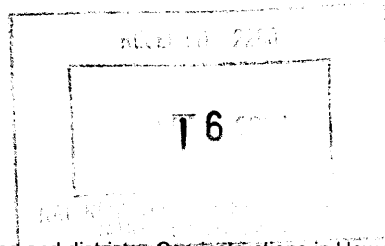


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name **Bailey, Louis J., Branch Library-Gary International Institute**
other names/site number _____ 089-232-20577

2. Location

street & number **1501 West Madison Street** N/A not for publication
city or town **Gary** N/A vicinity
state **Indiana** code **IN** county **Lake** code **089** zip code **46407**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

John R. Goss

8/11/04

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other, (explain:)

Edson Beall

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

9/29/04

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
- district
- site
- structure
- object
- landscape

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

 N/A

**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)

VACANT _____ Not in use _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions)

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: _____ Colonial Revival _____

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____ BRICK _____
 walls _____ BRICK _____
 _____ STONE: Limestone _____
 roof _____ ASPHALT _____
 other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more 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.)

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE _____

ETHNIC HERITAGE: _____ Black

ETHNIC HERITAGE: _____ European

ETHNIC HERITAGE: _____ Hispanic

SOCIAL HISTORY _____

Period of Significance

1918-1954

Significant Dates

1918

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Wickes, Frank A. (architect)

Gerometta, Marcellus (builder)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Calumet Archives; Gary Public Library

Bailey, Louis J., Branch Library-Gary
Name of Property

Lake IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	16	471560	4603830	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

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

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Christopher Baas
organization _____ date 05-01-2004
street & number 21116 North Banbury Road telephone 317/ 877-7799
city or town Noblesville state IN zip code 46060

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name Broadway Area CDC, Vernita Leslie (director)
street & number 300 W. 21st Avenue telephone 219/ 882-8945
city or town Gary state IN zip code 46407

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

Architectural Description

The Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute is a single-story brick building on a raised, or English, basement. It is constructed in the Colonial Revival style. The library is located at the intersection of 15th Avenue and Madison Street in Gary's south side neighborhood. The building's main facade faces west onto Madison. 15th Avenue is located approximately twenty feet off the structure's north facade where it T's into Madison. Madison continues west from another T intersection just south of the structure. The library is located in a residential area with Froebel School located to the west, new community development housing to the north, and churches to the east and south.

The library's gable roof has asphalt shingles that likely cover remnants of original slate. The brick walls are laid in an English bond of alternating headers and stretchers. The walls have a water table, best described as a reduction in thickness set off by a row of angled brick headers. It causes the building to appear to be set on a base, and externally demarcates the floor level of the main interior space.

The library's main facade is oriented west. The remains of a wrought iron fence that enclosed a small formal garden are located between the building and Madison Street (See photos #2 and #7). The building is accessed by a low terrace-like porch connected to the garden by stone steps. The porch has a brick cobble surface, and historically was enclosed with a stone balustrade of square end piers, and ornate balusters supported by stone rails.

The library's balanced west facade is comprised of the building's main block and a central, projecting flat-roofed entry block. Historically, the entry was divided into three bays by four square and fluted pilasters supporting an entablature. The pilasters have been removed, but had square bases and Corinthian-like capitals. The entablature has been covered, but had a plain frieze with square panels over each pilaster. The entablature's cornice was located at the eave height of the structure's main block, and below a short parapet wall. The three openings in the entry block mimic a Palladian window. The entry block's central bay has an arched window with a brick arch, stone keystone, and stone sill. The window has a fixed upper sash with six lights in the arch over two rows of four lights. The lower hanging sash has four rows of four lights. The northern-most bay has a rectangular window with a flat-arched brick lintel and a stone keystone. Its fixed upper sash has two rows of three lights, and the hanging lower sash has four rows of three lights.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

The southern most bay has the entry. Its opening has a flat-arched brick lintel and a stone keystone. The wood door has three rows of three lights over panels. A decorative molding and a six light transom are located above the door. The windows and door are covered with plywood.

The library's main block extends identically on each side of the entry block. It consists of two evenly spaced, main floor windows oriented over two basement windows. The main floor windows have flat-arched brick lintels with a flat, stone keystone. The bottom of the window openings rest on the water table. The twelve-over-twelve double hung windows are located over wood panels, and historically had shutters. The window immediately south of the entry block is missing. The eight-over-eight basement windows are located in wells. The dentiled cornice that once topped the wall is no longer present.

A large Palladian window (See Photo #5) dominates the north façade. The window opening's top is lined with brick headers, and the bottom is supported by four wood panels that, in turn, rest on the water table. It has a central rectangular opening with a fixed, arched upper sash of six lights over two rows of four lights. The lower sash is missing, but had three rows of four lights. The central opening is flanked by fixed sash eight light windows, each below a small classical entablature, and between thin, square pilasters with small bases and capitals. One pilaster is missing. The small entablatures have a cornice with dentils, a plain frieze, and a modest architrave. A wood arch band is "carried" by the pilasters and entablatures. An arched frame with a keystone-like detail separates the arch window and wood arch band. A square, louvered opening is located in the gable's peak, and has a brick sill. The small eaves have small remaining sections of dentil molding. Historically, the gable had returns.

The south façade has a smaller Palladian inspired arched window group (See photo #1 and #4). The windows are separated by brick, and have brick lintels and stone sills. The arched window has a fixed upper sash containing six arch lights over a row of four lights, and a lower hanging sash of two rows of four lights. The flanking windows have a fixed sash of four lights. A square, louvered opening is located in the gable's peak, and has a brick sill. Historically the gable had returns. Two eight-over-eight basement windows are located in wells.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 3

Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

The east façade is similar to the west in that it is balanced and has a central projecting block flanked by the main block of the building (See photos #3 and #4). The projecting block is covered by the extension of the main block's gable roof. It has four rectangular windows that are missing. The openings have stone sills, and are covered by plywood.

A single eight-over-eight basement window is located in a well. A concrete coal room is located east of the projecting block, and a brick chimney is located on its north side. The sections of the main block that flank the projecting block are nearly identical. Each has two square twelve-light casement windows with stone sills (See photo # 11). The south flank has two eight-over-eight basement windows located in wells. The north flank has an exterior concrete stairwell that accesses the basement on the library's northeast corner. The stairwell is protected by a metal guardrail, and contains the basement door and an eight-over-eight double-hung window.

The library's current condition limited the ability to safely examine the interior. Most of the basement is accessible, however the upper floor was only observed from the outside, through window and door openings.

The library "foyer" is a midlevel stairwell landing in the front façade's projecting entry. The steps that ascend to the main floor are aligned on, or on axis with, the entry door, and the steps to the basement are on the landing's north end. The steps are constructed of marble and have partially collapsed (See Photo #10).

The library's main floor interior is an impressive, open, arched ceiling, rectangular space nearly two stories in height (See Photo #9). Historically, it was partitioned into three spaces: a central "operational" space with the stairs and circulation desk, and two flanking reading rooms. Unfortunately the elegant wood and glass partitions, and all of the bookshelves have been removed. The space has a vinyl-covered wood floor, and plaster walls and ceiling. The ceiling has lost large sections of plaster. The central space's circulation desk is comprised of a counter supported by a paneled base (See Photo # 8). A small utilitarian stairwell, for employee access to the basement, is located behind the service desk. The desk had an overhead section of wood moldings that helped defined its space, but has since fallen. A single-story height alcove is located on the space's east wall, and retains most of its window casings and wood moldings (See Photo #9). The reading rooms show the "ghosts" of the original bookshelves. The Palladian windows at each gable end retain their impressive wood casings.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 4

Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

The library's basement is also divided into three primary spaces: a central utilitarian area, an auditorium, and two classrooms. The utilitarian area has a short, north to south oriented hallway. The two stairwells from the first floor enter from the hall's west side (See photo #13). The east side accesses a furnace room, storage closet, and men's and women's restrooms. The hall's north end opens into an auditorium space that has a door to the outside (See photo #14). The hall's south end connects to two classrooms (See photo #12). The basement's walls are plaster, the floor concrete, and the ceiling concrete but covered with acoustical tile. The woodwork is either stained dark, or painted white. Most of the doors exist, and most baseboards and cornices are intact. All the windows remain but are boarded over. Fluorescent lights have been added.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 5

Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

Statement of Significance

The Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for its association with Gary's social and educational development, and Criterion C as a Carnegie funded library, the only Indiana Carnegie library designed in the Colonial Revival style. The library still maintains a significant degree of integrity, although it has been vacant for nearly thirty years resulting in the deterioration of its historic fabric. It was rated Outstanding in the Lake County Interim Report.¹

Gary's Early Development

Intent on establishing production facilities in the prospering Midwest, the United States Steel Corporation was attracted to northern Indiana for its existing rail, cheap and available land, access to deep Lake Michigan waters, and room for expansion. The company ultimately purchased 9,000 acres and seven miles of shoreline, and founded Gary, Indiana in 1906. The subsidiary Gary Land Company was organized with the purpose of building the new town to meet the impending housing requirement for the influx of workers. The city's plan, called the "First Subdivision," and located just south of the Grand Calumet River, was based on an 800-acre grid consisting of 4,000 lots. Broadway Street was established as the main north-south thoroughfare, and contained commercial and governmental development. Its north terminus was the mill. Fifth Avenue was the primary east-west axis.²

From the Teens through the Depression, the success of the mills supported a boom in the construction of several fascinating pieces of public architecture in the core downtown area. The mill structures themselves date primarily to c.1912. Union Station was constructed in 1917 and City Hall in 1927.

Gary's founding, and the resulting employment opportunities, also coincided with a shift in the country's immigration patterns from the traditional source countries of Western Europe to those of Southern and Eastern Europe. The shift also coincided with the country's late nineteenth century industrial boom that shifted settlement from agricultural to primarily urban areas. Thomas Archdeacon described this period as New Immigration and noted that these immigrants, versus those previous, were mostly single males versus families,

¹ Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, Lake County Interim Report: Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory (Indianapolis, 1996), 144.

² Raymond A. Mohl and Neil Betton, Steel City: Urban and Ethnic Patterns in Gary, Indiana, 1906-1950 (New York, 1986), 11-25.

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Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

and typically came to America planning to return to their home country.³ Additionally, Samuel Shapiro described that “the tens of thousands of Czechs, Slovaks, Hungarians, Serbs, Croats, Greeks, Poles, Romanians, etc. who made up the labor force in steel, the railroads, meat packing and other industries, could no longer be augmented by additional immigration,” and led to the Great Migration of Southern Blacks, and the import of Mexican labor.⁴ Gary’s foreign-born population in 1910 accounted for 49% of almost 17,000 residents, 22% were children of one or more foreign-born parents. By 1920, following the War and Great Migration, 30% of 55,000 residents were still foreign-born. Gary school’s foreign stock, or the children of one or more foreign-born parents, totaled an overwhelming 63% in 1910, and was still 50% in 1930.⁵

The Gary Land Company’s original subdivisions were a great place to live for those who could, but Gary’s immigrant labor was forced, economically and socially, to live on the “South Side,” or an area loosely defined as between Ninth Avenue and the Little Calumet River. This area was beyond the interest, and unfortunately cares, of the Gary Land Company and was littered with shacks, tents, barracks, boarding houses and swamp. Froebel School, constructed in 1917 and also known as the “immigrant school” was the south side’s center of education. When it opened, 90% of the students were foreign-born, or children of foreign-born, and as further example of Gary’s instant diversity, a 1917 publication touted the school’s “29 racial groups.”⁶

The Gary Library System and Carnegie Funded Libraries

Gary’s first library was in a rented storeroom on West 7th Avenue organized and opened by Gary’s first librarian, Louis J. Bailey, in September of 1908. It was followed by a dominating Carnegie-funded Beaux-Arts structure constructed in 1912 on West 5th Avenue (razed in 1962). Orpha Mand Peters wrote in 1945 that in 36 years the system went from a rented storeroom on 7th to Central [Library] plus 17 branches, 105 deposit stations, and 2

³ Archdeacon, Thomas J., Becoming American: An Ethnic History (New York: The Free Press, 1983), 112-142.

⁴ Shapiro, Samuel in Peopling Indiana: The Ethnic Experience. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1996), 99,199.

⁵ Mohl, Raymond A. and Neil Betton. Steel City: Urban and Ethnic Patterns in Gary, Indiana, 1906-1950 (New York: Holmes & Meier, 1986), 29.

⁶ Promotional pamphlet. Gary 1917-1918. Publication for League of American Municipalities, located in the Indiana State Library. Lane, James B. and Ronald D. Cohen. Gary: A Pictorial History (Norfolk: The Donning Company, 1983) 56.

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Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

traveling branches.” By 1944 it served 153,000 local and rural citizens within 255 square miles with 38 full-time staff.⁷

Louis J. Bailey was educated at the New York State Library School and came to Gary after employment at Washington D.C.'s Congressional Library. During World War I he assisted the government in setting up libraries in Army camps. He left Gary in 1922 for a position in Flint, Michigan, and in 1926 became Director of the Indiana Library and Historical Department, or what is now known as the State Library. He retired to Queensborough, New York in 1938.⁸

In 1901, at age 66, steel magnate Andrew Carnegie sold his corporation and retired to a life of distributing his massive wealth. One example of his philanthropy was the \$55 million dollar funding of 2,509 libraries, 1,679 in the United States. He spent \$2.6 million dollars in Indiana. Carnegie believed that libraries “allowed those who were able and willing to educate themselves and be successful, much like himself.” Alan McPherson's *Temples of Knowledge* is the definitive publication on Indiana's 164 Carnegie libraries. He theorized that Indiana has more Carnegie libraries than any other state because Indiana's “library fervor,” between 1900 and 1929, coincided with the “heyday” of the Carnegie Era. Indiana was “culturally and geographically positioned for more libraries” than the east, which already had library systems in place, and the west, which was still establishing cultural and educational institutions. Additionally, the era coincided with the accomplishments of Tarkington, Ade, Dreiser, Porter, Riley and many other Hoosier authors that further bolstered public interest in reading. Locally, libraries were an expression of community pride. All together Carnegie funded libraries were constructed between 1901 to 1922 in 155 communities without a single default on their pledge of providing for the building once it was constructed. Local library boards were responsible for securing land and confirming that adequate tax funds were available to operate the facility. Designs were then submitted to Carnegie for approval.⁹

⁷ Peters, Orpha Mand, History of the Gary Public Library 1907-1945 (Self-published: Gary Public Library, 1944), 4,5,9.

⁸ Lane, James B. and Ronald D. Cohen, Gary: A Pictorial History (Norfolk: The Donning Company, 1983), 96. Cannon, Thomas A., Editor, History of Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana: Volume I (Indianapolis: Historians Association, 1927), 584. Gary Public Library newspaper clippings files: “Branch Histories.”

⁹ McPherson, Alan, Temples of Knowledge: Andrew Carnegie's Gift to Indiana (Kewanna, Indiana: Hoosier's Nest Press, 2003), 16-20. California was second with 142 libraries and Illinois third with 106.

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Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

In 1927 Thomas Canon wrote that the first branch library was established in neighboring Tolleston in 1910, just before it became part of Gary. The Froebel School Branch Library was opened in April of 1913 "until a library erected from Carnegie funds was opened in January, 1918." Originally known as the Froebel Branch, it was later "named the Bailey Branch for Gary's first librarian."¹⁰ It was first used mostly by children "since adults could not read English," but quickly became an integral part of the adult immigrant community following the location of the International Institute to the building's basement in 1919.¹¹

Lake County had nine Carnegie libraries, the most of any county. Gary had three, Central and the Bailey and Hobart Branches. In 1917 the Bailey Branch received \$25,000 in grant funds, and the building was constructed on four lots at the intersection of 15th Avenue and Madison Street the library board purchased for \$5,200. It opened January 13, 1918. Although a concert and a grand ceremony of speeches, to be delivered in a variety of languages, was scheduled, a blizzard canceled the festivities.¹² Fortunately, unlike other Carnegie funded libraries, the construction and funding was not delayed by the United State's entry into the World War.

Gary International Institute

Gary's immigrants encountered a variety of charitable assistance that, according to Raymond Mohl and Neil Betten, represented two opposing views of assimilation. The first was the Americanization, or "melting-pot," of church sponsored settlement houses. The second was the cultural and ethnic diversity, and identity preservation, of the International Institute.

Jane Addams' Hull House in Chicago created the model for meeting immigrant needs: it was located in an immigrant neighborhood, provided social and humanitarian services, taught English, and created opportunities for cultural expression and civic growth. Mohl and Betten assertively stated that the typical settlement house was "a religious mission staffed by church personnel" whose "value orientation" encouraged "sobriety, thrift, work, piety, respect for authority, patriotism, and other middle-class virtues." This conform and submiss method of assimilation has been criticized as being protectionist and in the best

¹⁰ Cannon, Thomas A., Editor, History of Lake and Calumet Region of Indiana: Volume I (Indianapolis: Historians Association, 1927), 584.

¹¹ Peters, Orpha Mand, History of the Gary Public Library 1907-1945 (Self-published: Gary Public Library, 1944), 4, 12, 13.

¹² *ibid.* 175. Gary Evening Post. "Dedicate New Library Sunday," January 5, 1918.

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Section number 8 Page 9

Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

interests of American society rather than that of the immigrants. Settlement houses in Gary were represented by the Presbyterian Neighborhood House located on Adams Street, and the Methodist Campbell Friendship House located on 21st Street.¹³

Contrary to the settlement house philosophy, the International Institute attempted to assimilate immigrants and "support and preserve immigrant cultures and traditions."¹⁴ The institute was a YWCA-sponsored program started in New York City by Edith Terry Bremer in 1911. By 1925, there were 55 International Institutes in the United States. Bremer "saw each nationality group as having its own psychological unity. Her goal was not to create an amalgamation of groups, but to recognize the unique identity of each individual group. With national and ethnic identity as the starting point, "newcomers could build their path toward U.S. Citizenship on a firmer foundation than any effort to strip them of their history and language might produce." In 1933 the Institute separated from the YWCA because it served both genders and multiple faiths.¹⁵

Gary's Institute began in 1919 in the basement of the Bailey Branch. It originally had four "nationality workers" representing Poles, Czechs, Bulgarians, and Italians; and in the 20's added Mexicans, Serbs, Russians, and Greeks. Casework included family counsel, group activities, cultural programs, education, and recreation. The library became a neighborhood social center and provided space for weddings, christenings, church services, and art, language and history classes. The institute's space in the library's basement was described, in a somewhat society page manner, as: "Three rooms in the English basement of the Gary Library have been lifted up for the International Institute; the office with a desk, typewriter, table, chairs, and gold fan; the classroom with two long mission study tables in the center, and smaller desks in the corner; and the recreation room, much larger than the others, and cozily furnished in grey wicker furniture, green rugs, fresh cretonne curtains and attractive pictures. Also a Victrola, let us not forget."¹⁶

¹³ Mohl, Raymond A. and Neil Betton. Steel City: Urban and Ethnic Patterns in Gary, Indiana, 1906-1950 (New York: Holmes & Meier, 1986), 109. Steel City is a fascinating text, but strongly infers that settlement houses are "bad" and the International Institute was "good." This application references the fundamental distinction between the approaches as they described in their text, but does not want to infer any value judgement one way or another.

¹⁴ *ibid.* 119.

¹⁵ <http://www.intlnst.org/about/histNatBeginnings.asp> viewed April 28, 2004

¹⁶ *Gary Post Tribune* (?), "Investigation Tells of Great Work Done at Gary Institute" (Gary Public Library Clippings File) May 4, 1920. The Victrola was playing a foxtrot.

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Section number 8 Page 10

Louis J. Bailey Branch Library-Gary International Institute, Lake County, Indiana

The institute continued operation at Bailey through the 1950's, financed by fund drives and assisted by the mills. Interestingly, during this time the government required local families to post a bond guaranteeing that a foreign visitor's needs and care will be met while in the United States. About 1960 the Institute moved to East 5th Avenue, then in 1963 received a ten-year lease at the former Eastside branch library. It remains active, and is located at 4433 Broadway.¹⁷

Patterns of Architecture

The library was designed by architect A. Frank Wickes (1881-1958) who practiced in Gary for about ten years beginning around 1918. In addition to the Bailey Branch he designed two other Carnegie libraries: the Hobart Branch of the Gary Public Library in 1915, and the Mishawaka Public Library in 1916. However, the Gary Post Tribune proclaimed the Central Christian Church located at 7th and Jefferson as his "masterpiece" and explained how Wickes became the national architect for the Disciples of Christ who from 1924-1948 "erected more than 900 churches across the nation, most of them along the lines of the Gary Church."¹⁸

The majority of Indiana Carnegie libraries are designed in the Neo Classical and Craftsman styles, but the Tudor Revival style is also well represented. Interestingly, Wickes' two earlier Carnegie designs are in Revival styles, Hobart in Tudor and Mishawaka in Collegiate Gothic. However, the Bailey Branch is the state's lone Colonial Revival example. The style is the early twentieth century's most common domestic revival style, modeled after, or romantically alluding to, northeastern Georgian and Adam examples. It was also commonly found in churches and post offices, and there are several examples of Colonial Revival libraries in the state that are not Carnegie funded.

Characteristic details of the style are symmetrical facades, gabled roofs, small cornices decorated with dentil molding, classically influenced door surrounds or full-blown porticos, multi-light rectangular windows, Palladian-inspired windows, shutters, and keystone lintels. Wickes would have been exposed to Colonial examples through his training, publications, or possibly even visitation, and was likely familiar with the work of Boston architect Charles Bulfinch (1763-1844). The Bailey Branch displays details very similar to Bulfinch's designs, especially the State House (1795-98) in Boston, or the Meeting House in Lancaster (1815-

¹⁷ Various newspaper article from Gary Public Library Clippings File. February 2004 oral history by Robert Balash. About 1955 Balash posted a bond against his house so his great aunt from Hungary could visit. The International Institute coordinated the transaction.

¹⁸ *Indianapolis Star*. "A. Frank Wickes Dies; Retired Church Architect," June 19, 1958. *Gary Post Tribune*. "Wickes Dies, Early Gary Architect," July 7, 1958.

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17). For instance the State House's arched portico entry, Palladian-inspired windows, cornice, balustrade, and arched windows below a recessed arched "band" are details evident in the library's design. The library's portico-like entry is reminiscent of the Meeting House's multiple arched entry that is framed with pilasters supporting a cornice. Essentially, it appears that, perhaps following a review of Bulfinch and his contemporaries' work, Wickes applied Colonial Revival details to a library form acceptable to Carnegie.

The library's closure was being discussed as early as 1966 when order was continuously threatened by "congregating youth."¹⁹ It remained open until 1977, but has been vacant ever since.

While the library's integrity has been severely compromised from a lack of maintenance, its remaining historical fabric, along with its historical significance, makes it eligible for the National Register. The structure has experienced only slight modifications over its life, primarily the installation of vinyl flooring and florescent lighting, the removal of the wood screens that divided the library's main floor, and the removal of the bookshelves. It is empty of most all library equipment, and is not heated. A failure in the roof allowed water infiltration in and around the stairwell causing its collapse. The arched ceiling has lost large sections of plaster, again, from the roof failure. The exterior is missing most of the decorative dentil trim and the entry pilasters.

However, the structure's brick walls and concrete foundation are sound. Surprisingly, the windows are mostly intact and protected with plywood. Significant portions of the original interior woodwork remain, including doors, baseboards, and window frames. Considerable portions of the garden's wrought iron fence remain.

The library has been given to the Broadway Area CDC who plans to rehabilitate the structure as a community center. It will contain the CDC offices, rentable office space, and class and meeting rooms.

¹⁹ *Gary Post Tribune* (?), "Rowdyism Blamed By Officials" (Gary Public Library Clippings File) March 8, 1966. The Alcott and Tolleston branches were also identified.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The library measures 86'x44,' with the long facades oriented east and west. The rectangular boundary is an offset line from each wall as follows: 10' from the north and south facades, 30' from the east and west walls. The resulting rectangle measures 104' east to west, 106' north to south, and is approximately one-quarter acre in size.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the library structure only. The north and south offsets provide ample buffer between 15th Avenue on the north, and the neighboring property to the south. The east and west offsets include the library's front (west) garden, and the rear (east) below-grade coal room.

Photographs

Photos by Christopher Baas
March 23, 2004
Negatives located at SHPO.

1. View of west façade looking northeast.
2. View of west façade looking southeast.
3. View of east façade looking southwest.
4. View of east façade looking northwest.
5. View of north façade looking south.
6. Detail of south gable looking north.
7. View of wrought iron fence looking southwest.
8. View of main floor interior and desk looking west.
9. View of main floor interior looking south.
10. View of entry, landing, and stairs looking east.
11. View of main floor interior and casement window looking northeast.
12. View of basement classroom looking southwest.
13. View of secondary stairs (for library staff), in basement looking west.
14. View of basement door looking east.