## **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service**

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only received JUN 2 5 1986 date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Nam	s—complete applicable s			
<b>historic</b> Car	rnegie Public Librar	У		
and or common	Havre Public Li	brary		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	. 447 4th Avenue	•		N/A not for publication
city, town Ha	ivre	N/A vicinity of		
state	ontana <b>cod</b>	e 030 county	Hill	<b>code</b> 041
3. Clas	sification			
Category  district  building(s)  structure  site  object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered N/A	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 X other: Vacant
4. Own	er of Prope	rty		
name Kath	leen Shirilla			
street & number	447 4th Avenue			
city, town	Havre	$\frac{N/A}{}$ vicinity of	state	Montana
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Description	on	
courthouse, regi	istry of deeds, etc. Hil	1 County Courthouse		
street & number	300 4th Street			
city, town Hav	vre ·		state	Montana
6. Rep	resentation	in Existing 9	Surveys	
title None		has this pro	perty been determined e	eligible? yes _X_ no
date			federal st	ate county loca
depository for s	urvey records			
city, town			state	

### 7. Description

Condition  excellent deteriorated good ruins fair unexposed	altered	Check one
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#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Havre Carnegie Public Library is a one story, buff-colored brick building raised one-half story above grade, located at the corner of 4th Avenue and 5th Street in Havre, Montana. Erected in 1914, the rectangular-shaped Classical Revival style building rests on a low concrete foundation and is symmetrical in design with a central (west-facing) entrance on the primary facade.

The main floor is raised about six feet above grade, allowing for windows to provide ample light to the basement rooms. Twelve concrete steps lead up to the main entrance, which consists of a single light wooden door with an infilled panel to the side and above. These replaced the original double doors and transom at an undetermined date. Surmounting the entrance is a pediment with a slightly-raking cornice; directly below the pediment in the frieze are the raised letters "CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY." Along the primary facade the lower half story has two sets of paired, 4/1 double hung windows with concrete sills. A wide, concrete beltcourse encircles the entire building directly above these windows.

The main floor also has four paired windows with concrete sills, but they are 8/1 double hung sash and have small, 14-light transoms. Three rows of darker, corbeled bricks directly below the frieze extend around three sides of the library. Along the main facade the frieze has circular motifs located at the corners and in line with each area of brick between the windows; two similar decorations on each side of the building are located near the corners. The slightly-projecting cornice is surmounted by a crenelated parapet capped with corbeled brick coping.

The south end of the Carnegie Library features two sets of 4/l double hung windows on the basement level. The north end has a similar fenestration except for a new basement entrance near the northeast corner, which replaced one of the windows at an undetermined date. The rear (east) facade is covered with stucco, lacks any decorative features, and has six 4/l double hung windows and an entrance on the basement level. The upper floor has eight 4/l double hung windows with concrete sills and arched lintels. Most of the windows on both the basement and main floor are covered with four-light storm windows. There is an exterior brick chimney which projects through the eave.

The interior of the library is accessed by a vestibule and consists of one large room on the main floor with an original wood floor and pressed metal ceiling. Modern fluorescent lights replaced the original fixtures at an undetermined date. The lower floor has a large reading room, restroom, storage closets and several offices. Pressed metal also covers the ceiling in the basement. Original doors, hardware and trim are found throughout the building.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C  archeology-prehistoric  archeology-historic  agriculture  architecture  architecture  commerce  communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1914	Builder/Architect	E.C. Richmond, builder	
			Marion Riffo, arc	hitect

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Havre Public Library is significant for its representation of and important association with the boom period of construction and resulting growth in the community of Havre, Montana, the government seat of Hill county, an agriculturally-based county in north-central Montana. The erection of the Carnegie Library, with financial assistance provided by a direct gift from the Carnegie Foundation's library fund, indicated community support for the library, town stability, as well as local pride and concern for public education. Indeed, Carnegie believed that, like the local schools or any other municipal service, the public library required public support in order to be successful. The Havre Library is also significant as a good example of an adaptation of the Classical Revival style to a Carnegie Library building plan.

In Montana, 17 cities received grants from the Carnegie Foundation to build new libraries dating from 1901-1918. As early as January 5, 1901 the Milk River Eagle newspaper reported a movement in Havre to obtain a "public library and free reading room here." The paper suggested that if the community gave substantial aid for a library "that would be one way of showing the outside world that the mayor and aldermen plan better things for Havre and do not dream them all day long." Three years later, the first Havre library was founded by a group of about 50 local women who formed the Women's Club and each agreed to pay twenty-five cents a month toward the upkeep of the facility. Initially, a room in the Havre Security State Bank served as the library, and 200 books donated by local residents were available for use.

In 1906 the library had outgrown space in the bank and moved into the Havre City Hall. By 1908, after Glasgow, Montana (160 miles east) had successfully used Carnegie funds to build a library, there was growing public interest in constructing a new public library in Havre. The Havre <u>Plaindealer</u> reported on August 1 that Glasgow's Carnegie Library was a "splendid example of public pride and enterprise and worthy of emulation by Glasgow's onlooking neighbors." Two years later city officials and Women's Club members lobbied for tax funds to support a library, and in 1911 the first paid librarian was hired by the city.

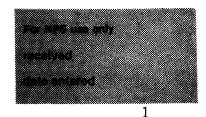
Expressing confidence that funds would be available from the Carnegie Foundation, the Havre Library Board submitted a proposal on December 7, 1912 to the City Council to buy land at the corner of 4th Avenue and 5th Street on which to build a Carnegie Library. This proposal was in keeping with a stipulation by Carnegie that the community provide property for a library. At the same time a request was sent to Carnegie for a grant to construct a new building. During a visit to New York, the mayor of Havre attempted to pursuade Carnegie of the need for a library. On March 29, 1913 the <u>Plaindealer</u> reported that the Carnegie Foundation was donating \$12,000 toward the construction of a new library, and within a year the building was completed and filled with over 4,000

9. Major Bib	liographic	al Reference	<b>S</b>	
Gunderson, Edna, ed. (	Grit, Guts & Gust	o-A History of Hill	County. Havre, MT.:	: Hill County
Bicentennial Commission Rub, Timothy. ""The da	ay of big operati	ons": Andrew Carnegi	ie and his libraries	." <u>Architectura</u>
Record (July, 1985) 83 Milk River Eagle 5 Jan	1-85. <u>n. 1901; Havre Pl</u>	aindealer 1 Aug. 190	08, 7 Dec. 1912, 29	March 1913.
10. Geograp				
Acreage of nominated proper	ty less than one			
Quadrangle name Havre			Quadrangle scale $\underline{1:}$	24000
UTM References		<b>B</b> .		
Zone Easting	5 3 7 7 9 7 8 Northing	B Zone East	ting Northing	
		F L L	<del>-   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -   -  </del>	
G		H		
<b>Verbal boundary descripti</b> Block 1 of the Havre				
List all states and countie	es for properties ove	rlapping state or county	boundaries	
state None	code	county	code	
State	code	county	code	
11. Form Pre	pared By			
name/title Linda Taylor,	member Board of	Trustees and Michae	1 Koop, Montana SHPO	)
organization Havre-Hill	County Library	date	9 January 1986	
street & number 1029 4tl	h Avenue	telepho	ne (406) 265-9487	
city or town Havre		state	Montana 59501	
12. State His	storic Pres	ervation Off	icer Certific	ation
The evaluated significance of	this property within the	e state is:	mk 🤾	
national	state	X local		
As the designated State Histo 665), I hereby nominate this placcording to the criteria and p	roperty for inclusion in procedures set forth by	the National Register and c	eservation Act of 1966 (Pu ertify that it has been evalu	blic Law 89– uated
titie		Ch w	date 16 - 16	21
For NPS use only I hereby certify that this	property is included in	the National Register	10	
Selvres	gers	National Register	date 7-2	4-86
Keeper of the National Re	gister			
Attest:			date	

OMB No. 1024-0018 Expires 10-31-87

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books. Havre's request for funds to construct a Carnegie building was typical of the need for a new library in many communities throughout Montana. At the time Havre sought their Carnegie grant, the town was rapidly expanding from the homesteading boom (1910-1920) and establishing itself as the center of growth in north-central Montana. In addition to businesses typically found in smaller towns, Havre had a U.S. Land Office that was handling over 700 homestead requests

barrels a day, a bottling works for soft drinks, and an athletic club. The town was clearly ready for a permanent library facility.

Funds provided by Carnegie were given only for the construction of a library building, not for the purchase of its contents or operating expenses, which were left to the responsibility of the community. As was the case with all Carnegie grants for libraries, the town was required to provide a suitable location for the building and had to agree to devote at least ten per cent of the building's cost to its maintenance.

per month by 1913, a hospital, three newspapers, a brewery which produced 100

Initially, Carnegie did not require that architectural plans be submitted to his office for approval. By 1908, however, Carnegie and his secretary, James Bertram, began to regularly review building proposals because of an increased concern regarding unnecessary architectural display and poor planning. In 1911 Carnegie published a pamphlet entitled "Notes on the Erection of Library Buildings," which contained general building suggestions and examples of library plans for use throughout the country. The publication suggested that the best results for a small library would be in a rectangular-shaped building with one floor plus a basement.

The 40'x 60' Havre Carnegie Library generally follows one of the standard building plans suggested by Bertram. The main floor, which is 12'-15' high, holds the bookshelves, circulation and reference desk area in the center, and an adult's and children's reading room. The plans for the building were drawn by the architect Marion Riffo who established a business in Kalispell, Montana in 1909. Riffo designed several hospitals and schools in communities near Havre such as Glasgow and Kalispell, and reportedly was responsible for designing buildings in northern Idaho and Spokane, Washington. The refined Neo-Classical style library reflects the prevailing vogue for classical forms in the first decades of the twentieth century. It also exemplifies design features promulgated by Carnegie which suggested a plain, dignified structure with an unornamented exterior, and practical and economic interior layout. The building is distinguished by a symmetrical design which is finished with a smooth pressed brick surface, and in keeping with the Classical Revival style, has a large parapet that is surmounted by an unadorned roof line.

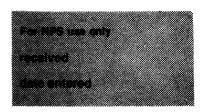
The Havre Carnegie Library has had few minor interior and exterior changes, and despite these alterations it is in good condition and has retained its historic architectural integrity. The library reflects a commitment by the community

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to Havre's stability, and is among the most distinguished architectural representations of the town's primary period of growth and importance in the settlement of the Hi-Line area of Montana.