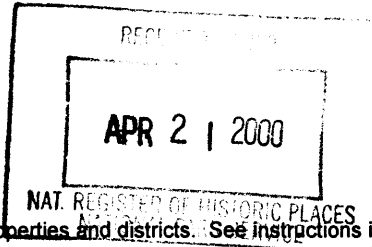


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**



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

1. Name of Property

historic name Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2
other names/site number Hawthorne Education Annex 097-296-59584

2. Location

street & number 70 North Mount Street N/A not for publication
city or town Indianapolis N/A vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Marion code 097 zip code 46222

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

[Signature] 1/25/00
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register
 - removed from the National Register
 - other, (explain:) _____

[Signature] _____
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson F. Beall 5-18-00

Name of Property

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)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building, district, site, structure, object

Table with 3 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing, and Resource Type (buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total). Values: Contributing (1, 0, 0, 1, 2), Noncontributing (0, 0, 0, 0, 0).

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)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: Library

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

19th & 20th c. REVIVALS: Classical Revival

foundation STONE: Limestone

walls BRICK

STONE: Limestone

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1911 - 1949

Significant Dates

1911

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Bohlen & Son

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- x preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested #4329
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:

Indianapolis Public Library; Owner

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 1.86

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 16 568370 4402060
Zone Easting Northing

2

3 Zone Easting Northing

4

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jennifer Morris / Paul Diebold
organization Halstead Architects date 2/8/99
street & number 333 North Pennsylvania Street, Suite 606 telephone 317-684-1431
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46204

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name Hawthorne Community Center, Attn: Diane Arnold
street & number 2440 West Ohio Street telephone 317-637-4312
city or town Indianapolis state IN zip code 46222

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

Section 7 - Description

Hawthorne Branch Library stands in a residential section of Indianapolis, roughly a mile due west of downtown and the White River. The library is situated on the northeast quarter of a city block acquired by Indianapolis Public Schools (the school board controlled the library system in the early years). The Hawthorne School building, an historic IPS school, is directly behind the library, so that the backs of the buildings face one another. Also located on the site with the Hawthorne Branch is a historic, classically styled, cast iron streetlamp. It appears in early photographs of the building and was installed as part of the library's construction. In all, the site has one contributing object and one building.

The 1909 library is a one story, brick and limestone building which rests on a tall, raised basement. The basement serves as functional space, divided between the two levels the building has 6,500 square feet of space, not including the unfinished attic area under the truncated hip roof.

The Mount Street or east elevation showcases the Neoclassical Revival style of the building in its monumentality, symmetry, and chaste classical ornament (photo 1). The seven bay arrangement rests on a raised basement with a stone foundation course, iron pitted dark brick, and a stone water table. The basement double hung windows have openings defined by stone sills and multi-coursed gauged brick flat arches. Three openings flank either side of the wide concrete steps to the main entrance. The steps are flanked by massive scroll parapet walls of concrete.

The main entrance provides focus to the elevation (photo 2). The brick of the main level is a tan face brick laid in butter joints, creating a monolithic-appearing wall surface. It consists of a slightly projecting pavilion housing a round arch. The front doors seem to original and are tall, double leaf doors with a lower panel and single tall light. Single light sidelights flank the door. A round arch transom divided into two quarter lights is surrounded by one-eighth lights. Heavy plain wood mullions divide the various quarter and one-eighth sections of the transom. A broad round arch of multiple courses of header brick, forming an archivolt, defines the transom. The arch springs from a plain pilaster with simple stone base and "capital". A stone archivolt molding with return is part of the arch composition, as is a large scroll keystone. The spandrels of the arch have plain stone panels. The entire arch composition and entry is recessed and flanked by antae with raised quoin work. The plain stone frieze above the arch still very faintly reads "A.D. BRANCH NO.2 1909". It is unclear whether the inscription was actually in part formed by raised applied letters or strictly by engraving. Completing the entablature is a sheet metal dentil course, then a projecting cornice of sheet metal.

Three large windows that align over the basement openings flank either side of the main entrance. Each wood double hung one-over-one sash is surmounted by a double panel Roman fretwork transom. Each transom panel has radiating lattice-like muntins. Stone sills mark each window, and each window opening is spanned by a flat arch. Multiple course brick; dressed, gauged stone springers and dressed stone keystones form each flat arch. The upper wall surface has corbel courses and a plain frieze, then the same

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Section number 7 Page 2 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

dentil and cornice as the entrance area. Main building corners have raised brick quoin work.

The antea of the entrance pavilion are carried through to the roof line as piers in the brick parapet. A small stone cornice cap tops the parapet that masks the truncated hip roof. Old photographs and other evidence indicate that the roof was originally terra cotta tile, very likely a "French Imperial" type of tile.

The north and south elevations were nearly mirror images of one another (photos 4 and 5). Each has three short one-over-one double hungs set high on the wall with the same flat arch and sill treatment as the front windows. Window placement lights interior spaces rather than seeking symmetry. The basement level openings generally align with main floor windows, except for a basement level doorway which is roughly centered along the north side (photo 6). The south flank has a single tall internal chimney stack just west of the easternmost window opening. The north flank has tall internal chimneys, one of which mirrors the placement and look of the south stack, the other located toward the rear corner served a boiler and is larger. All chimneys are emphatically corbeled out.

The north elevation was recently altered to include a small addition, roughly sixteen feet by thirty-four feet, obscuring the original side elevation. The addition houses a stair tower and elevator which provides handicapped access to the basement and main floor. It is constructed of steel framing sheathed in brick veneer. The stone flat arch lintels pick up on the classical motif of the original building. A large window on the north face of the elevation is composed of three vertical rows of two double hung windows with transoms over each row. This three part window lights the interior curved staircase. On the east face, the addition has a single light transomed door with stone flat arch lintel. The cornice line imitates the original building and has a parapet that masks the hip roof of the building.

The rear elevation of the library is roughly symmetrical (photo 5). Tall windows with flat arches like those of the front pierce this side of the building. Each has a fretwork transom like the front windows. Three are centered in the wall and tightly grouped; two stand off toward either corner; and a window that is about a foot shorter and less wide is just south of the northernmost corner window. This shorter window is detailed the same, transom, flat arch with stone work and all, as the others. One basement window was bricked shut and made into a coal chute at some point.

The interior of the library was extensively remodeled by IPS in the late 1950s, yet, significant traces of its role as a public library remain. Entering into the foyer, the original wood double doors with original hardware are still in use (photos 7 and 8). The main floor original plan was typical of urban Carnegie libraries. It consisted of a semi-hexagonal excedra-like core formed of a series of Tuscan order arcades. This central core opened to a vestibule aligned with the main entrance, and diagonally to main reading rooms north and south. Waist walls of beaded board spanned the arcades, allowing librarians to serve either major room from a central point. Three rear rooms housed the functional areas: offices, stacks, restroom, and stairway to the basement.

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Section number 7&8 Page 3 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

In the IPS remodeling, this sense of a central plan was eliminated. The triple arcade dividing the stacks and central work space remained intact, but the diagonal walls north and south were obliterated. The resulting L-shaped reading rooms were no longer distinct. The recent (1999) rehabilitation of the library has reestablished the semi-hexagonal core concept (see plans). The missing diagonal walls were recreated, but with glazed doors rather than waist walls. Missing wood columns were recreated in new materials to match the existing columns.

The reading rooms retain historic materials on the original outside walls. Windows have a simple wood casing with apron boards and ceilings have coved plaster cornices. Ceiling heights are fourteen feet. Centered on the south wall of the south reading room, between the windows, is an original fireplace. This composition is mirrored in the north reading room. The brick mantels have gauged brick flat arch openings and wooden mantel shelves. As with the rest of the historic woodwork in the building, the fireplaces have been painted white.

The original stacks were located behind the original triple arcade, and were flanked by smaller rooms; an office to the south, and a restroom and office / stairhall to the north. Although a few original wooden bookcases remain on the center back wall, next to original window openings and moldings, only a few significant traces of this pattern of use exist. The original wooden spiral staircase still stands (photo 19). Wooden balustrades curve around the stair opening, which is wholly carried on a single column that supports stairs. Original plans show that a dumbwaiter for books was located next to this stair. The dumbwaiter is gone, but the wall that defines this area of the building is original.

The basement had storage and a few public use rooms. Originally, there were rooms for the boiler, a restroom, and two large rooms divided from north to south by a frame wall. The major frame walls dividing the two large rooms are recent (c.1960) in nature. These two rooms were in turn subdivided by a row of two columns in each room, with recent frame walls in line with the columns. These cast iron columns imitate Tuscan order columns, each having a round base and a necking bead. Each column bears the maker's plate in the form of raised letters reading "T.ROCH, IRONWORKS, INDoPoLS" on the base. The cast iron columns carry an entablature-like bulkhead. The current basement configuration of two rooms with a metal-stud, drywall covered main wall running north and south leaves the iron columns exposed to view.

Section 8 - Statement of Significance

Hawthorne Branch Library was one of five public libraries in Indianapolis funded through the auspices of Andrew Carnegie's grant program for establishing free public libraries throughout the English-speaking world. Built in 1911, the building meets National Register criteria A and C. Historically, the building has significance as one of the earliest surviving branch library buildings in the city. It played a crucial role in the day-to-day lives of this neighborhood once typified by Eastern European immigrant skilled laborers.

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Section number 8 Page 4 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

Architecturally, the library represents the first wave of City Beautiful-inspired Neoclassicism seen in Indianapolis. It is a fine work of the noted architectural firm, D.A. Bohlen and Son.

The neighborhood that Hawthorne Branch served was first settled by European Americans shortly after the Treaty of St. Mary's in 1818. The area remained rural well after the platting of the Indianapolis mile square in 1821, and the subsequent first public sale of lands shortly thereafter. Access to water power encouraged settlers to build early industries along the White River, including grist mills, woolen mills, and pork packing plants. State and Federally funded transportation routes also encouraged industry on the west side of town. The Indiana General Assembly funded the construction of the Central Canal, planned to connect Indianapolis to the Wabash and Erie Canal. Though only isolated segments were built in downtown Indianapolis, industry owners found the ready water supply useful. One section of the canal was located on the west side of downtown. Surveyors and workers completed the federally funded National Road through Indianapolis by the 1830s. The first federally funded interstate road in the country, the National Road connected Indianapolis to Columbus, Ohio and the busy Ohio River port town of Wheeling, and ultimately Eastern port markets. The route followed Washington Street through Indianapolis, spanning the White River by way of a massive covered bridge, and continued west through Marion County. It passes some two blocks south of the Hawthorne Library.

The neighborhood along West Washington Street developed sparsely until the last half of the 19th century. When industrialists and city officials planned and completed the Belt Railroad in the 1870s, the area along the west bank of the White River from 21st Street south to Kentucky Avenue became filled with industries and associated neighborhoods. Even prior to this, rail lines crossed the near west side, including the Vandalia and two branches of the Big Four Railroad. West Indianapolis and Haughville were industrial suburbs in the area of the Hawthorne Branch Library. The Haugh Iron Works, Parry Carriage Factory, Duesenberg Auto Factory, a Big Four Railroad roundhouse, and other heavy industries created a high demand for cheap labor on the west side of the White River. Many of these industries recruited heavily from the ranks of Eastern European immigrants. Industry was the key factor in the development of the neighborhood which Hawthorne Branch Library would serve.

The creation of branch libraries was a key event in the spread of the Indianapolis public library system. From humble beginnings, the system spread to become accessible to nearly every side of town by the eve of World War I. Indiana State Supreme Court clerk Henry Coburn established the first public library in Indianapolis in 1844. Coburn used provisions of the 1816 Indiana Constitution, which provided a meager amount of land sales tax funds for county library establishment and use. The Marion County Courthouse was home to the library, which was available on a subscription fee basis to the public. Though it existed until 1930, the Marion County Library was wholly inadequate for city the size of Indianapolis by the mid 19th century. Only a few civic-minded persons were promoting reading by allowing their own books to circulate or through volunteer organizations like the Union Sabbath School.

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Section number 8 Page 5 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

After the Civil War, public sentiment in Indianapolis began to favor support of a free library. Rev. Hanford Edson delivered a motivating sermon on Thanksgiving Day, 1868 from his Second Presbyterian Church pulpit. Edson, claiming that "No community can be respectable without books" pleaded for a public library for Indianapolis. Edson suggested that Benjamin Franklin's idea of a library association be followed. Interested citizens did form such a library in 1869, with Mrs. Eliza McCready as first librarian.

These preludes were capped by the efforts of a committee of interested citizens, including Indianapolis school superintendent Abram Shortridge. The group secured an act of the Indiana General Assembly allowing cities to create libraries under the jurisdiction of school systems in 1871. In 1872, the public library committee of the School Board hired Charles Evans of Boston to be the first head librarian of the first Indianapolis Public Library. Indianapolis had roughly 35,000 residents at the time. Evans opened the first library in the city's high school at Pennsylvania and Michigan Streets. The main library was housed in various houses and commercial buildings until 1893, when the School Commissioners Board funded construction of a large new Neoclassical Revival structure.

Miss Eliza Browning was a key figure in the growth of the Indianapolis public library system. Born in Fortville, Indiana in 1856, Miss Browning became the first female head librarian of the system in 1892. She helped plan the new main library building and soon turned her attention to the creation of branches. The first four branches in the Riverside Park area, 10th and Brookside, Fountain Square area, and 500 S. Meridian were all opened in December of 1896. A West Indianapolis branch joined the group in 1897. All five branches were in rented space, typically, a commercial storefront.

On the far east side of town, the suburb of Irvington had just been annexed to Indianapolis in 1902. Home to Butler College, the suburb's citizens had much interest in having a public library. The Thompson family had donated funds to Butler for a memorial library in honor of their daughter, Bona. In December, 1903, Butler College officials opened Bona Thompson Memorial Library. Within the year, the Board of School Commissioners reached an agreement with Butler trustees so that the structure doubled as a free public library branch as well as serving college students. This stately Neoclassical Revival building was the first permanent library building to be used as a branch library.

Library planners hired Thomas Moran to build a small structure in the industrial suburb of Brightwood in 1901. Moran reportedly used model library plans developed by the School Board ("Branch Library Success"). In 1905, the Union Mission Sunday School on the south side at 415 W. McCarty donated their church for use as a branch library. Near the small village of Mapleton on the north side of town, citizens petitioned successfully for a branch library, opened in 1908.

The library branches operated on this basis for just over a decade. By 1909, Miss Browning was planning new branches and replacement buildings for the first branches. Integral to Browning's scheme was a large

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Section number 8 Page 6 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

grant from Andrew Carnegie's new foundation. Carnegie earned 333 million by way of his steel empire, but by the 1880s, he was determined to help provide others with access to libraries, something largely denied him as a youth. Carnegie established his program to fund the construction of libraries throughout the English-speaking world in 1886. He believed that libraries should be free, public institutions. Any community that offered a free site and a promise of funds to maintain a library qualified.

Miss Browning was well aware of the power of Carnegie's program; by 1909, a number of Indiana towns had already received grants, including Fort Wayne's \$90,000 grant awarded in 1901. By 1903, sixteen Carnegie funded structures had been dedicated in communities large and small throughout Indiana. "Indiana has moved ahead ten to twenty years in its library progress," touted Miss Mercia Hougland, organizer of the Indiana Public Library Commission ("Indiana's Carnegie Libraries"). In all, Indiana would top the list of grant recipients, with 164 Carnegie-funded structures. After working closely with the Educational Committee of the Commercial Club and other citizens, Browning outlined a specific request to the Carnegie Foundation for \$120,000 for six branch buildings (Downey, p. 30).

Browning's request was refused initially; Carnegie Corporation managers stated that requests needed to come from the local mayor's office. While editorials in Indianapolis papers bunked the idea of Carnegie's involvement due to his monopoly ties, mayor Charles Bookwalter was swayed to support the project. Browning personally approached the local press. She was successful in enlisting their support, among other things, on the grounds that libraries were needed to indoctrinate immigrants (Downey, p. 31). Carnegie awarded the \$120,000 grant to the library system in January, 1909. The initial request was for six structures, however, only five were built at a cost of \$100,000.

Construction on Hawthorne Branch and East Washington Branch was pursued simultaneously. Hawthorne was the second of the Indianapolis Carnegies; library officials dedicated East Washington four days before Hawthorne in November 1911. Hawthorne was a new branch location, as were the East Washington and Spades Park structures. The West Indianapolis and Madison Avenue buildings replaced original branch locations in their vicinities. Only three of the original Carnegie structures exist, with East Washington and Spades Park remaining in public library use. Madison Avenue branch was lost to Interstate 70 construction in the early 1970s. West Indianapolis was demolished in August of 1994. The construction of new, permanent Carnegie funded branch libraries gave nearly one-half of the Indianapolis system true library structures in one swift action. Clearly, Miss Browning's triumph in obtaining a Carnegie grant helped established a modern branch system for the city.

The construction of the Carnegie libraries provided Indianapolis with a fine collection of classical-inspired structures. Carnegie had expressed his opinion that libraries bearing his name should not be "Greek Temples" but should be dignified, solid looking, functional buildings. Architects in America had little knowledge of how to design small libraries. Too much emphasis on exterior ornamentation or grand entrances tended to sacrifice interior space. After several notable instances of excess, Carnegie and in

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Section number 8 Page 7 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

particular, his assistant James Bertram, reviewed plans for grant-funded libraries starting in 1908. This process was formalized in 1911, when Bertram printed a small flyer called "Notes on Library Buildings" (sic - Carnegie was also involved in spelling reform).

Although the Indianapolis Carnegies slightly predate "Notes," their plans are similar to several plans presented in the flyer. The octagonal central core concept in particular is very similar to a plan presented in the 1911 "Notes". D.A. Bohlen and Son were the architects of Hawthorne Branch. The Bohlen architectural dynasty began in 1853, when Diederich A. Bohlen, a native of Hanover, Germany, established his practice in Indianapolis. Bohlen established a reputation designing churches and governmental buildings, including St. John's Church (1867, NR) and City Market (1886, NR). The Bohlens received every commission available for St. Mary's of the Woods school just outside Terre Haute, beginning in 1858, including classroom buildings, chapels, and convents. D.A.'s son, Oscar, joined the firm in 1886, and he was the principal architect when the Carnegie commissions were being awarded.

D.A. Bohlen and Son was acquainted with the School Board which oversaw library commissions. Oscar and his draftsmen had designed School #9 in 1899. The Bohlen firm was in the midst of several major commissions at the time, including the massive and eclectic Murat Shrine Temple on Massachusetts Avenue, opened in 1910. Bohlen and Son had just completed a Carnegie-funded library for DePauw University in Greencastle in 1908. Participation in the Indianapolis library system's first generation of permanent structures was, if not the largest commission, certainly a highly visible one, especially with so many small town commissions coming to Indiana.

Each of the Indianapolis Carnegies was a slight variation on a theme. All were close to plans suggested later in "Notes." Madison Avenue and West Indianapolis were Neoclassical with columned porticoes; both by Robert Frost Daggett, architect. East Washington branch was the odd man out with its Tudor Revival facade and whimsical reading monks; Herbert Foltz with prolific library designer Wilson Parker, architects. Lastly, Spades Park combined Craftsman hints with classicism, also by Daggett.

Hawthorne Branch was the more chaste of the five. Bohlen did not use columns to ornament his facade, instead, the library's charm relies on the massive entry arch and refined use of keystone accented flat arches. Hawthorne Branch Library is a good example of the firm's work. Its tan brick exterior with classical ornamentation is a fine example of City-Beautiful-inspired Neoclassicism. The exterior addition to the building does compromise its symmetrical appearance, however, it harmonizes with the structure so as not to detract from it. Another Indianapolis Carnegie library with a similar small addition is Spades Park Branch.

Carnegie always stipulated that sites for libraries must be donated or purchased with local funds. Since the School Board controlled the library system in the early years, branch location was often coupled with public school locations. Hawthorne Branch was scheduled to coordinate with the Hawthorne School, which the School Board had just completed in about 1904. Lem Trotter and Andrew Henry donated the

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Section number 8&9 Page 8 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

Mount Street lots for Hawthorne Branch, immediately behind the Nathaniel Hawthorne School #50. Major additions were made to the school in 1911 and 1914. Pupils of #50 no doubt constituted a good measure of the readership of the library. Most were sons and daughters of skilled laborers at any number of the local industries on the west side of town.

Hawthorne Branch opened on November 18, 1911. Eva Hutchinson was the first manager of the library. Hawthorne Branch played a vital role in the lives of its patrons. Aside from providing free literature to the surrounding neighborhood, it housed church social gatherings, PTA meetings for the adjacent Hawthorne School, plays, and basketball games (Downey, p. 151). The basement doubled as community gathering space and held most of these activities. Girl's gymnastic classes are among the many educational events held there.

In 1924, residents constructed a Community House, which began to assume the many social functions of the library. From the beginning, Hawthorne Library's readership was limited by railroads which raced diagonally across the west side, hemming the neighborhood on the east, north and south. By the 1950s, chief librarian Margaret Cobb was jointly managing Hawthorne and nearby Haughville branches. In September, 1955, officials closed the library.

Indianapolis Public Schools assumed control of the building, and immediately remodeled the structure into an annex to IPS #50. The 1955 remodeling saved the building from destruction, but altered its interior features. Functional space for IPS offices and meetings were offered in the building until the 1980s. Citizens took action and formed Hawthorne Community Center, a group dedicated to reusing the library as a neighborhood community center.

Although no longer in use as a public library, Hawthorne Branch now once again plays a vital role in its community. It still convincingly recalls Miss Eliza Browning's plan to make the Indianapolis libraries "a live thing in the whole town."

Section 9 - Bibliography

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Section number 9&10 Page 9 *Hawthorne Branch Library No. 2, Marion County, IN*

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Ball State University, Muncie, IN. 1981.

Section 10 - Geographical Data - Verbal Boundary Description

The east boundary is formed by the east right-of-way line of N. Mount Street, the north boundary is the south right-of-way line of Ohio Street, the south boundary is the north curb line of the first alley south of Ohio Street, and the west boundary is the west edge of the concrete sidewalk adjacent to the Hawthorne Community Center. Said sidewalk edge is parallel to and five feet equidistant from the outer plane of the west wall of the building.

Boundary Justification

This is the property acquired for the library.