

Iowa Site Inventory

Division of Historic Preservation
Iowa State Historical Department
26 E. Market St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Site Number 87-004-004
District Name _____
Map Reference # _____

Identification

- Site Name Bedford Public Library
- Village/Town/City Bedford Township _____ County Taylor
- Street Address Jefferson Street
- Legal Location _____

Urban:	subdivision	block	parcel	subparcel
Rural:	township	range	section	1/4 section of 1/4 section
		<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>	
- UTM Location: zone 15 easting 352100 northing 449650; Acreage 1
- Owner(s) Name City of Bedford
- Owner(s) Address _____

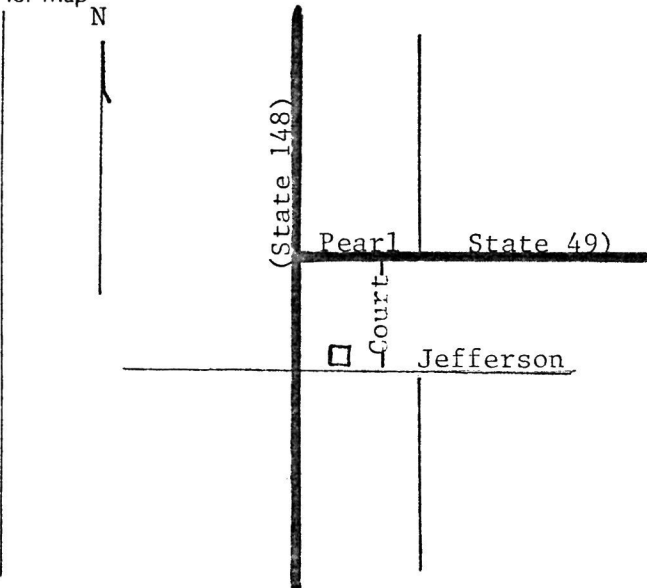
(Street address)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)
	<u>Bedford, Iowa</u>	<u>50833</u>	
- Use: Present library Original library

Description

- Date of Construction 1916-17 Architect Wetherell and Gage, Des Moines
- Building Type:

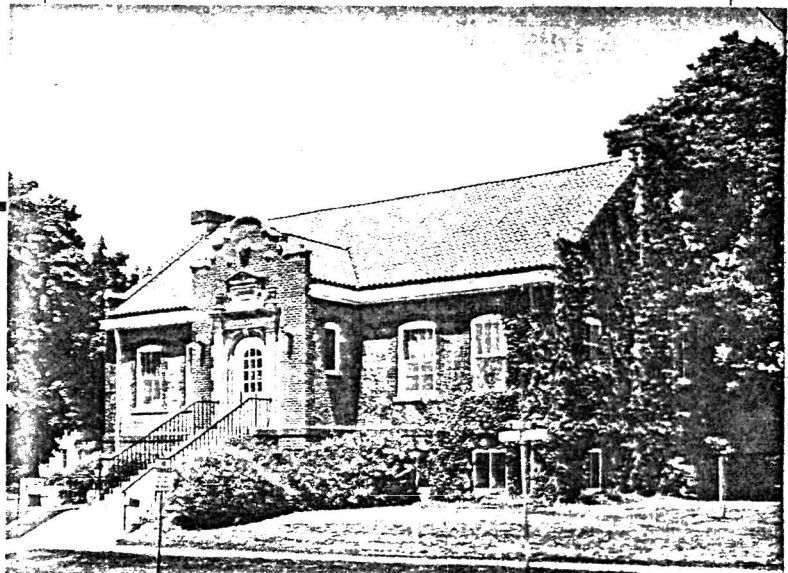
<input type="checkbox"/> single-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> other institutional	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> multiple-family dwelling	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/> commercial			
- Exterior Walls: clapboard stone brick board and batten shingles stucco with brick basement and trim
- Structural System: wood frame with interlocking joints wood frame with light members (balloon frame)
 masonry load-bearing walls iron frame steel frame with curtain walls reinforced concrete
 other _____
- Condition: excellent good fair deteriorated
- Integrity: original site moved—if so, when? _____
 Notes on alterations, additions (with dates and architect, if known) and any other notable features of building and site:
The building is extremely well preserved.
- Related Outbuildings and Property: barn other farm structures carriage house garage privy
 other _____
- Is the building endangered? no yes—if so, why? _____
- Surroundings of the building: open land woodland scattered outbuildings densely built-up commercial
 industrial residential other The library faces the Taylor County Courthouse. Two churches are nearby. An attractive ensemble of public buildings.

18. Map



19. Photo

Roll 82 Frame 3 View S & E elevations



Significance (Indicate sources of information for all statements)

19. Architectural significance

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

The Bedford Public Library is a highly competent example of the side-gable-end type of small library building. It is rectangular in plan, with a projecting entrance vestibule in the center of the long side. In style, it is one of a small group of libraries which blend the Northern Renaissance and the Georgian (see Osceola). Architectural detailing is concentrated on the elaborate frame of the door, which features a pedimented inscription panel, flanked by urns, piled on top of the cornice. The plan conforms to Type II, in which the library is one single space, partitioned only by high bookshelves. There is a small stack area in the rear center, behind the delivery desk. The interior of the Bedford Library features two fireplaces once centered against each end wall.

20. Historical Significance

Theme(s) _____

- a. Key structure/individually may qualify for the National Register
- b. Contributing structure
- c. Not eligible/intrusion

21. Sources (for primary and secondary sources, give complete facts of publication: author, title, place of publication, date, etc.):

- Bedford Centennial History. Bedford, Iowa, 1953. 1 p.
- Thompson, Mrs. Ralph. Early Memories of the Bedford Public Library
Written in 1948. typewritten ms. 7 pp.
- DHPLSQ-1, Sybil L. Sneed, Sec., Board of Library Trustees.
- Prints of architect's drawings in possession of Bedford Public Library.

Prepared by _____ Date _____
Address _____ Telephone _____
Organization _____

For Division of Historic Preservation Use Only

1. Office Information Sources on this Property

- County Resource File
- Windshield Survey
- National Register
- Grants-In-Aid: _____
- Determination of Eligibility

Review and Compliance Project:

- Other _____
- Other _____
- Other _____

2. Subject Traces

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

3. Photo Images 82/3

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 10

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Public Library Buildings in Iowa Thematic Resources
State Iowa

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Algona Public Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Ret S

Attest

2. Anamosa Public Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Linda McClelland 5/23/83

Attest

3. Bedford Public Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Linda McClelland 5/23/83

Attest

4. Bloomfield Public Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Ret

Attest

5. Buena Vista County Historical
Museum

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Linda McClelland 5/23/83

Attest

6. Carnegie-Ellsworth Public
Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Linda McClelland 5/23/83

Attest

7. Cattermole Memorial Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Beth Grosvenor 4/5/84

Attest

8. Chariton Free Public Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Ret

Attest

9. Cherokee Public Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Beth Grosvenor 4/9/85

Attest

10. Clinton Public Library

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Linda McClelland 5/23/83

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Substantive Review

Bedford Public Library (Public Library Buildings
in Iowa TR)
Taylor County
IOWA

Working No. 4/8/83
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84
Date Due: 5/5/83 - 5/23/83
Action: ACCEPT 5/23/83
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*No history; no acreage
Northern Renaissance and Georgian
Revival styles influenced this 1880's
design. It is one of few in state in
this style.*

Recom./Criteria Accept
Reviewer B. Hest
Discipline B. Hest
Date 5/23/83
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Area of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

*** 10. Geographical Data**

* Average of estimated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
USGS Reference _____

Please provide average

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:
_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____
title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Bedford Public Library
Jefferson Street

Bedford, Iowa

By: ?

Date: June 19 79

View: To northwest

