937) 294-8578

Susan M. Tietz
National Register and Survey Manager
Ohio Historic Preservation Office
800 East 17th Street
Columbus, Ohio 43211

September 23, 2013

Dear Members of Ohio Historic Preservation,

As a representative of Wright Memorial Public Library, we are very honored to be considered as being placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Wright Memorial Public Library is distinct and a treasured resource for the community of Oakwood. It is valued not only for its resources and community gathering spaces, but also for its architecture and the history of the people involved with it from the beginning.

Wright Memorial Public Library opened at its present location in 1939. Orville Wright served on the Board of Trustees from 1934 until 1947. One story that is told is that Orville was very shy and agreed to serve on the Board only if he didn't have to do any public speaking. That must have been agreeable to the other Board members because Orville served for 13 years.

One of the library's main goals is to increase our access to technology, while maintaining the history that we are so proud of.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to showcase Wright Memorial Public Library.

Sincerely,

Debra M. Schenk
Interim Director
Wright Memorial Public Library
1776 Far Hills Ave.
Dayton, Ohio 45419
937.294.7171



The Oakwood Historical Society

1947 Far Hills Avenue • Dayton, Ohio 45419-2536 • 937-299-3793



September 28, 2013

Susan M. Tietz
National Registry and Survey Manager
Ohio Historical Society
800 East 17th Ave.
Columbus, OH 43211

Dear Ms. Tietz,

I am writing this letter to you in support of the nomination of the Wright Memorial Public Library for the National Register of Historic Places. The library was opened in 1939, after a successful bond issue supported its construction. Named for the Wright family, Orville, Wilbur, and their sister Katharine, the library has been a center of community life ever since.

Part of the library's early history involved the participation of Orville Wright on the Board of Directors. He was said to seldom miss a meeting, and there are many stories of his involvement. The building itself was designed by local architectural business Schenk and Williams, in the Tudor style for which they were known. There are several other buildings in Oakwood designed by this same architectural firm, in addition to buildings in the region and nationally. The 1920's high school which is just a few blocks away is by the same architectural firm and has the same styling on its façade.

The library would join several other buildings in Oakwood with this designation; both the Wright Brothers home, Hawthorne Hill (2 minutes by car) and Oakwood Historical Society's Long Romsper Homestead (two blocks away on the same street) are on the National Registry.

The historical society and the library work together on programs and activities that benefit both organizations. We look forward to our continuing involvement with and support of the Wright Memorial Public Library, and urge you to give your stamp of approval to this request.

Sincerely,

Linda Pearson
President, Oakwood Historical Society