

What Middletown Read

James Connolly
Center for Middletown
Studies
Ball State University



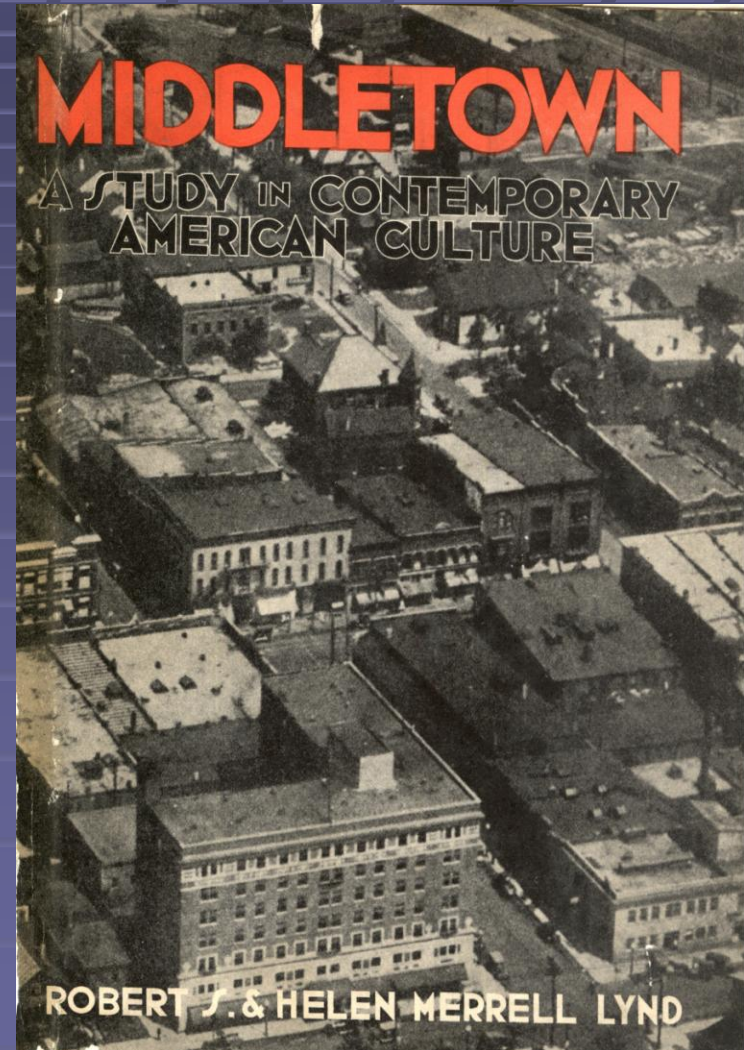
City Building.

Project History/Goals

- Frank Felsenstein's discovery
- Document library circulation, Muncie (Indiana) Public Library, 1892-1902.
- Fully searchable online database
- Sample variables:
 - Demographic: age, sex, race, class, birthplace, etc.
 - Bibliographic: book, author, genre, publisher, etc.
 - Multivariate searches
- Who read what?

Muncie as Middletown

- Lynd and Lynd, *Middletown* (1929)
- Lynd and Lynd, *Middletown in Transition* (1937)
- Middletown III, IV
- Middletown Film Series (1982)
- 1890s baseline



Accession Catalog

ACCESSION CATALOGUE OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF MUNCIE, IN.

229

DATE	Accession Number	AUTHOR AND TITLE
Nov 20 1874	11227	Shubin, Dick - Ge. & Blue Spring
Nov 20 1874	11228	Borne, James - Cavalry Ships & Land Sea Sailors
Nov 20 1874	11229	Griffin, Wm. Elliot - The Pilgrims in their Own Homes
Nov 20 1874	11230	Hay, Maxwell - The House of Witches Treason
Discontinued	11231	In the West - Paper - Storm
Discontinued	11232	Mills, David Dwight - Montague, His Elephant
Discontinued	11233	McDonald, Sir George - Sir Colbie
Discontinued	11234	Reed, - Geo - The Nations of Canada North
Discontinued	11235	Wagner, Mrs. Mat - Christal Chelinday's
Discontinued	11236	Kingsley, Florence M. - The Waves of the Sea
Discontinued	11237	Stiles, A. - A Comrade of the Cross
Discontinued	11238	Stiles, A. - A Soldier of the Cross
Discontinued	11239	Paul, A. - A Soldier
Discontinued	11240	Van Eschlin, Clement - A Soldier's Story - 18 th Century
Discontinued	11241	Malin, - Marshall W. - Books & Authors
Discontinued	11242	Ellis, Ed. S. - A Hunt Through Time
Discontinued	11243	Bylone, Margt. - A Compendium of the Empire of Orient
Discontinued	11244	Camis, Edwin - The English Nov. Study in Personality
Discontinued	11245	Warner, Chas. Dudley - Boys a Boy
Discontinued	11246	Warner, Chas. Dudley - The Federal Judge
Discontinued	11247	Whitman, Philip - Electricity for Everybody
Discontinued	11248	Whitman, Philip - The Power of Cuba
Discontinued	11249	Whitman, Philip - The Electrical Rev.
Discontinued	11250	Meyer, Chas. Dudley - Fairy Land of Chemistry
Discontinued	11251	Whitman, Philip - Inspection
Discontinued	11252	Smith, Wm. Conway - Metals & Salts
Discontinued	11253	Corbin - Hand. A. - Metals
Discontinued	11254	Warner, Chas. Dudley - The Relation of the World to the
Discontinued	11255	Bennett, E. C. - Journalism for Men, Political and
Discontinued	11256	Catmer, Eliza - Spain in the 18 th Century
Discontinued	11257	London, Wm. - The Builders of American Literature
Discontinued	11258	Melloughby, Wm. F. - Workingman's Insurance
Discontinued	11259	Morris, Chas. - The Nations of the
Discontinued	11260	Heming, Wm. - How to Study Shakespeare
Discontinued	11261	Statham, H. H. - Modern Archæology
Discontinued	11262	Strong, Josiah - The Greenback Country
Discontinued	11263	Strong, Josiah - The New Era
Discontinued	11264	Wormburg, - H. - Defeat of the

WHERE PUBLISHED.	WHEN.	No. Vols.	Size.	Pages.	Binding.	OF WHOM PROCURED.	COST.
							Dols. Cts. L. A.
Phila. Penn.	1875	12	2 25	4th	J. B. Appleton Co.		40
New York	1877	"	881	"	M. W. Allen Co.	11	90
" & Boston	1878	"	376	"	Houghton, Mifflin Co.		48
" & Lond.	"	"	401	"	D. Appleton & Co.		95
"	"	"	332	"	C. Scribner's Sons		64
"	"	"	234	"	Henry Holt & Co.		74
Boston Mass.	"	"	417	"	A. M. Briggs & Co.		90
Chicago & N. York	"	"	286	"	Reverend M. Kelly & Co.		60
Boston	"	"	374	"	Houghton, Mifflin Co.	1	28
Phila. Penn.	1877	"	470	"	Reverend M. Kelly & Co.		79
"	1878	"	476	"	"		18
"	1878	"	367	"	H. C. Gray & Co.		75
"	"	"	453	"	"		90
Boston & N. York	1877, 1878	"	373	"	Houghton, Mifflin Co.	1	90
"	"	"	279	"	Dodd, Mead & Co.		75
"	"	"	263	"	G. P. Putnam		40
N. York & Lond.	"	"	313	"	E. B. Arnold & Co.		84
"	"	"	302	"	Chas. Scribner's Sons	1	28
Boston & N. York	1878	"	244	"	Houghton, Mifflin Co.		80
"	"	"	353	"	"		79
" & Lond.	"	"	203	"	Curling Co.		28
W. Penn. Ohio	1878	"	668	"	The Standard Co.	1	34
Boston Mass.	"	"	390	"	Roberts Bros.	1	82
"	"	"	387	"	A. M. Briggs & Co.		70
"	1877	"	241	"	Houghton, Mifflin Co.		79
Chicago Ill.	"	"	234	"	C. Scribner's Sons		58
" & Lond.	"	"	433	"	J. G. Powell & Co.		80
"	"	"	320	"	Warner Bros.		75
" & Lond.	1878	"	78	"	The Lane, The Public, & Co.		50
Chicago Ill.	"	"	439	"	A. C. McClurg	1	67
Boston Mass.	1873	"	303	"	W. & S. Stephens		95
" & Lond.	"	"	386	"	J. G. Appleton & Co.	1	120
Phila. Penn.	1878	"	333	"	J. B. Lippincott		28
" & Lond.	"	"	429	"	Doubleday, McClure & Co.		84
"	"	"	281	"	Chas. Scribner's Sons	2	20
"	"	"	185	"	Robt. S. Lyman		80
"	"	"	374	"	R. G. Lusk & Co.		45

Book Borrower's Register

13

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF MUNCIE.

The undersigned hereby promise to observe the existing Regulations of the Public Library of Muncie, and such as may be hereafter prescribed by due authority.

DATE	Number	NAME OF BORROWER.	RESIDENCE.	NAME OF GUARANTOR.	RESIDENCE.
Aug 23	432	May H. Shinn	South Jefferson	James Shinn	St. Jefferson
" 31	433	Anna Baxter	Cherry St. Muncie	J. H. Heath	East Adams St.
Sept 1	434	Emma M. Spar	111 West Adams	James Spar	West Adams
" 4	434	Geo. Kilgus	Co. Adams St. Muncie	J. H. Heath	Co. Adams St. Muncie
" 7	435	David Keen	South Main St.	Stock	
"	436	Mrs. Seaton			
" 13	437	William H. Wood	West Adams	Stock	
" 26	438	Cliff Williams	Washington	Henry Williams	Washington
" 29	439	J. W. P. P. P.	South Walnut St.	Stock	South Walnut
Oct 11	440	Chas. E. P. P.	303 E. Jackson St.	H. C. Emerson	E. Jackson St.
" 13	441	J. W. P. P.	South Main St.	Stock	
" 16	442	George D. Winger	189 West Main St.	Geo. A. Shaw	Haines House
" 17	443	W. E. Miller	143 East Main	J. S. Miller	East Main
" 20	444	Mary Anderson	Cor. North & Madison	John Anderson	Cor. North & Madison
" 21	445	Beulah Green	208 East Jackson	A. M. Deaney	Cor. North & Madison
"	446	W. E. Miller		Stock	
" 24	447	G. P. Stevens	289 East Main	H. C. Beckwith	289 East Main
" 28	448	N. Cassady	West Washington	Stock	
"	449	Linda Fitchell	Walnut St.	Mrs. Blewett	North Walnut
" 30	450	Lilly O'Brien	High St. Muncie	Mrs. O'Brien	High St. Muncie
"	451	W. E. Miller	High St. Muncie		
" 27	452	J. G. Jackson	1002 E. Main	W. H. Jackson	1002 E. Main
Nov 1	453	Chas. J. Keayhead	Walnut St.	Stock	
" 7	454	Wm. T. Keayhead	East Adams	J. H. Heath	East Adams
" 7	455	Chas. J. Keayhead	East Adams	J. H. Heath	East Adams
" 8	456	Chas. J. Keayhead	East Adams	J. H. Heath	East Adams
" 13	457	Smith Morris	East Adams	J. H. Heath	East Adams
" 14	458	Wm. Morris	East Adams	J. H. Heath	East Adams
" 17	459	W. E. Miller	East Adams	Stock	
" 18	460	Rosette Lof	West Jackson	O. G. Lof	West Jackson
" 22	461	H. B. Coe	West Charles	Stock	
" 25	462	Jas. Boyer	East Main St.	Stock	
" 27	463	Wm. E. Miller	East Main St.	Stock	
" 28	464	E. P. Bishop	South Walnut St.	Stock	
" 29	465	Thos. Lof	Adams St.	John Lof	Adams St.
Dec 27	466	Wm. E. Miller	Co. Adams St.	Stock	

Circulation Ledgers

802	Mrs. Mary Johnson	400	5435	John Dumbler	204
50	Mrs. McNeill	2436	5437	John Dumbler	4576
8027	Mrs. McNeill	188	8350	Mrs. W. Reynolds	3201
410	Mrs. McNeill	5134	1630	Mrs. W. Reynolds	2828
8078	Mrs. Sae. Mundy	69	8367	Mrs. J. C. Cole	3212
7036	Mrs. Sae. Mundy	1297	8368	Charles Dignell	3051
7110	Mrs. C. Mundy	3281	6573	Julia Foster	3242
7191	Mrs. J. C. Ross	3116	9128	Mrs. W. M. Stewart	2649
8598	" M. M. Ross	4240	665	Alma M. Small	4099
7701	Blanche Ross	3194	8359	Mrs. W. M. Stewart	3147
8362	Blanche Ross	3266	9219	Bessie Hsie	4543
9040	Helen Smith	4810	7147	Clifford Gordon	3243
7696	Mrs. Hill	4138	6600	William Patterson	2727
8397	Mrs. M. S. Casch	8153	7111	Mrs. Kate Small	2914
7110	Ella Davis	3233	7226	Earl Williams	3200
8363	Mrs. Emma Miller	4095	9224	Mr. D. W. Palmer	4465
8375	" " Miller	375	8080	Mrs. Emma Miller	4262
6809	Eva M. Miller	4377	8378	Bessie Miller	2980
7189	John Miller	1620	8370	Clara Miller	2978
7209	Katie Miller	462	7142	Joseph Miller	4000
8338	Mr. D. K. Miller	307	7099	Mrs. J. M. Miller	3732
8370	Carl Miller	208	8079	Clara Miller	4213
8387	Mrs. Virginia Miller	4341	6572	John Miller	5140
8376	John Miller	4713			
8377	Bessie Miller	4624			
7087	John Miller	414			
7112	Mrs. Mrs. Miller	293	7204	Mrs. Miller	4027
7034	Mrs. Mrs. Miller	4017	8371	John Miller	2878
7037	Ruben Miller	324	8387	Jennie Miller	4114
8383	John Miller	278	1035	Mr. W. D. Miller	3188
8392	Mrs. Mrs. Miller	80	9274	Mrs. W. D. Miller	4142
9165	Earl Miller	5200	8389	John Miller	4312
7022	Emma Miller	3182	8397	John Miller	3777
704	Mrs. Anna Miller	3133	8399	Bessie Miller	2064
846	John Miller	413	9344	Mrs. Miller	3107
8328	John Miller	403	8370	Rubie Miller	3191
8791	Mrs. Miller	4242	8374	John Miller	4521
9156	John Miller	3209	8382	John Miller	4523
8344	Mrs. Miller	409	8386	Mrs. Miller	4299
8320	Mrs. Miller	3147	8387	Mrs. Miller	4298
7038	Mrs. Helen Miller	324	8388	Earl Miller	4507
			8389	John Miller	4293
			7720	Ray	4500
			8337	Rubie Miller	3221
			8287	John Miller	3200
			624	Mrs. Miller	4176
			4657	Mr. R. Miller	4572
			4070	John Miller	4576
			423	Mr. C. C. Miller	324

Book Data Entry

Middletown Studies What Middletown Read Books Maintenance

Search Title ▼

Book #	<input type="text" value="10352"/>	<input type="text" value="585"/>
Title	<input type="text" value="Poems of Childhood"/>	
LC Title	<input type="text"/>	
Dewey Number	<input type="text"/>	LC Number <input type="text"/>
Publisher	<input type="text" value="Scribner and Sons"/> ▼	Year Published <input type="text" value="1896"/>
Publisher Location	<input type="text" value="New York"/> ▼	
Size	<input type="text" value="12"/>	Binding Type <input type="text" value="Cloth"/> ▼
# of Volumes	<input type="text" value="10"/>	# of Pages <input type="text" value="228"/>
# of Copies	<input type="text"/>	
Additional Information	<input type="text"/>	Accession Date: <input type="text" value="8/12/1897"/>
		Discard Date <input type="text" value="8/11/1930"/>

Authors

Author	
<input type="text" value="Field, Eugene, 1850-1895"/> ▼	
* <input type="text"/>	

Record: of 1

Patron Data Entry

Middletown Studies: What Middletown Read (Patron Maintenance)

Search Patron ▼

Number

Name Prefix ▼ First Middle Last Suffix Nickname

Address (BBR)

Address (MCD) MCD Year ▼

MCD Name (MCD) Comment

Additional Information

Guarantor Name Guarantor Address/Comment

Guarantor Relationship ▼

Registered Date

Books

Race ▼ Immigration Date

Gender ▼ Naturalization Status ▼

Birth Year Residential Status ▼

Birthplace ▼ # of Boarders

Birthplace-Father ▼ # of Live-in Servants

Birthplace-Mother ▼ Census Occupation ▼

Marital Status ▼ Census Occupation Comment

Years Married Census Name

Census Notes

Circulation Record Data Entry

Middletown Studies What Middletown Reads Transaction Data Entry

Transaction Date	Book ID	Patron ID	COMMENT
11/10/1894	1	4406	
Borrower Name	Weir, Daniel T Mr		
11/10/1894	8375	4398	
Borrower Name	Shuttleworth, Earnest N		
11/10/1894	926	1848	
Borrower Name	Decamp, Ada M Miss		
11/10/1894	748	1897	
Borrower Name	Shuttleworth, Ada Miss		
11/10/1894	6662	4314	
Borrower Name	Smith, Edna		
11/10/1894	9145	2942	pos borrowed card
Borrower Name	Green, Mr		
11/10/1894	8515	4495	
Borrower Name	Williams, A Mr		
11/10/1894	8595	4024	
Borrower Name	Hockette, Suzette		
11/10/1894	7715	4508	
Borrower Name	Boor, Everett		

[Return to
Menu](#)

Search Screen

Search: PATRON DATA | BOOK DATA | CIRCULATION DATA

Find results with:

Any of the words in the Author field [show terms](#)

The exact phrase in the Title field [show terms](#)

+ more fields | - fewer fields

All of the words
The exact phrase
Any of the words
None of the words

Author
Title
Publisher
Publication Date
Binding Type
Dewey Classifica
LCSH Classificat

Melville, Herman, 1819-1891
Plato
Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616
Twain, Mark, 1835-1910

The screenshot displays a search interface with two search criteria. The first criterion is 'Any of the words' with the text 'Mark Twain Samuel Clemens' in the input field, and it is set to search in the 'Author' field. The second criterion is 'The exact phrase' with the text 'Huckleberry Finn' in the input field, and it is set to search in the 'Title' field. Below the search criteria are buttons for 'search' and 'clear all', and a link for '+ more fields | - fewer fields'. On the left, a dropdown menu is open, showing options: 'All of the words', 'The exact phrase', 'Any of the words', and 'None of the words'. On the right, two boxes provide additional information. The first box lists available search fields: 'Author', 'Title', 'Publisher', 'Publication Date', 'Binding Type', 'Dewey Classifica', and 'LCSH Classificat'. The second box shows search results for the 'Title' field: 'Melville, Herman, 1819-1891', 'Plato', 'Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616', and 'Twain, Mark, 1835-1910'.

Sample Search Output: Books

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (Tom Sawyer's Comrade), The

BOOK DATA | [CIRCULATION HISTORY](#)

Title:	Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (Tom Sawyer's Comrade), The
Author:	Twain, Mark, 1835-1910
Publisher:	Charles L. Webster and Co.
Publication Location:	New York
Publication Date:	1885
Number of Pages:	366
Size:	12
Binding:	Cloth
Accession Date:	08/12/1892
Number of Volumes:	1
Number of Copies:	1
Provenance:	Marsh Family
Dewey Classification:	813.419
Library of Congress:	PS 1305.A1 1885

Book Identification Number: 7649

[VIEW ACCESSION CATALOG](#)

[NEW SEARCH](#)

Sample Search Output: Patron

Smith, Everitt C.

PATRON DATA | CIRCULATION HISTORY

Guarantor:	Davis, Thomas
Year of Birth:	1854
Date Registered:	11/03/1894
Occupation:	Attorney
Socioeconomic Class:	Professional
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Birthplace:	Indiana
Birthplace-Father:	Virginia
Birthplace-Mother:	North Carolina
Marital Status:	Married
Years Married:	21
Immigration Date:	-
Naturalization Date:	-
Residential Status:	Homeowner

Patron Identification Number: 1538

[VIEW BOOK BORROWER'S REGISTER](#)

NEW SEARCH

Sample Search Output: Circulation

Search: [PATRON DATA](#) | [BOOK DATA](#) | [CIRCULATION DATA](#)

Find results with:

Any of the words in the field [show terms](#)

Any of the words in the field [show terms](#)

Any of the words in the field [show terms](#)

[+ more fields](#) | [- fewer fields](#)

RESULTS OF SEARCH

PATRONS		BOOKS	CHECK OUT DATE	
Barney, Smith J.	+	Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The	11/10/1894	View Ledger
Smith, Mark E.	+	Frog Jumping Contest of Calavaris County, The	11/09/1899	View Ledger
Smith, Daniel	+	Innocents Abroad, The	11/09/1894	View Ledger
Smith, Everitt C.	+	Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The	11/08/1899	View Ledger
Smith, Mark E.	+	Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The	11/11/1899	View Ledger
Smith, Strother	+	Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The	04/22/1894	View Ledger
Smith, Mark E.	+	Innocents Abroad, The	09/11/1899	View Ledger
Winston, Smith	+	Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court, A	01/20/1894	View Ledger

Project Statistics

- 6,300 Library Patrons (all entered)
- 13,700 Titles (1,006 entered)
- 190,000 Transactions (80,000+ entered)
- Budget to Date: \$125,000
- Est. Total Budget: Approx. \$550,000
- Timeline: available online April, 2010

Preliminary Findings

Most Frequent Users

- School children: Local reporter observed 30-50 in one afternoon
- Women
- Predominantly middle-class (location)
- Clubs in evenings (e.g. Classics)
- Most Popular Genres
 - Fiction (esp. children's fiction)
 - Travel
 - History
- Magazines Circulated/Newspapers Available
- Case of Horatio Alger
 - 1894: 23 patrons (incl. parents)/11 books circulated
 - 1899: 3 patrons/3 books circulated