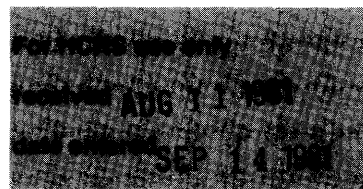


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

Baraboo Public Library

historic Carnegie Free Library

and/or common Baraboo Public Library (preferred)

2. Location

street & number 230 Fourth Avenue not for publication

city, town Baraboo vicinity of Second congressional district

state Wisconsin code 55 county Sauk code 111

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Baraboo, E. A. Madalon, Mayor

street & number Municipal Building

city, town Baraboo vicinity of Wisconsin state 53913

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Sauk County Courthouse

street & number 515 Oak Street

city, town Baraboo vicinity of Wisconsin state 53913

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Wisconsin Inventory of
Historic Places

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 federal state county local

depository for survey records State Historical Society of Wisconsin

city, town Madison vicinity of Wisconsin state 53706

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Baraboo Public Library occupies a corner site one block west of the courthouse square and business district. The immediate neighborhood is residential in nature, composed largely of well-maintained nineteenth-century houses. A small aluminum storage building (not significant to the nomination) and small parking lot are located to the rear of the rear of the building. Low spreading shrubs and trees define the corners and edges of the lawn.

The original red clay tile roof still covers the small, one-story rectangular library. A wide, denticulated wood entablature tops the orange brick walls. Brick quoins and rustication trim the corners and projecting portico, rising from the limestone water table and high basement. The entry is composed of a set of double doors set between Ionic columns within the projecting portico; a carved stone cartouche and denticulated cornices decorate the pediment above. Iron railings guard the sides of the wide flight of steps. Three windows are disposed to each side of the portico; below the patterned transoms, the openings have been covered to two-thirds height with composition panels to maximize the surface area inside. Three regularly-spaced transom-sized windows light the upper walls of the east and west ends and the rear (stack) projection. Half-size divided sash windows are set in the basement. Two brick interior chimneys rise from the rear (north) slope of the hipped roof.

With its projecting portico in front and projecting stack room to the rear, the Baraboo library has a cross-shaped plan, augmented by a small rectangular addition (constructed shortly after the building was completed) in the northeast angle. Short flights of stairs up (in the center), down (to the left), and a small office (to the right) fill the portico; a tile floor with classical border covers the vestibule. Heavy red oak entablatures and panelled pilasters dominate the open space on the first floor. Walls, to the height of the divided overlights, are lined with oak bookshelves. In a long panel high in the north wall of the east reading room is a one-half scale plaster cast frieze of Della Robbia's "Dancing Boys," installed one year after the building was constructed. Although the circulation desk originally faced the entrance with its back to the center stacks, a newer L-shaped desk is situated to the right of the entrance, dividing the east reading room from the central reference area. Dropped ceilings cover the plaster originals. The hardwood floors are carpeted.

Two childrens rooms, an audio-visual room, and services now occupy the basement story; originally, one club room, storage rooms, and services supplemented the single adult (west) and children's rooms (east) upstairs. A simple orange brick fireplace is centered in the north wall of the original club room.

Having outgrown the space and shelf capacity of the small building, the library is currently planning a large addition. Library staff and the architect are concerned with maintaining the integrity of the original building while designing a sympathetic addition. The proposed project will include removing the window panels and replicating the original form.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1903¹ Builder/Architect Claude and Starck²

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Baraboo Public Library is significant in that it represents the work of a regionally important architectural firm, that of Claude (Louis W.) and Starck (Edward F.) of Madison, Wisconsin and possesses architectural merit as an example of public architecture in a classical style exhibiting a community's pride in their public library.

The Baraboo Public Library, built in 1903, was among the earliest of the small public libraries funded by Andrew Carnegie in Wisconsin and is the earliest known small library commission executed by this firm. Early in their association, Claude and Starck developed an expertise in these small symbols of community interest in their cultural identity, and whether funded by Andrew Carnegie or another source, designed at least 39 of these buildings in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois and Washington from 1903 to 1925. Their most innovative designs were in several variations of the Prairie School style, although they were also adept at small classical libraries and variations on "an English Collegiate Style" (also noted as "English Gothic Style") and "California Mission Style."³ Claude had written:

"The building of simple classic lines, while sometimes grieving the architect gifted with original ideas, will probably always be the favorite type of this class of building...."⁴

The firm's expertise in the design of small public libraries has already been demonstrated with examples listed on the National Register of Historic Places: the Flagg Township Library, Rochelle, Illinois (NRHP-IL-1973); the T. B. Scott Free Library, Merrill, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1974); the Kilbourn Public Library, Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1974); the Tomah Public Library, Tomah, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1976); the Detroit Lakes Library, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota (NRHP-MN-1976); the Eager Free Library, Evansville, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1977); the Jefferson Public Library, Jefferson, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1980); and the Durand Free Library, Durand, Wisconsin (NRHP-WI-1980). The Baraboo Public Library would become the first of the Claude and Starck libraries designed in a classical style to be entered in the Register, representing the style in which approximately one-third of their known libraries were designed.

Louis W. Claude, a native of Baraboo, Wisconsin was an engineering student at the University of Wisconsin and worked for the firm of Conover and Porter while in Madison. He apprenticed in Chicago in the firms of Adler and Sullivan, D. H. Burnham and Co., and Schlacks and Ottenheimer. He returned to Madison in 1894. Edward F. Starck was born in Milwaukee, and after completing High School, he apprenticed with Edward Townsend Mix in Milwaukee, Handy and Cady in Chicago, and D. R. Jones in Madison. The partnership of Claude and Starck began about 1895 and dissolved in 1929.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data **ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Baraboo, Wis.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	2	7	7	9	2	0	4	8	1	6	5	9	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 7 and 8, Block 21 of the City of Baraboo (formerly Adams), Sauk County, Wisconsin.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By (continued)

name/title Gordon D. Orr, Jr., FAIA

organization N/A

date April, 1981

street & number 2929 Mason Street

telephone 608/263-3000

city or town Madison

state Wisconsin 53705

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Richard M. Muey

title Director, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

date 7/30/81

For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for William H. Bralman
Keeper of the National Register

date 9.14.81

Attest:

Linda McClelland
Chief of Registration

date 9/14/81

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Baraboo Public Library
Continuation sheet

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

NOTES

- ¹New Types of Small Library Buildings, Wisconsin Free Library Commission, Madison, Wisconsin, 1913.
- ²A Partial List of Buildings both Public and Private designed by Claude and Starck, Architects, Madison, Wisconsin privately published about 1920; small-scale drawings, undated, from the Louis W. Claude Collection.
- ³Stylistic terms used by Claude and Starck in A Suggestion to the State Library Commissions, Claude and Starck, Architects, Madison, Wisconsin (privately published about 1908), and "Some Recent Developments in Small Library Design," Wisconsin Library Bulletin, February, 1908, p. 11.
- ⁴"Some Recent Developments in Small Library Design," Wisconsin Library Bulletin, February, 1908, p. 11.

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Baraboo Public Library

Continuation sheet

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MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Claude and Starck, Architects, A Partial List of Buildings both Public and Private designed by Claude and Starck, Architects, Madison, Wisconsin, privately published about 1920.

_____, A Suggestion to State Library Commissions, Madison, Wisconsin, privately published about 1908.

National Register Nomination Forms for libraries in Wisconsin Dells (Orr), Durand (Orr), Jefferson (Orr and Brown), Merrill, Wisconsin (Dean), Evansville, Wisconsin (Douglas) and Tomah, Wisconsin (Orr).

Obituaries of Louis W. Claude in the Wisconsin State Journal and the Capital Times, edition of August 11, 1951, and of Edward F. Starck, in the Capital Times, edition of October 28, 1947.

Orr, Gordon D., Jr., "The Progressive Movement in American Architecture," unpublished manuscript of August 1966.

_____, "Prairie Architecture in Madison, Wisconsin; Influences, Forms and Form-Givers," unpublished Master's Thesis, University of Wisconsin, 1971.

_____, "Claude and Starck, Architects', paper delivered at symposium on "American Architecture; Its Roots, Growth and Horizons," Milwaukee Art Center (the Prairie Archives), October 30, 1977, copyright 1977.

Small scale drawings (1/8" - 1'-0"), undated, ink on linen, from the Louis W. Claude Collection.

Wisconsin Free Library Commission, New Types of Small Library Buildings, Madison, Wisconsin, 1913.

Wisconsin Library Bulletin, February, 1908, "Some Recent Developments in Small Library Design," p. 11.

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Baraboo Public Library

Continuation sheet

Item number 11

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FORM PREPARED BY

Diane H. Filipowicz, Architectural Historian
State Historical Society of Wisconsin
816 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

May 1981
608/262-2970

Research Assistance By:
Josephine H. Zipsie, Head Librarian
Baraboo Public Library
230 Fourth Avenue
Baraboo, Wisconsin 53914

April, 1981
608/356-6166