

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 3 1980

DATE ENTERED DEC 3 1980

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Shelby Park Branch Library

AND/OR COMMON Shelby Park Branch Library

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 600 East Oak St.

CITY, TOWN Louisville 3&4 NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Kentucky VICINITY OF 021 CODE Jefferson COUNTY 111 CODE

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Board of Trustees- Louisville Free Public Library

STREET & NUMBER

301 West York Street

CITY, TOWN Louisville Kentucky STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jefferson County Court House

STREET & NUMBER 527 W. Jefferson St.

CITY, TOWN Louisville Kentucky STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Kentucky Survey of Historic Sites

DATE 1980

XXX
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN Frankfort Kentucky STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Shelby Park Branch Library is situated in the Shelby Park neighborhood, east of the central business district. The library is adjacent to Shelby Park, a small urban green space.

The Shelby Park Branch Library is a Second Renaissance Revival style, Carnegie-endowed library. The symmetrical building is sheathed in smooth-coursed limestone. The facade consists of a central section flanked by two slightly recessed bays. The structure rests on a smooth-coursed stone raised basement articulated by a stone band. The bays each contain a large one-over-one window with a stone reveal and an incised panel below. The attic story is decorated by a stone panel with collonettes and a narrow window in the side bays.

The main feature of the central section of the facade is the arched entry, reminiscent of Brunelleschi's Pazzi Chapel. Two Ionic columns support a round arch entry with a keystone. The arch rests on a molded architrave which is supported by the columns and pilasters; the architrave extends across the central section. The entry consists of a double door with a transom. Inside the arch is a bas-relief with the name of the library and decorative detailing. Four tapered pilaster strips extend to the architrave on the side of the entry. These are adorned with lions' heads and naturalistic ornament. Two iron light brackets also flank the entry.

The structure has a deep hipped roof of red terra cotta tile. The section of the roof over the entry is accented by two acroteria. Semi-circular side bays add further interest to the massing of the building. The structure is further enhanced by a handsome iron fence and its setting in Shelby Park.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1911 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Loomis & Hartman

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shelby Park Branch Library is one of seven Louisville libraries endowed by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The seven buildings are exceptionally fine examples of various classical revival styles popular at the turn of the century. The Shelby Park Branch Library is a refined and beautifully proportioned example of the Second Renaissance Revival. The library was designed by one of Louisville's most important architects, Arthur Loomis.

The Shelby Park Branch Library was opened in 1911. The branch served the Shelby Park and Germantown neighborhoods, both areas with ethnic roots to the earlier German immigrations.

The architecture of the library is typical of Louisville's preference for a more restrained expression of Beaux-Arts and classical revival styles. The building is one of the finest examples in the city of the Second Renaissance Revival style popularized by McKim, Mead and White in their well-known design of the Boston Free Public Library. The Shelby Park Library shows the influence of the Quattrocento Italian master, Brunelleschi's Pazzi Chapel in Florence, in the entry treatment. Though a relatively small structure, the Shelby Park Branch Library is monumental in character, achieved by its proportions, its restrained elegance and simplicity. The building is further enhanced by its site relation with an urban park.

The Shelby Park Branch Library was design by the prominent Louisville architectural firm of Loomis & Hartman. Arthur Loomis' career encompassed the late nineteenth and beyond the first quarter of the twentieth century. His partnership with Chas. Clarke produced some of the finest Victorian buildings in the city, including the Louisville Medical School (National Register, July, 1975), Conrad House (National Register, February, 1975), Whiteside Bakery (National Register, April , 1979) and the Levy Brother Building (National Register, March, 1978). The firm of Loomis & Hartman (Julius) was established in 1908 and also designed the Speed Building. Loomis later designed the J.B. Speed Art Museum in 1927, a restrained neo-classical revival building.

The Shelby Park Branch Library is an outstanding example of early twentieth century institutional structures.. The building represents both the high quality of design and the social-educational interests of the early twentieth century which were subsidized on an unprecedented scale by private philanthropy.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Catalogue of the First Exhibition: Louisville Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. np. 1912.

"Shelby Branch Library to Open Tomorrow!" Louisville Courier-Journal. 26 March 1911.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

less than one acre

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____
QUADRANGLE NAME Louisville East

UTM NOT VERIFIED

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A	16	610,918,0,0	4,213,212,7,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			
E			
G			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			
F			
H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City of Louisville, Block 23C, Lot 32

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marty Poynter Hedgepeth Director of Research

ORGANIZATION Landmarks Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER 727 West Main Street

TELEPHONE 502-587-3501

CITY OR TOWN Louisville

STATE Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Donna C. Hopkins

TITLE Acting SHPO

DATE 10-22-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. Ray

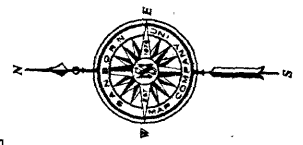
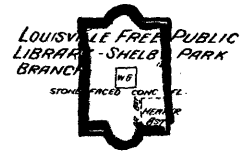
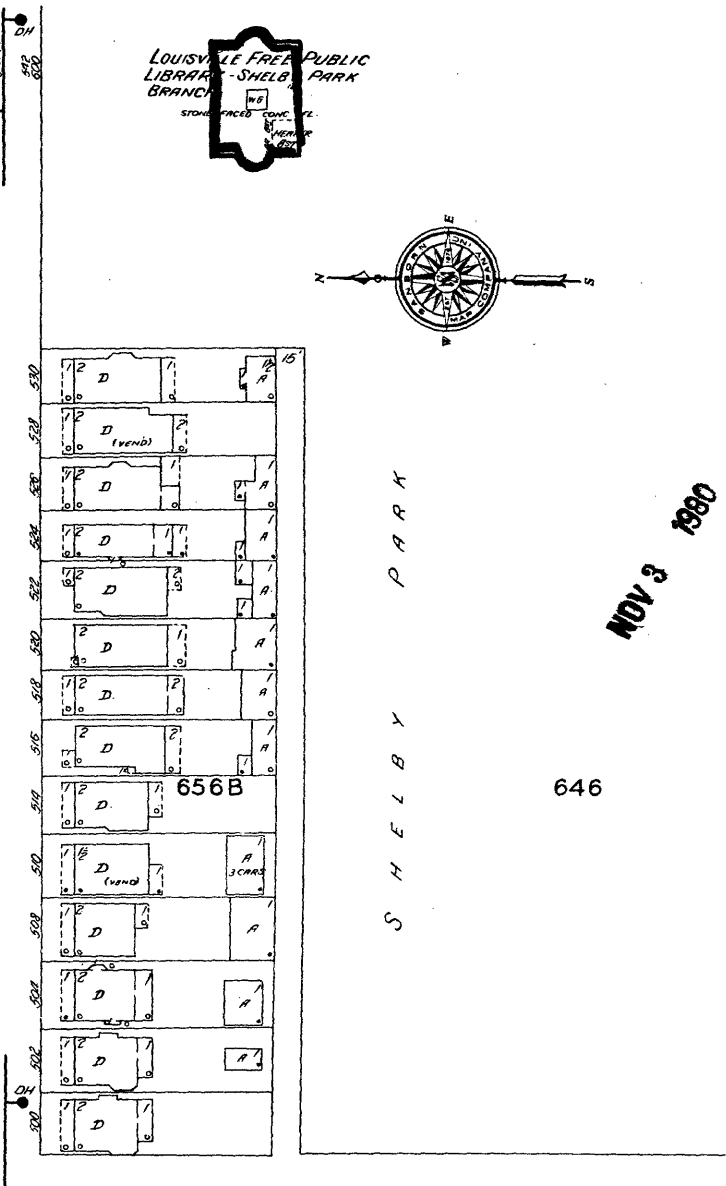
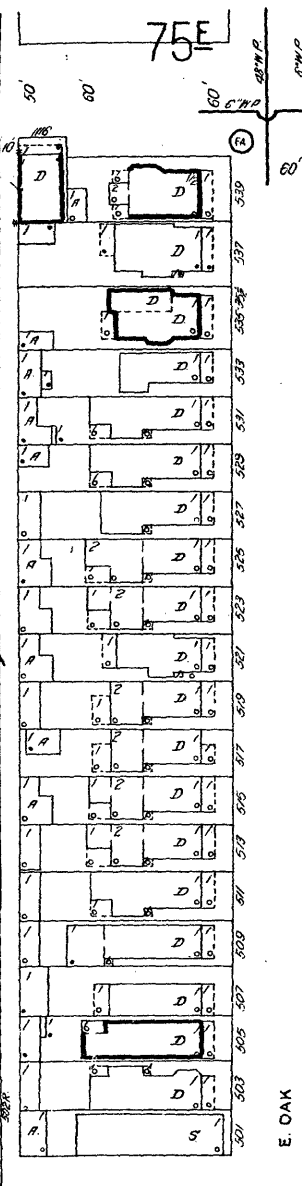
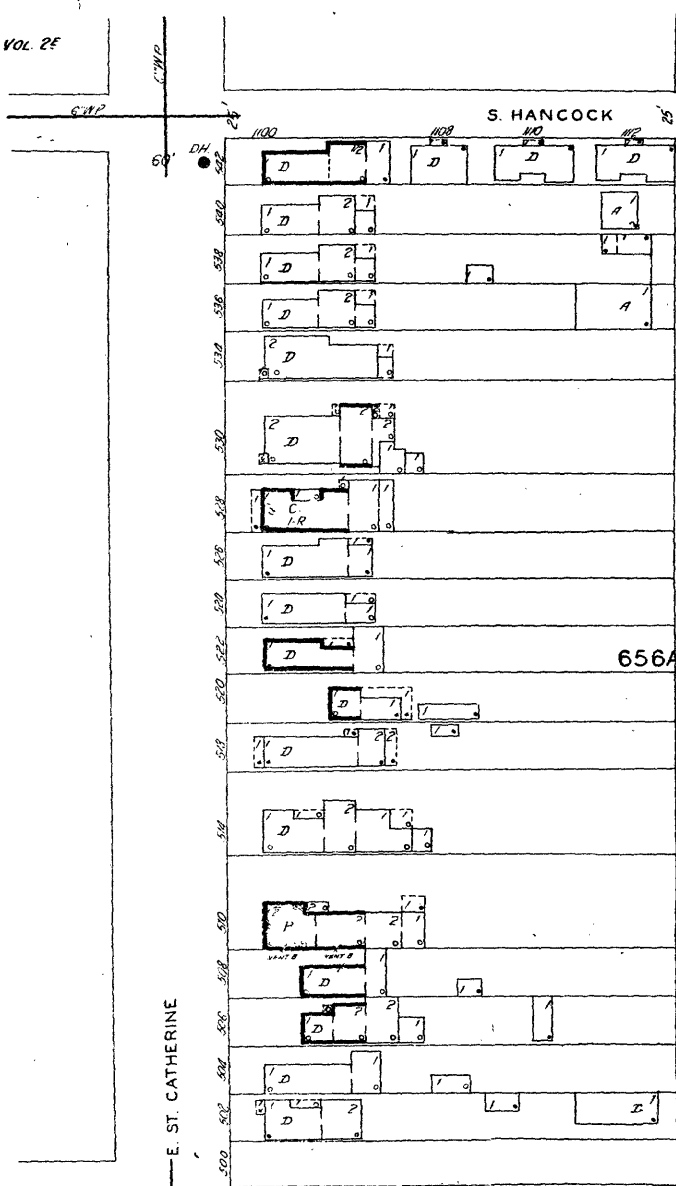
DATE 12/3/80

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: _____
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

69E



NOV 3 1980

DEC 3 1980

68E

(A)

E. OAK

(A)

Shelby Park Branch Library
600 E. Oak Street
Louisville, Jefferson, Ky.
Map 2 Sanborn Real Estate
Map

HANCOCK ST.60'

OAK

ST.60'

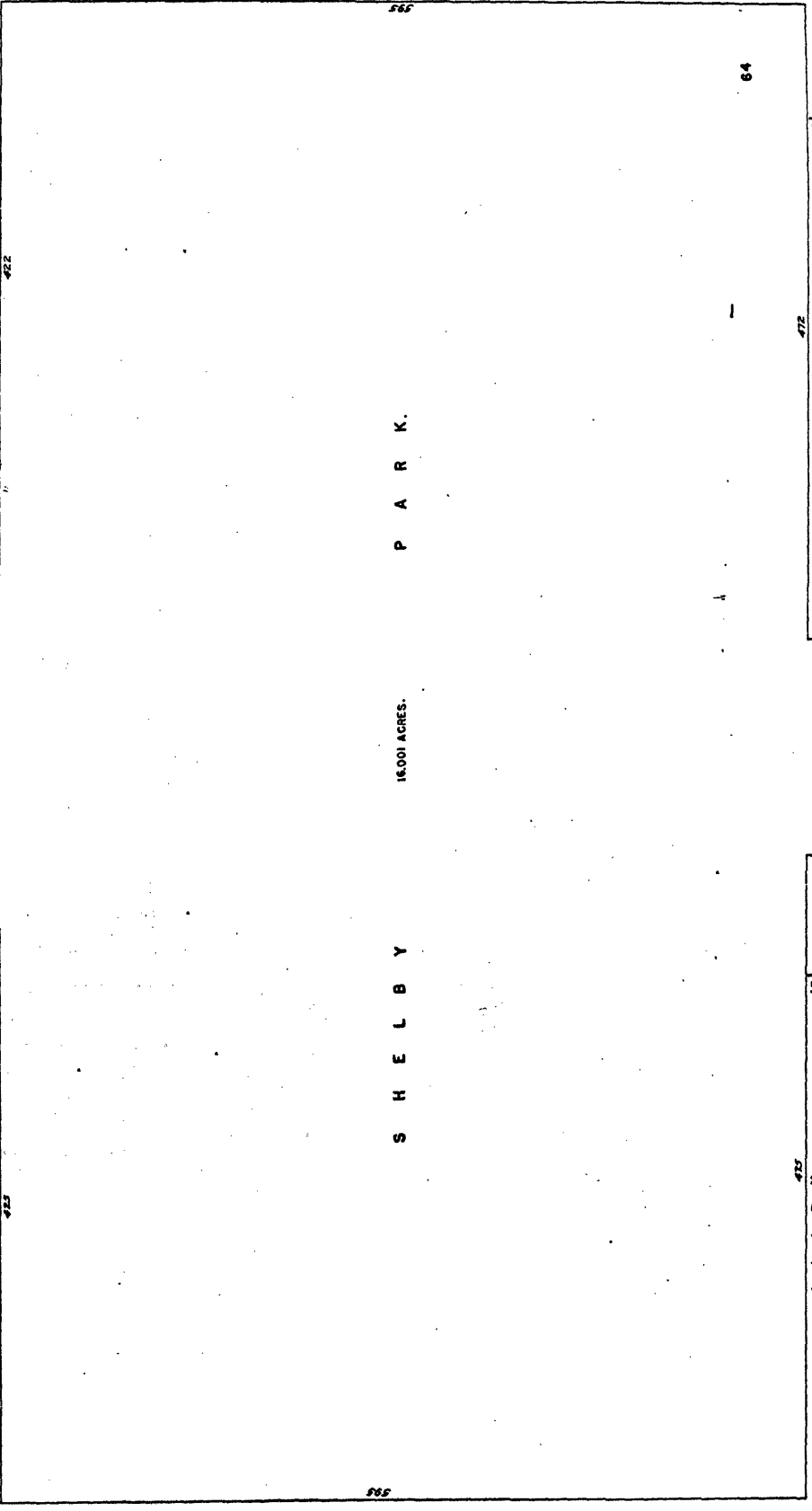
35	34	33	34	34	30	27	27	30	27	26	28	29	25
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
120													120
ALLEY 15'													

30	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	35.5
30	32.5	32.5	32.5	30	35	35	35	37	37	30	32.5	32	35.5	120
32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	120
ALLEY 15'														

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ST.60'

CLAY ST.60'



ALLEY 15'												
-----------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ALLEY 15'												
-----------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

JACKSON

BY MAY.50'

SHELBY PARK

NE

GUENDALINE AV

NOV 3 1980
DEC 3 1980

Shelby Park Branch Library
600 E. Oak Street
Louisville, Jefferson , Ky.
Real Estate Atlas of Jefferson
County, Vol. 1, Real Estate
Directories, Inc. Miami, 1972

Map 3