

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Carnegie Library Otterbein University

Other names/site number: Clippinger Hall

Name of related multiple property listing:  
N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & number: 102 W. College Ave.

City or town: Westerville State: OH County: Franklin

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

## 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

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D

	
DSHPO for Inventory & Registration <b>Date: 12/22/2020</b>	
<b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>	
<u>State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection</u>	
<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
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<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

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#### 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:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

##### Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>          </u>	buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: Office

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Stone

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

The Carnegie Library is a one-story, beige pressed-brick building with limestone detailing. Neo-Classical Revival in style, it features a symmetrical façade; an emphasized, projecting entrance block; a portico-in-antis; Doric columns; and a pedimented parapet above the entrance, giving the essence of a temple front. The building is situated on the Otterbein University campus in Westerville, Ohio. Completed in 1908, it was designed by Frank L. Packard. The Carnegie Library maintains historic integrity and continues to reflect an institutional association with higher education.

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### Narrative Description

#### Setting

The Carnegie Library is two blocks west of State Street, which is Westerville's primary commercial thoroughfare. It is situated in the southeast pocket of the Otterbein University campus, at the northeast corner of Grove and College streets. The Carnegie Library is across the street from the 1871 Towers Hall, the university's oldest extant building (NRHP listed, Ref# 71000638). Towers Hall is roughly in the middle of a central campus quad. (Photo 1) Facing North Grove Street, the Church of the Master United Methodist church is behind the library, immediately to the north. The two-story Neo-Classical Revival style church was constructed in 1915, purposely utilizing a similar brick color as the extant library. (Photo 4) Residential buildings are to the east of the Carnegie Library. The nearby housing stock consists of two-story

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brick and frame houses, largely constructed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. On a large corner lot, the library building is set back on its parcel, with an expansive lawn in front of and to the sides of the building. It is slightly elevated above street level. A wide flight of stairs from the sidewalk leads to a terrace level, and a higher set of narrower stairs accesses the main entrance. See Attachment A – Maps.

### **Exterior**

The Carnegie Library footprint is an irregular shape comprised of three rectangular sections. The front section is the largest and most ornate. Raised brick courses are at the four corners of this section, creating a quoin pattern. Behind it is the smallest section, with some, but less ornamentation. The third, rear, section is larger than the middle section, but smaller than the front. It lacks ornamentation, other than the wide, wood entablature that encircles the building. The one-story building rests on a raised limestone block foundation, which has a sawed finish. Basement windows are set within the raised foundation. All window openings on the first floor have stone sills. The first floor windows on the façade, east, and west elevations of the front section have brick soldier course lintels with a stone keystone. The window openings of the middle section have a matching brick soldier course lintel, but no keystone. The rear elevation window openings do not have soldier course lintels. The windows throughout the building were replaced in the early 2000s within original openings, retaining the fenestration pattern. The building has a hipped asphalt roof, which was historically a clay tile roof replaced in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. A chimney is within the roof surface on the west and east sides of the building, to the rear of the front section. It is composed of the same brick and has stone detailing.

### Façade

The symmetrical façade faces south onto brick-paved College Avenue. (Photos 1-2, 4) The façade features a central entry pavilion that projects forward from the plane of the building. The emphasized entrance is nine steps above the terrace level. The stone steps have stone block knee walls and a simple metal railing. The door is recessed and two Doric columns in antis flank the recessed opening. The top two-thirds of the columns are fluted. The door itself was replaced in the early 1960s, within the original opening with a metal storefront-type system. Three stacked header courses frame the door opening, culminating with stone corner blocks. The wood entablature at the entrance pavilion is more decorative than the rest of the building. It has wood blocks that create a dentil pattern. Every fifth brick course is raised on the pavilion crating a rusticated effect. A narrow vertically oriented window is on each side of the entry stairs. These windows have stone sills and stone, splayed keystones. A name plate is centered above the doorway in the parapet. The original Carnegie Library signage has been covered with the current name of the building, Clippinger Hall. The stone name plate is topped with a carving in relief of foliage and an open book. The center of the parapet wall has a shallow-pitch pediment. The remainder of the façade has a large window on each side of the projecting pavilion, with a basement window directly below.

### East and West Elevations

The east and west elevations are identical. (Photos 3-4) They each have three centered window bays on the first floor, which are separated by brick pilasters. Three basement windows are

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directly below each first floor window. The smaller, recessed middle section has two windows at the first floor and one basement window, centered within the section. The rear section is a blank wall at the first floor, and there are two centered basement window bays.

### Rear Elevation

The north elevation of the main front section continues the quoin detailing from the front, but does not have any fenestration. The rear elevation of the building has nine window bays, all with a transom window included within the opening. (Photo 5) There are four basement windows, as well as a centered door opening. The rear entrance retains the original three-panel wood door, with a glass pane, and a two-light transom window. A concrete ramp with poured concrete retaining walls leads to the basement door, which is below grade. A brick foundation is visible below the stone water table at this location. Simple metal railings are on top of the retaining walls.

### **Interior**

A 1907 article<sup>1</sup> describes the interior of the Carnegie Library as having a central delivery lobby with a librarian's desk on the north wall, in the front section. See Attachment B – Historic Images. The west side of the main (public) section contained a study, while the east side contained a reading room. A front vestibule just inside the front door contained stairs on each side, accessing the basement. A small study room was north of the delivery lobby and a librarian's office was directly opposite it, on the east side. A central corridor behind the librarian's desk separated these two smaller rooms and also provided access to the stack room in the rear section of the building. The basement was described as having a central corridor with two good sized lecture rooms in the front portion, men's and women's restrooms in the middle section of the building, and a large workroom in the rear section below the stacks.

### 1<sup>st</sup> floor

The current configuration of rooms in the Carnegie Library Building is mostly intact from the original plan, however some of the larger rooms have been sub-divided for smaller offices. This occurred in 1955, after the library function was relocated and the building was remodeled for administrative uses.

Upon entering the building, a vestibule is still present and a set of stairs on the west side of the vestibule leads to the basement. (Photos 6-7) The wood stairwell has a wood railing and decorative banister from the first floor down to the landing. A wood panel end wall is at the stairwell opening in the vestibule. There is no stairwell on the east side of the vestibule, as was indicated on the original architectural blueprints. It is not clear if those stairs have been removed, or if they were never constructed. A small alcove room, off of the lobby, is in this space instead, and the room once contained the card catalog. The entrance vestibule has a plaster ceiling with an acanthus leaf cornice.

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<sup>1</sup> "Library Building Designed By Frank L. Packard of Columbus, Will Be a Model," *Westerville Public Opinion*, August 1, 1907.

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The lobby is the most decorative area of the building. (Photos 7-11) It is a double-height space with a coffered barrel vault ceiling, which has three stained glass skylights. The walls feature embedded pilasters with Greek fretwork capitals. The pilasters support a classical entablature of Greek fretwork, bead-and-reel, and egg-and-dart motifs. The pilasters have recessed panels that are framed with carved bead and reel detailing. The pilasters rest on a wood wainscot, and they separate arched bays leading into the north rooms. A bronze plaque, designed by Frank Packard in 1907, is on the south lobby wall to the west of the vestibule doorway (Photos 8-9).

The former reading room on the east end of the building remains a single open room, with the fireplace intact on the north wall. (Photo 12) The fireplace has a tile hearth and wood mantel that has wood brackets, which mimic the entablature on the façade entry pavilion. The large study that was on the west end of the building has been divided into two offices (Photo 13), and the fireplace mantle that was in this room was removed, although the fireplace itself is still present. The alcove room, on the south side of the lobby, retains an original closet door. (Photo 14) It has a wood surround and a one-panel wood door, with a single vertical glass pane. The small decorative windows seen on the façade's projecting entrance block are located in this closet and a matching closet situated on the basement stair landing.

Door and window surrounds in the front portion of the building have wide, stepped wood trim and tall wood baseboards. (Photo 7) The first floor is carpeted throughout. Investigation shows that the original ceramic tile flooring is underneath the carpet in the lobby, although it is obscured with adhesive. The vestibule originally had a marble floor and some marble baseboard remnants are still visible. The ceiling in the vestibule, alcove room, and lobby remain plaster, while an acoustic tile drop ceiling has been added (date unknown) into the former reading room and the offices in the front building section as well as the rooms in the middle section. The drop ceiling is situated above the window openings, including trim work.

The middle section of the building retains the corridor and small rooms which flank it. (Photo 15) This area behind the delivery lobby is intact, retaining original trim work and doors. (Photo 16) The rear portion of the building that once contained stacks was sub-divided into four offices in 1955, with a secondary east-west corridor accessing them. (Photos 17-18) Trim work in this area is more simplified than the front portion of the building. The ceiling appears to be drywall, and within the offices it partially obscures the window openings. The lowered ceiling in this area covers the original transom and the upper portion of the top sash. At the east end of the rear corridor, there is a metal staircase leading up to a storage mezzanine that was historically part of the stack room. The stairwell has simple metal railings and square balustrades, and historic images show that the mezzanine was open/visible to the level below. (Photo 19) The mezzanine has a low plaster ceiling and linoleum floor tiles. (Photo 20)

### Basement

On the stair landing leading to the basement, there is a closet/mechanical room with an original closet door that matches the one in the alcove, off of the lobby. Due to the difference in floor level, the window in this closet is high up on the wall.

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The stairs from the landing down to the basement level have been covered with linoleum, and the original wood railing is more simplified than at the upper level of the stairwell. (Photo 21) The original north-south corridor remains intact, but the large basement rooms have been divided into smaller offices. (Photos 22-24) Doorways within the basement have the same trim as that in the former first floor stacks and potentially date to the 1955 adaptive reuse of the building. Window openings are situated high on the wall, with most retaining original wood sills. There are some original wood doors intact at closets and mechanical rooms. The basement has been carpeted throughout and has an acoustical drop ceiling. Within the offices, the drop ceiling is held back from the windows, creating a well where the top and bottom sash are both visible and intact.

### **Historic Integrity**

The Carnegie Library at Otterbein University maintains historic integrity. It remains in its original location and the building has integrity of setting, at the edge of the college campus and adjacent to residential buildings from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century era. It retains materials and craftsmanship from its original construction, including brick work with stone detailing, a decorative wood entablature encompassing the building, a stone book carving on the façade's pediment, and stone columns at the entrance. The primary exterior alteration is the replacement of the windows and front door. However, the original openings were retained and the replacements do not detract from the overall historic appearance of the building. On the interior, intact materials include the front wood staircase, wood window and door surrounds, and wood baseboards. The wood and tile fireplace is intact in the reading room, while in the lobby plaster ceilings, embedded pilasters and a classical entablature are intact. Additionally, stained glass skylights are intact in the lobby. The primary interior alteration of materials is the installation of acoustic tile drop ceiling in some areas. However, in the front section of the building, this lowered ceiling does not infringe upon the historic window openings and trim, and the original plaster ceiling may be intact above. In the back section of the building, the lowered ceiling faces the rear elevation in a less visible area of the building. Within the basement offices, the drop ceiling is held back from the windows and they are fully intact. This area is also secondary space and the drop ceiling does not detract from the overall integrity of materials. Although adapted for a change in use, the overall configuration of the original floor plan is intact. The ornate, public lobby remains, and the primary circulation patterns are in place. The stairwells remain in their original location, and one of the large reading rooms remains undivided. The building also retains key features of its original Neo-Classical architectural style and design. These include the corner quoins and rustication at the entrance, an emphasized entry portico with Doric columns in antis, and heavy lintels with keystones. Although the building no longer functions as a library, it retains a sense of time and place, continuing to reflect its historic association with Otterbein University as the campus' former early 20<sup>th</sup> century library.



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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- 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

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Education

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1908-1954

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1908

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Packard, Frank L.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Carnegie Library at Otterbein University was constructed in 1907-1908, coinciding with an increase in the institution's growth during the first decade of 1900. It is nominated under Criterion A in the area of education for association with the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Carnegie Library Program and its role in the history of Otterbein University. It is also being nominated under Criterion C as an intact example of Frank L. Packard's library and educational designs. Packard was one of Columbus' most prominent local master architects practicing in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Period of Significance is 1908, when the building was completed, to 1954, when it ceased being a library. The Carnegie Library is being nominated at the local level of significance.

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

**Criteria A and C:**

The Carnegie Library Otterbein University is nominated under Criterion A for its association with the growth and expansion of Otterbein into a modern academic campus during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Before the 1907-08 construction of the Carnegie Library, the college's library was in two over-stuffed rooms in Towers Hall (NRHP ref #71000683). The nominated Carnegie Library Otterbein University is the only remaining campus building representing the campus' growth in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, during a period when it reached enrollment numbers not previously seen in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Being the first dedicated library building, it enhanced the college's educational offerings beyond the classroom setting. It enabled Otterbein to consolidate several smaller, mostly private, literary libraries into the college's collection, in one facility for all students to easily access. The new Carnegie Library also provided the space for further library acquisitions, including trade and professional journals, which were an increasingly important educational tool in the early 1900s. The acquisition of additional academic publications was nearly impossible in the overcrowded original library, which also did not allow for study space. Once completed, the Carnegie Library Otterbein University was a key component of the college's educational curriculum.

The Carnegie Library is also nominated under Criterion C as an illustration of the Carnegie Library building type and as an intact example of architect Frank L. Packard's library and educational designs.

**Otterbein University and Westerville – Background History**

At the time the Carnegie Library was constructed, Otterbein University was experiencing a growth spurt. In 1904, enrollment had reached an all-time high of 400, and three other new buildings were constructed during the first decade of the new century. This was significant progress since its modest beginnings in a rural outpost. A Christian liberal arts college, Otterbein University was founded in 1847 by the General Conference of the United Brethren

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Church. Formed in 1767 by Martin Boehm and William Otterbein, the Church of the United Brethren in Christ is considered the first denomination founded in the United States.<sup>2</sup> Started in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, by German-speaking congregants and born out of a revival movement occurring during the era, the denomination spread westward with German immigrants.

The national General Conference, which oversaw regional conferences, had begun advocating for 'institutions of learning' for the denomination in 1845. The Scioto Conference, which contained the United Brethren concentrations of Circleville and Dayton, was the first to answer the call with Otterbein University. Far removed from the nucleus of Circleville or Dayton, the location in Westerville was by mere chance; while in Columbus, a Westerville resident overheard two United Brethren clergymen talking about the desire to establish a college.

Westerville in 1845 was an unincorporated hamlet, having just been platted in 1839. It had been the home of the Methodist-associated Blendon Young Men's Seminary. Founded by two early Westerville pioneers, the academy only operated for five years, 1839-1944, before succumbing to excessive debt. The overheard Columbus conversation led the Westerville resident to rally his neighbors and approach the United Brethren, offering the defunct seminary buildings for sale. The inhabitants of the fledgling village were so determined to have a college return to the abandoned buildings that a committee traveled to Circleville for the Scioto Conference in October 1846 in an effort to persuade the General Conference to make the purchase. Their efforts were successful – the United Brethren Church purchased the eight-acre seminary parcel, which included two buildings, for \$1,300.

Under the authority of United Brethren committee members (Rev. William Hanby, Jonathan Dresbach, and Rev. Lewis Davis), the sale was completed on April 26, 1847, which is considered Otterbein University's official founding date. The first classes were begun on September 1, 1847. From its inception, the college was open-minded in its admissions policies.

From the beginning women were admitted as students and as members of the faculty. The college's first historian, Professor Henry Garst, claimed that in 1847 Otterbein was the first college in America to open its doors to young women without limitation or restriction of any kind, although he gave credit to Oberlin for having the first women graduates, in 1841, and to Antioch College for first sending out women graduates on terms of complete equality with men in 1857.<sup>3</sup>

Indeed, Otterbein's first two graduates were women– Miss Kate Winter and Miss Jennie Miller, who received degrees of Mistress of Arts in 1857.<sup>4</sup> The university also allowed black students to attend, making it one of the earliest institutions in the United States to do so. The Board of Trustees encouraged recruitment of black students in 1854, but the first one to enroll didn't arrive until 1859. The college was also open to other denominations, but students and faculty were predominantly of the United Brethren denomination. Given these sensibilities, it is not

<sup>2</sup> <https://ub.org/about/history/>

<sup>3</sup> Hancock, Harold. *The History of Otterbein College: 1930-1972* (Westerville, Ohio: Otterbein College, 1971), p.2.

<sup>4</sup> Hancock, *The History of Otterbein College: 1930-1972*, p. 4.

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surprising that people associated with Otterbein were active in the abolition movement, along with others in Westerville and the nearby Worthington vicinity.

Dr. Lewis Davis was Otterbein's first president, serving in that capacity 1850-57 and again in 1860-1871. His house at the present location of the Carnegie Library was documented in *Mysteries of Ohio's Underground Railroads*, by William H. Siebert as a place of refuge for runaway slaves.<sup>5</sup> Siebert's book reports that Rev. Davis was active in hiding "wayfarers back of cornstalks hanging from their attic rafters" from 1848-1854.<sup>6</sup> Rev. William Hanby, one of Otterbein's founders and eventual 15th Bishop of the United Brethren in Christ Church, relocated to Westerville from Fairfield County in 1854. The family occupied the 1846 house at the southeast corner of Main and Grove streets (just behind the Davis House and the present location of the Church of the Master United Methodist) from 1854 to 1870. Rev. Hanby built a large barn behind the house for his harness and saddle making business. "Both he and President Davis now harbored their runaways in the haymow of the new barn, which was guarded by a large dog inside."<sup>7</sup> Hanby's oldest son, Benjamin, attended Otterbein and famously wrote the song *Darling Nelly Gray* in the family home.<sup>8</sup>

As the Civil War approached, Otterbein had grown from the initial two buildings to have "two substantial brick buildings (Saum Hall and a Young Ladies Hall), with an additional frame structure. A large brick "Main Building" containing recitation halls, society rooms, and a chapel was in process of erection. A library in the new building contained 1300 books, and others were available in society rooms."<sup>9</sup> The 1856 *Franklin County Atlas* shows Saum Hall (constructed 1854), Main Building, Ladies Hall, and a Recitation Hall in a row on the east side of the campus property, oriented to Grove Street (See Attachment A). Dr. Davis' house is indicated, as are a number of nearby houses denoted as the homes of reverends/professors.

Otterbein University persevered, but struggled financially as the 19<sup>th</sup> century progressed, especially during the Civil War when enrollment was down. In 1870, the 'Main Building' was destroyed by fire. At this point, there was serious consideration of moving the college to Dayton, which was the United Brethren's headquarters and publishing center. However, Franklin County residents pledged to support the struggling college, and \$35,000 was raised to construct a new building. Completed in 1871, the building, currently known as Towers Hall, was a large, imposing administrative, classroom facility, which also included a chapel and library space. The 1872 *Franklin County Atlas* shows that Towers Hall replaced the smaller 1850s buildings, with the exception of one in the southeast corner of the campus property, and the old Saum Hall had become the Ladies Hall.

<sup>5</sup> Given the Italianate style and the change in form shown on historic maps, the Davis house where slaves were hidden from 1848-1854 likely was an earlier house on the site and not the same house that was torn down for construction of the Carnegie Library.

<sup>6</sup> Siebert, Wilbur Henry. *The Mysteries of Ohio's Underground Railroads* (Columbus, Ohio: Long's College Book Co., 1951), p.173.

<sup>7</sup> Siebert, *The Mysteries of Ohio's Underground Railroads*, p.174-175.

<sup>8</sup> The Hanby House has been moved twice – the second time in the 1930s to its present location at 160 W. Main Street. It is owned by the Ohio History Connection and operated as a museum by the Westerville Historical Society.

<sup>9</sup> Hancock, *The History of Otterbein College: 1930-1972*, p. 6.

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At a cost of \$17,000, the Christian Association Building, “the first such college structure west of the Allegheny Mountains...,”<sup>10</sup> was the next campus building to be constructed. In 1877, Otterbein was the first college in Ohio to have a branch of the YMCA, and six years later it had the first YWCA.<sup>11</sup> A student fundraising campaign resulted in the new Christian Association Building, completed in 1892-93. It was constructed in the southeast corner of the campus property, replacing the extant building seen on the 1872 Atlas map. For the school year beginning in 1898, Saum Hall was determined to be inadequate as a dormitory, and it was remodeled to serve as a science building. The female students were then obligated to find rental rooms within the village.

By 1900, both Otterbein University and Westerville had matured together, and “the fledgling village benefited from the college presence, which contributed to its cultural growth and physical development.”<sup>12</sup> Westerville had grown from a hamlet of a little more than a dozen houses in the 1840s, when Otterbein was established, to having enough residents to incorporate as a village in 1858. In 1860, Westerville had 275 inhabitants, but “this number nearly doubled when the college was in session. The combined population stood at 871 ten years later in 1870, mostly made up of shopkeepers, clerks, farmers, and students.”<sup>13</sup>

The village’s late 19<sup>th</sup> century growth was related to improvements in transportation. A railroad line was completed through Westerville in 1873, and in 1895, an interurban streetcar down State Street was completed. Both improvements strengthened the village’s connection to Columbus, the state capital, 12 miles away. In 1880, Westerville’s population reached 1,148 and 1,329 in 1890. Westerville’s growing commercial core centered on State Street, between North (Home) and Avenue (College) streets. Closing out the century, it had several churches of multiple denominations, a few fraternal organizations, and public amenities, such as schools and a fire department. Despite these attributes, Westerville was slow to make other civic improvements. “The village still lacked paved streets and sidewalks, adequate fire protection, and a water plant. In fact, it was not until Otterbein formed a committee in 1901 to again study options for moving the university to Dayton, that the village was spurred to act. Bond issues were passed in 1901 to pay for a waterworks, sewage plant, and street macadamizing.”<sup>14</sup>

Twice Otterbein University’s leadership had considered relocating to Dayton. Westerville’s commitment to improving its infrastructure appears to have helped make the decision to remain. As a result, the college embarked on a building campaign from 1906 to 1909, doubling the number of edifices from four to eight. The four new buildings included a campus heating plant, 1906; the 1906 women’s dormitory (Cochran Hall); a Conservatory of Music and Arts (Lambert Hall), constructed 1908-09; and the Carnegie Library, 1907-08. All were largely funded by donations and constructed by Westerville’s noted builder, Henry Karg. This decade also

<sup>10</sup> Hancock, *The History of Otterbein College: 1930-1972*, p. 8.

<sup>11</sup> Hancock, *The History of Otterbein College: 1930-1972*, p. 9.

<sup>12</sup> Williams, Judith B. *Uptown Westerville Historic District National Register of Historic Places nomination* (2019), p.25.

<sup>13</sup> Williams, *Uptown Westerville Historic District*, p.27.

<sup>14</sup> Williams, *Uptown Westerville Historic District*, p.33.

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coincided with an increase in enrollment to 400, a new benchmark in 1904, and a major endeavor to eliminate the college's debt, which finally occurred for the first time in its history.

With the exception of the heating plant, which sat tucked away and out of sight at the far western edge of the quad, the new buildings were oriented to Grove Street. This maintained Otterbein's presence on Grove Street, clustered at the intersections of Home, Main, College, and Park streets. The four-building expansion that occurred 1906-1909 remained the largest grouping of new construction for 40 years, until after World War II. Only three buildings were constructed between then and before the war, and all three were west of and behind the extant core collection of campus buildings. In 1918-19, the McFadden Science Hall was constructed on the quad, oriented to Main Street. King Hall, a boys' dormitory, was built in 1926, at the southeast corner of W. Main and West streets. It was situated within a residential block, separated from campus by Maple Street. Historically and through at least 1962, Maple Street was the western boundary of the quad. In 1929, the Alumni Gymnasium was constructed on the quad, at the northwest corner of W. Park and Maple streets.

By 1926, Otterbein had 516 full-time students, but the Great Depression severely impacted the institution and there were only 285 students by 1933.<sup>15</sup> Enrollment began to grow again by the end of the decade however. "For two years the college led all institutions in Ohio in percentage of increase in enrollment, the student body numbering 536 in the fall of 1941."<sup>16</sup> As the United States entered the war, Otterbein was once again greatly impacted by outside forces. In just two years after the 1941 peak, enrollment fell to 286. As WWII ended and the G.I. Bill flooded universities across the U.S. with new students, colleges like Otterbein were faced with a sudden rush of enrollments and a campus that hadn't physically grown for years.

The 1945-46 school year had an unprecedented total enrollment of 670 students, including 300 freshmen, many of which being veterans. The campus was suddenly faced with the challenge of 151 veterans adjusting to a college environment, a shortage of accommodations, and different leadership. The president, the vice president, and the dean of women were all new.

Toward the end of his term of office, President Howard recalled that his first year on campus in 1945-46 was quiet and peaceful, but that the next four years of veterans and expansion were hectic with problems of finding teachers, procuring classrooms, increasing seating space in an overcrowded library, and seeking housing for faculty in students... Then came several years of contraction with shrinking enrollments, unbalanced budgets, diminished faculty, abbreviated curricula, postponed or reduced maintenance services, and spiraling inflation...<sup>17</sup>

The following school year, 1946-47, had even more explosive enrollment, with more than double the number of veterans (379), including ten women, and overall enrollment stood at 966 for the four classes, plus special and music students. The following school year topped 1,000 for the total number of students, with a peak of 415 veterans. As the veterans graduated and there were

<sup>15</sup> Hancock, *The History of Otterbein College: 1930-1972*, p. 20.

<sup>16</sup> Hancock, *The History of Otterbein College: 1930-1972*, p. 22.

<sup>17</sup> Hancock, *The History of Otterbein College: 1930-1972*, p. 28.

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fewer students to take their place, due to the low birth rate during the Depression, enrollment correspondingly dipped in the early 1950s. By 1954, the number of students was increasing again, but at a slower, more even pace. Based upon the recommendations of a Long Range Planning Committee, Otterbein University adopted a goal of regular enrollment of 900-1000 students in an effort to avoid the drastic highs and lows experienced after WWII.

The last campus building constructed before WWII was the Alumni Gymnasium in 1929. During the enrollment burst of the late 1940s, temporary trailers and barracks supplied by the federal government were used to house the veteran students, but only two new buildings were constructed that decade. Barlow Dining Hall was constructed in 1947-48, and Memorial Stadium, dedicated to Otterbein's veterans and fourteen war dead, was completed in 1948. It was not until the 1950s that a large scale building program began, with six new buildings constructed that decade, including Cowan Hall, completed in 1951, containing the Otterbein College Theater and the 1956 Clements Hall, which was built behind the 1906 Cochran women's dormitory. Some of these new buildings replaced ones from the early 1900s. For example, the Centennial Library, completed seven years after the 1947 centennial, replaced the Carnegie Library facility. The 1906 heating plant on the quad was demolished, and a new heating plant was constructed in 1957.

By 1962, when Otterbein was kicking off another capital campaign for construction, the college had grown into a 40-acre campus (from its original eight) and had 22 buildings. The capital campaign called for an addition to the Centennial Library, which would double its size. Although a decade earlier it had been determined to aim for an enrollment of 900-1,000, by 1962 the college's trustees had raised it to 1,400. In August 1966, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported on Otterbein's continued growth. "Although Otterbein College in Westerville hasn't decided whether it wants to grow in enrollment, it intends to keep right on building...Expansion of facilities is continuing unabated..."<sup>18</sup> Ultimately, eight new buildings were completed in the 1960s, plus the 1919 McFadden Science Hall was remodeled and had an addition completed in 1966-69. Also during this time, it was determined to build an entirely new library, rather than expand the Centennial Library. Located on the north side of W. Main St., across from McFadden Hall, the Otterbein College Library (later renamed Courtright Memorial Library), was constructed 1969-1972. While other late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> century buildings dot the campus, today, much of Otterbein's streetscape continues to reflect the construction boom that occurred in the 25 years after WWII.

### Extant Historic Campus Buildings

The oldest building on Otterbein's campus, the 1854 Saum Hall, mostly served as a dormitory during its life span, except for a stint as the science building in the early 1900s. It existed into the 1960s, but was demolished when the adjacent Courtright Memorial library was constructed in 1969-72. The 1893 Association Building was also eventually demolished after the 1970s, and a building completed in 1993 stands in its place. Of the four buildings from the initial enrollment boom in the first decade of 1900, only the Carnegie Library survives, converted into an office

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<sup>18</sup> Lore, David. "Otterbein Plans Physical Growth," *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, August 11, 1966.



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building. The 1906 heating plant was demolished in 1958. The 1906 Cochran women's dorm was demolished after suffering severe fire damage in 1975. The 1909 Lambert Memorial Music & Art Hall was razed sometime after the 1970s, and a parking lot is in its place. In addition to Towers Hall and the Carnegie Library, the other older (pre-WWII) campus buildings remaining are the 1926 King Hall, which is still a dormitory, and the Alumni Gym, which was converted into the Battelle Fine Arts Center.

### **Carnegie Library at Otterbein University – Background History**

Previous to construction of the Carnegie Library, the Otterbein University's library collection occupied two rooms in the administration building. In 1903, it held 6,385 volumes and needed more space. Planning for the Carnegie Library had begun in early 1904, when the university applied for a Carnegie grant of \$35,000. No return communication was received from the Carnegie organization by the time the university's new president, Dr. Lewis Bookwalter, arrived in the fall of 1904. President Bookwalter sent in a new application several months later and this time it was successful. On April 5, 1905, he announced that Otterbein University had been awarded \$20,000 from Andrew Carnegie for construction of a new library. Efforts to raise the required \$20,000 matching endowment began immediately.

On November 1, 1906, the *Westerville Public Opinion* reported that the matching funds had been raised from university-associated supporters and community members and that a site had been chosen for the new library building. The site, at the northeast corner of Grove and College streets, was the location of the university's conservatory of music. Also scheduled to get a new building, the conservatory of music was in the former home of Lewis Davis. Dr. Davis was Otterbein's first president and the Italianate house had served as the conservatory of music since 1888.

In January 1907, the university's executive committee hired Frank L. Packard as the architect for the new library. In July, Henry Karg of Westerville was hired as the contractor in charge of constructing the Carnegie Library. They were paid \$424.50 and \$15,909.80, respectively. Demolition of the Davis house on the site was completed by August. With the goal of having the library ready for the fall class of 1908, the construction schedule was accelerated. It was completed on time, and a dedication ceremony was held on June 9, 1908. Edgar L. Weinland, chairman of the building committee, presented the keys to the board president, F.H. Rike. Tizra L. Barnes was the university's first full-time librarian, overseeing the transition of the campus library from two overcrowded rooms into its own building. An Otterbein graduate (1885), Barnes taught in Michigan and Illinois before returning to Otterbein University in 1890, where she taught and was also the Ladies Department Principal. By 1896, she added assistant librarian to her duties. In 1905, she became the head librarian, retaining the position until 1934. Under Barnes' management, the university library grew and modernized its systems. At the time of its construction; 1907, the Carnegie Library was designed to hold 25,000 volumes in the stacks, and it had 10,335 books when it opened the following year. Otterbein had four literary societies, which maintained their own libraries, but they were eventually folded into the main library after the Carnegie building was completed. After studying the Dewey Decimal System for two summers at Chautauqua, Barnes brought it to Otterbein's library, making it

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contemporaneous with other up-to-date library catalogs. She was also active in the American Library Association, traveling to conferences across the country. Barnes' early tenure at Otterbein's library reflects the time period when the profession of librarianship was emerging in general and as an accepted female occupation.

In 1922, new steel stacks were added on the mezzanine. This brought the stack rooms to full capacity, and it was estimated that it would take care of the library's supply "for the next two years."<sup>19</sup> By 1943, the university's library had over 35,000 volumes and once again it was too small for its current needs. With an eye toward its centennial in 1947, the Otterbein College Centennial fundraising campaign was begun in the fall of 1944. A primary goal of the \$625,000 capital campaign was for a new, much larger library to replace the Carnegie building. Part of the need for a new library stemmed from the increased number of materials and also from academic guidelines for college libraries. "The present recommendations of all major accrediting bodies are that college libraries should seat one-third of the student body at one time. The seating capacity of the present library is sixty-five. The new library is being planned to serve a student body of 640 full-time students."<sup>20</sup>

After a decade of planning and waiting, the Otterbein Centennial Library was constructed in 1953-54. The materials and volumes of the Carnegie Library were moved in the summer of 1954 to the new building, which was an addition behind Towers Hall facing into the campus quad. The original library building was then converted to offices for a multitude of departments. The president, vice president, registrar, director of admissions, and the dean of women occupied the first floor. The basement housed offices for alumni and public relations, advancement program, and the treasurer.

In 1955, Carnegie Library was remodeled for its new office function, with a donated gift of \$25,000 from Dr. J.S. Gruver. At the benefactor's request it was renamed Clippinger Hall, after his friend Dr. Walter G. Clippinger, Otterbein's longest-serving and beloved president 1909-1939. Having received permission from the Carnegie Corporation, the name of the building was officially changed and dedicated on June 2, 1956. Since then, it has remained an office building, and today, the building houses the Office of Admissions.

### **Carnegie Libraries – Background History**

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, Andrew Carnegie funded 1,419 grants across the United States, which paid for the construction of 1,689 public library buildings.<sup>21</sup> Although his endeavor was instrumental in helping to establish a public library system in hundreds of communities, the philanthropic library program never had a formal name. These buildings, plus 830 public libraries in other English-speaking countries, as well as "academic and specialized libraries, library schools, and professional and scholarly organizations" totaled \$68,333,973 in

<sup>19</sup> "Library Gets New Stacks," *The Tan & Cardinal*, January 30, 1922.

<sup>20</sup> "To Replace the Old – The New 'Centennial Library,'" 1947, p.9.

<sup>21</sup> Jones, Theodore. *Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy* (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1997), p.128.

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donated funds.<sup>22</sup> There were fewer academic libraries funded than public libraries, but the Carnegie grants for academic libraries were critical for the growth of an institution of higher learning that received one. Often also incorporating study space, having a dedicated academic library enhanced the educational offerings that a college could provide. The nominated Carnegie Library at Otterbein University illustrates this important subset of the Carnegie library grant program.

Andrew Carnegie was a Scottish immigrant, arriving in the United States in 1848 with his parents. He was 13 years old and quickly found employment in a textile mill in the family's new hometown of Allegheny, Pennsylvania, which was near Pittsburgh. He advanced through the company, eventually landing an office position where he learned to be a telegraph operator. He was so accomplished with the telegraph work that he was reportedly one of three men across the country who could take messages by ear.<sup>23</sup> This important, and impressive, skill landed him a position as a private telegraph operator for the superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Thomas A. Scott, in 1853. At 18 years old, Carnegie was then in a position to embark on a journey of self-improvement and was in proximity to wealthy, educated, and influential men. He later credited his new access to the private library of Colonel James Anderson as being a pivotal moment in his self-education.

As before, Carnegie rose through the ranks at the Pennsylvania Railroad, while expanding upon his knowledge and business contacts. He also began to make investments in oil, coal, railroad-related manufacturers, and iron companies. In 1865, at the age of 30, he left the railroad for a business career and within a few short years had amassed a fortune. In 1875, he co-founded a steel company. Located near Pittsburgh, the Carnegie Steel Company ultimately became an empire of multiple steel-related businesses. Carnegie was a shrewd businessman and keen investor in the latest technology for his factories, all of which culminated in his being one of the richest men in America. Though he often praised the virtues of the working man, he himself having started off as one, the working conditions in the steel mill were brutal, dangerous, low-paying 12-hour shifts, seven days a week. These conditions contributed to the company's profits and Carnegie's wealth, and seemingly at odds with himself, he famously published a treatise, *The Gospel of Wealth*, in 1889, where he criticized excess wealth, promoted philanthropy, and asserted that "The man who dies thus rich dies disgraced."<sup>24</sup> Carnegie eventually gave away roughly \$350 million, largely to causes associated with science research, education, world peace, and cultural facilities, like Carnegie Hall in New York City. It was in this context that his library grant program was established.

Carnegie funded several buildings in his hometown of Dunfermline, Scotland, including his first library donation in 1881. In the late 1880s, he donated money for a main library and eight branches in Pittsburgh. The Carnegie steel towns of Allegheny and Braddock, both in Pennsylvania, received libraries in 1890 and 1889 respectively. Later, Johnstown (1891) and Homestead (1898), Pennsylvania, were gifted libraries from Carnegie. Completed in 1893, a

<sup>22</sup> Jones, *Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy*, p.3.

<sup>23</sup> Jones, *Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy*, p.5.

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.history.com/topics/19th-century/andrew-carnegie>

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Carnegie-funded library in Fairfield, Iowa, was the first one constructed that was the result of a direct request for money and located somewhere without any association with Carnegie. The libraries funded between 1881 and 1897 were dubbed the Retail Period by Carnegie, and the ones funded after 1898 were dubbed the Wholesale Period.

The Wholesale Period of library construction was more structured, and it was supervised by Carnegie's personal secretary, James Bertram. The Carnegie library grants were for the construction of a building only and not for the book collection or library's operation. A questionnaire was submitted with basic information about the community, including its book collection and where it was currently housed and its finances.

Carnegie's tenets for the library program were very simple. To be eligible, a community had to demonstrate need for a public library, provide the building site, and promise to support library services and maintenance with tax funds equal to 10 percent of the grant amount annually. Thus, a \$10,000 grant required the town to dedicate \$1,000 in support each year. If the stipulations were met, the grant was usually approved.<sup>25</sup>

The last grant was awarded in 1919, the year of Andrew Carnegie's death. After 21 years dedicated to the Carnegie library program, Delaware, Rhode Island, and Alaska were the only states that did not have one constructed. Alaska was not yet a state, but Hawaii, also still a territory at the time, was granted funds for one Carnegie library.

#### Academic and Ohio Carnegie Libraries

With 111 constructed, Ohio ranks fifth in the United States for the number of Carnegie libraries. At the 2002 publication of *Carnegie Libraries of Ohio: Our Cultural Heritage*, librarian and author Mary Ellen Armentrout reported that ten had been demolished. In Ohio and elsewhere, the large majority of the Carnegie libraries were public facilities. However, some of them were academic or specialized libraries. Within Ohio's 111 total, there were nine academic libraries constructed, including the Carnegie Library at Otterbein University.

Less has been written about the academic libraries funded by Carnegie than the public ones. Between 1886 and 1921, Carnegie donations assisted with the construction of 108 college libraries in the U.S.<sup>26</sup> Often, the Carnegie-funded academic library was the first campus building dedicated solely to holding the institution's volumes, plus room for study space. This was the case for the four college libraries documented in the Carnegie Libraries of Kansas Thematic Resources nomination, as well as the 1908 Carnegie Library on the Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University. Similarly, Otterbein University's Carnegie Library was the first building constructed on the campus expressly to hold a library.

Carnegie's funding also extended to Historically Black College and Universities (HBCUs). The 1908 Carnegie Library at Fisk University was designed by Moses McKissack III, also significant

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<sup>25</sup> Jones, *Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy*, p.26.

<sup>26</sup> Hagadorn, Martha Gray. *Washburn University Carnegie Library Building National Register of Historic Places nomination*, 1987, p.8-1.

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as one of the first major buildings designed by an African-American architect in the U.S.<sup>27</sup> In Ohio, “The old Wilberforce library is among only nine Carnegie Libraries built on HBCUs campuses (including Florida A. & M., Fisk, Howard, Tuskegee, and Atlanta University) after the turn-of-the-century.”<sup>28</sup>

In addition to the Carnegie Library at Otterbein University, the eight Ohio academic libraries included:

*Ohio University*, Athens, 1905: This library was a shared public/university facility from its completion until 1999. Designed by Frank Packard, the building housed the library until 1930, when it was relocated to another campus building. The Carnegie Library was then remodeled into office and classroom space. In the 1980s, the interior was gutted to house the Scripps Hall for journalism and an addition was added. (NRHP Ref # 78001783)

*Denison University*, Granville, 1906: In April 1906, the Columbus Dispatch announced that Andrew Carnegie was donating \$40,000 for the construction of a college library for Denison. Richards, McCarty & Bulford were the architects, and the building was eclectic, incorporating several elements from multiple revival styles.

*Marietta College*, Marietta, 1907: Chicago architects, Patton and Miller, designed this Colonial Revival building. Opening with a collection of 60,000 volumes, the Carnegie Library also contained a Y.M.C.A. room, seminar rooms, and a lecture hall for the students. In 1961, the library was relocated, and the interior of the building significantly remodeled for offices. The library building is listed in the National Register, NHPH Ref #01000903.

*Wilberforce University*, Wilberforce, 1907: Founded in 1853, Wilberforce University is Ohio's oldest HBCU. An addition was added to it in 1936, and the campus library remained in the Colonial Revival building until the 1980s, when a new building was constructed. It then housed the National Afro-American Museum's offices. It currently is the only academic library in Ohio individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places [Carnegie Library (Old Wilberforce University Campus), NRHP Ref #04000610].

*Cedarville College*, Cedarville, 1908: Similar to the arrangement at Ohio University, this library was a shared public/university facility from its completion until 1958, when the collections were separated. Additionally, at the time of construction, the small college only had two other buildings, and the Carnegie Library also contained classrooms,

<sup>27</sup> Thomason, Philip and James Draeger. *McKissack and McKissack Buildings in Nashville (1908-1930) Thematic Resources National Register of Historic Places nomination*, 1985, p.8-2.

<sup>28</sup> Darrow, Sheila. *Carnegie Library (Old Wilberforce University Campus) National Register of Historic Places nomination*, 2004, p.8-4.

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offices, and a laboratory. The architect is unknown. In 1967, the library was relocated, and the building was then fully converted to classroom and office use.

*Oberlin College*, Oberlin, 1908: Chicago architects, Patton and Miller, designed this large Romanesque Revival building. It was a shared public/university facility from its completion until 1974, when the college completed a new library building. The public collection remained in the building, sharing it with college administrative offices until 1988, when it became solely a campus building. In 1978, it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Oberlin College Historic Resources Thematic Resource nomination.

*Miami University*, Oxford, 1910: Designed by Frank Packard, this Carnegie Library was a large, imposing Neo-Classical Revival building, with a Greek temple front and a copper-domed rotunda. Packard's frequent collaborator, Westerville builder Henry Karg, served as contractor. It housed the campus library until 1972, when it was renovated for use by the Department of Architecture.

*Heidelberg College*, Tiffin, 1912: After a lengthy six-year capital campaign, this Carnegie Library was constructed in 1911-12. Chicago architects, Patton and Miller, designed this Gothic Revival building, as well as the other four campus buildings. In 1967, the library was relocated, and the building converted to a religious center, including a 185-seat chapel. The library building is listed in the National Register, NRHP Ref. #79002773.

### **Architecture of the Carnegie Library Otterbein University**

Architecturally, the community and its chosen architect were free to select any design or style that they wanted for the new Carnegie-funded library buildings. Some communities designed excessive buildings with extravagant features that were expensive and diminished the actual funding/operation of the library. Around 1904, Carnegie's personal secretary overseeing the grants, James Bertram, started requesting the blueprints for buildings that were over budget. By 1908, as a condition of approval, he began to review proposed floor plans, make suggestions, and occasionally required changes to the design before awarding the grant. In 1911, he published a pamphlet of six recommended floor plans, which were then expected to be utilized. Bertram's 1911 pamphlet served to codify the most efficient designs funded over the previous years and to incorporate floor plan preferences that he had learned from librarians. However, at this point, nearly three-quarters of the funded Carnegie libraries were already constructed. Exterior design remained at the architect's discretion, but 79% were of the Beaux-Arts style or the closely related Italian Renaissance or Neo-Classical Revival variants, and a subgroup, which has been termed Carnegie Classical.<sup>29</sup>

Library design was evolving as a building type by the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, as was the librarian profession. The fact was that relatively few architects were experienced in designing

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<sup>29</sup> Jones, *Carnegie Libraries Across America: A Public Legacy*, p.61.

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libraries at the time that Carnegie grants funded construction in all types of locations. Because of evolving theories on library functionality, there was some conflict between librarians and architects as to how a library should be laid out. Into the early 1900s, there was debate as to whether the library shelves should be publically accessible or the books should remain in closed stacks that only the librarian could access. Additionally, older library layouts, particularly the well-known ones designed by Henry Hobson Richardson, had long halls with small book alcoves. This configuration limited the librarian's ability to monitor the library, not to mention increasing the amount of time that it took to procure books from the stacks for the patron. As a result, they began to advocate for different floor plans, which coincided with Carnegie and Bertram's increasing insistence on efficiency for the new libraries.

Although floor plans for libraries could vary greatly, by the first decade of 1900 some commonalities in design began to emerge. The Carnegie-funded buildings tended to be on raised basements, allowing for functional space at the lower level to be used by the staff and public. The basements typically contained restrooms, the heating plant, and a lecture hall. The main floor would have a small vestibule with the stairwell; a central delivery room or lobby, where the librarian's desk was situated; reading rooms on either side of the lobby; and stacks to the rear of the building. The delivery room's location placed the librarian's desk where it would be visible from the reading rooms and the dividing line between the patron and the closed stacks. Closed stacks at the rear of the building allowed quicker access to materials for the librarian than the old hall with alcove configuration, plus being at the rear of the building would more easily accommodate future additions for increased stacks as needed. The reading rooms could be lined with bookshelves, making the building a partially open stack library.

Two libraries that were the result of design competitions, Washington, D.C. (1899) and Louisville (1902), utilized an inverted T-shaped plan. The shape was arranged with

the stem devoted to staff areas and closed stacks, with the crosspiece reserved for public rooms. As the room where staff, books, and patrons interacted with greatest regularity, the delivery room was located at the point of intersection for functional reasons. At the same time, its central location on the primary axis of each building gave it a symbolic prominence considered appropriate for public libraries.<sup>30</sup>

Though not strictly a T-shape, architect Frank Packard applied this basic configuration for Otterbein's Carnegie Library. The other common design feature that emerged was the double-height, ornate character of the delivery room (or lobby as Packard labeled it), often top-lit with domes or skylights. Employing a row of three stained glass skylights, rather than a dome, Packard still emphasized the Carnegie Library's important double-height lobby space with overhead lighting.

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<sup>30</sup> Van Slyck, Abigail A. *Free to All: Carnegie Libraries & American Culture 1890-1920* (Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press, 1995), p.95-96.

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As noted above, the Neo-Classical Revival was the most popular architectural style for the Carnegie libraries. The style had come into favor after the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago featured it. Remaining popular into the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the Neo-Classical Revival style was especially popular for public buildings, making it well suited for the new public library building type. The Neo-Classical Revival features of the Carnegie Library at Otterbein University include a symmetrical façade; an emphasized, projecting entrance block; a portico-in-antis; Doric columns; dentils in the entrance block and a pedimented parapet above the entrance, giving the essence of a temple front. Raised brick courses are at the four corners of the front section create a quoin pattern, adding an element of the Second Renaissance Revival style to the building. Architectural historian Abigail Van Slyck notes that "the classical mode also offered more specific symbolic opportunities; many classical libraries were graced with a dome that literally and figuratively transformed the centrally placed delivery desk into the locus of public enlightenment."<sup>31</sup> This concept was fitting for both public and academic libraries. Packard's delivery lobby for Otterbein's Carnegie Library expresses this symbolic motif with the skylights set within a barrel vault ceiling and the classically-detailed ornament on the walls.

Architect Frank L. Packard designed three of Ohio's nine academic libraries (Ohio University, Miami University, Otterbein University) and at least five public Carnegie libraries, most of which were in the Neo-Classical Revival style. Packard's public Carnegie library designs include Cambridge, completed in 1904 in the Neo-Classical Revival style (NRHP Ref #87000919); Miamisburg, completed in 1910 with Arts and Crafts elements; Norwalk, completed in 1905 in the Neo-Classical Revival style, featuring a large oval rotunda similar to his design for the Miami University library (NRHP Ref #74001535); Upper Sandusky (with O'Dench & Yost), completed in 1914, with Colonial Revival elements; and Washington Court House, completed in 1904 in the Neo-Classical Revival style.

Packard was a Delaware, Ohio, native, born in 1866. He studied architecture and engineering at the Ohio State University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Based in Columbus, he started a firm in 1892 with Joseph Yost. Yost & Packard specialized in public and educational buildings over the next seven years. In 1899, Yost moved to New York, and Packard became the sole proprietor of the business, continuing to focus on public buildings. His early works illustrated the Richardsonian Romanesque, such as the Yost & Packard-designed 1893 Christian Association Building at Otterbein. Packard's later school buildings from the 1910s leaned toward the Jacobean and Tudor Revival styles. In addition to the Carnegie libraries, other educational buildings constructed in the same decade as the Otterbein Carnegie Library include Parkersburg High School, West Virginia, 1900, and the Barnesville High School in 1905.

Packard, of course, also designed other building types and had previously worked in Westerville with Yost. The firm designed the Westerville Methodist Church on N. State Street in 1887 (no longer extant), the 1889-90 Hotel Holmes, and the Vine Street (Emerson) school in 1895 (NR, #75001405). Yost & Packard also designed a Westerville house for Otterbein Professor W.J.

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<sup>31</sup> Van Slyck, *Free to All: Carnegie Libraries & American Culture 1890-1920*, p.28-29.



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Zuck (no longer extant). In 1908, as the Carnegie Library was nearing completion, Packard, along with local builder Henry Karg, was working on an addition to the Vine Street School. An 1890 redesign of a men's student literary society room in Towers Hall is attributed to Packard, which retains all of the stained glass from the remodel.

Frank Packard passed away in 1923. He was a well-respected civic leader and prolific architect, and after 30 years of practice, over 3,000 buildings are credited to him.

### **Conclusion**

The Carnegie Library meets Criterion A for its association with one of Otterbein University's biggest periods of growth. In the first decade of 1900, Otterbein University experienced a population boom of students and a correlating boom in construction with four new buildings constructed within three years. This was the largest physical campus expansion that the 60-year old university had ever experienced. The new buildings included a campus heating plant, 1906; the 1906 women's dormitory (Cochran Hall); the Carnegie Library, 1907-08; and the Conservatory of Music and Arts (Lambert Hall), constructed 1908- 09. The Carnegie Library is the only extant building from this construction boom, and other than the 1871 Towers Hall, it is the oldest remaining building at Otterbein University. It represents Otterbein University's early 20<sup>th</sup> century transition into a multi-faceted campus with a growing enrollment and expanding educational curricula.

For most communities and even college campuses, the Carnegie library program introduced the very first library building. The Carnegie Library at Otterbein University meets Criterion C as an illustration of the library designed building type and for its association with regionally prominent architect, Frank L. Packard.

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**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):** FRA-2422-4

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 0.44

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 40.125742                      Longitude: -82.935225
2. Latitude:                                      Longitude:
3. Latitude:                                      Longitude:
4. Latitude:                                      Longitude:

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**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 17 | Easting: 335095 | Northing: 4443291 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

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

The Franklin County Auditor uses the same parcel number (080-000818) for seven different areas/buildings on the Otterbein University campus. The lot which contains the Carnegie Library, 102 W. College Avenue, measures 158.9 in width and 120.5 in depth. The library parcel is bounded by W. College Avenue on the south, S. Grove Street on the west, the United Methodist church property on the north, and a residential property to the east. See Auditor's map in Attachment A. The Auditor's website was accessed on March 9, 2020, and the map also dates to then.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated boundary includes the property historically associated with the Carnegie Library, during the period of significance (1908-1954).

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Nathalie Wright  
organization: Historic Preservation Consultant  
street & number: 1535B Lafayette Dr.  
city or town: Columbus state: OH zip code: 43220  
e-mail nwright66@yahoo.com  
telephone: 614-447-8832  
date: March 10, 2020

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Photographer: Nathalie Wright

Date Photographed: November 20, 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1. Façade, view toward Towers Hall, looking west
2. Façade, looking north
3. East elevation, looking west
4. Façade and west elevation, looking northeast
5. Rear elevation, looking south
6. Vestibule and basement stairs, looking northeast
7. Vestibule, looking north
8. Lobby, looking southwest
9. Lobby, Packard designed plaque, looking south
10. Lobby, looking east

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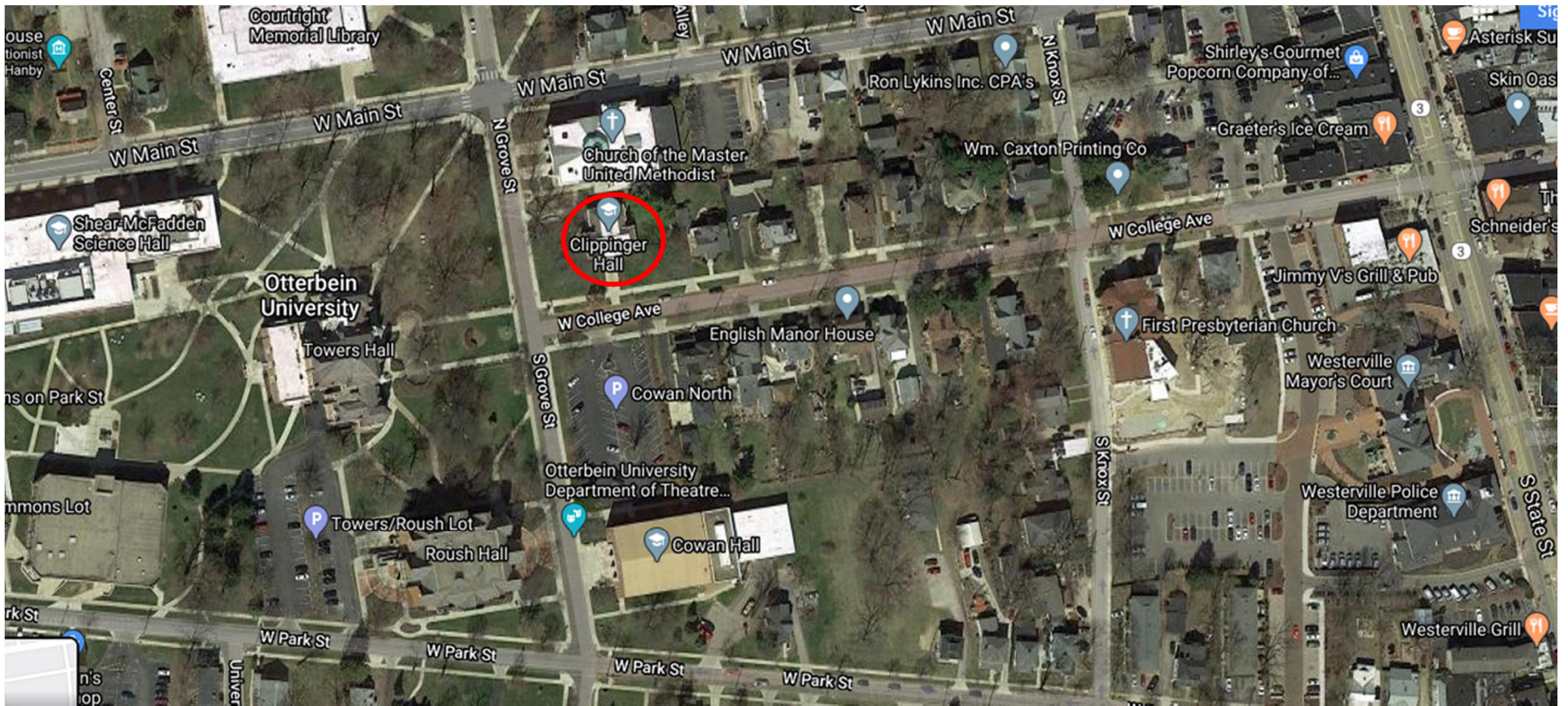
11. Lobby, ceiling detail, looking west
12. Study room, looking north
13. Office, looking west
14. Alcove, looking southeast
15. Corridor, looking south
16. Office, looking south
17. Rear corridor, looking east
18. Office, looking north
19. Mezzanine, stairs, looking west
20. Mezzanine, looking west
21. Basement, stairs, looking southwest
22. Basement, corridor, looking north
23. Basement, office, looking northeast
24. Basement, office, looking northwest

**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 100 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.

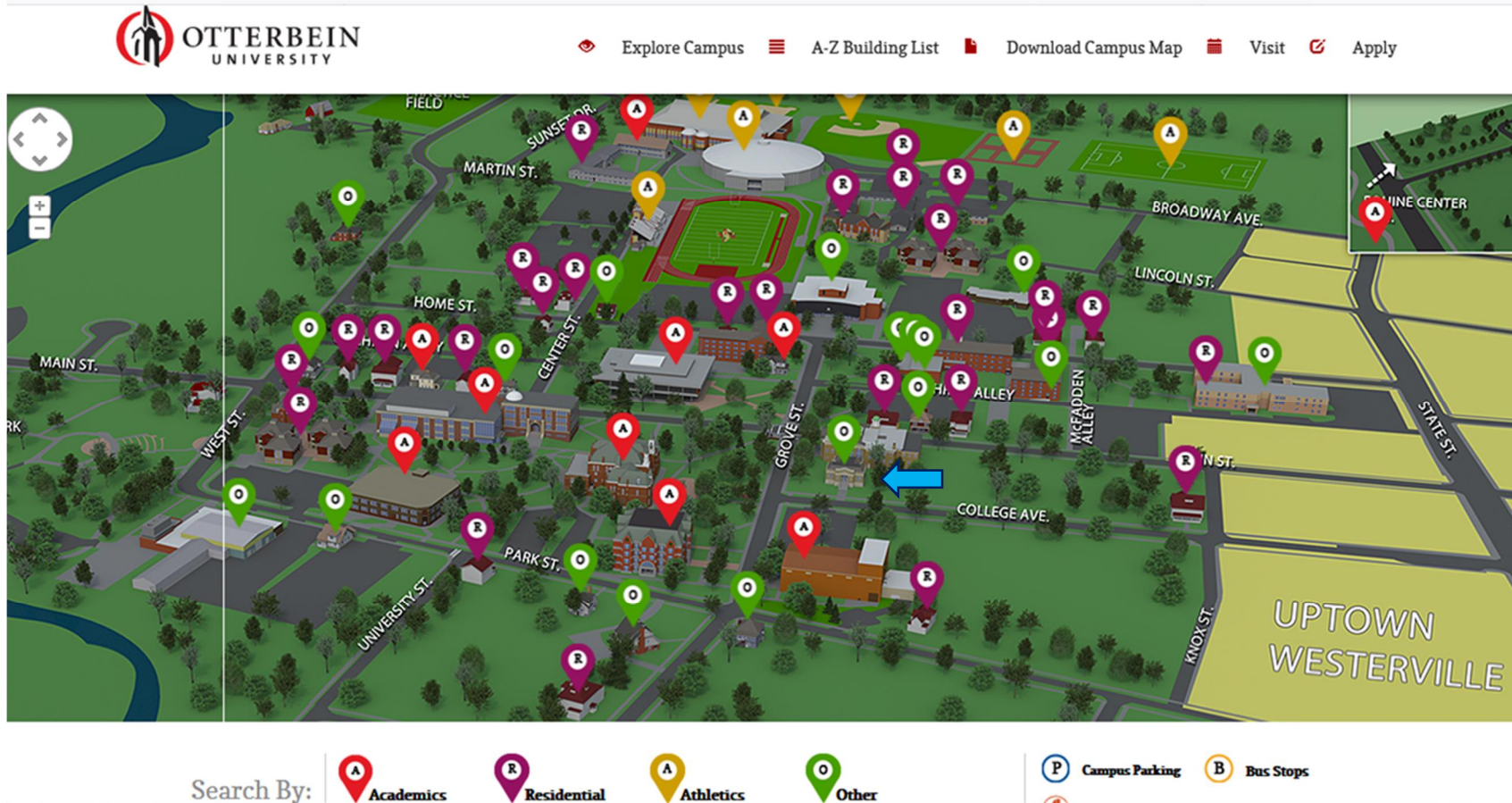


**Attachment A - Maps**



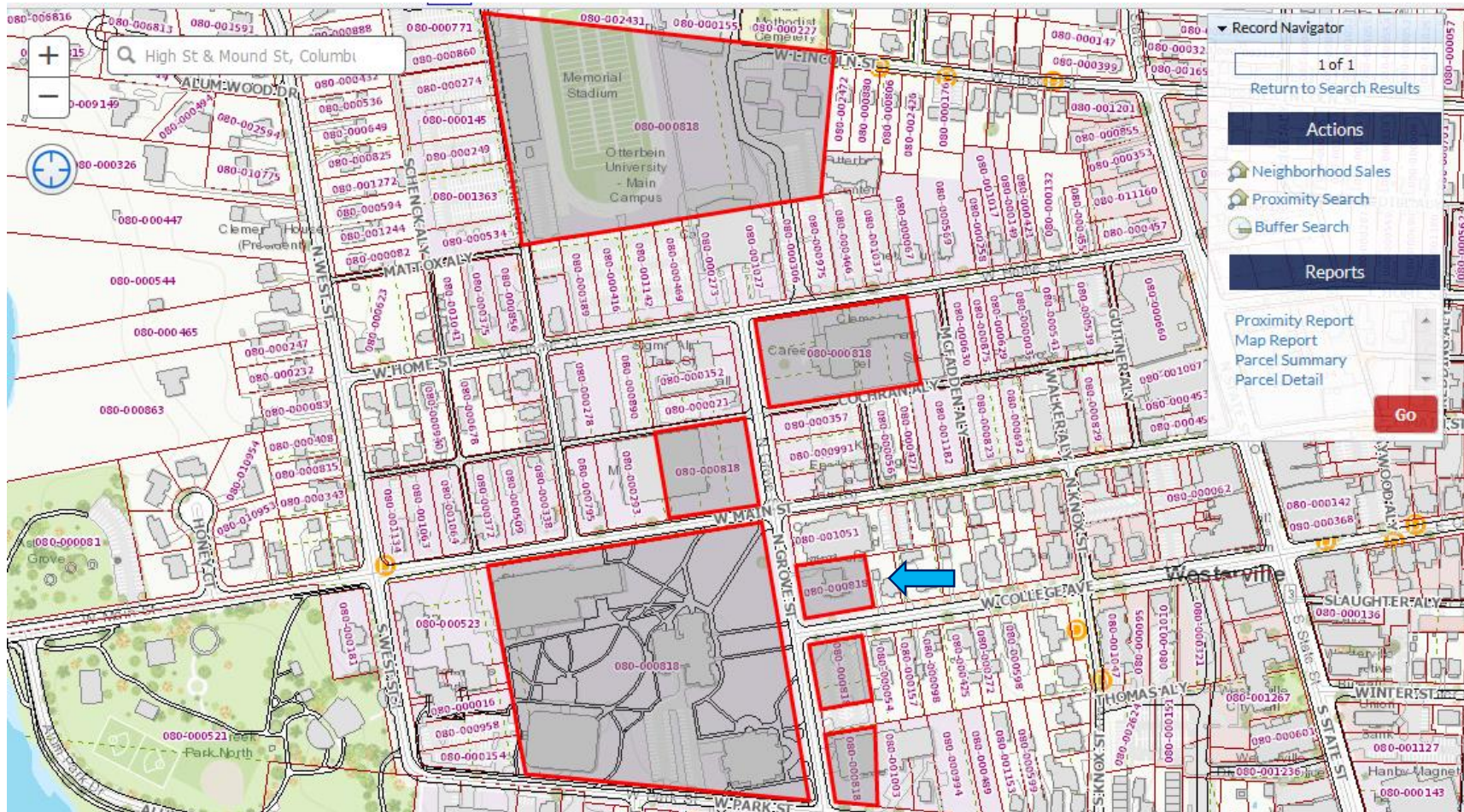
Aerial View. From Google Maps

Attachment A – Maps



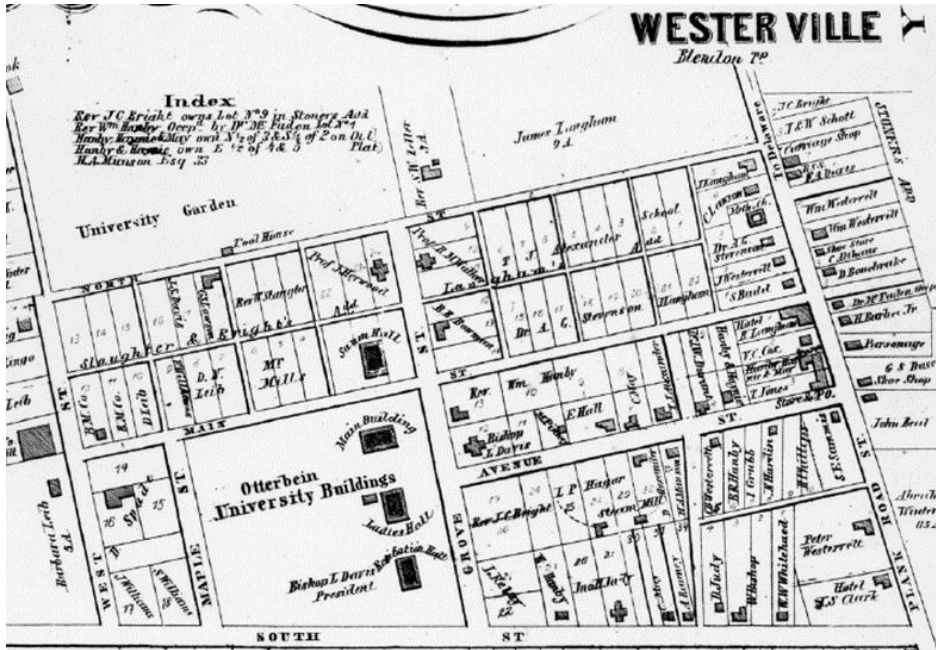
Otterbein University campus, 2020, with Carnegie Library indicated by the blue arrow. From <https://www.otterbein.edu/>

Attachment A – Maps

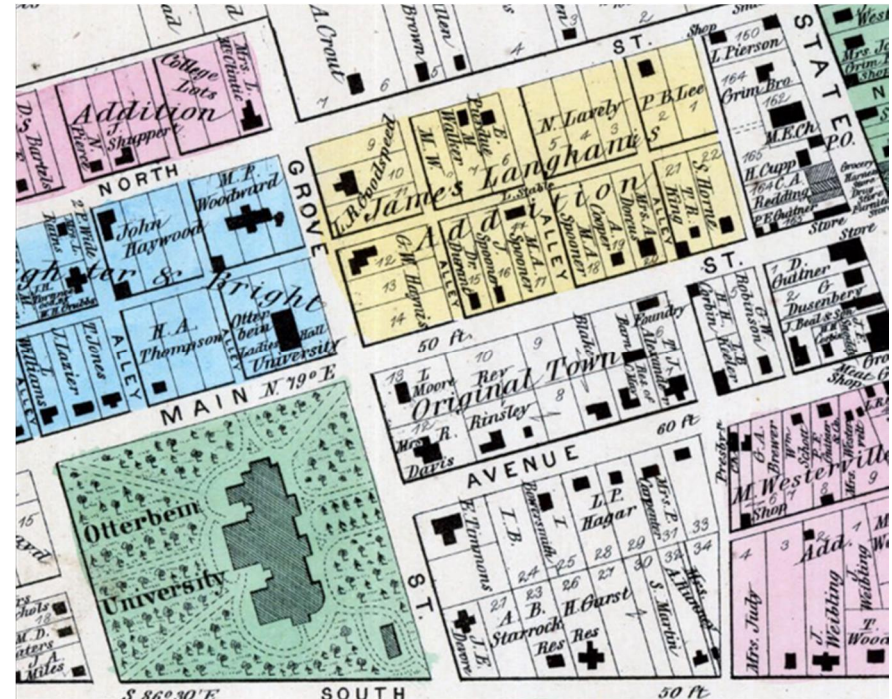


Franklin County Auditor’s map. The Auditor uses the same parcel number (080-000818) for seven different areas/buildings on the Otterbein University campus. The lot which contains the Carnegie Library, 102 W. College Avenue, measures 158.9’ in width and 120.5’ in depth. The Auditor’s website was accessed on March 9, 2020.

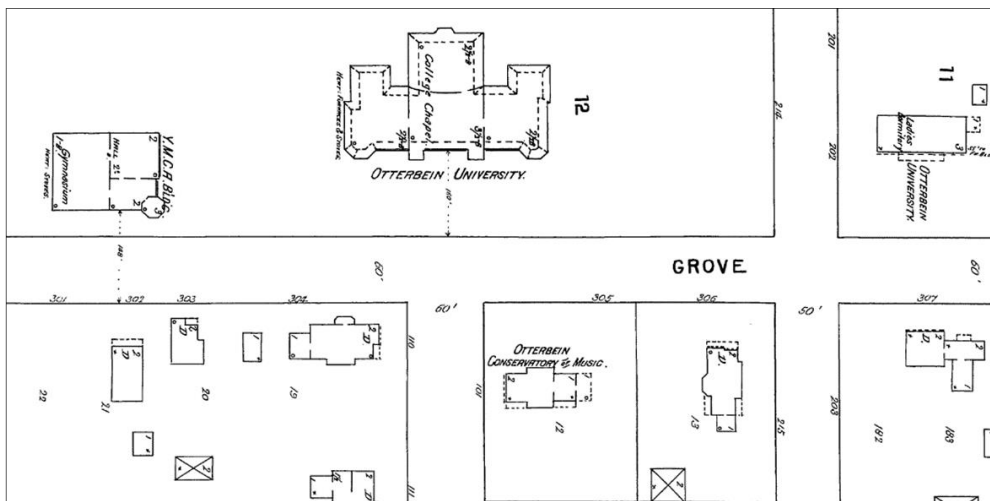
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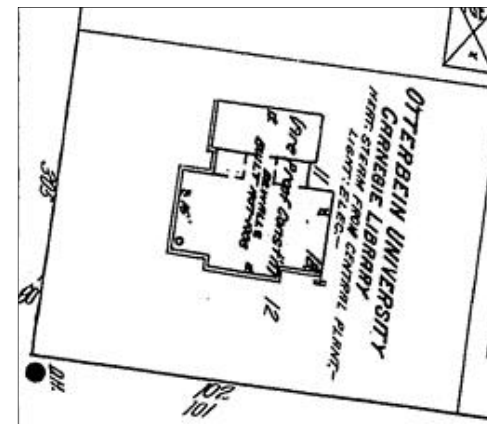
1856 Franklin County Atlas



1872 Franklin County Atlas

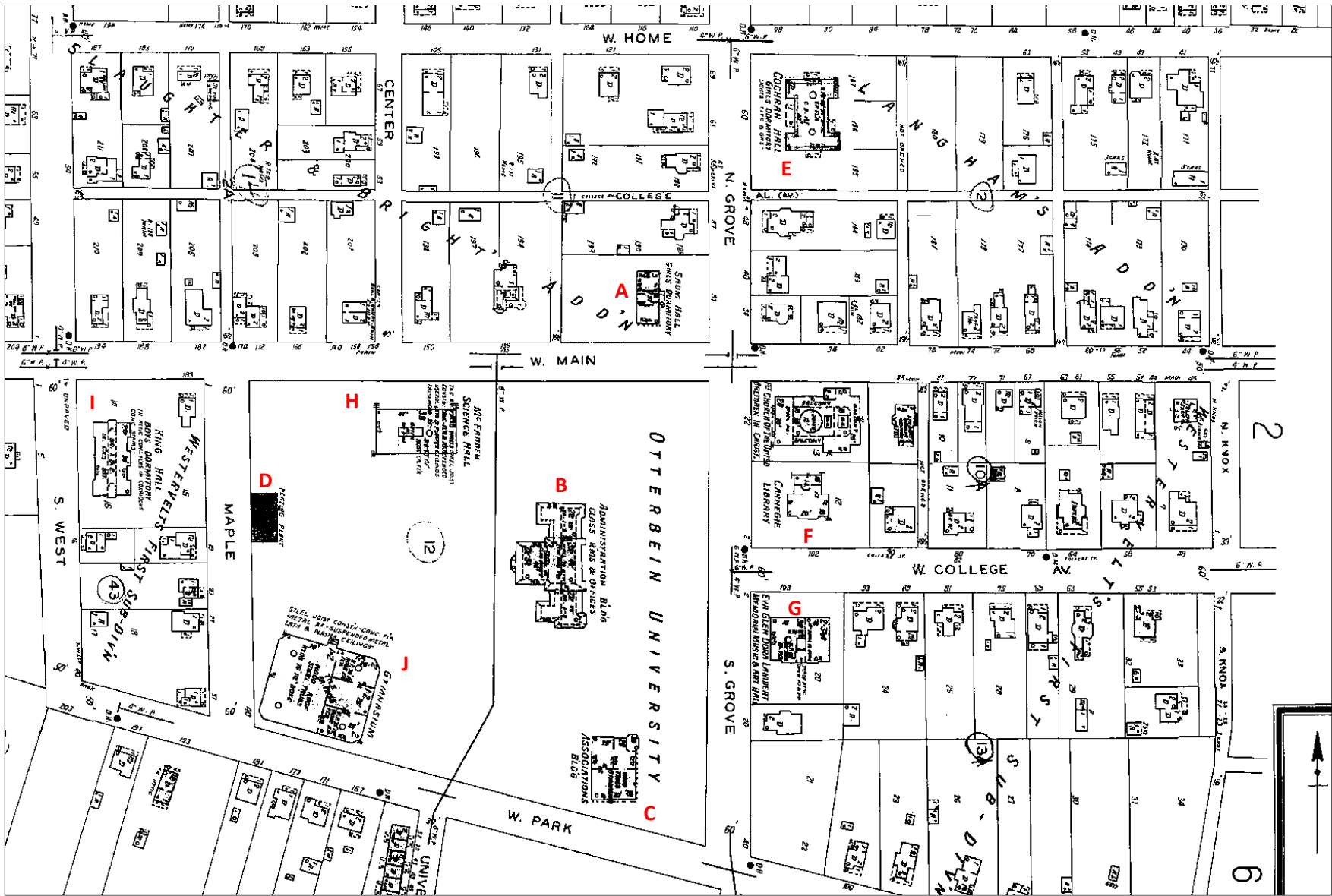


1894 Sanborn



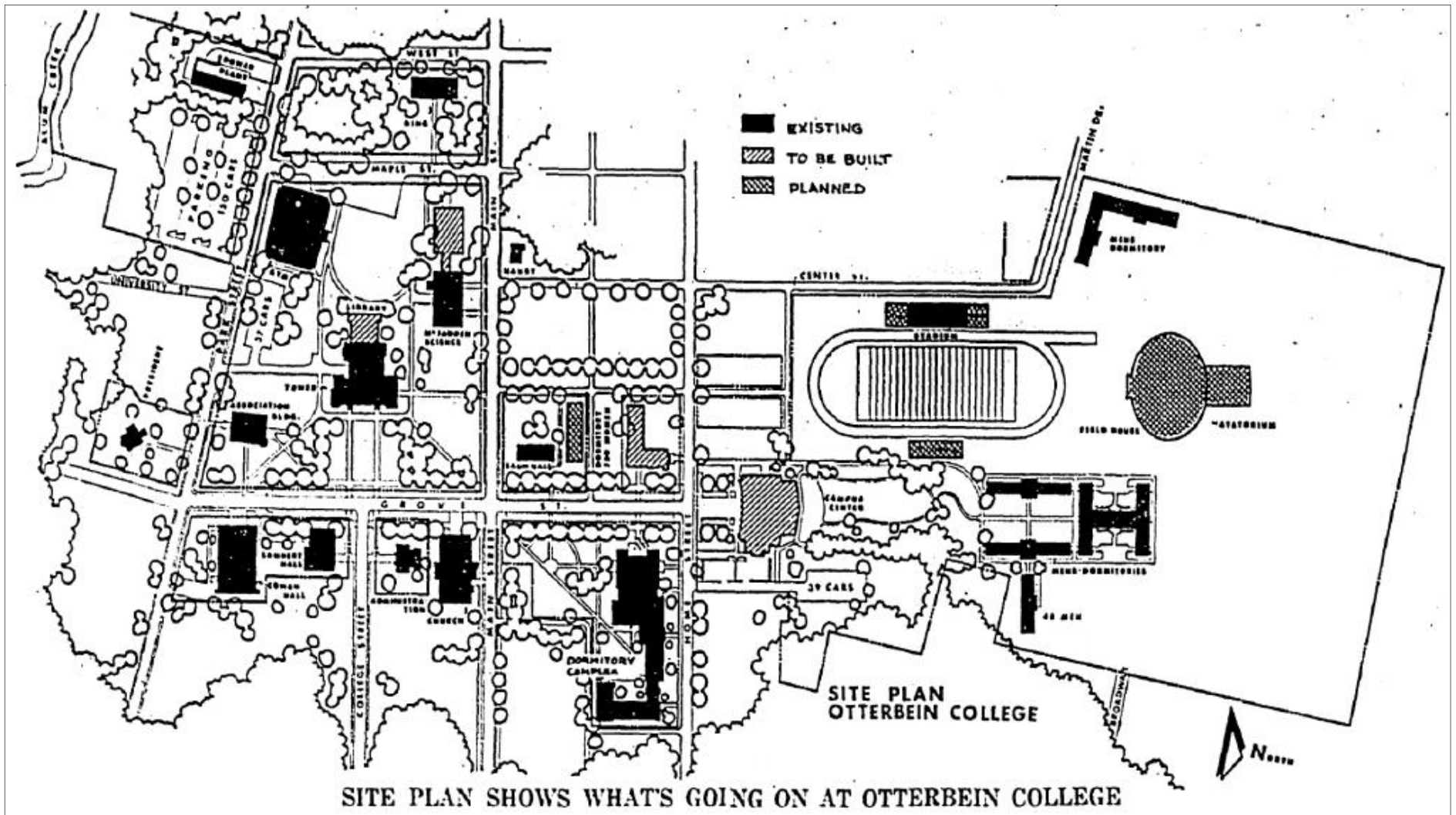
1913 Sanborn

Attachment A – Maps



1942 Sanborn, illustrating the entire campus: A. Saum Hall (1854), B. Towers Hall (1871), C. Association Building (1893), D. Heating Plant (1906), E. Cochran Hall (1906), F. Carnegie Library (1908), G. Lambert Hall (1909), H. McFadden Science Hall (1919), I. King Hall (1926), J. Alumni Gymnasium (1929)

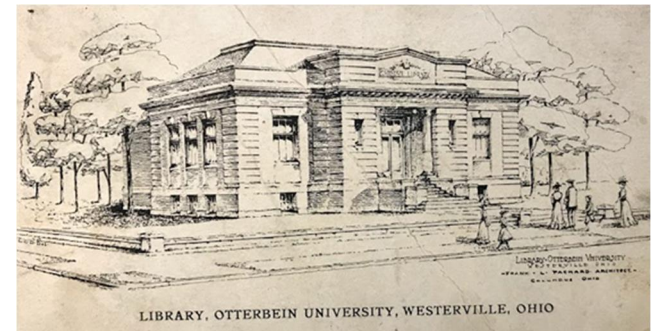
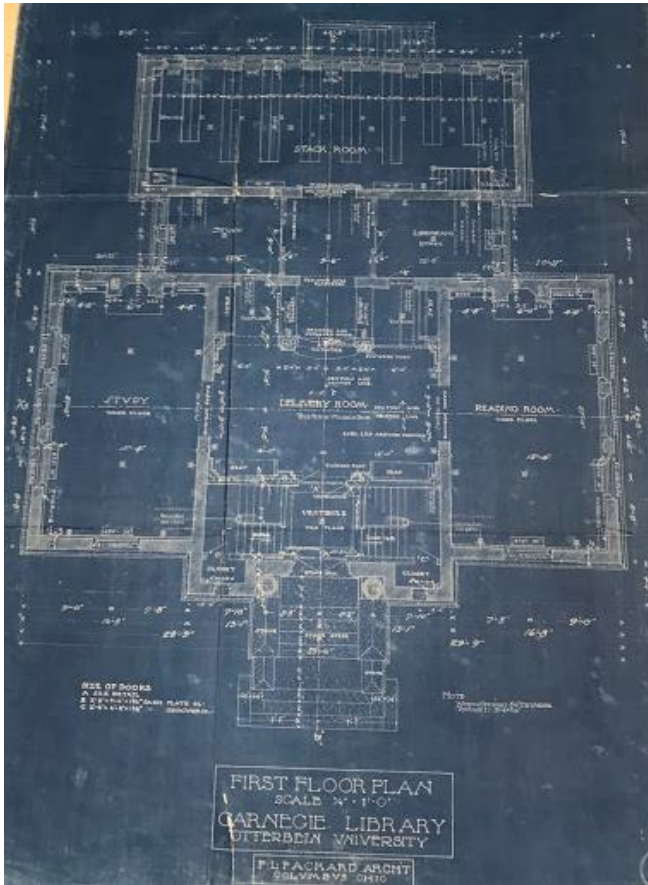
Attachment A – Maps



SITE PLAN SHOWS WHAT'S GOING ON AT OTTERBEIN COLLEGE

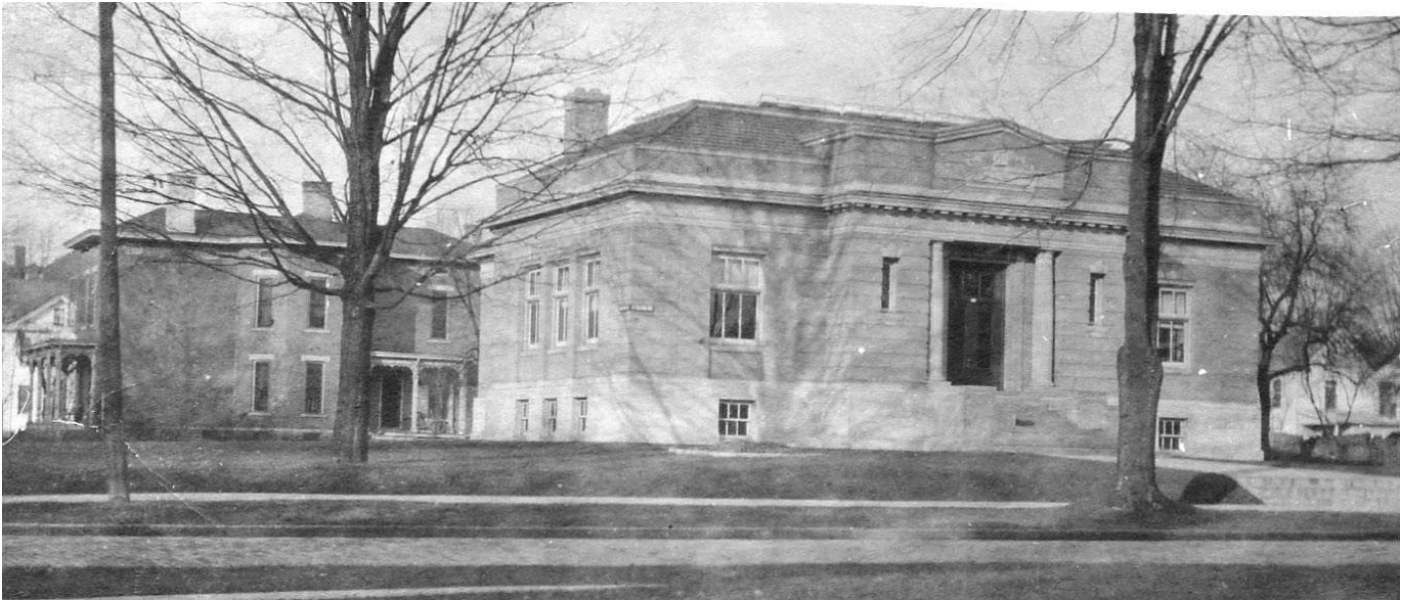
1962 campus map. From "Otterbein Begins \$1 Million Drive," *Columbus Evening Dispatch*, November 18, 1962.

**Attachment B – Historic Images**



Floor plan and renderings by architect Frank L. Packard. From Foster personal collection.

**Attachment B – Historic Images**



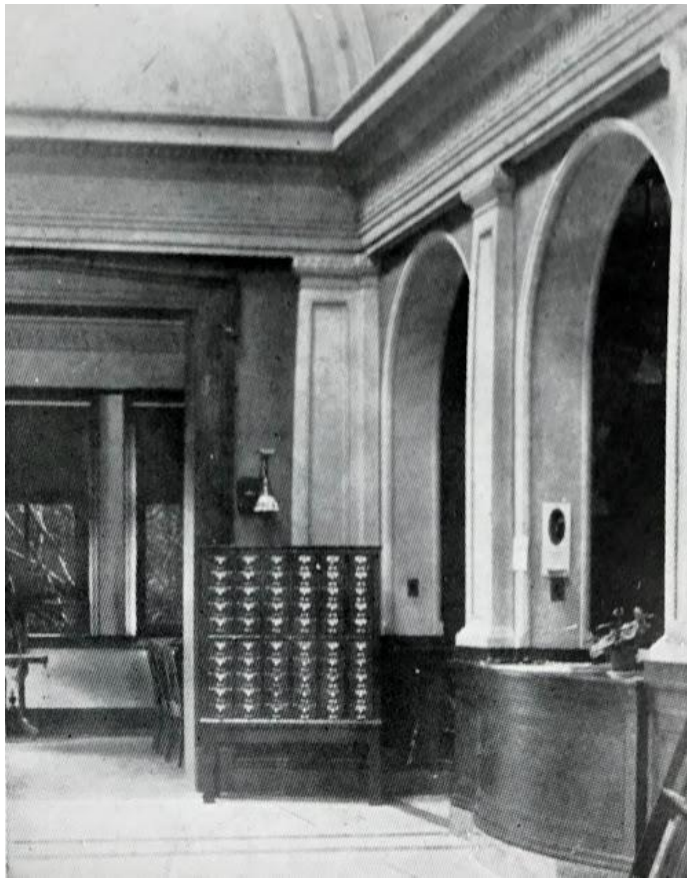
**Between 1908 and 1915. From Foster personal collection.**



**1926 *Sibyl* (from Foster personal collection)**



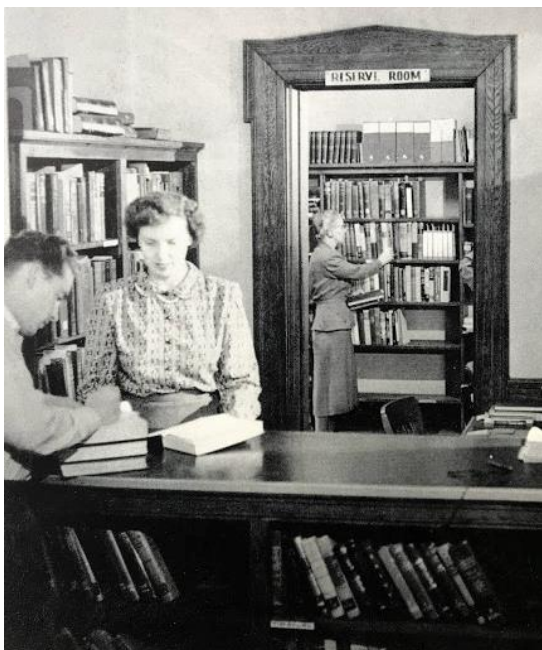
**Attachment B – Historic Images**



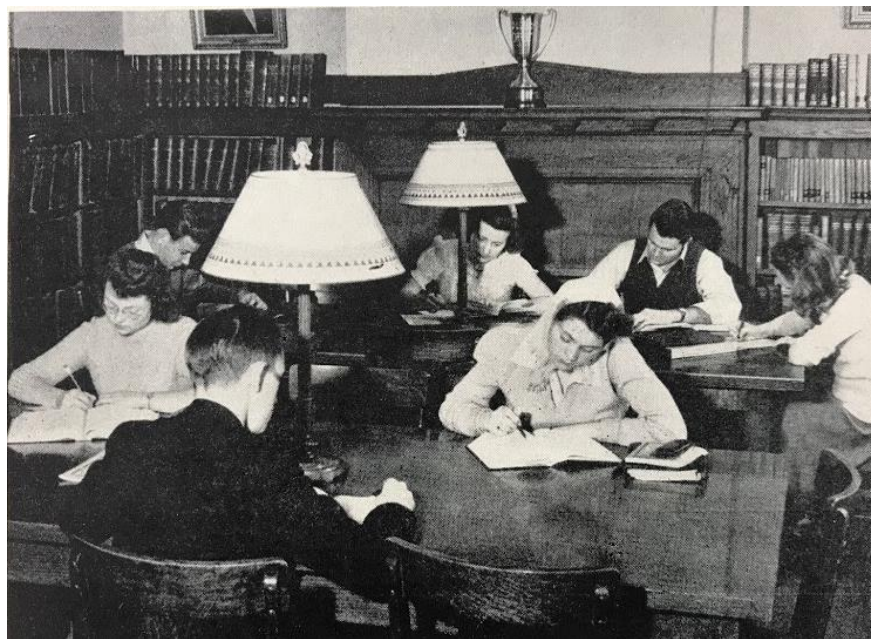
**Delivery Lobby, looking toward west reading room**



**Delivery Lobby, looking toward stacks**



**Delivery desk**



**East Reading Room**

**Interior photos from December 1942 issue of *Otterbein Towers* (from Foster personal collection)**