



561

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name University of Louisville Library

other names/site number Schneider Hall JF-CU-30 (site number for entire campus)

2. Location

street & number 2200 S. First Street Walk (Belknap Campus)

| | |
|----|---------------------|
| NA | not for publication |
| NA | vicinity |

city or town Louisville

state Kentucky code KY county Jefferson code 111 zip code 40292

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

Craig Potts Signature of certifying official/Title Craig Potts SHPO Date 6-6-13

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office

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): _____

Jon Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 7.30.13

University of Louisville Library
 Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
 County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
 (Check only one box.)

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

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | private |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - Local |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - State |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - Federal |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | building(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | object |

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| | | district |
| | | site |
| | | structure |
| | | object |
| 1 | 0 | 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

NA

NA

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION/library

EDUCATION/library

EDUCATION/college

EDUCATION/college

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Modern Movement

foundation: Concrete

Other- Mid-century Modern

walls: Brick, Glass, Aluminum

Limestone

roof:

other:

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The historic University of Louisville Library, known today as Schneider Hall, is on the University of Louisville Belknap Campus (JF-CU-30), in Louisville, Kentucky. Twenty five buildings on the Belknap Campus were added to the National Register of Historic Places in June 1976 (NR ID #76000908). Many campus buildings outside of that district were constructed after World War II, including the University Library. This nomination interprets the Library individually, and proposes individual listing, as well.

Character and Development of the Belknap Campus of the University of Louisville

Schneider Hall is on the southern and oldest part of Belknap Campus. It is surrounded by mostly 19th-century Georgian brick buildings and others of less definite design. Directly to the south of the building is a shaded, landscaped area, paved in flagstone, with a fountain and benches.

The University has had several campus plans. The first was presented by Allied Architects, an association of local architects, in 1925. Only the Administration Building was built under this plan, in 1928. The plan was abandoned in 1933 and two years later Jens Frederick Larson was hired to provide a new plan. Like the Allied Architects' plan, the Larson plan recommended tearing down many of the existing buildings. Further, it recommended that new buildings be built in a Georgian Colonial style. Under the Larson plan, nine buildings were built.

In 1949, architectural historian Walter Creese headed a committee that reacted to the Larson Plan and made recommendations for a new approach, which included the retention of the older buildings on the grounds and abandoning the 18th-century architectural style for new buildings, in favor of modern architectural style. In 1956, a new master plan by Hartstern, Louis and Henry was made public. During the 1950s, the following buildings were built: Natural Science building (1953), W.S. Speed building (1956), Schneider Hall (1956), the University Center, now Miller Information Technology Center (1958) and Stevenson Hall (1958). Stevenson Hall and the Miller Information Technology Center are, to some extent, similar to Schneider Hall.

The Building's Architects

Schneider Hall architects were R. B. O'Connor and W.H. Kilham, Jr. of New York; Associate Architects were Hugh Nevin and Frederick Morgan of Louisville; the contractor was Struck Construction Co. of Louisville; and Carl Berg of Louisville was the landscape architect. Ground was broken June 28, 1955. The building opened in 1956 and was dedicated on July 17, 1957. The rectangular, two-level, 71,000 square foot building cost \$1.8 million to build. It was funded as part of a \$4 million bond issue in 1952 which paid for its construction and some other needs of the university. As the main campus library, it had space for 600 readers, 400,000 volumes and a staff of 25.

Exterior Description

Schneider Hall is a rectangular two-story Mid-century Modern building. Each floor has about 71,000 SF. The main façade faces west; its windowless wall has two expanses, one of Alabama limestone and the other of red brick, broken up and linked by a glass-enclosed lobby leading to a flagstone terrace. Two sets of broad steps lead to a lower terrace and then to the sidewalks. The north and east walls have windows above wide panels that were originally blue porcelain enamel. At the west end of the north façade is a patio, the entrance to which is from a large room used for public lectures. The south wall is mostly glass with two courses of small porcelain panels. It was designed with fixed teakwood and aluminum louvers to relieve the worst of the

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

summer sun. The roof is flat, constructed of steel. Set into a sloping landscape, the building has outside entrances on both the lower level and upper levels.

The west wall is made up of limestone on the north end, brick on the south end. The two roughly equal parts are linked by a windowed lobby. But the walls themselves are windowless to counteract the heat and light of the afternoon sun. The south wall is mostly glass and since southern light is also a problem, fixed teakwood and aluminum louvers were used to deflect some of the effect. Aladar Olgyay of Princeton and formerly of MIT did a climatological survey for the building which resulted in the design for the exterior walls. Olgyay also recommended the 73 degree tubular skylights to compensate for the lack of light from the west. According to architectural historian Walter Creese, an aesthetic benefit of the blank west wall is that it allows the building to fit in better with its neighbors. Were it to have had windows, they would have been many and large and would have appeared overwhelming to the smaller surrounding buildings.

The north and east walls have two rows of large windows on the upper floor above panels, originally of blue porcelain enamel. The lower level has one row of windows above another row of porcelain panels. All are set into aluminum mullions. The blue color was continued in the unglazed ceramic mosaic tiles in varying shades of blue used on the exterior soffit and on the ceiling in the lobby area.

Interior Description

The interior space was designed around a central core containing the stairs, elevator, book lift and other fixed service requirements. This modular system of construction is an example of how mid-century American architecture adopted the construction methods of skyscrapers and factories. On the lower level, columns support the reinforced concrete floor above, forming rectangles 22 x 24 feet. With a roof of steel construction, instead of the heavier reinforced concrete, alternate supporting columns on the upper level could be omitted, resulting in double spans in the reading rooms. On the north end, a large room off the lobby was designed for lectures and receptions. Its flagstone floor connects it to the lobby and the terrace, and the room has a glass wall on the north end that opens onto an outdoor patio.

According to a 1957 *Courier-Journal* article by Walter Creese, the library building committee recommended the use of as many Kentucky materials as possible. The interior perimeter space, divided into large reading, working and display areas, contained much woodwork, all chosen from Kentucky's wide range of native timber. In the lobby, the charter of the City, drafted and signed by Thomas Jefferson in 1780, was prominently displayed in a case on top of a fluted walnut column that rested on a bronze base. Behind the column was a large curved marquetry panel, made by Philipp Rimmler of New York, with the design of the original 1779 plan of Louisville. The inlays were woods mostly from Kentucky. Tony award-winner stage designer Donald Oenslager worked with the architects to create this setting.

The stacks area on the lower level was open for student browsing, a relatively new approach for libraries built at the time. Also on the lower level was the elegantly appointed Robert Worth Bingham Room that held books from the library of the late Mr. Bingham, U.S. Ambassador to Great Britain, 1933-1937, and presented to the Library by Mr. and Mrs. Barry Bingham.

Changes since the Period of Significance

The exterior of the building is in good condition and has had few alternations since its construction. The blue porcelain enamel panels have been painted silver. The mosaic tiles on the south soffit have been removed and the surface painted blue. The east and north soffits have tiles missing. A handicap ramp leads to the single lobby door; the double doors remain unchanged. In 1964, on the south side of the building, a fountain, benches and plantings were added. A flagstone terrace was laid to match the terrace at the front of the building.

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

Overall, the exterior of the building retains the characteristics that define a Mid-century Modern building. The interior space, however, has been completely changed as described below.

Schneider Hall currently houses the Margaret M. Bridwell Art Library, a 91,000 volume research library and most of the Department of Fine Arts: the main office, faculty offices, classrooms, computer labs, studios for painting, drawing, graphic design, printmaking, photography, interior architecture and textiles, and three galleries. Completed in 1987, the renovation of the building completely changed the interior character of the building. Almost all of the wood trim on the upper level was lost. The graceful flow of space was lost when the area was divided into three galleries, four studios, a library and offices. The lower level, which contained the book stacks in a U shape around offices, was broken up into classrooms and studios and most of the wood paneled Bingham Room is now a storage area. The wide spiral staircase and the flagstone lobby area are the only remnants of an elegant interior, although some of the large oak library tables are still used in various places in the building.

The curved marquetry panel and the city charter are currently housed in Ekstrom Library, the main Belknap Campus library.

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1955-56

Significant Dates

1956

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

O'Connor, R.B and Kilham, W.H., Jr. (New York)
Nevin and Morgan (Louisville-based associate architects)

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance is the year of construction, 1955-56, which is follows the National Register convention for selecting the Period of Significance for an architecturally significant property.

Criteria Considerations: NA

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

Schneider Hall meets National Register Criterion C, and is significant for its display of Mid-century Modern architecture, an important part of Louisville's post-WWII architectural landscape. Built in 1956, Schneider Hall embodies the distinctive characteristics of Mid-century Modern architecture: large open spaces, minimal ornamentation and use of modern materials. On a campus of buildings rendered in Georgian and vaguer revival styles, Schneider Hall stands out. The building's architectural significance is evaluated within the context "Modern Architecture in Louisville, Kentucky, 1945-1965."

Historic Context: Modern Architecture in Louisville, Kentucky, 1945-1965

The International style emerged in Europe and the United States the 1920s and 30s. It emphasized volume rather than mass; regularity and balance rather than the classical concern for symmetry; and the avoidance of applied ornament. It replaced the eclecticism of the 19th century, and eventually the term "international style" became synonymous with modern architecture.

Anna Maas and others refer to "Mid-Century Modern" as a group of architectural trends that continued design evolution of the International style, from the end of World War II until the late-1960s. The varied expressions embraced by this term all share a number of qualities: the structure of the building is articulated without extraneous ornament, and buildings used modern construction methods and materials. "The style grew out of the influences of the International Style and Bauhaus movements – including the work of Walter Gropius, Le Corbusier, and Mies van der Rohe. These movements emphasized the tenets of the machine age, which focused attention on the structure as a pure form. Modern materials such as steel and concrete that have smooth surfaces were favored. The structure of building was meant to be clearly visible and not hidden under another surface. Additionally, expansive window openings, terraces, rooftop gardens were gestures to connect the interior with the exterior. It was also enhanced by the incorporation of Frank Lloyd Wright's principles of organic architecture that was informed by the landscape and native materials." (Hogan's Fountain Pavilion Designation Report," Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission, 2012. p. 8.)

Immediately after WWII, architects came to appreciate design methods that were standardized, as the War had led to scarcity in building materials and had great impacts on available manpower. Developers turned to prefabricated elements and new materials that enabled quick construction.

A Modern style emerged, in which the hallmarks were new materials, flat roofs, little or no ornamentation, large glass-covered surfaces and concern with internal space. Some who wrote about this new aesthetic likened the buildings to a machine, where form was simplified, and beauty came from revealing the structure's function. Architectural elements like steel, iron and glass—associated with economic and technological advancement—replaced traditional brick and wood construction. Buildings organized around repeatable forms became the norm.

Neither the academic nor the preservation communities have fully looked at Modern architecture in Louisville. Yet, we are not without at least one useful survey. A catalogue of many important local projects was published in the *Louisville Magazine*, in 1966. The article, "Architecture in Louisville, the Materials We Build With," captures the mid-20th-century optimism that Modern architecture is sometimes associated with. The article's

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

unnamed author identified 34 properties in the City that had been erected since 1960—indeed many were just nearing completion at the article’s writing. This author extolled the freedom that new materials and new construction techniques gave to architects. On the first page, the author exclaimed, “Now skeleton and skin can meaningfully interfunction...allowing continuity in use and structure to be expressed.” That writer heralded precast-prestressed concrete frames, the “scientific revolution in chemistry” that resulted in an array of materials for sealing and decorating, and new fastening technology that helped hold these new materials together. The article serves as a relatively good local survey of relevant examples by giving location, architect name, and the salient qualities that each property showcased.

One thing absent from this article’s discussion is a critique of any project’s design achievements—in other words, the property’s architectural significance. This is not so much a criticism of the article’s content as an observation of it. Or, stating that observation according to the first term of Criterion C—where a property’s value is communicated by its “...type, period, or method of construction...”—the article gives less attention to *type* (normally the term associated with style) and gives much more interest to *methods* of construction. The Kentucky SHPO has not nominated any Modern architecture whose significance comes from its particular construction method; such a nomination would depend on an analysis of engineering values. By contrast, examination of **type** is more the analysis of aesthetics, or style.

Thus, this nomination offers the following characteristics that indicate excellence in midcentury modern design:

- Use of innovative technology to solve structural, programmatic or aesthetic challenges.
- A design that integrates the building well with its immediate landscape, often a plaza which balances the horizontal (site) with the vertical (high rise building). The most well-designed Mid-century Modern buildings do not give the impression of being placed randomly on top of the landscape, though this effect is not universal.
- An overall look of simplicity, using basic geometric forms and eschewing ornamentation to express that simplicity.
- Connecting of the inside and the outside by the generous use of glass which creates harmony with the site. Often materials used on the outside of building were continued in the interior, further connecting the outside and inside. Outside rooms were also favored.
- Paying attention to the quality of light, encouraging light without seeing the light fixture.
- Skill in the handling of proportion, scale, materials and detail.

Modern Architecture in Louisville on the Belknap Campus of the University of Louisville

The University of Louisville became an important site for the early adoption of Modern Architecture in Louisville. The campus provided an appropriate setting in which to try out Modernist design, not so much because the grounds anticipated Modernism, but because it didn’t. Those first buildings that invoked Modern architecture boldly broke with the campus’ strong tradition of revival styles, a break that announced a fundamental Modernist stance: non-contextuality. While these buildings might have seemed dissonant with the campus’ overall design aesthetic, the use of a college campus as the proving ground for new architectural ideas is very traditional, reaching back as far as the early-19th century, with Thomas Jefferson introducing America to Greek temple forms on the University of Virginia. If American institutions of higher education were to provide a forum for new ideas that would energize the country, it made sense to use the campus landscape to examine new architectural ideas, especially as architectural practice drew increasingly upon the technical science of

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

engineering. And as Kentucky had no college with a degree program in Architecture until 1960, Modernist buildings on the University of Louisville campus in the 1950s gave students their most immediate “class” in this new design vocabulary.

The years between 1947 and 1968 saw substantial growth in enrollment at the University of Louisville. Veterans returning from World War II fueled much of that early growth, until around 1950. Growth was particularly notable in graduate programs, as well. Most departments offered masters’ degrees, and at least ten departments established doctoral programs. Too, a number of graduate research institutes were formed. As a result of this growth, extensive construction began to accommodate the new programs, students, and faculty. Schneider Hall was just one of the buildings built during the growth period.

The Natural Science Building was designed in 1954 by W.S. Arrasmith of Arrasmith and Tyler. The earliest of the buildings built during this period, it is primarily brick, like most campus buildings. What is notable about the building, however, is the limestone detail, particularly on the side facing Eastern Parkway where gently graduated steps lead to a limestone colonnade.

Two buildings built 1958, shortly after Schneider Hall’s construction in 1956, were both designed by Hartstern, Louis and Henry. Stevenson Hall, a dormitory, and Miller Information Technology Center, formerly the University College building, share some architectural similarities with Schneider Hall. Stevenson and Miller display the characteristic large windows and open floor plans of Mid-century Modern buildings. However, in Stevenson Hall this applies only to the lobby area, which is one story with a connecting passage to the four floors of dormitory rooms. The windows alternate with panels set into aluminum mullions, similar to those in Schneider. In Miller, the curtain glass wall appears on parts of the southern, western and northern sides of the building. And instead of porcelain panels, what seem like panels are in fact glass backed by an opaque material which gives a solid appearance that parallels the design of Schneider Hall, its campus neighbor.

The Rauch Memorial Planetarium was built in 1963 by Hartstern, Louis and Henry and clearly shows the influence of the Kresge Chapel, designed by Eero Saarinen, and built eight years earlier on the campus of MIT. Cylindrical, windowless and primarily of brick as was its exemplar, it was surrounded by trees. The planetarium was razed in 1998 to make way for the Speed Museum parking garage. Another planetarium of similar cylindrical and brick design was built according to designs by Louis and Henry, further north on the campus in 2001.

Modern Architecture in Louisville at Large

Images of Schneider Hall are illustrated on the nomination’s image disc in the Official Images folder. The other buildings listed below are in the Supplemental Images folder on the image disc. They are referred to in the discussion of Modern architecture in Louisville:

- Schneider Hall (in the Official Images folder)
- Natural Science Building
- Stevenson Hall
- Miller Information Technology Center
- Rauch Memorial Planetarium
- Kresge Chapel
- The Liberty National Bank and Trust Company

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

- Twig and Leaf
- Trinity Towers
- The 800
- Ohio River Sand Company
- Lincoln Income Life Insurance Tower
- American Life Building

Until 1960, Kentucky architects had to go outside the state for training -- the first school of architecture was not established until then. Kentuckians first became acquainted with Modern architecture either in print media or by leaving the state, to view pre-World War II buildings first hand. Louisville became a place where the state's early Modern buildings could rise. The first architects to practice in this mode brought back influences from architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier, Louis Kahn and Eero Saarinen. While some of their buildings used curtain wall construction, Louisville designers, or their clients, were reluctant to completely give up the pervasive neoclassical tradition. Thus, the erection of modern buildings developed later in Louisville than in other cities.

In the 1950s, Louisville saw intense growth in subdivisions and concomitant growth in schools. In the 1960s, demolition funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, heralded as Urban Renewal, was touted as a way to revitalize Louisville's inner city. This produced mixed results. Like many cities, Louisville was struggling to come to terms with a new relationship between the city and the suburbs. Despite resources and energy going to these areas, some architecturally significant buildings were built.

The Liberty National Bank and Trust Company building, at 416 West Jefferson Street and now Chase Bank, was built 1956-1960, designed by Wagner and Potts in association with Brazilian architect Wenceslao Sarmiento. The façade of the six-story building is a curtain wall made up of granite, glass and brass panels hung from a metal framework. The building, which is set back thirty feet from the street, is considered a fine example of Mid-century Modern architecture and was the first building in Louisville to use the curtain wall (Elizabeth Fitzpatrick "Penny" Jones in *The Encyclopedia of Louisville*, edited by John Kleber, Lexington, University Press of Kentucky, 2001).

The Twig and Leaf restaurant, built in 1959 at 2122 Bardstown Road, is another example of Mid-century Modern architecture. With large windows that bring the outside in, and an open floor plan, the restaurant follows Modern design principles. The building's architectural design was the subject of a recent public debate. The designation report for the Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission, November 18, 2012, stated "The design of the Twig and Leaf represents the architectural details that were specific to diners at the time. The restaurant set up with counter space, booths and tables is the expected layout for diners. The large curtain window, the materials used and the oblong building shape also contribute to the diner's unique architectural type that makes it so easily identifiable."

Trinity Towers (now Barrington Place) was built by Tafel and Schickli in 1962 for the Methodist Church as a residence for senior citizens. Louisville's first modern residential high-rise, the 17-floor building included a Chapel in the Sky on the roof along with a sundeck and penthouse lobby. The building was designed with nearly blank east and west sides to minimize the heat and glare of the sun.

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

The 800 Building, a luxury apartment, was built in 1963. Designed by William S. Arrasmith of Louisville, in partnership with Loewenberg and Loewenberg of Chicago, the 29-story building, at the intersection of 4th and York Streets, has aluminum curtain-wall construction with marble, glass, masonry and turquoise blue anodized aluminum panels. The curtain wall is recessed at ground level to expose the steel columns that bear the load. The aluminum panels were provided by Reynolds Metals Company of Louisville. The building won an honor award for superior design from the Federal Housing Administration in 1964.

Hartstern, Louis and Henry designed the Ohio River Sand Company building, completed in 1964-1965. Constructed of concrete and glass, the building's upper two floors cantilever 13 feet over the sidewalk side and 19 feet over the wharf side. Originally trucks were weighed beneath the overhang on the wharf side. The upper floors contain office space and now house the Waterfront Development Corporation.

The Lincoln Income Life Insurance Tower (now Kaden Tower), is another cantilevered building. Built in 1965-1966 by Taliesin Associated Architects of Scottsdale, Arizona, the structure has a concrete core with cantilevered floors that allow for column-free interior space. The external filigreed concrete panels are independent sections that minimize the effects of the sun without blocking the view. So the building has two curtain walls – the first curtain, glass, is under the second curtain, concrete.

In 1969 Louis and Henry built a modern addition to the classical main building of the Louisville Free Public Library at 4th and York streets. Brutalist in style, lacking any classical ornamentation, the building nonetheless relates to the older structure in terms of proportion.

The American Life Building was designed by Mies van der Rohe and completed by his firm in 1973. Built of Cor-ten steel and glass, the four-story office building with a fifth floor penthouse, has expanses of glass that make its lobby floor almost transparent.

Schneider Hall's Designers

Architects Walter H. Kilham, Jr. and Robert B. O'Connor became the principals of their firm in 1943 after several changes in partnerships. O'Connor was born in 1895, educated at Trinity College and Princeton and worked in various New York firms before becoming a partner in Morris & O'Connor from 1940-42. He was the supervisory architect at Princeton in 1949. Kilham was born in 1904 and took his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Harvard. He worked at various firms and was a partner at van der Gracht and Kilham from 1937-42. O'Connor and Kilham built a number of schools, college dormitories and the library at Princeton and made alterations at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Nevin and Morgan were the associate architects for Schneider Hall. Born in 1889, Frederic Morgan (1889-1970) received his architectural training at the University of Illinois. After touring Europe, he practiced in Louisville until his death. He designed a number of private homes, churches and public buildings. In addition, he led the syndicate known as the Allied Architects which drew up a campus plan for the University of Louisville.

Donald Oenslager (1902-75) designed the setting for the curved marquetry panel and column holding the city charter. Oenslager was responsible for the sets and often the lighting for more than 140 Broadway shows

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

between 1925 and 1975. In 1959 he won a Tony for best scenic design for Leonard Spigelhass's play, *A Majority of One*. He taught scene design at the Yale School of Drama.

Carl Berg was responsible for the landscape architecture around Schneider Hall. He was the Louisville Parks Commission landscape architect who reconstructed the formal Flower Garden in Shawnee Park, one of Louisville's Olmsted parks. In 1946 he became the Executive Director of the Coordinating and Planning Commission of Dade County, Florida.

Evaluation of Schneider Hall's architectural significance within the context of Modern Architecture in Louisville

Schneider Hall exemplifies the characteristics of a Mid-century Modern structure. Originally, the interior spaces were flexible, open and they flowed into one another. Modern materials allowed large spaces to be spanned without columns or other interior obstructions. These characteristics derive from the building methods of skyscraper and factory. Characteristics of the modern style seen within Schneider Hall include minimal use of exterior ornamentation, long and low lines, windows flush with the wall pane, a flat roof, and the use of concrete, glass and steel. Also, like some buildings of the period, Schneider Hall used experimental materials, specifically the blue porcelain enamel panels that alternate with windows. In addition, the implementation of the recommendations of Aladar Olgay's climatological survey, namely the blank west wall, the tubular skylights and the teakwood and aluminum louvers on the south wall, are indicative of some of the best practices of the time.

The building was mentioned in the article on library architecture in the 1963 *Encyclopedia Britannica*. In the survey of library architecture from the mid-19th century on, Schneider Hall was described as an example of the basic relationships of library areas. The floor plan was included, one of two illustrations for the article.

In summary then, Schneider Hall was part of the modern movement in Louisville architecture, on campus and off, that began in the 1950s. The building was forward-looking, representing a change in direction in local architecture more than a continuity with the past. It is a significant campus building that can stand on its own as a fine example of Mid-century Modern architecture.

Evaluation of the Integrity of Schneider Hall's significance in light of its physical condition

A building in Louisville meeting Criterion C, significant as a type of construction—Mid-century Modernism—must have integrity of feeling if it is to convey the essential significance of its architectural type. A building in Louisville will be said to have integrity of feeling if it has integrity of materials and design. Schneider Hall retains integrity of not only materials, design and feeling, but also integrity of location and setting.

The **location and setting** of the building have remained the same. While the campus has expanded to the north, Schneider is nonetheless still in a centrally important part of the campus. It stands just east of the administration building, which sits at the end of the horseshoe drive which serves as the main campus entrance. The grounds surrounding the building have been refreshed and are well maintained, particularly the area to the south which has the fountain and benches.

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

This nomination, in selecting Criterion C, has a one-year Period of Significance, which emphasizes the way in which Schneider Hall gives us a *feeling* of a specific time in the local architectural arena. The critics of modernism sometimes cited the quality of a-contextuality that marked many modernist constructions upon their completion. Those structures often did not integrate within their larger urban landscapes in the same ways that buildings had for generations, nor did their design vocabulary mix well with their older neighbors. It was only through the passage of time that many of these buildings came to be accepted as integral parts of their particular landscapes. If modernist design chose to be less responsive to location and setting at the time of construction, then in retaining its original location and standing in much of its original setting, Schneider Hall continues announcing the role of conspicuous outsider amidst the mostly older revivalist and traditional architectural landscape on the southern and oldest part of the campus. This dissonance with its surroundings enhances the building's feeling of being a modernist creation in Louisville's early employment of the style.

The integrity of **materials** on the exterior of the building has been retained. In fact, very little has changed: some tiles on the east and north soffits are missing while the tiles on the south soffit have been removed the surface painted blue. A wheelchair ramp was installed and the blue enamel panels were painted silver. The rest remains as it was built.

Integrity of **design** is retained since, with one exception all of the exterior surfaces that indicate the style's hallmarks remain. One prominent change is the painting of the blue enamel panels silver. While it does not eradicate the overall design excellence, since panels of various colors were used at the time, it does diminish the original intent of the architect. Since ornamentation is minimal in buildings of this style, the building's flat surfaces, geometric forms and glass curtain walls continue to define its participation within the style.

Because the building possesses integrity of materials and design, it also possesses, by definition, integrity of **feeling**. In addition, the building is still used for academic purposes and includes a large library. This adds to the integrity of the associations we can attach to it.

9. Major Bibliographical References

American Institute of Architects. *Mid-Century Architecture in America*. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins Press, 1961.

American Library Association. Buildings Committee. "Planning a Library Building," p.39-43

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Brandeis, Adele. "City's First Charter Finds a Home," *Courier-Journal*, April 1, 1956, 13-15.

Creese, Walter L. "A Library Like a Supermarket," *Courier-Journal Magazine*, Feb. 3, 1957, p. 12-19.

"Designation report for the Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission," November 18, 2012. <http://www.louisvilleky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/450F160C-C6B5-40BF-AB4C-B571F8A038C1/0/TwigandLeafDesigRpt.pdf> viewed Oct. 16, 2012

Kilham, Walter H., Jr. "Library Architecture," *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1963, v. 13, p. 25-8.

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

Kleber, John E. *The Encyclopedia of Louisville*. Lexington, University Press of Kentucky, 2001.

Life Magazine, October 6, 1961. Window wall illustrated the Libby Owens Ford ad.

Luhan, Gregory A, Dennis Domer, and David Mohney. *The Louisville Guide*. New York, Princeton Architectural Press, 2004.

“Materials We Build With,” *Louisville Magazine*, March 20, 1966. p. 24-30. Special issue on architecture.

McNabb, Sarah. *A History of Campus Planning for the University of Louisville, Belknap Campus, 1923-1995*. Unpublished paper, 1994.

Metro Historic Landmarks and Preservation Districts Commission, “Hogan’s Fountain Pavilion Designation Report,” September 24, 2012.

Schneider, Evelyn J. “A New Library for the University of Louisville,” *Kentucky Library Association Bulletin*, v. 2, April 1957, p. 3-5+

Snow, Richard B. “University of Louisville,” *Library Journal*, v. 80, December 1, 1955, p. 2725-8.

University of Louisville Library. *Dedication*. Louisville, KY., 1957.

University of Louisville Digital Collections. University of Louisville Images.
<http://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/uofl/> viewed October 16, 2012

“University of Louisville Library Planned for Efficient Control,” *Architectural Record*, v. 123, p. 374. May 1958.

Yater, George H. *Two Hundred Years at the Falls of the Ohio: A History of Louisville and Jefferson County*. Louisville, Ky, Heritage Corp, 1979.

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): _____ JF- CU-30 _____

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

Quad
Calculated by GIS (ArcGIS Explorer)
Coordinates calculated according to 1927 NAD: Zone 16; Easting 608 640.83; Northing 4230 223.70

Coordinates below according to 1983 NAD:

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 | <u>16</u> | <u>608 638.10</u> | <u>4230 429.87</u> | 3 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | 4 | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |

Verbal Boundary Description

The University of Louisville Library is bounded by Grawemeyer Hall and Gardiner Hall on the west, Gottschalk Hall on the north, Shumaker Research Building and Lutz Hall on the east and Miller IT Center on the south. The proposed boundary includes the building and a small area surrounding it defined by sidewalks (see Verbal Boundary Description map).

Boundary Justification

This boundary contains the focal resource, an architecturally significant building, and minimal area surrounding it, because the setting is not a crucial part of the property's architectural significance.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gail R. Gilbert, Director

organization Art Library, University of Louisville date April 2013

street & number 2200 S. First St. Walk (Schneider Hall) telephone 502-852-6741

city or town Louisville state KY zip code 40292

e-mail gail.gilbert@louisville.edu

Photographs:

Name of Property: University of Louisville Library, Schneider Hall
City or Vicinity: Louisville
County: Jefferson **State:** Kentucky
Photographer: Gail Gilbert, and various unidentified photographers
Date Photographed: Most current photographs of Schneider Hall photographed August 2012

University of Louisville Library
Name of Property

Jefferson County, KY
County and State

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

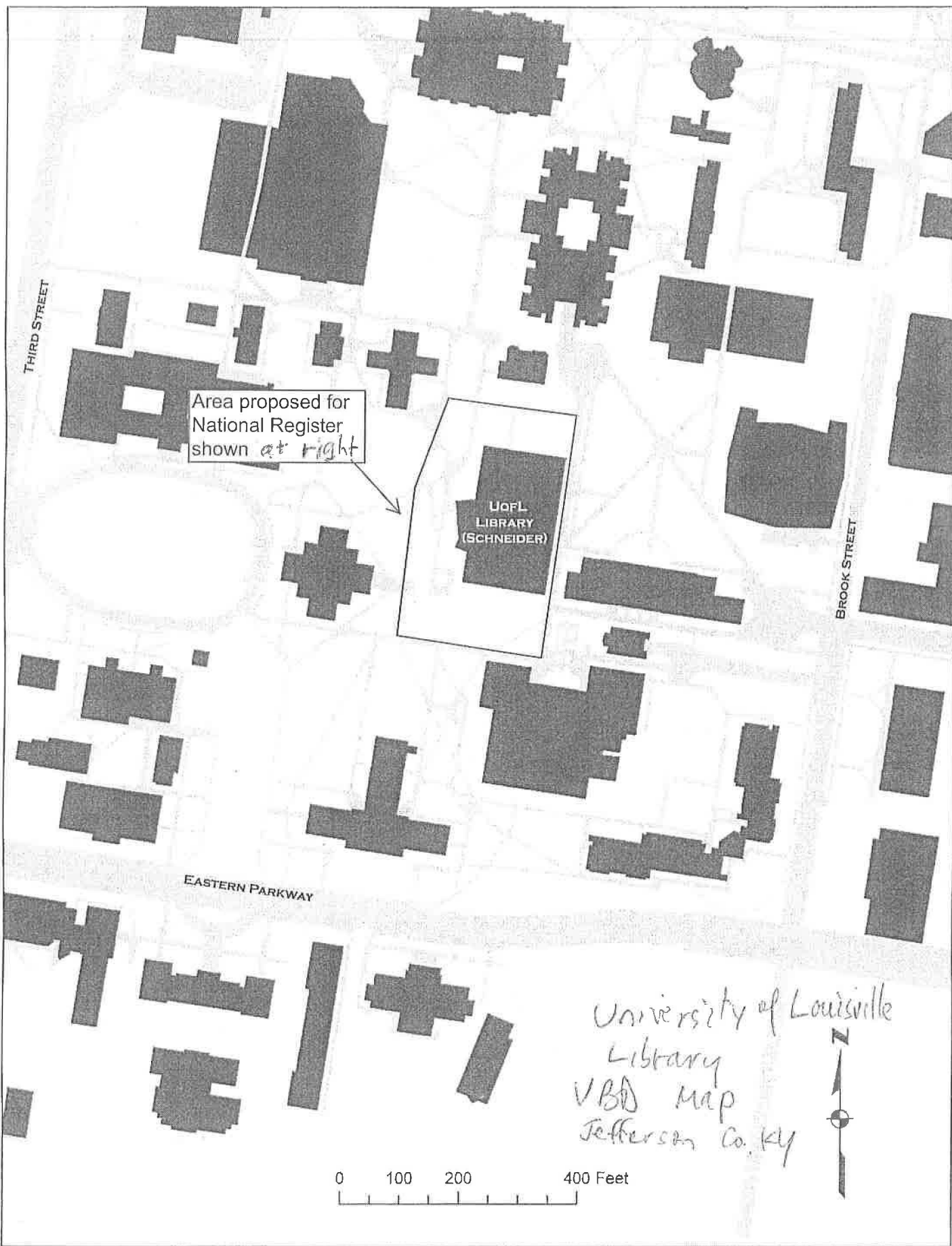
- Photo 1: University of Louisville Library, Jefferson County, KY, west façade, camera facing northeast
- Photo 2: University of Louisville Library, terrace on west side, camera facing south
- Photo 3: University of Louisville Library, terrace, camera facing northeast
- Photo 4: University of Louisville Library, north façade, camera facing south
- Photo 5: University of Louisville Library, east façade with loading dock, camera facing northwest
- Photo 6: University of Louisville Library, patio on northwest, camera facing south
- Photo 7: University of Louisville Library, south façade, camera facing north
- Photo 8: University of Louisville Library, Main hall
- Photo 9: University of Louisville Library, General Studies Room
- Photo 10: University of Louisville Library, City Charter
- Photo 11: University of Louisville Library, Bingham Room
- Photo 12: University of Louisville Library, fountain, south side, camera facing east
- Photo 13: University of Louisville Library, original floor plan, lower level
- Photo 14: University of Louisville Library, original floor plan, upper level
- Photo 15: Natural Science Building, 1954
- Photo 16: Stevenson Hall, 1958
- Photo 17: Miller Information Technology Center, 1958
- Photo 18: Rauch Memorial Planetarium, 1963
- Photo 19: Kresge Chapel, MIT, 1955
- Photo 20: University of Louisville map, Belknap Campus
- Photo 21: Liberty National Bank and Trust, 1956-60
- Photo 22: Twig and Leaf, 1959
- Photo 23: Trinity Towers, 1962
- Photo 24: Trinity Towers chapel, 1962
- Photo 25: The 800, 1963
- Photo 26: Ohio River Sand Company, 1964-65
- Photo 27: Lincoln Income Life Insurance Tower, 1966
- Photo 28: American Life Building, 1973

Property Owner:

name Commonwealth of Kentucky

street & number University Planning/Design/Construction telephone 502-852-6176
421 West Cardinal Blvd.

city or town Louisville state KY zip code 40208



Area proposed for National Register shown at right

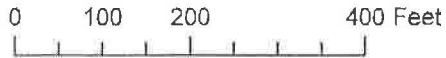
UoFL LIBRARY (SCHNEIDER)

EASTERN PARKWAY

BROOK STREET

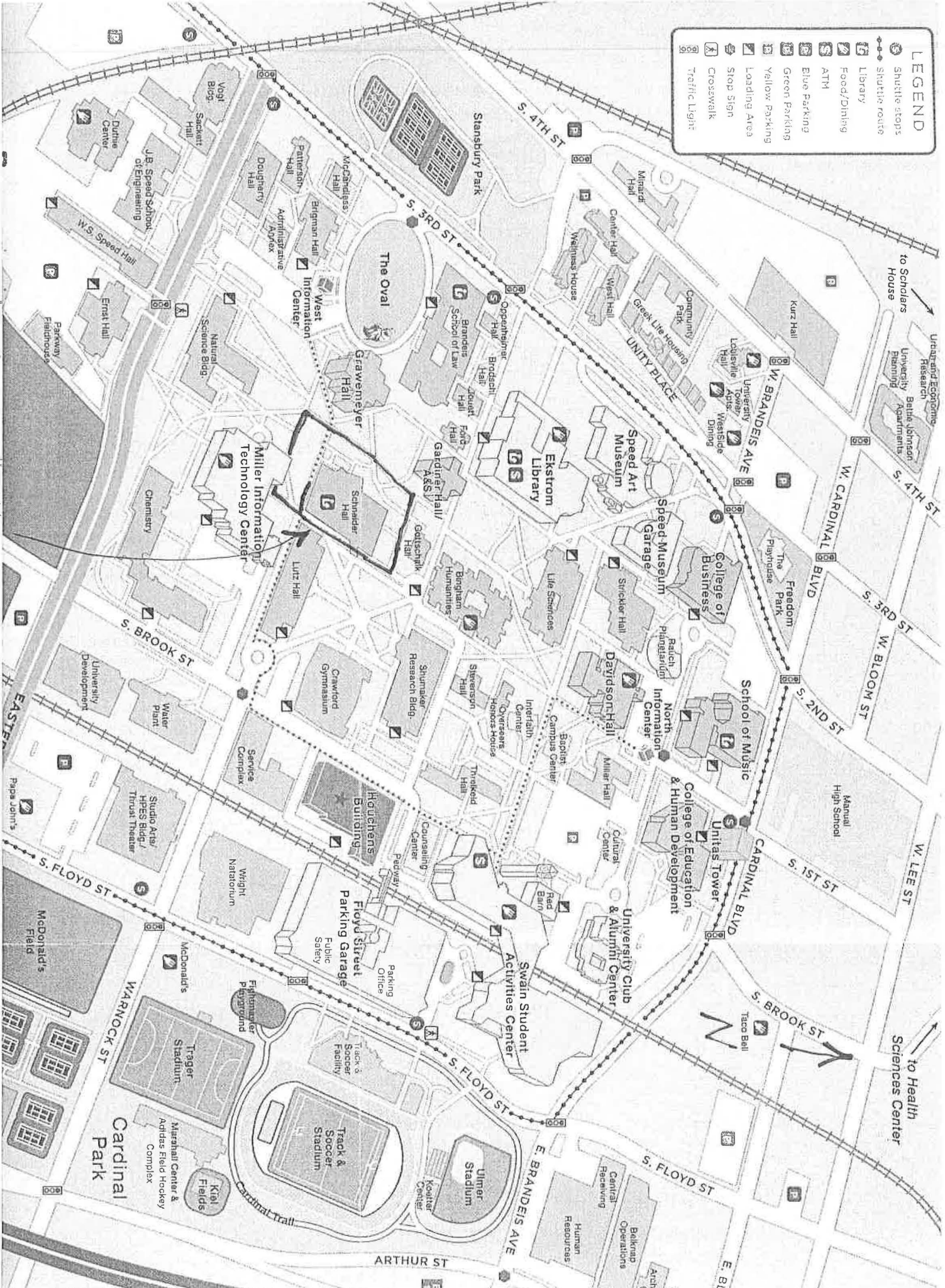
THIRD STREET

University of Louisville
Library
VBD Map
Jefferson Co., KY

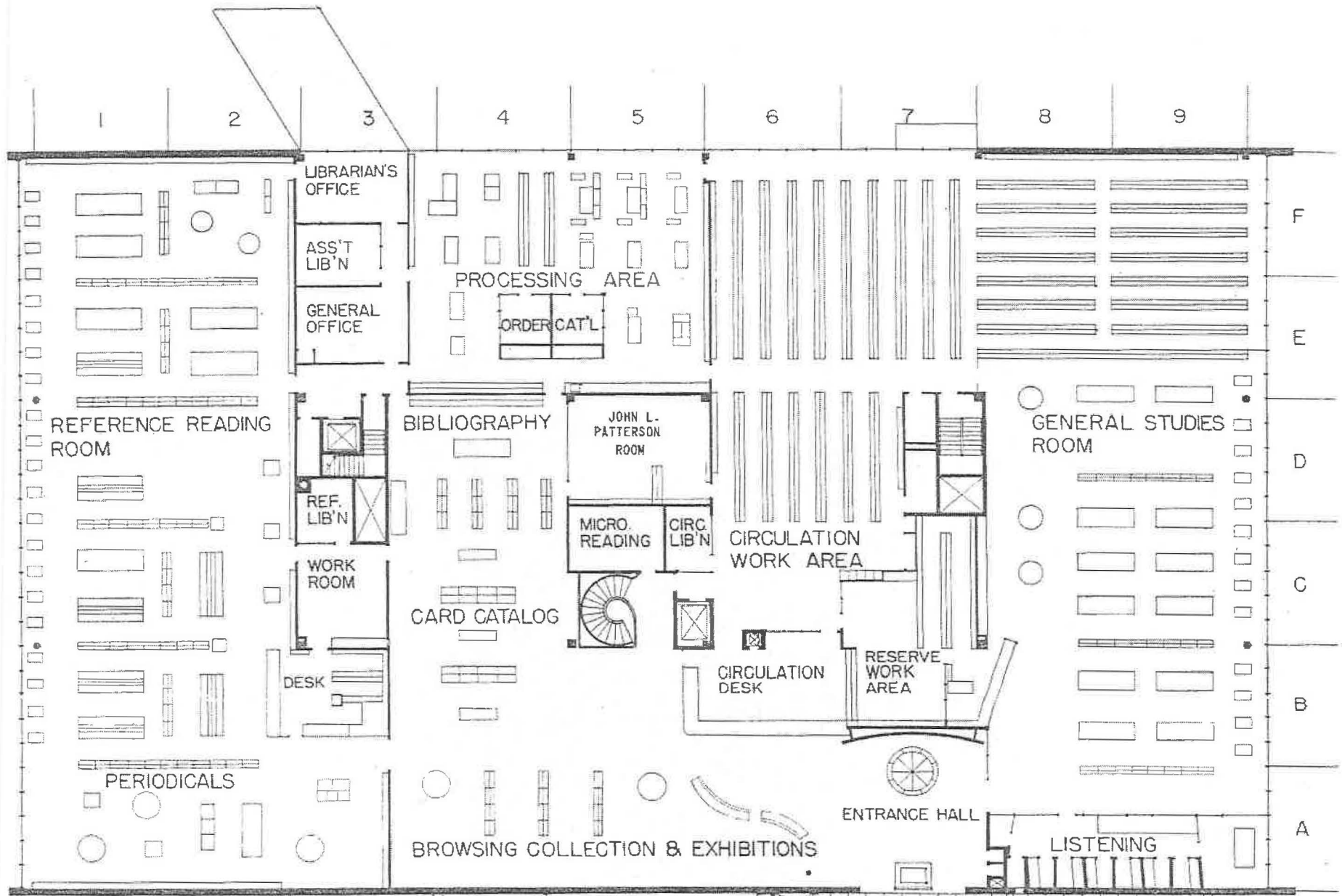


LEGEND

- Shuttle stops
- Shuttle route
- Library
- Food/Dining
- ATM
- Blue Parking
- Green Parking
- Yellow Parking
- Loading Area
- Stop Sign
- Crosswalk
- Traffic Light



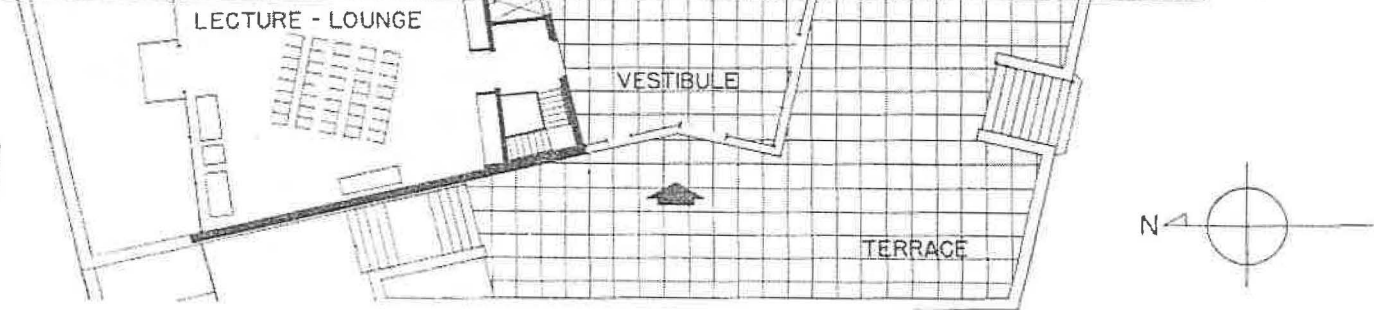
University of Louisville Library Jefferson Co, KY

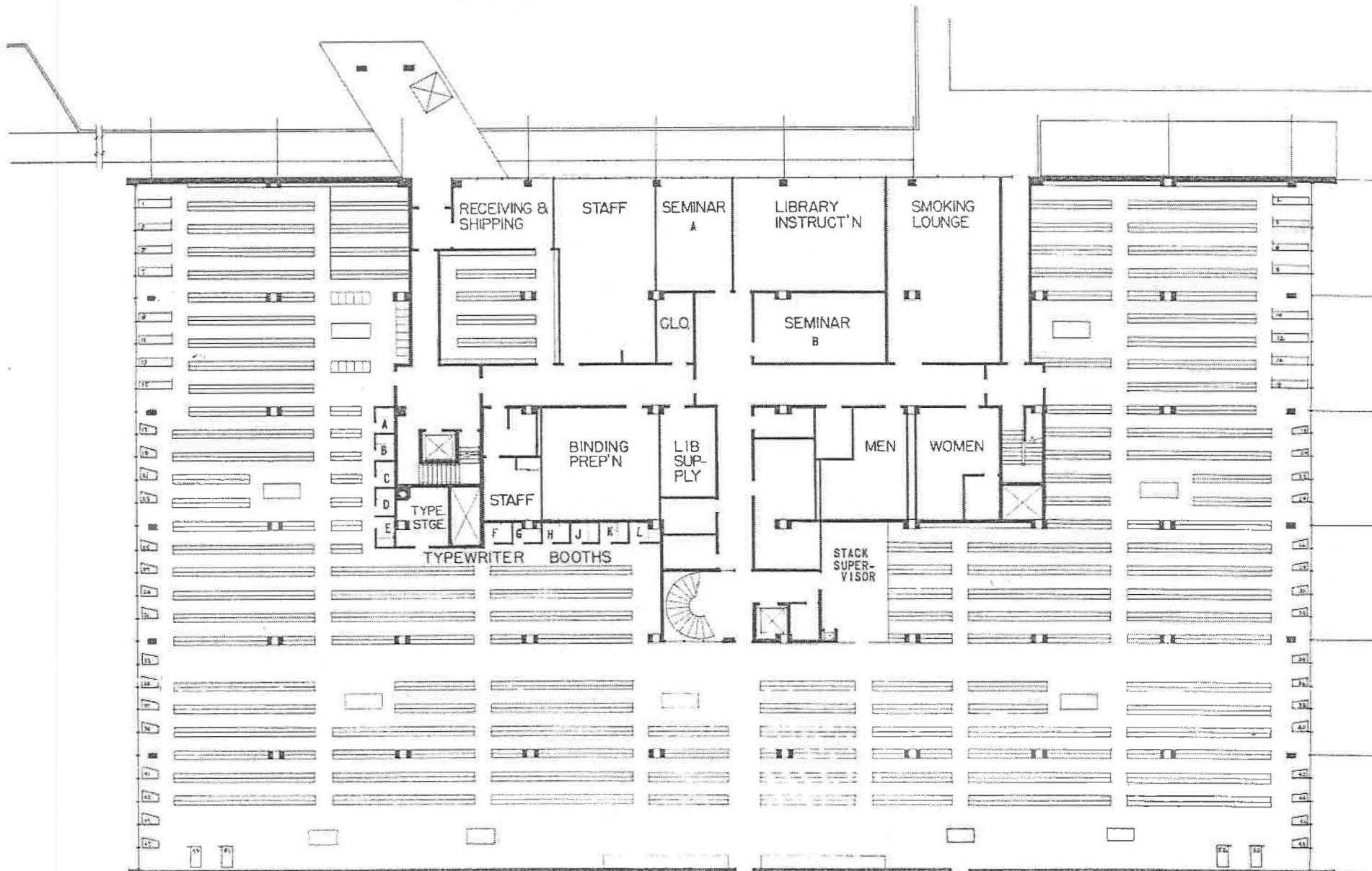


O'CONNOR & KILHAM
and
NEVIN & MORGAN
ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS

*University of Louisville Library
Jefferson Co., KY*

MAIN FLOOR





O'CONNOR & KILHAM
and
NEVIN & MORGAN
ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS

ROBERT
WORTH
BINGHAM
ROOM

WOM.

MEN

STORAGE

University of Louisville Library
Jefferson Co., KY

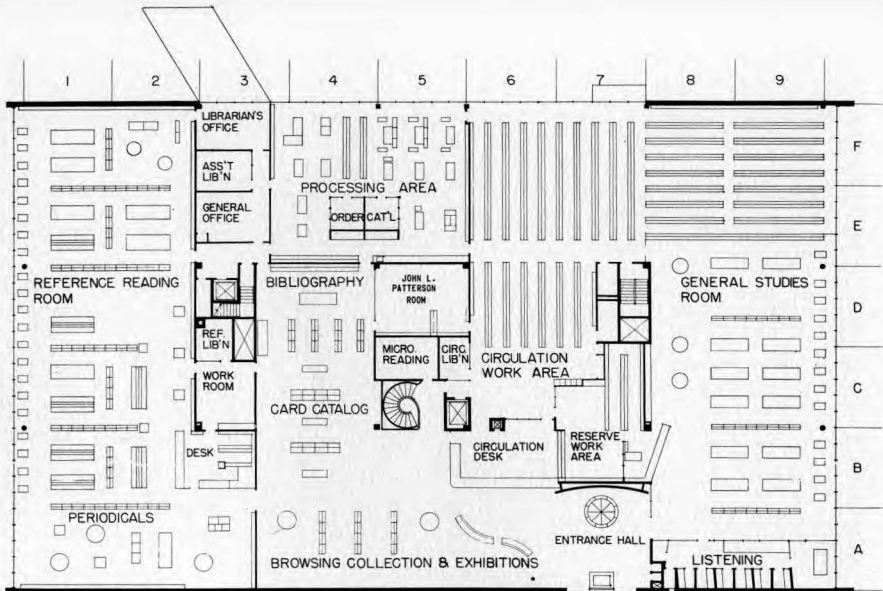


LOWER FLOOR

LEGEND

- Shuttle stops
- Shuttle route
- Library
- Food/Dining
- ATM
- Blue Parking
- Green Parking
- Yellow Parking
- Loading Area
- Stop Sign
- Crosswalk
- Traffic Light



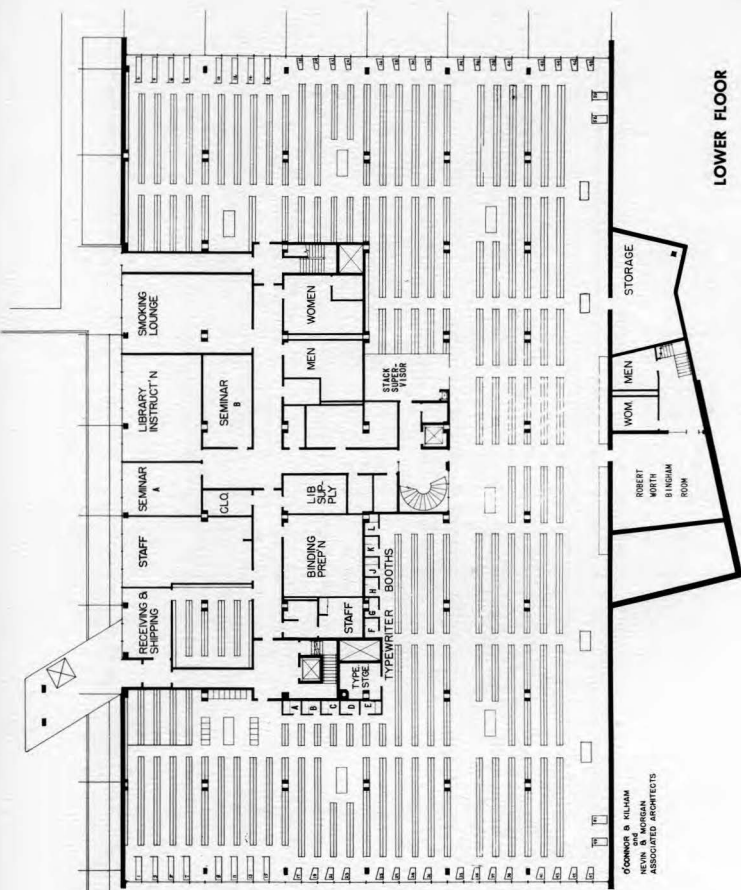


O'CONNOR & KILHAM
and
NEVIN & MORGAN
ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS

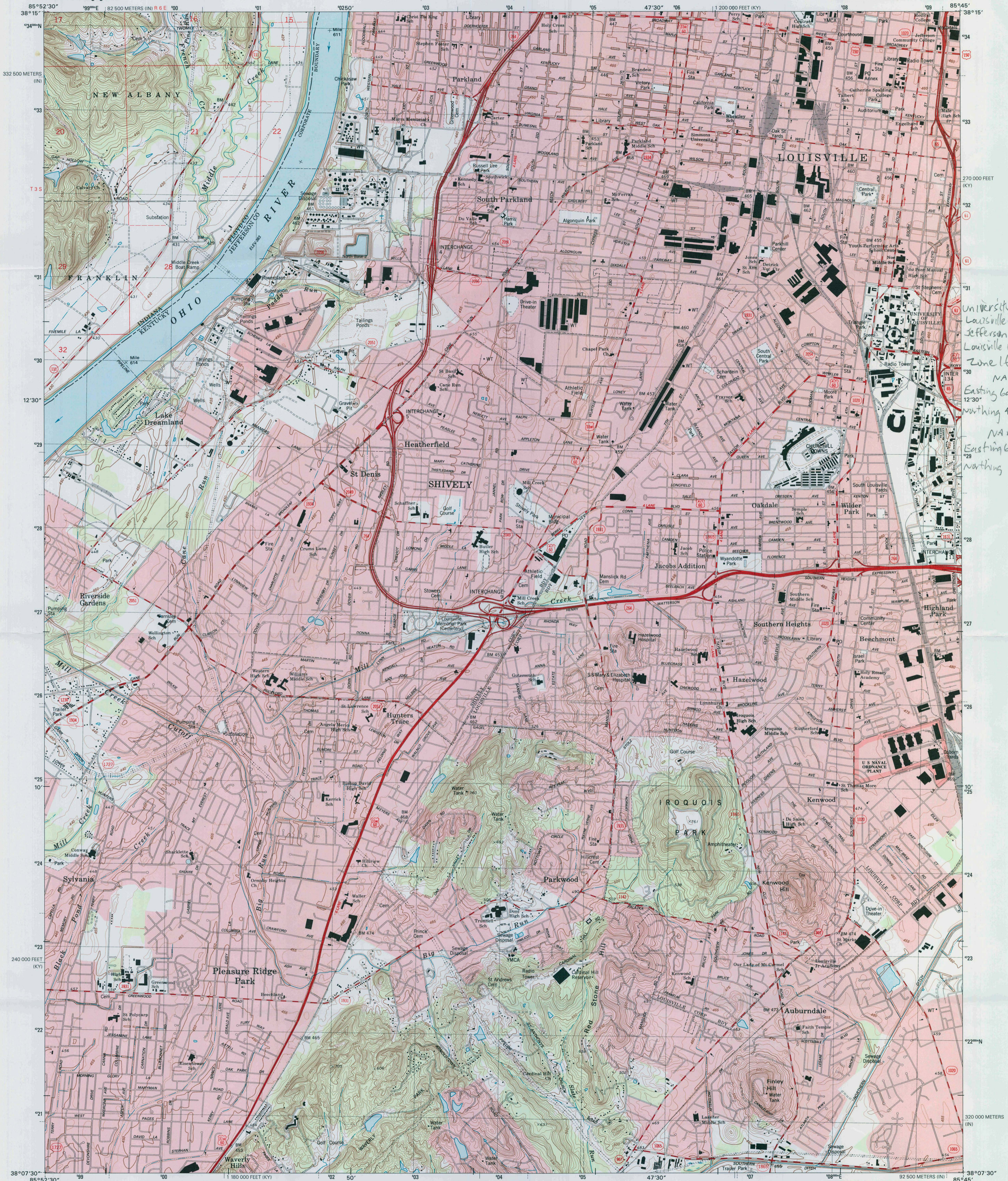
MAIN FLOOR



LOWER FLOOR

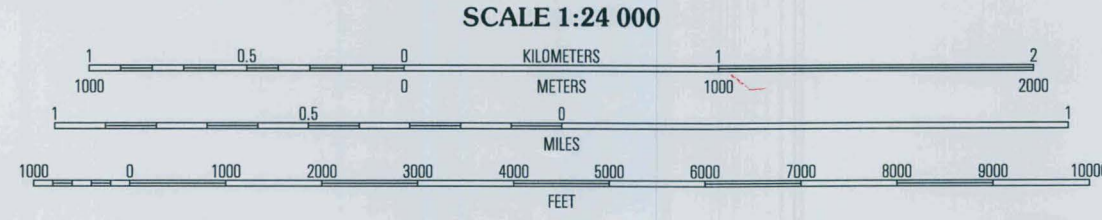
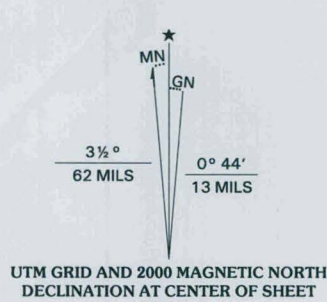


O'CONNOR & KILHAM
 NEVIN & MORGAN
 ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS

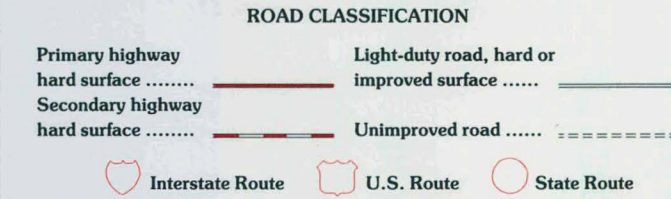


University of Louisville Library
Jefferson County
Louisville West quad
Zone 16
NAD 27
Easting 608 640.83
Northing 4230 223.70
NAD 83
Easting 608 638.10
Northing 4230 424.97

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Topography compiled 1978. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1988 and other sources. Survey control current as of 1979
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 16 10 000-foot ticks; Kentucky Coordinate System of 1983 (north zone). 2500-meter ticks; Indiana Coordinate System of 1983 (east zone)
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Landmark buildings verified 1979



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
SUPPLEMENTARY CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048



ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLE NAMES

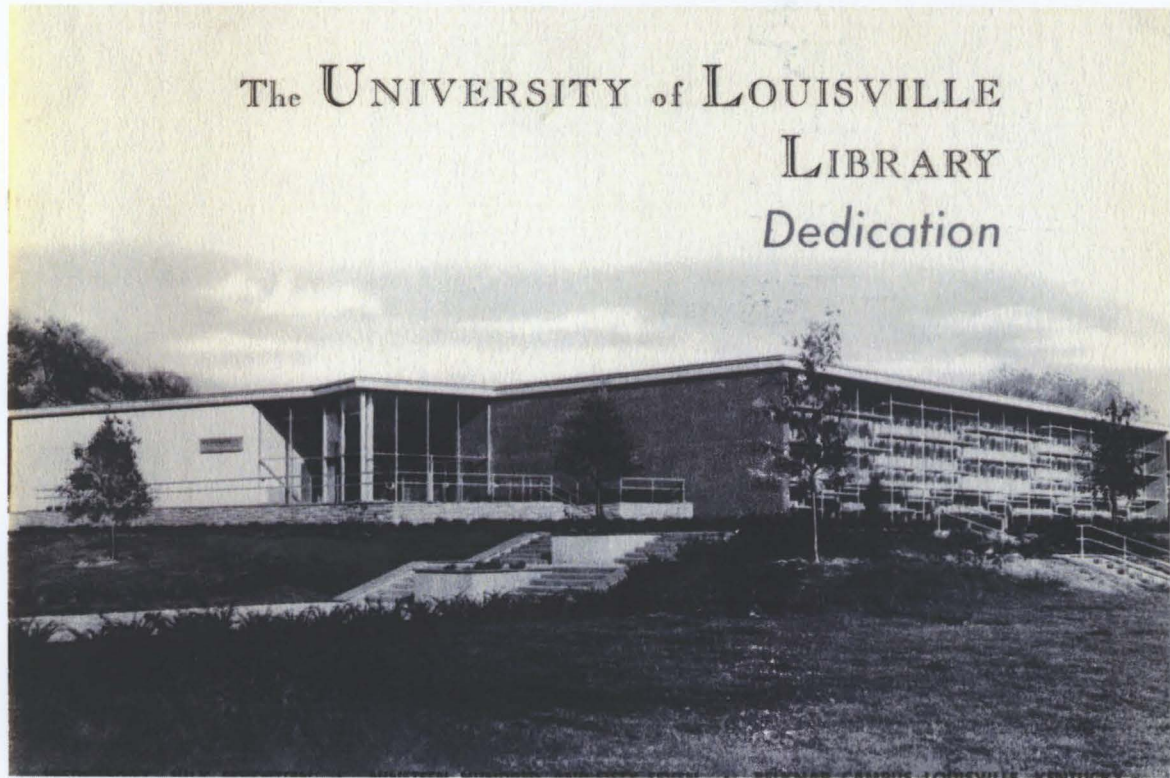
| | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 Georgetown |
| 4 | 5 | 4 Laneville | |
| 6 | 7 | 5 Louisville East | |
| | | 6 Koonseale | |
| | | 7 Valley Station | |
| | | 8 Brooks | |

LOUISVILLE WEST, KY-IN
1998
NIMA 3860 11 NE-SERIES V853

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, P.O. BOX 25286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225
KENTUCKY GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40506
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
AND INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



University of Louisville Library
Jefferson Co., KY
photo 1 of 28 total images (1 of 7 official images)



University of Louisville Library
Jefferson Co., KY

Photo 2 of 28 total images (2 of 7 official images)

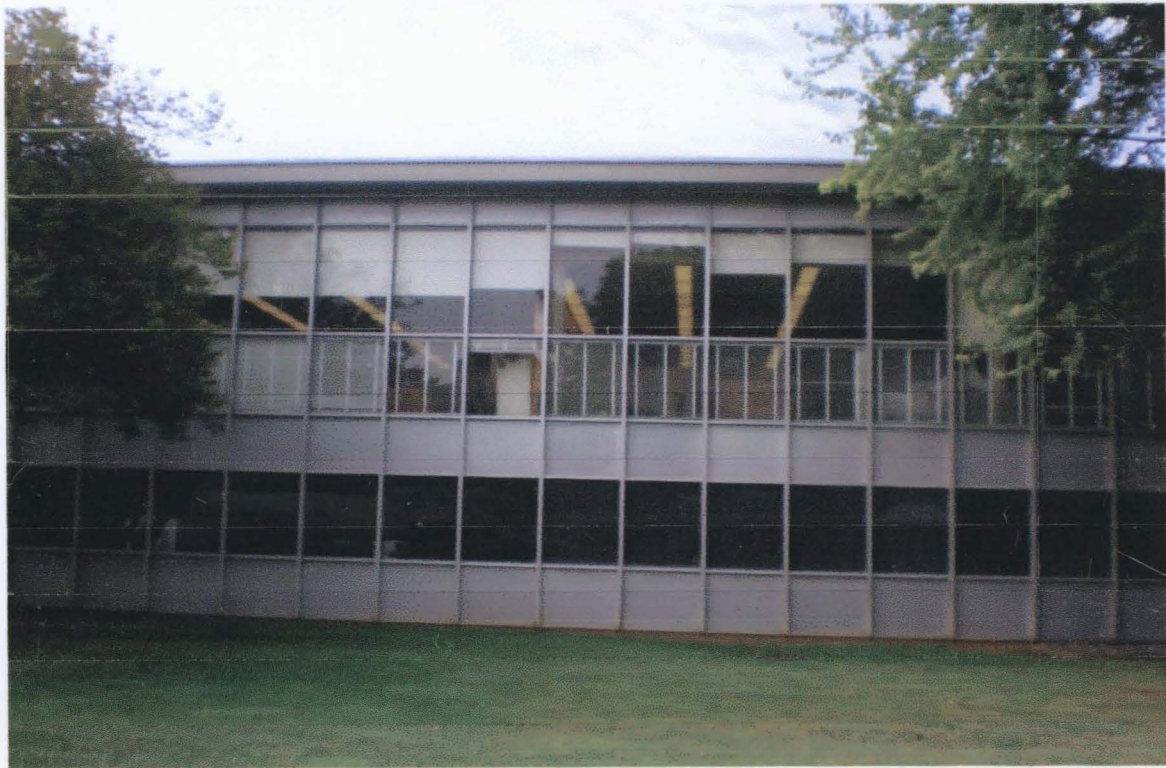


University of Louisville Library
Jefferson Co., KY
Photo 3 of 28 total images (3 of 7 official images)



University of Louisville Library
Jefferson Co., Ky

Photo 4 of 28 total images (4 of 7 official images)



University of Louisville Library
Jefferson Co., KY

Photo 5 of 28 total images (5 of 7 official images)



University of Louisville Library
Jefferson Co., KY

Photo 6 of 28 total images (6 of 7 official images)



University of Louisville Library

Jefferson Co., KY

Photo 7 of 28 total images (7 of 7 official images)



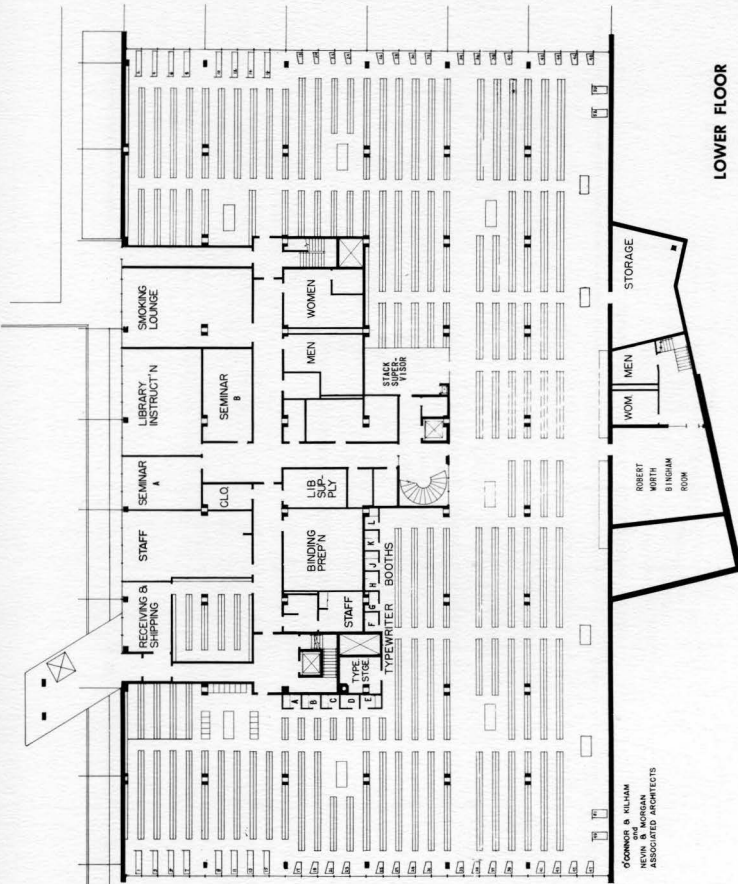






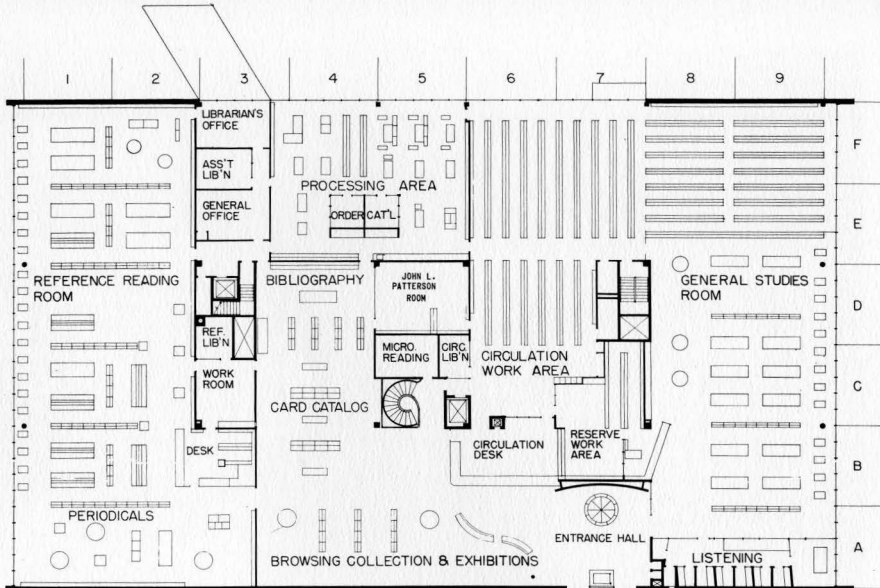






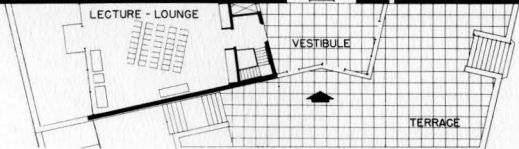
LOWER FLOOR

O'CONNOR & KILHAM
 and
 NEVIN & MORGAN
 ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS



O'CONNOR & KILHAM
and
NEVIN & MORGAN
ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS

MAIN FLOOR













LEGEND

- Shuttle stops
- Shuttle route
- Library
- Food/Dining
- ATM
- Blue Parking
- Green Parking
- Yellow Parking
- Loading Area
- Stop Sign
- Crosswalk
- Traffic Light



















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: University of Louisville Library

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: KENTUCKY, Jefferson

DATE RECEIVED: 6/24/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/24/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000561

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 7.30.13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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.

**CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORT FORM
REVIEW of NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION by LOCAL AUTHORITY**

(Instructions in parentheses and italics. Print or type your responses. Fuller instructions on additional sheet.)

Name of Certified Local Government Louisville Metro

Name of Property being considered U of L Library (Schneider Hall)

INITIATION *(enter one date only on a line below, describing the action on the nomination)*

- nomination submitted by CLG to State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). SHPO is asked by CLG to review nomination as soon as possible.
- SHPO submits nomination to CLG for review. CLG has 60 days to review nomination and return this report form to SHPO.

REVIEW BASIS *(checkmark at least one line of Resource Type/Criterion; write the name of corresponding Commission member on one of the following three lines)*

| Resource Type | Criterion Selected on nomination form |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical | National Register Criterion A or B |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architectural | National Register Criterion C |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archeological | National Register Criterion D |

Name of Commission Member Representing Significance Area

_____ Historian (when property meets Criterion A or B)

 Joanne Weeter Architectural Historian/Architect (for Criterion C)

_____ Archeologist (when property meets Criterion D)

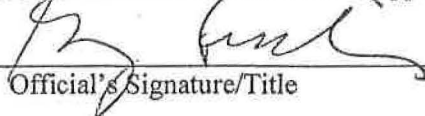
RECOMMENDATION *(Check mark one of the four blanks below, sign, and enter date)*

- Commission Recommends Approval
- Commission Recommends Disapproval
- Commission Recommends Approval, Report Attached
- Commission Recommends Disapproval, Report Attached

4/18/13 
Date Commissioner's Signature

(Check Mark one of the two blanks below, sign, and enter date)

- Chief Elected Official Recommends Approval
- Chief Elected Official Recommends Disapproval

5/8/13 
Date Official's Signature/Title



STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET
KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL

RECEIVED 2280

JUN 14 2013

BOB STEWART
SECRETARY

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

300 WASHINGTON STREET
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
PHONE (502) 564-7005
FAX (502) 564-5820
www.heritage.ky.gov

CRAIG POTTS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

June 11, 2013

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service 2280
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW 8th Floor
Washington DC 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed are 12 nominations approved at the May 16, 2013 Review Board meeting. We are submitting the following 11 properties for listing in the National Register:

- Krawhinkle House**, Daviess County, Kentucky
- South Frankfort Neighborhood District (boundary increase)**, Franklin County, Kentucky
- ✓ **University of Louisville Library**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Abbott House**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Edward Kurfees Paint Company**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Pavilion at Hogan's Fountain in Cherokee Park**, Jefferson County, Kentucky
- Lincoln-Grant School**, Kenton County, Kentucky
- Coca Cola Bottling Plant**, McCracken County, Kentucky
- Great Saltpetre Cave**, Rockcastle County, Kentucky
- Sadieville Historic District**, Scott County, Kentucky
- Wayne County High School**, Wayne County, Kentucky

We are submitting the following property for a Determination of Eligibility, due to owner objection:

Little Creek Pictographs, Letcher County, Kentucky

We appreciate your consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,

Craig Potts, Executive Director,
Kentucky Heritage Council and
State Historic Preservation Officer