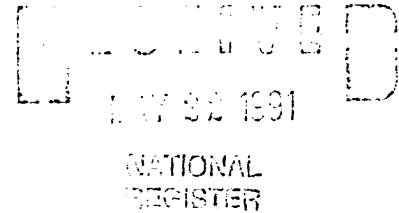


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Sidney Carnegie Library
other names/site number Chamber of Commerce Building; NEHBS #CNO9-017

2. Location

street & number 740 Illinois Street N/A not for publication
city, town Sidney N/A vicinity
state Nebraska code NE county Cheyenne code 033 zip code 69162

3. Classification

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Carnegie Libraries in Nebraska, 1899 to 1922
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.
James A. Hanson May 17, 1991
Signature of certifying official Date
Director, Nebraska State Historical Society
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. Boh Boland 2/3/91
 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:)

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)

Commerce-Trade/Organization

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Tudor Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concretewalls Brick

roof Asphaltother Stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Sidney Carnegie Library is located in the downtown business district of Sidney, Nebraska. The front of the building faces south, and overlooks Sidney's main thoroughfare, Illinois Street. The library, completed in 1914 and opened to the public in 1917, is one of 46 Carnegie Libraries constructed in Nebraska during the last phase of the Carnegie Library "Wholesale" period, and conforms to the building plan prototype established by Carnegie. The library is rectangular shaped, one-story with a raised basement, and is designed for efficiency. The original exterior configuration and detailing of the building remains intact.

The Sidney Carnegie Library, constructed in 1914, is a one-story brick structure with a raised basement, stone water table, and a hipped roof. The building incorporates Jacobethan Revival details in its design. Measurements of the rectangular shaped building are 45' x 27' 6". Windows are double hung (6 over 1) with a 6 pane fixed transom. Brick parapets extend above roof eaves on corners and above main entrance. Concrete steps leading to the entrance landing are illuminated by globe lights. Entrance features consist of a recessed single door, sidelights, and transom. Gargoyle faces are mounted on either side of the entrance; "Carnegie Library" is inscribed in a stone header above the entrance.

The interior of the library's main floor originally included a foyer, librarian's office, and two reading rooms. In 1980 an interior wall was constructed to provide private office space in the west reading room, an interior air lock was built into the foyer, and a wall of the librarian's office was removed. The interior retains its original 12 foot high ceilings, maple floors, oak woodwork, and plastered walls. An interior stairway to the left of the foyer leads to the raised basement where a meeting room, furnace room, and restrooms are located.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

The Sidney Carnegie Library was Cheyenne County's first public library. Although construction of the library was completed in 1914, public opening was delayed until 1917 due to procedural aspects of the Carnegie's grants. The building was also used for temporary school classrooms in 1918, and as a polling place for local elections. When a new public library was completed in 1965, the Sidney Carnegie Library became the permanent office location for the Cheyenne County Chamber of Commerce.

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)
Education

Period of Significance
1917

Significant Dates
1917

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

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

The Sidney Carnegie Library meets the registration requirements of the National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Carnegie Libraries in Nebraska, 1899 to 1922", and is significantly associated with the historic context "Educational Enrichment: Carnegie Libraries." The property is locally significant in the area of public education (Criterion A) as an important example of the property type "Carnegie Libraries in Nebraska." The period of significance is derived from the year its operation as a library began (1917).

In 1903 a library committee was created in Sidney, Nebraska for the purpose of establishing a public reading room at the local Y.M.C.A. Books for the reading room were purchased with private funds collected by members of the Y.M.C.A. and Women's Club. This progressive activity resulted in the founding of Sidney's first public library. Volunteers from the community operated the library for the next several years and accumulated over 1,200 books.

In 1913 the Women's Club applied for a grant from the Carnegie Foundation to construct a public library building in Sidney. The land for the library was donated by a prominent Sidney businessman, and a resolution was passed by the Sidney Village Board to provide tax money for the perpetual care of the new library. Satisfied with the local support, Carnegie Foundation awarded \$6,500 for the construction of the Sidney Carnegie Library.

Construction of the library began in January of 1914. The building dimensions, floor plan, and materials conformed to the standards of the Carnegie Foundation's library program. The library was completed in December of 1914, and offered library services to the community until 1965, when a new regional library opened in Sidney.

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: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Three tenths of an acre.

UTM References

A

1	3	6	7	0	0	5	0	4	5	5	6	6	4	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

All of Lot Number Twelve in Block Number Eighteen of the Original Town Plat to the City of Sidney, in Cheyenne County, Nebraska.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Legally recorded boundary lines of property on which the Sidney Carnegie Library is located.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert Hurst
organization N/A date 18 February 1991
street & number 818 Olsen Drive telephone 308-254-4091
city or town Sidney state Nebraska zip code 69162

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Bobinski, George S. Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development. American Library Association, Chicago. 1969, page 50.

Brown, R.W. "Public Library", History of Cheyenne County, Nebraska, Volume 1. 1986, page 294, Curtiss Publishing.

"Carnegie Now Open for Public". 9 February 1917, page 1, Sidney Telegraph, Sidney, Nebraska.

"Carnegie Will Give \$6,500 For New Library". 26 July 1913, page 1, Sidney Telegraph, Sidney, Nebraska.

Cheyenne County Deed Record No. 12., Cheyenne County Clerks Office, Sidney, Nebraska, 12 September 1913, page 204.

"City Hall Bonds Carry, Library Tax Also Voted". 18 July 1914, page 1, Sidney Telegraph, Sidney, Nebraska.

Fimple, Kathleen, "Carnegie Libraries in Nebraska, 1899 to 1922," National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form, 1990, on file, Nebraska State Historical Society.

Fimple, Kathleen, "Educational Enrichment: Carnegie Libraries," Historic Context Report 06.02.01.01, 1990, on file, Nebraska State Historical Society.

Mechanic's Lien, Book 1., Cheyenne County Clerk's Office, Sidney, Nebraska, 5 December 1914, pages 402, 403.

Mechanic's Lien, Book 1., Cheyenne County Clerk's Office, Sidney, Nebraska, 31 December 1914, page 405.

Mechanic's Lien, Book 1., Cheyenne County Clerk's Office, Sidney, Nebraska, 4 August 1915, pages 408-411.

Rub, Timothy, "The Day of Big Operations: Andrew Carnegie and His Libraries." Architectural Record. July 1985, pages 81-85.

"Sidney To Have A Carnegie Public Library". 19 July 1913, page 1, Sidney Telegraph, Sidney, Nebraska.

Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780, A Guide to the Styles, M.I.T. Press, Cambridge, Mass., 1969.