

New Haven



The first New Haven branch library opened in 1921 in a room in the town hall that was provided rent free by the town board. In 1925, the Board awarded a contract to Elmer Zeis to construct an English-style stucco, brick, and tile building at a cost of \$15,400, which opened in October that year at Main and Emily streets. As the building aged, it required extensive repairs. It underwent a variety of renovations over the years, the most significant in 1989, when the size of the branch was doubled. Both the collection and patron use at the branch continued to grow, and a consultant recommended to the board in 1997 that a new branch be built in New Haven. In 2003, the old building was closed and a new one constructed at 648 Green Street near Lincoln Highway East. The branch enjoys high visibility and draws students from the East Allen School District.

GENERAL INFORMATION

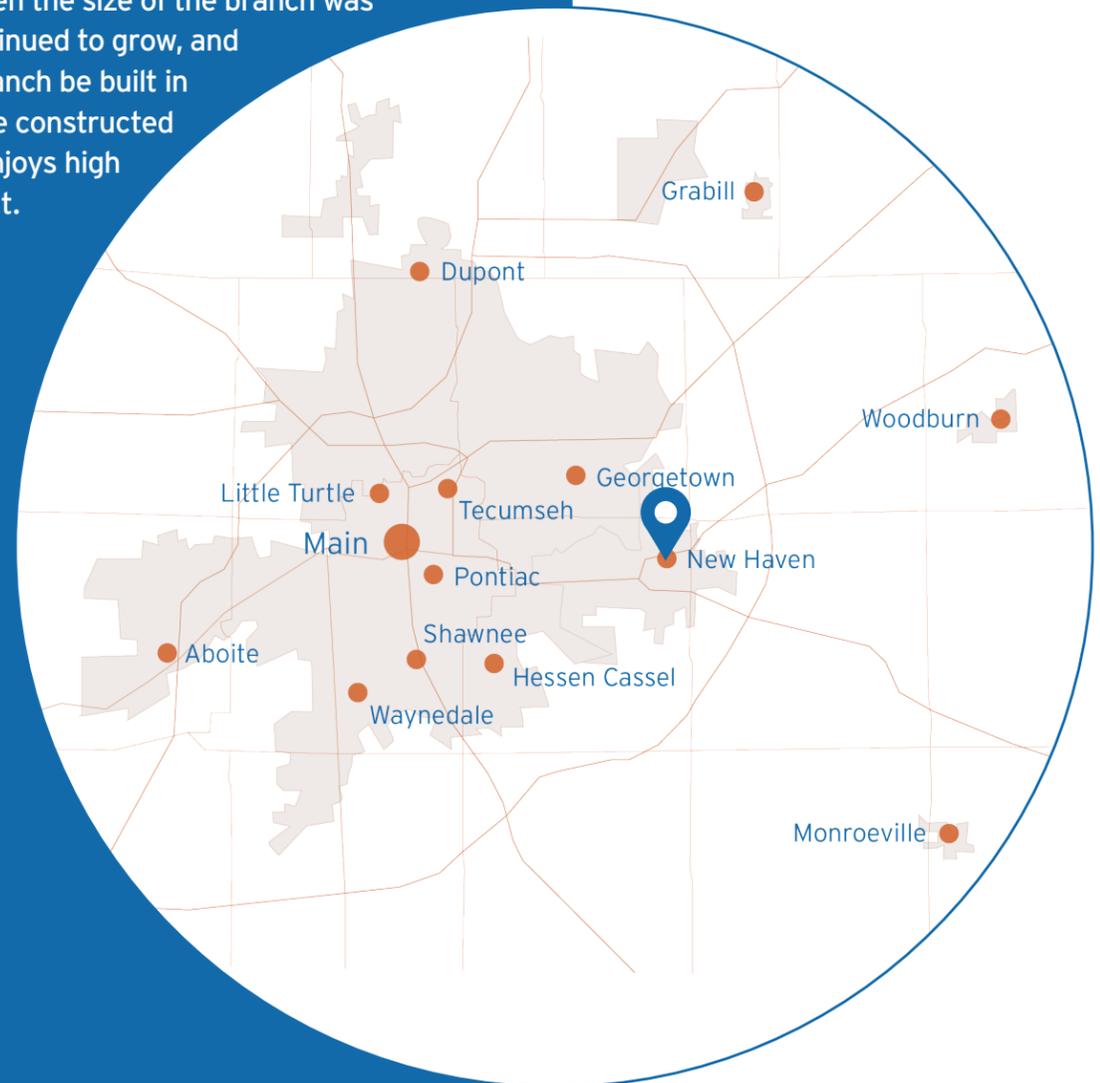
Address	648 Green St New Haven, IN 46774
Building Size	10,500 SF
Site Area	0.94 Acres
On Site Parking	31
Year Built	2003
Original Architect	Martin, Riley, Mock

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Population Served (3 mile)	23,737
Days Open	6 / week
Hours Open	52 / week
Full Time Staff	5.45

STATISTICS 2020

Door Count	34,269
Programs	79
Program Attendance	1056
Collection Size	41,065
Circulation	67,981
Computer Usage	15



Regional Location Map

Adequately sized for current service demands

Yes No

Overall building condition

1 2 **3** 4 5

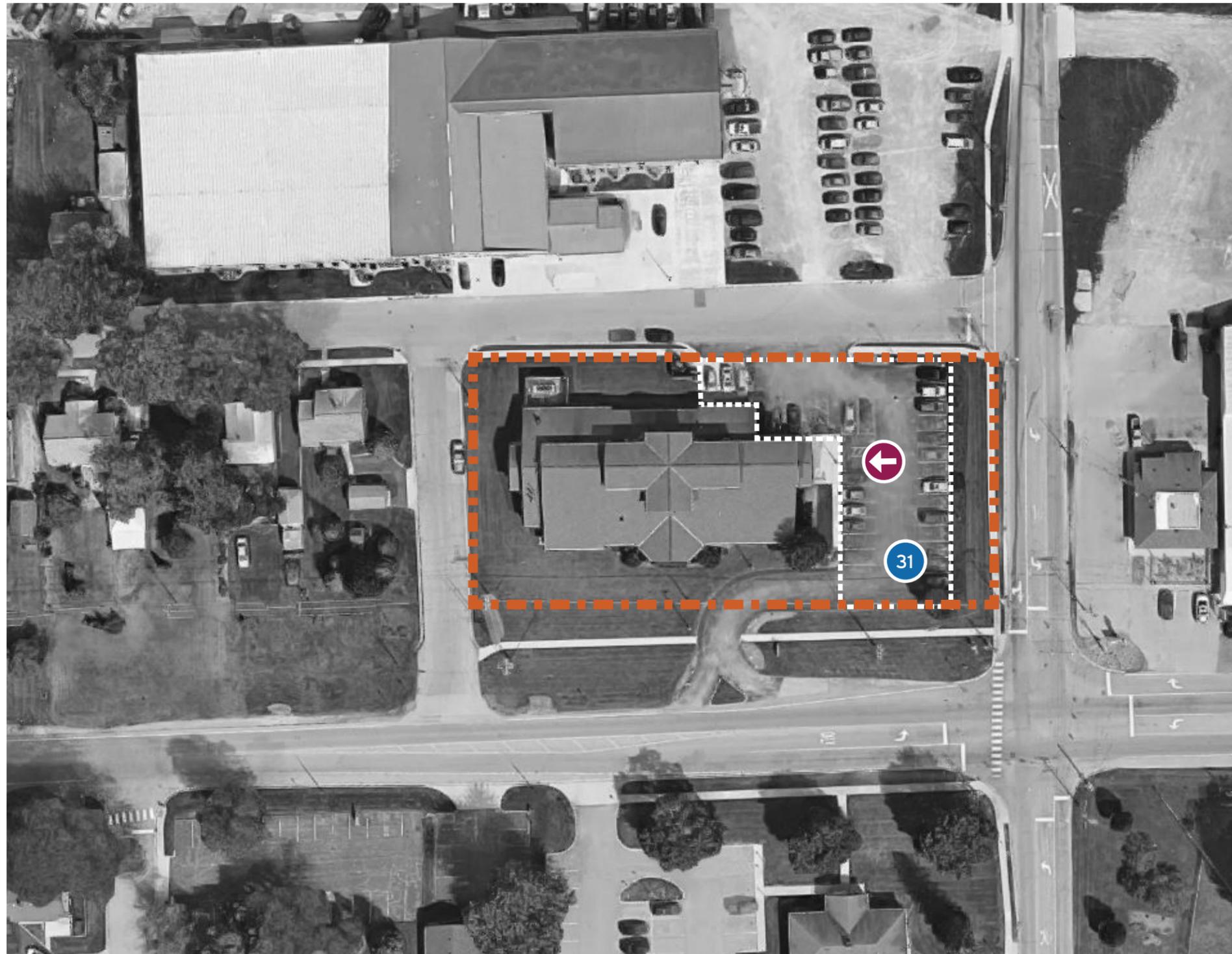
Scale: 1 = Poor to 5 = Good

Site allows for future expansion

Yes No

Renovation and/or expansion can meet 10-year service demand

Yes No



Site Plan

SITE

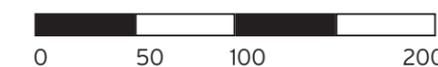
The branch is easily visible from Lincoln Highway and Green Street in New Haven, and it projects a good presence as a library. The building address is Green Street, however the sign is at Lincoln, and the entrances to the site are from Lincoln and Hartzell.

The parking lot includes 31 spaces, which are awkwardly configured onto the site, with challenging access from Hartzell Street and only one-way ingress/egress at Lincoln Highway. This location draws patrons with larger vehicles, which can be a challenge to accommodate with the current lot and space size. The parking access, layout and configuration are all confusing and have contributed to accidents in the lot.

Parking is also undersized for the number of cars arriving during busy times and/or for special programs and events.

The site includes some green space along the south and west sides. Lincoln Highway is a major traffic route, and it would be noisy for outdoor events. None of the green space is currently developed to accommodate programming.

	main entrance
	number of parking spaces
	property line



BRANCH CONDITION

The building was completed in 2003 and has had some maintenance upgrades, but no major capital improvements have occurred since the original construction.

Major systems notes are informed by a January 2020 Trane Energy Contracting systems audit, as amended by ACPL facilities staff where applicable:

- The major equipment is in good condition.
- The system includes central chiller and boiler feeding VAV air handling units
- Water heater is 17 years into a 15 year expected useful life and will soon need to be replaced.
- The boilers are 17 years into a 25 year expected useful life.
- The split system is 18 years into a 15 year expected useful life and will soon need to be replaced.
- The motors for both air handling units are 17 years into an 18 year expected useful life. ACPL has entered into a maintenance agreement to attend to these.
- Seven fan coil units are 17 years into a 20 year expected useful life and will soon need to be replaced.
- The chiller is 7 years into a 23 year expected useful life.
- Lighting is fluorescent throughout, no LED upgrades to date.

Additional observations:

- The exterior building envelope is in decent condition, but presents ongoing maintenance concerns seasonally.
- Interior finishes around the clerestory windows show signs of separating and cracking.
- The acoustical finish at the high ceiling is 'shedding' - not hazardous but a concern.
- Roof leaks are noted and will need to be addressed.
- Temperature control is a challenge, and no control in the staff restroom.
- Ceiling fans do not help temperature control, effectively non-functional.
- A survey prepared by Huntington University identified conditions that are non-compliant with the current applicable Americans with Disabilities Act.



"The temperature in our building is never consistent. It is either too cold or too hot. We are considered a cooling station and many customers have been disappointed by the lack of reliable AC."

Staff Survey Response

"It isn't living up to its full potential. We could develop the property into a destination which could be accessed through the library. Shade trees with benches, a playscape, an outdoor story-time area and a community or butterfly garden."

Staff Survey Response



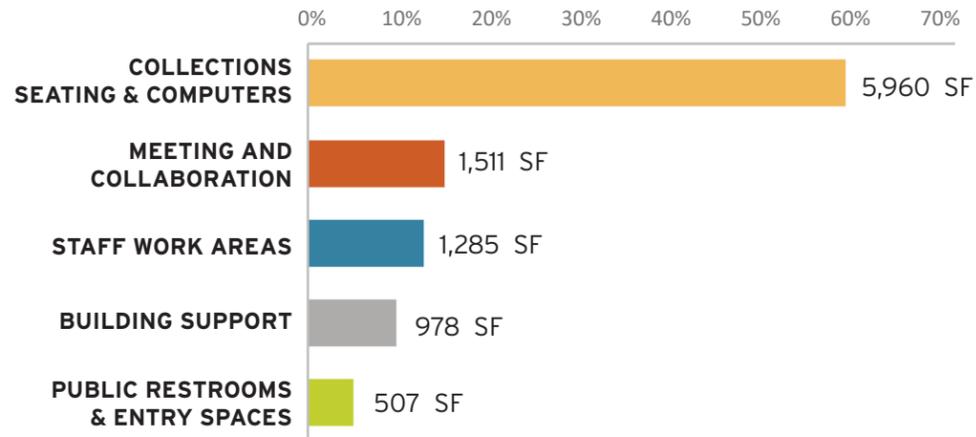


"The computers are in the middle of the library and this is a problem when younger patrons are a little rambunctious (especially since noise carries in our tall building) or when older patrons are looking for a little more privacy. I'd love to see the computers relocated to a less centralized area. The computer furniture also needs changed. I often have pairs of people working on documents and such at the same time but they can't fit in that space without invading the space of another computer user."

Staff Survey Response



SPACE ALLOCATION





FUNCTIONALITY

New Haven is adequately sized for the population served, but poorly configured for library service, with a lot of columns and pockets of space shaping but limiting flexibility.

- The entrance canopy is clear and welcoming from the parking areas, but the vestibule is small, congested, and loud at busy times.
- The meeting room is approximately 960 SF, is well used but dated and inflexible for modern needs. It includes an adequate presentation wall but no technology. Storage is convenient but shared with the rest of the building and cannot be accessed whenever the room is in use .
- The building was designed to accommodate after-hours meetings with restroom access.
- The children's space is too small for the demand, and not easily reconfigured within the building.
- The young adult space is small and not acoustically separated from the rest of the space.
- The small group meeting room adjacent to the manager's office is functional, but not acoustically private. More small group study rooms would be welcome.
- The enclosed computer room between children and teens spaces should be repurposed; it could possibly be converted into one or two small meeting rooms.
- The layout of the branch does not adequately separate quiet and loud spaces.



EFFICIENCY

- The building configuration does not lend itself to flexibility of layout and service delivery.
- Access to power is limited to floor boxes which are challenging to access
- The circulation service point is well located but includes too much workspace behind the desk. A smaller, more efficiently configured desk is needed.
- The staff work and break areas are adequate but the rooms are not connected, and staff are also separated from the branch manager office.
- The open book return directly into the work space should be enclosed for sound and safety.
- Staff area does not include adequate space for deliveries.
- Staff workstations are near the exterior door. This makes it uncomfortable to work there when deliveries are being made, especially during bad weather.

“Renovating the New Haven Library Branch and the reconfiguration of the children’s space and teen’s area would be extremely beneficial. The children need individual spaces for reading and exploring books. Scattered reading nooks would allow children to engage in reading inside the library and transform the space into a “stay in” experience not just “check out” books.”

Public Survey Response

TECHNOLOGY

Building Technology Infrastructure

- There are enough wired network connections for all library computers.
- There are not enough power outlets for charging mobile devices such as laptops and cell phones.
- The existing power outlets are not easy/comfortable for patrons to access.
- The existing space can accommodate expansion of power access needs.

WiFi

- The existing WiFi covers: bandwidth needs for the library's computers; the physical space of the library for current usage; and the needs of users outside the library building.

Patron Computing

- There are no public computer stations with capabilities to support those with visual, auditory, or physical impairments.
- The Children's area does not have collaborative computing space for caregivers and children.

Staff Computing

- There are not adequate computers or devices for staff.
- The existing printers/scanners/photocopiers are adequate.
- The existing phones are not adequate for work needs.

FF&E

- There are usually enough public computers to meet demand.
- There is not adequate space at computer stations for patrons' items.
- There are no collaborative computing spaces.
- The library does not have at least one (1) ADA compliant public computer workstation.
- The Children's area does not have space for adult caregivers to work while supervising children in their care.
- There is no assistive listening technology in public meeting room.
- The audio/visual facility in meeting/study rooms meets patron needs.

Other/Additional Technology

- The library would like to add: a "roaming" service model; a Smart Board; a portable kitchenette.



"I want my patrons to have plenty of workspace to use the computer, especially if they have a second person working with them. I want them to be able to have some privacy and the capability to work in a more quiet spot of the library."

Staff Survey Response





"I agree with the assessment on the building. The windows are gorgeous, but cause sunshine glare several times a year. The building feels old and worn on the inside, and we do need more outlets and some updates there. I think the building also needs another study room."

Public Survey Response

AMBIANCE

- The building design is unique and an identifiable landmark, but the resulting interior spaces feel too tall, and result in inconsistent lighting and dark corners, plus glare from high windows.
- The building configuration includes pockets of space to the north and south, which coupled with high shelving does not make wayfinding intuitive. There is insufficient signage to support navigation.
- Large pendant fixtures are too high to easily maintain and collect dust and insects.
- The primary defining feature is the interior trusses which draw attention away from services and spaces provided in the building.
- The exterior entrance includes a large overhang which makes the entrance obvious, and welcoming. A bulldog statue at the entrance provides unique local identity.
- Finishes are mostly original to the building and showing signs of age. Restrooms are particularly showing signs of use and age.
- The building lacks color, and there is no differentiation of finishes between adult and children's spaces.
- The acoustics can be problematic; loud and quiet spaces are not separated.
- The meeting room is functional, but finishes are dated and need to be upgraded.

"Definitely needs upgrades to flooring, lighting and technology. More meeting spaces would be nice too."

Public Survey Response

