

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 Kirklin Public Library

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 115 North Main Street N/A not for publication

city or town Kirklin N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Clinton code 023 zip code 46950

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 36 CFR 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.)

Patrick R. Reib

1-27-95

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State of 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 of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: Library

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: Library

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & early 20th c. Revivals:

Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

roof terra cotta

other wood

concrete

Narrative Description

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

Name of Property

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)

Education

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance

1915-1944

Significant Dates

1915

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Brookie, True L. & McGinnis

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical 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:

Clinton County Courthouse

Kirklin Public Library
Name of Property

Clinton Co., IN
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

16	5	5	4	4	5	0	4	4	4	9	1	9	0
Zone	Easting			Northing									

3

Zone	Easting			Northing									

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 Barbara L. Reynolds, Librarian and Suzanne Fischer, DHPA Intern

organization Kirklin Public Library date 13 August 1994

street & number 115 North Main Street telephone 317/279-8258

city or town Kirklin state IN zip code 46050

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 Kirklin Public Library

street & number P.O. Box 8 telephone 317/279-8258

city or town Kirklin state IN zip code 46050

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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Continuation Sheet

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The Kirklín Public Library is a one-story Classical Revival brick building with a low-pitched, hipped tile roof, built on a simple rectangular plan. It stands on a small, level corner lot facing northwest onto Main Street (the old Michigan Road). The town grid is oriented along this road, which runs at an angle through the town. The grassy lot is unshaded except for two small birch trees planted in the center of each side of the front lawn.

The building rests on a foundation made of the same brown brick as the rest of the building. A brick water table separates the first floor from the raised basement. Brick quoins decorate the corners of the building, and ornamental rows of soldiers and headers run along the top and bottom of the walls.

The main facade is symmetrical with five bays. Four pairs of full-height one-over-one sash windows with six-light transoms flank a central doorway. All of the windows have simple white-painted architrave trim with brick sills. Twelve concrete steps between brick knee walls with concrete copings lead to the doorway. A sidewalk with railings made of metal pipe runs from the bottom of the stairs to the street.

The double metal and glass doors (replacing the original wooden doors) are framed by a classical door surround consisting of brick pilasters topped by a full entablature and triangular pediment decorated with modillions. Above the door is a transom formed of eighteen panes, six across by three high. The frieze above the transom contains the words "PVBLIC LIBRARY" in black, Roman-style letters. A rust-colored metal awning covers the entryway and obscures the transom. Flag holders are set into the brick pilasters on either side of the door. The hipped roof has a simple molded cornice and is covered in flat tiles painted grey.

The southwest elevation contains two pairs of six-over-one sash windows placed high on the wall so as to allow room for bookshelves beneath them on the interior.

The southeast (rear) elevation has six one-over-one sash windows set high on the wall, and five similar windows below

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Kirklin Public Library
Clinton County, Indiana

the water table at basement level. The windows at the right end are of different sizes than the rest. At the far right stands a small brick exterior chimney.

The northwest elevation has two pairs of full-height one-over-one sash windows with six-light transoms, echoing the windows on the main facade. At sill height, an enclosed brick entryway contains a door that leads to the stairway. Originally, there were double doors in this opening; now there is a single door and a book depository. To the left of the entryway is a shorter brick structure that forms the top of the coal cellar. To the right of the entryway is a brick knee wall with a concrete coping. A short sidewalk leads to the side street.

The interior of the building is divided into a reading room, librarian's office, and a restroom. A stairwell centered on the northeast wall divides the latter two rooms from the main reading room. The stairway leads to the side door, then reverses at a wide landing to give access to the basement/children's reading room.

The main reading room has a high ceiling covered with acoustic tile and containing fluorescent lighting. The original pressed tin ceiling remains in place behind the modern tiles. The circulation desk occupies a central position in line with the main entrance. The desk, reading tables and chairs, and bookshelves were purchased at the time of construction with funds from the Carnegie grant.

The inner doors that lead to the vestibule are double doors of walnut with glazing in upper and lower panels. The glass is removable, leaving wire screens in place for summer ventilation. Above these doors is another 18-light transom identical to the one above the outer doors. The original dome-shaped frosted glass light fixture hangs on replacement chains from the ceiling of the vestibule.

The basement contains one large room and two storage areas that are on either side of the stairwell. The walls of the

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**Kirklin Public Library
Clinton County, Indiana**

large children's reading room are covered in panelling and the ceiling is acoustic tile. Originally, the basement was used for storage and was left unfinished.

The exterior of the building retains a high degree of integrity; only the doors have been replaced. The interior has its original woodwork and many original fixtures, but the floors and ceilings have been modernized.

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**Kirklin Public Library
Clinton County, Indiana**

Section 8-Statement of Significance

The Kirklin Public Library is a fine example of an early 20th century small town facility that still serves the public. The library is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, the building represents the culmination of a movement to create a free public library in Kirklin. It has served as the only public library for the community since construction was completed in 1915. Architecturally, the Kirklin Public Library is a good example of 1900s Classical Revival, the only one in the community. It is also one example of the work of architects Brookie & McGinnis, who were responsible for nine other Carnegie libraries in Indiana.

Entrepreneur and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie was born in Dunfermling, Scotland, in 1835. Having earned \$333 million in the steel industry, Carnegie was determined to benefit others with his wealth. He established a program to fund the construction of libraries throughout the English-speaking nations in 1886. Carnegie believed his libraries should be free, public institutions for communities that expressed an interest by offering a building site and public funds to maintain the property. Indiana received more Carnegie libraries than any other state, a total of 164. Many are still in use as libraries while others have been adaptively reused. Except for buildings already promised but not completed due to the cost of building materials during World War I, no Carnegie libraries were funded after 1917.

Earlier buildings donated by Carnegie tended to be imposing monuments; however, by 1908, he recognized this problem and requested that plans of proposed libraries be submitted for approval. This process was formalized in 1911 when James Bertram, Carnegie's personal assistant, issued a set of suggestions titled, "Notes on Library Buildings" (sic). Carnegie believed that libraries should be plain and dignified, and this idea is reflected in Bertram's leaflet. "Notes" outlined basic requirements and included some suggested floor plans.

The Kirklin Public Library conforms closely with plans

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suggested in "Notes." The simple rectangular massing and Classical Revival detailing also clearly reflect Carnegie's wish that grant recipients not build "Greek temples" as libraries; rather, simple yet dignified structures were appropriate.

As an example of Classical Revival design, the library is unique in Kirklin. The Post Office and bank are both new structures, while most of the commercial buildings on Main Street are Italianate. The school was demolished in 1959. One church in town is built of the same dark-brown brick and exhibits the same rectangular massing as the library, but the Classical Revival details are absent from the church.

Historically, the Kirklin Public Library was the culmination of the free library drive started in 1913 by the Double Six Club, a women's social organization that wished to undertake a project that would benefit the community, especially its children. The club mentioned the need for a library, but did not think it possible because of the amount of money necessary to establish and maintain it.

When the club found that Carnegie money was available for library construction, one of its members donated a building site. Another woman donated additional land for the site. In February 1914, a representative from the Indiana Library Commission spoke to townspeople about how to levy a tax for library use and about choosing a library board. Five board members were immediately elected, and soon secured a one-mill tax levy (one cent per every thousand dollars of assessed property value).

With the necessary maintenance funds voted for the library, the Board readily secured a \$7,500 grant from the Carnegie Foundation in May 1914. The grant did not cover the town's street assessment, but another meeting raised over \$1,000 from twenty citizens for this purpose.

During the time the plans were being made for the library building, the "library" was housed in a vacant room over

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Kirklin Public Library
Clinton County, Indiana

one of the local stores. The space was donated by one of the Double Six Club members, and books were provided by a "book shower" which resulted in over three hundred volumes. Volunteers operated this library for two afternoons a week for the eighteen months before the new library building was completed.

In June 1914, the Library Board asked for bids from three architectural firms: Brookie & McGinnis and Johnson & Shriver of Indianapolis, and Austin Bond of Carmel. Brookie & McGinnis won the contract, making the Kirklin library one of ten Carnegie libraries that the firm had built. The building was completed in June 1915, and dedicated in December of that year. The oak circulation desk, oak reading tables and chairs, and swinging walnut screen/glass doors that were purchased in May 1915 are still in use today.

When the library was constructed, it served a total of 400 patrons with 650 books. Today, it serves 1200 patrons and has nearly 17,000 books. The library still provides home delivery of books to patrons who are unable to get to the building. The Kirklin Public Library remains a very important part of the community.

Section 9-Bibliography

Bobinski, George S. Carnegie Libraries. Chicago: American Library Association, 1969.

Clinton County Sesquicentennial. Frankfort, IN: Clinton County Historical Society, 1980.

Kirklin Public Library Secretary's Notes, 4 December 1913-15 June 1916. Held at the Farmer's Bank, Kirklin, IN

Wells, Jack. Architecture of Carnegie Libraries in Indiana. Muncie, IN: Ball State University, 1981.

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**Kirklin Public Library
Clinton County, Indiana**

Section 10-Geographical Data-Verbal Boundary Description

66 feet of the entire south side of Lot Number 44, in Block Number 4, in the original plat of the Town of Kirklin, Clinton County, Indiana

Boundary Justification

This is the original deed description for the library, dated 1914.

Kirklin Public Library
E 554450
N 4449190

