

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 9 1979 SEP 4 1979  
DATE ENTERED

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  
Waupun Public (Carnegie) Library  
AND/OR COMMON  
Waupun Heritage Museum

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
22 South Madison Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Waupun  
STATE  
Wisconsin  
VICINITY OF  
2nd  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
2nd  
COUNTY  
Dodge  
CODE  
55  
CODE  
027

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"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 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  
City of Waupun: Robert Felsman, City Clerk  
STREET & NUMBER  
201 East Main Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Waupun  
STATE  
Wisconsin 53963  
VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, City of Waupun  
STREET & NUMBER  
201 East Main Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Waupun  
STATE  
Wisconsin 53963

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
Wisconsin Inventory of Historic Places  
DATE  
1974  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
State Historical Society  
CITY, TOWN  
Madison  
STATE  
Wisconsin 53706  
FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

# 7 DESCRIPTION

12

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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 Waupun Public Library was built in 1904 with a \$10,000.00 gift from Andrew Carnegie. The library is situated on the northwest corner of Jefferson and Madison Streets, one block from Main Street. It is built in a late Gothic style of locally cut stone and with stone trim. Originally it had a red tile roof; this has been replaced with asphalt shingles.

The library has a gable roof, with a cross gable at the central projecting entry. A Tudor arch frames the entry, with piers rising from the impost to support a panel that reads, "Waupun Public Library." A hood shelters the double door. A string course spans the base of the gable, inscribed with "Carnegie," and a round window is inset in the gable.

Sets of three sash windows with stone mullions and transoms flank the entrance. Sillcourses and lintel courses encircle the building, and each gable has a parapet. The building has two stories and an attic; the first floor is a partial basement. It measures 58' x 36'.

The main floor was divided into several alcoves by seven foot high oak stacks. Other wood trim in the building is also oak. A lecture room on the north side of the basement was finished and furnished in 1907 with a bequest from E.M. Beach, since the original Carnegie gift had not been sufficient to finish the basement. The remainder of the basement rooms was completed with another gift of Carnegie in 1911.

In 1955 an extensive remodeling program began. The library closed for three months so that the Beach Lecture Room could be converted to the children's room. The first floor, no longer strong enough to support the stacks, was replaced with a concrete floor; fluorescent lights and an acoustical tile ceiling were installed; the building was completely rewired, and the interior was completely repainted. In the remodeling the oak woodwork was left intact.

In 1957 money from the estate of William Brooks was used to renovate a room in the basement for a meeting room. The room had been used as a small museum since 1911, and the collection was stored in the attic.

In 1968 a new library was built on a lot in the South Ward of Waupun. Until 1971 the Carnegie library building was used for school administrative offices. Since 1971 the Waupun Historical Society has rented the building from the city to house the Waupun Heritage Museum. They use both floors for the collections and have incorporated several of the original library stacks in the display units. The remainder of the stacks are stored in the basement for future use.

# 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 checked="" 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 <sup>1</sup>  
1904

BUILDER/ARCHITECT <sup>2</sup>  
H.A. Foeller

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Waupun Public Library was an important contribution to library and educational service in Waupun. It is a reminder of the philanthropy of Andrew Carnegie and his stimulation of the library movement in the early twentieth century. Further, it is an admirable example of late Gothic Revival architecture as executed by H.A. Foeller, a Green Bay architect.

ARCHITECTURE H.A. Foeller was a prominent Green Bay architect who came to that city from Oshkosh in 1898 to establish a practice. He worked with several partners, finally joining with George Schober in 1910. Foeller and Schober retained their partnership until 1930 when Foeller retired. The descendent firm of Foeller and Schober exists today in Green Bay as Berners-Schober-Kilp. The firm still has all of Foeller's original plans, including those for the Waupun library.

Foeller designed a variety of buildings throughout the state, including hospitals, schools, churches, prisons and residences. Major works include the Central State Hospital at Waupun, the southwest wing of the State Prison at Waupun, and the St. Nicholas Hospital at Sheboygan. Foeller was instrumental in the establishment of Green Bay's parks, serving as president of the Park Board for several years. He was named a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects on 8 March 1937.

Foeller's design for the Waupun library was selected by the Library Board of Directors over seven others. It embodies the monumental qualities that typify many libraries of the period, and Carnegie libraries in particular. Even small libraries such as the one in Waupun could achieve a feeling of monumentality and bookish seclusion through the use of late Gothic features such as stone walls, parapets and the elevated, arched entry. Siting of the library on a residential lot off of Main Street followed the contemporary preference for quieter streets and cheaper lots.

HISTORY Andrew Carnegie funded the construction of 63 libraries in 60 Wisconsin municipalities between 1901 and 1915.<sup>3</sup> Of these, four are currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. They are the Kilbourn Public Library in Wisconsin Dells, the Monroe County Public Library in Tomah, the T.B. Scott Free Library in Merrill, and the Antigo Public Library in Antigo. Carnegie's influence on the development of libraries is indisputable,

1. cornerstone
2. original plans for Waupun Public Library, filed at Berners-Schober-Kilp, Green Bay, Wisconsin
3. Macleod, David, Carnegie Libraries in Wisconsin, p. 25



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 9 1979
DATE ENTERED	SEP 4 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

although in most Wisconsin communities initial establishment of the library cannot be attributed to Carnegie. His philanthropy provided new quarters for existing libraries in 56 Wisconsin municipalities; the stipulations of his grants insured their support by the municipalities.

The Waupun Public Library had its roots in a small library established in 1857 by Edwin Hillyer and William Euen. For several years the library was housed in Hillyer's insurance office. In 1880 Hillyer struck a bargain with the Waupun Library Association. He offered to add 100 titles a year to the collection for the next 10 years. After that period the library would become his personal property.

Hillyer collected many more books than he had promised and was given them after the 10 year period. In 1895 he requested that the city assume ownership. The collection was housed in two different buildings before the Carnegie library was built.

In 1903 Burr W. Davis began to pursue Carnegie interest in funding the construction of a library building in Waupun. In 1904 the Carnegie Foundation offered to build a structure with the standard stipulation that the city must provide a suitable site and match at least 10% of the gift annually. The city council accepted the offer on 5 April 1904. Thus, the city of Waupun was obligated to provide \$1,000.00 yearly for maintenance, operations, and acquisitions.

The Waupun Public Library became a major social and educational center in the community. Besides its obvious function of providing books, the basement rooms of the library were used for social gatherings and meetings. Organizations that met in the library include the Waupun Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Waupun League of Women Voters, the Waupun Youth Council, and the Boots and Saddle Club.

In 1971 the Waupun Historical Society, founded in 1956, persuaded the City Council to rent the building to them for use as a museum. The D.A.R. had housed a small collection in one of the basement rooms of the library from about 1911 until the remodeling in 1956. Since 1971 the Historical Society has successfully operated the Waupun Heritage Museum at the library. The collections have increased significantly, thanks to generous donations by Waupun citizens.