

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 8 1979
DATE ENTERED MAR 14 1979

**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

Library Park Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Liberty Park & environs

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Las Vegas

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

New Mexico

VICINITY OF

CODE
35

COUNTY

San Miguel

CODE

47

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:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Multiple see attached

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

San Miguel County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Las Vegas

STATE

New Mexico

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties

DATE

May 17, 1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

New Mexico Historic Preservation Program

CITY, TOWN

Santa Fe

STATE

New Mexico

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

Library Park was set aside as a park by the San Miguel Town Company in 1882 and was originally named Hillside Park. Almost from the start it was pictured as a site for the library, but it was 20 years before the library was actually constructed and before the park and district gained their focal point.

Because of its location in New Town the park began to be surrounded by large frame and brick residences, most of which belonged to Anglo merchants and officials. Two sides of the park retain this character. The other two sides have been changed both in massing and use. Despite this, the park remains a quite coherent statement of late 19th and early 20th century massing. It also retains a pedestrian scale. The general character of Library Park is that of a midwestern town with its central square and library, frame and brick houses, the church and school, and large trees.

The following is a list of structures in the district. The historic (H) are those of primary historic, architectural, or unusual significance. The contributing (C) structures are those that reinforce the district's character and have moderate significance in their own right. The neutral (N) are those that neither add to nor subtract from the general character. The intrusive (I) structures interfere in the general character. The boundary is drawn so as to include all the structures facing the park and those on adjacent corners which are significant or contributing.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input 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 checked="" 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 1882 - present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Las Vegas is an important architectural resource not only because of the large number of significant structures remaining, but also because of the juxtaposition of cultures. There is the Mexican Old Town with its adobe houses and narrow twisting streets and the contrasting midwestern New Town with its frame and brick houses and grid plan. This midwestern town plan and architecture was introduced by the Santa Fe Railroad which arrived in 1879. Las Vegas, perhaps more clearly than other cities in the state, illustrates the profound changes which the railroad brought.

Library Park is the essence of this midwestern character. It has the central square park with a dominating Neo-Classical Revival structure and surrounding structures of frame and brick. This midwestern character was imported on the Santa Fe Railroad which originated in Chicago and arrived in Las Vegas in 1879. Among other things, the railroad brought Midwestern architectural styles, forms, materials, and ideas.

The library itself emphasizes this midwestern influence not only because of its style, but also because it is a Carnegie Public Library. This foundation for funding libraries was common in the midwest and many were of the early 20th century in a Neo-Classical Revival Style. Most libraries in New Mexico were developed after the program ceased. Thus Las Vegas has one of the only Carnegie-funded libraries in the State.

The combination of the midwestern grid plan and architecture and the Carnegie Library in the center of the park makes this district one of the most coherent illustrations of the Santa Fe Railroad's profound effect on New Mexico.

Additionally the Library Park District includes some fine structures. The library is among the best examples of Neo-Classical Revival in the state and is one of the few structures that so clearly represents Jeffersonian architectural principles. The library and the Tudor Revival house at 506 Columbia were designed by Rapp and Rapp, a major architectural firm in New Mexico. The Queen Anne house at 812 5th is an excellent example of the style with its many details and textures, complex roof shape, and elaborated rectangular plan. The Mansard Style, of which there are two examples, was one of the earliest styles to be brought by the Santa Fe Railroad from the east. The Gothic Revival cottage at 725 6th is one of the best structures of its kind in the State. This also was one of the earliest styles to be brought on the railroad. Together these and the other structures create a significant grouping of late 19th and early 20th century structures.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ivers, Louise Harris. The Architecture of Las Vegas. Albuquerque; unpublished UNM dissertation, 1975.
 Las Vegas City Directories
 Sanborn Maps of Las Vegas
 Threinen, Ellen. Architecture and Preservation in Las Vegas: A Study of Six Districts. Las Vegas: Design Review Board, 1977.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14
 UTM REFERENCES (CONTINUED ON CONTINUATION SHEET #1)

A	1,3	4,8,0	5,2,0	3,9	3,9	3,0,0	B	1,3	4,8,0	6,0,0	3,9	3,9	1,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			
C	1,3	4,8,0	5,5,0	3,9	3,9	1,3,0	D	1,3	4,8,0	5,8,0	3,9	3,9	0,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the northwest corner of National and 5th proceed east along the north curb of National to the intersection with the alley running between 5th and 4th; proceed north along the west edge of the alley to a point at the north property edge of 902 Columbia (approximately 60 yards); proceed west from this point to the intersection with the west curb of 5th; proceed north along the west curb of 5th to the intersection with alley running between Columbia and Washington; proceed west along the south edge of the alley to the intersection with 6th; proceed south along the west curb of 6th to the intersection

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: Ellen Threinen, Architectural Historian
 ORGANIZATION: New Mexico Historic Preservation Program
 STREET & NUMBER: P.O. Box 1629
 CITY OR TOWN: Santa Fe
 DATE: December 27, 1978
 TELEPHONE: 505-827-2108
 STATE: New Mexico 87503

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: *Thomas W. Mel...*

TITLE: *State Historic Preservation Officer* DATE: *1-5-79*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

ATTEST: *Bill Labovich* DATE: *2/12/79*
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE: *March 2, 1979*

Library Park District

The Carnegie Public Library (H) is a red brick, Neo-Classical Revival building. It has a cross plan, center dome, and porticoed entrance. The windows of the library's central block are round arched and those of the wings flat arched. The building is topped by a denticulated bracketed cornice beneath a balustraded parapet. The library is placed in the center of the park and trees and walks lead to it; the setting is fitting for a building that revives the Classic tradition as established in the U.S. by Thomas Jefferson. The interior of the library is also Neo-Classical Revival in style with pressed metal columns, pilasters, cornices and other details.

A library was first proposed for Las Vegas in the early 1880s, but it was not until Carnegie furnished funds in 1903 that the library was actually constructed. The 9 July 1903 Optic reported that the City Council approved architect Rapp & Rapp's plans.

The Immaculate Conception Church (C) at the southwest corner of the park, was designed by Les J. Wolmagood and the cornerstone is dated 1949. The late Gothic Revival church is of creme brick and has a Latin cross plan with a single tower at the east end. Large pointed arched windows dominate the east and transept ends.

Next door to the church at 811 6th Street is the Parish House (C). It is a stuccoed frame house with a gable roof. The house is an example of the Period Revival.

807 National (N) is a small stucco house that has a gable roof with the pediment facing the street. Its fenestration has rectangular wood frames.

At the southwest corner of 6th and National (H), is an excellent example of a Gothic cottage. The house probably dates to ca. 1880 because there is a

house at that location on the lithograph of 1882. The frame house is two stories and is topped by a T-shape gable roof. There are bargeboards in the pediments and a gingerbread porch across the front. The second story, almost an attic, reveals small pointed arch windows. The house is a good example of the Gothic Revival in the Downingesque tradition.

721 6th Street (C) is a simple rectangular plan house which is of frame construction and has one story. It has a gable roof. The windows have roll moldings across the top. The house probably dates to ca. 1880 as it is a frame version of the Territorial Style.

717 6th Street (C) is an example of the Bungalow Style. It is constructed of red brick and has a hip roof. The corner porch has a gable roof with half timbering in the pediment.

713 6th Street (C) is also an example of the Bungalow Style. The stucco house has a Mansard roof over the rear section and a cross gable roof over the front section. The front porch has been enclosed.

The Immaculate Conception school at National and 6th (H) is of creme brick like the church. The two-story building is in an eclectic, classically derived style. It was built in 1921 and the architect was O.W. Barlett. Details of the building include round arch windows grouped in twos and threes, pedimented entrance porticos, and a parapet broken with battlements and pediments of various sorts. The front center pediments are round arched with two round arch openings, a top cross, and flanking urns. The building and its variety of details are well-proportioned. The school was originally founded by the Sisters of Loretto who began a school in Old Town in 1869 and established a New Town school, the Immaculate Conception School, in 1912.

The Las Vegas Medical Clinic at 505 National (I) is a low one story pumice block and concrete block structure. The building is intrusive because it does not maintain the material and scale of the other structures in the district.

The dentist's office at 717 5th (N) is a rectangular plan, red brick building with a gable roof. The windows are of metal and are set in segmental arch openings. The structure is contemporary and maintains the material, though not the scale of the district.

At 806 National (C) is a two-story brick house. It has a rectangular plan with extending bays on the south and east sides. The roof is cross gable and its pediments are shingled. The southeast corner is camferred. There is a corner porch with Doric columns. The house is an example of the late Queen Anne and probably dates to ca. 1905.

The F.P. Waring House (H) at 800 5th Street was built between 1895 and 1898 and designed by Edward Barber. The one-and one-half-story house has a central gabled block with extending gabled wings and a polygonal corner porch. The house is stuccoed except for the pediments which are shingled and have bargeboards. The 1900 city directory lists F.P. Waring as residing at 5th and National. In the 1906 and 1908 directories, N.L. Rosenthal, a Railroad Avenue merchant, is listed at the address.

The house at 812 5th (H) is a fine example of the Queen Anne. John Hill was the contractor and architect and built the house between 1895 and 1898. The first resident was probably Louis C. Fort, a respected Las Vegas attorney; after 1906, F.B. January, a cashier for the San Miguel Bank, lived there. The two-and one-half-story house has a central gabled block with several gabled wings. The first story is clapboard and above it is shingled. Among its details are an elaborate bargeboard that imitates a sunporch, a front porch and bay window, and a pediment panel that looks like bargeboard. The details all aim at breaking or pretending to break the square plan. The house is a beautifully proportioned example of the Queen Anne.

The W.H. Seewald House at 814 5th (C) is a more simplified example of the Queen Anne. It was built in about 1900. The one-and one-half-story house

is topped by a hip roof with a shingled dormer and has a front porch and flat arch windows. The house is of red brick and the window arches and quoins are in creme brick.

At 818, 822, and 826 5th (N) are three small houses which are of nearly identical plans and which were probably built at the same time. All three are one story and have a truncated hip roof and projecting gable-roof wing. Each has a corner porch. They probably date to ca. 1890 because they have stone foundations and are of a style common to the period. The house at 826 5th has been remodeled quite severely and the other two remodeled to a lesser degree.

414 Columbia (N) is a rectangular-plan frame house with asbestos shingle siding and a stone foundation. The original porch has been enclosed and a new one added.

416-18 Columbia (N) is a simple rectangular plan house with a gable roof, aluminum windows, and a small entrance porch.

902 5th (C) is a one story house which has clapboard and shingle siding and a cross gable roof. The house itself has an L-shape plan and the corner spindle post porch creates a full square plan.

At 506 Columbia is the Stephen B. Davis, Jr. House (H), now the Columbia Apartments. It is two and one-half stories with a T-shape gable roof broken by two dormers. The house is an example of the Tudor Revival, as the first story and the porch are shingled and above it is half-timbered. The date of the house is uncertain, as there is a two and one-half story frame house at that location on the 1902 Sanborn map, but it is not until the 1913 map that a stuccoed house appears. In the 1906 directory, W.L. Crockett resided at that location and in 1912 the house belonged to S.B. Davis, Jr. The Las Vegas Optic of 14 June 1911 indicates the construction of an "English Tudor Manor" designed by E.W. Hart. It seems possible therefore that a two-and-one-half-story frame house was built before 1902 and remodeled in 1911 for Mr. Davis.

512 Columbia (H) is a small, one-story house which has clapboard siding and L-shape gable roof. There is a bay window and spindle-post porch at the front. The house probably dates to ca. 1885 as, it is an example of the Picturesque Cottage, one of the first styles to be introduced by the Santa Fe Railroad.

At 518 Columbia (H) there is an excellent example of the Mansard Style. It unfortunately has been severely remodeled during division into apartments. It is now stuccoed, though it once was clapboard, so the first story has been ruined. The roof and attic windows and hoods remain intact. The house dates to ca. 1880, as it is pictured on the 1882 lithograph. In 1906 Charles Tamome, a prominent merchant, resided at the house, but by 1908 it was a boarding house.

At 524 Columbia (H) is a two-and one-half-story house with a mansard roof. The house was once an elaborate example of the Mansard Style and some of this remains in the bracketed veranda and cornice and in the window hoods and tower. The house once had clapboard siding, but is now stucco. It has been made into apartments and the resulting remodelings and additions have decimated the house so that only part of its original charm remains. The house dates to ca. 1880, as it is on the 1882 lithograph. Dr. H.J. Mueller resided at 524 Columbia from 1906 through 1912, according to the city directories of those years.

916 6th (I) is a small frame house with asbestos shingle siding and a truncated gable roof.

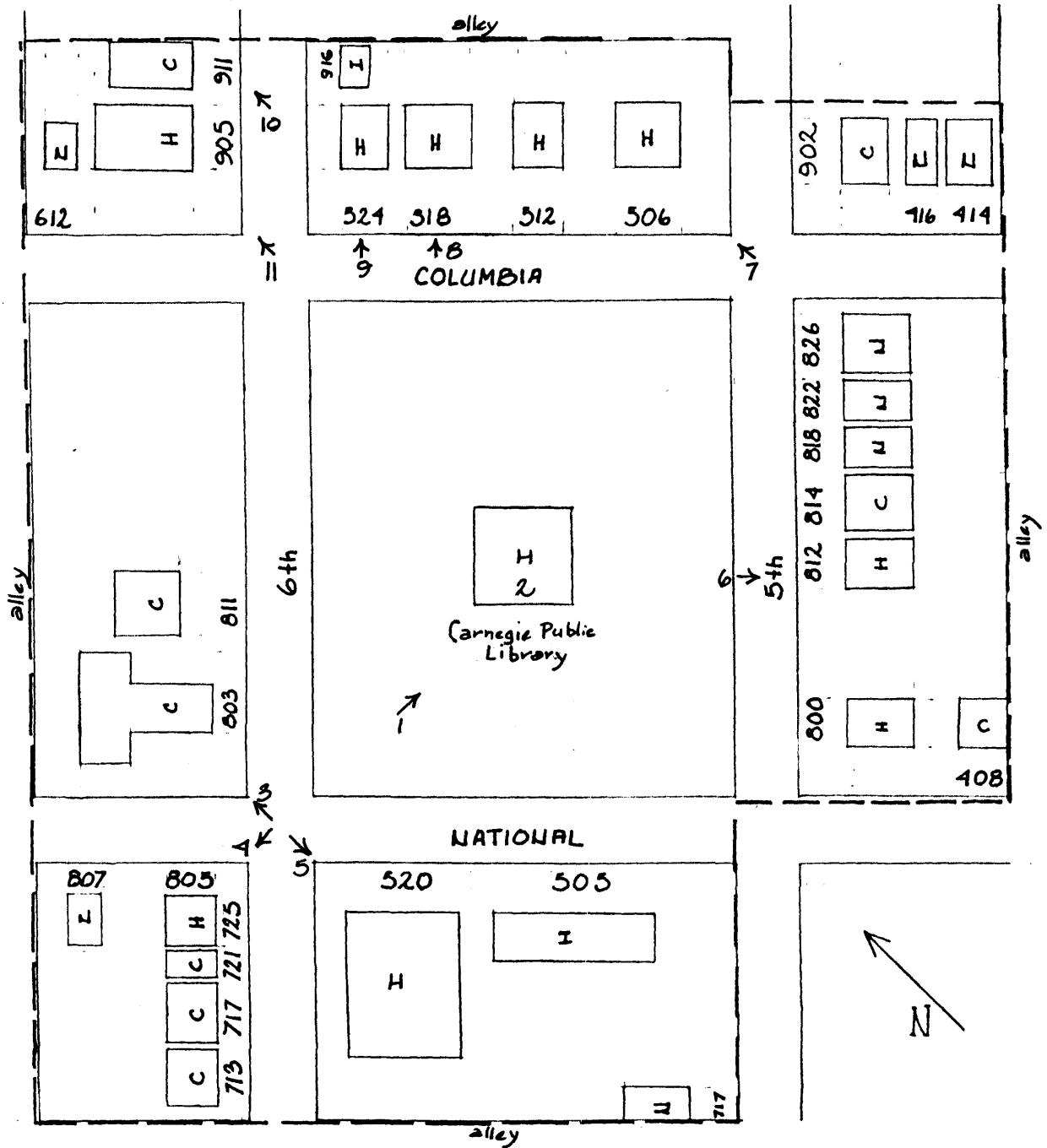
911 6th (C) is a square plan house which is of brick and has a stone foundation. The roof is hip with a cross gable and center front dormer. The dormer has an elaborate Palladian Motif window. Continuing the classical details, the front porch has Doric columns.

At the corner of 6th and Columbia (H) is a two story plus raised basement building. It is constructed of tan brick and the details are emphasized with creme brick. The front bay has its stories delineated with rectangular arch windows on the first floor and round arches on the second. The auditorium section

JAN 8 1979

has full-length round arch windows. The building is topped by a parapet with a center pediment. The center entrance porch is inset. The building was constructed in 1923 as the Methodist Church South. The congregation had been formed in 1881 and was affiliated with Southern Methodist Conference. In 1939 when the two methodist sects were reunited, the congregation affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church. At that time the building was sold to the Christian Science Society. In 1974 it began being used by the City of Las Vegas.

612 Columbia (N) is an L-shape plan house with an L-shape gable roof. There is an enclosed corner porch. The house has fairly steep proportions and the details have been removed.

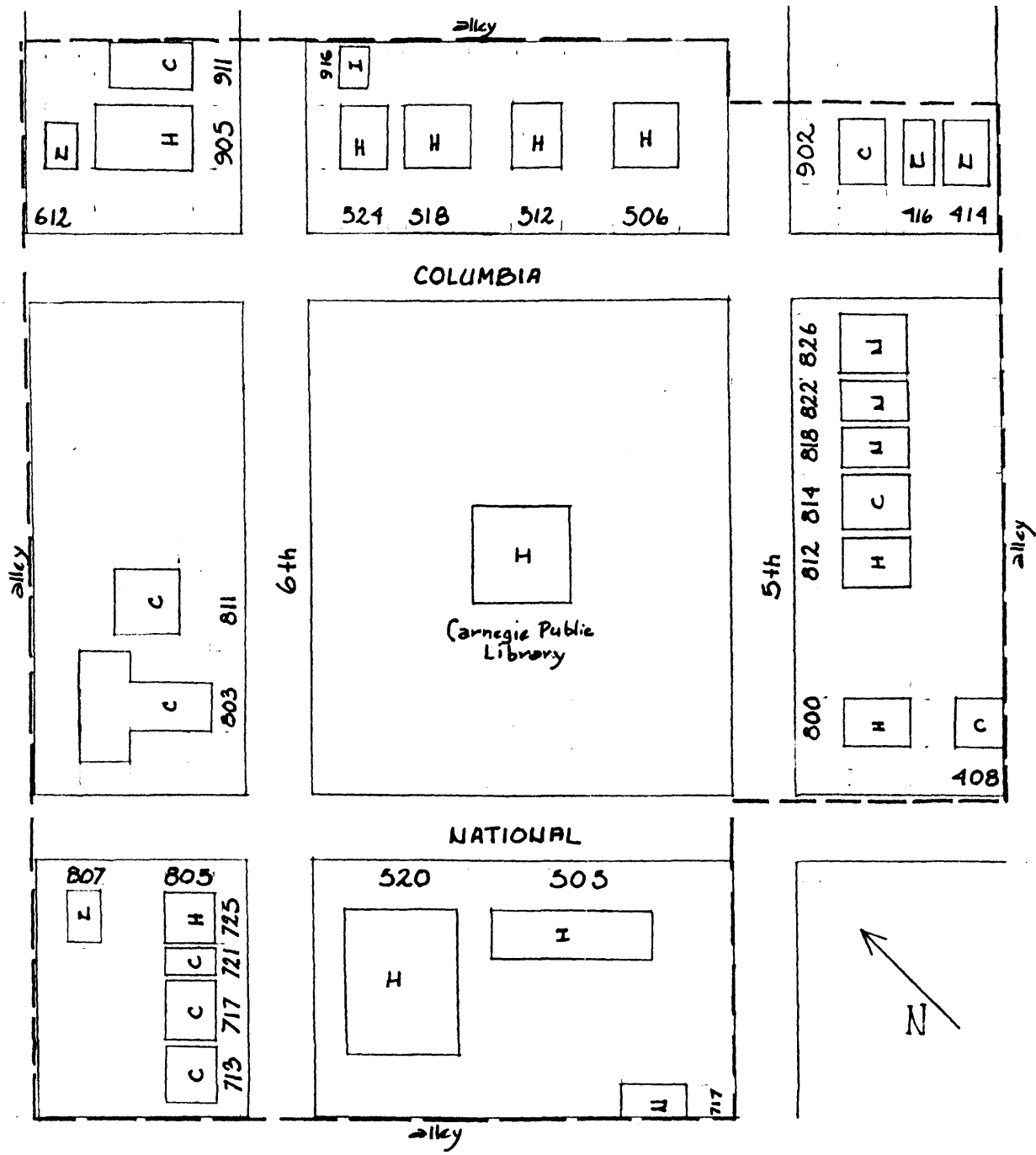


PHOTOS OF
LIBRARY PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
 SKETCH MAP

APPROX. SCALE 1:1500

KEY: H=historic C=contributing N=neutral
 I=intrusive ———=boundary

FEB 8 1979



LIBRARY PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT
SKETCH MAP

APPROX. SCALE 1:1500

KEY: H = historic C = contributing N = neutral
I = intrusive - - - - = boundary