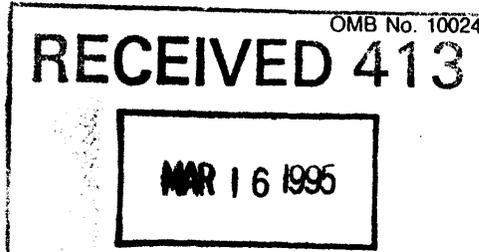


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Carnegie Library
other names/site number Carnegie Public Library / 5RN513

2. Location

street & number 120 Jefferson Street N/A not for publication
city or town Monte Vista N/A vicinity
state Colorado code CO county Rio Grande code 105 zip code 81144

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
[Signature] March 10, 1995
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 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): _____

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper
Edson H. Beall Entered in the National Register Date of Action 4.14.95

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

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 Concrete

walls Brick

roof Asphalt

other Terra cotta

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1

RECEIVED 413

MAR 16 1995

CARNEGIE LIBRARY
INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
RIO GRANDE COUNTY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CO

DESCRIPTION

The Neoclassical-inspired Carnegie Library is located on Jefferson Street just off First Avenue, which is a main thoroughfare in Monte Vista. Surrounded by lawn and large cottonwood and evergreen trees, the brick building is one story with a raised garden level. The rectangular-shaped (64 by 30 feet) structure has a hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles, wood frame windows, and a concrete foundation finished with stucco. Extending almost 15 inches out from the wall, the widely overhanging eaves of the roof are boxed with a wide, galvanized metal fascia. Hard-fired red brick in a running bond pattern make up the walls. Two stringcourses of beige brick in a soldier course encircle the building. One stringcourse is directly above the main floor windows, while the other is located near the raised foundation. Terra cotta forms the classical detailing around the entry and the lugsills of the main level windows. A brick exterior chimney breaks the wall surface on the east elevation. The building is in good condition and has undergone very little alteration since its construction.

The Library faces west onto Jefferson Street and is one half level above grade. Brick walls with a concrete coping flank the steps and platform that lead to the centrally located entrance. A metal light post with a round glass globe sits on each concrete-capped wall. Two wooden and glazed doors topped with a transom light provide entry into the main floor. Pilasters flank the double door entrance and support a plain entablature with a stepped cap. Marking the entrance is "Carnegie Library" cut into cream-colored concrete above the stringcourse. On each side of the entry is a large window opening consisting of three, double leaf casements each with a divided transom light. Wooden muntins in a star-like pattern with triangular pieces of glass form the decorative transom lights that top these windows and the entrance. The windows on the lower level do not continue the symmetry of the facade as there are two to the north of the entry and three windows to the south.

The remaining facades are essentially brick walls highlighted with the stringcoursing and punctuated by windows. All the lower level windows are double hung sash with six-over-one lights. The sole exception is a small window on the south elevation where the opening is original but the replacement window is an aluminum slider. The upper level windows are six light hoppers with the exception of two tall nine-over-one double hung windows on the east elevation. All the windows are painted and the original wood storm sashes are in place.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

Section number 7 Page 2

DESCRIPTION (continued)

There are two exterior entrances to the lower level. On the east elevation is a shed roof extension (to the furnace room) and on the south elevation is a gabled roof extension (an emergency exit). Originally concrete retaining walls and steps leading to a wooden door, these entrances were enclosed with wood framing and roofs and eventually covered with shingles.

The interior floor plan remains largely intact. Inside the front door, a vestibule leads up four risers to the main floor or a stairway on the south which leads to the lower level. The main floor contains reading rooms on each side of the entry. The windows are situated high on the wall to accommodate the wall mounted bookshelves in the reading rooms. The librarian's desk, with the two tall windows behind it, is strategically situated directly opposite the entry. The lower level originally housed a lecture room which now serves as the children's department. The lower level also contains restrooms, offices and a mechanical room. The original coal room was converted to an office.

The many windows are finished on the interior with a simple mitered trim throughout. The main floor windows have an additional flat-topped pediment above this trim and the pine woodwork is finished with dark stain and varnish. The lower level windows and trim are painted white. The walls throughout are finished in painted sand float plaster.

The building appears much as it did when it was originally built. Exterior changes include re-roofing in 1958 and 1973. The roof was originally wood shingled with galvanized metal hips and ridgeline. When the building was re-shingled, the roof line was altered slightly to cover the top of the original galvanized metal fascia. It is believed that in 1946 the two exterior stairs to the lower level were covered with wood frame enclosures. A 1973 Treasurer's report indicated disbursements for shingles and roof installation. It is believed that the additional shingles were applied to the frame enclosures. Interior changes have also been minimal. The original pine and concrete floors have been carpeted. The original oak wrap-around librarian's desk was moved from the main floor and is now in use as an office desk on the lower level. The building is in good condition, although the masonry is in need of repointing. Calcium deposits, possibly caused by efflorescence, are visible on all elevations, particularly the east.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
removed from its original location.
a birthplace or grave.
a cemetery.
a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
a commemorative property.
less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History
Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1919

Significant Dates

1919

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Huddart, John J.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Carnegie Library in Monte Vista

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

Section number 8 Page 3

SIGNIFICANCE

The Carnegie Library in Monte Vista meets criterion A for significance in the area of social history for its association with Andrew Carnegie's nationwide public library movement. The building is also historically significant in the area of community planning and development for it represents Monte Vista's efforts to build and maintain a library facility for its residents.

The wealthy industrialist, Andrew Carnegie, chose libraries as a primary target for his philanthropy and consequently became known later in life as the "patron saint of libraries." Between 1889 and the mid-1920s, this benefactor had a great impact on public library development. In 1911, Carnegie set up a trust fund called the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The object of the corporation was to promote the advance and diffusion of knowledge and understanding among the people of the United States by aiding technical schools, institutions of higher learning, libraries, scientific research, and useful publications. He donated more than 56 million dollars for the construction of 2,509 library buildings throughout the English-speaking world. More than 40 million dollars of this amount went towards the construction of 1,679 public libraries in 1,412 communities in the United States. The Carnegie Library in Monte Vista is a reflection of the man's impact on public library development.

Monte Vista's interest in books and libraries began quite early. In 1885, a meeting of women in the area resulted in the formation of the Women's Literary Club. This club donated fifty dollars to get a circulating library started. The first books were kept in the back of the Fassett Store on the corner of First Avenue and Adams Street. By their September 1885 meeting, it was reported that there had been 100 volumes donated and the ladies were hoping it would turn into 500 volumes by the end of the year.

On January 18, 1887, General Ira Bloomfield, a lawyer, drew up the Articles of Corporation for the Monte Vista Library Association. Lillian Fassett's store became too small to house all the books so the library was moved to the Bonner-Meade building on the north side of First Avenue. This building housed the library until both it and the books were destroyed in a fire in 1894.

With their usual resourcefulness, the women of the Monte Vista Library Association set to work earning money for a new building. They compiled a cookbook and made aprons to sell at the local fair. By the following year, they reached their goal of enough funds for a new building. In 1895, a small stone building was constructed on Jefferson Street. (This building, on a lot adjacent to the Carnegie Library, now houses the Monte Vista Historical Society.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

The library soon outgrew this small building and the question was raised as to where to go from here. The philanthropist Andrew Carnegie could provide the solution and in 1916, Monte Vista began negotiating with the Carnegie Corporation for help in their quest to erect a building large enough to meet the needs of a their growing community. City records for March 16, 1917 read that "the Carnegie Corporation of New York has agreed to give \$10,000 to erect a free public library on condition the city of Monte Vista shall pledge itself to support a free public library with tax supported funds provided a suitable site be found."

The town now had the wherewithal to begin construction; all they needed was a suitable building site. Mrs. I. W. Rice, Mr. L. B. Sylvester, and Mr. R. G. Breckenridge offered lots for the site. As the time approached to begin looking for an architect, Mr. Breckenridge withdrew his voluntary contribution of the property and instead wanted \$500 for his interest. The money was finally approved.

With the building site selected, the next obstacle to overcome was the choice of an architect meeting the approval of the Carnegie Corporation. John J. Huddart, a Denver architect, was recommended. Coincidentally, Huddart was engaged in superintending the work on the Consolidated school building in Monte Vista, as well as a building in near-by Alamosa at this time. He accepted the job and submitted a preliminary plan to the Carnegie Corporation, which was approved.

John James Huddart (1856-1930) was an English-trained engineer and architect who arrived in Denver in 1882. He became the chief draftsman for Frank E. Edbrooke and remained there until 1887, when he went into practice for himself. He did a substantial amount of work in Denver before expanding his work to various towns throughout Colorado. In subsequent years, he enlarged his practice to include Wyoming, Nebraska and Oklahoma where he specialized in courthouses and school buildings. Huddart's domestic designs were decidedly eclectic and he adopted new design and engineering ideas throughout his career. Since his work was never locked into any one period, it serves as a barometer of changing tastes.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

The Monte Vista Library Board approved the returned plans and a building committee was selected. The city began living up to its pledge to the Carnegie Corporation to provide support for the library. Money came in from carnivals, dances, and booths. The first mill levy was placed on the property in 1918 for the library's operation and books. A book shower was held in which many desirable volumes were donated. Finally on June 4, 1919 an open house was held and the new library was officially opened to the public. More books were donated by the good people of the city and paid memberships went for the purchase of new books.

Through the years the people of Monte Vista have been willing to support their library. In September 1932, city council voted to close the library, which was operating in the red for \$757.84, until tax money could be had for its reopening. It reopened in October 1933. Through the years the city has continued in its support of the library.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 6

CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- . "Carnegies." American Libraries, April 1990.
- Carnegie, Andrew. Autobiography of Andrew Carnegie. New York: Houghton-Mifflin Co., 1920.
- Gokturk, Cynthia M. "Public Libraries in the San Luis Valley." (typewritten manuscript in Monte Vista library) 1984.
- Monte Vista Journal. 5 February 1916; 20 May 1916; 27 January 1917; 28 April 1917; 2 June 1917; 1 February 1919; 7 June 1919;
- Monte Vista Tribune. 22 February 1918; 12 July 1918; 27 September 1918; 11 October 1918; 28 March 1919; 30 May 1919; 6 June 1919.
- "Minutes for the Monte Vista Library Board." Carnegie Public Library, Monte Vista. 23 April 1917 through 30 September 1948.
- Monte Vista, Colorado. Carnegie Public Library. Historical Library Files [includes original blueprints].
- Riggenbach, Emma M. A Bridge to Yesterday. Monte Vista, CO: High Valley Press, 1982.

Carnegie Library
Name of Property

Rio Grande County, CO
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

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

3

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Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carol Lee Dugan, Director (ed. HLW)
organization Carnegie Public Library date 12/8/94
street & number 120 Jefferson telephone (719)852-3931
city or town Monte Vista state CO zip code 81144

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Monte Vista
street & number 720 1st Avenue telephone (719)852-2692
city or town Monte Vista state CO zip code 81144

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 & Page 7
photo log

CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 5 through 8, block 23 in the town of Monte Vista

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property includes the entire parcel of land historically associated with the building.

PHOTOGRAPH LOG

The following information is common to all photographs:

name: Carnegie Library
Monte Vista, Rio Grande County, Colorado
photographer: Byron Syring
date of photograph: November 1994
location of negative: Monte Vista Historical Society
110 Jefferson, Monte Vista

photo #1 west (front) elevation; camera facing east

#2 north elevation; camera facing south

#3 east (rear) elevation; camera facing west

#4 south elevation; camera facing north

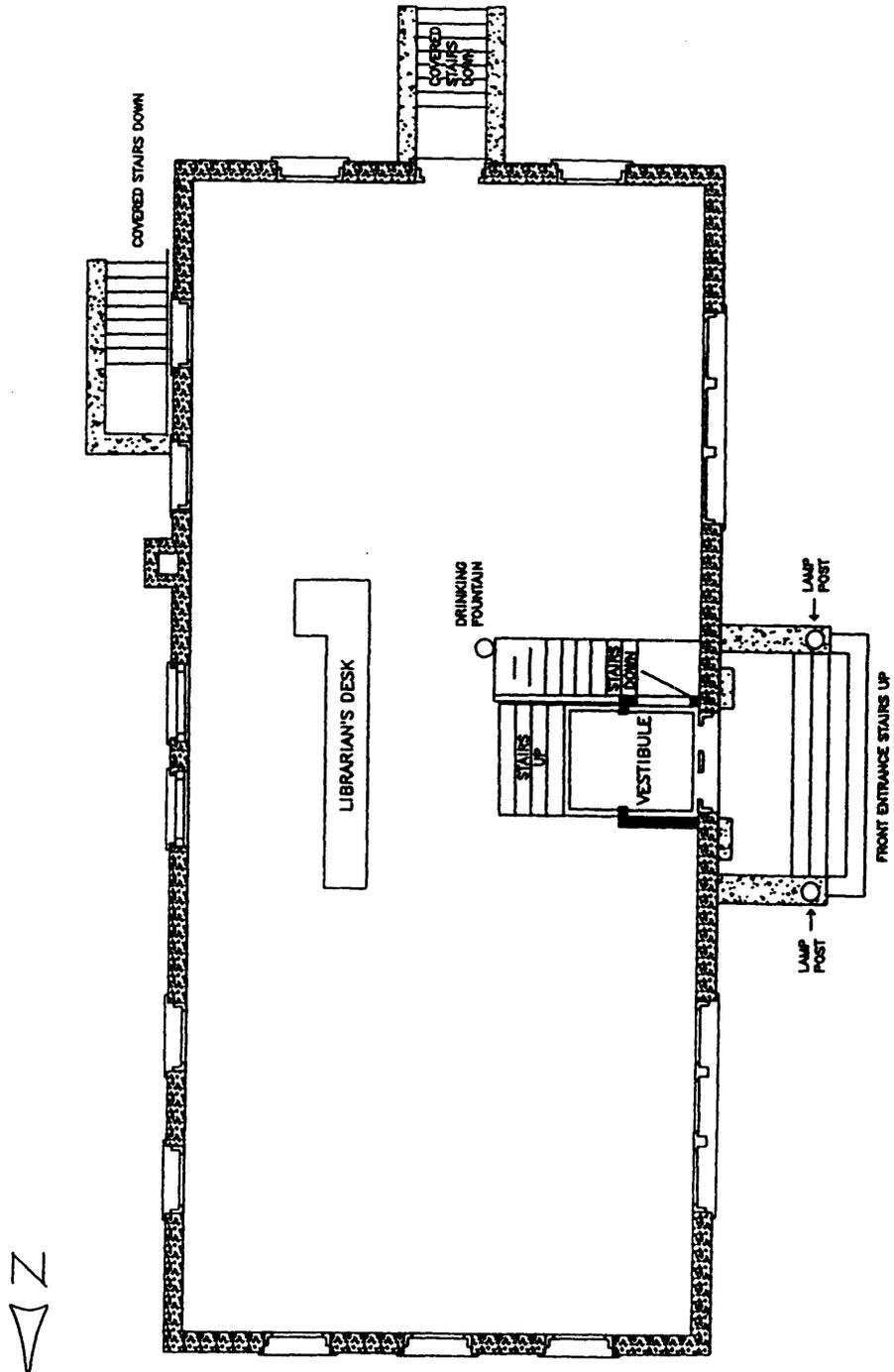
#5 south elevation; camera facing west

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO



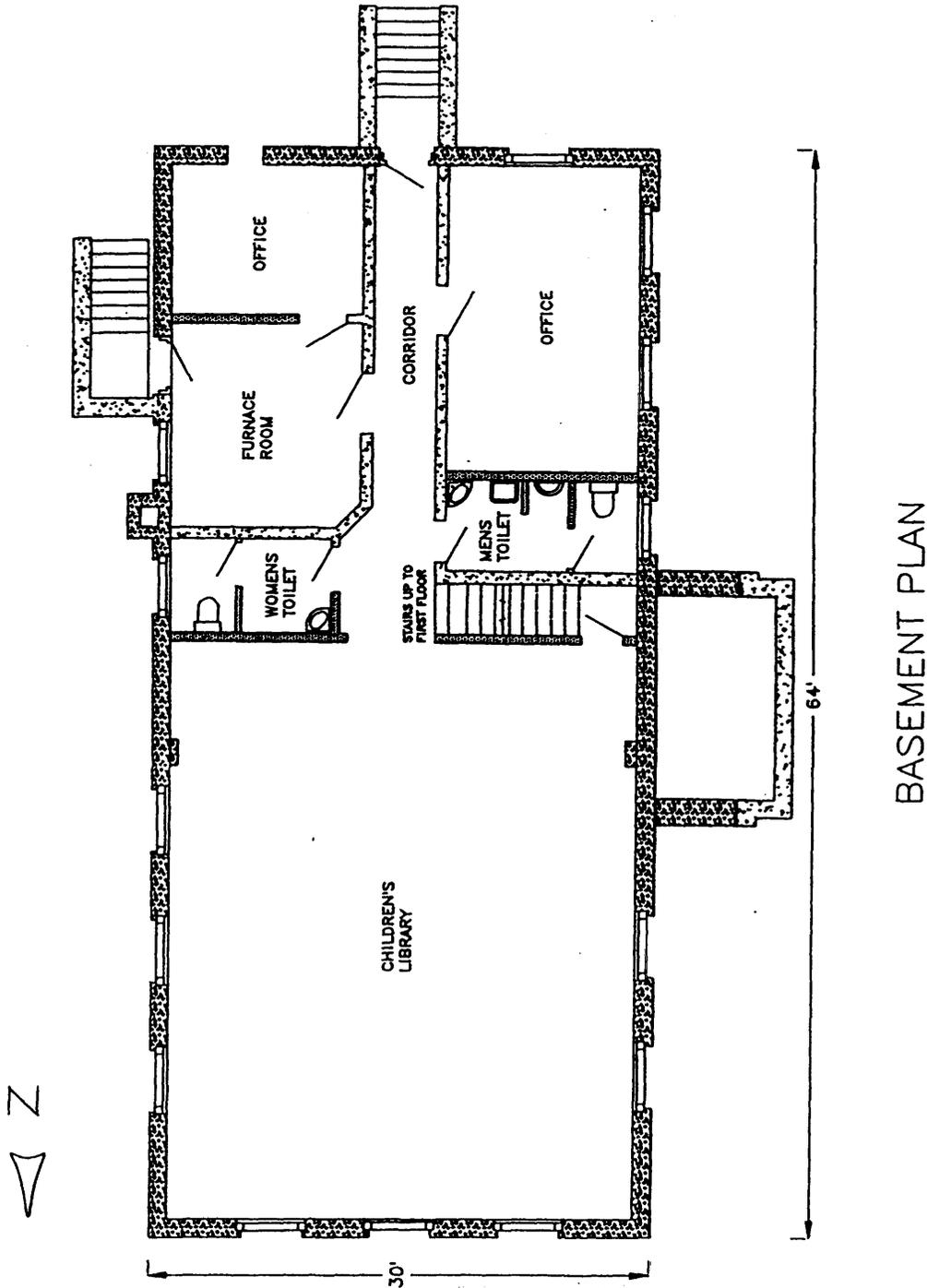
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

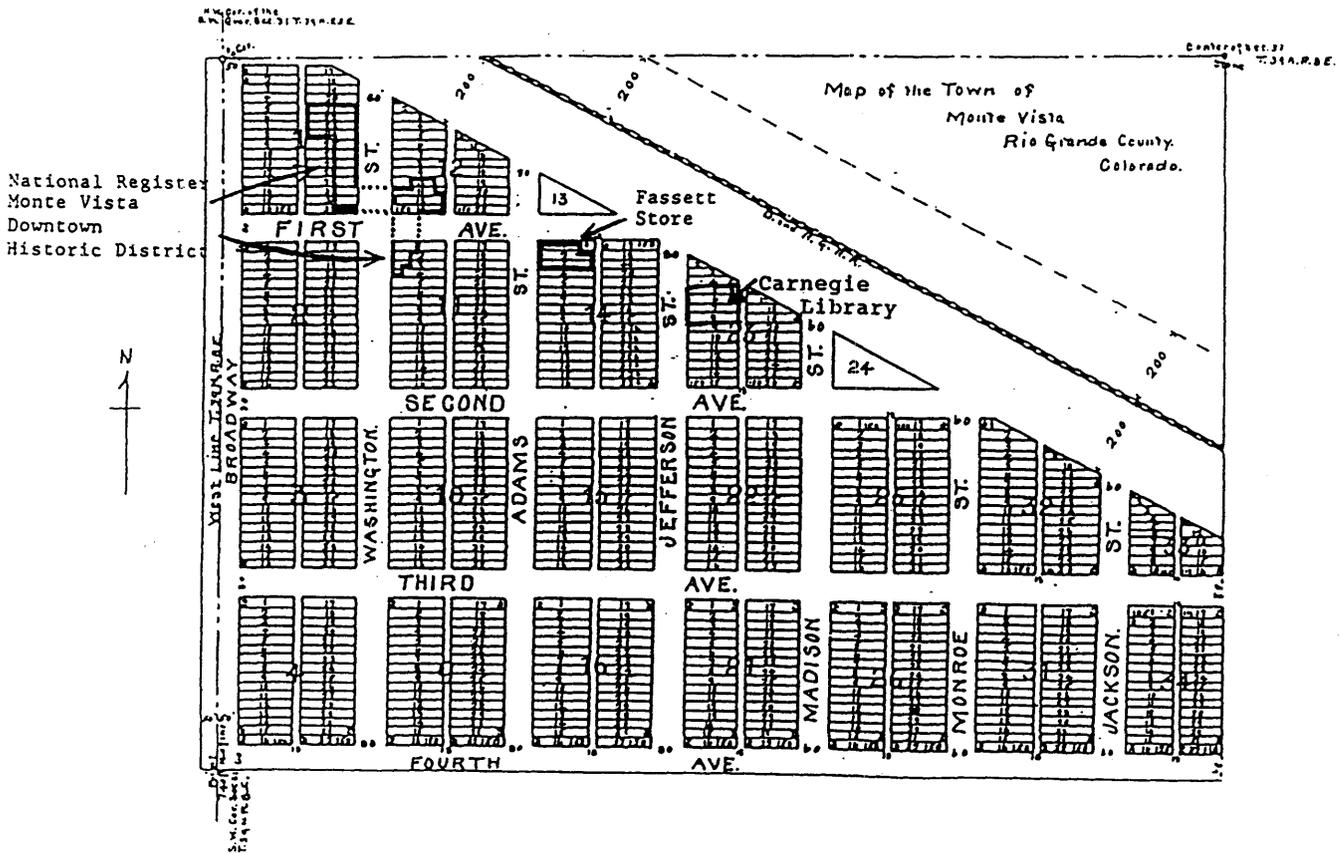


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National Register of Historic Places
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CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

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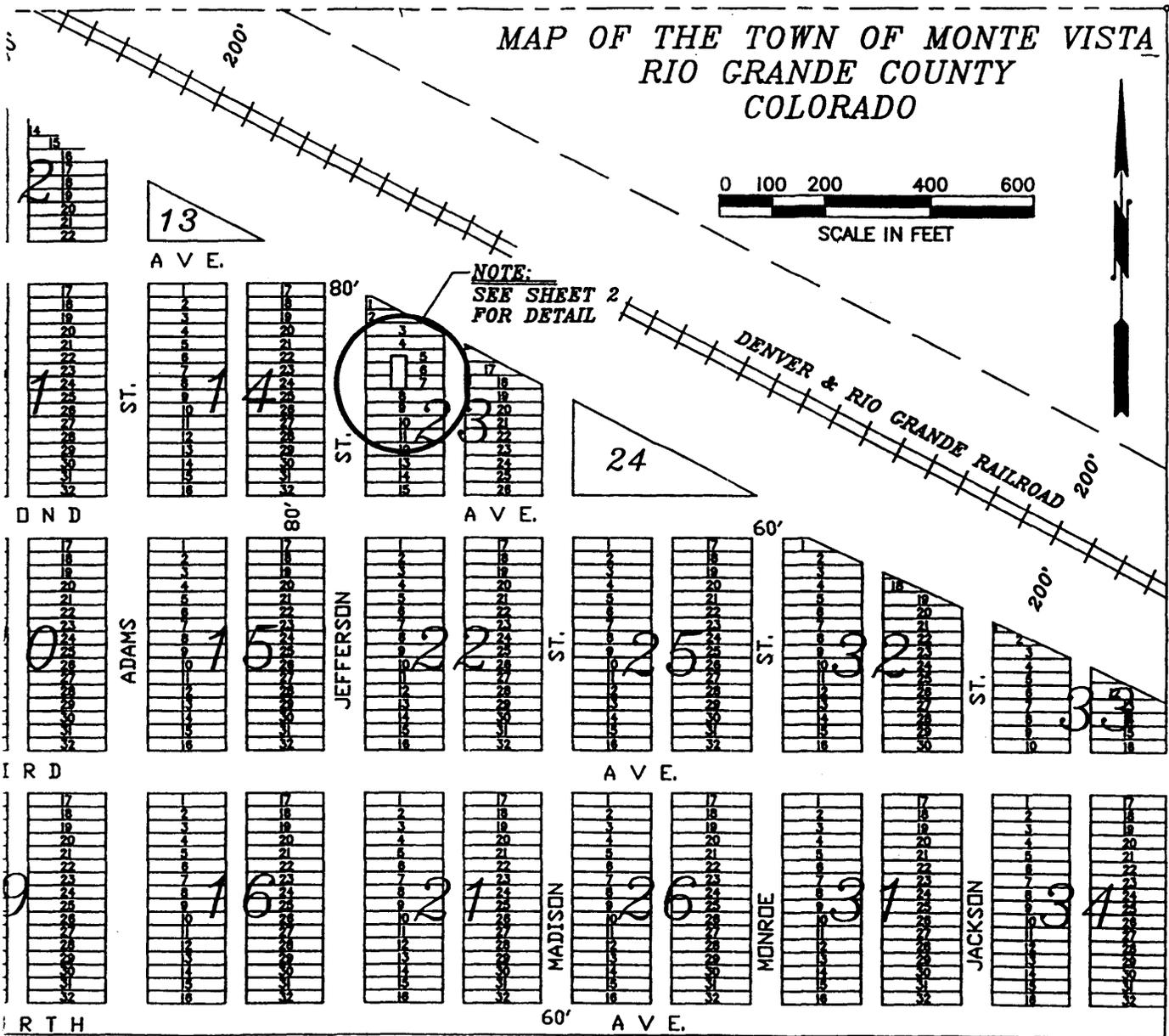


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

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CARNEGIE LIBRARY
RIO GRANDE COUNTY, CO

