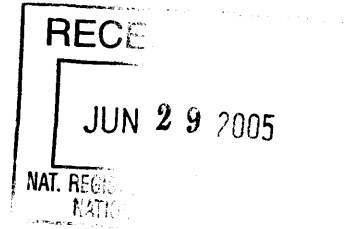


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name B. B. Comer Memorial Library
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 711 North Broadway Avenue not for publication N/A
city or town Sylacauga vicinity N/A
state Alabama code AL county Talladega code 121 zip code 35150

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Elizabeth Ann Brown June 28, 2005
Signature of certifying official Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
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 commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that this 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):

for Edson H. Beall 9.6.05
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Education

Sub: Library

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Recreation and Culture

Sub: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

WPA Moderne

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick
 roof rubber
 walls brick, marble
 other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition on continuation sheet/s.)

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 a 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government
Architecture

Period of Significance 1939-1943

Significant Dates 1939

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Works Progress Administration

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

(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
B. B. Comer Library

USDI/NPS Registration Form

Property Name B. B. Comer Memorial Library

County and State Talladega, Alabama

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property approximately 1.13 acres

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

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

16 569820 3671020 _____

____ 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 Gene A. Ford and Linda Ford, Architectural Historian and Christy Anderson, AHC Reviewer

organization Ford Consulting/ Alabama Historical Commission date August, 2001

street & number 26 Cherokee Hills/468 S. Perry Street telephone (205) 556-5388/ (334) 242-3184

city or town Tuscaloosa/Montgomery state AL zip code 35404/36130-0900
=====

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name The City of Sylacauga

street & number 711 North Broadway Avenue (P. O. Box 245) telephone 256-245-4016

city or town Sylacauga state AL zip code 35150

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Narrative Description

Located at 711 North Broadway Avenue, the B. B. Comer Memorial Library is a brick building that sits atop a rise beside Sylacauga High School. On the façade the library is accentuated by a predominately white marble pronaos as that of a Greek Treasury of the sixth century B. C. This Greek appearance is appropriate since the ancient art is "not palace art. It was city-state art" (Johnson, 2003). According to Herodotus, Greek historian, the Greek temple form was democratic in origin. He went on to state, "its public works, especially its temples, were built by the community" (Johnson, 2003). The B. B. Comer Memorial Library was a public work built by the Sylacauga community in conjunction with the state of Alabama and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in 1939.

An exquisite marble pronaos of locally quarried Alabama marble distinguishes the library in the community of Sylacauga. The library is one of only two buildings remaining in Sylacauga with exterior marble. The pronaos of the library is strikingly simple, epitomizing the stripped classicism that characterizes WPA Moderne architecture. By and large white with some touches of black coloring or graphite, the Alabama marble sparkles in the sunlight.

As the Greek prototype, the pronaos of the library has two centrally located, square supports that flank the entry. On the interior of the pronaos, the vestibule is white marble with graphite veins. Accentuating each corner of the building is fluting that gives the appearance of three-part pilasters. A double leaf door of wood and glass pierces the east wall. These are the original doors with sidelights and transom that allow light and entry into the display area of the building. Radiating from the base of the doors are black marble baseboards that run along the east wall. After turning the corners the baseboards on the other walls are of the white and black marble. Tiles of white and black veined marble cover the floor. A tri-part crown molding of stone adorns the upper walls of the pronaos.

On the southern wall of the pronaos is a marble plaque that was placed here on February 28, 1962 when the library was rededicated as the Isabel Anderson Comer Museum and Arts Center. A list of founding benefactors is incised on the plaque.

The remainder of the building is brick with a minimal of architectural details. A flat roof tops the edifice with white marble coping that surrounds the entire library. The pronaos extends beyond the façade that acts as the crossing on the T-shaped building. Panels of decorative brickwork ornament the walls on the south and north sides of the building. Each panel contains rows of stretcher bricks in multiple vertical bands with alternating vertical rows of shiner bricks. These bands, delineated by not only shape but depth as well, present the

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stretcher bricks in the foreground and the shiner bricks in the background. On the North wall, the second story windows are still open with replacement plate glass windows with the decorative brick panels found beneath them.

At the base of the north, south and west walls, is a band of intermittent soldier and stacked header bricks. Over the windows on all sides of the building, are simple ventilators with metal covers. A brick chimney with a streamlined shape and no cap or chimney pot, stands on the northwest corner of the building.

Unfortunately when the library was converted into a museum most of the windows were removed. Steel casement windows that were practical and readily available pierced the façade. Exterior light was an advantage for a library yet a negative for a museum with paintings that have to be protected from natural light. Where the windows once hung are now niches that stylistically conform to the classical lines and sparse style of the WPA Moderne building and retain the original fenestration. Second story niches include soldier brick lintels.

Upon entering the main floor through the pronaos, one can see that the interior space is divided into four galleries with an entrance gallery, a south wall gallery, west wall gallery and north wall gallery. The original floor plan of the library is still intact. What is today the entrance gallery were the lobby, and the south and north wall galleries were reading rooms of the same dimensions. A third reading room was located on the northwest end of the building. A workroom/office still exists on the southwest end of the main floor of the building.

Original wooden floors are intact with little of the original furniture or fixtures on the main floor. An office space behind the north wall gallery holds some of the libraries original furniture. The three galleries have sheetrock walls that have been covered with carpet. Within the past two years, the roof has been replaced yet not before significant damage was done to the carpet and the sheetrock beneath it. The intent of the museum is to remove the carpet and restore the walls.

Mounting the north and west walls are two sets of stairs. One set leads to the second floor and the other to the basement. Both pairs of steps remain in their original state with wooden staircase and simple, cast iron railings.

Descending into the basement is like stepping back in time. A hallway leads to two bathrooms on the north and south walls. Both are original with ceramic tile floors, original ceramic fixtures of the period, and single leaf, five panel, wooden, swinging doors. The remainder of the basement is virtually intact and still in an unfinished state. Most of the space is unencumbered for collection displays with the exception of an office on the south wall. When looking overhead

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one sees the sub-flooring with exposed floor joists. No false ceiling has been placed over these substantial supports. Metal industrial light fixtures are suspended from the ceiling as is ductwork and pipes. Concrete floors and concrete and plaster walls are still visible. A pseudo-latticework pattern covers portions of the plaster indicating that it possibly was intended to be finished out with a different wall covering. It never was. WPA projects were relief projects with small budgets, finishing the space would have come at a higher outlay.

One sees more of the original library on the second floor. After exiting the stairs, there exists a large open gallery. A second smaller gallery is accessed through a doorway on the southwest wall of the building. Both rooms have original wood floors and baseboards with sheetrock walls. Wooden filing cabinets, original to the library are found in the smaller space.

A WPA Moderne building is exceptional in Sylacauga, yet, it was a style scattered throughout the state of Alabama in public buildings of the thirties. Both the PWA and WPA constructed courthouses, schools, libraries, and bridges in this style. (For the purpose of clarity and ease in reading this nomination, the term WPA Moderne is used).

WPA Moderne is a streamlined version of Art Deco that attempts to make the functional appear beautiful (Greif, 1988). Simplicity of design proliferates and the objectives of the architecture are efficiency and economy in the modern age. Hence the symmetry and purity of Classical architecture was an inspiration.

WPA builders relied on this moderne style. A relief organization with a modest budget, the WPA had to produce public buildings that were practical and functional. The B. B. Comer Memorial Library was functional, durable and elegant using brick and local materials like the Alabama marble to distinguish it.

"A large percentage of the Alabama marble is used for interior decorations such as wainscoting" (Smith, 1916). Fewer examples exist using the stone on exteriors. A Renaissance style post office in Mobile used the Sylacauga mineral on both the interior and exterior of the edifice. The lining of the loggia and its columns are of white stone. Such selections generally were quarried at Gantt's Quarry, that has a stratum of 175 feet of white marble (Smith, 1916).

In the Sylacauga area were several quarries that supplied Alabama marble; the largest development was the Alabama Marble Company at Gantt's Quarry with Moretti's Quarry (McKenzie Quarry), and the Moretti-Harrah Quarry found 1 mile northeast of Gantt's Quarry.

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This Alabama marble was described as an "excellent grade of beautiful cream white marble" (Smith, 1916). In the case of the B. B. Comer Memorial Library, the fine stone highlights the façade. As was earlier discussed, the marble entry acts as a pronaos on a Greek Treasury. A Treasury was "a miniature temple for storing votive gifts," (Janson, 1995) and symbolically a library is a building filled with gifts of literature and learning. " A large percentage of the smaller dimensional marble from the coping sheds (of the Alabama Marble Company) is used for tiling" (Smith, 1916). Such tiles compose the pronaos floor.

The marble selections containing green banding with magnesian silicate and gray and black veining containing graphite were found at the Moretti Quarry. Such "different varieties of the decorative stone are dependent in no small degree upon the direction in which the stone is cut, whether at a small or large angle to the direction of the color bands" (Smith, 1916).

Archaeological Component

Although no archaeological survey has been conducted in association with the B. B. Comer Memorial Library in Sylacauga, there exists the potential for subsurface remains on the property.

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Significance

The B. B. Comer Memorial Library is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a representative example of Works Progress Administration projects in early-twentieth century Alabama under Criterion A for politics and government, and Criterion C for architecture. The library is a rather intact example of a WPA Moderne style library that is one of only five built by the WPA in the state of Alabama.

Under Criterion A the B. B. Comer Memorial Library helps us understand the history of the Works Progress Administration and its role in Alabama and the nation. The WPA was under the auspices of the New Deal providing funds and hiring people on relief rolls to construct public facilities. The B. B. Comer Memorial Library is an example of such a library. It is unique in that the building includes local Alabama marble with brick for construction in comparison to brick and concrete used in many WPA buildings.

Not only did the project employ construction workers but white-collar workers as well. The WPA used its national library projects as a means of hiring more white-collar workers and females from relief rolls. Sylacauga was no exception to this rule; in fact, the B. B. Comer Memorial Library had the second largest library staff in the state of Alabama in the early forties.

Notably the B. B. Comer Memorial Library fulfilled many of the goals established by the WPA for library service projects. The prime objective of the projects was "Assisting established library agencies in stimulating local reception of complete and permanent library service as a regular public function," (Stanford, 1944). These objectives were achieved through twelve activities specified by the WPA in conjunction with the states:

- Assist in reference work.
- Preserve and repair library materials (except textbooks)
- Conduct story hours and reading clubs.
- Rearrange library collections.
- Check collections against shelf lists.
- Assist in catalog revision and compilations of union data logs.
- Check, catalog and/or lists duplicate library materials.
- Assist in compiling book lists and arranging library displays.
- Prepare pamphlet, clipping, map, picture, and photo collections.

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-
- Assist in circulation work and in the preparation of books for circulation only in connection with the expansion or extension of existing library services.
 - Assist in keeping libraries open longer hours.
 - Compile biographic and supplementary indexes and special and miscellaneous bibliographies.

The B. B. Comer Memorial Library carried out the majority of these activities; thereby fulfilling most of the aims of the WPA library service projects. In fact, the WPA singled out the Sylacauga library as their sample project in the state of Alabama.

Historical Context

"Why did Vidkun Quisling drop his fight against the Norwegian Church? What number of women will probably be added to the nation's labor force before the end of the year? Answers to these and many others of current interest...can be found at the Comer Free Public Library" (*The Sylacauga Advantage*, September 3, 1942). This excerpt appeared in the local newspaper that beckoned the townspeople to enjoy their progressive facility. Sylacauga citizens had dreamed of the B. B. Comer Memorial Library for over six years.

The library began as a single room on the third floor of the Masonic Hall. As the collection grew it was housed in several buildings including the First National Bank and the then new City Hall in November 1937. Local clubs, churches and fraternal organizations had banded together to organize the library.

In 1938, the WPA initiated the building of the B. B. Comer Public Library. Local funds for the library came in at \$16,588.00. The B. B. Comer family donated \$5,000.00 of this sum, which prompted the libraries' name. The WPA added \$11,391.10 to the total and included labor and supplies (*The Avondale Sun*, May 23, 1949).

Small building projects that came in between \$50,000.00 to \$100,000.00 came under the auspices of the WPA. While PWA was a recovery program, WPA was a relief program. WPA projects were funded and overseen by the organization. "By the end of 1940, library construction by the agency (WPA) totaled over 1,000 completed projects, including 187 new buildings or additions and 814 projects involving the renovation or repair of existing libraries" (U. S. Congress, House, Committee of Appropriations, 1941). In the state of Alabama, the WPA carried out five such construction-addition projects by June 30, 1941.

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All WPA projects had a hiring requirement of 95% of the work force to be taken from relief rolls (Stanford, 1944). "Sylacauga is the center of the Alabama marble-quarrying district. This particular industry employs a considerable number of people, but depends, of course, largely on the building conditions of the country" (Alabama Industrial Board, 1930). Since only a small portion of the library is marble, only a few workers in the industry were needed to cut and place the marble on the pronaos. Yet, local carpenters, electricians, plumbers, and bricklayers were needed as well to complete the job.

On November 21, 1939, March of Progress Day in Sylacauga, the city celebrated the opening of the B. B. Comer Memorial Library. "The first books ever sent out on indefinite loan from the Department of Archives and History, Public Library Service Division, were sent to B. B. Comer Memorial Library, for the opening (Goff, 1976).

As a relief program the WPA was concerned ultimately with long-term employment that went beyond the mere construction of a library. WPA library projects became a "means of employing white-collar workers and women" (Stanford, 1944). When Florence Kerr became the Assistant WPA Administrator in 1938, she was given the responsibility of employing the aforementioned workers and improving the quality of existing programs. In order to improve these programs, efforts were made between the WPA and local libraries to coordinate their projects (Stanford, 1944).

One way to advance such programs was to hire non-relief professionals to supervise local library projects (Stanford, 1944). A February 2, 1940 *Library Notes* announces that such a professional was hired for the Sylacauga Library. Mrs. Harrison, from Columbiana, Alabama, became the head librarian. Harrison trained at Emory University Library School and had experience working in Savannah, Georgia, and Birmingham.

Staffed by the WPA, the library personnel included a main librarian, Mrs. Harrison, three junior librarians, two bookbinders, and five book repairers. At the time, this was the second largest library staff in the state of Alabama. Mending and repairing were raised to a new level of performance along with actual bookbinding, a function usually allocated to commercial binders.

An important step forward began in 1940 when Lois Ranier, WPA Director of Library Service of Alabama, came to the B. B. Comer Memorial Library on January 20. Ranier came to launch the Talladega County Citizen's Library Association that would establish extension libraries in the county (Goff, 1976). Successful with this endeavor, the first library station was opened in Alpine in September of 1940 in an existing tenant house. The living room served as a library. Later

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eleven more county stations opened at Gantt's Quarry, Plantersville, Sycamore, Fayetteville, Eastaboga, Childersburg, Lincoln, Chandler Springs, Mount View, and two stations primarily for African-American citizens began at Walco and Pine Hill.

These extension sites were located in clubhouses, stores, and vacant tenant houses. For example the Sycamore branch was housed in the clinic building of Avondale Mills. An African-American station was opened for Avondale Mills's employees in the Walco Community Center. Two school ground stations were opened for students at the East Highlands and South Highlands Schools (*Comer Library, A Sylacauga Landmark, The Avondale Sun*, May 23, 1949).

According to the *Library Notes*, "This project (county library stations) is sponsored by the WPA, State and local library. Its set-up will be the placing of books in each station and exchanging them about every three weeks so that residents of all sections of the county will have library facilities" (*The Sylacauga Advance*, September 19, 1940). WPA trucks were used to circulate the books from station to station. The goal was to house a minimum of 65 books per station. Each station had a librarian who was a volunteer or a paid worker with the state supplying \$1,000.00 annually for books. More money was added by the county and WPA (*The Sylacauga Advance*, 1940).

By November 10, 1940, the B. B. Comer Memorial Library project was chosen as the "most interesting in the entire state," by the Executive Board of the State of Alabama Public Library Service Division of the Department of Archives and History. These groups met in Sylacauga to observe the library project in action (*The Sylacauga Advance*, Nov. 10, 1940).

When the facility opened, portions of the main Library were unfinished. "During the summer much of the furniture for the reference and study room has come in further additions will be made as soon as possible" (*The Sylacauga Advance*, August 27, 1942). Although the furniture was a concern, of greater concern was the war. Not long after the new B. B. Comer Memorial Library was introduced, war was declared by the United States on Japan and Germany. In Sylacauga this was a time of enormous growth due to the war plants in nearby Childersburg.

It is interesting to note the newcomers' reactions to the library. A Brooklyn high school teacher expressed her surprise at the facility, saying she expected to travel to Birmingham to gather materials for her reading lists but found the B. B. Comer Memorial Library to be more than sufficient for her needs. Both the shelves and the catalogue were of great use (*Sylacauga News*, November 11, 1943). One visiting soldier said he wished Columbus, Georgia had the selection of books available at the B. B. Comer Library. Another soldier, a Columbia graduate,

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admired the building along with the selection of available books (*The Sylacauga Advance*, November 11, 1943).

America's immersion in the war effort was reflected in the books chosen for the libraries' collection. Such titles available in September of 1942 were: *They Were Expendable*, a story of Bataan, *Lieutenant's Lady* by Aldrich, and *Time Runs Out* by the last American permitted in and out of Germany before the beginning of the war. By May of 1943 Pratt's *Mr. Winkle Goes to War*, Steiner's *Behind the Japanese Mask*, and Rutherford's *Soldier's Bride* were added to the shelves (*The Sylacauga Advance*, 1942, 1943). All of these selections reflected the prevailing national pride and interest in the conflict by patrons.

With wartime plants bringing jobs, the WPA closed on April 30, 1943. At this time, the library lost their federal funding. The B. B. Comer Memorial Library Board decided to keep services open to as many of the smaller stations as possible. Those at Munford, Gantt's Quarry, Renfro, and Sycamore, all for whites, and Pine Hill and Walco, both for African-Americans, remained open. Chandler Springs and Alpine had volunteers Miss Alva Harrell and Miss Mary Thomas to keep them open. Library outposts at Winterboro, Eastaboga, Lincoln, Mount View, Plantersville, Childersburg and Fayetteville were closed (*Library News, The Sylacauga News*, May 14, 1943).

Since WPA trucks were not longer available, a bookmobile was purchased in 1943 with the help of Sylacauga Post No. 45 and Braxton Bragg Comer Post No. 63, two local American Legion Posts (Goff, 1976), to reach these county libraries.

Although the WPA funding was short-lived, the B. B. Comer Memorial Library met substantial goals set by the organization. Activities specified for statewide library projects by the WPA including attention to reference work. A reference room was included in the library. The following quote indicates work on the reference section as well. "The workers in the Library live in a glow of enthusiasm for a day's accomplishments; data of technical information, a paragraph from newspapers, poems, plays, games, besides magazine articles and books for special needs, supplied either over the telephone or over the circulation desk" (*The Sylacauga News*, November 11, 1943).

The second goal set was to preserve and repair library materials. The Sylacauga library staffed two bookbinders and five book repairers. Goal number three was to conduct story hours and reading clubs. Story hour, film and summer reading programs took place in the Leonard A. Goldberg Memorial Room, specifically for children and young people.

Several of the newspaper articles printed between 1940-43 mention rearranging the books in the library's collection as stated in activity 4) Rearrange library

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collections. The fifth goal, to check collections against shelf list, is affirmed by the Brooklyn teacher who stated that both the shelves and the catalogue were of great use. Hence, they had to be in good shape.

Book lists abound in *Library Notes* printed in the local newspaper between 1940-1943. These lists likely derived from lists that are more substantial found at the library fulfilling number eight-to assist in compiling book lists

Number 10 is the important activity already discussed in full of extension libraries. These sprung up throughout Talladega County due to the work of the B. B. Comer Memorial Library.

Longer hours became available. Summer hours were: 10-5:00 on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, from 10-9:00 on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 2-6:00 on Sundays (*The Sylacauga Advance* of May 6, 1943) completing number eleven of the WPA's goals.

Overall, large portions of the activities identified were available at the B. B. Comer Memorial Library. The WPA conceived the library as a statewide example and it succeeded in reaching this goal.

After the Works Progress Administration ended in 1943, the main library was supported by the City of Sylacauga and Talladega County with the support of Avondale Mills. Over the years, service to the community continued to grow with substantial book and magazine circulation increases between 1946 and 1949.

Eventually the collection outgrew its WPA built facilities. A new library on Broadway Avenue replaced the B. B. Comer Memorial Library in 1976. Today the B. B. Comer Memorial Library is the Isabel Anderson Comer Museum and Art Center. *The Avondale Sun* article from 1949 states that local artists used the library for art exhibition space. Now it serves the same purpose daily. Such works as the marble sculpture of Guiseppi Moretti grace the facility.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

B. B. Comer Memorial Library
Name of Property

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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The Sylacauga Advance, September 19, 1940.
The Sylacauga Advance, September 19, 1940.
The Sylacauga Advance, August 27, 1942
Aids at Comer Free Public Library, The Sylacauga Advance, September 3, 1942.
The Sylacauga Advance, September 17, 1942.
The Sylacauga Advance, May 13, 1943.
The Sylacauga Advance, May 6, 1943.
The Sylacauga Advance, March 7, 1940.
The Sylacauga Advance, November 10, 1940.

U. S. Congress, House, Committee of Appropriations, 1941.

Verbal Boundary Description

North $\frac{1}{4}$ of Block 97, Sylacauga.

Boundary Justification

These 1.13 acres were donated by the City of Sylacauga to be the site of the B. B. Comer Memorial Library.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

B. B. Comer Memorial Library
Name of Property

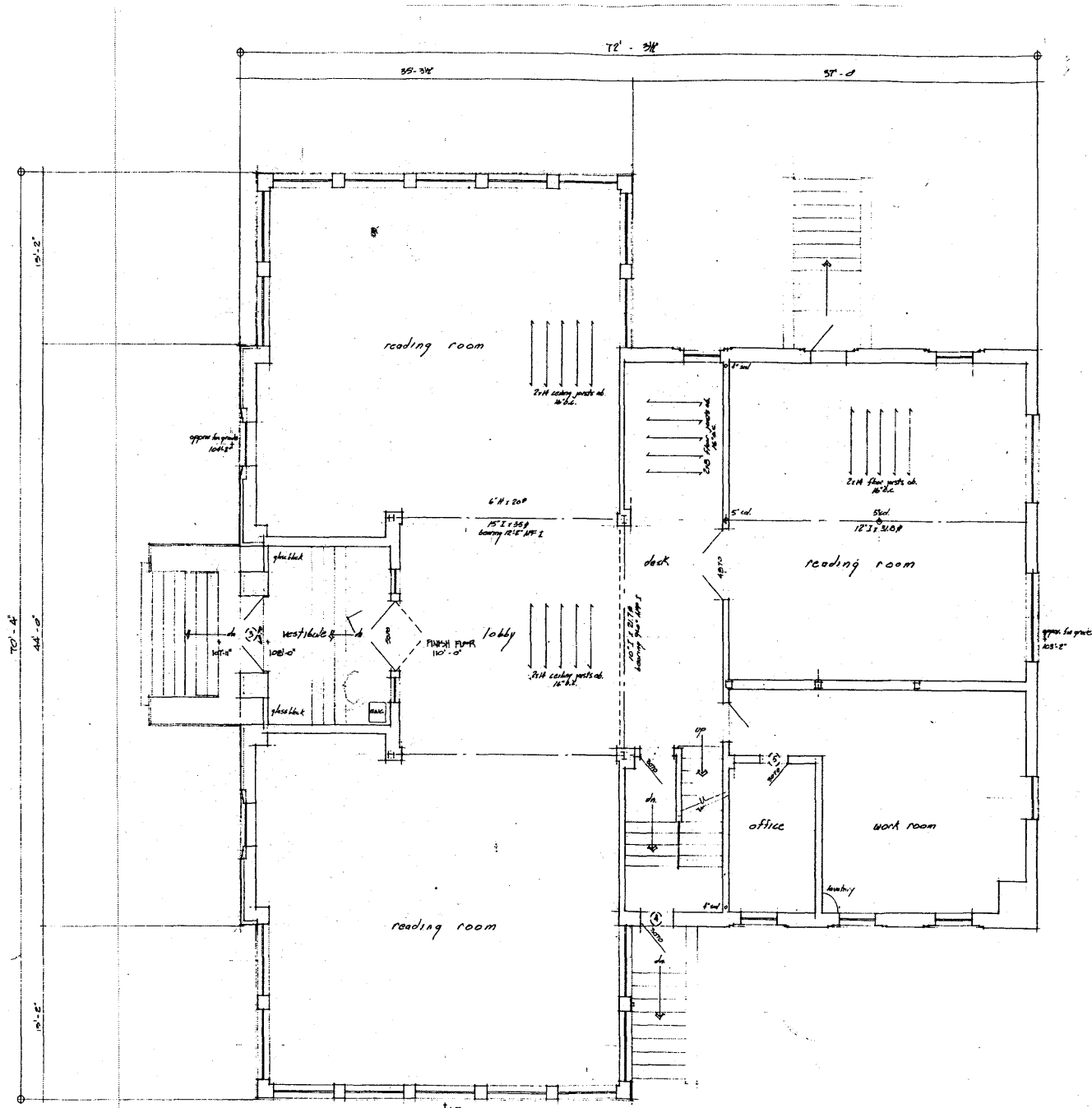
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Photographic log

- Photograph 1. Façade of the library, facing northwest.
- Photograph 2. Detail of façade, facing northwest.
- Photograph 3. South end of façade, south side facing northwest.
- Photograph 4. Detail of brickwork on west end of south side, facing northeast.
- Photograph 5. West and north sides, facing northeast.
- Photograph 6. Interior of pronaos, facing southeast.
- Photograph 7. Doorway on interior, facing east.
- Photograph 8. Display case n north wall facing north.
- Photograph 9. Hardwood floors on interior.
- Photograph 10. Staircase on north wall, facing north.
- Photograph 11. Bathroom door I basement, facing north.
- Photograph 12. Exposed floor joists in basement ceiling.



MUSEUM-ARTS CENTER
 MOBILE ALABAMA
 4 FRIEDRICH
 13 ARCHITECT
 MOBILE ALABAMA

existing
 MAIN FLOOR

