

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 23 1977

DATE ENTERED DEC 7 1977

**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

**

Minneapolis Public Library: North Branch

AND/OR COMMON

Minneapolis Public Library: North Branch

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1834 Emerson Avenue North

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th

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

Minneapolis Public Library

STREET & NUMBER

300 Nicollet Mall

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Hennepin County Government Center

STREET & NUMBER

Fifth Street at Third Avenue South

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1972

__FEDERAL STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society, Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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 Minneapolis Public Library/North Branch is situated on a narrow lot at 1834 Emerson Avenue North in Minneapolis. It is bordered on the north by an alley and the First Minneapolis Bank and on the south by private residences. It is a two-and-one-half-storey red brick building on a high basement; this factor coupled with a retaining wall at the sidewalk adds to the sense of verticality of the building. In plan the building measures 40 feet by 60 feet.

Designed in 1893 by Minneapolis architect Fredrick Corser, the library building is representative of the popular Medieval Revival mode which replaced the heavier Richardsonian in public buildings. Features of this style are evident in the low "basket-arch" entry with sculptural stone and/or terracotta ornament in which the name and date are incorporated. The entry is located in the central bay of the building; this bay terminates in a stepped gable and has a band of windows enframed in stone at the second level. To the immediate left of the entry is a prominent circular tower with conical roof and curved windows of leaded bulls-eye glass. Roofs are sheated in blue/gray slate shingles.

North and south gables are not stepped, however these are also coped in stone as are the stepped gables in the primary and rear facades. The rear section of the essentially "T" shaped plan was added in 1914 to satisfy increased spatial needs. At yet a later date a four-stall low garage structure was added to the rear of the 1914 addition; this is of concrete block and has no ornamental features.

The interior of the library is arranged on an open plan with spaces defined by stacks. The original section contains a large reading room, records alcove, and circulation desk along with two banks of stacks. The 1914 addition to the rear contains additional stacks, and reading/lounge area with fireplace. Additional remodelling is evident in the installation of an accoustical tile ceiling and fluorescent light fixtures in 1952.

The second floor also consists of one major space for stacks and tables, however, this space is relatively unused at present. In this space a lowered accoustical tile ceiling was also installed in 1952 covering the former lofty beamed ceiling which rises to the peak of the roof. Also, windows in the area now hidden by the lowered ceiling have been bricked-in. This is obvious from the exterior of the building in that the original shade of red in the brick was not obtained for the infill.

The basement contains storage rooms, a community room, and physical plant.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

North Minneapolis Post, September 7, 1971
North Minneapolis Post, October 3, 1957
Minneapolis Tribune, February 24, 1965
Minneapolis Public Library: Fifty Years of Service / 1889-1939, pub.: Minneapolis Public Library, Minneapolis, 1939

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	5	4	7	6	8	8	0	4	9	8	2	6	0	0
ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING								

B

ZONE		EASTING				NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 14 & 15, Block 28, Gale's Subdivision

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

Charles W. Nelson, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Minnesota Historical Society

DATE

1 April 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Building 25, Fort Snelling

TELEPHONE

612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

St. Paul

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 Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 5/13/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 ATTEST: *Charles W. Nelson*
 CLERK OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12/2/77
 CLERK OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 12-5-77

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

for Keeper Melvin Lynn
11/19/89

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Note: These changes apply to
Minneapolis Public Library in
Hennepin County, Minnesota.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 77000743

STATE: MINNESOTA

COUNTY: Hennepin

RESOURCE NAME (HISTORIC): Minneapolis Public Library, North
Branch

CITY:

VICINITY OF:

ADDRESS:

CERTIFICATION DATE:

REMOVED DATE:

COMMENTS:

Nina M. Archabal

Nina M. Archabal
State Historic Preservation Officer

JUN 17 1988
Date