

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0666866

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 12 1978

DATE ENTERED JUN 7 1978

DATA SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

BURNHAM ATHENAEUM

AND/OR COMMON

CHAMPAIGN PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

306 W. Church Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Champaign

VICINITY OF

21

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Illinois

CODE

12

COUNTY

Champaign

CODE

019 ✓

3 CLASSIFICATION

(current)

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED (after 2-3-78)	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN

STREET & NUMBER

505 S. RANDOLPH

CITY, TOWN

CHAMPAIGN

VICINITY OF

STATE

ILLINOIS 61820

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Champaign County Courthouse, Registrar of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Urbana

STATE

Illinois

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Illinois Historic Structures Survey/Champaign County

DATE

April 1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Illinois Department of Conservation

CITY, TOWN

Springfield

STATE

Illinois

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

CHECK ONE

- ORIGINAL SITE
- MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Burnham Athenaeum, built in 1896, is situated on two adjacent urban lots forming a 132' square site, near the downtown business center of Champaign, Illinois. The building faces West Side Park to the south. This large, open public park is the oldest in the county and allows an uninterrupted view of the Athenaeum looking north.

The exterior of the two story neo-classic style building is of cream-colored Powhattan brick, with horizontal bands of matching terra cotta at the window sill lines. The front (south) facade features a classical pediment surmounting four engaged fluted Ionic columns. Below the pediment the frieze is inscribed with the words "The Burnham Athenaeum." Above the door of the symmetrical entrance portico, the following statement is also inscribed in terra cotta: "This building was erected by A.C. Burnham as a free public library for the city of Champaign anno domini MDCCCXCV." A hip roof of light green slate caps the building, which has a modified "T" shaped plan. The building is 70' deep and 92' wide at its extreme points.

Minor modifications were made to the exterior structure in 1970-71. A vestibule was added at the main entrance and a fire escape was added on the northeast. At that same time, window-style air conditioners were installed in many windows. In most cases, the section of sash was removed to receive the units. No other changes have been made on the exterior of the structure from its original construction.

The interior of the building features a large front staircase leading to the second floor. Service stairs descend to the basement both here and in the northeast. The first floor contains reading rooms, circulation desk, book stacks, work room and toilet.

The second floor features a large meeting room (since subdivided), children's reading room, librarian's office, staff room, and recently, two toilets. Plastered ceilings and walls on both floors are high and delineated with wood beams. Large single-light sash windows provide ample natural light.

Also in 1970-71, certain modifications were made to the interior of the building. A suspended acoustical tile ceiling was installed with new flourescent lighting, covering up but not destroying the original beamed ceiling. A new electrical service was added to serve the window air conditioners, etc. Smoke doors were added on the first floor to enclose the front staircase. The circulation desk was removed and a new one installed near the entry vestibule. In addition, new non-structural partitions were installed on the second floor to provide more work space, increased children's room and toilets.

In summary, the building has been altered very little during its lifetime, and is in good structural condition. Modifications which have been made can be easily reversed. With proper planning and supervision the Burnham Athenaeum can readily be restored to its original condition.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6

PAGE 1

Historic Sites in Champaign County
1976
Champaign County Historical Museum
Champaign, Illinois

Xcounty

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 type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1896, 1970

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Julius A. Schweinfurth

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Burnham Athenaeum of Champaign, Illinois was erected in 1896 through the generosity of Albert C. Burnham. Until that time the public library had been housed in two different temporary locations. Julius A. Schweinfurth, F.A.I.A., was the architect. He received his architectural training in the Boston firm of Peabody and Stearns, and remained as a draftsman for 13 years. From 1884-1886, he practiced in Cleveland with his brother, Charles. The years from 1886-1895 seemed to have been spent in study and travel abroad--we know he attended the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and also travelled to London, Florence, and Rome. In 1895, he returned to Boston and opened an office on State Street. His reputation was secured with the many buildings he designed for Wellesley College and his churches, schools, municipal, and private buildings constructed in the Boston area. Youngstown, Ohio has some of his work, but the Burnham Athenaeum seems to be the westernmost example of his work.

The Burnham Athenaeum was one of the first commissions he received upon his return from Europe. He published the plans in The American Architect & Building News of April 25, 1896 and made these comments:

"This public library is now being built at a cost of \$35,000, the gift of A.D. Burnham, Esq. of Champaign. The first floor contains a stairway hall, a small reception or private reading room, the delivery room, main reading room, reference room, librarian's room, book stack room (present capacity, 50,000 to 60,000 books), and the usual toilet arrangements. A peculiarity of the arrangement is that the librarian standing at the desk can control all of the rooms. The second floor contains various committee rooms, trustees' room, ante-room and a large hall, to be used for the art collection and for meetings, etc.; this will seat from 400 to 500 people. The building is constructed on the "slow-burning" plan, the stack room being especially well protected by tinned doors, etc., heated and ventilated by indirect steam. The exterior is built of light cream-colored bricks and terra-cotta of about the same tone, and the roof covered with light green slates."

When the Athenaeum was officially turned over to the city of Champaign on December 17, 1896, the exercises were held in the First Presbyterian Church. Mr. Gere, representing the donor, expressed Mr. Burnham's hope that the "Library would grow in usefulness...". Dr. Draper, president of the University of Illinois, as closing speaker said, "We have been given this magnificent building and now we should undertake to put it to its true uses. There is no Institution which can be reared in a community which will work greater good than a public library."

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Krats, Edwin A., History of the Champaign Public Library and Reading Room, June, 1926, Champaign, Illinois.
- "The Burnham Athenaeum" in The American Architect and Building News, v. 52, p.39, p1/1061 April 25, 1896, illus.
- "The Burnham Athenaeum, Champaign, Illinois., in Brickbuilder. v.5, p1.63-64, 1896.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Urbana

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 319,369,0 4,414,147,0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

E

G

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D

F

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots nine (9) and ten (10), block four (4) of Farnum, Clark and White's addition to Urbana, (now a part of the city of Champaign), in the State of Illinois.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Nora Winay/ Paul Selin/ Gary Olsen/ Michele Olsen/ Joyce Wajenberg/ Russell Dankert

ORGANIZATION

Burnham Athenaeum Committee (BAC)

DATE

January 17, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

One American National Bank Building

TELEPHONE

211/356-6363

CITY OR TOWN

Champaign,

STATE

Illinois 61820

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE X 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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Das Kenner

TITLE Illinois State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 3/27/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Winters

DATE 6/7/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: *Winters*

DATE 6.6.78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The connection between the University and the library began early on. In September, 1899, a children's department was opened and over the years has been a source of practice of library theory for the Library School students and faculty. By 1923 three rooms and 16' of the auditorium had been given over to the Children's Department on the second floor.

For 82 years the library has grown in usefulness, until now it must leave its home. Books, audio-visual equipment, art reproductions have gradually reduced the space for "suitable reading and lecture rooms" as specified in the original deed of gift. However, this aspect of the building's use could be revived.

The view from the windows of the upper hall fronting on the park (much admired at the library reception) has changed little in 82 years. West Side Park, (the first park in Champaign County, c. 1854) provides a pleasing landscape for the area. Its bronze fountain, "Prayer for Rain" was installed in the park in 1899 and is the work of Edward Kemeys who designed several groups for the Columbian Exposition. The neo-classic form of the library with its Ionic columned facade also reflects the impact of the Columbian Exposition. Mr. Schweinfurth's former employer, Peabody & Stearns, was one of the five firms which planned the exposition buildings.

At the east side of the park, there remain the homes of Mr. Burnham's banking partners, Mr. Trevett and Mr. Mattis, whose bank held the original trust for the Athenaeum. These two homes, Trevett House (1900 Georgian Revival), and the Mattis House (1883 Queen Anne style) compliment the Athenaeum, which reflects the elegance and culture of the turn of the century.

Property

Burnham Athenaeum

78001115
Champaign, County

State

Ill.

Working Number

4.12.78. 2892

TECHNICAL

Photos

4

Maps

CONTROL

OK ^{pl} 4.13.78

HISTORIAN

Accept
Franklin
5.15.78

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

See additional statement of
significance
6.4.78

Accept
Barrow
5.15.78

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

of architectural
significance is late
19th revival structure

Accept
Leborich
6/5/78

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Accepted
6/7/78

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered JUN 7 1978

Federal Register Entry

7.5.78

Re-submit _____

INT:2106-74



BURNHAM, ATHENAEUM
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

JOE WILSKE

11/77

JUN 7 1978

CHAMPAIGN NEWS GAZETTE
FRONT FACADE - VIEW NORTH

1 OF 4

APR 12 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

PHOTO BY

Joe Wilske

PHOTO BY

Joe Wilske



CHAMPAIGN
COUNTY

MAP SITE

70



BURNHAM
ATHENÆUM

BURNHAM ATHENEUM
CHAMPAIGN, ^{County} ILLINOIS
JOE WILSKE
11/77

CHAMPAIGN NEWS GAZETTE
VIEW - NORTH
20F4

APR 12 1978

JUN 7 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

PHOTO BY
Joe Wilske



THIS · BVILDING · WAS · ERECTED · BY
A · C · BVRNHAM · AS · A · FREE · PVBLIC
LIBRARY · FOR · THE · CITY · OF · CHAM-
PAIGN · ANNO · DOMINI · MDCCCXCV ·

BURNHAM ATHENEUM
CHAMPAIGN, ^{County} ILLINOIS
JOE WILSKE

11/77

CHAMPAIGN NEWS GAZETTE
ABOVE MAIN ENTRY

3 of 4

APR 12 1978

JUN 7 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

PHOTO BY

Joe Wilske



BURNHAM ATHENEUM
CHAMPAIGN, ^{County} ILLINOIS

JOE WILSKE APR 12 1978

11/77

CHAMPAIGN NEWS GAZETTE
FIREPLACE — MAIN FLOOR
READING ROOM
4 of 4.

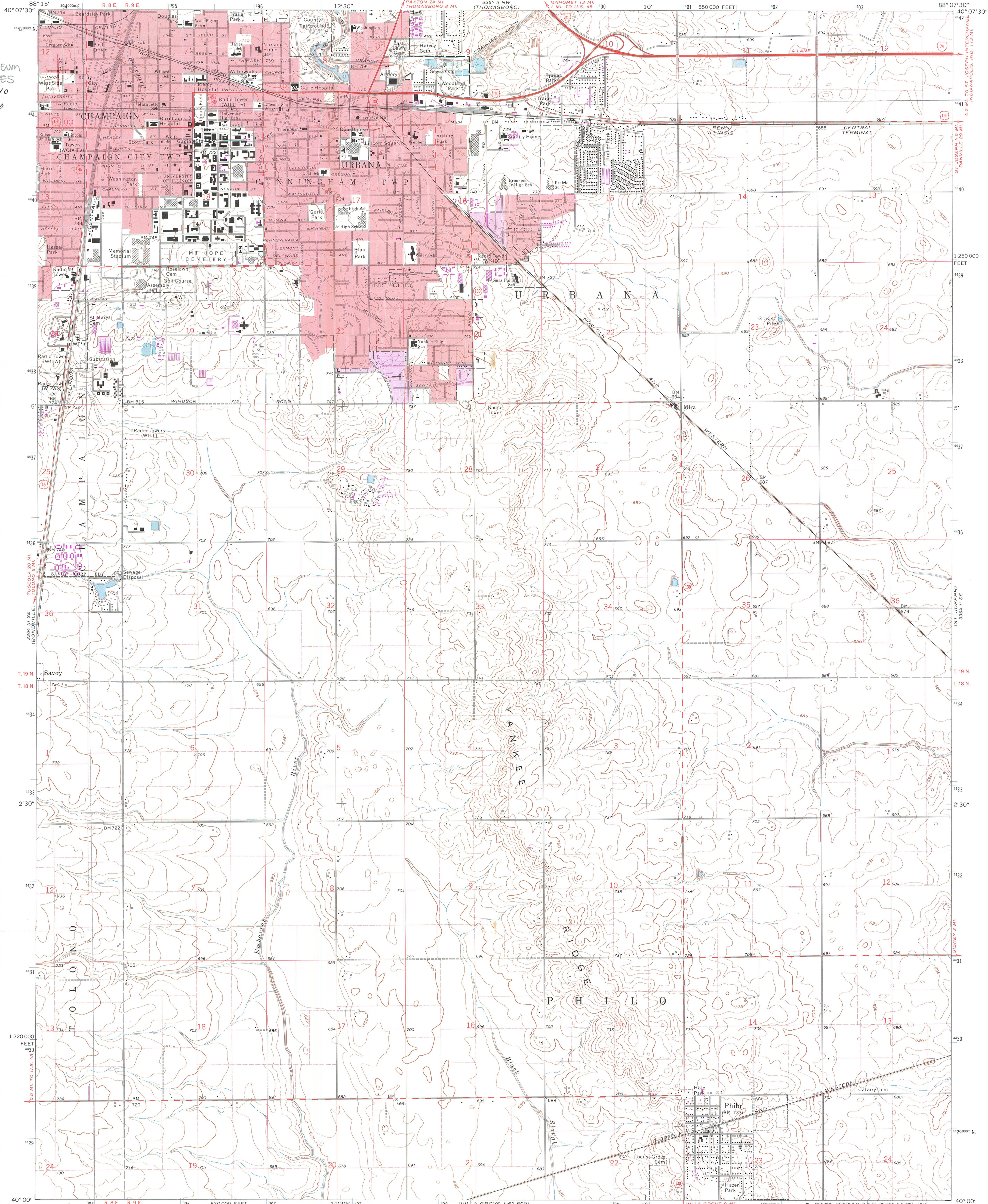
JUN 7 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

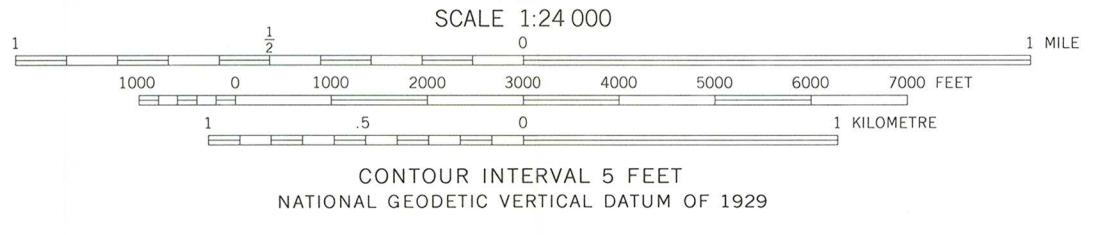
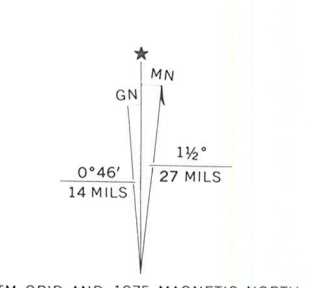
PHOTO BY

Joe Wilske

BURNHAM ATTRIBUTION
UTM REFERENCES
A E=393 670 710
N 4441 470 450



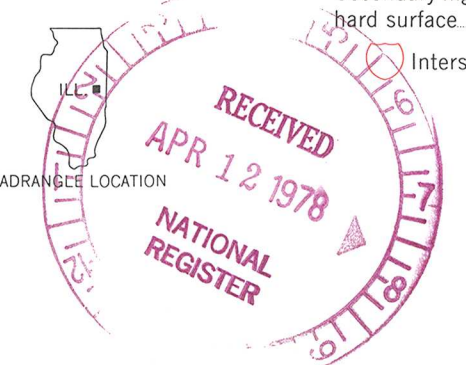
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1955. Topography by planetable surveys 1949-50 and 1957
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Illinois coordinate system, east zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 16, shown in blue
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1975. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



URBANA, ILL.
SW/4 URBANA 15' QUADRANGLE
N4000-W8807.5/7.5
1970
PHOTOREVISED 1975
AMS 3364 II SW-SERIES V863

RECEIVED
APR 12 1978
NATIONAL REGISTER

JAMES G. THOMAS
STUART M. MAMER
ROGER E. HAUGHEY
GEORGE S. MILLER
LOTT H. THOMAS
GEORGE V. EIGHMEY

WILLIAM J. BRINKMANN
DAVID K. HENRIKSEN

THOMAS, MAMER, HAUGHEY & MILLER

LAWYERS
FIFTH FLOOR, FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
POST OFFICE BOX 967
CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS 61820

WALLACE M. MULLIKEN
(1913-1967)
217-351-1500

February 27, 1978



Mr. Keith A. Sculle
National Register Coordinator
Division of Historic Sites
405 East Washington
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Dear Sir:

The library is in receipt of a letter dated January 24, 1978, directed to the Board of Directors of the Library of the City of Champaign, notifying them that the Burnham Athenaeum, the old home of the Champaign Public Library, is under consideration for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Recently, a court order was entered directing this building to be sold at public sale in accordance with the statutes of the State of Illinois, free of the restrictions imposed upon it by the original donor, with the proceeds of the sale to be used for the completion and furnishing of the new city library. I have been asked by the president of the board to forward this decree to you so as to provide you with some factual information as to the present status of the building and the proposed disposition thereof.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS, MAMER, HAUGHEY & MILLER

Roger E. Haughey

REH:rf

Enclosure

cc: ✓ Illinois Department of Conservation
605 State Office Building
400 South Spring Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Mr. Sherdie Jones
Mr. Peter Niemi

CONSERVATION

1978 MAR -2 PM 3:05

LAND & HISTORIC SITES

EDWARD R. MADIGAN
21ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 1, 1978

Mr. Chris Therral Delaporte
Director
Heritage Conservation and
Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Delaporte:

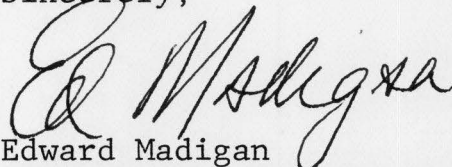
I am writing to urge that the Athenaeum, the old Champaign public library, in Champaign, Illinois, be placed on the National Register of Historic Places as soon as possible.

I understand the building has been approved by the Illinois Historic Sites Advisory Council. The papers have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer and forwarded to the National Park Service, which I assume has forwarded them to you.

The preservation of this beautiful landmark has strong public support, and there is much fear that the building will be sold and put to some incompatible use or torn down to make way for a parking lot.

I would very much appreciate your attention to this matter and a reply at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Edward Madigan
Representative in Congress

BCR Mail Control No.

PO 4720

DATE 5/15

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL AM PM

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

Keith Sculle

Il. SHRO staff

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Burnham Athenaeum, Champaign, Ill.

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

A new library has been built & the town committee hopes to call old property (Burnham Athenaeum) at highest cost to support the new one. They are therefore opposed to N.R. listing fearing NR will lessen ~~the~~ price. Sculle says building has ^{great} support among University people - planners, arch. Historian, preservation etc. to find suitable ~~name~~ reuse. Fight will occur soon. State considering local listing which would block demolition, if necessary!

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

B. Froulser

PA

N.R.

Champaign Co.
Illinois

Lebonich
to
Frandsen, Cole
Kerrington

5/17/78

Rettig for Murtagh
5/17/78

H32-NR

MAY 17 1978

Honorable Edward Madigan
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Madigan:

Thank you for your inquiry concerning the nomination of the Burnham Athenaeum, Champaign, Illinois, to the National Register of Historic Places.

Property owners are given 30 days to present written comments on the significance of the property prior to professional review of the nomination at the National Register. The commenting period for the Burnham Athenaeum ends May 18, 1978, at which time the review of the nomination will be expedited. We will notify you if the property is included in the National Register.

We appreciate your interest in historic preservation.

Sincerely,

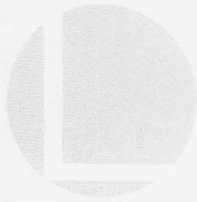
Chris Therral Delaporte
Director

cc: Mr. David Kenney
Director
Department of Conservation
602 State Office Building
400 South Spring Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706

bcc: Director's Reading File
Associate Director, Connally
Chief, OAHP
FHR-Lumpkin
FHR-CL
CL
NR
POR-4720

FHR:B Frandsen:lw:523-0431:5-17/78

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN NR



OLSEN · LYTLE architects • 627 ½ S. WRIGHT • CHAMPAIGN • ILLINOIS • 61820 • 217 • 359-3453


May 28, 1978

Mr. William Brabham
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Brabham:

The attached paragraph should clarify the questions you raised regarding the Burnham Athenaeum in Champaign, Illinois to Brian B. Conway, architectural historian, Illinois Department of Conservation. If you have other questions or need further assistance regarding our application please feel free to contact us at any time. Thank you for your review of this matter.

Sincerely,


Gary L. Olsen, AIA
Burnham Athenaeum Committee

GLO/mjr

cc. Brian Conway
Scott Keyes

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D JUN 02 1978

(FROM _____ (ATTACHED))

(FROM _____ (ATTACHED))

(FROM _____ (ATTACHED))

DATE ACTION TAKEN _____

INITIALS _____

GENERAL NOTES

1978-11

PROPERTY INFORMATION

SPAC 1000

TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 FROM THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING
 1100 MONTGOMERY AVENUE, N.W.
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

DATE: 11-15-78

RE: 1100 MONTGOMERY AVENUE, N.W.
 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SPAC 1000

OGSEI-TALTE

BURNHAM ATHENAEUM
Champaign, Illinois

The Burnham Athenaeum (formerly the Champaign Public Library) is an excellent example of post-Columbian Exposition neo-classical architecture in the Midwest. Due to the influence of this trend setting exposition of 1893 in Chicago, prominent eastern architects; who practiced primarily in revival styles such as Julius A. Schweinfurth, the architect for the Athenaeum; received a renewed following in the central states. The Athenaeum is the most notable building of its size and style in Champaign County and among few in Illinois which have retained the quality of its architectural design through the years. Since the completion of its construction in 1896 until February, 1978 it has been used for its designed use and that use only--as the main library for the city of Champaign. The Athenaeum has been listed for its significance in every historical and architectural survey made in its vicinity including the Illinois Department of Conservation inventories and other regional, county and city inventories. Due to its continuous use as a library and Champaign's intellectual, cultural and informational resource center the building's original architectural integrity has spanned over 80 years in time almost totally unscathed. The temple-style facade with its terra cotta ornamentation and Ionic columns are completely intact and, except for a lighted sign and "new" entry foyer (both of which can be easily removed), appears as it did when it was erected. The interior of the building including the high ceiling basement with its brick arches and "stepped" footings and elaborate woodwork and beamed ceilings on the main floors is also intact or easily retrievable from under dropped acoustical ceilings or partition walls. The only major renovation to the structure was the addition of fire doors and stairs at the northeast corner which is out of sight to the main entry and easily screened off with landscaping. Due to careful maintenance over the years the high quality of the architectural design and material selection of the Athenaeum is still very apparent today. The building is structurally quite sound and its physical condition today serves as a testimony to the craftsmanship, intricate detailing and technical precision of its original construction.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ILLINOIS

Date Entered JUN 7 1978

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
DuPage County Courthouse	Wheaton DuPage County
Burnham Athenaeum	Champaign Champaign County

Also Notified
Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson

Honorable Charles H. Percy
Honorable John N. Erlenborn
Honorable Edward R. Madigan

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. David Kenney
Director, Department of Conservation
602 State Office Building
400 South Spring Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706

NR

Mott/bjr

6/9/78

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Burnham Athenaeum		2 OTHER NAMES: Champaign Public Library		3 date of entry: JUN 7 1978	4 county code: 19
5 LOCATION street & number: 306 W. Church St.		city / town Champaign	vicinity of	state IL	county Champaign
7 OWNER <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL (agency name)		8 ADMINISTRATOR:		6 NPS REGION: MW	
9 EXISTING SURVEYS <input type="checkbox"/> HABS <input type="checkbox"/> HAER <input type="checkbox"/> NHL		10 FUNDED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT 21st	12 SOURCE OF NOMINATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL	
13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input type="checkbox"/> NO		14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input type="checkbox"/> NO		15 ACREAGE <input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE ORGANIZATION	
16 CONDITION <input type="checkbox"/> excellent <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> fair <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> ruins <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> unexcavated <input type="checkbox"/> altered <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> reconstructed <input type="checkbox"/> excavated		17 features: INTERIOR <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-4 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-7 EXTERIOR <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-5 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-8 ENVIRONS <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-6 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-9		if state, who prepared form? Burnham Athenaeum Committee	
18 ACCESS <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No Access <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		19 ADAPTIVE USE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		20 SAVED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE-3 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE-4 <input type="checkbox"/> ART-5		<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING-11 <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT-26 <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION-12 <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH-27 <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY-13 <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION-14		<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 <input type="checkbox"/> LAW-16 <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE-17 <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY-18 <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC-19 <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY-20	
<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVT.-21 <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION-22 <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE-23 <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION-25		<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION-28 <input type="checkbox"/> SETTLEMENT-29 <input type="checkbox"/> URBAN PLANNING-31 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		22 CLAIMS: explain 'first' <input type="checkbox"/> 'oldest' <input type="checkbox"/> 'only' <input type="checkbox"/>	
23 functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:		24 dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:		25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION	
26 architectural style(s):		27 architect:		28 master builder:	
29 landscape architect / garden designer:		30 interior decorator:		31 artist:	
32 NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:		33 artisan:		34 builder/contractor:	
35 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP					

10/25/77

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

THE BOARD OF LIBRARY DIRECTORS
OF THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN,

Plaintiff,

vs.

WILLIAM G. CLARK, ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, BRUCE BURNHAM
HARRIS, JULIA DODDS, BARBARA INGRAM,
MELISSA CHAMBERS, DEBORAH KODL, SIDNEY
BURNHAM, WILLIAM BURNHAM, and JOAN
BURNHAM GROOTHOFF,

Defendants.

IN CHANCERY
No. 67-142

FILED

OCT 24 1977

Betty J. McIlwain
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDER

This case coming on to be heard upon the complaint of the Board of Library Directors of the City of Champaign and entries of appearance of all of the defendants, and the Court being fully advised in the premises, FINDS:

1. In 1876, the City of Champaign established a public library and appointed a Board of Directors pursuant to statute.

2. On December 29, 1894, Albert C. Burnham executed a Deed of Gift conveying the following described premises:

Lots 9 and 10 of Block 4 of Farnum, Clark and White's Addition to Urbana (now a part of the City of Champaign) situated in Champaign County, Illinois,

to the Board of Directors of the City Library of the City of Champaign, State of Illinois, together with the sum of \$35,000.00 for the erection of a library building on said premises.

3. The building contemplated by said Deed was completed in 1896 and was dedicated December 17, 1896. The Library of the City of Champaign has been located in said building continuously from its completion to the present time.

4. Said building contains approximately 9,800 square feet in area and in 1967 had a collection of 75,000 volumes. The population of the City of Champaign at the time of its construction was approximately 9,300; population currently is approximately 60,000.

5. Generally accepted standards for municipal libraries call for two volumes per capita in the book collection and one-half a square foot of floor space per capita based on the expected growth in population over a 20-year period.

6. The suggested standards would require a collection of 120,000 volumes currently in a building with 40,000 square feet of floor space.

7. In addition, modern libraries provide many non-book resources such as periodicals, newspapers, maps, documents, phonograph records, films and micro-reproductions as well as facilities to use these resources.

8. On the basis of the foregoing statistics, plaintiff determined that a new building was needed for the library for the City of Champaign and one has been constructed between Randolph and State Streets and between Healy and Green Streets in the City of Champaign which is to be paid for by a bond issue approved by the voters of the City of Champaign.

9. The general purpose of the gift of said Albert C. Burnham was to provide a suitable facility for a public library for the City of Champaign, and the direction that such library be housed in the present building on the present site permanently was secondary to the general purpose. Changed conditions have made it impractical to carry out the general and primary purpose in the present building on the present site. The general purpose of the gift of the said Albert C. Burnham can best be carried out by selling the existing library building and site and by applying the proceeds from said sale to the costs of constructing or furnishing said new library structure.

10. The said Albert C. Burnham was survived by two children, Robert Davidson Burnham and Mary Burnham. The said Robert Davidson Burnham died leaving three sons surviving him who were Sidney Wilcox Burnham, Robert Davidson Burnham, and Albert C. Burnham. The said Robert Davidson Burnham and Albert C. Burnham died leaving no descendants.

Sidney Wilcox Burnham died leaving three children who are Joan Burnham Groothoff, Sidney Burnham and William Burnham, all of whom are living and all of whom are heirs of the grantor of the property here in question.

11. The said Mary Burnham died leaving three children: Bruce Burnham Harris, Julia Dodds and Barbara Harris Dobbins. Bruce Burnham Harris and Julia Dodds are now living and are heirs of the said grantor of the property here in question; Barbara Harris Dobbins died leaving three children: Barbara Ingram, Melissa Chambers and Deborah Kodl, who are all living and who are heirs of the grantor of the property here in question.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

A. The general purpose of the gift of Albert C. Burnham in the deed dated December 29, 1894, conveying the following described premises:

Lots 9 and 10 of Block 4 of Farnham, Clark and White's Addition to Urbana (now a part of the City of Champaign), situated in Champaign County, Illinois,

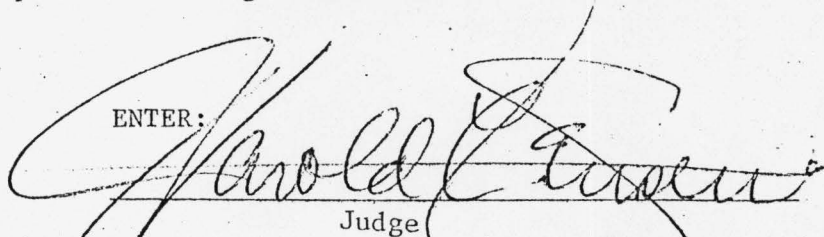
to the Board of Directors of the City Library of the City of Champaign and State of Illinois was to provide a suitable facility for a public library for the City of Champaign and the direction that such library be housed in the present building on the present site permanently was secondary to the general purpose.

B. Changed conditions have made it impractical to carry out the general and primary purpose in the present building on the present site.

C. That the present building and site should be sold by the Board of Library Directors of the City of Champaign at public sale in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 4-16 of the Illinois Local Library Act (Paragraph 4-16, Chapter 81, Illinois Revised Statutes for 1975), and the proceeds should be applied to the construction or furnishing of the new library building located between Randolph and State Streets and Green and Healey Streets in the City of Champaign.

D. That the purchaser of said premises shall take the property free of the limitations imposed in said gift from the said Albert C. Burnham.

ENTER:


Judge

CERTIFICATE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

I, _____, Clerk of the Circuit Court in
and for the County, State aforesaid, and keeper of the Records, Files and Seal of
said Court, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of

ORDER

THE BOARD OF LIBRARY DIRECTORS
OF THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN,

Plaintiff

vs

67-C-142

WILLIAM G CLARK ATTORNEY GENERAL Etc., et al.,
Defendants

as the same appears from the records and files now in this office remaining.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed
the Official Seal of Said Court, at my office in Urbana, Illinois, this 25th
day of October, A. D. 1977.

Betty J. Malton
Clerk of the Circuit Court



CONSERVATION

1978 MAR -2 PM 3: 05

LAND & HISTORIC SITES