

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	Walla Walla
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	NOV 20 1974

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Carnegie Center of the Arts, Inc.

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Walla Walla Public Library [preferred] *Use This*

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
109 ~~South~~ Palouse Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Walla Walla

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
#5 - Honorable Thomas S. Foley

STATE: Washington CODE: 53 COUNTY: Walla Walla CODE: 071

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
City of Walla Walla

STREET AND NUMBER:  
City Hall - N. Third and W. Rose

CITY OR TOWN:  
Walla Walla

STATE:  
Washington

CODE:  
53

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Walla Walla County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
West Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Walla Walla

STATE:  
Washington

CODE:  
53

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  State  County  Local

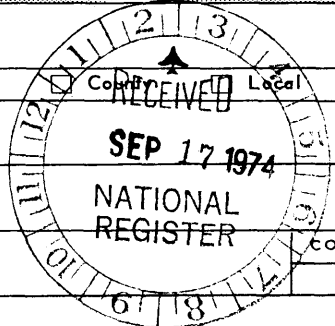
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Walla Walla

STATE:  
Washington

CODE:  
53



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Washington
COUNTY:	Walla Walla
ENTRY NUMBER:	1078
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 Walla Walla Public Library, built in 1905, is a Carnegie Library of the general scale and complexity typical of many library buildings in the United States that were financed through Carnegie's philanthropy. It is a carefully detailed building of pleasant proportions with a hip roof and simple rectangular plan. The dimensions are approximately forty-five by seventy feet and it is one story in height, although the partial daylight basement, high ceilings and moderate roof pitch contribute to a total that is taller than this might suggest.

It has pressed brick walls on a rock faced sandstone foundation with an intermediate layer of finished sandstone belt courses. The brick is Flemish bond in warm brown tones, while the foundation is dark grey and the intermediate courses appear white by contrast. The roof is light brown ceramic tile. Foundation stones decrease in thickness with each succeeding layer, and they are stacked on either side of rectangular window openings that are spanned at the top by the three part belt course acting as a lintel. In the middle of the belt course is a projecting water table; the part above the water table follows the various contours of the brick facade and the part below remains straight throughout. The brick wall surface is essentially a flat arch arcade filled with recessed panels in between pilasters; double width pilasters at the corners of the building overlap one third of the last pilaster at each end of the arcading. The wide corner pilaster consists of pseudo quoins where the bricks of every sixth course are set back flush with the adjoining arcade pilaster. Capitals on the corner pilasters are finished sandstone with a moulding course at the top. Capitals on the arcade are finished stone wedge corbels like inverted keystones that carry the inclined bricks of the flat arches. The large keystones proper are ornamentally carved. A wide architrave and frieze are also finished sandstone of a light color and they continue uninterrupted around the building. Centered in the frieze over the main entrance are the words "PUBLIC LIBRARY" in raised letters. The cornice is on a four foot roof overhang with exposed rafter tails that have been shaped with a bandsaw.

The windows are large multipaned casements nearly filling the upper two thirds of the panel recesses. Each pane is crossed with slender mullions in an "X", connecting at the corners into diagonal lines that crisscross the casement. Stone sills continue to the pilasters.

There are five similar window bays on the front and back facades with three on each end wall. Directly below the windows are windows of equal width in the rock faced foundation. The main entrance and stairs in front and the exit in back are just below the central window of the long walls, where the wide front door has a "carriage house" lantern on the lintel overhead.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

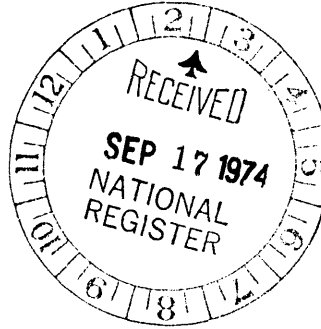
STATE Washington	
COUNTY Walla Walla	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 20 1974

(Number all entries)

#7 - Description  
Carnegie Center of the Arts, Inc.

Two similar chimneys with decorative recesses, string course and corbelled cap rise from intermediate locations in the roof.

The building is in excellent condition, and the exterior has not been changed from the original design.



**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) 1905

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 type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input 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

In 1864 a group of Walla Walla businessmen, in the frontier town then only four years old, formed the Calliopean Society for public lectures on cultural subjects. Within a year the Walla Walla Literary and Library Association was incorporated, followed in 1874 by formation of the Walla Walla Library and Lyceum Association which merged, in 1877, with the Walla Walla Association for Advancement of Science.

In 1878 the combined groups built a one-story building near Third and Poplar. This was among the first public libraries in Washington Territory.

The building was moved to a new site in 1882, and the following year the Association ceased to function. The books were moved to rooms in the Reynolds Building, and from 1890 to 1897 the volumes were in storage and the city was without library service.

When the legislature, in 1895, authorized cities to establish and maintain libraries by taxation, the Walla Walla Woman's Reading Club raised \$1,000 to accompany a petition to the City Council to implement the law. This culminated in library service in rented rooms.

On March 24, 1901, citizens determined to request \$25,000 from Andrew Carnegie for a building. In 1903, the council accepted the local gift of a site, which became city property. The library board commissioned Henry Osterman, an early Walla Walla architect, many of whose buildings are still standing, to design the library. His plan was an adaptation of the Herrick Library Building of Wellington, Ohio, and it was completed in 1905.

The public library was removed from this building in 1970 and installed in a larger facility. The old building is now leased from the city as the Carnegie Center of the Arts, a non-profit corporation. Through voluntary contributions and memberships the interior has been rennovated and restored near to the original appearance and furnished as an art gallery, workshops and meeting room.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Elliott, T. C., Histories of Libraries in Washington -- Walla Walla Public Library. Library News Bulletin, Washington State Library. October, 1932.

Orr, Mary deFahey, Development of Walla Walla Public Library. Thesis for Master of Librarianship, University of Washington, 1952.

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 11/5102180  
 397230

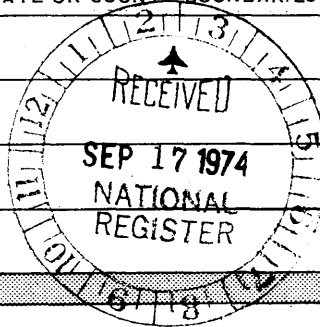
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	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	° ' "	° ' "		46 ° 04 ' 02 "	118 ° 19 ' 44 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than one

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: Jean Ferguson, Chairman

ORGANIZATION: Carnegie Center of the Arts, Inc. DATE: July 24, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER: 109 North Palouse Street

CITY OR TOWN: Walla Walla STATE: Washington CODE: 53

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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 Charles H. Odegaard  
 Charles H. Odegaard

Title Director-Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date Sept. 13, 1974

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

AR Martens  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/20/74

ATTEST:  
Wm. Dunlap  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 11/20/74

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Washington	
COUNTY Walla Walla	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	1974

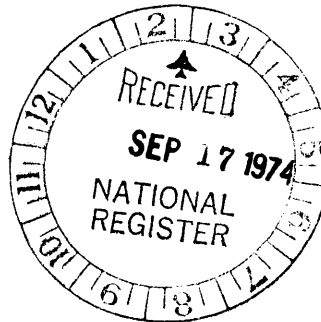
(Number all entries)

#8 - Significance  
Carnegie Center of the Arts, Inc.

Andrew Carnegie emigrated from Scotland with his family in 1848, arriving in America almost penniless. Before he was 14 years old he went to work in the cotton mills in Alleghany, Pennsylvania. His astronomical rise in industrial power is historically significant in itself, and by the time he retired he had established trusts and foundations worth many millions. His philanthropies funded programs in education, child-welfare, fine arts, museums, international peace, hero commissions, medical research, and more.

Stipulating that cities receiving his "gift" buildings must furnish the land, maintain the facilities and supply the books and materials by the assessment of taxes, Carnegie funded 1,689 library buildings throughout the United States.

The Carnegie Library in Walla Walla still serves the spiritual descendants of the 1864 Caliopean Society formed to maintain the values of culture and education in a frontier town. The building when it was first completed possessed a solid and enduring traditional appearance which has intensified with age. In a city such as Walla Walla, the continuing influence of cultural traditions is of genuine importance, and in this the Carnegie Library has achieved symbolic value over its long years of service.



SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM  
COMMUNITY CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY

1. NAME

Historic

Walla Walla Public Library

*(Carnegie Library of Walla Walla TR)*

and/or Common

Carnegie Art Center

2. LOCATION

UTM References:

Zone 11 Easting 397020

Street & Number

109 South Palouse St,

Walla Walla

1:24 000

Northing 5102200

- not for publication

City, Town

Walla Walla

- vicinity of

State

WA

County

Walla Walla

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership:

public

private

both

Status:

occupied

unoccupied

work in progress

Present Use:

agriculture

commercial

educational

entertainment

government

industrial

military

museum

park

private residence

religious

scientific

transportation

other:

Art gallery

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name

City of Walla Walla

Street & Number

North Third and West Rose

City, Town

Walla Walla

- vicinity of

State

WA 99362

5. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ferguson, Jean. Nomination of Walla Walla Library to the National Register of Historic Places. July, 1974.

6. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/Title

J.H. Vandermeer, Historian

Organization

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

Date

August 1981

Street & Number

111 West 21st Avenue

Telephone

(206) 753-9685

City or Town

Olympia

State

WA 98504

## 7. DESCRIPTION

Condition: excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed  
Circle one: unaltered altered  
Circle one: original site moved date \_\_\_\_\_

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance  
attach photo

The Walla Walla Carnegie library is sited on a small triangle where three streets converge. The building is rectangular, measuring approximately 45 x 70 and has a moderately pitched hip roof of light brown ceramic tile. The building is mainly of light brown pressed brick and rests on a foundation of rock-faced sandstone blocks. Exposed rafters support the wide eaves above a stone frieze in which the words "Public Library" are carved in bold letters. The principal facade, which faces west, has five large, identical casement windows, each with many small triangular panes. The main entrance is below the window in the middle. Decorative elements include large carved stone keystones over the square windows, very wide quoins simulated in the brick, and two highly corbelled chimneys.

Verbal boundary description:

Acreage: Less than one

Small's Addition, lots 19-23  
(36-07-20-750020)

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## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

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Specific dates	1905	Builder/Architect	Henry Osterman
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### a. History

The library history of Walla Walla began in 1864, just four years after the city was founded. In that year a group of businessmen formed the Calliopean Society, which became the Literary and Library Association the following year. Various other organizational changes followed. The first library building was erected in 1878. This library ceased to function in 1890, and the books were put in storage. Another organization, the Walla Walla Women's Reading Club, raised \$1,000 and successfully petitioned the city council to establish a library by taxation, as city governments had been authorized to do after 1895 by a law passed in the state legislature. In 1901 a request was made to Andrew Carnegie for \$25,000 and a site was donated by a local property owner. Henry Osterman, Walla Walla's best known architect, designed the building based on the Herrick Library of Wellington, Ohio. Completed in 1905, it served the city until 1970, when a new building was constructed. Since then it has been leased from the city by a non-profit corporation for use as an art gallery, workshop and meeting room.

### b. Evaluation of Significance

This building has played an important role in the cultural life of the community since 1905. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on November 20, 1974.