

PH 0665525

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 27 1978

DATE ENTERED OCT 2 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Hennepin County Library, Robbinsdale Branch

AND/OR COMMON

Robbinsdale Library

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

4915 42nd Avenue North

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Robbinsdale -- VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fifth

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

22

COUNTY

Hennepin

CODE

053 ✓

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 MUSEUM COMMERCIAL PARK EDUCATIONAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE ENTERTAINMENT RELIGIOUS GOVERNMENT SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIAL TRANSPORTATION MILITARY OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Robbinsdale ✓

STREET & NUMBER

4221 Lake Road

CITY, TOWN

Robbinsdale -- VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hennepin County Registry of Deeds - Hennepin County Government Center

STREET & NUMBER

3rd Avenue South at 5th Street

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1977

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society - Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Robbinsdale Library is a one story wood frame building of a rectangular shape with stucco and brick siding. The color scheme is white with brown and yellow trim. The building has a full basement with concrete block foundation and plaster walls. There are two entrances, the main entrance is double-doored in the front of the building and there is a below ground entrance to the basement on the east side of the building. There are several frame windows; seven on the front, thirteen on the east side, nine on the back and six on the west side, and a chimney near the front alcove. The front alcove is porch like in appearance. The roof shape is gable and the building has one bay and one dormer. The trim work is distinctive.

The first floor of the building contains the library proper. It has hardwood floors and plaster walls. The floor plan of the single room is shaped like an H. The lot on which the building stands is well treed.

The basement is divided into four rooms excluding the two restrooms. The largest room is the Club room where community groups meet. It is connected to a full kitchen. The Club room includes a large bookcase where the library's first books were kept in 1904. It is now used as a display case for antique pewter and china pieces the Club has gathered over the years. The Club room also includes the first Librarian's desk now used as the Chairman's table.

The other basement rooms are a puppet theatre for children's story hour presentations and a storage room for library periodicals. Two sets of stairs connect the basement to the Library, one just inside the front door leading to the restrooms.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1925 - present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT H.H. Livingston

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building is significant in that it represents the efforts of a group, the Robbinsdale Library Club, which began in 1907 and has functioned continuously since that date. The Club not only raised the funds to purchase initial library materials but also secured the monies to build the Library itself. The year the Library was built, 1925, all of the service organizations and clubs in Robbinsdale dedicated their fund-raising efforts to helping the Library project. Although the operating function of the Library was turned over to Hennepin County in 1922, even before the building itself was constructed, the Club continued to own and maintain the building until 1976, when it was donated to the City of Robbinsdale. Their purpose was to provide the residents of the Robbinsdale area with the opportunity to improve their lives and gain enjoyment through reading. They demonstrated the self-help culture prevalent in America at the turn-of-the-century by doing it on their own without government funding or foundation assistance. The building is a symbol of both the Community's dedication to learning and its efforts to implement that dedication. The result was a structure which served not only its intended educational and recreational functions, but became a focal point of the community as well. It has been doing so for over 50 years.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

None

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .3006198 acres +

UTM REFERENCES

less than 100

A	1,5	473-060 47,493,0	4,918,612,5,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property nominated is bounded on the north by 42nd Avenue North, on the east by Railroad Avenue, on the south by the alley between Quail Avenue North and Railroad Avenue and on the south by an imaginary line between said alley and Railroad Avenue parallel to and 150 feet south of 42nd Avenue North.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Verne Baker, Councilman

ORGANIZATION

City of Robbinsdale

DATE

3 October 1977

STREET & NUMBER

4221 Lake Road

TELEPHONE

612-537-4534

CITY OR TOWN

Robbinsdale

STATE

Minnesota

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Russell W. Fridley

TITLE Russell W. Fridley
State Historical Preservation Officer

DATE

3/14/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR OF DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *William Labovich*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

10/2/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

Sept 12, 1978