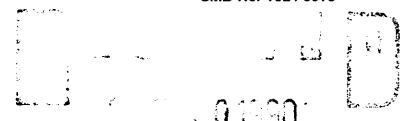


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lincoln Public Library
other names/site number Lincoln Public Library; Carnegie Library

2. Location

street & number 590 Fifth St. n/a not for publication
city, town Lincoln n/a vicinity
state California code CA county Placer code 061 zip code 95648

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site		_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure		_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: California Carnegie Libraries
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Kathryn Guattieri 10/22/90
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. **Entered in the National Register**

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Almona Byrne 12/10/90
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/library

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/library

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation

Brickwalls

Brickroof

Terra cottaother

Concrete

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY; CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Section number 7 Page 1

The Lincoln Carnegie Library building is a small, almost cubical, building of brick trimmed with terra cotta, one story over a high raised basement and topped by a tile hipped roof. It is an example of the Classical Revival in which the central element does not break the roofline and in this case does not project from the main facade. The central entrance is under a half-round transom framed by an arch of smooth, shaped and fitted terra cotta blocks with a prominent keystone. On each side of the entrance is a window, also with half round arch above. The windows are repeated around the sides and back of the building, five windows on one side, four windows and a matching door on the other side, and four windows across the back. Brick and terra cotta, used throughout, create variety in the facade, with shaped and smooth courselines above, and recessed bands at the basement level; they are the products of prominent local manufacturer Gladding McBean. The building is situated close to the sidewalk on a corner lot, with a small landscaped area in the rear. With no other building immediately adjacent, construction details are visible on four sides. Except for the addition of simple handrails for the steep stairs, the building is unchanged since its 1909 construction, maintaining the integrity of its style, scale, and craftsmanship. It is distinguished as a civic building among the several commercial brick buildings nearby.

The small size of the Lincoln Carnegie Library is offset by the simplicity and craftsmanship of its design, which seems to give it added stature. The tile hipped roof is almost pyramidal, and extends beyond the building on all sides. Beneath the fascia, rafters are visible but do not extend beyond the roof line. Below, the smooth brick facade is unadorned except by the varied use of brick and terra cotta. At the front, there is a central door and two windows, all with round arches of the same proportions. These are framed with smooth, shaped and fitted terra cotta blocks; above the door the pattern is wider and has a prominent keystone, and into the smooth face of the framing arch are carved the words "Public Library," one word on each side of the keystone. Windows are divided just once, horizontally. Window and door frames are painted white, the only contrast with the rosy tone of the brick and the reddish terra cotta and tile. The same pattern continues, with widely spaced arched windows under the radiating fitted terra cotta frames, on each side and across the back of the building.

A tall flight of steps leads directly from the sidewalk to the entrance. Above, the doorway itself is recessed within a wood panelled vestibule. The wood framed glass door, with brass below and brass handle and plate, is under a smaller arched transom framed in wood, and the words "Public Library" are repeated in terra cotta over the inner door. The stairs leading to the entrance are flanked by a substantial brick rail, stepped to reduce its mass and topped with flat smooth terra cotta slabs.

Courselines of smooth fascia-type terra cotta surround the building at the base of the arches, as a continuous sill for the windows, and at the baseline. The line surrounding the building just below the windows suggests the base of a column. The line above, interrupted by the windows

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CALIFORNIA CARNEGIE LIBRARIES: LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Section number 7 Page 2

and door, is shaped, projecting slightly above, and suggests the column capital supporting the arches. There is a wider and more projecting line at the base of the first floor, and below that the basement brick facade is marked by recessed horizontal lines at the top, middle, and base of simple square windows placed directly under the first floor arched windows. Along the side of the building away from the street there is a door, identical to a window except that it extends to floor level, reached by another substantial stairway on a brick base treated in the same manner as the basement level facade. Also on that side, an entrance is partly recessed below grade to provide exterior entrance to the basement. Basement windows are also slightly recessed wood framed, probably casement. The concrete foundation is barely visible at grade level.

In the rear of the building, the cornerstone is clearly visible, bearing the date "1909" in raised letters. The interior of the building is essentially one large room with a high curved ceiling, light with its many windows, which are wood-framed.

The library is one of the many nearby downtown brick buildings of its period and older, but is distinguished by its classical style and its setting -- raised, set back from the sidewalk by the stairs, freestanding. The Gladding McBean Pottery, source of its brick and terra cotta, is visible a few blocks to the north. Throughout the building, the brick and terra cotta are handled skillfully, as in the shaped components of the round arches and in the formed row of brick just below the basement windows. With the exception of the addition of handrails for the steep stairs, neither the interior nor exterior of the building has been changed in any significant way since its construction, preserving its integrity.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Social History
Architecture

1909-1921

1909

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

Fellows, Allen D.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

California Carnegie Survey _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	0	6	4	8	2	6	0	4	3	0	5	9	0	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

APO #008-171-1000, parcel located at northeast corner of Fifth and F Streets in Lincoln.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lucy Kortum
organization (Sonoma State University) date 11/89 (rev 4/90)
street & number 180 Ely Rd. telephone 707/762-6219
city or town Petaluma state CA zip code 94954

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY; CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Section number 8 Page 1

The products of the Gladding McBean have contributed to notable buildings throughout California and elsewhere, and in its home town of Lincoln they figured significantly in the construction of the Carnegie Library. Having begun as a railroad terminal in 1859, Lincoln was bypassed by the main line and in 1875 was facing stagnation when Charles Gladding recognized the quality of newly discovered clay deposits and, with McBean and others, established the now famous "Pottery." Lincoln's earliest library was an 1890 reading room. Typically, the library moved many times; several of the buildings that formerly housed the old libraries in Lincoln are still standing. In 1906 the City appointed a board of trustees which petitioned Carnegie for building funds; \$6000 was awarded December 13, 1907. The lowest bid to construct the library exceeded the allocation by \$2475, so Gladding McBean donated that amount in materials. The cornerstone was laid on April 3, 1909. The Lincoln Carnegie Library, unaltered, continues to serve the people of Lincoln.

Lincoln was one of five incorporated towns in Placer County in 1910: Auburn and Roseville with populations of 2500, Lincoln and Rocklin with 1400 and 1000 respectively, and Colfax with fewer than 621 residents. Lincoln's and Auburn's Carnegie libraries were begun almost simultaneously in 1907, and Roseville's three years later. Only Lincoln's continues to serve as a library, while the other two Carnegies have been saved as community centers. According to library historian Ray Held, Rocklin's minimal tax support was insufficient to sustain its library; it would appear that the community could not or would not make the commitment required by Carnegie as terms of a grant, though the library continued, maintained by volunteers from the women's club. Rocklin and Colfax were much later provided with branch libraries under the county system.

The railroad provides the dominant theme of all the towns in Placer County. The site of the present town of Lincoln had been purchased by Theodore Judah who sold it to Charles Lincoln Wilson in 1859. Wilson laid out the town and gave it his middle name, and for five years after 1861 Lincoln was the thriving terminus of the Sacramento Valley Railroad. After that line was extended northward, and the main line east had bypassed Lincoln, its railroad role was as a supplier of coal from nearby mines. Lincoln's destiny, however, was in another extractive industry. There had been numerous reports of clay deposits in the area, and in 1875 Chicago pipe manufacturer Charles Gladding tested the clay and determined its superior quality. With partners Peter McBean and George Chambers, he established the first clay pipe plant west of the Mississippi. "The Pottery" has remained the community's premier employer, expanding to meet new construction needs, from clay pipe to roof tile, and architectural terra cotta. The publication "Feats of Clay" lists the Bradbury House in Los Angeles, Stanford University, Auburn City Hall, Placer County Court House, Mitsubishi Banking Hall in Tokyo, San Francisco Opera House, Nevada State Supreme Court, and numerous buildings in the town of Lincoln, among the buildings featuring Gladding McBean materials. In addition to the Lincoln Carnegie Library, the Roseville and Sacramento Carnegies incorporate Gladding McBean products.

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LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY; CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Section number 8 Page 2

Lincoln's earliest library dates from 1890, the year that Lincoln was incorporated. It was a reading room in Ahart's Hall and, according to local historian Jerry Logan, parts of this brick building still exist in the Emmoda Building now on the site. "A goodly number of gentlemen" stopped by to read some of the 38 daily papers, 48 weekly papers, dozen magazines, and 200 books. A 1959 Centennial Edition of the newspaper mentions that later the library was housed in the Ziegenbein Building, also still standing, and that after 1904 the reading room was supported by public taxation. In 1906 Mabel Prentiss, a State Library organizer, appeared before the Lincoln city board of trustees and explained state law relative to establishment of public libraries.

Before the law enabling the establishment of county free libraries, the State Library had developed the concept of traveling libraries to serve rural communities through a rotating supply of books at a home or storefront. Library organizer May Henshall notes that the first such traveling library was requested and sent to Placer County. No date is given but it was most likely around 1903. The State Library also sent out organizers to help communities establish municipal libraries, even after it began to focus on county library organizing as a means of bringing library service to small rural communities. Henshall reports that there were continuing and frequent requests from Placer County's rural communities for a county library, especially in the Colfax area, but apparently not the willingness to elect a Board of Supervisors who favored it; the county library system was not established in Placer County until 1936.

Following Miss Prentiss' 1906 visit, Lincoln city board of trustees appointed a library board of trustees consisting of three women and two men. One of the women, Bertha Landis, was in the same year appointed Librarian. The legality of a member of the Board of Trustees serving as librarian was questioned and on September 16 of that year the answer given was that "In absence of statutory provision on the subject, common law is still in force. Common law declares the holder of the first ineligible for the second." The title of the person who handed down the decision is not clear and the signature, difficult to decipher, appears to be Ernest Brunekius. At any rate, Landis continued to serve as trustee for the immediate future, served as librarian until 1934, and was very active during the negotiations regarding the Carnegie Library.

On May 20, 1907, a formal application was sent to Andrew Carnegie, requesting \$6000 and including a resolution from the city board of trustees to provide an annual library tax of \$600. Their request was approved on December 13, 1907, conditional on submission of suitable plans and the purchase of a site. The architect selected, A.D. Fellows of Auburn, also designed the Auburn Carnegie. On the Lincoln building, the lowest bid received was \$8475 from Hoyt Bros. of Santa Rosa. The donation of "pressed brick, terra cotta roof tiling, and other terra cotta building material to be used in the building," manufactured at "The Pottery" in Lincoln and

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CALIFORNIA CARNEGIE LIBRARIES: LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Section number 8 Page 3

valued at \$2475, enabled construction to proceed. The first site selected seemed too far from the center of town and eventually the 5th and F Street site was chosen. Citizens of Lincoln contributed the \$2000 required for its purchase.

A cornerstone was donated by California Granite Company of Rocklin and was carved as a gift by Colin Hislop, former Lincoln resident. Masons conducted the impressive ceremony on April 3, 1909. Logan writes that "adults in their finery and whole classes of school children" celebrated the event. Included in the cornerstone was a history of the library; a copy in the library files is the source of much of this information. For eighty years Lincoln's Carnegie building has served as the home of the Lincoln Public Library.

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet**

CALIFORNIA CARNEGIE LIBRARIES: LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Section number 9 Page 1

Bobinski, George S. Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development. Chicago: American Library Association, 1969.

"Feats of Clay: 'The Pottery' and the City of Lincoln." Lincoln Arts & Culture Foundation, 1988.

Held, Ray E. The Rise of the Public Library in California. Chicago: American Library Association, 1973.

Henshall, May Dexter. County Library Organizing. Sacramento: California State Library Foundation, 1985.

Logan, Gerald. "History of the Lincoln Library." Mimeographed, unpublished.

Carnegie Library Survey form: Patricia Pogue, Lincoln Public Library, 590 Fifth St., Lincoln 95648.

Files, Lincoln Public Library

Hwy 65

S.P.R.R.

Lincoln
Public
Library

Lincoln Public Library
590 Fifth St.
Lincoln, CA
Placer County

