

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

PH0121509 DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 07 1975

DATE ENTERED APR 21 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Provincetown Public Library

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

330 Commercial Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Provincetown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

12

STATE

Massachusetts

VICINITY OF

CODE

025

COUNTY

Barnstable

CODE

001

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ OTHER: Library**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Trustees of the Provincetown Library

STREET & NUMBER

330 Commercial Street

CITY, TOWN

Provincetown

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts 02657

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Route 6A

CITY, TOWN

Barnstable

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1975

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston, Massachusetts

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Provincetown Public Library is located in the center of Provincetown on the northwest side of Commercial Street. It is residential in scale, as is the rest of the town, and is an important visual element in the town-scape. The Library is architecturally significant as the only building in town with a mansard roof and is compatible in height, massing, set-back, and color with the other buildings in the area.

The Library is 2 stories high with a vernacular mansard roof, covered with clapboards instead of roofing material. The building rests on a low brick foundation with no cellar, and the only entrance is set two steps up from the street level. A 1 story portico with vernacular carvings and dentils shelters the entrance. The cornice is supported by paired scroll work brackets, and simple pilasters define the corners of the building. The windows of the first two floors have 1/1 (modern) sash topped with triangular and segmentally arched pediments supported on brackets. The windows in the mansard roof are arched and topped by shallow gable dormers except for the window above the portico, which is topped by an Italianate modillioned cornice. The building once had a cupola which was either blown off or removed many years ago; the planned restoration includes replacing the cupola. Three windows which are now covered will also be restored to their original condition. The exterior of the building is covered with vinyl siding because the Library could not afford the upkeep of the wooden clapboards. The siding imitates in color and size the original clapboards.

The interior of the building is simple and unpretentious. The walls are plaster and the trim is plain painted wood. Because the building has always been used as a library much of the interior is original.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☒ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☒ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1874

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Provincetown Public Library is significant both architecturally and as an important cultural resource for the community it serves. Built by the town in 1874 to serve as a public library, its style is a delightful example of provincial civic architecture; it is also the only example of this style in town. The Library is an expression of community pride; it is an elegant building in a charming but economically depressed town. The building is privately owned by the Trustees of the Library, but is funded by the town.

The Library is also an important educational and cultural resource for the people who live in Provincetown. The town is famous for its community of artists and writers, many of whom are internationally known. The Provincetown Public Library has traditionally served this artistic community as well as the other residents of the town. Some of the famous library card holders include Eugene O'Neill, John Dos Passos, Sinclair Lewis, Franz Kline, Robert Motherwell, Tennessee Williams, and Norman Mailer.

The Provincetown Public Library is a social center, a source of information, the preserver of the town's unparalleled historical record, and a focal point in Provincetown's unique human scale appearance. By serving America's great artists and authors, it helps to enrich all our lives.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Jennings, Herman, Provincetown: Odds and Ends from the Cape Tip
2. Town Reports, 1874
3. Provincetown Advocate, 1874

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre *with OK CD*

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 491880 4659970
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christine Boulding, Assistant Survey Director

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

March 1975

STREET & NUMBER

40 Beacon Street

TELEPHONE

617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

Boston,

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

S.H.P.O.
FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Elizabeth R. Amador

TITLE

Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

March 24, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

AK MacTavish
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/21/75

ATTEST:

Charles [Signature]
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

7.17.75

Property Provincetown Public Library
State Massachusetts Working Number 4. 7. 75. 614

Barnstable

TECHNICAL

Photos 2
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK pl
4. 9. 75

HISTORIAN

Accept
E. Smith
4-11-75

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
LEBOVICH
4-11-75

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accum
Cole
4-11-75

BRANCH CHIEF

accept
Amigo
4/16/75

KEEPER

for Montz
4/17/75

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry 6-3-75

Send-back

Re-submit

Entered APR 21 1975

INT:2106-74



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Provincetown Public Library

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Provincetown

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Barnstable

STATE

Massachusetts

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Larry Maglott

DATE OF PHOTO

February 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

361b Commercial Street, Provincetown, Massachusetts

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

Provincetown Public Library, East elevation

2

#192

Provincetown Public Library
East elevation #192

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#2



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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Provincetown Public Library

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Provincetown

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Barnstable

STATE

Massachusetts

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Larry Maglott

DATE OF PHOTO

February 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

361b Commercial Street, Provincetown, Massachusetts

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Provincetown Public Library, Facade

PHOTO NO.

1

#292

#292

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Provincetown
Facade

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Provincetown Public Library

AND/OR COMMON
same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Provincetown VICINITY OF COUNTY Barnstable STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U.S.G.S., Provincetown, Mass. quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000 DATE 1958

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APR 21 1975

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Brooks, Shepherd, Estate	Medford Middlesex County
Hillside Avenue Historic District	Medford Middlesex County
Park Street Railroad Station	Medford Middlesex County
Carney, Sergeant William H., Home	New Medford Bristol County
Provincetown Public Library	Provincetown Barnstable County
Wade, Jonathan, House	Medford Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Torbert H. MacDonald
Hon. Garry E. Studds
Regional Director, North Atlantic
Region

Mr. Robert F. Crecco, DOT
PR MMott/row 4/23/75

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 3/17/77
 Reviewer INITIALS: *guff*
 NR DOE 4/21/75
 (4-21-75)

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Provincetown Public Library

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 330 Commercial Street
 CITY, TOWN Provincetown CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 12th
 STATE Massachusetts VICINITY OF COUNTY Barnstable code 001

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
 SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR EXTERIOR ENVIRONS
☒ Substantially intact-1 ☒ Substantially intact-2 ☒ Substantially intact-3
☐ unknown - 4 ☐ unknown - 5 ☐ unknown - 6
☐ not applicable - 7 ☐ not applicable - 8 ☐ Not applicable-9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - EXCELLENT DETERIORATED UNALTERED ORIGINAL SITE
 GOOD RUINS ALTERED MOVED
 FAIR UNEXPOSED Reconstructed Unknown
 Unexcavated Excavated

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- library
 now- same

SIGNIFICANCE:

4- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC 10- CONSERVATION 17- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE RELIGION entertainment
 ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC ECONOMICS LAW/Gov't/politics SCIENCE health
 AGRICULTURE EDUCATION LITERATURE recreation
 ARCHITECTURE ENGINEERING MILITARY SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN settlement
 ART EXPLORATION MUSIC socio/cultural
 COMMERCE INDUSTRY PHILOSOPHY urban & commun
 COMMUNICATIONS INVENTION POLITICS/GOVERNMENT OTHER (SPECIFY) planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO

"only" YES NO

EXAMPLE OF 2ND EMPIRE STYLE in DOWN

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: **SECOND EMPIRE**

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role
&
appropriate date)

events

institutional

✓ DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): **1874**

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: _____

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): _____

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

less than 1

✓ COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

FRAME, CLAPBOARDING; 2^{1/2} STORIES
PLUS MANSARD, RECTANGULAR, INTERIOR CHIMNEYS, FRONT CENTER
ENTRANCE, ARTICULATED BY 1-STORY DISTYLE PORCH, ^{Full and} SEGMENTAL- AND
TRIANGULAR PEDIMENTED WINDOW HOODS, SEGMENTAL- ARCHED EMB-
LED DORMERS, CORNER PILASTERS; RESTORATION^{ED} IN PROGRESS. ONLY
EXAMPLE OF SECOND EMPIRE STYLE IN PROVINCETOWN; TOWN SOCIAL
SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)
CENTER AND REPOSITORY FOR LOCAL RECORDS.