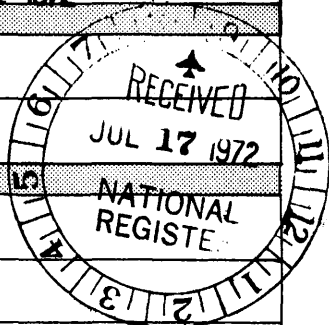


PH 0014150  
2/12/72

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>KENTUCKY</b>	
COUNTY: <b>KENTON</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>OCT 31 1972</b>	



**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Kenton County Library**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Carnegie Library & Auditorium Building**

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1028 Scott Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Covington**

STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21** COUNTY: **Kenton** CODE: **117**

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <b>Library auditorium</b>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**City Of Covington, Kentucky**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Covington City-County Building - 3rd & Court Streets**

CITY OR TOWN: **Covington** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Covington City-County Building - Assessor's Office**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Third & Court Streets**

CITY OR TOWN: **Covington** STATE: **Kentucky** CODE: **21**

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

**OCT 31 1972**

ENTRY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NPS USE ONLY

**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

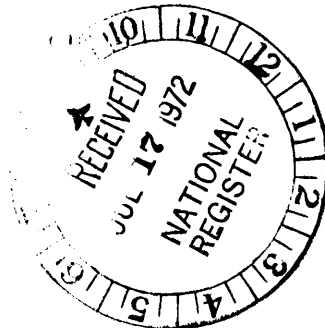
The Carnegie Library and Auditorium Building in Covington, Kentucky, is divided into two sections sharing a common exterior wall:

1))The library, fronting on Scott Street, approximately 80' x 80' with a center rotunda, balcony and basement is in sound physical condition and good repair.

2) The auditorium, fronting on Robbins Street, seating approximately 700 people in orchestra and balconies. This section of the building has been closed approximately fifteen (15) years and is in some dis-repair, but is structurally sound and can be renovated.

The building was erected and occupied in 1902 and is in the Neo-classic style of the French Renaissance Revival, typical of the Ecole des Beaux art international taste of the era.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**2. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1902

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY AND AUDITORIUM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Between 1886 and 1911, Andrew Carnegie personally gave away some \$40,000,000 to cities in the United States for the construction of public libraries. One of these cities was Covington, Kentucky, whose Carnegie Library and Auditorium Building has served the community unfailingly since its opening in 1903. The civic and cultural spirit of Covington that was so instrumental in acquiring the library near the turn of the century supported and patronized the library complex for the subsequent 68 years, is now attempting to preserve the usefulness and beauty of the building for the future. The library building has in the past 68 years made an important cultural contribution to the community, not only as an 80,000 volume library but as a gathering and meeting place for every kind of activity, ranging from local productions of Gilbert & Sullivan plays, political rallies, lectures, speeches and church meetings. Its auditorium has heard many great names in history, from the moving dedicatory address by the eloquent W.C.P. Breckinridge in 1903, through William Jennings Bryant and Harry Lee Waterfield, Kentucky's two-time Lieutenant Governor, who was the last person to speak in the auditorium before its closing in 1955.

A new library building is now under construction on another site and the Carnegie Library and Auditorium is threatened with abandonment and demolition.

In an effort to preserve the building as a viable part of the city's cultural life, several citizens have formed the Northern Kentucky Arts Council, which is heading a movement to restore the auditorium and library building for future use as an Arts Center. This proposed center would provide a modernized theatre facility to be used for local and traveling dramatic performances and lecture series, an exhibition hall and museum wherein local artists may display their work, as well as many culturally oriented exhibitions that are available from outside the immediate community at little or no cost, and a centrally located facility for various types of local arts and

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bobinski, George S. - Carnegie Libraries - Chicago: American Library Association, 1969.

(many of the facts in this nomination have been gathered through contact with eye-witnesses and can therefore not be property documented)

FIELD NO. 1000

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

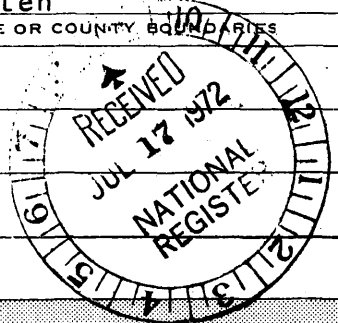
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		39° 4' 50"	84° 30' 25"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

UTM  
16/715620/  
4328410

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than ten

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: Ralph B. Grieme, Jr.

ORGANIZATION: The Northern Kentucky Arts Council DATE: 5/26/72

STREET AND NUMBER: 1506 Kavanaugh Street

CITY OR TOWN: Covington STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: [Signature]

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: July 6, 1972

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 10/31/72

ATTEST:  
[Signature]  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10-30-72

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	KENTUCKY	
COUNTY	KENTON	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
	OCT 31 1972	

(Number all entries)

#8 - Statement Of Significance (cont'd)

crafts workshops for the citizens of Covington.

The Northern Kentucky Arts Council, working closely with the Kentucky Arts Commission and other agencies, has initiated an investigation into possible funding sources for this endeavor and preliminary indications are promising.

The library auditorium building is located with the jurisdiction of the Covington Model Cities Program area, and the Model Cities Program has already financed a Feasibility Study for the necessary renovation and also paid for roof repairs in the auditorium to prevent further deterioration.

Since the proposed Art Center would have great cultural impact within the Model Neighborhood, there may be additional monies available from this program in the future.

There are many architectural features that also speak for the preservation of this Carnegie Library Building. The following remarks by architect, Edward J. Beiting, Jr., President, Northern Kentucky Section, American Institute of Architects:

"The Carnegie Library and Auditorium Building in Covington has been a long and faithful servant to the people of the community. The building is capable of giving many more years of service in its new role as an Arts Center. It's demise would represent not only a great historical and architectural loss to the city, but a detriment to the continued cultural growth of its people."

(See the attached narrative)

Also see the attached narrative of George F. Roth, Jr., AIA.

