

WASHINGTON
COPY

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

For HCRS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See Instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Lincoln Public Library

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 725 Pekin Street _____ not for publication

city, town Lincoln _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 21st

state Illinois 62656 code 012 county Logan code 107

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Library

4. Owner of Property

name City of Lincoln

street & number

city, town Lincoln _____ vicinity of _____ state Illinois 62656

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Logan County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Lincoln _____ state Illinois 62656

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Illinois Historic Structures Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date OCT., 1974 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Illinois Department of Conservation

city, town Springfield _____ state Illinois 62706

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lincoln Library Association while considering plans in 1901 for a new public library structure with a Carnegie grant of \$25,000 chose a "classic" design. This library structure continues to provide a notable example of public construction in the Neo-Classical Revival period, with some interesting variations.

The Library sits centered upon four lots in downtown Lincoln, facing Latham Park. A parking lot and commercial uses lie adjacent on the other sides. Overall the layout is rectangular and symmetrical. The main floor is raised one-half story from grade in temple fashion. A second floor is more limited in size than the main floor and located principally within the low roofline. The building is of red mottled brick with stone ornament trim and a light red tile roof. The front is dominated by a tetrastyle portico.

Exterior: The red tile hipped roof line of the library is low and quiet. The roof area includes three hips aligned in a "T" over the reading rooms and stacks area, with a front gable pediment completing the crossed roof. A corbeled chimney rises near the rear of the building. The librarian's office and rear left reference room are roofed at the actual top of the main floor with similar roof line extending from the exterior wall. These are not evident from the front facade. A Tuscan-like cornice surrounds the building, with terra cotta and mottled bricks comprising the upper and lower components, respectively. Roman red mottled brick with red mortar is used on all exterior surfaces of the main floor, laid in "1/3 running bond. Double hung windows, often in sets of three, break all facades, linteled with horizontal hoods of brick and stone keystones and sills. Raised brick is used below the windows to approximate vertical symmetry. The lowest exterior division is stone on all facades except the rear.

The rear breaks character with only brick. The eight tall, narrow arched windows were designed to serve the later raising of the stack room ceiling into the second floor.

The tetrastyle, prostyle portico dominates the entrance facade. The full pediment is graced with an acanthus, cornice and plinth. Dentils are in evidence. The four columns have Tuscan-like shafts and composite capitals. The central double door of oak and glass is flanked by single pane, linteled windows. Over the door is a cornice and triple window with tracery. Steps lead to the portico with a width equal to that of the portico. A hanging lamp also hangs above the entrance.

Interior: See continuation page 3. Two principal floors serve the public of the library main floor and basement. The main floor includes an open plan with offices and reading room forming a "U" around a limited access stacks room. The right front stacks area was originally a reading room but now has free standing shelves to hold the growing collection. The delivery desk faces the vestibuled entrance. The free standing, semi-circular desk sets under a mural noting the contributions of Andrew Carnegie and Stephen Foley, a local man instrumental in the completion of the structure.

Oak wainscot and woodwork trims most of the main floor. Two oval bays lie in the reading room and right stacks area. These lie opposite one another defining a space the entire width of the main floor. In the ceiling of this space are three circular woodwork patterns, the outer two framing ceiling area. The central pattern, over the circulation desk, includes a sectional, stained-glass dome illuminated from above.

(continued page 4)

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1903 **Builder/Architect** W. A. Otis, Chicago

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The City of Lincoln received in 1901 a grant of \$25,000 from Andrew Carnegie for a new library. (The original letter from James Bertram, Carnegie secretary who coordinated the grant process, is available.) The city and Lincoln Library constructed a "classic" style library structure designed by W. A. Otis of Chicago in Lincoln, Illinois. Other than maintenance and alterations not affecting the structure's character, the only significant change has been the remodeling and opening of the basement during 1972-1974.

The contributions of Andrew Carnegie to the American library movement have been noted by historians. The importance to the communities receiving Carnegie assistance needs continued attention. Lincoln, one of those communities, has received great benefits from Mr. Carnegie gift. The Lincoln Public Library represents a notable example of the community's development of a successful library through that gift. As Carnegie libraries are being replaced with more contemporary structures, those structures whose use continues successfully must be preserved and recognized.

The Carnegie grant to Lincoln was the sixth of 105 in Illinois during 1900-1916. Design control was totally local during the early Carnegie years, including 1901, although library records indicate that Mr. Otis received comments from Edwin Anderson of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh. These letters suggest that Anderson seemed to have some authority at times. James Bertram required plans to be submitted by 1908 and published Notes on Library Buildings in 1908 as a guide to efficient library planning for libraries receiving grants. The Lincoln Public Library's design is nevertheless compatible with these later guidelines.

The commitment of the City of Lincoln and Lincoln Library to continued use of the structure must be noted, as are the contributions of citizens during its construction. Mrs. Isabel Naughton willed her home and two lots in downtown Lincoln for library use. These lots plus adjacent purchased lots are the site of the Lincoln Public Library. Mr. Stephen A. Foley served the Lincoln Library Association for twenty-nine years, finally overseeing the building of this structure, in addition to being another major local benefactor. The contributions of these individuals to the cultural development of Lincoln is significant.

The architectural significance of the Lincoln Public Library is twofold. First, the cultural importance of ideals of classical culture and architecture to this period is well known. Such ideals led to the frequent use of classical styles and elements in many public buildings. The Lincoln Public Library is a typical example of the use of these classical elements, aligning the ideals of ancient culture and the free public library movement.

In addition, the citizens of Lincoln still felt sufficiently unconstrained to design in the structure practical considerations. This adaptability must be recognized as a significant factor in the long-used classical styles. Architectural historians have noted that the Neo-Classical revival was an American phenomenon. Americans participating in the revival did not always adhere to the rigid rules of style as long as the intent of the style was retained. Likewise, the citizens of Lincoln chose a "classic" design with contemporary needs in mind.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 768

Page 2

7 DESCRIPTION - continued

The second floor contains only one finished room, originally a director's room now used for storage. This room's window is that window with tracery over the front entrance. The bulk of the second floor is open attic but unfinished, used for storage and access to the dome and utility systems.

8 SIGNIFICANCE - continued

The ceiling of the stacks area can be raised for more space, with a non-classical rear facade. Also, the use of bow windows on the sides to accompany patterns compatible with the dome are not classical in nature. Finally brick, a locally significant material, is used rather than stone. These developments of use of style rather than strict adherence represents the American concept of cultural growth and utilization of the "best" of history. The Lincoln Public Library, a continuing, successful, and classical Carnegie Library, deserves nomination as a representation of the early period in the free library movement which combined non-governmental national wealth, grass roots initiative and cultural ideals to promote the concept of an American and educated society.

9. Major Bibliographical References

George S. Bobinski. Carnegie Libraries. Chicago, Illinois: American Library Association, 1969.
 Lawrence B. Stringer. History of Logan County, Illinois. Chicago, Illinois: Pioneer Publishing Company, 1911.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 0.55
 Quadrangle name Lincoln Quad Quadrangle scale 1:62,500
 UMT References--UTM's not available

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 1 - 4 in Block 9 in Original Town of Lincoln

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patrick J. Glithero, Director
 organization Logan County Regional Planning Commission date April 25, 1980
 street & number 529 South McLean Street telephone (217) 732-8835
 city or town Lincoln state Illinois 62656

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *David Fenner*
 title Dir., Ill. Dept. of Conservation date 6/30/80

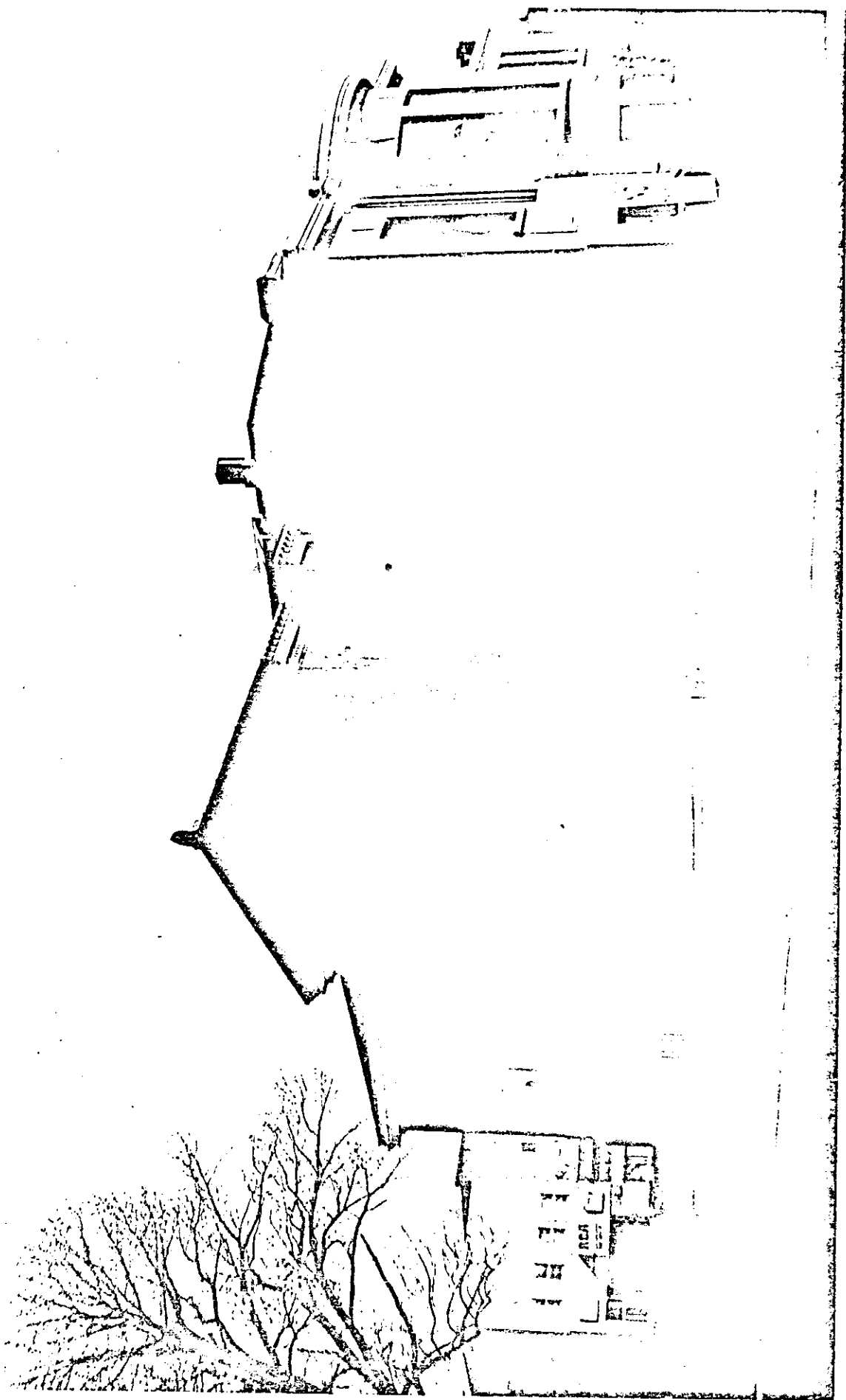
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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register _____
 date _____

Keeper of the National Register _____

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Division _____



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

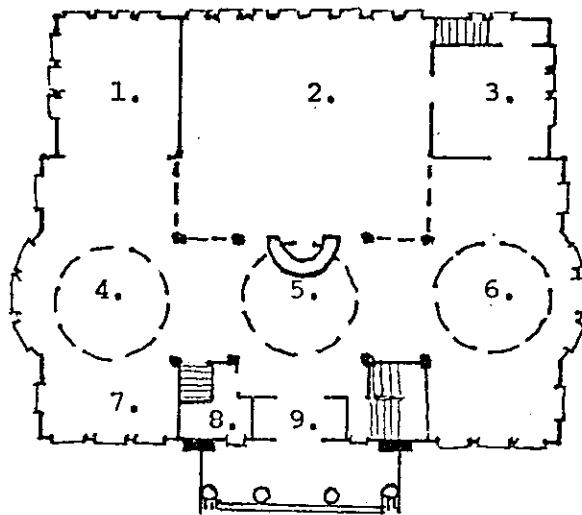
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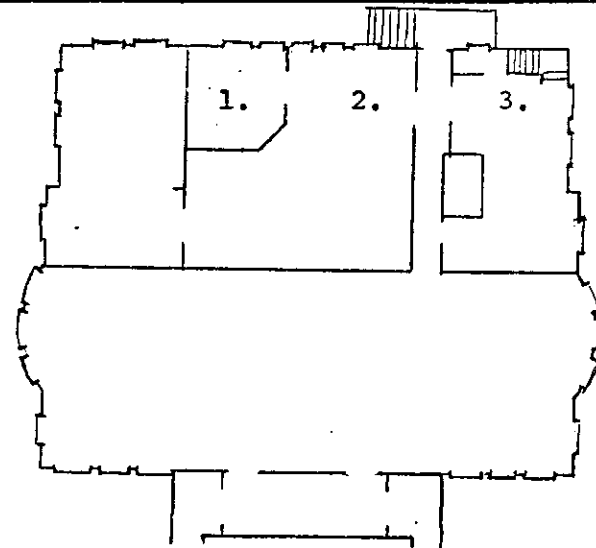
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET Lincoln Lib. ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3



Main Floor

1. Reference Rm.
2. Stack Rm.
3. Librarian Office
4. Reading Rm.
5. Delivery Rm.
6. Stacks
7. Periodicals
8. Cloak Rm.
9. Vestibule

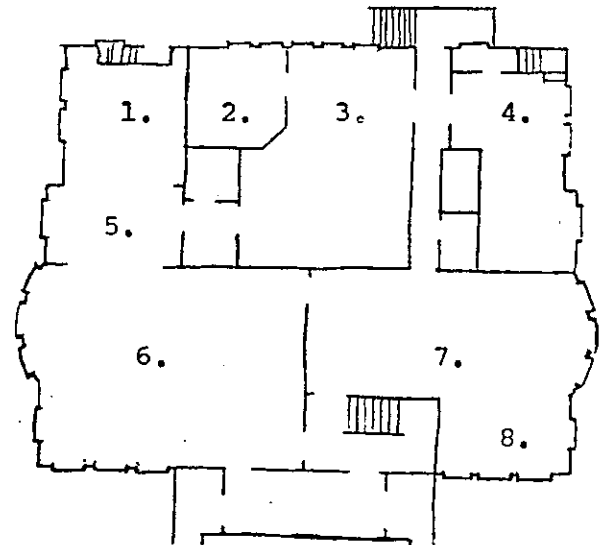


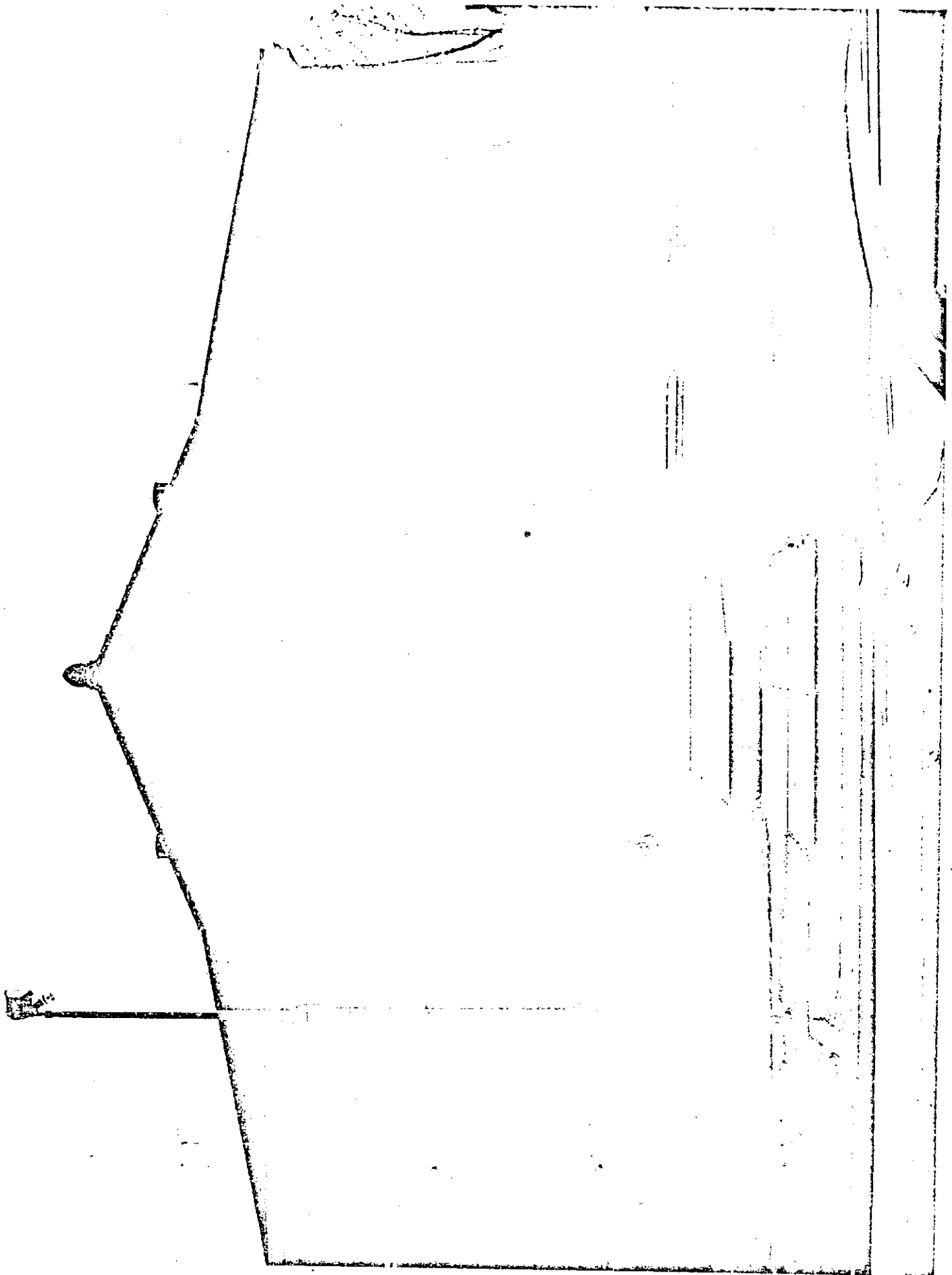
Original Basement

1. Storage Rm.
2. Boiler Rm.
3. Work Rm.

Existing Basement

1. Story Telling Rm.
2. Storage Rm.
3. Boiler Rm.
4. Work Rm.
5. Reading Rm.
6. Children's Rm.
7. Meeting Rm.
8. Conference Rm.





ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered

SEP 12 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Robinson, J. L., General Store	Hagaman Macoupin County
Christ Episcopal Church	Springfield Sangamon County
Lincoln Public Library	Lincoln Logan County

Also Notified

Honorable Charles H. Percy
Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson
Honorable Paul Findley
Honorable Edward R. Madigan

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.



It is constructed of red mottled brick, its walls are trimmed and ornamental with stone and the whole surmounted by a heavy roof of light red tiling. There is no tin or galvanized iron in its construction, only the best copper being used. There are over three carloads of steel and iron in the structure and three carloads of oak were used in the inside finish ... the floor is covered with cork matting.