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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Monticello Carnegie Library

other names/site number Monticello Public Library/White County Historical Society Museum

2. Location

street & number 101 South Bluff Street ☐ not for publication

city or town Monticello ☐ vicinity

state Indiana code IN county White code 181 zip code 47960

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _x_ 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 _x_ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide _x_ local

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Indiana DNR Division of Historic Preservation &

Archaeology

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Monticello Carnegie Library
Name of Property

White County, IN
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- [x] private
- [ ] public - Local
- [ ] public - State
- [ ] public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- [x] 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	district
0	0	site
0	1	structure
0	0	object
1	1	**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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: library

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION & CULTURE: museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:
Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: CONCRETE
walls: BRICK
STONE: Limestone
roof: SYNTHETICS: Rubber
other: WOOD: Weatherboard

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Monticello Carnegie Library is located at the T intersection of Bluff Street and Broadway Street on the east edge of downtown Monticello at the north edge of a residential neighborhood. The library is located on the west bluff of the Tippecanoe River. The Carnegie library is a small two-story building with a corner entry that faces northwest to the T intersection. The building was constructed in 1907 and is designed in the Classical Revival style. A two-story addition was made on the south side of the library in 1957. Concrete sidewalks and lawn are around the building and the bluff is heavily wooded.

Narrative Description

Monticello Carnegie Library, 1907.
Classical Revival. Charles E. Kendrick, architect

Exterior, photographs 0001-0003
The Monticello Carnegie Library has a concrete foundation and its walls are composed of buff-colored bricks. The building has a limestone base and a substantial amount of limestone trim. A limestone belt course divides the lower level wall from the main level wall. The entry doors are surrounded by a large limestone portico. The entry is located in an angled wall that faces northwest toward the street intersection. An ornate pressed metal entablature is located at the top of the north, south, and west walls and is at the base of a brick parapet. The bottom of the entablature has a row of dentils, and modillions support the entablature's cornice. The brick parapet has a course of limestone at its base and a limestone cap. The building's roof slopes gradually to the east where a gutter and downspouts remove rain water from the roof.

The windows in the lower level of the building have stone sills that are set into the building's stone base. The windows are 1/1 wood windows. The top sash is divided into a diamond pattern by wood mullions. The windows have brick jack arches composed of thin bricks and a limestone keystone. The main level has large full-round arched openings composed of two 1/1 wood windows and a large wood fan lite transom. A wood Doric pilaster separates the two 1/1 windows and a tall piece of wood trim separates the 1/1 windows from the transom window. The windows have limestone sills. The large arches are composed of three courses of brick rowlocks and an outer edge of limestone trim. The arch has a limestone keystone. A limestone belt course is located on the main level's walls; it is in line with the tall piece of wood trim at the base of the arched transom windows. A brick belt course composed of two courses of bricks is located between the top of the arched openings and the entablature.

The addition (right side of photograph 0002) also has a concrete foundation; the top of the concrete foundation is formed into the shape of a stone base for the walls. The addition's walls are composed of blonde-colored bricks. The addition has 1/1 wood windows with cast concrete sills. The addition has brick parapet walls with a cast concrete cap and a roof with a gradual slope to the east. Scuppers and downspouts are located on the east wall.

The angled entry wall that faces northwest is the building's most prominent feature (photograph 0001). The wall has narrow sections of brick walls that face north and west on its outside edges; these form right angles with the west and north elevations. The entry has a large limestone portico. The portico has four steps and a landing. The bottom two steps are formed concrete and the top steps and landing are stone. Short limestone walls with carved stone caps are on each side of the steps. The short walls form a base for the portico's columns and pilasters. The portico has two Doric columns, and two Doric pilasters against the brick wall, that support a stone entablature and full pediment. The pediment has an arched top and stone cresting centered at the top of the arch. An arched section of brick wall was once centered above the parapet over the entry, but it was removed. The entry has a pair of wood doors with full windows. A large wood transom window is located above the pair of doors; it is divided into a diamond pattern by wood mullions. A light fixture with an opaque schoolhouse style glass globe hangs from the ceiling of the portico.

The west elevation of the original Carnegie building is the primary street façade (right side of photograph 0001 and left side of photograph 0002). It faces Bluff Street. It has six windows in its lower level wall and three large arched openings in its main level wall. The middle two windows in the lower level are in a section of brick wall that extends about 8" toward the

west to form the base of a bay in the center of the elevation. The bay is an implied portico that resembles the more typically designed front entrances of Carnegie libraries. The base supports two pairs of stone Doric pilasters on the main level's wall. The middle window in this elevation is located between the two pairs of pilasters. The courses of bricks at the bottom and top of the wall between the pairs of pilasters are corbelled inward to allow the main wall to recess to the same plane as the remaining west elevation. The pairs of pilasters support sections of brick walls that extend out from the building about 8". The sections of brick walls have limestone blocks above each pilaster. The blocks each have a circle carved into them. A full pediment forms the top of the portico. The pediment has a cornice that matches the entablature at the top of the walls of the building. The pediment has a gabled roof and the building's parapet forms a triangular section of brick wall that provides a back to the pediment.

The north elevation (left side of photograph 0001) has four windows in its lower level wall and two large arched openings in its main level wall. The top of the south elevation of the original library building is visible above the addition (seen in photograph 0002). A limestone jack arch with a keystone is visible at the west side of the elevation.

The east elevation (photograph 0003) of the Carnegie building has a formed concrete foundation/base that is about 36" tall. Five courses of bricks form a base to the brick wall above the foundation. The lower level wall has five windows and a door. The windows are 1/1 wood windows. Their sills are formed into the concrete foundation wall. There are brick segmental arches above the windows and door. The door is located south of the northernmost window in the lower level wall. A brick belt course composed of two courses of bricks separates the lower level and upper level walls of the east elevation. There are four 1/1 wood windows in the middle of the upper level wall. The windows have stone sills and lintels. A wood transom window is located above each of the four windows. The transoms have segmental arches composed of bricks. The southern third of the upper level wall has a large arched window; the window is composed of three panes of glass and it has a cast concrete sill. The original arched opening was taller but the area beneath the sill has been filled in with bricks. The northern third of the upper level wall has a large bay that is supported by two large wood brackets (seen in photograph 0003). The bay has five sides. The sides that join the brick wall are narrow and form right angles to the brick wall. The narrow walls join angled walls that face northeast and southeast; a wide front wall faces east. The bay is covered with wood siding. The bottom of the bay is covered with beaded boards. The bay's walls below its windows are covered with wood clapboards. The remaining wall surfaces of the bay are covered with wood boards installed vertically. There is a 1/1 wood window in each of the angled walls and two 1/1 wood windows in the front wall of the bay. There are wood transom windows above each of the 1/1 windows; the transoms' sill boards form a continuous line around the top of the bay. A wood cornice is located at the top of the bay's walls.

The addition's west wall (right side of photograph 0002) has two short 1/1 wood windows centered in its lower level's wall. Two 1/1 wood windows are also centered in its upper level's wall. The addition's south wall (far right side of photograph 0002) has a metal entry door on its west end. Two short 1/1 wood windows are located in the east end of the lower level's south wall. Four 1/1 wood windows are located in the upper level's south wall; the easternmost two windows are above the lower level's windows. The addition's east wall has a formed concrete foundation wall that extends to about the top of the lower level. There is a short metal door on the east wall's north end. A wide opening is centered in the lower level's east wall; it has three short wood windows. A wide opening is also centered in the upper level's east wall. It has three wood windows and a cast concrete sill.

Interior, photographs 0004-0015

The corner entry in the angled wall dictates much of the arrangement of the building's floor plan. A wide staircase is located in an entry foyer/stairhall. The staircase leads up (southeast) to the main level and a narrow staircase leads down to the lower level on the east side of the main staircase. Small service rooms are located in the northwest corners of both levels.

The main level of the original building has a large circulation area near the center of the first floor plan (photograph 0004). It is surrounded by wood Doric columns that are on wood bases. The bases have recessed panels in each of their sides. A reading room is located on the west side of the original building. It has a simple fireplace composed of red bricks in its south wall; a picture of Andrew Carnegie is above the fireplace (photograph 0007). A display area is located on the east side of the original building; it has a window bay in its east wall that overlooks the Tippecanoe River (photograph 0005). The southeast corner of the original building has two offices located in it (photograph 0006). A small room is located in the north end of the original building and storage and break rooms are located in the northwest corner of the building (middle of photograph 0008). The large circulation area connects most of these spaces to each other by portals created by the columns (right side of photograph 0008).

The entry doors to the stairhall are located in a wall angled toward the northwest in the circulation area. A pair of wood doors with windows in their upper halves separates the circulation area from the stairhall (middle of photograph 0004). The doors have side lites; tall transom windows divided into multiple panes of glass are located above the doors and side lites. A door into a small room in the north end of the building is located east of the pair of the doors. A large interior window is located west of the pair of doors. The offices in the southeast corner of the original building's main level have large wood windows in their interior walls to view the circulation area and reading room (photograph 0006). A window sill forms a continuous shelf around the offices' north and west walls (facing outward). A wood door and transom and two large interior windows are located in the north wall of the reading area (photograph 0008).

A connection from the main level of the original building to the addition is located in the south wall of the reading room (east of the fireplace, left side of photograph 0007); a second connection is located in the south wall of the west office. The addition's main level has a large L-shaped room on its east and north sides (photograph 0009). A stairhall is located in the addition's southwest corner. A small research room is located in the addition's west side (right side of photograph 0009). A small storage room is located in the southwest corner of the addition; it is accessed by a hallway with a wood balcony railing in the stairhall. The staircase in the addition's stairhall leads to a mid-level entry door on the building's south side. A staircase continues down to the lower level from a landing at the entry door (photograph 0010).

The original building's lower level has a hallway (photograph 0014) at the bottom of the staircase (photograph 0015) from the entry. The hallway runs east/west and connects bathrooms and service rooms in the north end of the building. South of the hallway is one large display room which was originally used as a lecture hall (photographs 0012, 0013). Two doors lead from the hallway to the display room. The room has two slender, metal Doric columns near the center of the room. Built-in wood bookcases are against the east and west walls (photograph 0013). Two doorways connect this room to the lower level of the addition. The doorways lead to storage rooms in the east (photograph 0011) and west sides of the addition.

The original building and addition have wood floors on their main levels. The floors in the lower levels are covered with carpeting. The staircase and landings in the stairhall are covered with rubber tiles that have a brick pattern (photograph 0015). The walls in the original building are covered with plaster except in the stairhall; the stairhall's walls are covered with wood paneling. The walls in the addition's main level are also covered with plaster; the lower level's walls are composed of concrete blocks. The ceiling of the upper level (in both the addition and original building) and the lower level of the original building is covered with acoustic tiles. The ceiling of the addition's lower level is covered with plaster.

Oak baseboards are located in the original building. The original building's main level doors and windows have oak casings. The casings are simple straight boards with wood crowns above the doors and windows. The doors are mostly two-panel oak doors with windows in their upper halves. The casings in the lower level of the original building are similarly detailed, but are pine. The casings in the addition are simple straight boards with mitered corners. Oak railings are located in the original building's stairhall. The addition's staircase and railings are composed of pine boards. Original light fixtures with opaque glass globes are located in many of the rooms of the original building. An original drinking fountain is located in the lower level's hallway. Several metal radiators are located in the original building. Some of the library's original oak furniture is being used by the owner.

Monticello City Hall bell cupola, 1904. Non-contributing. Left side of photograph 0001
The cupola for the Monticello City Hall & Fire Department bell tower (120 W. Washington Street) is located on the lawn on the north side of the library building. It has an iron fence around it and is located on a concrete pad. The bell cupola was removed from the city hall building in 1974. Its walls and roof are covered with pressed metal. The walls have full round arches to create openings for the belfry. The roof has four sides that curve inward to form a domed peak. A decorative metal finial is on the peak. The bell hangs from the ceiling of the cupola. Discussions concerning the reinstallation of the cupola on the original city hall building are on-going.

Monticello Carnegie Library
Name of Property

White County, IN
County and State

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.)

- [x] 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.
- [x] 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1907-1962

Significant Dates

1957

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Kendrick, Charles E.

Levindouski, Peter

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with the year the Carnegie library was constructed in Monticello (1907) and ends in 1962, the mandatory fifty year mark for eligibility. The library continued at this location until 1991. A building addition to the south side of the library in 1957 falls within the period of significance.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)
Not applicable

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Monticello Carnegie Library is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. The building is a significant representation of the Classical Revival style of architecture. Although an addition was made to the south side of the building in 1957, it does not significantly alter the important elements of the building. The Monticello Carnegie Library is also representative of an important movement by communities to establish libraries for the education of its citizenry. The building's funding by Andrew Carnegie connects it to the larger movement of establishing community libraries in the United States.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

ARCHITECTURE

The Monticello Carnegie Library was designed in the Classical Revival style by Charles E. Kendrick, an architect who worked from both Fort Wayne and Rochester, Indiana. The style emerged at the turn of the 20th century and continued until the 1930s in American cities. Several events and trends fed the movement for Classicism. Planners of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 embraced Classicism for most of the fair's major buildings. The Federal government adopted Classicism for its expanding number of courthouses and post offices, beginning in the 1890s. By the early 20th century the style became a favorite of financial institutions, city halls, and libraries.

The Classical Revival style lent itself well to defining a period of explosive wealth due to its formality, scale and sense of permanence. While the style began with fairly limited detail or classical ornamentation, by the late 1910s and into the 1920s, as a robust American economy permitted, the style was being executed with greater attention to classical styling. Extensive bas-relief carving and highly accentuated columns and pilasters, along with the almost exclusive use of limestone expressed the most refined execution of the Classical Revival style. Where the high level of detail and use of elaborate finishes were most evident was in public building construction related to civic uses such as municipal and federal buildings, libraries, and financial institutions. This was only appropriate given the symbolism of the style, taken from the Roman form of government wanting to be emulated, and the appearance of security and permanence it offered.

The style reached its apex during the mid-to late 1920s. After the stock market crash in 1929 and the subsequent period of economic depression, few financial institutions were able to expand if they remained solvent at all, slowing their contribution to construction. While municipal construction continued, in large part due to the federal relief works program, the style became more restrained as other architectural styles of the period were having influence on design.

While Carnegie libraries were designed in other styles popular during the early 20th century, given the popularity of the Classical Revival style's use on civic buildings it is understandable why a large percentage of Carnegie libraries are designed in this style. The styles applied to Carnegie libraries seem to pertain, at least in part, to the location of the building. If the building was constructed in a setting more residential in nature, Craftsman or Colonial Revival styles were frequently used. If the building's location was nearer the city's business district it tended to adopt the Classical Revival style. The scale of the building also seemed to affect the style used; most larger-scaled libraries also used the Classical Revival style.

The Monticello Carnegie Library, though smaller in scale, was designed in the Classical Revival style. The formality of the design may be due to its location on the east fringe of the downtown business district at a prominent axis point from the south side of the courthouse square. The building was designed to address this axis point at the intersection of Broadway Street with Bluff Street with an angled front entry portico. The angled entry is a particularly rare feature of Carnegie

libraries. Only one other angled entry is known to have been designed for a Carnegie library in Indiana. It was located in Columbus, but was demolished in 1969-1970.

The Monticello Carnegie Library's stylistic elements are not highly developed representations of the Classical Revival style. They are simple and, in some respect, blend with the Renaissance Revival style which was also popular during the period the building was constructed. The most developed elements of the Classical Revival style on the building include the portico and the pressed metal entablature at the top of the main level's walls. The entablature is fully developed with a row of dentils and a cornice with modillions. The diamond pattern in the top sashes of the lower level's windows and the entry transom is also an important Classical Revival element. The classically-inspired implied portico on the Bluff Street elevation resembles the design of fully executed porticos on other Carnegie libraries' front entries/facades.

The angled entry portico with an arched pediment and stone cresting, and the large arched windows with fan-lite transom windows on the main level are features that blend the Renaissance Revival and Classical Revival styles. A feature not typically associated with classically-inspired buildings is the window bay on the east side of the building. The bay is also unique for a Carnegie library. It was designed in context with the site that overlooks the Tippecanoe River to provide views of the bluff and river.

The classical design of the building continues in the layout of the main level's floor plan. The column and base design of the portico is used to define a circulation area at the top of the entry's stairs. The circulation area has an implied octagonal plan, though three walls that would create definition to the octagon are missing. The circulation area's north, northwest, and west walls are defined by the entry stairhall and small rooms in the northwest corner of the building. The area's northeast and southwest walls are defined by portals created with pairs of columns on bases. The portals lead to a reading room on the west side of the building and a display area on the east side of the building. The implied east, southeast, and south walls of the octagonal circulation area are missing; this southeast corner of the space is open to a space that would have been occupied by the library's circulation desk.

Historic architectural wood trim and doors, lights, and other interior features are extant. A brick fireplace in the reading room, built-in bookcases, and large interior windows are additional interior features that supported the building's historic use as a library. Several original pieces of library furniture are also extant and are used by the current owner for purposes consistent with their original intent. The addition created in 1957 did not change any interior architectural features of the building. Though it covered most of the south elevation of the original building, it does not detract from the building's important exterior architectural features.

The Classical Revival style of the building is also significant due to its architectural context in the City of Monticello. The style became popular in the downtown during the time the library was constructed. The Monticello Carnegie Library, however, was one of a few buildings designed in the style that survived a tornado that significantly damaged many buildings in the downtown in 1974. Two other Classical Revival-styled buildings in the downtown are extant. One is a large house, known as the O'Conner House (c. 1905), that was constructed on the west side of Bluff Street across from the library. The other is a bank building (1905) that is located one block west of the Carnegie library at the corner of Broadway Street and Main Street. The bank building also has an angled entry portico (facing southwest) and can be viewed simultaneously with the angled entry of the Carnegie library.

EDUCATION

The Monticello Carnegie Library was the result of a desire by several individuals in the city, along with local educators and clubs, to provide a supply of books for the continued education of the city's citizenry. The initiative occurred at the same time a state and national movement to establish libraries in communities large and small was occurring. This movement was funded to a large extent by industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

Publicly funded county and township libraries in 19th century Indiana were typically poorly housed and had a limited selection of reading materials. An early Indiana philanthropist, William Maclure, had assisted in establishing Mechanics and Workingmen's Libraries in most of Indiana's counties. By the end of the 19th century the state was culturally ready for the establishment of libraries; this was aided by the support of both the press and the elite. Legislation at the state level in 1899 permitted the levy of a local tax for the support of public libraries. Literary and women's clubs at the end of the 19th

century promoted the idea of better public libraries as well. Between 1900 and 1929 Indiana realized tremendous support for public libraries; the movement took advantage of Andrew Carnegie's philanthropy which resulted in 164 libraries being constructed in Indiana with Carnegie's funds between 1901 and 1922.

Nationally a consciousness of social responsibility to improve one's community and home had become part of American life during the first decades of the 20th century. This further aided the establishment of what many considered a symbol of community pride and intellect: the public library. The decades during which Carnegie funded libraries in Indiana were considered the second half of Indiana's golden age of literature. The literature produced by Hoosiers aided a cultural change in Indiana and created a national demand for works by Indiana authors. This helped to improve and increase the general public perception and receptiveness of literature and culture in Indiana. Numerous literary clubs were also formed in Indiana during this time.

An effort to establish some form of a public library occurred early in the history of White County. A county library was established in 1838 and had only a few books. By 1845 the library had grown to offer several hundred volumes. The county library was abandoned in 1849 in favor of township libraries. In 1903 White County's superintendent of public schools, J. W. Hamilton, began to urge officials to establish a public library. Hamilton, assisted by ministers of local churches, convinced area businessmen of the need for a library. The public library board was established on March 4, 1903. The county commissioners provided the use of two northwest rooms on the ground floor of the courthouse for the library until permanent quarters were obtained.[1] A tax was levied by the city on property owners for the operation of the library. Over 800 books were received from a book drive that was held in Monticello to build the library's inventory of available reading materials. Additional books were purchased to bring the total to 1,025. Nora Gardner was elected to fill the position of librarian and on the afternoon of September 1, 1903, the Monticello Public Library was opened to the public.

The need for a permanent home for the public library resulted in a letter to Andrew Carnegie in December of 1905. The letter requested information on what steps would need to be taken to request funds for the construction of a library building. The response stated that Carnegie allocated $10,000 for the construction of a building in Monticello, provided that the library board secured a building site. The board purchased the lot at the end of Broadway Street "because of its central and attractive location".[2] Charles E. Kendrick of Fort Wayne was selected as the architect for the building. The building was constructed by Peter Levindouski of Lafayette. In August of 1907 the library relocated from the courthouse to its new building. Several social clubs were organized to assist in furnishing the new library with tables, chairs, desks, a newspaper rack, and a grate for the fireplace. A large room in the lower level was used for lectures and art exhibits and for regular meetings of several social clubs.

By 1915 the library's inventory had grown to 3,369 books, and over 1,200 bound and unbound magazines and pamphlets. The circulation of materials in 1913 was 8,789 books and 619 magazines.

The demand for the library continued to grow during the middle part of the 20th century. This prompted Miss Eva "Mary" Cassad, who had served on the library's board of trustees for many years prior to her death, to make provisions for the library's future growth. Her will stipulated that her estate be bequeathed to her sister Ida Beiderwolf, and upon her sister's death, be used to fund the construction or addition of space for a children's library. Her sister died in 1952 and funds from the estate, totaling $28,211.54, were given to the Monticello library. The library board decided to create an addition on the south side of the existing building that would provide space for a children's library on the main level and the White County Historical Society on the lower level. The addition was constructed in 1957 for $32,721.69. Walter Scholer & Associates of Lafayette was the architect and a local contractor, Wilbur Voight, constructed the building.

In 1991 the library board constructed a new building on the west side of downtown Monticello. The following year the Carnegie library building became the home of the White County Historical Society Museum.

[1] Hamelle, pg. 313
[2] Hamelle, pg. 316

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Monticello was platted on November 3, 1834; the county seat of White County was established at the location that would become the platted town earlier that same year. The town was incorporated in 1853, but the incorporation was abandoned. It was incorporated again in 1862. A railroad was constructed through the town in 1859-1860. The population increased rapidly after the second incorporation and construction of the railroad. A fire department and a large graded school were established in the town in 1869-1870.

At the end of the 19th century and into the first decade of the 20th century Monticello developed several public works. A water system was installed in 1895 (the standpipe is extant); an electric plant and dam were created in 1906. A city hall and fire department building was constructed in 1904. Between 1886 and 1910 seventeen additions were created off of the original plat of Monticello. This expanded the city to cover 1,000 acres by 1915. It was during this period of growth and new public works projects that the Monticello Carnegie Library was constructed in 1907. Monticello's leading industries during the early years of the library were the Tippecanoe Thread Mills, Loughry Mills, cement and tile works, an ice cream manufacturer, and a farmers' elevator. By 1915 the city had four banks, eight churches, and several social and cultural organizations which included the Wednesday Reading Club.

Library ledgers kept during the construction of the Carnegie library reveal several interesting facts about the building process. Several building lots were considered prior to the decision to purchase the library lot for $1,000.00 from Adam Bennett of Long Beach, California. The decision was based on "the sentiment of a majority of the people of the town."[3] It was felt that the site would offer an opportunity for fine landscaping and a river view.

Architect Charles E. Kendrick directed the library board's attention to the Carnegie library he designed in Delphi in 1906. A letter from the board that confirmed their interest in hiring Kendrick stated that the board was emphatic in its objection to the use of rough brick work in wall construction and the extent of galvanized iron work that was used on the Delphi building, but they were otherwise pleased with that building. The Delphi library has similar elements to the Monticello library that include large arched windows and an entablature at the top of the walls. Its portico is in the location of Monticello's implied portico and serves as its main entrance. Kendrick designed three other Carnegie libraries in Indiana besides Monticello and Delphi. He designed Carnegie libraries in Crown Point, Kewanna, and Ligonier. Ligonier's library also has an arched pediment. Only in the design of the Kewanna library did Kendrick shift from the Classical Revival style to another style; he designed the Kewanna Carnegie Library in the Craftsman style. Kendrick's firm was located in Rochester, Indiana, during the construction of these buildings; however his office was in Fort Wayne during the design and construction of the Monticello library.

Kendrick's fee was $300 which included five site visits. Additional visits, of which Kendrick billed for one, were $10 per trip. Kendrick indicated that the building could be no larger than 45' x 50' or 40' x 60' in order for it to stay within the $10,000 budget. After the project was bid the plans were revised to instruct the use of concrete for foundation walls rather than stone, and to change the heating system in the building. The changes allowed the bid price to drop to $9,701. The board instructed the contractor to include a cherry red brick mantel for the fireplace in the reading room.

Conditions at the Monticello library often reflected events that occurred nationally. In 1918 the library received a letter from the Public Library Commissioner that requested all libraries remove books on explosives; it seems likely this was in response to the United States' involvement in World War I. During World War II a "memorial shelf" was created in the library to feature local men who were enlisted in the military. Nora Gardner, the librarian, organized a Victory Book Drive in 1942 to provide reading material for the military. Local Boy Scouts assisted with the effort by placing large containers in locations for people to drop off books. 1,150 books were collected by the Monticello library and sent to Chanute Field in Rantoul, Illinois.[4]

[3] Monticello Library Ledger, 1903-1931
[4] Monticello Library Ledger, 1946-1965

Nora Gardner, who was elected librarian in 1903, served until 1947 when she tendered her resignation. She moved to care for her brother. Gardner wrote the history of the Monticello Public Library found in Hamelle's 1915 History of White County. In the history she lamented the negative affects the moving picture show, the automobile, and the revival of hand-made embroidery and lace had had on the influence of books. Gardner published weekly "Notes from the Librarian" in the local newspaper during the 1930s. Upon the death of Andrew Carnegie in 1919 she penned a poem entitled "A Tribute to Andrew Carnegie". A portion of the poem reads:

On the bluffs of a little river
Which flows in Hoosierland,
Is a Temple built to learning,
Rare gift from the donor's hand.

Of these Temples there are many,
Round the world they form a chain,
But there's none in the widening circle
Like unto this can ere attain.

It is nestled in the bluff side
That overlooks a famous stream.[5]

Andrew Carnegie amassed a fortune by steel manufacturing in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, during the latter part of the 19th century. When he sold his company to U. S. Steel and J. P. Morgan in 1901 he increased his philanthropic giving, particularly to support the broad national movement of establishing public libraries. Carnegie funded the construction of 2,509 libraries throughout the English-speaking world. This amounted to $55 million in donations to cities and towns. A total of 1,679 libraries were funded by Carnegie in the United States. More Carnegie libraries were funded in Indiana than in any other state: 164 libraries were funded in 155 Indiana communities at a cost of $2,614,000. Of the 164 library buildings funded by Carnegie in Indiana, only 18 have been razed.

Carnegie believed that the public library was "the people's university" and that it generally supported the betterment of a democratic society. He also believed that libraries enabled immigrants to have a better cultural understanding of America. At the time of his death Carnegie had distributed 90% of his wealth for the betterment of mankind.

[5] Gardner, Nora. Poem entitled "A Tribute to Andrew Carnegie": Archives of the Monticello Public Library

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Hamelle, W. H. *A Standard History of White County, Indiana Volume I.* Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1915.

Koch, Theodore Wesley. A Book of Carnegie Libraries. New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1917.

Letters, notes, and library memorabilia collected by Nora Gardner. Archives of the Monticello Public Library*.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses.* New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006.

McPherson, Alan. *Temples of Knowledge: Andrew Carnegie's Gift to Indiana.* Kewanna: Hoosier's Nest Press, 2003.

Monticello Library Ledgers: 1903-1931, 1946-1965. Archives of the Monticello Public Library*.

*Monica Casanova, Director of the Monticello Public Library, provided access to a large archive of materials including library notes, ledgers, letters, personal scrapbooks of Nora Gardner, and other items from the organization's early years.

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 #_____
____recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #_____

Primary location of additional data:

____State Historic Preservation Office
____Other State agency
____Federal agency
____Local government
____University
____Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 181-426-29058

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	16	520250	4510441	3			
2				4			

Monticello Carnegie Library
Name of Property

White County, IN
County and State

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at a point on the east side of Bluff Street from a line extended east from the center of Broadway Street, face south and continue in a line with the east side of Bluff Street 130' south. Turn east and continue in a line east 80'. Turn north and continue in a line north 130'. Turn west and continue in a line west 80' to the east side of Bluff Street, or the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries described represent the lots purchased by the originators of the Monticello library for the construction of the Carnegie library in 1907.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kurt West Garner

organization White County Historical Society date April 2, 2012

street & number 12954 6th Road telephone 574-936-0613

city or town Plymouth state IN zip code 46563

e-mail kwgarner@kwgarner.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0001 Front of building, facing southeast

1 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0002 West and south sides of building, facing northeast

2 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0003 East side of building, facing southwest

3 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0004 Circulation area, facing northwest toward entry

4 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0005 East wall of upper level, facing southeast

5 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0006 Upper level offices, facing east

6 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0007 Upper level reading room, facing south

7 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0008 Upper level reading room, facing north

8 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0009 Upper level of addition, facing southwest

9 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0010 Addition's staircase at entry door, facing east

10 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0011 East storage room of addition's lower level, facing northeast

11 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0012 Display room, lower level, facing northwest

12 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0013 Display room, lower level, facing southwest

13 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0014 Lower level hallway, facing west

14 of 15.

Name of Property: Monticello Carnegie Library

City or Vicinity: Monticello

County: White State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: March 9, 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0015 Staircase to lower level hallway, facing north

15 of 15.

Property Owner:

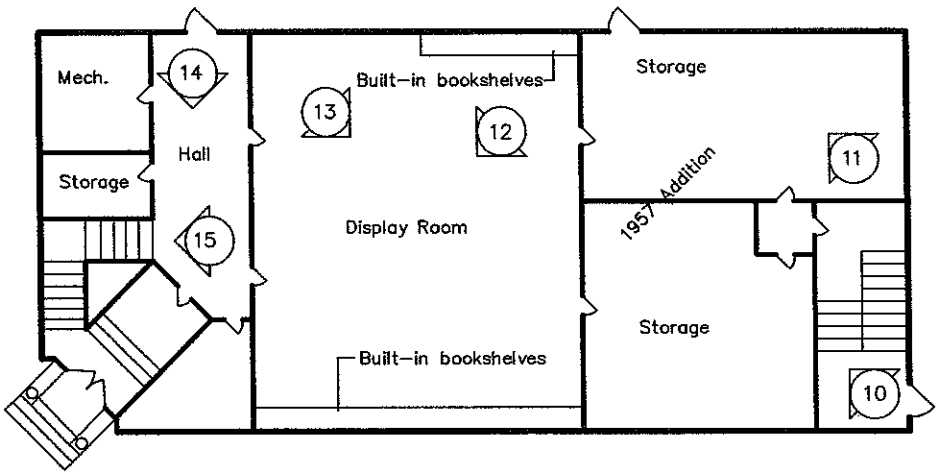
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name White County Historical Society, c/o Judy Baker, Director

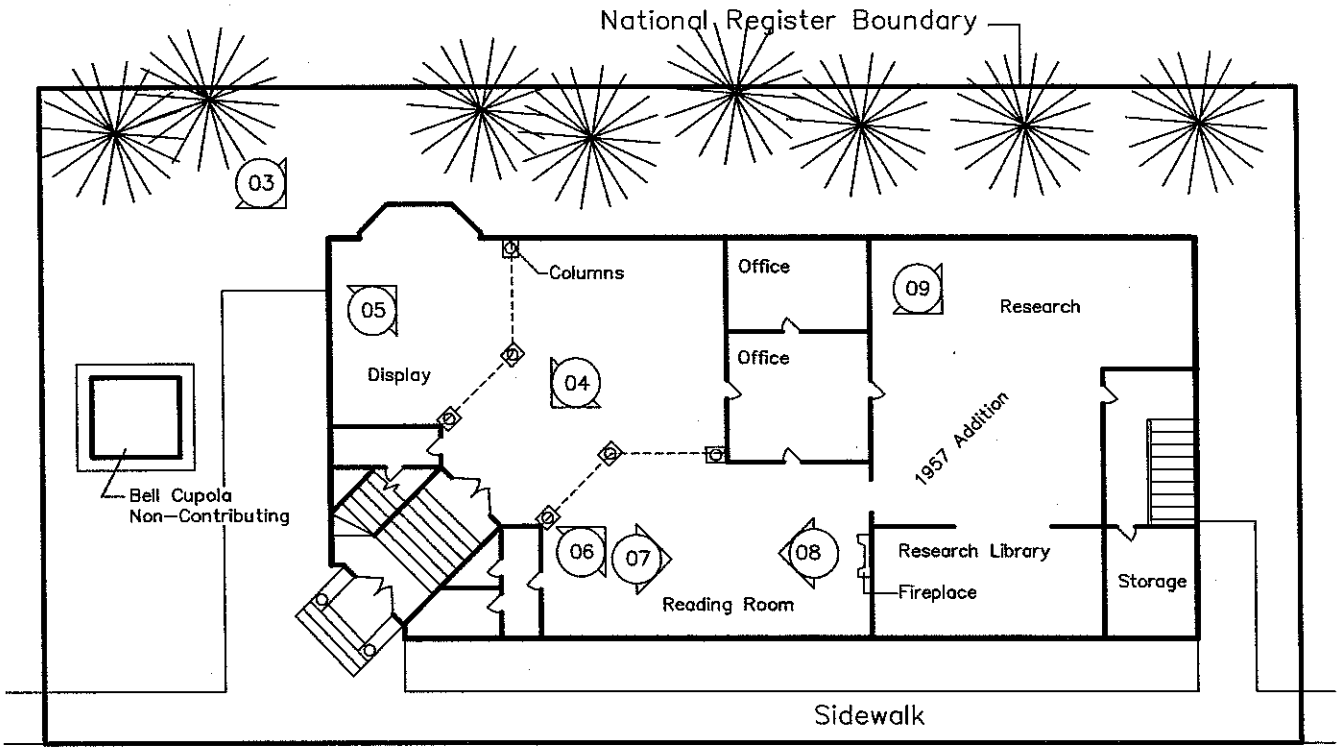
street & number 101 South Bluff Street telephone 219-279-2951

city or town Monticello state IN zip code 47960

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.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Lower Level



Bluff Street

02

01

Broadway Street

NORTH

Monticello Carnegie Library

White County, IN

Site Plan and Main Level

00 = PHOTOGRAPHS

Monticello Carnegie Library, White Co., IN #001

Monticello Carnegie Library, White Co., IN #002

Monticello Carnegie Library, White Co., IN #004

Monticello Carnegie Library, White Co., IN #005

Monticello Carnegie Library, White Co., IN #008

Monticello Carnegie Library, White Co., IN #013