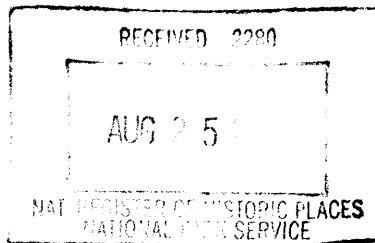


**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

1141



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 Linton Public Library
other names/site number Margaret Cooper Library 035-362-26033

2. Location

street & number 110 East Vincennes Street N/A not for publication
city or town Linton N/A vicinity
state Indiana code IN county Greene code 055 zip code 47441

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 of certifying official/Title

8/8/00
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:)

Edson A. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action
9.22.00

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 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing and rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, 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

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: Library

EDUCATION: Library

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

19th & 20th c. AMER.: Bungalow/Craftsman
LATE 19th & 20th c. REV.: Tudor Revival

foundation STONE: Limestone
walls BRICK
STUCCO
roof TERRA COTTA
other WOOD
CONCRETE

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

1908-1950 _____

Significant Dates

1908 _____

1921 _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation

N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Patton & Miller _____

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):

- 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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

Linton Public Library
Name of Property

Greene IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6	4	8	5	7	4	0	4	3	2	0	4	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

3

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

2

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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 Tricia Rose Stratman, intern
organization Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana date 08-17-98
street & number 643 Wabash Avenue telephone 812-232-4534
city or town Terre Haute state IN zip code 47807

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 Linton Public Library, Inc.
street & number 110 East Vincennes Street telephone 812-874-7802
city or town Linton state IN zip code 47441

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 Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

Linton Public Library
Greene County, IN

Description:

The Linton Public Library is located at 110 East Vincennes Street on the east side of the downtown business district in the City of Linton, Indiana. The building is situated on the northeast corner of Vincennes and First Streets in what was originally a residential neighborhood. The area has since experienced commercial replacement or conversion of several houses. Constructed on two residential lots, the design of the library uses setbacks similar to the surrounding neighborhood, which contributes to the residential character of the setting of the building.

The library is a successful blend of the Tudor Revival architectural style with Arts and Crafts stylistic elements. The 2 ½-story, T-plan structure is symmetrical and rests on a concrete foundation with a decorative limestone veneer and dripcap along three elevations. The first story is brick in a stretcher bond pattern. The second story features brick corners and off-white stucco with half-timbering in the center sections. Both the steeply pitched side-gabled roof of the front section and the deck roof with flared eaves on the back section are covered with French clay tile. This roofing material is unique to the structure since the traditional roofing of the Tudor style is slate or wood shingle. Both roof sections feature rafter tails.

The primary facade faces south and is three bays wide with the main entrance on the first story of the central bay (photo 1). A wide concrete sidewalk leads to the four steps of the centrally located front stoop. The front entry features the original glass-paned wood door, sidelights and a transom with the gilded letters, "Library" stenciled on it. A brick soldier arch tops the front entry. A green canvas awning is mounted above the front entry. Located above the awning is a decorative Tudor-style projecting brick headmold. Two projecting six-inch brick squares are found just above the vertical section of the headmold. Situated between the squares is a wood sign that reads, "THE MARGARET COOPER LIBRARY."

Identical, grouped windows flank the front entrance. The three windows are centered in their respective bays and have projecting headmolds and squares identical to the one above the entrance (photo 2). Each wood, double-hung lancet window features a patterned-glass upper sash that is a quarter of the length of the lower sash. The shape of the upper sash is primarily rectangular, but is topped with the Tudor arch design. The upper sash features five fields of vertical crinkle glass. The tops of each field are H-shaped and have opalescent glass. Each upper sash has lamb's tongue stops on the exterior, while each lower sash has them on the interior. The grouped windows have limestone sills and are topped by a Tudor soldier labeled arch. Like the entry arch, it consists of a lower soldier course, a center row lock course, and an upper projecting row lock course.

A wood stringcourse divides the first-story brick from the second-story stucco. The second story appears about half the height of the first story with fifteen vertical wood timbers extending to the exposed rafters under the eaves. Paired, wood double-hung windows, defined by three timbers, are centered in each bay with two additional timbers subdividing the remaining stucco surface, hence, fifteen timbers. The windows are 1/4 upper sash and 3/4 lower sash which have storm windows of 1-over-1 evenly divided lights, inhibiting the view of the original windows. The brick corners of the building extend above the roof eaves, creating the appearance of corner pilasters (photo 3). Modern metal downspouts visually divide the façade into the three bays.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2

Linton Public Library
Greene County, IN

Description (continued)

The west and east elevations of the building are nearly identical in appearance and are described accordingly. Both sides can be divided into the front/south gabled section and the recessed back/north section (photos 4 & 5). Centered under each first floor window is a filled-in basement window that had flat arch tops. The limestone veneer and dripcap extends along the front section of both elevations but continues along the back section on the west side, wrapping around to the north side (photo 5). Since the limestone is absent, the back filled-in basement windows have brick soldier arches as headers. The basement windows on the back section of the east elevation have brick soldier arch headers.

The first and second stories are proportioned similarly to the main elevation and composed of identical materials (photos 4 & 5). Both the front and back sections of the first story have two grouped windows with identical label headmolds and squares as described on the south facade. The fenestration is symmetrically distributed in each section and, like those of the primary facade, comprised of three windows. A wood stringcourse divides the first and second stories at the same level as the primary facade. The half-timbering of the front and back section consists of six vertical beams that extend from the wood stringcourse to the roof. Three wood double-hung windows, similar to the second-story windows of the primary façade, are located in the middle three sections of the half-timbering. The gable end of the front section features very wide, yet plain bargeboard of the same wood timber as the half-timbering. The second-story windows on the back section have storm windows that inhibit the view of the original windows. Downspouts are located in the recessed area between the front and back sections on both the east and west elevations (photos 4 [east] & 5 [west]).

The rear or north elevation has details and proportions similar to the front façade. (photo 6). A 2' x 2' square brick chimney is located immediately west of the central grouped windows; its highest point is two feet lower than the roofline of the back section. The limestone veneer and dripcap extends along the north elevation to the base of the chimney. The concrete foundation continues from the east elevation to the basement entrance (photo 4), which sits directly below the middle windows and east of the chimney.

Concrete steps lead down to a basement entrance. The wood-panel door features single-light glazing on the upper half. The door is flanked by sidelights and topped with a brick soldier arch identical to the first-story windows (photo 7). A coal chute is located at the foundation level. The first-story of the central bay has a group of windows similar to those flanking it but with stained glass lower sash as well as the upper. At one time, the middle window in the group of windows west of the central bay had its lower sash removed and an air conditioner installed. The air conditioner has since been removed and replaced by wood infill (photo 6).

The interior consists of three floors: a basement used for storage and mechanical purposes; the first and second floors for public use as the library. It is a classic Arts & Crafts movement interior, strongly reflected in the dark oak woodwork on the inside of the main library area. The doors and windows with framed with heavy wood trim and the staircase elements, including square newel posts and the incised key pattern in the wide balusters, are indicative

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 3

Linton Public Library
Greene County, IN

Description (continued)

of the Arts & Crafts movement. This movement, championed by Gustav Stickley in *The Craftsman* magazine, inspired the interior decoration of many Tudor Revival-style buildings. The main library is found on the first floor. It consists of a foyer in the southern central bay area, a librarian's office in the northern central bay area and four symmetrical wings containing bookshelves—SW, NW, NE, SE.

Two closets with single inset wood panel doors are found in the east and west walls of the foyer immediately inside the main entrance. All doors have original octagonal brass door handles. The doorknob plates are rectangular with square incisions on the corners. The ceiling above the closet area of the foyer is covered with beaded board. Beyond the closet area on the west wall is a tall radiator decorated with a foliage design and manufactured by the American Radiator Co. A low bench is set against the east wall opposite the radiator. There is a dog leg staircase on either side of the foyer leading to the second floor. A ceramic tile floor leads to the first floor section of the library, which is separated from the foyer by an interior glass paned door with sidelights (photo 8). The foyer has cove molding. The entire foyer/stairway has recently been repainted in cream walls and off-white woodwork.

Upon entering the first floor of the main library reading room, an original bulletin board with a header and sill is located to the right. The librarian's original five-sided oak charging desk is centered in front of the foyer (photo 9). Four Tudor arches lead to four rooms, each in a corner of the building (photo 10). Both the west and east wings are evenly divided by a wall with one more similar Tudor arch running east-west positioned on the inside half of the wall. In all wings, the original shelving has been removed, and there is no baseboard. A plate rail is positioned seven feet above the floor and intersects all window and door headings in the main library. The area also has continuous cove molding, including around the two columns created by the arches. There are four uniquely shaped brackets in the main library's charging desk area: two in the ceiling and wall corners of the columns and two in the ceiling and wall corners above the charging desk (photo 9). Each wing has two windows on its east/west outside wall dividing the wall symmetrically and one on the north or south side dividing the wall evenly. A radiator sits below all the windows on the east and west outside walls except the south window in the NW section.

The librarian's office is closed off in the north central bay area. It has original wood cabinets and library card filing cabinet. It also has the stained glass windows, and the bottom sashes of these windows are multi-paned crinkle glass and the middle lower sash bears the inscription, "Site of Home of Andrew Humphreys; Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Moss" (photo 11). Double pocket doors with beveled plate glass lead from the librarian's office to the charging desk. The woodwork in the main library has remained natural with its dark oak color. The original plaster walls are painted.

In the north end of the NE wing are stairs to the basement; it has a L-shaped railing with three newel posts, one on each corner—it is identical to the railing along the stairs in the entryway. There are twelve 8" wide steps leading to a 2' square landing on the left of the basement door from the NE wing of the main library section. The back half of the

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**Linton Public Library
Greene County, IN**

Description (continued)

building has a full basement, while the front half has only a crawl space. The back half is divided into three rooms at the same width of the three bays of the building.

The inside basement door leads into the east bay, which is the only area used for storage. The two original porch lamps are in the basement, featuring a metal frame with a pyramidal top. The middle section was the boiler room; the outside basement door that originally opened into this area is closed off. The west bay used to be the coal room, has no electricity, and is smaller than the other two. The entire area is unfinished.

The second floor is accessed by the dog-leg staircase in the foyer. A series of stairs and landings brings the library patron to the second floor. On the southern half of the second floor of the library is a central landing for the staircase, which is flanked by two rooms. The east room is the Indiana room, while the west room is office space. The whole northern half of the building is a large children's reading and activity room. In the NE corner of the children's room is an office. The stair railing speaks of the Arts & Crafts movement and consists of two-foot high balusters with stylized key cut-outs directly below the banister; each of the wider balusters is flanked by two 1" square, two foot high posts (photo 12). The newel posts are square with inset corners that have beading lining the insets; the sides of the newel posts have rectangle inlaid panels on each side's length, and each top has an inset of the same shape that projects one half inch above the banister. Below the balusters is a two-foot wide wood baseboard with an inset panel that follows the length of the stairs to the second landing. Each side of the dog-leg staircase features this handsome stair rail with a newel post on each end (photo 13).

On the second floor, the upstairs landing is painted the same color as the entryway; two closets rest in the northern corners of the landing. There are quasi-capitals on the south-center corners of the closets "supporting" the ceiling; this speaks highly of the Arts & Crafts movement which "exaggerated the importance of high wainscoting and ceilings 'supported' by hand-crafted beams" —this is the only area where the wood trim goes to the ceiling (photo 13). Directly in front of the stairway are a pair of glass-paneled doors, leading into the children's reading room. To the east and west are a pair of glass-paneled doors leading into the Indiana room and an office respectively. All doors open onto the landing.

The foyer in the children's section has a light fixture with four exposed light bulbs underneath, an almost flat shade, and a coat railing with hooks. A mural painted in 1989 decorates the south wall, west wall, and north wall and the sloped ceiling. The mural includes various scenes depicting fantasy worlds and historical figures. The right corner has been walled off to make a general office. The upper half of the wall is made of panes of glass with wood dividers. There are eight decorative metal heat registers located on the central walls of both the first and second story. They are one foot high and 1½ foot wide (photo 14).

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**Linton Public Library
Greene County, IN**

Description (continued)

Many Carnegie libraries have been torn down or extensively renovated with wings being added to the original buildings as the libraries grew. To date, no addition has been added, and the interior still features some original furnishings. The Linton Public Library, despite minor changes, retains its original configuration and a high degree of integrity. As such, it has become a valuable community resource and is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Statement of Significance:

The Linton Public Library is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A for its local significance in the role of education. Constructed with funds obtained from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, the library has been accessible to all residents since its completion in 1909. It also qualifies under Criteria C for architectural significance as an excellent example of the Tudor Revival style, complete with Arts and Crafts features. Its story is representative of what was occurring in libraries and communities throughout the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The first white visitors to Greene County were a group of hunters in the early 1800s who found scattered Indian villages and burial mounds throughout the region. Early settlers reported a Piankeshaw hunting village in what is now the Linton vicinity. Linton was founded by pioneer John Wickliff Wines in 1820, just one year before the organization of Greene County by the Indiana General Assembly. The town grew slowly, due to early battles with disease and the lack of grain milling facilities. In addition, prairie fires were a common occurrence in the late fall and early spring, resulting in destruction of the first three schoolhouses.

Wines, who established a dry goods store in Linton, was able to convince the federal government to locate a post office in the community on January 2, 1833. Initially named New Jerusalem, the federal government designated the small settlement as "Linton" in 1835 upon the suggestion of Wines. Wines offered the name in honor of William Crawford Linton, a resident of Terre Haute who served in the Indiana Senate from 1828-31 and was a military leader in the War of 1812. Wines, who became the town's first postmaster, also opened a tanning operation and a mill to crack corn for the town.

Linton began to prosper and grow, and by June 1850 was platted as a town. Forty lots were laid out by the county surveyor. By 1888, Linton's population had grown to 2000 residents; it was not until 1902, however, that Linton began its boom. The city's economy shifted around this time from solely agricultural to one based primarily on mining activity in surrounding Stockton Township. The first mine motor was installed in old Number Two mine, just

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Section number 8 Page 6

Linton Public Library
Greene County, IN

Statement of Significance (continued)

one mile southwest of the city. On Labor Day, 1903, visitors were allowed to take a trip through the main entry in the coal cars. Later this mine number was changed to Number Five. The town was a very strong Union town from the inception of its mines; many of its residents became members of the United Mine Workers Association. As the nation's demand for coal to heat their homes and businesses grew, Linton's future brightened.

The Bay View Literary Club, a small women's club, established the first library. It was located on the second floor of Wolford's Department Store, on East Vincennes Street in downtown Linton. This library had seventy-five donated books. Lillian Wolford, whose family owned Wolford's Department Store, was the president of the Bay View Literary Club and a driving force in the campaign to establish a public library in Linton. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, it was a common occurrence for women to be the catalyst behind the establishment of public libraries throughout the United States and the public library in Linton was no exception.

The Bay View Literary Club was part of a movement started after the Civil War, initially intended to provide middle-class women with the opportunity to continue the literary discussions that many had enjoyed in school. These informal groups developed into more formalized organizations by the turn of the century. As these clubs became more active in community life, town libraries were particularly appealing causes to club women, who strove to maintain their femininity while taking an active role in the life of their community.

With the Bay View Literary Club's leadership, the citizens were convinced that the city needed a library. A library board consisting of David Terhune, Dr. C.T. Sherwood, Mrs. Joe Moss, Lillian Wolford, Mrs. B.A. Rose and Job Freeman was appointed in 1902. According to copies of correspondence from the Carnegie Corporation, a letter dated January 28, 1902 with an attached petition containing twenty-four signatures was sent to Andrew Carnegie. The letter stated the need for a public library for the same reason that Apprentices' and Mechanics' libraries were established in large cities in the 1820s. The privileged classes wanted to help the less privileged classes. The letter accompanying the petition states that many poor "boys and girls are not able to attend school because they must work to help support their families" and that these young people had free time in the evenings which could be spent at the public library instead of "various places of vice and amusement."

Often referred to as the "Patron Saint of Libraries," Andrew Carnegie gave away ninety percent of his vast fortune for what he called, "the improvement of mankind." Between 1886 and 1919, he donated \$41,748,689 for 1,679 public libraries in 1,412 communities across the US. Indiana received 156 grants, more than any other state - California came in second with 121 libraries. Carnegie's first written statements concerning his revolutionary philosophy of philanthropy were two published essays in *The North American Review*, "Wealth" and "The Best Fields for Philanthropy." In these articles, Carnegie criticized his wealthy peers' paternalistic philanthropy and advocated giving to those who are willing to help themselves. He warned of the dangers of paternalistic philanthropy

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 7

**Linton Public Library
Greene County, IN**

Statement of Significance (continued)

to individuals. However, it wasn't until 1898 that Carnegie dropped his own paternalistic contributions—those grants to areas/towns/ cities with personal significance, otherwise known as Carnegie's first, or retail, phase of philanthropy—and began putting his words into full action.

This second, or wholesale, phase is when he put his written philosophy of philanthropy into action. Replacing the family model that had supported his earliest benefactions, Carnegie embraced the corporation as the driving metaphor for the entire philanthropic enterprise and revolutionized American philanthropy into a much more efficient business-like format now known as nonprofit organizations. Carnegie centralized decision making, regularized procedures, and limited the possibilities for making mistakes. Abstract quantitative criteria (which could be applied by anyone) replaced subjective judgments (which could be made only by the philanthropist himself). These procedures included checks and balances that distributed responsibility and ensured that the smooth functioning of the system depended on no single person. Although the wholesale phase began in 1898 with Carnegie's \$40,000 donation to Fairfield, IA – a place that had no personal connection to Carnegie – the legal acknowledgment of the corporate nature of Carnegie's philanthropic reforms didn't occur until after the Linton Library was built, upon the creation of the Carnegie Corporation in 1911.

Sometime after this first wholesale donation, Carnegie developed three simple tenets that a community must meet to receive a donation: to be eligible, a community had to demonstrate the need for a public library, provide the building site, and promise to support library services and maintenance with tax funds equal to 10% of the grant annually. By requiring this of the community, Carnegie was true to his revolutionary philanthropic philosophy of helping those who help themselves. Although Carnegie initiated and outlined his library philanthropy, it was his personal secretary, James Bertram, who refined and implemented them between 1898-1919. Gaining insight from leading architects, librarians, and state library commissions on quality library design, Bertram was able to disseminate his findings through Carnegie's library philanthropy. Around 500 to 3,000 letters arrived for Carnegie daily, and all of them were stacked on the desk of Bertram, including the request of the Linton Library Board.

After much correspondence between Bertram and Linton library trustees, a grant of \$15,000 was promised to Linton on December 24, 1907. To meet Carnegie's requirements, the Linton community agreed to tax the citizens at "a rate of one mil on each dollar of taxable property, which amounted to \$1,650 per year". Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Moss, owners of a local general store, donated a 60 x 132-foot lot for the library.

The location of the library at the intersection of East Vincennes and First Street demonstrates the continued female influence on library decisions. When women had a hand in deciding where a library would stand, they tended to follow a siting strategy similar to that practiced by churches in the late 1800s; on the other hand, men followed the

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 8

**Linton Public Library
Greene County, IN**

Statement of Significance (continued)

lead of railroad stations, seeking out locations that were both impressive and easily visible to strangers in town. Women were more concerned with current residents and the use of the library, while men used the library more as a bauble. Showing the female influence, the location of the Linton Public Library is at the edge of the commercial district and the first building leading to a prominent residential area where it is easily accessible, instead of conspicuously displayed.

On the recommendation of Indiana Library Commission Secretary Chalmers Hadley, the architectural firm of Patton and Miller was chosen to design the building. Chalmers Hadley began library work in 1906 as secretary and state organizer with the Indiana Library Commission, which he founded, continuing as secretary until 1909; and then he served for two years as secretary and executive officer of the American Library Association.

Grant C. Miller joined the firm of Normand S. Patton and Reynolds Fisher in 1896. In 1901, Fisher discontinued his practice of architecture and became vice-president of his brother's business, the Pontiac Brick & Tile Company of Seattle. Both Patton and Miller are good examples of the new American architect at the turn of the century, having both studied Beaux-Arts principles in American schools—Patton at MIT, Miller at the University of Illinois. When the pair began to realize the growing importance of library buildings, they built on their experience with schools to become specialists in library buildings. By the time the partnership was dissolved in 1912, over 1/3 of their 300 buildings were libraries, most of them built with Carnegie funds. Identifying the priorities of the Carnegie institute and offering their clients accurate advice on Bertram's reactions to certain designs and requests, *Carnegie* libraries actually became their forte.

The Linton Public Library is significant as the first Carnegie-funded library project designed by Patton & Miller in Indiana. Prior to the Linton project, the firm completed libraries for two of the state's finest institutions of higher learning, Hanover College and Indiana University. The Hendricks Memorial Library at Hanover College was completed in 1903 in the Neoclassical style, while the "Old" Library at Indiana University's Bloomington campus was constructed between 1906-08. The latter building was designed in the Collegiate Gothic style to blend with the prevailing style of campus architecture. The ongoing construction of the library at Indiana University in nearby Bloomington, in addition to Hadley's recommendation, may have played a role in the library board's choice of Patton & Miller. Stylistically, Patton & Miller left behind the aforementioned styles of campus architecture in favor of the Tudor Revival style with Craftsman influences adopted for Linton's library. The Linton building served as a model for future Carnegie-funded libraries in Indiana, including the Eckhart Public Library in Auburn (1911), another Patton & Miller design. The firm designed two other libraries in Indiana in a similar design, including the Kentland Public Library (1911) and the North Manchester Public Library (1912). All but the latter still function as libraries, while the building in North Manchester has been adapted for use as offices. It is important to note that not only is the Linton Public Library a fine example of Patton & Miller's work, but remains today as the only example of the Tudor Revival style in Linton.

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Statement of Significance (continued)

Because the firm was careful to anticipate and forestall any criticism that might make its way to Carnegie via Bertram, Patton & Miller soon began to enjoy many of the advantages that Bertram extended to his friend, Edward L. Tilton. Tilton was an independent architect who consistently completed his Carnegie Library commissions under budget and made efforts to follow the recommendation of librarians on library designs—rebelling against the designs popular among his fellow architects. Bertram began to suggest Tilton to towns in eastern states, while his recommendations to recipients in western states helped to extend Patton & Miller's practice from Illinois and the adjacent states into Kansas, Texas, and others. Despite the high opinion Bertram had of the firm of Patton & Miller, Miller fell out of favor of Carnegie's powerful secretary after the firm split in 1912. Despite this fact, Miller did design several additional Carnegie-funded projects in Indiana, including libraries in Earl Park (1913), Kendallville (1914) and Albion (1917). While Patton continued to advise his clients to stay within Carnegie's bounds in his new firm of Patton, Holmes & Flynn, Miller's new firm of Miller, Fullenwider & Dowling abandoned the above policy. In fact in 1916, the new secretary of Indiana's Public Library Commission, Henry Sanborn, reported that he had conclusive proof that Miller's new firm tried to lead library boards to deceive the Carnegie Corporation. In contrast, Patton was one of the architects with whom Bertram discussed standardizing library plans in his "Notes on the Erection of Library Buildings [*sic*]" of 1911.

The design that Patton & Miller made for the Linton Public Library followed the design guidelines espoused by librarians and Bertram. The movement was towards more functionally designed buildings allowing easier access to books and more efficient library administration. After receiving many requests from grant recipients for additional funds, Bertram began reviewing the plans for buildings that ran over budget in 1904. He concluded that cost overruns were the result of inefficient library planning, rather than the product of inept financial management. Appropriately, Carnegie's philanthropy reforms coincided with changes in the basic philosophy of library administration and design.

The cornerstone for the Linton Public Library was laid in a well-attended ceremony in June, 1908. When the Tudor Revival building was completed on March 14, 1909, it was evident that the design of the library followed many of these progressive ideals advocated by the library profession. It is simply massed and symmetrically arranged, with open shelves and a centrally located librarian's desk that allowed the librarian to oversee the entire library. In fact the ideal Carnegie library described later in Bertram's "Notes on the Erection of Library Buildings [*sic*]," first published in 1911, is very similar to the interior design of the Linton Public Library. "A one-story rectangular building with a small vestibule leading directly to a single large room; where necessary, this room was subdivided by low bookcases that supplemented the bookshelves placed around its perimeter to hold the library's collection. In addition to book storage, this room provided reading areas for adults and children and facilities for the distribution of books." Although the library is two stories high, it follows this basic plan having a small foyer leading to a large subdivided room that had low bookcases along the wall and reading space in between. Bertram even stated in *Notes* that windows should be high enough for shelves to be placed underneath—originally, shelves were under many windows of the Linton Public Library.

After the library was complete, Linton needed a librarian. With the influx of new libraries funded by Carnegie, many women were given the opportunity to work in libraries although they were usually encouraged to fill less prestigious and lower-paid positions. Men dominated executive and management positions in the field, especially in the larger

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Linton Public Library Greene County, IN

Statement of Significance (continued)

libraries built in cities. As the female role in the library developed, reform-minded women began to dispel the view of the female librarian as a passive contributor to the mission of the mission. Those attracted to library occupations sought to change the library profession to make it an active contributor to contemporary, social reform movements for women. The new librarian was described by male leaders, such as Melvin Dewey, with military analogies, suggesting aggressive male vigor. Intended to keep women librarians subordinate to their male counterparts, women took this ideal to heart and used it to move libraries in new directions. Small towns like Linton provided prime opportunities for women to gain standing as social leaders.

Women frequently filled the position of head librarian in rural areas as has been the case throughout the history of the Linton Public Library. In fact, women have always filled this position. Though little information exists as to the advances made by each, the library board did insist on each librarian having a professional education. Grace Burton served a brief tenure from 1908-1909. Upon her resignation, the board of trustees asked the Indiana Library Commission to recommend a person for the position. Zeta Carr, a graduate of the Winona Technical Library School, was recommended; however, Carr was only hired temporarily to serve while native Lintonian Maggie McGauhy attended the same school in Winona in 1910. Carr served from 1909-1910 and was not from Linton. After completing her training, McGauhy served from 1910-1919. Andria Humphreys, who served from 1919-1925, also received professional training.

The librarian of the longest tenure, Margaret Cooper (1925-1983), was Humphreys' assistant before being named head librarian. Although it is not certain whether or not Cooper attended a formal library education program, she did complete a book-mending course and remained active in her field by attending annual state library conventions. The Library was renamed the Margaret Cooper Library after her retirement. There was an appropriate dedication ceremony in 1983 that Cooper was unable to attend.

Local students used the Linton Public Library upon its completion because there were no libraries within Stockton Township schools. In the early 1920s, overcrowding and the need for more space resulted in the construction of a new high school. During construction, Humphreys, head librarian at the time, offered the library to be used for classroom space for Stockton Township high school students. The extent of its use for classes is unknown but historical record show that students were all in the newly completed high school by 1923.

When the library first opened in 1908, the new head librarian Grace Burton was in charge of 150 books, which was considered appropriate for a small library by the Indiana Library Commission. In 1987, the library had a collection of 14,000 books and 55 periodicals. Although Linton's population has shrunk in recent years, library circulation and patronage has grown. Ironically, this lack of growth has meant limited funds for the library, which has helped preserve it in its original form.

The Linton Public Library was built at a time when women began playing more influential roles in the community, libraries were becoming public institutions, design and administration practices were changing, and America's idea of philanthropy was evolving spurred by the leadership of Andrew Carnegie. For these reasons and its significance in the fields of architecture and education, the library is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

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Linton Public Library
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Verbal Boundary Description

Lot number 22 in the original plat of the town of Linton, IN. Part of eleven and a half acres of equal width off of the west side of the east half of the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section five township six. North of range six west.

Boundary Justification

This is the historic property boundary.

Additional Documentation

Photographs

Photo 1

3. The photographer for this and all the following photos was Marsh Davis of 3133 N. Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, IN, 46201.
4. This and all the following photos were taken in July 1998.
5. All Negatives are located at the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana's Western Regional Office, 643 Wabash Ave, Terre Haute, IN 47807.
6. South façade, looking north.

Photo 2

6. Typical first floor window – west elevation, looking east.

Photo 3

6. South façade and west elevation, looking northeast.

Photo 4

6. East elevation and north elevation, looking southwest.

Photo 5

6. West elevation, looking east.

Photo 6

6. North elevation and east side elevation, looking southeast.

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Additional Documentation (continued)

Photo 7

6. Basement entrance and unique window of librarian's office, looking south.

Photo 8

6. General view of foyer, looking north.

Photo 9

6. Original front charging desk, looking north.

Photo 10

6. Tudor arches, columns, and molding in main library area, looking northeast.

Photo 11

6. Librarian's office, looking north.

Photo 12

6. Arts and Crafts newel post and banister, looking east.

Photo 13

6. Second-floor stair landing and hall, looking north.

Photo 14

6. Detail of typical ventilation grate, looking north.