

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 5 1981
DATE ENTERED	MAR 10 1981

**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

HISTORIC Crescent Hill Branch Library

AND/OR COMMON Crescent Hill Branch Library

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 2762 Frankfort Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Louisville

3 & 4 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE Kentucky

CODE 021

COUNTY Jefferson 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 type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Louisville Free Public Library Board of Trustees

STREET & NUMBER 301 W. York St.

CITY, TOWN Louisville

VICINITY OF

STATE Kentucky 40203

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 6th & Jefferson Sts.

CITY, TOWN Louisville

STATE Kentucky 40202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory

DATE 1980 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN Frankfort

STATE Kentucky

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 Crescent Hill Branch Library is located in the eastern section of the city of Louisville in the Crescent Hill neighborhood. The area is primarily residential, with the Frankfort Ave. strip as the commercial hub of the area.

The library is a one-story, buff brick building designed in the Beaux-Arts style. The facade is symmetrical with a central portico and flanking three-window groupings. The portico has paired fluted Doric columns which support an entablature of triglyphs and metopes which continues around all sides of the structure. The pediment over the portico is lined with block modillions, as is the cornice which also continues around all sides of the structure. The entrance contains double doors and a semi-circular transom under an arch with garland molding and a keystone. The three-window groupings on the facade and sides of the structure have stone surrounds and keystones. A red, pantile hip roof caps the structure. The building rests on a raised basement which has entrances on either side of the front stairs, directly beneath the window groupings.

In 1961, a one-story addition was made to the west side of the structure. It is constructed of the same buff colored brick and continues the entablature motifs found on the original building as well as the same scale.

The main room of the library is light and airy with pilasters containing classical scrolls and garlands adorning the walls. The room has a simple classical crown molding. The library also has an auditorium in the basement.

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 1908

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Thomas & Bohne

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Crescent Hill Branch Library is one of nine Carnegie endowed libraries in the city of Louisville. It is an excellent example of the Beaux-Arts style, and was designed by the local firm of Thomas and Bohne in 1908.

The current library system in Louisville was begun under the Carnegie funding in 1902. The Main Branch of the Louisville Free Public Library was opened in 1908 on York St. Branch libraries rapidly thereafter began opening.

Of the nine Carnegie endowed libraries in Louisville, five are listed on the National Register: The Main Branch, Jefferson Branch, Western Branch, Parkland Branch, and the Highland Branch. The Shelby Park Branch Library is pending listing. The quality of design which was insisted upon for these Carnegie endowed libraries is evident in all examples.

The Crescent Hill Branch was one of the first branch libraries to be constructed. It was completed in 1908, the same year that the Main Branch was completed. The design is one by Thomas and Bohne, a Louisville architectural firm. In 1889, the firm was begun as Drach and Thomas. F. R. Bohne joined that firm in 1894 after prolific partnership with F. W. Mowbray, architect for Louisville's Union Station. Many Victorian residences in Old Louisville and the Highlands neighborhoods of Louisville were designed by Mowbray and Bohne. Drach and Thomas designed many commercial and industrial buildings in Louisville, and several of the finest residences in the Russell Historic District. Thomas and Bohne also designed Firehouse #21, located on Frankfort Avenue at Franck Ave., six blocks north of the library. The firehouse is pending listing.

The design of the Crescent Hill Branch Library is classical in its proportions. The decorative details are simple and elegant. It is an excellent example of the Beaux-Arts style as adapted to a small building. It is an amenity to the Crescent Hill neighborhood both educationally and aesthetically.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Louisville and Its Resources. Louisville; George Fetter, 1892.

Louisville Free Public Library. Third Annual Report. Louisville:
Louisville Free Public Library, 1907.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Louisville of Today. Louisville: Consolidated Industries, 1895

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Jeffersonville Quad
1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 6	6 1 4 5 1 0	4 2 3 4 6 5 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C			

B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 71E
Lot 27

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M. A. Allgeier, Researcher

ORGANIZATION

Louisville Landmarks Commission

DATE

October 28, 1980

STREET & NUMBER

727 W. Main St.

TELEPHONE

587-3501

CITY OR TOWN

Louisville

STATE

Kentucky 40202

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Anne Armstrong Thompson

TITLE

DATE

1-28-81

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Lynn A. Beebe

DATE March 10, 1981

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Walt Smith

DATE 2/3/81

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER