

Little Turtle



The Little Turtle Branch was originally known as the Northside Branch when it opened in a rented property at 1630 East Wells Street in 1919. In 1926 it was renamed “Little Turtle” in honor of the local Miami chief. The branch moved to a building on Huffman Boulevard in 1929, where it remained until the early 1970s. In 1972, the library Board purchased a former Kroger grocery store building at 2201 Sherman Boulevard, which dated from the 1950s. The architectural firm of Martindale and Associates designed the renovation of the building, which opened in May 1973. Funds from the sale of the former branch building were used for carpeting, a security system, and photocopier equipment. The branch underwent remodeling in 1990 and again in 2006.

GENERAL INFORMATION

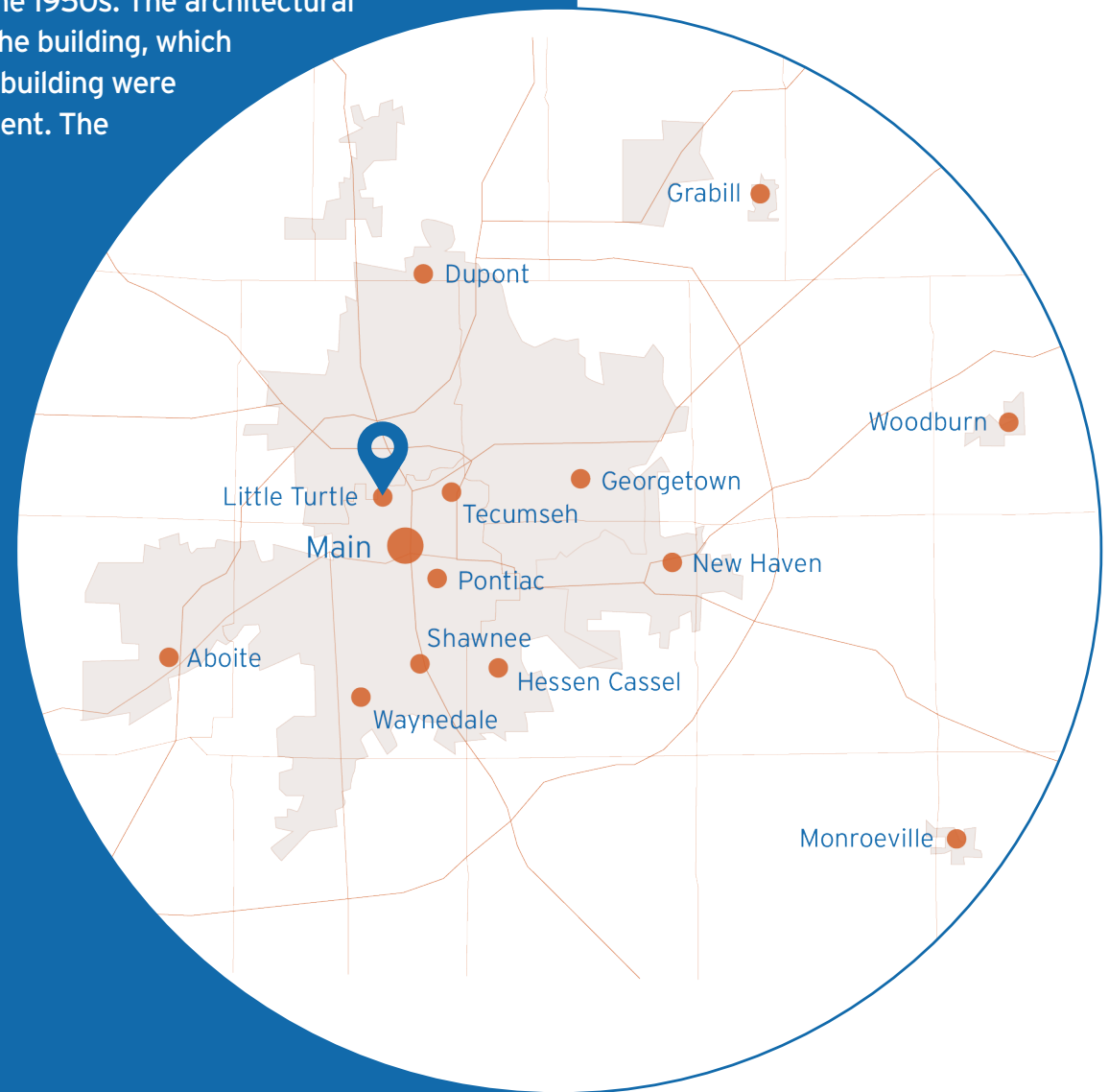
Address	2201 Sherman Blvd Fort Wayne, IN 46808
Building Size	13,150 SF
Site Area	1.04 Acres
On Site Parking	55
Year Built	1972, Renovation 2006
Original Architect	Vintage Archonics

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Population Served (1 mile)	13,558
Days Open	6 / week
Hours Open	57 / week
Full Time Staff	5.4

STATISTICS 2020

Door Count	40,525
Programs	60
Program Attendance	871
Collection Size	42,723
Circulation	56,192
Computer Usage	33



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

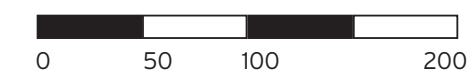
The branch and library sign are easily visible from Sherman Boulevard, however there is no presence from the main thoroughfare half a block to the north, West State Boulevard. The building design does not project significant presence as a library.

The parking lot includes 54 spaces, easily accessed and obvious from the street. The site has no green space, only the parking areas that could be used for outdoor programming.

The property could accommodate modest expansion into the parking areas to east and south.



	main entrance
	number of parking spaces
	property line



Site Plan

BRANCH CONDITION

The original building (which was not constructed as a library) was completed in 1972. The building was renovated in 1990, and it received a more comprehensive renovation in 2006.

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 DX VAV air handling units served by boilers.
- Water heater is 14 years into a 15 year expected useful life and will soon need to be replaced.
- The boiler is 14 years into a 25 year expected useful life.
- The split system is 14 years into a 15 year expected useful life and will soon need to be replaced.
- The motor for the air handling unit is 14 years into a 18 year expected useful life. ACPL has entered into a maintenance agreement to attend to this.
- Lighting is fluorescent throughout, no LED upgrades to date.

Additional observations:

- The exterior masonry needs repair in several areas, a condition that has been noted by ACPL to be addressed.
- Finishes were updated in 2006 and are generally well-kept but showing signs of age.
- A survey prepared by Huntington University identified a few minor and correctable conditions that are non-compliant with the current applicable Americans with Disabilities Act.



“It’s very cold in our staff room and we have no way of changing the temp. Cold air drafts in through the drop box and the outside door.”

Staff Survey Response

“Little Turtle needs a room for children’s programs that isn’t carpeted and doesn’t compete with the public on meeting room space.”

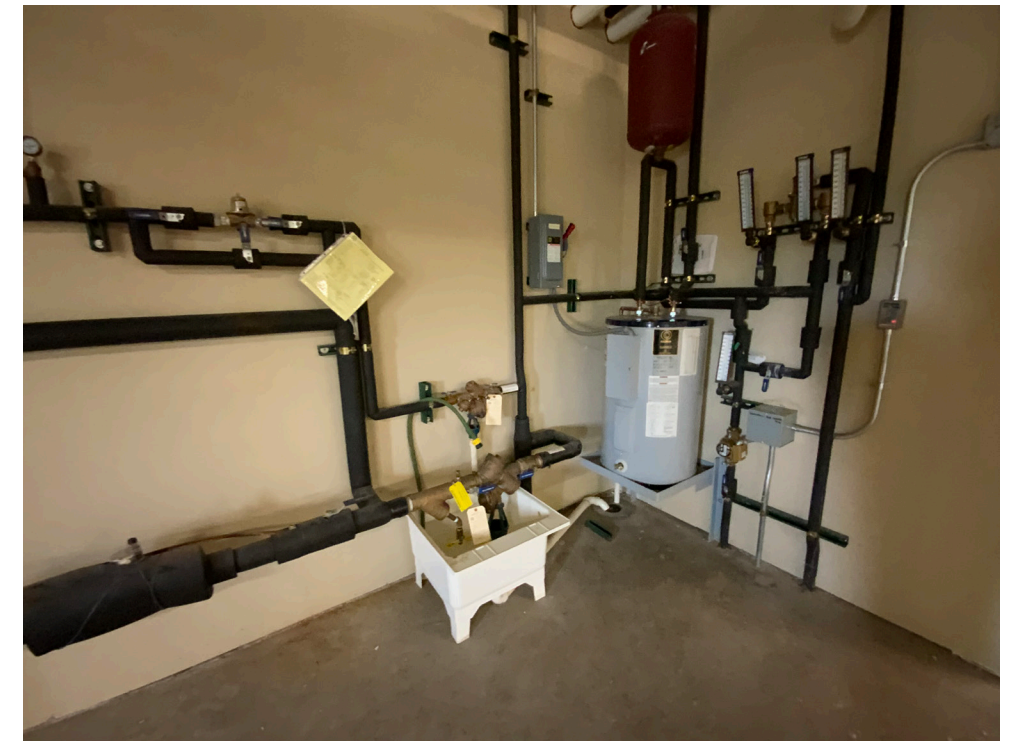
Public Survey Response



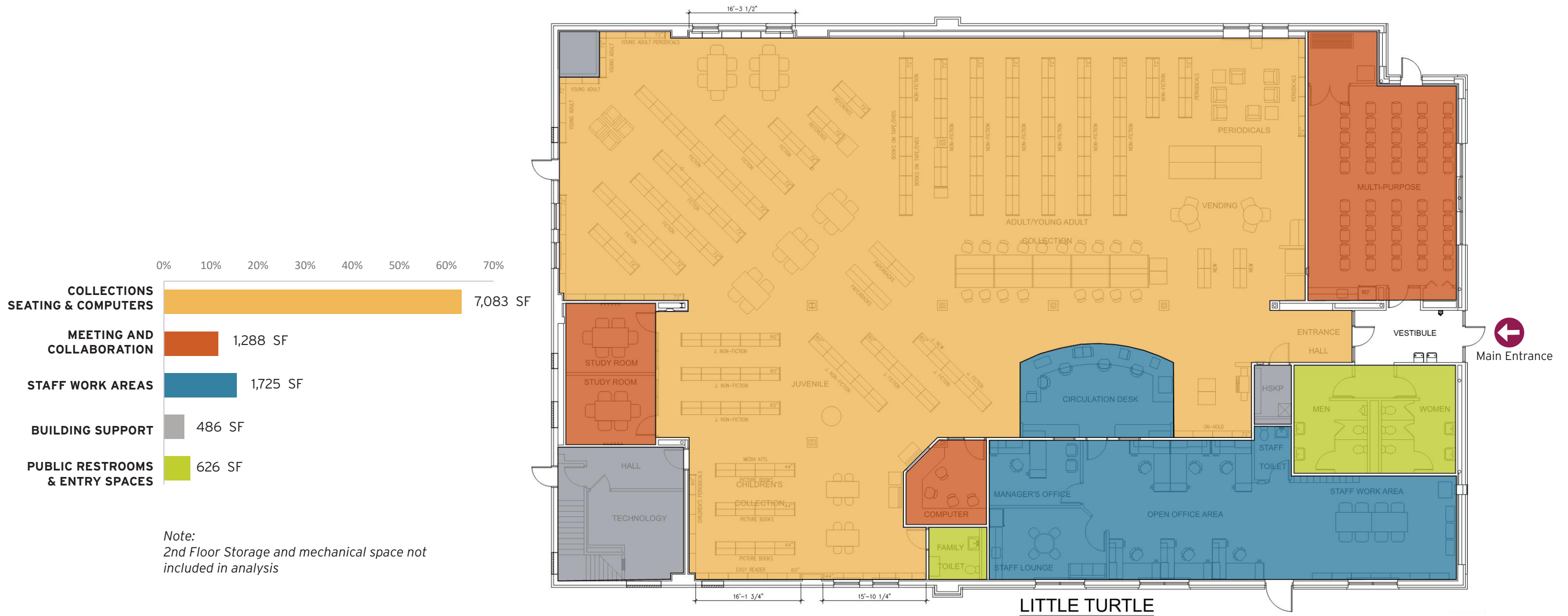


"We don't have enough grassy space. Some activities have had to be held next to the street-not safe when children go running after a ball or so forth. A bench or covered outdoor seating for wifi users would be much used."

Staff Survey Response



SPACE ALLOCATION





FUNCTIONALITY

Little Turtle is adequately sized for the community served and volume of use.

- The entrance vestibule is a bit cramped to allow access to meeting space and restrooms, but it is clean and well-kept.
- The branch layout is a simple and straightforward rectangular plan, and generally flexible except for the size limitations. Compared to other branches, there is a good balance of collections and seating space, however more tables with access to power needed.
- The meeting room is approximately 700 SF, undersized for large groups. It includes an adequate presentation wall and storage.
- The building was designed to accommodate after-hours meetings with restroom access.
- The children's space is small but well organized, and it includes a family restroom which is a plus.
- The young adult space is small and distant, located in what would otherwise be a quiet corner of the library. It is not acoustically separated from the rest of the space.
- Two small study rooms are adequately designed but not optimally located, as they are adjacent to the children's area.
- A small, enclosed computer room is oddly configured but sought after for quiet study. More quiet study needed.
- The large built-in computer area in front of circulation is functional but oversized and limits flexibility.
- The layout of the branch does not adequately separate quiet and loud spaces.



EFFICIENCY

- The circulation service point is oversized but in good condition and provides good sight lines.
- The staff work area is comparatively large relative to other branches, and it includes space to layout programming materials. There is storage located in some cabinets within the room, but no adequate dedicated storage room.
- Sight lines are good to most areas of the library from the main service point.
- The open book return directly into the work space should be enclosed for sound and safety.
- The original purpose of the building provided for a large storage space on the second floor. This is an unusually large amount of storage for a branch, but not convenient for branch use as there is no elevator access. The second floor space accommodates mechanical equipment, and storage areas have lots of capacity, and are used for some system-wide needs.

"I like this branch but its flow and setup are not ideal. You have to walk through the computer area to get to anything else. Convenient location near housing and other services."

Public Survey Response

TECHNOLOGY

Building Technology Infrastructure

- There are not 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.

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 for caregivers and children.

Staff Computing

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

FF&E

- There are usually enough public computers to meet demand.
- There is adequate space at computer stations for patrons' items.
- There are collaborative computing spaces.
- 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 is not meeting patron needs. The library would like to see a projector, TV, and DVD player as additional technology for audio/visual needs..

Other/Additional Technology

- The library would like to add: a portable kitchenette; laptops for lending; a portable projector



“Need a computer space where it is ok for kids/people to be loud that is not disruptive to everyone else.”

Public Survey Response

“Curiosity! I wish for us to be conversant with tech that our patrons will soon be using. I wish for us to be capable of helping patrons use not just the newest tech, but more basic tools such as the photocopier, fax machine, printers, and scanners”

Staff Survey Response





“Prior to the rebuilding of the Little Turtle branch, the branch had character with displays, fish tanks, turtle shells, unique spaces, etc.”

Public Survey Response

AMBIANCE

- The site is urban, with no green space except for a small amount at the sidewalks.
- The exterior entrance includes a large overhang which makes the entrance obvious, however there is no visibility into the branch or exterior indication that this is a library other than the sign at the street.
- Finishes are in decent shape but lack color, there is no differentiation between adult and children’s spaces.
- The acoustics can be problematic; loud and quiet spaces are not separated.
- The layout makes wayfinding straightforward given the open nature of the building, but there is little signage to support navigation.

“Colors are outdated and drab. Could use more table space for people to work together or independently. Could use more private spaces for people to meet.”

Staff Survey Response

